

UT NEWS

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DEC. 4, 2017 VOLUME 18, ISSUE 15

MAC Champions!



Photo by Daniel Miller

The Rockets celebrated their Mid-American Conference Championship by taking selfies with the trophy after beating Akron, 45-28, Saturday at Ford Field in Detroit.

Rockets to play Appalachian State in Dollar General Bowl Dec. 23

By Paul Helgren

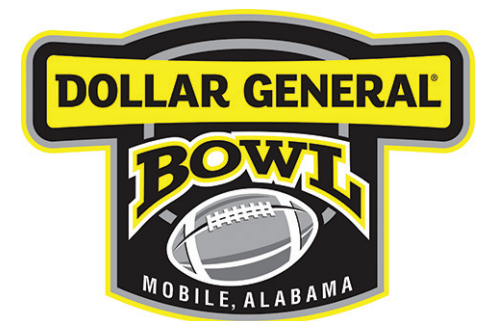
The University of Toledo has accepted an invitation to play Appalachian State of the Sun Belt Conference in the 2017 Dollar General Bowl at Ladd-Peebles Stadium in Mobile, Ala.

The game will be played Saturday, Dec. 23, at 6 p.m. Central time (7 p.m. Eastern time) and will be televised on ESPN.

“We are very excited to return to Mobile to play in the Dollar General Bowl,” UT Vice President and Athletic Director Mike O’Brien

continued on p. 8

Pharmacy student wins \$100,000 in Dr Pepper Tuition Throw — p. 8



UT student’s big-hearted family appears on ‘Ellen’

By Cherie Spino

Talk-show host and comedienne Ellen DeGeneres, who loves a feel-good story, couldn’t resist the story of University of Toledo sophomore Chris Sanders’ big-hearted family.

In early November, she invited the family of 13, which nearly doubled in size when his parents adopted a family of six siblings last year, to Los Angeles. Chris, 20 and an undecided major at UT, is the oldest of his five biological and six adopted siblings.

Producers told the Sanders family, who gained notoriety in their hometown of Cincinnati after the adoptions, that they wanted to fly them to Los Angeles to film a segment about their story.

Little did the family know that Ellen had one of her typical surprises in store — an appearance on her show, a \$50,000 Walmart gift card, and an invitation to come back for one of her 12 Days of Christmas shows, one of the most coveted tickets in Hollywood.

As the family zipped around the Warner Brothers campus in a golf cart with a tour guide during their visit,

continued on p. 2



LUCKY 13: Ellen DeGeneres surprised the Sanders family, who were invited to Los Angeles but didn’t know they would appear on the comedienne’s show. The family members are, back row from left, Caleb, Cameron, Christian, Colby, Caden and Chris, who is a UT student; and front row from left, Carson, Chaz, Caylee, Chloe, Caitlyn, Chris and Christina.

University selects new pharmacy benefit manager

UT employees: A new pharmacy prescription card will arrive in your mailbox this month.

Effective Jan. 1, the University will have a new pharmacy benefit manager, Healthcare Highways RX, which is based in Frisco, Texas.

The mission of Healthcare Highways RX is to offer employers and providers a choice in the delivery of health care in local markets by creating competition in order to reduce health-care costs.

"This move will help The University of Toledo to provide an improved prescription benefit to the UT family," Wendy Davis, associate vice president of human resources, said.

Faculty and staff members who fill prescriptions at UT outpatient pharmacies will automatically have their new insurance information updated in the computer system.

Those who fill prescriptions at other pharmacies will need to show the new Healthcare Highways RX insurance card.

"As a reminder for those who choose to fill prescriptions at outside pharmacies, be aware that your out-of-pocket medication costs may be significantly lower if you opt to fill prescriptions at one of our UT pharmacies," Cindy Puffer, managed care pharmacy operations manager at UT Medical Center, said.

For more information, contact Puffer at cindy.puffer@utoledo.edu.

Students now able to donate meal swipes to food pantry, meal bank

By Ashley Diel

To help students who may be struggling to find where their next meal is coming from, UT has started a new program that allows students to donate their extra meal swipes to those in need.

Students will have the option to donate swipes to either the bank of meals or the UT Student Food Pantry.

The bank of meals consists of available swipes that can be redeemed at either of the dining halls. To utilize a swipe, students should contact the UT Student Food Pantry.

If students decide to donate to the UT Student Food Pantry, the monetary value of a swipe will be given to the pantry so staff can use the money to keep the pantry stocked.

"The University of Toledo has a strong tradition of helping others and

being a strong family. This is a great opportunity for students to be part of a culture of giving and caring," said Dr. Sammy Spann, associate vice president for student affairs and dean of students. "The donations directly support their classmates."

To donate, students can go to the front register at either South Dining Hall or Ottawa House East and let the clerk know they would like to donate a swipe.

"This meal swipe donation will help ensure all students at UT can focus on their academic success without having to worry about where their next meal is going to come from," Spann said.

For more information, contact the UT Student Food Pantry at 419.530.2171.

'Ellen'

continued from p. 1

they pulled into the studio where the Ellen show is filmed. All of a sudden, doors opened and they drove right onto Ellen's stage in front of a live audience.

"I'm not a shy guy," Chris said, "but I was in shock. We all love Ellen and follow her on social media. We were yelling."

The family isn't sure how Ellen found out about them. Their story had been Tweeted by comedian Gary Owen and others had tagged Ellen on social media posts about the family.

Christina Sanders, Chris' mother, said she had always wanted to foster children. A month after becoming certified in 2014, the Sanders family took in four brothers. When Christina and her husband, Christopher, found out that the boys had two sisters, they began inviting the girls over for holidays, birthdays and weekends.

It wasn't long before the children were calling Christina and Christopher mom and dad.

In April, the adoption was finalized. The Sanders family now includes 11 children from ages 20 to 9.

For Chris, having extra kids in the house was normal. His mom was always helping someone.

"Helping people is something we're passionate about," he said.

Adoption wasn't a hard call.

"We loved them. They're family," Chris said. "We were going to do whatever we needed to do."

He does admit that he feels a bit of added pressure and responsibility. There are six more pairs of eyes on him now, and 10 siblings who look up to him as a big brother.

"But I actually like it," he said. "I'm not going to lie."

Christina said Chris is more than up to the task of being a role model. He's almost like a third parent.

"They love Chris. He's the best big brother ever," she said. "He has talks with them and checks on them."

Chris lives off campus with his childhood friend, James Spells. The pair wanted to see what life had to offer outside of Cincinnati and found UT to be a good fit. Chris also found that having a little distance between himself and his family allows him to focus on school.

Christina and Christopher flew back to LA for the Nov. 28 episode of Ellen's 12 Days of Christmas. The Day 6 giveaways included kitchen goodies like a Keurig coffee maker and a gas grill.



Thursday, Dec. 14, 2017 • 3:30 - 5:30 p.m.

Savage Arena main entrance, Sullivan Athletic Complex
Main Campus

Employees: RSVP to email invite by Thursday, Dec. 7.

Correction

In a Nov. 27 story about faculty members who were promoted, there were two errors. Dr. Daniel Rapport has achieved promotion to professor; and Dr. Jason Huntley has been promoted to associate professor with tenure; both are in the College of Medicine and Life Sciences.

UT publishes first research paper making substantial use of Discovery Channel Telescope partnership

By Cherie Spino

The University of Toledo's partnership with the Discovery Channel Telescope in Arizona has helped launch the UT astronomy program onto a new level. For the first time, a UT graduate student published a significant paper made possible by data collected from observations with the telescope.

The paper on the properties of interstellar dust appears as a cover feature article in the September issue of *Astronomy & Astrophysics*. The UT research team studied the dust properties present in the Vulture Head nebula, a collection of dust and gas 420 light years from Earth. The team observed the nebula with the Discovery Channel Telescope, a 4.3-meter telescope located south of Flagstaff, overlooking the Verde Valley. It is the fifth largest telescope in the continental United States and one of the most technologically advanced.

"To understand the evolution of the universe, it's important to understand the galaxy evolution and how stars are formed," said lead researcher Dr. Aditya G. Togi, a former UT doctoral student who is now a research assistant professor at the University of Texas at San Antonio. "If you know dust properties of the cloud, you can better understand star formation."

The research team also included Dr. Adolf N. Witt, UT professor emeritus of astronomy, and Demi St. John, an undergraduate student from Murray State University. St. John, selected by the UT Physics and Astronomy Department to join the team, was part of the Research Experiences for Undergraduates program and funded through a National Science Foundation

grant. She is in her first year of graduate school at Montana State University.

The team chose to observe the nebula with the Discovery Channel Telescope to test a model developed by French astronomers about the types and properties of dust particles. No one had ever tested those models through observation.

The French model posited that certain dust grains have specific properties. But the astronomers didn't know for sure what types of dust grains were in the nebula or what size, temperature or density they were, Togi said.

The UT team measured the temperature and mass of the nebula's dust and found that the dust grains in the cloud closely matched the properties predicted by three dust grain models in the French astronomer's work. The research confirmed most of the model's predictions and led the astronomers to new understandings about the dust particles that form stars.

They also learned that the cloud had something called "core shine." The team knew that in order to scatter the light that creates core shine, some of the dust grains had to be larger than normally encountered in interstellar space. They found that the grains were more complex or "evolved." They were coated with ice and frozen gases and had grown to about 100 times the volume of a typical interstellar dust grain.



Photo by Dr. Aditya G. Togi

LET IT SHINE: In one of the first detailed images of the Vulture Head nebula, the cloud is illuminated by the faint starlight of the Milky Way and couldn't have been captured in this detail without the power of the Discovery Channel Telescope.

"In order to reach this grain growth, the cloud must be at least a million years old," Witt said.

Access to the Discovery Channel Telescope was crucial to this research. It's also a powerful tool when attracting graduate students and young faculty.

"To be truly competitive, to have a first-rate program, you've got to have this kind of access to a first-class instrument," Witt said.

UT is scheduled to host the annual Discovery Channel Telescope partner board meeting Friday and Saturday, Dec. 8 and 9, at the Driscoll Alumni Center. About a dozen representatives from UT, the Lowell Observatory, Boston University, Yale University, the University of Maryland,

Northern Arizona University and the University of Texas at Austin will meet to discuss shared governance of the telescope and the best scientific uses of the instrument.

The Discovery Channel Telescope partnership has been a boon to UT astronomers and helped put the astronomy department on the map.

"Our astronomy program at Toledo is on an accelerating path," said Dr. J.D. Smith, UT professor of astronomy, who is planning the board meeting. "We're being recognized nationally and internationally, and this partnership is a big part of the reason why."



Collaborating on cancer research

Dr. John Nemunaitis gave the plenary lecture about the history and future of precision medicine Dec. 1 at the UT Cancer Research Symposium that brought together more than 100 cancer researchers across the University to propel interdisciplinary collaboration in cancer research, patient care and education. Nemunaitis is joining UT's College of Medicine and Life Sciences as the chief of the Division of Hematology and Oncology, director of clinical and translational research, and medical director of the Eleanor N. Dana Cancer Center at UTM. Nemunaitis, who joins UT from the Mary Crowley Cancer Research Center in Dallas, where he served as executive medical director, is a leading researcher in exploring novel targeted therapies for treating cancer patients.

Photo by Daniel Miller

UTPD's No Shave November supports UTC3, cancer awareness

By Christine Wasserman

Crumbs catchers. Muttonchops. Lip sweaters. Face fur.

Whatever you choose to call men's facial hair, it's not something you expect to see growing wildly on University of Toledo Police Department officers. Their policy: Officers always must appear clean-shaven while on duty, with the only exception being a neatly trimmed 'stache no longer than the lips.

And yet, during the entire month of November, you may have noticed some stubbly growth, including chin whiskers of varying lengths, on 21 of UT's 25 police officers.

"It all began three years ago here at UT in support of No Shave November — a movement now popular among police departments nationwide that helps to raise funds to fight cancer," explained 15-year UTPD veteran, Sgt. Daniel Protsman. "The goal is to grow awareness by embracing our hair, which many cancer patients lose."

"We encourage our officers to connect and identify with those whom we serve," Jeff Newton, director of public safety and chief of police, said. "And most of us know someone who has or will be affected by cancer; we can raise awareness together and fight to find a cure. This activity is one way UTPD can achieve all of these goals."

Once UTPD officers cleared No Shave November with their department's leadership, they decided participants must contribute \$20 to grow a goatee or \$30

to grow a full beard. Mustaches could be worn free of charge, since they're routinely allowed, albeit they could be grown longer during November.

"Instead of paying for grooming supplies, participants donate that money to charity," said UT Police Deputy Chief Rodney Theis. "Whose family or friends haven't been touched by cancer? This is a great way for our police officers to have a little fun while also giving back to our community."

"Often when people come into contact with the police, it may be a negative situation — their apartment has been broken into, they've been pulled over for speeding or are being fined for another type of infraction," Protsman said. "No Shave November helps officers to appear a little more approachable."

"It also helps us to build an even stronger bond among our own team members as we compete to see who can grow the most hair — an opportunity we don't get to do any other time of the year, unless we have an extended vacation," Protsman added.

If you think wiry whiskers on police officers are humorous, consider this: No Shave November originally began in 2009 when a Chicago family of eight siblings lost their dad to colon cancer and started the unique fundraiser. Since then, more than \$2 million has been raised nationally for cancer awareness, research and support.



Photo by Daniel Miller

CUTTING LOOSE: A few of the UT Police Department officers who supported No Shave November, raising nearly \$700 for cancer awareness, include, front row from left, Jeni Gerber, Andrew Thornton and Ryan Lause; and top row from left, David O'Neil, Daniel Protsman, Michael Bagrowski and Kyle Andrews.

Closer to home, last month UTPD officers raised nearly \$700 through No Shave November, with a few nonparticipating colleagues also chipping in to support the cause. Additionally, female officers got involved by wearing pink T-shirts to help raise cancer awareness.

All proceeds from UTPD's No Shave November will be included in this year's UT Community Charitable Campaign (UTC3) and specifically have been designated to

support the local chapter of the American Cancer Society.

If you would like to support this or another charity of your choice, join the UTC3 campaign by completing your ePledge form, available in weekly emails from Dr. Michele Soliz, assistant vice president for student success and inclusion, who is the UTC3 2017 chair.

For more information, visit utoledo.edu/utc3.

Thank you



Deb Driscoll, director of special events, and her father, George Snyder, attended the 13th annual Veterans Appreciation Breakfast and Resource Fair Nov. 10 in Savage Arena. The 95-year-old World War II veteran was thrilled to meet UT President Sharon L. Gaber, who shook his hand and thanked him for his service. From 1942 to 1945, Snyder served in the U.S. Army's 337th Infantry Regiment, 85th Infantry Division, Company G, in Africa and Italy. Snyder and a friend were searching for missing soldiers when they were captured by the Germans and spent 28 days in a prisoner-of-war camp. While marching to a new camp, some prisoners made a break for it, and Snyder and his friend escaped and joined others who made it out. They hid while moving through the mountains for more than one week until a U.S. soldier spotted the group and returned them to their regiment, where they went back to battle on the front lines. In 2002, Snyder was awarded three Bronze Star medals for his heroism and bravery. He also received the European-African-Middle Eastern Theater Ribbon, the World War II Victory Ribbon, the American Theater Ribbon and a Good Conduct Medal. Driscoll put in an application for the Honor Flight, and her dad was selected and flew to Washington, D.C., in September.

Photo by Michele "Mickey" Ross

Freeze frame: New book offers pictorial history of UT

By Vicki L. Kroll

There are 240 photos packed into the 128 pages of “University of Toledo.”

That’s a lot pictures telling many stories in the new book by Barbara Floyd. Part of Arcadia Publishing’s Campus History Series, the work takes a look back at The University of Toledo.

“This book would not have been possible without the incredible images preserved in university archives created by photographers known and unknown,” Floyd said. “The Ward M. Canaday Center for Special Collections houses more than 15,000 UT images, and sifting through them to decide what to include in this book was a labor of love.”

Floyd was the perfect person to curate the book. She retired last month as director of the Canaday Center, where she worked 31 years, initially as university archivist and later also as director of special collections for 20 years.

And she is a UT alumna. She received a bachelor of arts degree in journalism, a master of arts degree in American history, and a master’s degree in public administration from the University.

“The University of Toledo changed my life,” Floyd said. “Having the chance to pay tribute to this beloved institution that means so much to so many was a wonderful opportunity.”

The pictorial review starts with one man who had a vision: Jesup W. Scott believed Toledo could be the “Future Great City of the World.”

“As a real estate investor, Jesup Scott saw the location of Toledo on railroad lines,

on the Great Lakes, and near farmland as the elements of a future industrial powerhouse,” Floyd said. “And that future great city would need a university.”

Scott donated 160 acres of land to serve as an endowment for the Toledo University of Arts and Trade. While the school failed, it was resurrected in 1884 by Scott’s sons, who gave the remaining assets to the city to create a manual training school.

“By 1909, the institution was becoming a full-fledged university, but struggled financially and needed a permanent location,” Floyd said.

When Dr. Henry J. Doermann became president of the University in 1928, he began planning for a new campus. A \$2.8 million bond levy was passed that November, less than one year before the Great Depression.

A photo shows Doermann at the 1929 groundbreaking ceremony for University Hall.

“President Doermann selected the Collegiate Gothic design elements of the great universities of Europe because he wanted the architecture to inspire students,” Floyd said.

University Hall with its iconic tower and dual courtyards continues to be one of the most photographed landmarks in Toledo.

Images chronicle the University’s growing campus and burgeoning student life, which flourished even more when UT joined Ohio’s higher education system in 1967.

“The focus of this book is on the major events that shaped the University,” Floyd

said. “It celebrates the University’s growth as an institution.”

There was a lot to celebrate in 2006 when UT merged with the Medical University of Ohio. At the time, it was estimated the new entity would have a \$1.1 billion impact on Ohio’s economy.

A few pages also commemorate when UT was in the national spotlight. A smiling Chuck Ealey, the quarterback known as the “Wizard of Oohs and Aahs” who led the Rockets to a 35-0 record from 1969 to 1972, is in the book, along with a shot of the men’s basketball team playing Indiana in the inaugural game in Centennial Hall, now called Savage Arena. UT won, 59-57, with a basket at the buzzer to end the Hoosiers’ 33-game winning streak. And the women’s basketball team is shown celebrating its 2011 WNIT Championship.

Floyd gave credit to the late longtime UT photographer Bill Hartough, MCO



COVER GIRL: Barbara Floyd holds her new book, “University of Toledo.”

photographer Jack Meade, and current University photographer Daniel Miller: “Their keen eyes captured events big and small, as well as campus life.”

“University of Toledo” is \$21.99 and available at the Barnes & Noble University Bookstore and online book retailers.



Peace

Students met and posed for a photo last month with Grammy Award-winning singer-songwriter Joanne Shenandoah, center seated. The composer and vocalist from the Wolf Clan of the Iroquois Confederacy and Oneida Nation visited the University to perform a free concert in honor of Native American Heritage Month. Growing up on the Oneida Territory near Oneida, N.Y., Shenandoah learned to play several instruments, including guitar, piano and flute, and absorbed many traditional songs and music styles. In addition to her music, Shenandoah is passionate about peace and earth justice.

Photo by Dr. Heidi Appel

Get psyched about psychology Dec. 7

By Ashley Diel

Undergraduate students are invited to join the Department of Psychology faculty and graduate students to learn more about a career in psychology Thursday, Dec. 7, from 10 a.m. to noon in Thompson Student Union Room 2584.

All students are encouraged to attend, with an emphasis on minority and underrepresented students as they are not proportionately represented in psychology.

“Graduating psychologists from diverse backgrounds that reflect the populations they would be serving in the future is a laudable goal, and if this goal is attained, it’ll be a win-win situation for our university and the society at large,” said Dr. Mojisola F. Tiamiyu, associate professor of psychology, director of the Community Psychology Research Lab, and chair of the Department of Psychology Diversity Committee.

The event will help students become more aware of research and academic opportunities in psychology at the undergraduate and graduate levels, learn about careers in psychology, and give them an opportunity to speak one on one with faculty members and graduate students in experimental and clinical psychology.

“The event will be a good opportunity to showcase what the Department of Psychology has to offer minority and underrepresented undergraduate students who might be interested in applying to our graduate programs in psychology or who might be interested in learning more about psychology and its many subfields,” Tiamiyu said.

Coffee, pastries, fruit and gifts will be available to students who attend. There also will be prize drawings.

“Our faculty and graduate students are excited to meet and have an opportunity to discuss psychology with interested undergraduate students who represent our diverse UT campus,” Tiamiyu said.

To register for the event, visit utpsych.az1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_5yFHiTe8sB0o0sZ.

Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

2018 UNITY CELEBRATION

Injustice Anywhere is a Threat to Justice Everywhere:
Unifying the Community Voice

All members of our UT community are encouraged to get involved as we celebrate the legacy of this transformational leader.

UNITY DAY CELEBRATION

Monday, Jan. 15, 2018

The University of Toledo,
John F. Savage Arena

9 – 11 a.m.

Free community lunch follows.

Weeks of service: Give back in honor of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Visit diversity.utoledo.edu to get involved.

Apply for the 2018 Martin Luther King, Jr. Scholarship: This is open to African-American UT students with GPAs of 3.0 or higher who have at least 30 semester hours before the application deadline of Friday, Dec. 8. For application details, visit diversity.utoledo.edu.

For more information, contact the Office of Diversity and Inclusion at 419.530.5529 or diversity@utoledo.edu.



OFFICE OF DIVERSITY
AND INCLUSION
THE UNIVERSITY OF TOLEDO



Department of Psychology Diversity Committee at UT
Cordially Invites you to

Get Psyched About Psychology

Undergraduate Students from Minority & Underrepresented Groups from All Majors*:
Come have coffee, pastries, fruit, AND a chat with faculty members and graduate students! ☺
There will be interesting prize drawings, too!

A great deal



Photo by Daniel Miller

Angela Byrd was one of many who stopped by Rocky's Locker Pop-Up Store last week in the Thompson Student Union. The store featured bargains on UT merchandise by Champion, 47 and Under Armour.

SPARKS program to bring campus experts to students Dec. 6

By Madison Vasko

On Wednesday, Dec. 6, campus experts will meet with students in the Ottawa House East Lobby to better prepare them for academic, social and professional success.

The SPARKS program brings professionals from across the University to one centralized location for students to ask questions and gain helpful insight. SPARKS is an acronym for support, preparation, academic enhancement, resources in residence, knowledge-based discussions and sage advice from experts.

Offices that will be represented at the event will include the Center for Success Coaching, Academic Support Services,

University Counseling Center, Career Services, Residence Life and Rocket Fire.

SPARKS was created in conjunction with Rocket Fire, UT's second-year experience initiative. The main focus of Rocket Fire is to keep students motivated and assist them in academic enhancement, career and professional preparation, and social engagement.

For more information, including upcoming SPARKS events, visit utoledo.edu/studentaffairs/rocket-fire.

In memoriam

Robert Burkhart, Toledo, who worked at UT and retired as director of facilities, died Nov. 22 at age 93.

Rose M. Mazany, a former MCO/MUO employee who retired in 2006, died Oct. 25 at age 89.

Jane A. Nachtrab, a former MCO/MUO employee who retired in 2006, died Nov. 25 at age 82.

Satellites to hold book fair Dec. 4-6

Stop by the Satellites Auxiliary's Collective Goods Book Fair, which will take place Monday through Wednesday, Dec. 4-6, in UT Medical Center's Four Seasons Bistro Atrium.

The sale will be held Monday from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., Tuesday from 6 a.m. to 5 p.m., and Wednesday from 6 a.m. to 3 p.m.

"There will be more than 400 books for all age groups and all categories," said Lynn Brand, president of the Satellites Auxiliary.

"And there'll be last-minute gift ideas for smart shoppers," she added.

Toys, electronics, gadgets and more also will be for sale.

Cash, check, credit cards and payroll deduction will be accepted.

Profits will benefit campus scholarships.



The Satellites Auxiliary promotes education, research and service programs; provides support of patient programs in accordance with the needs and approval of administration; conducts fundraising events; and offers volunteer services.

For more information on the sale, contact Brand at lynn.brand@utoledo.edu.

UT NEWS

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Dollar General Bowl

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said. “We would like to thank President Jerry Silverstein, Executive director Frank Modarelli and the entire Dollar General Bowl selection committee for choosing The University of Toledo to participate in their outstanding bowl. We are looking forward to another terrific bowl experience in the beautiful state of Alabama against a very fine Appalachian State team.

“I also want to congratulate Head Coach Jason Candle, his staff and our entire Rocket football team on a memorable MAC Championship season.”

Candle, who led the Rockets to an 11-2 record and a Mid-American Conference Championship title in his second season as head coach, was enthusiastic about his team’s bowl destination.

“The Dollar General Bowl will provide our team with an outstanding bowl experience, as well as the opportunity to play against a very tough Appalachian State team,” Candle said. “We are very familiar with Appalachian State, having played them in the Raycom Media Camellia Bowl last year. Both teams are league champions, so that will make for a great matchup. Playing in the Dollar General Bowl is an excellent reward for our players, coaches, fans and everyone

who has played a part in our MAC Championship.”

The Rockets (11-2, 7-1 MAC) finished in first place in the West Division of the Mid-American Conference and defeated East Division champion Akron, 45-28, in the MAC Championship Game Dec. 2 at Ford Field in Detroit.

Toledo will be playing in its 17th bowl and seventh in the last eight years. UT is 11-5 in bowl games, including 2-0 in bowl games in Mobile when the Dollar General Bowl was known by different names. The Rockets beat UTEP in the 2005 GMAC Bowl by a score of 45-13 and Arkansas State, 63-44, in 2015 (2014 season) in the GoDaddy Bowl.

Appalachian State is 8-4 and 7-1 in the Sun Belt Conference. The Mountaineers finished as co-champions of the Sun Belt along with Troy. Appalachian State, which defeated Toledo in last year’s Raycom Media Camellia Bowl, 31-28, is coached by Scott Satterfield. Satterfield, who has been the Mountaineers’ head coach for five seasons, was the passing game coordinator/quarterbacks coach at Toledo in 2009 under former head coach Tim Beckman.

For information on tickets and travel packages, go to utnews.utoledo.edu.



DOUSING THE CANDLE: Head Football Coach Jason Candle was all smiles after a couple players executed the celebratory pour with seconds to go before Toledo clinched the MAC Championship by beating Akron, 45-28, Dec. 2 at Ford Field in Detroit.



Photos by Daniel Miller

BIG HUG: Head Football Coach Jason Candle and senior quarterback Logan Woodside hugged after the big win. Woodside threw for 307 yards and four touchdowns and was named Offensive Player of the Game. Last week, Candle was named MAC Coach of the Year, and Woodside was named MAC Offensive Player of the Year and the Vern Smith Leadership Award winner.



HANDY MAN: Diontae Johnson made a one-handed grab for a touchdown to put the Rockets up, 21-0, over the Zips. The sophomore wide receiver had nine receptions for 118 yards and two TDs. Last week, Johnson earned first-team All-MAC honors at wide receiver and punt returner, and second-team as a kickoff returner. Johnson was one of seven Rockets who earned first-team All-MAC honors, the most first-team honorees in the conference.



BLOCKBUSTER: Sophomore Nate Childress blocked a 42-yard field goal attempt to keep Akron off the scoreboard in the second quarter.

Check it out!



Rachel Burns, a second-year student majoring in pharmacy, held the big \$100,000 check she won in the Dr Pepper Tuition Throw during halftime of the Big 12 Championship Game Dec. 2 and smiled for the camera with her dad, Ray Burns, outside AT&T Stadium in Arlington, Texas.