

UT Martin Rodeo News

THE UNIVERSITY OF TENNESSEE AT MARTIN

June, 2014



Jeff Askey wins national bull riding title in 2010 while Coach Luthi cheers him on.

CNFR Bound!

The UT Martin Men's team won the Ozark Regional Title and once again qualified for the College National Finals Rodeo in Casper, Wyoming. It is the 41st consecutive year the men's team has competed at the Finals. The UTM cowboys head west ranked 7th nationally with plans to improve on that ranking at the CNFR. However, all points are wiped clean at the CNFR and national championships are based on results at the College Finals only.

This year's qualifiers are bareback riders Tyler Waltz, Tanner Phipps and Colt Kitaif. Will Lummus will compete in the tie down roping and steer wrestling. Clark Adcock qualified in the tie down roping and in the team roping as a heeler, along with his partner John Alley

who qualified in the heading. Nealey Dalton on the women's team also earned a berth at the Finals to compete in the barrel racing. Competitors who finished in the top three in the final regional standings earn an automatic bid to the CNFR.

According to Coach Luthi, "We are blessed to be taking seven student-athletes to the College Finals; six men and one from the women's team. I feel we have a very solid 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 great things are possible with this group!"

The CNFR will begin on Sunday, June 15th. There will be regular updates on the UTM Rodeo facebook page. You can also find articles at www.utmsports.com and click on rodeo.

UTM Rodeo is now on twitter just in time for the College Finals! We will be tweeting live updates all week during the CNFR. Please follow us @UTM_Rodeo.

 **#CNFR**
FOLLOW THE ACTION ON TWITTER!



Click on the bull to follow CNFR on Facebook

About CNFR

The 66th CNFR is celebrating its 16th year in Casper, Wyoming on June 15-12, 2014 at the Casper Events Center.



Ty Hughston making a good show on this bronc 2013 at the CNFR.



Mary Francis Gorsuch running the barrels at the CNFR in Wyoming.

Welcome to the 2014 College National Finals Rodeo!

The CNFR is the “Rose Bowl” of college rodeo. It is where the National Intercollegiate Rodeo Association crowns individual event champions in saddle bronc riding, bare back riding, bull riding, tie-down roping, steer wrestling, team roping, barrel racing, breakaway roping, and goat tying. National team championships are also awarded to both men’s and women’s teams. Over 400 cowboys and cowgirls from over 100 universities and colleges compete in Casper each year. Contestants compete all year in one of the NIRA’s 11 regions for a chance to rope or ride at the CNFR.

The top three students in each event, and top two men’s and women’s teams from the NIRA’s 11 regions will qualify for the CNFR.



Will Lummus competing in the steer wrestling at the 2013 CNFR.

THE UNIVERSITY of TENNESSEE MARTIN

The University of Tennessee is an EEO/AA/Title VI/Title IX/Section 504/ADA/ADEA institution in the provision of its education and employment programs and services. All qualified applicants will receive equal consideration for employment without regard to race, color, national origin, religion, sex, pregnancy, marital status, sexual orientation, gender identity, age, physical or mental disability, or covered veteran status. In compliance with the Jeanne Clery Disclosure of Campus Security Policy and Campus Crime Statistics Act (The Clery Act), UTM's annual security report includes statistics for the previous three years concerning reported crimes that occurred on or around the campus and UTM's emergency response and evacuation procedures. You can view the report at <http://www.utm.edu/departments/finadmin/publicsafety/annualreport.php> or you may obtain a paper copy of the report by contacting the Office of Public Safety, 215 Hurt Street, Martin, TN 38238 or calling (731) 881-7777. Data on intercollegiate athletics program participation rates and financial support may be found at http://www.utm.edu/webshare/consumer_docs/09-10%20DOE-EADA%20Report.pdf and printed copies may be obtained through the Office of Intercollegiate Athletics, 1022 Elam Center, Martin, TN 38238 or by calling (731) 881-7660. E05-4105-00-009-14



2013 College National Finals Men's and Women's Teams

(Front row, from left) Head Coach John Luthi, Will Lummus, John Alley, Lane Mitchell, Natalie Fletcher, Mary Francis Gorsuch, Ben Walker, Athletic Trainer and Assistant Coach Nelson Davis. (Back row, from left) Clark Adcock, Jordan Thrasher, Clay Mitchell, Robert Joyce, Tyler Waltz and Ty Hughston.



Ben Walker competing at the 2013 CNFR.



Coach Luthi is congratulated by Tyler Waltz for winning National Coach of the Year honors at the 2013 CNFR Finals in Casper, Wyoming.

UT MARTIN'S ANNUAL SPRING COLLEGE RODEO A ROUSING SUCCESS ONCE AGAIN



photo credit: Sasha Nelson Photography

The University of Tennessee at Martin men's team captured its seventh top finish of the season while the women's team recorded its second-highest point total of the season at the 46th annual spring college rodeo held before record setting crowds at the Ned Ray McWherter Agricultural Complex and NW (Doc) Robinson Arena in April. The rodeo was again voted **"Rodeo of the Year"** in the Ozark Region, an honor it has received every year (9) it has been awarded.

The UT Martin men accumulated 875 points, which was 350 more than Missouri Valley College, the second place finisher. The women's team racked



Colt Kitaif in the bull riding at the 46th Annual College Rodeo.



Tyler Waltz making a great ride at the 2014 UTM College Rodeo.

up 180 points, just 85 points behind team winner Missouri Valley College's 265 points.

In bareback riding, Tanner Phipps and Colt Kitaif got the weekend off to a good start, splitting first and second with scores of 79 in the first go. Phipps would go on to earn second place (77) in the short go and first in average (156) while Kitaif placed fourth in the short go (68) and average (147). Tyler Waltz also earned points in the event, finishing third in average (150) after splitting third and fourth in the first go (74) and placing third in the short go (76).

Clark Adcock performed well in calf roping, finishing in second place (19.8 average) after besting all cowboys in the first go (9.6) and splitting fourth and fifth in the short go (10.2). John Alley placed fifth in average (21.0) after splitting fifth and sixth in the first go (10.8) and splitting fourth and fifth in the short go (10.2).

Three UT Martin cowboys enjoyed success in steer wrestling. Alley led the way with a first place showing in average (9.8) after times of 4.9 in both the first go (third) and in the short go (second). Will Lummus (4.6 in first go, second place) and Clay Brewer (5.3 in first go, fourth) also garnered points in the event.

cont. on page 4

UT Martin's cont.

Micayla Gray came on strong late in goat tying, placing fifth in the short go with a 7.8 while splitting fifth and sixth in average with a 15.3.

The UT Martin duo of Ben Walker and Zach Mabry excelled in team roping, finishing in second in average (12.0) after splitting second and third in the short go (5.3) in the first round and placing second in the short go (6.7). Clay Brewer and Greg Sullivan also pieced together a pair of solid performances, splitting sixth place with a 16.1 average.

UT Martin boasted the top two finishers in barrel racing. Nealey Dalton swept first place in the first go (13.52), the short go (13.46) and average (26.98). Right behind her was Dacia Horne, who placed second in the first go (13.59), split second and third in the short go (13.66) and second in average (27.25).

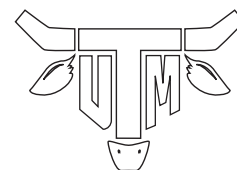


Cody Inman and Tucker Kail riding into the arena to kick off the 2014 UT Martin rodeo in the Ned Ray McWherter Fieldhouse.

In bull riding, Jerry Rogers concluded a strong rodeo with a first place finish in average (152) after splitting first and second in the first go (74) and claiming top honors in the short go (78).

“We had another amazing rodeo this year!” commented Coach Luthi. “We were fortunate to have fantastic crowds, super stock, lots of great help, and wonderful weather that resulted in three really good performances. On top of that, our men’s team won our home rodeo. We have a lot to be thankful for.”

Reeca Cooper was deservedly awarded the “Honorary Team Captain” buckle for all her support for the rodeo team over the years. This year had two outstanding inductees into the Rodeo Hall of Fame, Tara Knepper Hallum and Robbie Phillips.



Dacia Horne competes in the barrel racing at UT Martin’s 46th college rodeo this year.



Alumni Spotlight



David and Morgan Stone with son Owen.

The rodeo team is proud to spotlight David Stone in this newsletter. David graduated from UT Martin in 2008 with a double major in Business Management and Accounting with an impressive 3.87 grade point average.

He came to UT Martin as a walk-on rodeo team member and competed in the calf roping and steer wrestling. David revealed, “I had a love for horses and rodeo growing up but never had a place to rope or practice. I taught myself to rope and won the 4H state calf roping as a junior in high school.” He also remembers the help graduate assistant rodeo coach Zach Danison gave him while at UT Martin. “Zach would meet me at 6:00 in the morning to have one-on-one time. He was instrumental in helping me improve in the rodeo arena”.

He also recalls how the Dowdy’s family took him under their wing and he became part of their family while in college. “They made sure I got extra time

to practice in their arena”, reminiscences Stone. “Dwayne started my love for steer wrestling as well.”

Coach Luthi remembers David as a hard worker in and out of the arena. “I’m not surprised at all by the success he has had”, comments Luthi. “I’m very thankful David and Morgan are back in Martin and are involved in helping so many kids on the team. They are both great role models for our rodeo team!”

During his junior year of college David married his high school sweet heart, Morgan. After graduation they moved to Nashville for 2 years while he worked as an accountant at Cummins Diesel. The city life of Nashville wasn’t for them, so they moved to Dickson and lived in a bunkhouse of a barn and commuted into Nashville. The horse trainer they lived with competed in AQHA shows and really helped David improve his horsemanship skills and refine the art of roping. Here are some of the results:

AQHA Congress 2010 – Amateur Calf Roping Champion



David makes another great run in the calf roping.

*AQHA Congress 2011 – Reserve Champion
Amateur Calf Roping and Heeling*

*February 2011 Dixie Nationals – Heeling
Champion*

*2011 AQHA World Show – Top 10 ten
Heeling and top 15 Calf Roping*

*Competed in PRCA Southeast Circuit and
IPRA*

Soon their love for Martin and Morgan's job as a Nurse Practitioner in Martin moved them back "home" in September 2010.

David is now a fireman for the Martin Fire Department. He went through the Fire Academy in middle Tennessee as a new recruit in the summer of 2013. He graduated valedictorian of the class, being the first-ever recruit to graduate with 100% average on all tests over 10 weeks in the 30 year history of the academy! He was also voted "Best Fire Fighter" by the other recruits in his class.

David and Morgan have a son, Owen, who was born in October of 2012.



David Stone makes a quick run roping this calf.

Memorial Day Parade



Former UT Martin cowgirl, Breezy Smith, inspires the crowd at the city of Martin Memorial Day Parade. Breezy rode her horse, Montana, and led the riderless horse in honor of those who gave all. Thank you to all who made the ultimate sacrifice.

Year End Ozark Regional Results

*UTM cowboys and cowgirls who were in the Top 15 of each event.
All results can be found at www.collegerodeo.com*

Women

Breakaway: Savannah Warner - 12
Kayla Baier - 13
Lucinda Fletcher - 15

Goat Tying: Micayla Gray - 13th

Barrels: Nealey Dalton - 3rd
Kayla Baier - 5th
Katie Brown - 6th
Dacia Horne 8th

Men

The men's team won the regional championship and the women's team placed 5th.

Men's All-Around: Will Lummus - 2
Clark Adcock - 3
John Alley - 4
Jacob Dagenhart - 7

Bareback Riding: Tyler Waltz - 2
Tanner Phipps - 3
Colt Katiaf - 5

Bulls: Jerry Rogers - 5
Matt Smith - 8th

Calf Roping: Will Lummus - 2nd
Clark Adcock - 3rd
Ben Walker - 5th
John Alley - 13th
Lane Mitchell 15th

Steer Wrestling: Will Lummus - 1st
Jacob Dagenhart - 11th
John Alley - 14th
Austin Duckett - 15th

Team Roping Header: John Alley - 3rd
Jacob Dagenhart - 6
Clay Mitchell - 8th
Ben Walker - 12th
Tucker Kail - 13th

Team Roping Heeler: Clark Adcock - 3rd
Lane Mitchell - 7th
Zack Mabry - 11th
Will Lummus - 12th

Ben Walker's horse, (named "What") won "Regional Horse of the Year".

Natalie Fletcher was voted Regional Student Director.

The UT Martin Rodeo claimed the "Rodeo of the Year" title for the 9th straight year.

Season Recap

This spring was extremely busy with six college rodeos instead of the usual five, concluding with annual UT Martin College Rodeo. "We were blessed this year again with a tremendous amount of talent," acknowledged head rodeo coach, John Luthi. "However talent alone is not enough to consistently win at this level. Thankfully we had a determined group that strived to keep a positive attitude and worked hard each day to get better."

Coach Luthi reports, "Like every year there were ups and downs and we would have liked some things to have gone better, but we still had many good things happen. Winning the Ozark Region Men's Team Title is a great achievement that we worked hard to accomplish, as well as qualifying seven competitors to the College National Finals in June. We certainly have quite a few reasons to be very thankful."

www.collegerodeo.com

Newsletter Archives

If you are interested in reading past rodeo team newsletters, please go to www.utmsports.com and click rodeo. On the right side click on this symbol



They will all be available there.

Sankey Rodeo Schools

Rough Stock riders traveled to Martin for the Sankey Rodeo School the weekend after the annual UTM College Rodeo.

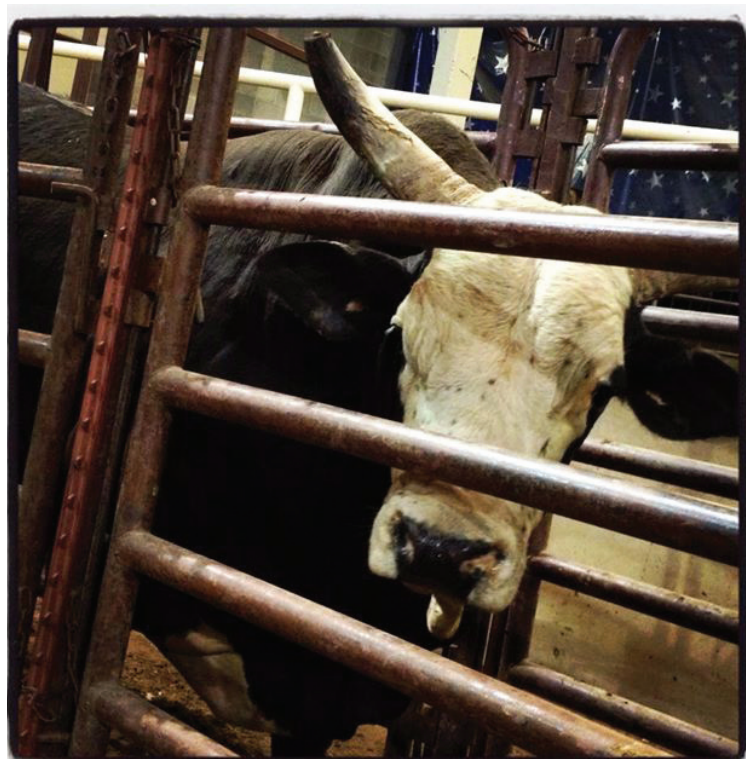


Coach Luthi instructs a student in the bareback riding.



Several pose after the graduation ceremony in the Elam Center: Clay Mitchell, Robert Joyce, John Alley and Lucinda Fletcher.

Other seniors not pictured are Ben Walker, Tyler Waltz, Courtney Bell, Lauren Wagner, Will Lummus, Greg Sullivan, Lauren Larsen and Matt Smith.



Mark Johnson brings great bucking bulls to the UTM Rodeo and for the Sankey Rodeo School.

Sankey photo credit: Sasha Nelson Photography

Remember this Handout...



From Zig Ziglar's "See You at the Top" book

FROM "DUNCE" TO GENIUS IN ONE EASY STEP

When Victor Seribriakoff was fifteen, his teacher told him he would never finish school and that he should drop out and learn a trade. Victor took the advice and for the next seventeen years he was an itinerant doing a variety of odd jobs. He had been told he was a "dunce" and for seventeen years he acted like one. When he was 32 years old, an amazing transformation took place. An evaluation revealed that he was a genius with an I.Q. of 161. Guess what? That's right, he started acting like a genius. Since that time he has written books, secured a number of patents and has become a successful businessman. Perhaps the most significant event for the former dropout was his election as chairman of the International Mensa Society. The Mensa Society has only one membership qualification, an I.Q. of 140.

The story of Victor Seribriakoff makes you wonder how many geniuses we have wandering around acting like dunces because someone told them they weren't too bright. Obviously, Victor did not suddenly acquire a tremendous amount of additional knowledge. He did suddenly acquire a tremendous amount of added confidence. The result was, he instantly became more effective and more productive. When he saw himself differently, he started acting differently. He started expecting, and getting, different results. Ah yes, as a man thinketh.

- **You cannot consistently perform in a manner that is inconsistent with the way you see yourself.**
- **The mind completes whatever picture you put in it or that you allow someone else to put in it, positive or negative.**



Follow the rodeo team at

www.utmsports.com