

UT Martin Rodeo News

THE UNIVERSITY OF TENNESSEE AT MARTIN

September 2015



2015 CNFR

The UTM cowboys and cowgirls headed 1280 miles west in June to compete at the 67th College National Finals Rodeo. The CNFR is celebrating its 17th year in Casper, Wyoming, and is held at the Casper Events Center.

The Skyhawk cowboys were defending their National Championship against over 100 teams that have been competing for that title throughout the year.

The top three students in each event, and top two men's and women's teams from each of the NIRA's 11 regions qualify for the CNFR. UT Martin qualified 5 men and 4 women to compete against the "best of the best".

Clark Adcock – Tie down roping and Team roping (header)

Tanner Phipps – Bareback riding

Jacob Dagenhart – Tie down roping, Steer wrestling, and Team roping (header)

Lane Mitchell - Team roping (heeling for Clark)

Zach Mabry – Team roping (heeling for Jacob)

Dacia Horne – Barrel racing

Nealey Dalton – Barrel racing

Ashley Brooks – Barrel racing

Natalie Fletcher – Breakaway roping

Senior Clark Adcock had an impressive run at the College Finals for the 2nd year in a row. He qualified for the short go in both the tie down roping and team roping. He ended up 5th in the nation in the tie down roping, highlighted by a 3rd place finish in the third round and placing 4th in the championship round. In team roping, he finished 9th nationally as a heeler, with a 4th place in the first round, and 3rd in the second round. He also was 4th in the Men's All-Around.

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Top: Clark Adcock starts a fast run in the tie down roping, while Zach Mabry and Coach Luthi shout encouragement; middle: Tanner Phipps spurs a rank one; bottom: Clark Adcock and Lane Mitchell placing in the round at the College Finals (with Jacob and Zach looking on). Photos courtesy of Hubbell Photos.

2015 CNFR

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Tanner Phipps again competed well in the bareback riding at the Finals. He made an exciting ride in the third round for 73.5 points but ended up just one out from making the short go after drawing a weaker horse in the 2nd round.

Qualifying for the CNFR in all 3 timed events is quite a feat and was accomplished this year by Jacob Dagenhart. The senior had some tough luck in the tie down roping and steer wrestling. However, he scored points for the UTM men's team in the second round with a 3 place finish in the team roping.

Roping with Jacob at the Finals was heeler Zach Mabry. He threw a fantastic loop in the second round for a 5.8 time, earning 3rd place points for the team. They end up ranked as the #22 team in the nation.

Heeler Lane Mitchell was teamed up with Clark at the



Top: Jacob Dagenhart and Zach Mabry making a quick run in the team roping at the CNFR.

College Finals. The junior had a strong week, placing 4th and 3rd with 6.3 and 5.8 times. The Saturday night championship round was frustrating with a steer that didn't cooperate and ran hard left in the small pen of the Casper Event Center, leaving them with a no time. Lane ended the year as the nation's 9th best heeler.

The UTM cowgirls dominated the Ozark Regional rodeos in the barrel racing and qualified the top 3 barrel racers to the College Finals.



Top: Lane Mithell ropes two feet; bottom: Dacia Horne rides her great horse, Zoco, to place in the round at the College Finals. All photos courtesy of Hubbell Photos.

Senior Dacia Horne lead the way in the region and that carried over to the CNFR. Riding her amazing horse Zoco, she placed 2nd, 14th, and 8th during the three rounds. The duo entered the Saturday night championship round in 2nd place, but hit two barrels. Dacia completed her Skyhawk career as the 12th best barrel racer in the nation.

Coming off her 2nd place finish in the regional standings, Nealey Dalton had a good Finals. Her best run was a 14.03 for a 5th place finish in the second round. A plus 5 in the first round for hitting a barrel was the only thing keeping her from making the short go.

Freshman Ashley Brooks really came on strong in the barrel racing and finished 3rd in the region. She had a solid first trip to Casper. Her fastest time was a 14.46 in the second round.

Natalie Fletcher represented UTM in the breakaway roping at the CNFR and also the Ozark Region as the Regional Student Director. She had some tough luck in the first couple rounds. In the third round she went



for the win and roped in a blazing 1.9 seconds but barely broke out, giving her an 11.9 with the penalty.

Both teams had some tremendous performances and had moments on the top of the leader board throughout the week. But as Coach Luthi commented, “We did a lot of good things, but we also made some mistakes that cost us. Even then, we were still sitting pretty good going into the championship short go. We just didn’t have the best night and it hurt us.” Still the men’s team had another Top 10 finish as the Skyhawk cowboy’s ended up 8th in the nation and the women’s team was in the Top 20 finishing 16th nationally.

Below: 2015 CNFR Team

Back Row: Zach Mabry, Clark Adcock, Lane Mitchell, Jacob Dagenhart, Tanner Phipps.

Front Row: Coach Luthi, Natalie Fletcher, Ashley Brooks, Nealey Dalton, Dacia Home, Coach Davis.

Photo courtesy of Hubbell Photos.



Top left: Nealey Dalton makes a quick turn during the CNFR barrel racing last June; middle: Natalie Fletcher throws a rapid loop in the breakaway roping during the 3rd round of the CNFR; right: Ashley Brooks making a quality run at the College Finals. Photos courtesy of Hubbell Photos.

Below: Jeff Collins (one of Coach Luthi’s former student-athletes and NFR bareback riding champion) and Coach Luthi help with Special Olympics during the CNFR; bottom: Coach Luthi and Coach Davis hold plaque that was awarded to UTM for having “Rodeo of the Year,” ten years in a row.



ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT



Top: Courtney in the barrel racing;



Above: Josh sticks it on a buckler!



Bottom: Josh watches over Dayton as she barrel races.

We are proud to spotlight Courtney (Barnfield) and Josh Shackleford

Josh and I attended UT Martin from 2002-2004. I transferred from SEMO and at 22, with the help of fellow rodeo team member Scotty Nesmith. Josh chose the college route. Our experience there had nothing but positives. While there, we grew as individuals in and out of the arena. Coach Luthi was our biggest influence and still to this day hold him responsible to supplying us the tools to be successful in life and rodeo.

Starting out at Martin, Josh and I only knew that we were on the same rodeo team, he rode bareback horses and I barrel raced. I was originally from Missouri and he made his home in Alabama so our paths had never crossed. How the story plays out in the end is kind of neat and will always be memorable to us.

In 2003 we BOTH finished 3rd in the Ozark Region and earned our way to the Playoffs in Lawton, OK. That year we were thrown a couple curve balls during the rodeo season. Josh broke his ankle at the IFR which resulted in him missing a couple rodeos in the spring season and Roany, my main horse, had a injury and I had to miss one rodeo and use a backup horse at another. Going into the next year, we knew we had to set a goal and go for it.

2004, we proudly walked away as the Ozark Region Bareback Champion and Ozark Region Barrel Racing Champion and were College Finals Bound. That year our Men's and Women's Team both won the region. We had a strong team and knew working as a team would get us to the top and we did. After the College Finals, we once again both finished in the top 10 in the nation.

While at UTM we both purchased our PRCA and WPRA cards. Traveling partners we were. I graduated in the December of 2004 while Josh chose to leave Martin with me and we were Missouri bound. For the next 5+ years, we were the husband and wife team at the Great Lakes Circuit Finals.

We married in April of 2006, built a house on my family farm, and started purchasing cattle. In 2010 we

ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT

welcomed a new member to our team. Dayton Roan Shackleford. Dayton is now almost 5 and our whole world has changed. Since she was born, Josh's focus has turned to his shoeing business and cattle. I decided to focus on being a mom and getting younger horses going to replace the one and only "Roany Pony." Roany is now 19 and enjoying the semi-retired life healthy and sound. My hope is Dayton will get to enjoy him as he took me to the top many times. Now we are hauling her to youth rodeo's and dance class. Never thought for one minute we would have on cowgirl boots and then the next tap shoes. Chasing her dreams is keeping us busy but we would not have it any other way.

I have now accepted a new job. I will be joining Diversified Crop Insurance as a Crop Insurance Agent. I have left the school system after 9 years. My official title is Rick Management Consultant.

This year we have helped put on Youth Rodeos through our Cowboy Church. The opportunity to help our future cowboys and cowgirls has been amazing. Our goal is to see them wear the famous orange vest in the future. To the cowboys and cowgirls who are wearing the orange vest this year, we wish you the best of luck and always remember, (TEAM) T-ogether E-veryone A-chieves M-ore.

When talking about Josh and Courtney's time at UT Martin, Coach Luthi always smiles. "They were both such great individuals and leaders for our team," he recalls. "Courtney came to school and walked on to the team. But Courtney and her big red roan horse became dominate in the barrel racing right away. She quickly earned a scholarship through her dedication and hard work and was a wonderful asset to our team, in and out of the arena."

"Josh started school in much the same way as Courtney. He was introduced to me by UTM cowboy Scotty Neismith late in the summer and most of our scholarship money had already been awarded. We didn't have much scholarship money left but managed to come up with a little bit to start with and I'm glad we did," recalls Coach Luthi. Josh worked diligently to improve and he earned a much better scholarship. Most importantly, Josh was a quality young man who had a positive influence on our team."



Top: Family! Courtney, Josh, and Dayton.

Some Achievements

Courtney:

- 2x MRBRA Barrel Racing Champion
- 2003 3rd in Ozark Region, Barrel Racing
- 2004 Ozark Region Champion Barrel Racer
- 2004 Top 10 in Nation NIRA
- 5x WPRA Great Lakes Circuit Finals Qualifier
- WPRA Great Lakes Rookie of the Year

Josh:

- 2003 3rd in Ozark Region, Bareback Riding
- 2004 Ozark Region Champion Bareback Rider
- 6x time IFR qualifier
- 2x PRCA Southeast Circuit Qualifier
- 6x PRCA Great Lakes Circuit Qualifier
- PRCA Southeast Circuit Champion Bareback Rider
- PRCA Great Lakes Circuit Champion Bareback Rider
- 3x DNCFR Qualifier
- J Bar J Rodeo Series Truck winner

2015 Team Outlook

Just like every other year, UT Martin graduated a super group of seniors that were talented and provided great leadership to the team. And just like every other year, the expectations remain the same. "We just need to do our part, work hard to improve each day, and take advantage of the opportunities that God blesses us with," declares Coach John Luthi. He continues, "We have some really good athletes back and we are thankful to have brought in some very talented freshman and transfer student-athletes. I feel we are going to have a strong group with outstanding leadership and commitment."

OZARK REGION RODEO SCHEDULE 2015-2016

Missouri Valley College
(Marshall, Missouri)

September 24, 25, 26
Thursday, Friday, Saturday

University of West Alabama
(Livingston, Alabama)

October 8, 9, 10
Thursday, Friday, Saturday

Murray State University
(Murray, Kentucky)

October 15, 16, 17
Thursday, Friday, Saturday

Three Rivers College
(Poplar Bluff, Missouri)

October 22, 23, 24
Thursday, Friday, Saturday

Southern Arkansas University
(Magnolia, Arkansas)

November 5, 6, 7
Thursday, Friday, Saturday

Cossatot Community College
(Texarkana, Arkansas)

February
Thursday, Friday, Saturday

East Mississippi Community College
(West Point, Mississippi)

March
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

Keep up with UT Martin Rodeo results on
www.utmsports.com

The Booster Club barrel race jackpot dates this fall are,
October 16 and 17, and November 6 and 7.

**UT MARTIN RODEO BOOSTER CLUB
WINTER BARREL RACING SERIES**

UTM AG PAVILION ~ MARTIN, TN



OCTOBER 16-17

NOVEMBER 6-7

JANUARY 8-9

****TN IBRA APPROVED FOR ALL 3 WEEKENDS****

Friday Night : Training Barrels 6:00-8:00 ~ Classes to follow

Saturday : Training Barrels 1:30-4:30 ~ Classes to follow

	<u>Entry Fee</u>	<u>Added Money *</u>	
		<u>Friday</u>	<u>Saturday</u>
<i>Training Barrels</i>	\$5		
<i>Kiddie Barrels(10&Under)</i>	\$6		
<i>Open 4D Barrels</i>	\$25	\$100	\$300
<i>Youth 3D Barrels(18&Under)</i>	\$20	\$50	\$100
<i>Masters Class (40&OVER)</i>	\$15	\$0	\$0
<i>Adult 3D Barrels(19-39)</i>	\$20	\$50	\$100

Entry fees include \$3 timer fee

****Min. entries for added money****

Friday ~ Youth Barrels – 15 or more ; Adult & Open Barrels – 25 or more

Saturday ~ Youth Barrels – 15 or more ; Adult Barrels – 25 or more

**Open – 50 or more (\$500 added for more than 100 entries)*

****OPEN Barrels can Roll Over to Youth, Masters, & Adult Classes****

- **\$5 gate fee paid at entry**
- Series awards will be give on points for Friday & Saturday combined
- Points to top 10 places in each division each day. Payback based on numbers of entries in the class
- Re-run for timer malfunction only *Refunds for injury to horse or rider only*no refunds after class begins
- Stalls are \$25 (subject to change). Includes 1 bag of shavings
- Electric RV hook-ups are \$25

For More Information Please Contact: Katie White (270) 627-1031 or Jamie White (731) 693-6315

Negative coggins required for all horses; State of TN requires health papers on all out of state horses

The Show producers, IBRA or UTM Ag pavilion will not be responsible for accidents, injuries, or theft. Ride at your own risk. Under TN law an equine professional is not liable for injury/death of a participant in equine activities resulting from the inherent risk of equine activities pursuant to the TN Code Annotated Title 4-4, Chapter 20, Part I.

**Winner of each D in the open at the end of the series receives a
buckle plus many other great awards!**

Save the Date!

2016 UTM RODEO

April 14, 15, & 16!

REMEMBER THIS HANDOUT?

"Winning 1"

"One important key to success is self-confidence. An important key to self-confidence is preparation." Arthur Ashe (Pro Tennis Champion)

"A Lobster, when left high and dry among the rocks, has not instinct and energy enough to work his way back to the sea, but waits for the sea to come to him.

If it does not come, he remains where he is and dies, although the slightest effort would enable him to reach the waves, which are perhaps within a yard of him.

The world is full of human lobsters: men stranded on the rocks of indecision and procrastination, who, instead of putting forth their own energies, are waiting for some grand billow of good fortune to set them afloat." Orison Swett Marden, Editor SUCCESS Magazine

Most people live lives of indecision... Some do. Some don't. Some will. Some won't. I might.

How about living your life with an 'I will' attitude! "Attitude is the mind's paintbrush - it can color any situation." What is the situation you are in now? Maybe all it will take is a new color, a new vision and effort to turn your dreams into reality.

HAVE AN "I WILL" ATTITUDE!

"Winning 11"

It's always easier to find someone to help see why an idea won't work or a goal can't be reached. Next time you are being told why you can't do something consider these classic (and incorrect) statements...

- "Computers in the future may weigh no more than 1.5 tons." Popular Mechanics, forecasting the relentless march of science, 1949.

- "I think there is a world market for maybe five computers." Thomas Watson, chairman of IBM, 1943.

- "But what... is it good for?" Engineer at the Advanced Computing Systems Division of IBM, 1968.

- "I have traveled the length and breadth of this country and talked with the best people, and I can assure you that data processing is a fad that won't last out the year." The editor in charge of business books for Prentice Hall, 1957

- "There is no reason anyone would want a computer in their home." Ken Olson, president, chairman and founder of Digital Equipment Corp., 1977

- "This 'telephone' has too many shortcomings to be seriously considered as a means of communication. The device is inherently of no value to us." Western Union internal memo, 1876

- "The wireless music box has no imaginable commercial value. Who would pay for a message sent to nobody in particular?" David Sarnoff's associates in response to his urgings for investment in the radio in the 1920's

- "The concept is interesting and well-formed, but in order to earn better than a 'C' the idea must be feasible." A Yale University management professor in response to Fred Smith's paper proposing reliable overnight delivery service. (Smith went on to found Federal Express Corp.)

- "Who the %!@ wants to hear actors talk?" H.M. Warner, Warner Brothers, 1927

You get the idea... Make up your own mind. Believe in your dreams and then do what you have to do to give them a chance.

****TENNESSEE SPORTS HALL OF FAME****

The Tennessee Sports Hall of Fame announced its Class of 2015 inductees and the University of Tennessee at Martin had two honorees in the exclusive class. The UT Martin men's rodeo team was named as one of five Amateur Teams of the Year while Dacotah Faught of the UT Martin rifle team, was named the Female Amateur Athlete of the Year for 2013-14.

Coached by John Luthi and assisted by Nelson Davis, the UT Martin men's rodeo team made history in 2014 by becoming the first team east of the Mississippi River to win the national rodeo championship team title. Six UT Martin cowboys, all from east of the Mississippi, combined for 755 team points and sat atop the College National Finals Rodeo standings for the final five days of the event, which took place in Casper, Wyoming. "Man, that was an amazing ceremony! I was very honored to have sat on that stage with so many fantastic athletes. We all felt so blessed to have our National Championship men's team recognized", said Coach Luthi remembering the special night.

Both UT Martin representatives were officially enshrined during the Tennessee Sports Hall of Fame ceremony on June 6 at the Omni Hotel in downtown Nashville.



Top: Coach Davis, Tyler Waltz, and Coach Luthi holding award after the ceremony.



Top: Bob Beard (rifle coach), Dacotah Faught, Coach Davis, Coach Luthi, Julio Freire-UTM Athletic Director; middle: Tyler Waltz and Nelson Davis point out the rodeo team's plaque located in the Tennessee Sports Hall of Fame; bottom: Coach Luthi on stage accepting the Hall of Fame Award.

BREAKING GROUND ON NEW CALF SHED

One of the improvements at the Equine Center this year will be a new calf shed for the breakaway cattle. We'd like to thank Steve Taylor, Marty Overton, Ben Buckingham and Tyler Waltz for all their hard work on this project.





ATHLETE'S ORIENTATION

The Sunday before school starts at UT Martin is a busy day for the student-athletes. There are physicals in the afternoon, piles of paperwork to complete and Athlete's Orientation in the evening. This year a wonderful meal was included free to all athletes, served up by Sodexo. Julio Freire, Director of Athletics at UTM, spoke to all the teams and outlined what was expected of them Academically, Athletically and Socially. It is one of the few times all the Skyhawk teams are together in one arena.



SKYHAWK REALITY 2015

The Annual kick-off dinner for all UTM student-athletes, coaches and Skyhawk fans was held on August 25th in the Elam Center. It was a table format where athletes from different teams were hosted by local supporters of Martin Athletics. Each team had an opportunity for their coach to give a "scouting report" on the upcoming season and for any team member to show off any "unique" skills. UTM Rodeo cowboy, Tucker Kail, stole the show with his ability as an auctioneer.



Top: Tucker Kail auctioning off 2 UT Martin vs. Ole Miss football tickets.



Bottom: Big smiles from Tucker Kail, Clay Tilley, Slade Bronson, and Trey Lloyd at the kick off dinner.



Bottom: UTM cowgirls Nealey Dalton and Natalie Fletcher.

Soybean Festival Parade



Top: Alexandria Hancock, Kelsey Bussell, and Ashley Brooks waiting for the start of the Soybean Festival Parade.



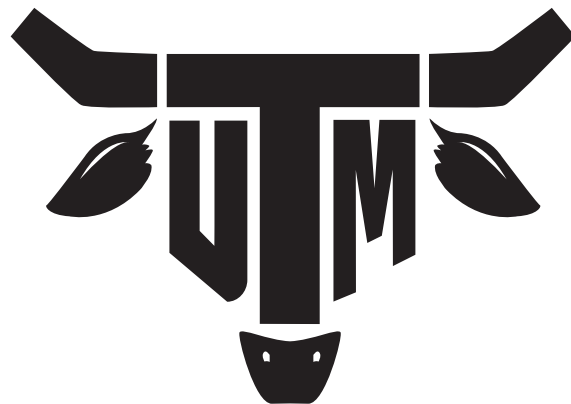
Tucker Kail and Tanner Phipps waiting for the parade to start.



Trey Lloyd on his pony "Skyhawk."



Meredith McDonnell, Makayla Harrison, and Hannah Mosley before the parade.



PICTURE DAY



Top: Houston Herbert and Nelson Davis looking sharp on "Picture Day."

Bottom: Ben Walker smiles for the camera on "Picture Day" after the team meeting.



Top: Tyler Waltz, Coach Davis, Ben Walker, Houston Herbert, Tanner Phipps, and Ben Doyle "doing the extra" in the weight room getting ready for the season.

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