Pershing Rifle Troop named Varsity Cup Winner at national convention

By Meghan Cunningham

Call them Varsity Rifles Troop L-1.

The University of Toledo Army ROTC Pershing Rifle Troop took home the top honor at the national John J. Pershing Memorial Drill Competition and as the 2013 Varsity Cup Winner, the troop now will be known for the year as Varsity Rifles.

“It’s definitely something we wanted to do going into it and we accomplished that goal. I’m very proud,” said Pershing Rifle Capt. David Hritz, a UT junior from Geneva, Ohio, studying computer science engineering. “It is great to get the varsity rifle title for the year. It’s a bit like how you are the Super Bowl Champions until the next one. We’ll enjoy it until we return next year to defend our title.”

Two dozen students participated in the competition March 16 that was part of the 2013 Pershing Rifles National Convention and Alumni Reunion in Jacksonville, Fla.

Washington Post columnist to speak at Shapiro Lecture April 4

By Casey Cheap

E.J. Dionne Jr., a political pundit and columnist for The Washington Post, will discuss his latest book at the Edward Shapiro Distinguished Lecture Thursday, April 4, at 7 p.m. in the Student Union Auditorium.

Published last year, Our Divided Political Heart: The Battle for the American Idea in an Age of Discontent explains why U.S. politics are so rough-edged right now, according to Jon Richardson, instructor in the Jesup Scott Honors College and chair of the Shapiro Selection Committee.

“Dionne’s book examines two deep currents in the American ethos: a strong sense of community on the one hand, and rugged individualism on the other,” Richardson said. “These ideas sometimes work well together and sometimes seem to be at loggerheads.”

Richardson and Dr. Jamie Barlowe, dean of the College of Languages, Literature and Social Sciences, were instrumental in getting Dionne to speak at this year’s Shapiro Lecture.

Dionne writes a column twice a week for The Washington Post Writers Group, which appears in more than 100 newspapers worldwide, including The Blade. He is also a political commentator for National Public Radio, ABC’s “This Week With George Stephanopoulos” and NBC’s “Meet the Press.”

For 14 years, he covered state and local government as well as national politics for The New York Times. In 1990, Dionne joined The Washington Post and reported on national politics. Three years later, he started writing his column, which was syndicated in 1996.


Dionne also is a University Professor at Georgetown University and a senior fellow at the Brookings Institution.

The annual lecture is made possible by the Shapiro Endowment. Dr. Edward Shapiro,

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TOP GUNS: The UT Army ROTC Pershing Rifle Troop took first place at the John J. Pershing Memorial Drill Competition.
Law faculty recognized for quality scholarly production

By Rachel Phipps

The University of Toledo College of Law recently ranked 90th of 176 law schools, as measured by publication in top law journals, in this year’s Roger Williams schools, as measured by publication in top national and international newspapers appellate court decisions, and in articles cited in recent years in multiple U.S. dean of the UT College of Law.

“Law faculty has a solid lineup of outstanding legal scholars,” said Daniel J. Steinbock, who have known for a long time — that the UT law faculty has a solid lineup of outstanding legal scholars,” said Daniel J. Steinbock, dean of the UT College of Law.

UT law faculty scholarship has been cited in recent years in multiple U.S. Supreme Court briefs and one Supreme Court opinion, several federal trial and appellate court decisions, and in articles by national and international newspapers and other media outlets. Faculty members have penned Supreme Court amicus briefs and testified in state legislative and judicial proceedings and in U.S. Congressional hearings. Three of the College of Law’s 22 faculty members have been elected to the American Law Institute.

Also, as experts in their fields, faculty members regularly are consulted for analysis and opinion by the media. Many faculty members are interviewed for local television and newspaper articles, and several comment frequently in national publications such as The New York Times and USA Today. Additionally, faculty members edit two top law professor blogs.

Gregory M. Gilchrist, assistant professor of law, sees the faculty’s dual commitments to scholarship and teaching as highly complementary. “Deep engagement with teaching generates better scholarship and careful scholarship generates better teaching,” he said.

The Roger Williams University study applied methodology to evaluate faculty productivity developed by Brian Leiter, professor of law at the University of Chicago Law School. The study’s complete listing of schools is at usnews.com ranking is that it focuses on output, what schools are doing, rather than on inputs, like what they spend,” said Geoffrey C. Rapp, the Harold A. Anderson Professor of Law and Values. “It confirms what we have known for a while — the UT College of Law offers students a chance to study under nationally influential faculty members at an affordable cost.”

Fund established for victim, daughter of UT police officer

The thoughts and prayers of UT community members are with UT Police Officer Jeni Gerber, whose daughter, Kaitlen, was shot and killed March 24.

A fund in Kaitlen’s name has been established to support the family at The University of Toledo Federal Credit Union. Those with credit union accounts can call and transfer money to the fund by phone. Those without accounts can bring cash to one of the credit union’s three branches and ask that the amount be added to the fund.

The credit union branches are located at 4258 Hill Ave. in Toledo, Mulford Library Room 013E on Health Science Campus, and Student Union Room 3019 on Main Campus. Phone numbers and hours of operation are available at uoftfcu.com.

UT Police Chief Jeff Newton said the department has been quick to rally behind Jeni, an officer at UT since 2000, and her family.

“Jeni is a strong community police officer, and I have seen how she loves working with students and putting together educational programs,” Newton said. “This is a heartbreaking moment, and we are all here to support her.”

In memoriam


Carol Ann Fournier Koch, Plantou Beach, Mich., a clerk in the UT Records Department from 1988 until her retirement in 1999, died March 20 at age 77.

Beryl J. Schutte, Phoenix, a former UT instructor, died Feb 25 at age 83.

Melvin R. Seabright, Lambertville, Mich., died March 25 at age 85. He was a mechanic at the University from 1958 until his retirement in 1983. He returned to work on campus from 1992 to 1994.

Shapiro Lecture

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professor emeritus of economics, retired in 1989 and left the endowment so the University could bring world-renowned speakers to Toledo.

“Dr. Shapiro believed that bringing a speaker who possessed a good deal of public recognition as well as intellectual gravitas was a great way to bring the University and the city closer together,” Richardson said.

Past Shapiro Distinguished Lecture speakers include Elie Wiesel, Oliver Sacks, Robert F. Kennedy Jr., Toni Morrison and Wynton Marsalis.

“We have had great success,” Richardson said. “The Shapiro Lecture is one of the most important intellectual events during the school year.”

Doors will open at 6 p.m. for this free, public event. Seating is on a first-come, first-served basis.

Pershing Rifle Troop

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The UT troop earned first-place finishes in the platoon and squad exhibition drills, which are the choreographed routines that showcase techniques and maneuvers. The students had planned a more challenging routine for the 2013 competition to better their chances of winning after finishing second overall last year.

UT also earned second place in duet exhibition drill, and platoon and squad regulation drills, where cadets perform a series of specific commands. The UT Color Guard placed third, and UT received a third-place finish in the individual exhibition drill.

The National Society of Pershing Rifles promotes precision rifle drill as a means to develop leadership traits in students at nearly 200 college campuses across the country.

There were more than 20 Pershing Rifle units that participated in the national competition, with UT, Clemson University and Eastern Kentucky University earning most of the top places.

Correction

The phone number to call to participate in the Cancer Prevention Study was incorrect in last week’s paper: To register or for more information, visit ToledoCPS3.org or contact Andrew Marianii at 888-227-6446 extension 5103 or andrew.marianii@cancer.org.
Outstanding Staff Award nominations sought

Nominations for the 2013 Outstanding Staff Award are due Friday, April 12.

Take a few minutes to nominate staff members who exceed expectations and enhance the University environment for students, patients, staff, faculty and the community.

Eligible nominees must have at least five years of service at the University and be from the Communications Workers of America Local 4319, American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees Local 2415, Professional Staff Association or UT Police Patrolman’s Association.

Senior administrators and previous award recipients are ineligible.

All nominees will be acknowledged at a program Monday, April 22, at 6 p.m. in the Student Union Ingman Room. Two employees from AFSCME, CWA and PSA will be selected as the top winners, and one person will be honored from UTTPA.

Nominations are confidential and will be accepted from faculty, physicians, staff, students and patients. A committee composed of peers will select award recipients.

The selection committee will consider:
• Career accomplishments and outstanding contributions on the job;
• Service to the University community, commitment and innovation;
• Leadership and loyalty to the UT community; and
• Positive and professional impact.

The nomination form is at utoledo.edu/depts/hr; click on HR news at the bottom of the page.

Nominations are due by 5 p.m. Friday, April 12, to Meghan Rayfield, Human Resources, mail stop 205, or email to meghan.rayfield@utoledo.edu.

For more information or to RSVP for the event, contact Christine Smallman, director of professional education programs in the College of Engineering, at 419.530.8249 or christine.smallman@utoledo.edu.

Toledo Zoo to host Medical Mutual Dart Frog Dash 5K

Local runners will hit the pavement to participate in the 2013 Dart Frog Dash, a 5K run/walk put on by the Toledo Zoo. The race will take place Saturday, May 18, at 8:30 a.m.

“Our event accommodates the serious runners as well as those looking for a fun time or even just to bring family,” said Robin Guidera, development manager for the Toledo Zoo. “This is a great family-oriented event benefiting a family organization.”

The University of Toledo is partnering with the zoo to encourage participation in this event. The funds raised will support operating expenses of the Toledo Zoo.

The adult 5K run/walk will wind through the zoo grounds, taking participants through the residential streets in the area. The popular 1K Kids’ Fun Run will be restricted to zoo property.

Last year, the Dart Frog Dash was ranked as one of the top 5Ks in the area in terms of participation. The Toledo Zoo is expecting a great turnout again this year, Guidera said.

The cost for registering is $20 for 5K participants who sign up before Sunday, May 12, or $29 the day of the race.

Additional race details will be provided upon registration.

Visit toledozoo.org/dartfrog or call 419.385.5721 ext. 2091 for more information.

Eberly Center to launch Kate’s Closet clothing donation program

The Catharine S. Eberly Center for Women will host a luncheon Friday, April 5, at 11:30 a.m. in Tucker Hall Room 0168 to introduce a new program that will continue the mission of empowering women in the work force.

The program, Kate’s Closet, strives to be a resource for women to find professional business attire without incurring the cost of a new wardrobe.

“The center continues to be a place of support but has until now mainly focused on empowerment through education and skill building,” said Dr. Shanda Gore, associate vice president for equity, diversity and community engagement. “By creating Kate’s Closet, we are expanding to offer professional clothing to help women dress for success and to support them on their own positive brand building.”

The luncheon will mark the kickoff of a donation drive to create a collection of professional business attire that can then be offered free of charge to those women who utilize the Eberly Center.

If you want to attend the free, public luncheon, RSVP by Tuesday, April 2, to Emily Hardcastle at emily.hardcastle@utoledo.edu or 419.530.7232. She also is the contact if you wish to donate business attire.

Provost discusses ‘Imagine 2017’ strategic plan with Toledo City Council

Members of Toledo City Council learned more about The University of Toledo’s economic development role in the community and vision for the future last week from Provost Scott Scarborough.

Scarborough presented to the City Council Economic Development Committee the financial challenges facing the University and the “Imagine 2017” strategic plan for Main Campus to meet those challenges and move the institution forward.

“The University of Toledo contributes greatly to economic development,” he said. “The most important thing it does is to attract great students and faculty to the University who bring external financial resources into the region.”

The rebranded Jesup Scott Honors College will help the University attract more well-prepared students, Scarborough said, adding that UT is increasing its investment in online education and support services for underprepared and adult students.

Councilman Rob Ludeman, who chairs the committee, asked about the University’s international student population and expressed the council’s strong support of UT.

Other council members asked about UT’s partnerships with area community colleges and local school districts and complimented the new Gateway development at The University of Toledo.

“I wanted the University to know we value what you do,” Councilman George Sarantou said. “The University has been very good to this community and that is where the future is.”

For more information about “Imagine 2017,” visit utoledo.edu/strategicplan/2017.
Search for dark matter subject of McMaster Cosmology Lecture

By Jon Strunk

A large fraction of the universe is invisible to the naked eye — and to every other scientific instrument ever invented.

Dr. David Hogg, associate professor of physics at New York University, will talk with students, faculty and staff at The University of Toledo about astronomy’s search for this substance during the 2013 McMaster Cosmology Lecture titled “Where and What is Dark Matter?” Thursday, April 4, at 4 p.m. in the Driscoll Alumni Center Auditorium.

“Observations of galaxies — and the universe as a whole — have taught us that most of the matter in the universe is not in the form of ordinary atoms but in some unknown form called dark matter, which interacts with ordinary matter essentially only through gravitational forces,” Hogg said.

“Dark matter gets its name because it does not emit, reflect or absorb light; it is truly invisible. I will discuss the reasons we believe that dark matter exists and why the alternative explanations of the relevant phenomena are now very unlikely to be correct,” he said.

Dr. Michael Cushing, UT assistant professor of astronomy and director of the Ritter Planetarium, said dark matter is one of the biggest unsolved mysteries in astrophysics.

“The debate about whether dark matter really exists is effectively over, so the focus among astronomers is shifting to detecting dark matter directly,” Cushing said. “David is a leader in the field, and I’m excited to hear what he has to share.”

For more information on the free, public colloquium, contact Cushing at michael.cushing@utoledo.edu.

Nuclear energy safety lecture to be held April 9

By Casey Cheap

Concerns from those skeptical of nuclear energy were renewed two years ago after a tsunami hit Japan and devastated the Fukushima Daiichi nuclear power plant.

Since 2011, in the post-Fukushima disaster world, the primary reaction in the United States has been a renewed outcry to close several nuclear plants, primarily those in regions subject to natural disasters, according to Paul Roland, treasurer of the UT Graduate Student Association.

The state of nuclear safety in the United States and the power plants in the Toledo region will be the topic of a lecture Tuesday, April 9, at 7:30 p.m. in the Memorial Field House Auditorium.

The free, public event is co-sponsored by the Graduate Student Association and the Department of Physics and Astronomy.

“We want to answer some of the questions regarding what has changed with nuclear reactors in the last two years,” Roland said. “Educating the public on nuclear safety issues enables everyone to provide input, which should ultimately lead to more informed and better decisions regarding how our region and nation utilize and oversee our nuclear technology.”

Dave Lockbaum, director of the Nuclear Safety Program for the Union of Concerned Scientists, will speak on nuclear energy safety.

In addition to Lockbaum’s 17 years of experience as a nuclear engineer, he has worked as an instructor for the Nuclear Regulatory Commission and has testified before Congress numerous times.

Lockbaum also will discuss how a disaster similar to Fukushima would play out in the United States and the unique role Toledo has with the Davis-Besse nuclear plant in Oak Harbor, Ohio, and the Fermi II nuclear power plant in Monroe, Mich.
Blues artists to highlight UT Spring Festival of New Music April 3-5

By Angela Ridel

The annual Spring Festival of New Music showcases a range of genres. This year’s festival will celebrate new music for chamber ensembles and electronic music media. Winners of the student and amateur composers’ contest will be announced, and blues artists Martin and Marshall will perform.

Presented by the UT Department of Music, the festival will feature free, public concerts at 7 p.m. in the Center for Performing Arts Recital Hall. Listed by date, they are:

- Wednesday, April 3 — Faculty Chamber Music Recital, where winners of the competition for best student and amateur compositions for brass quintet will be announced.
- Thursday, April 4 — Student Chamber Music Recital.
- Friday, April 5 — Graduate student Christina Eck will perform new electronic music and be followed by blues artists Martin and Marshall.

Friends and fellow blues musicians Mary Martin and Betsy Marshall frequently perform together when they are not playing their regular gigs.

While living in Austin, Texas, Marshall became the backup guitarist for Mance Lipscomb and also performed as a solo artist on Austin stages. In Cleveland, the acoustic guitarist and pianist played at the Smiling Dog Saloon, warming up for some of the finest jazz and blues players. She later lived in Boston, where she did solo and studio work along the East Coast.

Martin tours often with her band, The Ninth Street Tuna Band, spending much of her time between Chicago and Cleveland. The guitarist worked closely with many blues legends, including Koko Taylor and Hubert Sumlin.

Read more about the two at martinandmarshall.com.

Professor emerita to return for spring piano series

By Angela Ridel

Frances Renzi, UT professor emerita of music, will return to campus Saturday and Sunday, April 6 and 7, to perform in the spring Dorothy MacKenzie Price Piano Series.

She will present a master class at 10 a.m. Saturday and a recital at 3 p.m. Sunday. The free, public events will take place in the Center for Performing Arts Recital Hall.

Renzi’s program will feature works by Mozart, Debussy and Chopin.

A solo pianist for the New York City Ballet performing Stravinsky’s Capriccio for Piano and Orchestra and Brahms’ Liebeslieder Waltzes, she also participated in the Stravinsky Festival at Lincoln Center.

Renzi is a chamber player who has performed with numerous orchestras and given recitals in Weill Recital Hall at Carnegie Hall in New York, at the Dame Myra Hess Memorial Concert Series in Chicago, and throughout the United States.

She received a master of music degree from Juilliard School.

The Toledo Piano Teachers Association assists with The University of Toledo Dorothy MacKenzie Price Piano Series. The association provides students for the master class, publicity for the class and concert, and refreshments for the reception in the lobby following the concert.

For more information on the series, contact Dr. Michael Boyd, UT professor of music, at michael.boyd@utoledo.edu or 419.530.2183.
OP-ED

Spring break in Haiti

By Andrew Kurtz

Before leaving for Haiti, I was told about how proud the people are. I was told about how diligently they would work beside us. I was told how resilient and friendly Haitians are.

I also was told about the country.

Pessimistic is not something I would generally consider myself. If I am ever doubtful of something, it tends to be me being hard on myself. But when looking at photos and hearing the horror stories of Haiti, it was hard to believe that people could still be so passionate in such an atmosphere.

My arrival in Haiti did not help alleviate this belief. The Learning Through Service class stepped off our plane and into single-file lines. We were told to prevent people from helping us because they would expect money. Paying one person for their assistance could create a firestorm. We quickly exited the airport, crammed into two buses, then drove six hours from Port-au-Prince to Les Cayes.

On the cramped bus, we passed some of the most impoverished families I had ever laid eyes on. The “tent cities” that we passed were horrific. These people lived in sheds, two feet from their neighbors on either side, bathing in the streets. These “homes” had no running water, electricity or semblance of what we consider a home in America.

We arrived late at the compound that HUT Outreach ran. We all were exhausted and maybe a little anxious. I know I was. What had we gotten ourselves into? How could we possibly help anyone here?

The next morning I woke up to my answers.

My first couple of days, I dedicated myself to helping hand-till the garden that could be used to help feed the children at the free school. Outside, I met a young man named Evens. Evens graduated with a degree in agricultural engineering from the local university. He came to America last year and worked an internship in Georgia. He went back to Haiti on his own accord. He wanted to help his country.

I worked with him my first five days in Haiti. Sometimes other people would join us; sometimes it would just be the two of us. I got to know him as a person. I learned he wants to come back to America to get his master’s degree. I learned he wants to be the dean of his university. I know that Evens would make a great dean if he were ever afforded the opportunity.

Trips to the hospital were heart-wrenching. Watching children fight over a T-shirt or bread was difficult to witness. These are not my lasting memories of Haiti.

My lasting memories are watching Daniel Andrews and Rachel Jagodzinski play with children who never stopped smiling. I’ll remember Matt Williams, Jordan Keefe and Eric Norvell II praying outside the hospital after feeding children. I’ll remember Rahul Prasad taking the shoes off his feet and giving them to a kid who didn’t have any.

I’ll remember Evens’ desire to help his country and how it is a disservice to focus on him. Evens is the rule, not the exception, and all of the people who assisted us were amazing. These amazing people will help me never forget how naïve I was in thinking I knew the Haitian culture before having met anyone.

Kurtz is a junior majoring in communication.

SCORE! UT student Jordan Keefe was ready to play soccer with Haitian children.

CLOSE-UP: UT student Jonavan Farris showed a Haitian girl how to take a photo.

FREEZE FRAME: Christy Rakness, regulatory coordinator with the Office of International Student Services, showed a Haitian boy some photos.
Power of being UT parent tapped to generate best practices

When it comes to an in-depth understanding of the student experience at The University of Toledo, some members of the UT community possess an enviable perspective.

Faculty and staff who have children enrolled at the University are uniquely placed to see a student’s journey from the initial campus visit to the completion of their degree and a successful life beyond.

These parents’ knowledge of University policies, procedures and philosophies, combined with the feedback of their family Rockets, makes them a repository of knowledge that now is being tapped, thanks to a series of focus groups organized by the Office for the Student Experience.

“We value you, your student, and your feedback,” said Tony Urbina, director of iCare University in the Office for the Student Experience, adding that he hopes UT parents will be able to attend one of the following hourlong focus groups:

- Monday, April 15, from 8 to 9 a.m. in Rocket Hall Room 1530;
- Wednesday, April 17, from noon to 1 p.m. in Rocket Hall Room 1569;
- Thursday, April 18, from 5:30 to 6:30 in Rocket Hall Room 1530.

Light refreshments will be available.

Parents are asked to RSVP by Wednesday, April 10. To reserve a spot or for more information contact Urbina at tony.urbina@utoledo.edu.
Students: Dates to remember for summer sessions

By Kim Goodin

It may seem like spring break just ended, but students are reminded to keep some important dates in mind if they’ve registered for summer classes.

Summer session I will begin Monday, May 13, but students should ensure their accounts are in order before the first day of class.

“Our students should check their accounts frequently,” said Dr. Kaye Patten Wallace, senior vice president for the student experience. “Information can update quickly, sometimes daily, especially with scholarship and other financial details, so it’s best for them to check their accounts a couple times a week.”

Patten Wallace said it’s convenient and simple for students to monitor their financial information using the myUT portal. Visit myUT.utoledo.edu and log in for more information.

Students also should remember the following as summer semester I approaches:

• Use Rocket Solution Central. A team of UT professionals will walk you through your questions. Call Rocket Solution Central at 419.530.8700 or go to utoledo.edu/rsc/ for details.

• Remember registration cancellation dates: Tuesday, April 2, and Wednesday, May 8. Keeping current with your financial obligations will ensure that you continue smoothly on your education path. Please be aware that, as of Tuesday, April 2, students who have overall balances of $500 or more for spring and previous semesters will experience registration cancellation for summer 2013. This means your “seat” in classes, housing, meal plans and parking permits will no longer be available until your balance has been paid in full.

Registration cancellation will occur again Wednesday, May 8, for students who have not made payment arrangements for their summer and previous semesters balances and for those who have not made first installment payments on their summer 2013 Installment Payment Plans.

For more information about registration cancellation, go to utoledo.edu/offices/treasurer.

DEADLINES:

Tuesday, April 2 – Pay outstanding balances from spring 2013 and prior semesters in full. Please pay immediately to avoid late fees or additional collection activity that could result in negative credit reporting.

Wednesday, May 8 – Pay outstanding balances for summer 2013 and prior terms in full or get on the Installment Payment Plan (IPP) and pay your first installment payment and the IPP fee. You can access the IPP through your student account on the MyUT portal.

Registered for classes but not returning?

Just Drop It!

You must drop/withdraw from classes prior to the start of the term to avoid a large, non-refundable administrative fee. If you are not removed from classes for non-payment and don’t plan to attend, you must drop your classes.

Visit myUT.utoledo.edu today to pay your balance or drop classes.

Graduate Assistantship Fair April 11, register by April 9

Master’s level graduate students are invited to the Graduate Assistantship Fair Thursday, April 11, from 7:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. in Student Union Room 2582/2584. The Division of Student Affairs will offer graduate assistantships in several departments, including Student Involvement, Judicial Affairs, Counseling Services, Academic Success, Multicultural Affairs, Residence Life, Leadership Initiatives and the Student Recreation Center.

The type of work graduate assistants perform varies but may include project management, marketing, student affairs administration, supervision, assessment, event management, judicial hearings and committee leadership.

Students who plan to attend should register by Tuesday, April 9, by emailing studentinvolvement@utoledo.edu or calling 419.530.4418. Skype interviews will be available; students should request details when they register.

In addition, students will be asked to submit resumes when they register and should bring copies to the event. Professional attire is recommended.

The fair will begin with candidate check-in and a continental breakfast at 7:30 a.m. Department introductions will follow, and interviews will begin at 9 a.m.

For more information, call 419.530.4418.