

UT Martin Rodeo News

THE UNIVERSITY OF TENNESSEE AT MARTIN

March 2017



49th Annual UTM Rodeo

We are gearing up for the 49th Annual UT Martin Rodeo a bit earlier this year with the rodeo beginning April 6 - 8. Last year, UTM was chosen as the Rodeo of the Year by the Ozark Region for the eleventh year in a row (11 out of 11 years!). We have been setting attendance records the past few years during the rodeo and are working hard to continue that trend. Coach Luthi remarked, "It's always a lot of fun to host our home rodeo, especially seeing all the alumni who return each year, but it also takes a tremendous amount of hard work. We couldn't begin to put on a rodeo this size without the help of the Rodeo Booster Club, the UT Martin athletics staff and the many volunteers that help in so many key areas".

Garrett Yerigan is returning as the rodeo announcer. 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 will again be back as the unpredictable clown/funny man. He does a great job not only in the arena but in the community as well. He comes 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 talks about "how exciting it is to look at the draw and see if his bareback riders had drawn 8X or 462, who got KK in the saddle bronc riding or if anyone would ride 245 in the bull riding. Mark and his crew are always easy to work with and really are a plus in us putting on a quality performance."

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Top: Madison Crow rides for home in front of a packed house at UTM Rodeo; middle: Brian "Superman" White entertains the crowd; bottom: Kylie Bruegeman carries the American flag in the grand entry—Photo courtesy of UT Martin University Relations

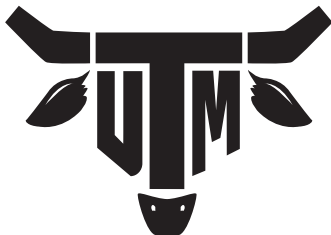
49th Annual UTM Rodeo

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Back again this year is the “Name a Goat” Program. Come cheer on “Moony”, “Baaaackspace”, “Mr. Grey”, “Vincent Van Goatie” and “Dually” each night in the goat tying. Thursday night is always Bargain Night at the rodeo and all tickets are \$6.00 at the door. 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 for a chance to throw a horseshoe to win a MTD riding lawn mower. Stop by the Booster Club’s t-shirt booth for your limited edition UTM Rodeo shirt or souvenir.

Friday night the rodeo is sponsored by Tennessee Tractor and is “Orange Out” night to raise money for the Coy Lutz Memorial Scholarship Fund. 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. Remember to visit the silent auction tables to see what unique items are available for bidding that night.

The Martin Paving Company Championship Finals will begin at 7:30 on Saturday night. The opening will be performed by the UTM Rodeo women’s team and is worth getting there early to watch. 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!



***Tanner Phipps spurs a buckler from Universal Rodeos –
Photo courtesy of UT Martin University Relations***



***Garrett Yerigan announcing at last year’s UT Martin
Rodeo –Photo courtesy of UT Martin University***



***Ben Walker and Douglas Rich roping quick at their
home rodeo –Photo courtesy of Bruce Photography***

49TH ANNUAL UT MARTIN RODEO

APRIL 6-7-8 • 7:30 P.M.
NED McWHERTER AGRICULTURAL COMPLEX
MARTIN, TENN.



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

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

TICKET OFFICE
(731) 881-7207

ADVANCED TICKETS ON SALE
MARCH 10TH - APRIL 2TH ONLY

ADVANCED TICKET LOCATIONS:

- DRESDEN**
- A TO Z VET SUPPLY
- FULTON, KY.**
- VERIZON WIRELESS
- GREENFIELD**
- BRAWNER'S BOOTS
- MARTIN**
- UT MARTIN UNIVERSITY CENTER
 - WEAKLEY FARMERS CO-OP
- UNION CITY**
- WOOD COMMUNICATION CELLULAR SOURCE



SPONSORED BY:
THURSDAY - TYSON, OBION COUNTY COMPLEX
FRIDAY - TENNESSEE TRACTOR, LLC
SATURDAY - MARTIN PAVING, Co., MEDINA, TENN.

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TENNESSEE **UT**
MARTIN

RODEO POSTER FEATURES COLT KITAIF AND WILL LUMMUS

The 2017 UT Martin Rodeo poster features alumni Colt Kitaif and Will Lummus. Both were members of the 2014 UTM National Championship Men's Team.


Will competed at the timed event end of the arena for Martin. In 2013 he won the Ozark Region in the steer wrestling and qualified for the College National Finals Rodeo. In the 2nd round he was 4.9 in the steer wrestling and split 6th place.

In 2014 he again was first in the regional standings of the steer wrestling as well as the reserve champion in the tie down roping and went to the CNFR with an automatic bid in each event. In the tie down roping he split 8th in the third round with a 9.5 run and finished the year as the 4th best tie down roper in the nation. Will also split 5th in the steer wrestling, made the short go and was in the top 10 nationally. He ended up 6th in the All-Around standings and helped lead UT Martin to their first ever National Championship.

He is now engaged to be married and is rodeoing professionally.

Colt Kitaif is a former rough stock rider for UTM, specializing in the bareback riding. In 2014 he was a member of the UT Martin men's team that qualified for the College Finals after placing 5th in the Ozark Region in the bareback riding. Once at the College Finals he placed 3rd in the first round with a great 78.5 point ride, contributing to the points that helped UT Martin to win the Men's Rodeo Team National Championship.

Colt is currently a professional cowboy and stock contractor with J.C. Kitaif Pro Rodeos.



**UT MARTIN
SPRING
RODEO**

April 6-8 • 7:30 PM

TICKETS: (731) 881-7207

**2014 National
Champion Team Member
Tanner Phipps**

TANNER PHIPPS FEATURED ON BILLBOARD

Be sure to be on the lookout for this billboard in downtown Milan (new location) featuring UTM cowboy Tanner Phipps. Tanner was a member of the 2014 UT Martin Men's National Championship Team. He finished the year 3rd in the Ozark Region in the bareback riding and place 5th in the 2nd round of the College National Finals Rodeo with a 77 point ride.

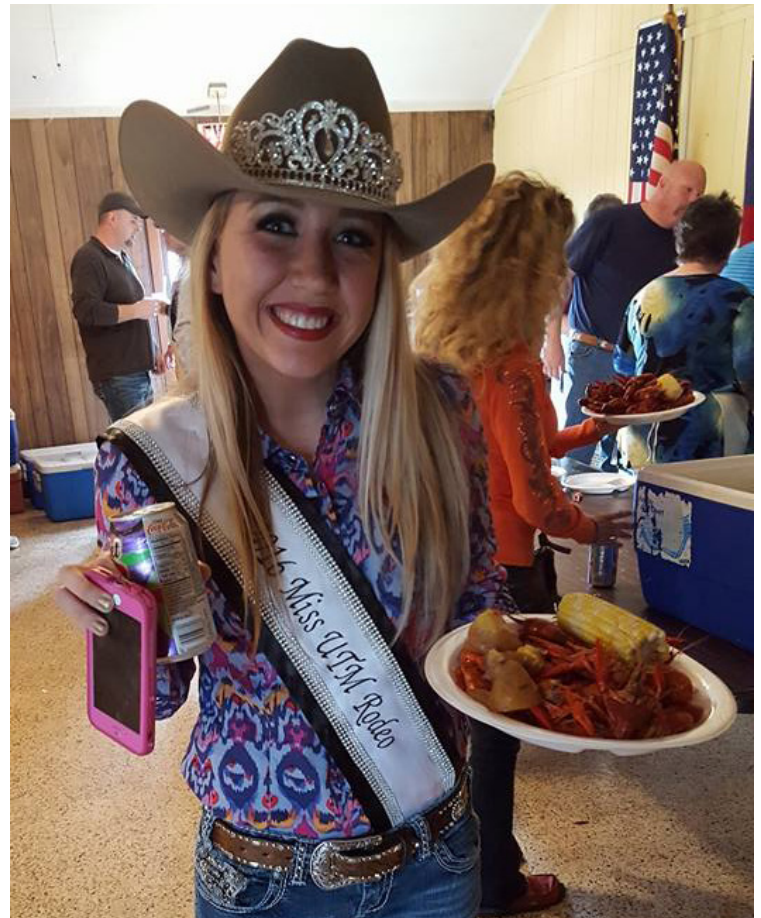
In 2015 Tanner qualified for the CNFR by placing 2nd in the regional standings. At the CNFR he ended up 14th in the nation in the bareback riding.

Tanner was again 2nd in the Ozark Region bareback riding standings in 2016 and qualified for the College Finals where he placed 3rd in the second round with a 74 point ride. He made the championship short go and finished the year in the top 10 of the national standings.

Crawfish Supper

It's crawfish time in Tennessee! A highlight of "Rodeo Week" is the Annual Crawfish Supper hosted by the Rodeo Booster Club and sponsored by EQyss Grooming Products. 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 tamer meal of hamburgers, hotdogs, corn on the cob and new potatoes.

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 stories will get told, or how exaggerated the tall tale will become, so you better be there in person to hear it for yourself! As always, it will be held at the American Legion in Martin, the Wednesday before the rodeo, on April 5th. 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 \$15.00 per person. New members can join the booster club and former members can renew their memberships at this event.



Crawfish Supper



Utm Rodeo



UTM_Rodeo



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UTMRODEO



If you head to the movie theater in Martin,
be on the lookout for this picture of UTM
cowgirl Nealey Dalton winning the barrel
race before a full house at the Ag Pavilion
during last year's home rodeo.

49TH ANNUAL UT MARTIN SPRING COLLEGE RODEO



THURSDAY, APRIL 6TH - SATURDAY, APRIL 8TH
7:30 P.M. - FOR TICKETS CALL 731-881-7207

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 8th. It will again be held downtown Martin in Festival Park weather permitting.

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. It's a more relaxed atmosphere after the frenzied pace of the rodeo each night, so you get a chance to talk and visit as you enjoy your meal. 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 to see items that will be in the auction.



Playing in the splash pad waiting for the auction to begin

FREE BARBECUE & LIVE AUCTION



Top: Jake Vincent, Dave Pruitt and Tucker Kail rodeo auctioneers; bottom: Enjoying the sunshine and eating barbecue

Top: Tucker Kail auctioneer; bottom: UTM rough stock riders, Tyler Waltz, Jerry Rogers, and Coy Lutz

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 a beautiful bracelet made by Tres Rios Silver. It has “Trust your Journey” and the craftsmanship is amazing! 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. There is a golf outing available in Branson, tree stand, and Yeti coolers. We also have received lots of tack, knives, western clothing, horse supplements, Dan Post boot gift certificates, purses, horseshoe art, 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 next person then writes a higher amount and you can rewrite your name and new 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 Utm Rodeo facebook page. 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> to see the complete list.

OZARK REGION RODEO SCHEDULE

2016-2017

Missouri Valley College (Marshall, Missouri)	September 22, 23, 24 Thursday, Friday, Saturday
University of West Alabama (Livingston, Alabama)	September 29, 30, Oct. 1 Thursday, Friday, Saturday
Murray State University #1 (Murray, Kentucky)	October 13, 14 Thursday, Friday
Murray State University #2 (Murray, Kentucky)	October 15, 16 Saturday, Sunday
East Mississippi Community College (West Point, Mississippi)	TBA Thursday, Friday Saturday
University of Arkansas - Monticello (Monticello, Arkansas)	March 30, 31 April 1 Thursday, Friday, Saturday
University of Tennessee at Martin (Martin, Tennessee)	April 6, 7, 8 Thursday, Friday, Saturday
Northwest Mississippi Comm. College (Sentaobia Mississippi)	April 20, 21, 22 Thursday, Friday, Saturday
Cossatot Community College (Texarkana, Arkansas)	April 27, 28, 29 Thursday, Friday, Saturday

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

FOLLOW THE TEAM!

With the new school year upon us and the start of the rodeo season approaching quickly, we have several options for you to follow the team as they compete for a chance to qualify as a team and as individuals for the College Finals in Casper next June.



UTMRODEO



Utm Rodeo



UTM_Rodeo



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BE ON THE LOOKOUT FOR
THE FIRST EVER UTM
RODEO SNAPCHAT FILTER
AVAILABLE EACH NIGHT OF
THE RODEO



REMEMBER THIS HANDOUT?

WHAT ARE YOU WORTH TO THE TEAM?

A Father had three sons, and they all worked for the same man, a dealer in furs. One day the father went down to talk to the president of the company, and old boyhood friend. He went into the office and said, "Jim, my three boys all have a question that's bothering me. You pay one of them \$200 a month, one of them \$300 a month, and one of them \$500. Why?"

The president leaned back in his chair and was silent for a few moments. Then his face brightened as he answered, "Well, maybe I can show you why right this minute. Have you got a while that you can stay here?"

"I can stay all day," the father said.

"Well, you might have to stay all day. Make yourself at home."

He picked up the telephone and called one of the boys, the \$200 boy. He said, "I understand the Ontario has just docked at the wharf, loaded with furs. Please go down there and see what cargo she's carrying and let me know." About three minutes later the president's telephone rang and the young fellow said, "I didn't even have to go down there to get the information. I telephoned down. They have fifteen hundred seals." The president said, "Thank you".

He buzzed the next boy, the \$300 boy and said, "The Ontario has just docked. Will you please go down and see what she has on board and let me know at your earliest convenience?" About an hour later the telephone rang and he said, "I just went down and checked the Ontario. She's got fifteen hundred seals on board."

He rang the third boy, the \$500 boy. He said, "The Ontario has docked," and he told him the same story and made the same request. The boy came back four hours later and came right on into the president's office. He said, "Well, she had fifteen hundred seals on board and all are in good shape. I bought them for five dollars a piece, and filled that order we had from one of our customers. He bought all of them from us at seven dollars apiece. The Ontario also had five hundred red fox pelts. Of course, we don't handle red fox, but I knew who wanted them, so I called him long distance and made a sale. The deal will net us about \$4000. There were also thirty-nine minks on board. I went in and examined them. They are beautiful; they are the finest. Since you always like to handle the mink trades yourself, I took an option on them for an hour so I could report to you."

The president said, "Thank you," and the young man left. Jim asked the father, "Is your question answered?"

"Yes," replied the father, "one of the boys didn't even obey you, the other only halfway, but one of them gave you everything he had."

UT MARTIN'S 49TH ANNUAL SPRING COLLEGE

RODEO

April 6-8 • Ned Ray McWherter Agricultural Complex
and N.W. (Doc) Robinson Arena • Martin, Tenn.



www.utmsports.com



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 activities during "Rodeo Week"

ADVANCED TICKETS

Advanced tickets to the rodeo go on sale March 15th and are available ONLY until April 2th. 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

*** FOLLOW THE TEAM! ***

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Utm Rodeo



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All past rodeo newsletters
can be found at

www.utmsports.com/sport/rodeo

**UT Martin Rodeo
NEWSLETTER**



Click the graphic for past newsletters.



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