

# UT Martin Rodeo News

THE UNIVERSITY OF TENNESSEE AT MARTIN

March 2016



## 48<sup>th</sup> Annual UTM Rodeo

We are gearing up for the 48th Annual UTM Rodeo which will be April 14 – 16. Last year, UTM was chosen as the Rodeo of the Year by the Ozark Region for the tenth year in a row (10 out of 10 years!). We have been setting attendance records the past few years during the rodeo and are working hard to continue that trend. Coach Luthi says, “It is always a lot of fun to host our home rodeo, but it also takes a tremendous amount of hard work. We really appreciate all the time and efforts from so many people.”

A change this year is Garrett Yerigan will be the new announcer. With Tim Fuller deciding to limit his announcing to venues closer to his Oklahoma home, Garrett, who has been the sound man at the past several rodeos has stepped in. No stranger to the big stage, Garrett set a record in 2014 as the youngest announcer ever at the International Finals Rodeo, has announced the National Junior High Rodeo Finals and many other professional and college rodeos.

Brian White returns as the unpredictable clown/funny man. He does a great job not only in the arena but in the community as well. He comes in to town a few days early and visits local schools where he does a fantastic job sharing his “Importance of Goal Setting Program” with students.

Mark Johnson and Universal Rodeos of Jonesboro, Arkansas will once more be bringing the rank bucking stock for the bareback, saddle bronc and the always exciting bull riding! Coach John Luthi remembers how exciting it was to look at the draw and see if his bareback riders had drawn “Captain Buck”, “Chippendale” or

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**Top:** Another full house at the UTM Rodeo; **middle:** Garrett Yerigan; **bottom:** The “Brown Clown” entertains at the UT Martin home rodeo—Photo courtesy of Handprints & Horseshoe Photography.



# 48<sup>th</sup> Annual UTM Rodeo

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“Highway Star”. Mark and his crew are always easy to work with and really are a plus in us putting on a quality performance.”

Back again this year is the “Name a Goat” Program. Come cheer on “Moony”, “Baaaackspace”, “Fred”, “Little Boots” and “Dually”. Come out and cheer for your favorite nanny each night.

Thursday night is again Bargain Night at the rodeo and all tickets are \$6.00 each. The Weakley County 4-H Mounted Drill Team will perform the opening, so be sure to arrive early to see them in action. The evening is sponsored by Tyson, Obion County Complex, and the performance begins at 7:30 p.m. You can watch all the NIRA college contestants in each of the 9 college rodeo events. Everyone can register for a FREE drawing to win a MTD riding lawn mower.

Friday night the rodeo is sponsored by Tennessee Tractor and is “Tough Enough to Wear Pink” night to raise money for breast cancer awareness. The evening will begin at 7:10 with the Weakley County 4-H Mounted Drill Team. They put on a super show, so be sure to arrive early to watch them perform and grab a good seat for the rodeo. If the MTD lawn mower wasn’t won on Thursday night, a second drawing will take place for a free chance to throw a “ringer” and be a winner. If still no one claims the lawnmower it will be auctioned off before the rodeo on Saturday night.

The Martin Paving Company Championship Finals will begin at 7:30 on Saturday night. The short go will feature the top 10 contestants and stock from each event. The cowboys and cowgirls will be competing for the championship spurs built by Dutton Bits & Spurs for each event winner. The men and women’s all-around winners will receive a gift certificate for a pair of Dan Post Boots and a YETI Cooler. Come see the “Best of the Best” compete on Saturday night!

*Top: Brian White speaks at local schools about the importance of setting goals; top-middle: Pettit’s honor father with rider-less horse; bottom-middle: Tanner Phipps; bottom: Ashley Brooks. Bottom three photos courtesy of Christie’s Photography.*





There will be different silent auction items each night of the rodeo. We get new items in daily so keep updated on the Facebook event page **UTM Rodeo Silent Auction Items**. There is also a link under events on the Utm Rodeo Facebook page. If you want a quick printable list with clickable links go to the UT Martin Athletics rodeo page, <http://www.utmsports.com/page.cfm?id=68> The Rodeo Booster Club will again have their t-shirts with the UTM Rodeo steer head logo for sale in various colors up top on the mezzanine.

*Top-right: Universal Rodeo’s bucking bull—photo courtesy of Handprints & Horeshoe Photography.*



# Spring Season Forecast

The college rodeos get off to a later start this spring. The second half of the season kicks off March 31st at East Mississippi in West Point, MS. The team then competes in 5 straight weekends to finish the season.

According to Coach Luthi, “Our spring rodeos are more condensed than ever before. Thankfully, I feel we have a really good group that can take care of business in the classroom and arena and are very capable of achieving great things. Nothing is decided in any event with 5 rodeos remaining. Our goal is to take one run or ride at a time and do the best we possibly can with what we have drawn. We do our part and God is in control of the rest.”

## OZARK REGION RODEO Spring Schedule

East Mississippi Community College  
(West Point, Mississippi)

March 31, April 1, 2  
Thursday, Friday, Saturday

University of Arkansas- Monticello  
(Monticello, Arkansas)

April 7, 8, 9  
Thursday, Friday, Saturday

University of Tennessee at Martin  
(Martin, Tennessee)

April 14, 15, 16  
Thursday, Friday, Saturday

Northwest Mississippi Comm. College  
(Senatobia, Mississippi)

April 21, 22, 23  
Thursday, Friday, Saturday

Cossatot Community College  
(Texarkana, Arkansas)

April 28, 29, 30  
Thursday, Friday Saturday

Keep up with UT Martin Rodeo results on  
[www.utmsports.com](http://www.utmsports.com)



**UT MARTIN  
SPRING  
RODEO**

**April 14-16 • 7:30 PM**

**2015 Ozark Region Champion  
Top 10 in the Nation  
Dacia Horne**

**TICKETS: (731) 881-7207**

## DACIA AND ZOCO

**Dacia Horne is featured on the rodeo billboard for 2016. This is some background she wrote about her wonderful horse, Zoco, she is riding in the picture.**

Zoco is a ten year old Wonder Otoe bred gelding that has grown to be a part of our family since my mom purchased him as a yearling. He was always that young horse that got put on the back burner, so I decided to take him to Martin with me my freshman year to try and start seasoning him some. I ran him at the UTM barrel race and he ended up clocking at the top of the 1d. Shortly after that it came time for the SAU college rodeo, which is a big pen with deep sand, and I knew the roan mare I was running at the time had no chance of clocking in that. I took a chance and decided to bring Zoco, who was only five years old at the time and had never even been to a rodeo. He went above and beyond my expectations that weekend and qualified us back to the short go, which is where our journey began. I decided to take another chance and stayed on him for the rest of the college rodeo that year. He won us our first long go at the home rodeo and we ended up finishing 8th in the region, qualifying on the women's team to compete at the CNFR in June. The next two years we were pretty inconsistent, we hit a lot of barrels, I fought my head really bad, and Zoco went through some health issues

I wasn't fully aware of at the time. But by the time my senior year rolled around I told myself that now was my time to stop holding back, to give it my all, and to trust my horse. That mindset definitely worked out and 2014/2015 was our best year yet. We had many winnings and placings at college, pro, and amateur rodeos, as well as a few big barrels races.

Our fall season of the college rodeo season started off pretty good with a short go and average win at UWA followed by a long go, short go, and average win at SAU the following weekend to end the season. Shortly after that I decided to buy my PRCA permit with a goal of making The Southeast Circuit Finals my rookie year. We ending up winning our second pro rodeo ever in Starkville, MS against some pretty tough competition and it strived me to push for my goal even more. Spring season of college rodeos rolled around and we stayed strong and consistent. We won the average at our home rodeo and Monticello, AR, which secured our spot to win the region. Zoco also won the regions women's horse of the year, which meant more to me than anything. I knew in my heart he deserved it, but for the other girls

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to realize that as well really meant a lot. We headed out for the CNFR in June and I had a goal to win the nation. We had a good start to the week getting second in the first round and staying consistent our next two runs. We placed second in the average and qualified back to the short go but didn't have the outcome we had hoped for, due to no fault but my own. I second guessed my horse and didn't trust him like I should have, he truly worked outstanding and tried his heart out all week. It was disappointing but I just kept my faith and realized that it wasn't Gods plan for us. I was sitting good to make the circuit finals and I wanted to try and qualify for The American, so I was ready to get home and see what we could accomplish. Shortly after that things took a sudden change and Zoco sustained a pretty severe injury that will have him out for over a year. It was very heart breaking

and disappointing to say the very least, but God's plan and timing is always perfect. As Coach Luthi always says "setbacks make for comebacks" and I'm excited to see what comeback God has in store for us after this minor setback. Regardless, I'm so thankful for the year Zoco gave me to end the chapter of my college rodeo career and I'm blessed to have been a part of The UTM Rodeo Team for the past four years. I wouldn't of traded it for anything, once a SkyHawk always a SkyHawk!

**The billboard is located on Hwy 45, the west side of the road, on the northern outskirts of Milan.**



## Annual Team Roping Jackpot

The Rodeo Booster club's annual team roping jackpot was a terrific event. Thank you to everyone who came out to help and offer their time, efforts, and food!

*Top: Championship buckles for high money winner look awesome!; right: Congratulations to high money header Brock Smith and heeler, UTM rodeo cowboy, Tucker Kail.*





# Crawfish Supper

Crawfish, anyone? A highlight of “Rodeo Week” is the Annual Crawfish Supper hosted by the Rodeo Booster Club. It officially kicks off the beginning of our rodeo activities and is always a favorite event – from those who pile high a platter of crawfish to those who settle for a more conventional meal of hamburgers, hotdogs, corn on the cob and new potatoes. Reminiscing with friends happens frequently and there are lots of stories that begin “back when I was in school...” and “remember when...” or “can you believe we lived through...” It’s a tradition that is unique to the UTM Rodeo and what makes “Rodeo Week” so special. You never know who might show up or what tale will get told, so it’s best to be there in person or the stories may end up being about you! As always, it will be held at the American Legion in Martin, the Wednesday before the rodeo, on April 13th. The booster club members will begin serving up the crawfish and fixings around 5:30 p.m. Everyone is invited to enjoy a festive evening, meet the rodeo team, renew friendships and join the booster club. The public is welcome! The cost is \$10.00 per person or \$25.00 per family. New members can join the booster club and former members can renew their memberships at this event. For more information about the crawfish supper check out our event page on Facebook, EQyss Grooming Products Crawfish Supper (It is also linked under events on the Utm Rodeo Facebook page)



*Top: John Alley with a plate of crawfish.*

## Rodeo Visit to St. Jude



*Left: Rodeo team members had a great day learning about the amazing work that St. Jude is doing for families all over the world! Front row: Megan Crow, Alexandria Hancock, & Kelsey Bussell. Back: Robbie Van Holten, Natalie Fletcher, McKenna Cox, & Tucker Kail; right: Jackson, the Original Super Man, needed a picture with the cowgirls!*



# CLARK ADOCK

We are proud to present this year's UTM Rodeo poster. Featured this year is alum Clark Adock! Clark was a true asset to the team while he attended UT Martin! He not only represented UTM while in the orange vest but also in arenas all across the country. We couldn't be more proud of all his accomplishments!

We would like to recognize a few:

- 3x IFR Qualifier
- 3x PCFR Qualifier
- 2015 Heeling Champion
- 4x SPFR Qualifier
- 2014 Calf Roping Champion
- 2015 Heeling Champion
- Multi time Lonestar Finals Qualifier
- 2x Heeling Champion
- 1x All Around Champion
- 2014 Southeast Circuit Finals Qualifier
- 4x CNFR Qualifier in Team Roping
- 3x CNFR Qualifier in Calf Roper
- 2014 CNFR 1st round winner in Calf Roping
- 2014 CNFR Reserve Champion Calf Roper
- 2014 CNFR National Champion Team Member
- 2015 Top 50 Qualifier George Strait Team Roping Classic
- 2015 Top 20 American Semi Finals Qualifier

# 48TH ANNUAL UT MARTIN RODEO

**APRIL 14-15-16 • 7:30 P.M.**  
**NED McWHERTER AGRICULTURAL COMPLEX**  
**MARTIN, TENN.**



**UT MARTIN RODEO ALUMNI**  
**CLARK ADCOCK**  
2014 RESERVE NATIONAL CHAMPION  
 CALF ROPER & NATIONAL CHAMPION  
 TEAM MEMBER

**ADVANCED TICKETS ON SALE**

**MARCH 15TH - APRIL 7TH ONLY**

**ALL THURSDAY NIGHT TICKETS: \$6 EACH**

**GENERAL ADMISSION TICKETS: FRIDAY**

- ADULTS \$10
- CHILDREN (6-12) / UTM STUDENTS w/ ID: \$7
- CHILDREN (AGES 5 AND UNDER) - FREE
- WEEKEND PASS - GOOD FOR ALL PERFORMANCES: \$20

**GENERAL ADMISSION TICKETS: SATURDAY**

- ADULTS \$12
- CHILDREN (6-12) / UTM STUDENTS w/ ID: \$7
- CHILDREN (AGES 5 AND UNDER) - FREE

**ADVANCED TICKET LOCATIONS:**

DRESDEN

- A TO Z VET SUPPLY

FULTON, KY.

- VERIZON WIRELESS

GREENFIELD

- BRAUNER'S BOOTS

MARTIN

- UT MARTIN UNIVERSITY CENTER
- WEAKLEY FARMERS CO-OP

UNION CITY

- WOOD COMMUNICATION CELLULAR SOURCE

**TICKET OFFICE**  
(731) 881-7207

**ADVANCED TICKETS: FRIDAY**

- ADULTS \$8
- CHILDREN (6-12) / UTM STUDENTS w/ ID: \$6
- CHILDREN (AGES 5 AND UNDER) - FREE
- WEEKEND PASS - GOOD FOR ALL PERFORMANCES: \$20

**ADVANCED TICKETS: SATURDAY**

- ADULTS \$10
- CHILDREN (6-12) / UTM STUDENTS w/ ID: \$6
- CHILDREN (AGES 5 AND UNDER) - FREE











**THURSDAY - TYSON, OBION COUNTY COMPLEX**  
**FRIDAY - TENNESSEE TRACTOR, LLC**  
**SATURDAY - MARTIN PAVING, CO., MEDINA, TENN.**

The University of Tennessee is an EEO/AAE/Title VII/ADA Title IX institution in the provision of its educational and employment programs and services. All qualified applicants will receive equal consideration for employment without regard to race, color, national origin, religion, sex, marital status, sexual orientation, gender identity, age, disability, or ancestry. Contact: 2025, 363 Administration Building, Martin, TN 38238, (731) 881-7207, TDD: (731) 881-7207, Hearing: (731) 881-7207. Fax: (731) 881-7207. <http://www.utk.edu/employment> equal-opportunity 800-944-087-02-14

We are expecting this Cowboy to do so much more in his future!  
Good Luck Clark!





# UTM RODEO



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



# **\*\*AUCTION & BBQ\*\***

## **SILENT AUCTION**

Each night of the rodeo different silent auction items will be displayed on tables up top in the mezzanine. This year we are highlighting an opportunity to bid on a Charmayne James barrel racing clinic in Memphis. It covers your registration fee and reserves a spot in the sold out clinic. Another unique donation is a chance to host an evening at the Tennessee Sports Hall of Fame in the Bridgestone Arena in Nashville. If you are having a party, reunion or a gathering of up to 150 people what a special place to invite your guests. Ty Murray has donated his book "Rough Stock" and autographed it with "Never Weaken". We also have received lots of tack, knives, western clothing, horse supplements, Dan Post boot gift certificates, purses, items with the steer head logo, many unique one of a kind items and gift certificates for our Get Away Packages to Nashville, Smoky Mountains, Branson, Memphis, Chattanooga, Louisville, Jackson, and St. Louis plus much more.

The silent auction process is simple. Instead of shouting out your bid like in a live auction; it is a "silent" auction where you just write your name on a bid sheet with your bid amount. The highest bid at the end of the team roping "wins" that item. 100% of the proceeds will benefit the rodeo team's scholarship program.

**We get new items in daily, so check out our auction event page on Facebook, UTM Rodeo Silent Auction Items.** If you click "attending" you will receive notifications when new items are posted (It is also linked on the Utm Rodeo Facebook page under events). It will have a full description of each item and link to the donor's webpage. If you want a quick printable list of items with clickable links check out the UTM Rodeo Athletic page, <http://www.utmsports.com/page.cfm?id=68>

## **FREE BARBECUE &**

## **LIVE AUCTION**

Edward Jones Investments of Martin once again brings us the Free County-Wide Barbecue and live Scholarship Auction on Saturday, April 16. Last year the BBQ was held at a NEW location, downtown Martin in Festival Park. That was a big hit with everyone, and barring inclement weather, will be the location again this year. Beginning at 11:00 there will be silent auction items to bid on while eating some fantastic FREE barbecue, beans, slaw, chips and a drink. This will lead up to the big event, the live scholarship auction beginning around 12:15. We are thankful for the support of Todd and Jennifer Hampton for sponsoring this event. You never know what the booster club members will have collected for the annual auction, so come join us and get in on all the fun, get a great bargain, and support the rodeo team's scholarship fund. Go to: [www.Auctionzip.com](http://www.Auctionzip.com) to see items that will be in the auction. You can also find pictures on the Utm Rodeo Boosters Facebook page.





# AUCTION ITEMS



EVERGREEN CRYSTAL



DAN POST BOOTS



KNIVES



VISIBLE FAITH



# AUCTION ITEMS



CETYL M



TRENDITIONS



CUSTOM BUCKLES



YETI COOLER



## REMEMBER THIS HANDOUT?



### Got Dreams? Get Goals.

By: Micayla Gray

What are you hoping to accomplish in the 100 years or less that will be known as your life? Are you living with a purpose in mind? (Personally, I want to obtain a quality of life that allows me to leave the world better off because I lived, to live this one life abundantly, and to inspire others to do the same.)

Maybe you have a seemingly impossible dream? (One of mine is owning a great photography business.)

Can you imagine a world where everyone lives with a clear purpose? Where individuals are accomplishing their goals and living out their dreams? I can.

When I first came to Martin, Tennessee, I was a small fish in a big sea with so many distractions I nearly forgot how to swim. I am very grateful to my rodeo coach, John Luthi, for his confidence in me and his undying dedication to goal setting. At our weekly team meetings, he taught us to look inside ourselves to find what we want most in life and then make it possible by setting goals, writing them down, and reading them often. (He tells us we are 400% more likely to reach our goals if we read them everyday!)

**Every human being is born with his or her own talents, dreams, and 24 hours in the day.** We all want to succeed at putting those things together to achieve our dream lifestyle. So why do so many people settle for ordinary, average, and less-than-fulfilling lives? I believe the problem is that the overwhelming majority of people do not have specific, measurable goals or any type of plan to achieve them.

No doubt, writing goals down can be intimidating. After all, if you have no goals you'll never fail right? Right... if your definition of success is living out your days with no purpose or direction and very few accomplishments. If that's the case, don't bother reading further. But in case you do believe in yourself and your God-given purpose, I'll address some excuses that may be spreading doubt in your mind right now:

- **Hey broke people:** First of all, I'm one of you and I have good news, writing your goals down is free! (assuming you already have a pencil and McDonald's bag to write on)
- **For those who don't like to think:** We all day dream—goal setting is just taking that ~~jealousy~~ *...desire* and putting it down on paper.
- **For those who are too busy:** We all have 24 hours in the day and spending a few hours right now and a few minutes everyday with your goals will help you prioritize and make the most out of your time. Since I began writing my goals down, I get more done with more time left over!
- **For those who say they don't need goals:** I'm going to say this as nicely as I possibly can... we are all human and subject to distractions and poor decisions, but having goals and reading them often will make you much less likely to experience setbacks and much more likely to become an even awesomer you.

**Folks, this is eeeasy.** Most of us could write outstanding goals in one day just by using the time we normally spend on Facebook and instead focusing that time on giving ourselves a better chance for success. The process is simple. I can explain it in four steps:



1. **Write down your priorities, in order**—this helps streamline the rest of the process.
2. **Write down your long-term goals**—these are the overarching things you want to accomplish (like graduating college, getting a job, traveling the world, etc).
3. **Break those long-term goals into short-term goals**—these are the steps you can take now to start working your way toward your long-term goals (turn in every homework assignment, spend five minutes every night looking for new job postings, start saving 5% of your paycheck in an account set apart just for travel).
4. **Complete your goals by adding a timeline and specific measurements**—this is definitely the hardest part because it makes you accountable. However, it's also the most important part because it encourages real action. Challenge yourself! I promise you are more capable than you even know.

**BONUS ROUND:** Write down one God Thing. This is something that is bigger than yourself. Something only God can help you do. (My God Thing is my goal of owning a modern day dancehall! Why? So I can dance anytime I want to!)

#### Trouble Shooting

- **Don't know where to start?** Try a wild ideas sheet. List everything you've ever wanted to do, from the random, insignificant things (like learn to play the fiddle) to the huge, unimaginable things (say, be financially independent at 40). Then narrow it down by writing down a reason why you want to do this thing. If you don't have a good reason, throw it out. This process will help you quickly narrow down your list and you will probably start seeing patterns that reflect your priorities. And the good news is, once you get started it's usually hard to stop.
- **Having trouble actually putting words on paper?** Spend a day or two thinking about what you would do if money wasn't part of the equation. Wake up your hearts, people. If you do nothing else, *at least* wake up your hearts.
- **Do your goals sound negative?** Avoid negatives, instead find a way to make them positive. For example, instead of "Don't procrastinate" say "Stay ahead". This can help you visualize what you actually want to happen and boost your confidence! (Booyah, win win.)

**I truly believe that I can do anything. Not everything, but anything. I believe you can too.** It requires prioritizing your life and focusing on what is most important to you. It requires asking yourself daily if what you are doing is helping or hurting your chances of reaching your goals. It requires first taking a little time to put your goals on paper, and then a little more time to read them often. *(And just so you know, it may take a little more time to check off the goals you have accomplished {because you're awesome and you will reach your goals} and set new, higher goals!)*

To sum it all up, this very easy and simple commitment has the potential to dramatically affect your life for the better. I know I wouldn't even be writing this now if I hadn't been writing my goals down and reading them often. And seriously, what do you have to lose? One of my favorite Coach Luthi Truths is that "It's hard to hit a target you don't have." Coach, I couldn't have said it better myself.

Wishing you big goals and even bigger successes!

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## MICAYLA GRAY

Senior Micayla Gray is extremely talented in the goat tying and breakaway roping events. Outside of the arena she showed off some of her writing skills in her blog. In her latest edition, "Got Dreams, Get Goals" she summarized what she learned in 4 years of rodeo team meetings in a clear and exceptional fashion.

Coach Luthi states, "Micayla did a great job of explaining our goal setting format. I am not sure I could have explained it any better". We are proud to have Micayla on our team and know she has an outstanding future ahead of her.



*Left: Micayla competes in goat tying at the UTM Rodeo.*



*Right: Micayla Gray*

## ORANGE TRI-FOLD'S AROUND TOWN

Be on the lookout for the orange UTM rodeo trifolds around the area at restaurants, convenience stores and other places of business. They have a FREE rodeo ticket for a child aged 9 and under for Thursday or Friday night. They also have complete information about all the "Rodeo Week" activities!

## ADVANCED TICKETS

Advanced tickets to the rodeo go on sale March 15th and are available ONLY until April 7th. So avoid the lines and get a discounted ticket at these locations: Martin: UT Martin University Center, Weakley Farmers Co-op; Fulton, KY: Verizon Wireless Store; Dresden: A to Z Vet Supply; Union City: Wood Communication Cellular Source; Greenfield: Brawner Boots

**UT MARTIN**