

Rolling in



Photo by Rachel Nearhoof

President Sharon L. Gaber helped a student move in to Carter Hall Friday morning. She and other UT leaders volunteered to be First-Year Orientation Guides — FROGs — to welcome students to campus. This is the third year she has assisted students move in, a tradition she started when she joined the University three years ago.

NSF awards UT nearly \$1 million grant to continue early childhood science education program

By Christine Billau

The National Science Foundation (NSF) awarded The University of Toledo a nearly \$1 million federal grant to continue, expand and further evaluate its successful, innovative program that engages teachers and parents in supporting a young child's natural curiosity through interactive, inquiry-based science lessons.

The University's NURTURES Early Childhood Science program, which aims to improve the science readiness scores of preschool through third-grade students in the Toledo area, was originally supported with a \$10 million, five-year NSF grant. The new \$991,081 grant is part of a total

continued on p. 16

Director delivers 'Badass' book

By Vicki L. Kroll

It was a party atmosphere at Sherry Stanfa-Stanley's book launch Aug. 19 at Barnes & Noble at the Shops at Fallen Timbers in Maumee. The only thing missing? The author's drink of choice: Bloody Marys.

"I was told no alcohol, sorry," she told the standing-room-only crowd of about 150.

"Speaking to an empty room is awkward; this is terrifying," she said. "I know quite a bit about terrifying and awkward."

She was referring to the 52/52 Project, which she started in 2013. For one year, Stanfa-Stanley challenged herself with a new experience every week as she approached age 52.

"I wasn't in a rut; I was in a crater. And I just wanted to shake things up a bit," she said. "After traveling to Italy by myself

in 2011, I realized if I could do that, there's probably a lot of things I can do if I went outside my comfort zone."

Her amazing, crazy and inspiring year included suiting up as Rocksy the mascot for a UT soccer game; babysitting quadruplets; going on a raid with the vice squad and SWAT team; spending 24 hours with nuns at a convent in Joliet, Ill.; performing as a mime outside a shopping center in Newport, Ky.; and crashing a wedding reception — and catching the bride's bouquet.

"I took those weird and wonderful experiences and wove them into a book," the director of communication and fund stewardship at the UT Foundation told the group.

continued on p. 15



Photo by Whitney A. Bryan

AUTHOR! AUTHOR! UT employee and alumna Sherry Stanfa-Stanley read from her book, "Finding My Badass Self: A Year of Truths and Dares," at Barnes & Noble at the Shops at Fallen Timbers in Maumee. It was the largest crowd to attend a signing event there, according to Jana Washington, store merchandise manager.

Celebrating nearly 70 degrees in August



Dr. Linda Lewandowski, new dean of the College of Nursing, center, along with nursing faculty members, celebrated with some of the 62 nursing graduates who received their nursing pins at the college's summer convocation held Aug. 18 in Doermann Theater.



Dr. Linda Lewandowski, dean of the College of Nursing, left, and college faculty members, from left, Dr. Huey-Shys Chen, Dr. Marty Sexton, Dr. Temeaka Gray and Dr. Heidi Shank, assembled on the third floor of University Hall for the convocation in Doermann Theater.

Photos by Lindsay Gregory

University recognized for low student debt

By Meghan Cunningham

The University of Toledo graduates have the lowest student loan debt among the state's public colleges, according to a recent analysis of student debt by LendEDU.

The average student debt per borrower for UT's class of 2016 was \$24,437, which ranks the University the best among Ohio's public colleges and universities. In the nation, UT was named 121 in the list of best public colleges for lowest student loan debt.

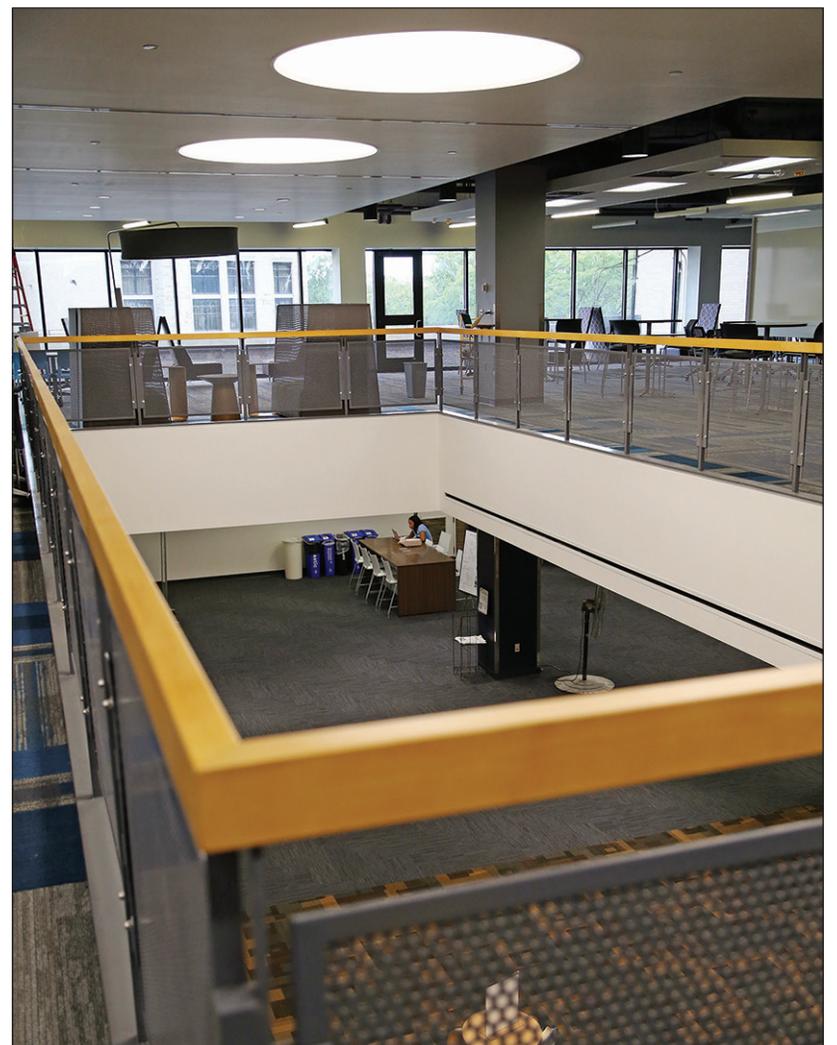
UT also has the lowest per credit hour undergraduate tuition and fees of any Ohio research university and the third lowest of any major public university in the state.

"Keeping a University of Toledo education affordable is a commitment we have made to our students and their

families, and this study confirms we are keeping that promise," UT President Sharon L. Gaber said. "When you consider the positive impact a UT degree has on a graduate's social and income mobility, we are delivering an exceptional value to our students."

LendEDU, which helps students with loans, loan refinancing and personal finance, used data collected from the annual Peterson's financial aid survey in which there were responses from 1,161 institutions to evaluate student loan debt.

Ohio ranked 16th overall for its college students' debt load, which averages \$29,579.



Photos by Rachel Nearhoof

Check it out



The glass curtain on the east side of Carlson Library has been installed, and interior work on the renovation was expected to be wrapped up by the start of classes, according to Chris Levick, project manager/manager of structural maintenance with Facilities and Construction. Use the north doors to enter the library as the south entrance is under construction and is expected to be done by the end of September. This is the final phase of a \$6 million project made possible by state biennium capital funds.

The staircase from the first to second floors of Carlson Library was redesigned over the summer. This along with a newly created atrium add to the openness of the area and fill the space with light.

New parking app available

Just in time for the 2017-18 academic year, Parking Services launched the new UT Parking app Monday, Aug. 28. The free app is available for both Android and iOS devices, including iPhones, iPads and other mobile devices.

Faculty, staff and students may install the new app on their smart phones by searching for University of Toledo Parking in the App and Play stores. The app also may be found at the following links: for Android users at <https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=utoledo.edu.utparking>; and for iOS users (iPhones and iPads) at <https://itunes.apple.com/us/app/ut-parking/id1267935500>.

"After you download the app, enter your utad name and password the first time you use it," explained Anita Crane, enterprise applications automation developer, who was instrumental in developing the new app. "A great feature is that once you log in, the app uses fingerprint recognition to provide you with one-touch, easy access. However, if your device doesn't have this technology, the app will still work fine.

"Whenever you use the app, it should give you fast access to myparking and the parking guest site. Everything will look the same, just as if you're accessing these sites through a browser," noted Crane.

"We're really pleased to be able to offer this application at the onset of fall semester," said Sherri Kaspar, manager of public safety services. "UT drivers will discover many benefits when using the new app, including the ability to switch between registered vehicles, appeal tickets and pay parking fines.



"Also, if you want to quickly find a lot for your permit type that you don't use often, you can quickly access frequently asked questions on our webpage and refer to the Where May I Park? information," Kaspar added.

"For drivers who may frequently need to switch from one primary registered vehicle to another, we recommend they print a permit confirmation for each of the vehicles stored in their profile and keep them stored in their car," said Bonnie Murphy, associate vice president for auxiliaries. "This will help to ensure drivers always have the corresponding permit confirmation readily available to display on their dashboard, which is a new requirement in 2017-18."

As a reminder, fall semester parking enforcement begins Monday, Aug. 28. To avoid being ticketed, all drivers must have their vehicles registered and park in a lot designated for their permit type.

To register or for more information about UT's parking system and the new app, visit utoledo.edu/parkingservices. Any questions not answered on these webpages may be sent to parking@utoledo.edu.

Reminder: Complete compliance training

All 12-month faculty and staff should complete the following compliance training courses online by Thursday, Aug. 31:

- Intersections: Supervisor Anti-Harassment and Title IX (all faculty/staff);
- Ohio Ethics Commission: Ethics — It's Everybody's Business (all faculty/staff); and
- HIPAA Basics (all Health Science Campus faculty/staff, plus those with direct or indirect ties to patient care, as assigned).

Nine-month, 10-month and part-time faculty and staff, as well as student

employees, will have access to and should complete the training between Friday, Sept. 1, and Tuesday, Oct. 31. Watch for your email reminder. To access your assigned courses, you may either use your email invitation and click on the Begin Training button, or you may log in to myUT and access the courses under the Training and Career Development section; review the instructions posted there before beginning course work.

Please reserve at least 60 to 90 minutes to complete each class.

Questions? Contact trainingdevelopment@utoledo.edu.

Passio Passenger Counting System to be used for transit starting Aug. 28

By Madison Vasko

In their efforts to offer students, faculty and staff safer rides and to also collect real-time data, a new passenger counting system will be installed on UT buses.

The Scott Park shuttle bus counter was implemented Sunday, Aug. 27, with all other fixed routes to be implemented Monday, Aug. 28.

This means bus riders will be required to swipe their Rocket ID to board the bus.

The Passio passenger counting system will allow Transit Services to track who is riding and when across UT campuses. This will provide data on how to better plan or adjust transit routes on campus to support the needs of riders.

"We will be able to make sure those who are getting on the bus are valid

students, faculty or staff, which will make for a safer ride. The tracking will give us more detailed reports on who is riding and where," said Diana Watts, Transit Services and Rocket Wheels bike share coordinator.

"This is a brand-new system, so there will be some learning involved on both sides with drivers learning how to operate the system properly, and the passengers getting acclimated to the new swipe system," she added. "We ask the UT community to have patience and understanding as we get accustomed to the new system."

For more information about bus schedules, visit utoledo.edu/facilities/transit.

Weeks of Welcome offers a nonstop schedule of events and experiences. There's an activity for everyone.

Whether you're new or returning to campus, The University of Toledo wants to give you a warm welcome. For the list of events, go to utoledo.edu/studentaffairs/welcomeweek.

#UTYouKnow

FALL 2017

WEEKS of WELCOME

Chasing the Great American Eclipse of 2017

By Kevin Hardegree-Ullman

On Aug. 21, millions of people across the United States witnessed a spectacular phenomenon of nature: a total solar eclipse. By sheer coincidence, the sun and moon take up almost the same amount of space on the sky. The sun's diameter is roughly 400 times larger than the diameter of the moon, but the moon is almost 400 times closer to Earth than the sun. Earth is the only planet in the solar system from which the entire sun gets blocked out when our satellite passes in front of it, but this will not always be true. The moon is slowly receding from Earth by about 4 centimeters each year; 400 million years from now, total solar eclipses will no longer be visible from Earth!

The last total solar eclipse visible from the United States occurred Feb. 26, 1979, when totality was visible in Washington, Oregon, Idaho, Montana and North Dakota. This year, the path of totality spanned 12 states from coast to coast (OK, 14 states, but you can hardly count the miniscule portions Montana and Iowa that were included), and a partial eclipse was visible from all other states except Alaska.

For those of us lucky enough to be in the path of totality this year, it was an absolutely incredible, almost indescribable experience. Awe-inspiring pictures have flooded every media outlet, but even photographs don't quite live up to experiencing totality in person. I know many astronomers who chase eclipses, traveling all over the world to see subsequent total solar eclipses, which happen at least once every couple of years. Now that I have shared in one of those experiences, I can see why.

My journey to Nashville, Tenn., the largest city along the path of totality, began two weeks earlier in Pasadena, Calif. I just finished a six-month visiting graduate fellowship at the Infrared Processing and Analysis Center on the campus of Caltech, where I used the Spitzer Space Telescope to study extrasolar planets that cross in front of their host star, blocking out a tiny amount of light from the star for a couple of hours. My journey back to Toledo took 11 days and



Hardegree-Ullman in Nashville

included stops in Arizona, Texas, Louisiana and, finally, Nashville for the eclipse.

I arrived in Nashville around 3 p.m. Aug. 20 and, to my surprise, the traffic wasn't bad at all. I was lucky; an old college friend was visiting her family in Nashville and had graciously offered to let me stay with them for the event. That afternoon we drove around to nearby parks to find where we wanted to view the eclipse. Around 9:30 a.m. the next day, we arrived at the small park we chose and set up. We were the second group to arrive at the park that morning to view the eclipse, which would start at noon from our location. The park gradually filled up through the morning and early afternoon, reaching a peak of about 150 people by the time of total eclipse.

I had a small telescope and my camera, both with solar filters. Throughout the afternoon, several people came over to peek through the telescope, including another astronomer who had driven up from Houston. There were five visible groups of sunspots, each one larger than Earth. This was an unexpected surprise, as the sun is currently near a minimum in its solar activity cycle. Almost everybody in the park had eclipse glasses. A few people with

cameras came up to me to ask about taking pictures during the eclipse. I had a spare handheld camera filter that I let them borrow to take a couple of shots before totality.

There was some initial excitement as the moon started to transit in front of the sun. From Nashville, it took an hour and a half to reach totality. As the sky grew darker, the temperature dropped noticeably from a miserable 90 degrees to a much more comfortable 80 degrees. We were lucky that the weather forecast had improved for Nashville from initial estimates of 50 percent cloudy with a chance of rain to 25 percent cloudy with no chance of rain. A few cloud patches covered the sun for a couple minutes at a time during the eclipse, but nothing lasted for very long. Some of my friends were not as lucky and got either rained or clouded out. As any astronomer will attest, weather is a far too frequent, inconvenient adversary.

Next came the event that everyone had been waiting for: totality. The sky faded to a pale twilight around the horizon, and everyone in the park started cheering. Some children even started screaming out of excitement. As I took a few moments to look around, people were taking off their eclipse glasses, fireflies began lighting up the darkened grass, and everyone was just in awe during the 1.5 minutes of darkness in the middle of the day. The blackened sun had a glowing edge — the normally invisible corona or crown, a spectacular halo of searing hot plasma surrounding the sun. Amongst the blueberry-colored sky were a few pinpoints of light, most notably, Venus and Mars became visible in the twilight of totality. It was not quite dark enough or long enough for my eyes to adapt to the darker setting for me to see any stars. As the sun peeked out from behind the moon, I saw the famous “diamond ring” of the eclipse and knew it was time to put the eclipse glasses back on.

The cheers began to fade, but there was still a sense of excitement all around. I heard numerous people say, “That is the coolest thing I've ever seen.” For most, the event was over once totality ended. They packed up and began their journey back

home, whether that was one block or 1,000 miles away. Some people stayed for a while to watch the moon continue its journey, but the park was nearly empty after 45 minutes. My group stayed through the entire eclipse, making us the last people to pack up and leave the park that afternoon.

The next morning, I departed Nashville and I finally arrived back home in Toledo after a 3,000-mile trek. The eclipse is a few days past now, but the excitement about it still runs strong. Some have already started planning for the next total solar eclipse visible from the United States, which will happen April 8, 2024. If you missed out on viewing this year's eclipse, or were not able to get to somewhere along the path of totality, you're in luck. Toledo is along the northern edge of the path of totality in 2024 and will experience between 30 seconds to 2 minutes of darkness depending on your exact location. If you can travel roughly 70 miles east or south of Toledo on that day, you will be able to witness nearly four minutes of totality! Elsewhere across the country, there will be plenty of locations for viewing totality stretching from Maine to Texas. I strongly encourage you to take any effort necessary to get to the path of totality, and with a little cooperation from Mother Nature, it will be well worth the effort.

For those who still have a pair of eclipse glasses that are not crinkled, scratched or damaged, you can use them to safely look at the sun and search for sunspots. Another option is to donate them to Astronomers Without Borders, which will redistribute the undamaged glasses to people in areas around the world that will experience a solar eclipse in the next few years. Unfortunately, you cannot save your eclipse glasses to use in 2024; eclipse glasses are not safe to continue using after three years or earlier if there is any visible damage to the filter material.

Hardegree-Ullman is a PhD student in the UT Physics and Astronomy Department. He is part of a NASA team that will help identify which extrasolar planets the new James Webb Space Telescope will focus on when launched in 2018.



HOT STUFF: This image sequence of the sun was created by Kevin Hardegree-Ullman from photos taken every 15 minutes during the total solar eclipse Aug. 21 from Nashville. The central image shows the sun's corona, a glowing halo of hot plasma, visible at the time of totality. This was the only time during the eclipse a solar filter was not needed to safely look at and image the sun.

Sky high: celestial spectacle



Photos by Daniel Miller

University Photographer Daniel Miller took this shot of the moon passing by the sun during Ritter Planetarium's Aug. 21 eclipse viewing party.



Safia Rahman, left, and Bhwani Mehta, students majoring in computer science and engineering, watched the eclipse.



Charlene Gilbert, dean of the College of Arts and Letters, was one of approximately 1,200 who attended the planetarium's event. UT astronomers had several safely filtered telescopes and observatory boxes for visitors to use, but quickly sold out of the limited supply of solar eclipse glasses.



Glenn Raney and Rachel Wesley from Sylvania watched the sky show.



Alex Mak, UT associate planetarium director, let the crowd know what to expect as the moon passed in front of the sun.

Rockets soar to Italy: Men's basketball team takes fast break to play, bond, sightsee

By Steve Easton

The men's basketball team returned to Europe for the first time in four years with a trip to Italy Aug. 9-19.

The Rockets emerged victorious in each of their four games. UT played its first two games against Serbian club team KK Kolubara in Rome Aug. 11-12 before squaring off against a

team of professionals from Spain in Montecatini near Florence Aug. 14. Toledo's game schedule concluded with a final matchup vs. an Italian All-Star squad at the United States Army Base in Vicenza Aug. 16.

During their time in Italy, the Rockets ventured to historic sites and visited some amazing places

in Rome — the Colosseum, the Ancient Roman Forum, Trevi Fountain, Pantheon, Vatican City and St. Peter's Basilica.

The team then visited the beautiful cities of Florence and Venice, and took a day trip to the Dolomite Mountains, located near the southern Alps).



Steve Easton, associate director of athletics communications, took this photo from the Medici Castle in Florence, Italy.



Photos by Steve Easton

The team and coaches smiled for the camera outside the Vatican.

The Italian job: Coaching, bringing team together

By Tod Kowalczyk

I couldn't be happier with our foreign tour to Italy, and we are extremely thankful to the many donors, as well as UT President Sharon L. Gaber and Vice President and Athletic Director Mike O'Brien, who made this once-in-a-lifetime trip possible.

The amount of learning that we did with regards to the culture and history of Italy was off-the-charts. We first visited the city of Rome for three days, and our time in Italy's capital city was highlighted by a daylong visit to the Vatican and a half-day visit to the Colosseum and Forum. Those are huge parts of our world's history and to see those sites with our own eyes was phenomenal. It was just great for our players to get a feel for what the city was all about

by walking on the streets and seeing a variety of people from all over the globe.

We then traveled to Florence, which was one of the best cities I've been to and maybe the best one I've ever had the chance to visit. Florence was gorgeous and had so much history to see with its cathedrals and castles. The only regret I had about Florence was that we didn't have another day to explore more of what it offers.

We then spent a day in Venice, which was filled with a lot more tourists than our previous stops. It wasn't too easy to walk around the city, but we did have a chance to take a gondola ride in the canals, which was great for our team to experience.

Our final stop was at a beach resort in Jesolo, which is less than an hour from

Venice. We took a day trip to the Dolomite Mountains, where the majority of us went on a zip line. The zip-line experience was breathtaking and was probably the highlight of the trip for the people who took part. The highlight for me, though, was seeing the cleanliness and beauty of the towns and villages on our drive up to the mountain. A lot of the houses were decorated with window boxes filled with flowers, and it was a postcard-like setting when we looked down from near the top of the mountains.

From a basketball standpoint, I thought the competition during our trip was the best I've faced as part of a team taking an international trip. I think how we played as a team was probably not as well as I hoped. I think our practices were better than our

games, which I believe is probably pretty natural at this time of the year. We learned about some things we need to work on and shore up, and we also found some areas that are going to be strengths for us.

Now we're going to give our guys some time to rest a little bit and get settled with classes before starting to gear up for the upcoming season. We have quite a few new faces this season, and I'm very excited about the potential we have. I think we'll be a more athletic, deeper team than a year ago, and I hope you come and watch us in Savage Arena.

Kowalczyk is the head men's basketball coach.

Basketball, art and zip lining in Italy

By Luke Knapke

Our trip to Italy will be something that all of us will remember the rest of our lives. We learned so much about the Italian culture and saw many historical buildings. It still amazes me all the things we did and saw. We are very fortunate and thankful to have this opportunity.

As a Catholic, our trip to the Vatican was really special to me. The artwork we saw throughout our tour was spectacular and beautiful. It was really breathtaking. It was something that I've always wanted to experience. The Sistine Chapel was amazing with the paintings on the ceiling by Michelangelo, as well as the walls telling stories of what happened during

the time of Christ. We were also able to walk through St. Peter's Basilica during our tour, and that was way beyond my expectations.

Riding the zip line in the Dolomite Mountains was so much fun. It was definitely a rush. The first step off the platform was kind of terrifying, but after that, you just let yourself go. I just tried to enjoy the experience as much as possible. It's something I'll never forget, and I would definitely do it again if I had the opportunity.

From a basketball standpoint, I liked what I saw from our team and the way we grew as a unit. We were able to bond

as a team both on and off the court.

The chemistry we've started to build is going to be very valuable when we start playing games in November. I'm excited to get our season started, and I think we'll have a deep, athletic team for you to watch. Thanks for following along on our trip to Italy, and we'll see you in Savage Arena!

Knapke is a sophomore majoring in management who plays center for the Rockets.



Luke Knapke zipped along in the Dolomite Mountains.



Photos by Steve Easton

Toledo players visited the Colosseum in Rome.



Some of the Rockets took a selfie with tourists at the Vatican.



The team posed for a photo in Florence, Italy.

Preseason favorite Rockets set sights on MAC Championship

By Paul Helgren

Coming off a nine-win season and with five All-Mid-American Conference players back in the fold, the Toledo Rockets have high expectations for 2017. Head Coach Jason Candle wouldn't have it any other way.

"Each year presents new challenges. Every team is different, but there is still one primary goal in mind — win a conference championship," Candle said. "A lot of work has to be put in to get to that point. It's a day-to-day approach. We are developing a lot of good senior leaders, and we have the core of our coaching staff back from last year, so I think we're headed in the right direction to accomplish the goal we've set for ourselves.

"The expectations are always there — with our fans, with the media, with ourselves. I'm fine with that. Our players are fine with that. It's our job as coaches to keep our players focused on the process of the day-to-day work it takes to reach our goals. If we do that, we'll be successful."

The Rockets were 9-4 in Candle's debut as head coach, earning a berth into the Raycom Media Camellia Bowl. They came up one contest short of their ultimate goal, a trip to the MAC Championship Game, leaving additional incentive for 2017.

A MAC title is at the top of Toledo's goals this season, and once again the Rockets should be serious contenders for the crown. UT returns one of the nation's most explosive offenses. Led by senior quarterback Logan Woodside, Toledo averaged 38.0 points per game and led the Mid-American Conference in total offense with a school-record 517.8 yards per game in 2016. Woodside paced the nation with 45 touchdown passes and was named a Heisman contender by the Heisman Trophy Trust. Two of his favorite targets are back — Cody Thompson (64 receptions, 11 TDs, 19.8 yards per carry) and Jon'Vea Johnson (40 receptions, 10 TDs, 19.3 yards per carry) — as is 2015 second-team All-MAC running back Terry Swanson.

On defense, the Rockets return seven starters, including All-MAC linebacker Ja'Wuan Woodley.

"We're very excited about this season," Candle said. "We have a great group of senior leaders and plenty of talent on both sides of the ball. We will have some growing up to do in some key positions, but certainly the talent is there for us to compete for a championship. It'll be fun to watch and fun to go to work and see what this team looks like."



Photos by Daniel Miller

ARMED AND DANGEROUS: Senior quarterback Logan Woodside is back to lead the Rocket offense. Last season, he completed 45 touchdown passes, tops in the nation.



READY TO ROLL: Head Coach Jason Candle led Toledo to a 9-4 record last year and expects the team to contend for the MAC Championship this year.

Extra shuttle, parking incentives offered on opening game day

All faculty, staff and students are invited to attend the season's opening football game Thursday, Aug. 31, at 7 p.m. in the Glass Bowl when the Rockets play against Elon.

"To our knowledge, because of our academic calendar change, this is The University of Toledo's first opening game ever to be held during the first week of classes, and so it's a great opportunity for the campus community to unite," said President Sharon L. Gaber.

With the large number of people expected on campus and the ongoing construction on Bancroft Street, students, faculty and staff are encouraged to use alternative means of transportation Aug. 31 to help minimize congestion, including parking off site in the dedicated lot on Scott Park Campus (Lot 22) and using UT shuttle services, taking public transportation, walking or carpooling to Main Campus.

In addition to the shuttle that regularly loops from Main Campus to Scott Park, a second Scott Park shuttle will be added on game day to assist with the flow to and from Main Campus. The additional Scott Park shuttle will be marked "Lot 22," will pick up and drop off at Lot 22, and will pick up and drop off on Main Campus at the Transportation Center. Please note: The last shuttle to Scott Park will depart the Transportation Center at 6:30 p.m. For complete UT shuttle information, visit utoledo.edu/facilities/transit.

Drivers also should note that the following Main Campus lots will be closed for game day beginning the night of Wednesday, Aug. 30: Lots 5, 6, 7, 9 and 10. (Cars parked in Lot 9 will be towed.) Additionally, Lots 3 and 4 east of Savage Arena will close at noon on game day.

For all faculty, staff and students who choose to park on Scott Park Campus Aug. 31 and take the shuttle service to campus, the following incentives are being offered to thank drivers for helping to reduce congestion on or near Main Campus:

- A pair of tickets to the Aug. 31 game, sideline/section 24, compliments of Huntington Bank (25 pairs available for faculty and staff; students get into the game free);
- One dining card for an all-you-care-to-eat meal (breakfast, lunch or dinner) at one of UT's two dining halls (100 available for faculty, staff and students); and
- One UT T-shirt (100 available for faculty, staff and students).

Incentives will be distributed in Lot 22 at Scott Park Aug. 31 while supplies last.

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100 YEAR CELEBRATION

E

EASTERN MICHIGAN EAGLES
OCTOBER 7
HOMECOMING

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AKRON ZIPS
OCTOBER 21
VARSITY T HALL OF FAME

NIU
MUSKIES

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NOVEMBER 2

W

WESTERN MICHIGAN BRONCOS
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See you at the pep rally!

Join the UT football team and psych up for the game against Elon at a pep rally Wednesday, Aug. 30, at 12:30 p.m. on the Thompson Student Union Steps. Rain location: Thompson Student Union Auditorium.

There'll be food and prizes!

Football opening night to feature fireworks

By Paul Helgren

The University of Toledo announced its home-opening football contest vs. Elon Thursday, Aug. 31, will feature a halftime fireworks show, courtesy of area auto dealerships that are part of the Rockets' Car Coaches Program.

"The home opener is a celebration of a new season, so we want to kick it off with a spectacular fireworks display that will light up the Glass Bowl," said Dave Nottke, deputy director of athletics. "We would like to express our sincerest thanks to all of our Rocket Car Coaches who have made this special fireworks presentation possible."

The Elon game will be the first opportunity for fans to see the Rockets, preseason favorites to win the 2017 Mid-American Conference Championship.

Season tickets begin at \$80 and are available at the UT Athletic Ticket Office, online at utrockets.com, or by calling 419.530.GOLD (4653). Tickets are half-off for UT employees and retirees, and UT students are admitted free to home games with ID.

Fireworks for the home opener have been made possible thanks to the generosity of Ballas Buick GMC; Brondes Ford Toledo; Brondes Ford Maumee; Brown Automotive Group; Bobby Jorgensen's Kistler Ford; Charlie's Dodge Chrysler Jeep Ram; Grogan's Towne Chrysler Jeep Dodge Ram; Perrysburg Auto Mall; Yark Automotive Group; and the White Family Dealerships — Dave White Chevrolet, Jim White Toyota and Lexus of Toledo



Rocket Fan Fest expanding in 2017

By Paul Helgren

Rocket Fan Fest will be bigger and better than ever at the first four home football games.

The community tailgate will take place three hours prior to kickoff and will extend into the Flatlands to feature live music, food — including Deet's BBQ — beverages and snacks from Aramark, along with the Bud Light Beer Garden.

All food and beverages are available for purchase. Those 21 years and older must show a valid ID and will receive a wristband upon entrance into the beer garden.

"We are always looking to enhance the game day experience at the Glass Bowl," said Heather Lutz, assistant athletic director for marketing, sales and fan experience. "Rocket Fan Fest provides our fans with an opportunity to come out early and enjoy some great music, food and beverages before the game."

Live music will begin two-and-a-half hours prior to kickoff and will continue until 30 minutes before game time. Performing through the first four home games will be:

- Aug. 31 vs. Elon — Arctic Clam;
- Sept. 16 vs. Tulsa — Last Born Sons;
- Oct. 7 vs. Eastern Michigan — MidNight Special (courtesy of The Blade); and



- Oct. 21 vs. Akron — Distant Cousinz.

For the home opener against Elon Thursday, Aug. 31, and the Saturday, Sept. 16, contest against Tulsa, Fan Fest will begin at 4 p.m., weather permitting. Start times of Rocket Fan Fest for Eastern Michigan (Oct.7) and Akron (Oct.21) are still to be determined.

Lutz thanked UT's community partners True House of Munch, IHeart Media and The Blade for their support of Rocket Fan Fest.

Individual and season tickets are available at the UT Ticket Office, online at utrockets.com, or by calling 419.530.GOLD (4653). Tickets are half-off for UT employees and retirees, and UT students are admitted free to home games with ID.

Former UT great to join Rocket Football Radio Network team

By Paul Helgren

Former Toledo quarterback Bruce Gradkowski will return to the Glass Bowl this season, this time as a color analyst for the Rocket Football Radio Network.

Gradkowski, who played for the Rockets from 2001 to 2005, played 11 seasons in the NFL for Tampa Bay, Cleveland, Oakland, Cincinnati and Pittsburgh. He led the Rockets to the 2004 Mid-American Conference Championship and two bowl appearances. He earned first-team All-MAC honors as a senior in 2005, finishing his career with a 45-13 triumph over UTEP in the GMAC Bowl.

"It's exciting to officially be a part of the Rocket family again," Gradkowski said. "This is where it all started for me and laid the foundation for an 11-year NFL career. I can't thank [UT Vice President and Athletic

Director] Mike O'Brien and UT President [Sharon L.] Gaber enough for all the support they have given me and my family over the years. Also, thanks to Head Coach Jason Candle for continuing to reach out to the alumni to keep them involved, and for the great job he has been doing. To the city of Toledo, thank you. That's why we call this place home. Let's go Rockets!"

Also new to the Rocket Football Radio Network this year will be Mike Robinson, who will handle sideline coverage. Robinson is a former head coach at Bowsher High School in Toledo, and also served as an assistant coach at Central Catholic High School in Toledo when the Fighting Irish won two state championships.

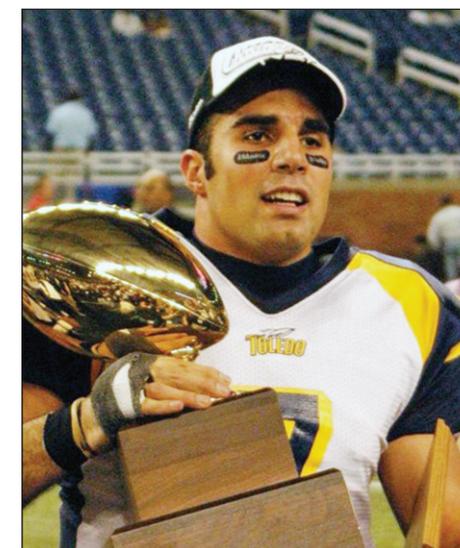
Gradkowski and Robinson will join play-by-play announcer Brent Balbinot,

who is in his second season as the voice of the Rockets.

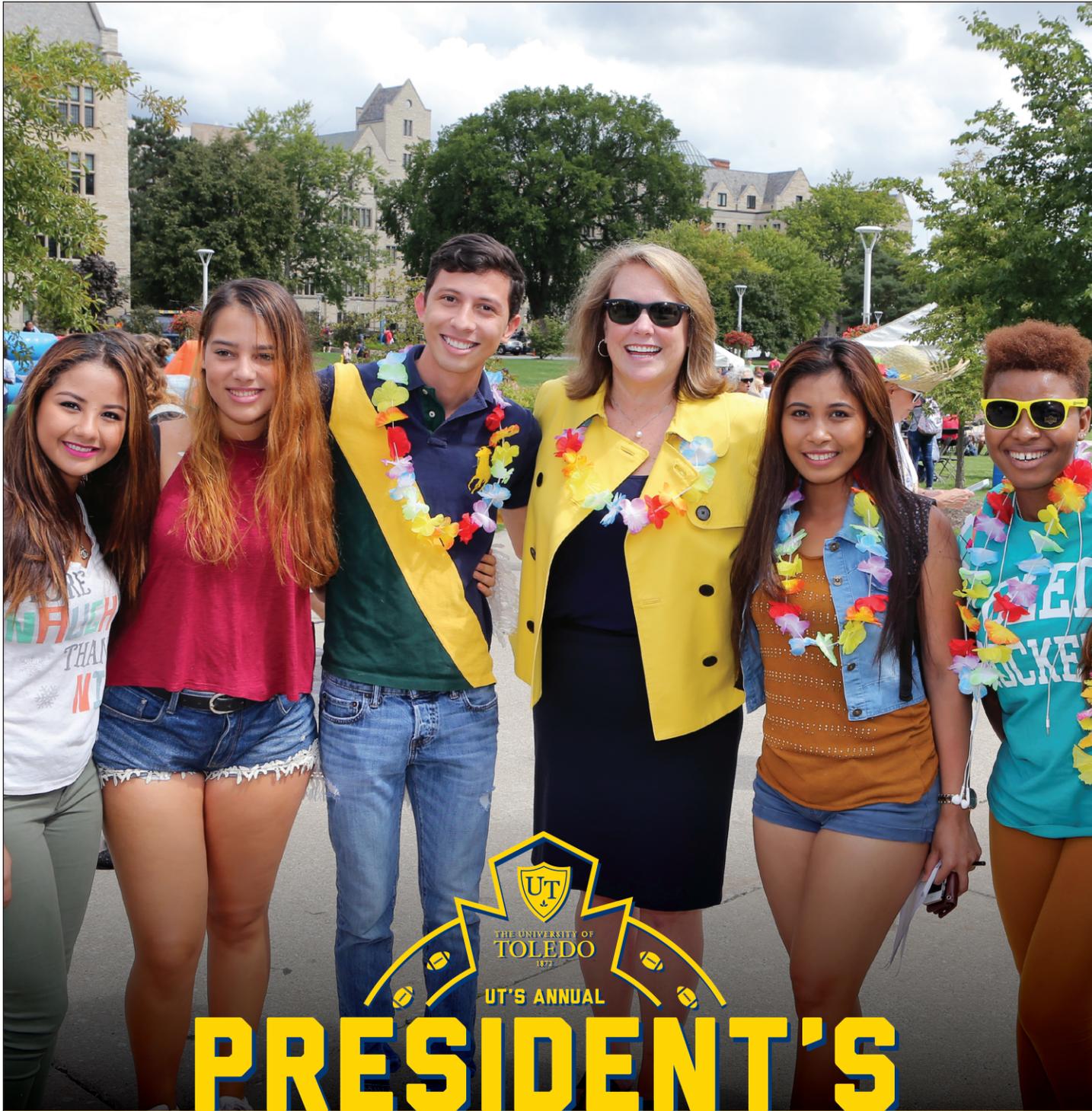
"We are very pleased to have Bruce and Mike join our radio team," said Mary-Bec Gwyn, general manager of Rocket Sports Properties, the rights holder for

The Rocket Football Radio Network consists of six stations throughout northern Ohio. The flagship station is WSPD (AM 1370) in Toledo, which will carry Rocket football for the 51st season this fall. The network also includes WMTR (FM 96.1) in Archbold; WOHF (FM 92.1) in Bellevue; WJMO (AM 1300) in Cleveland; WBVI (FM 96.7) in Fostoria; and WFGA (FM 106.7) in Hicksville.

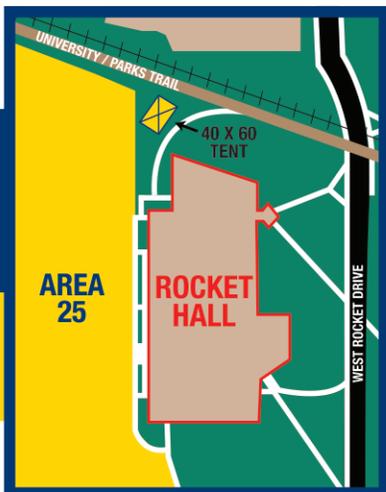
The games also are streamed online at UTRockets.com, the official website of Rocket Athletics.



MEMORABLE MOMENT: Quarterback Bruce Gradkowski led the Rockets to the 2004 Mid-American Conference Championship.



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Look for our tent near the University Parks Trail just outside Rocket Hall.

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Rockets share joy of victory with area special needs students

By Paul Helgren

The UT football program hosted its fourth annual Victory Day for special needs students from Toledo area schools Aug. 19 in the Glass Bowl. Participating students met UT football players, ran drills, and heard their names announced over the public address system as they scored a touchdown.

Victory Day is an opportunity for special needs students to have their moment in the sun on the football field. Each student was partnered with a UT football player who served as his or her mentor for the day. The young athletes wore Rocket jerseys and were presented with medals at the end of the day to commemorate their victories.

Toledo football players, cheerleaders, Rocky the Rocket and UT Marching Band members also were on hand to cheer on the participants.

“It certainly is a fun day for our players and for the kids in the community,” said Head Coach Jason Candle. “We get to share a meaningful experience with these kids. Our players really love to do it. We’re in the middle of preseason camp, and sometimes players can start to feel a little sorry for themselves — they’re in pain or their legs hurt. But this is an eye-opening experience. Our players are blessed to have their opportunities. This is a great reminder of that and a great way to give something back to the community.”

Senior wide receiver Cody Thompson added, “Just being with these kids and making their day a little bit better is awesome. It’s always good to give back and put a smile on someone’s face.”

Victory Day was started in 2010 by Aaron Segedi, a teacher and football coach from Trenton, Mich., a cancer



Photos by Derek Marckel

FLEX TIME: A local student showed off his muscles along with the Rockets.

survivor whose life was saved thanks to a liver donation from his sister. Since then, the Victory Day program has been adopted by high schools and universities in Michigan, Ohio, Kentucky and Indiana.

The Rockets first celebrated Victory Day in 2014.



WAY TO GO! Toledo players cheered for a student as he passed the football.



RIDING IN STYLE: Two students got a big lift from the Rockets.

Paralegal students gain valuable experiences in Norway

By Madison Vasko

For students who have participated in work and study abroad programs, the consensus is that it is a once-in-a-lifetime experience. Taylor Sanders, Samantha Denlinger, Travis Peterson and Colleen Anderson, all students in the Paralegal Studies Program, agreed that the knowledge they gained during their time in Norway extended past that related to their future careers.

“Traveling abroad is a 10 out of 10 recommendation for me, whether it be for studies, a job, a vacation or an internship. It was one of the absolute best experiences of my life,” Denlinger said. “I wouldn’t trade it for anything, and I would go back in a heartbeat to see the friends I made along the way. If anyone gets an opportunity to travel abroad, do it. You will learn some of the most valuable things.”

The students were guided through the process by John Schlageter, director of the Paralegal Studies Program. Last year, Schlageter traveled to Norway with the goal of increasing collaborations with enterprises in the public and private sectors of the country.

“I believe that international learning helps students understand a variety of cultural and community perspectives. Prospective paralegal employers look favorably upon experience gained while living overseas,” Schlageter said. “In addition, graduate school admissions boards look very highly on study abroad experiences. Many students that obtain a bachelor of science in paralegal studies, an American Bar Association-approved program, use their degree as a pre-law program so they can go on with their education and become attorneys.

“Taylor, Samantha, Travis and Colleen deserve a lot of credit for their willingness to seek out new challenges and put themselves in academically challenging situations. They have represented The University of Toledo and the Paralegal Studies Program very well, and I could not be prouder of them.”

Schlageter secured internships for Anderson and Peterson with the Norwegian Courts Administration. They had the opportunity to become acquainted with the Norwegian society and the Norwegian legal system and judiciary; present on the state and federal judiciary in the U.S. to staff at the Norwegian Courts Administration; and present on the structure of the U.S. courts at a judicial regional seminar in Montenegro.

“This unique internship experience has not only given me the opportunity to integrate myself within another culture, but



EXPANDING HORIZONS: Travis Peterson, Samantha Denlinger, center, and Taylor Sanders posed for a photo in Trondheim, Norway.

also to work firsthand within the Norwegian Courts Administration and gain knowledge about the Norwegian judiciary,” Peterson said. “By also attending a judicial reform conference in Budva, Montenegro, with the Norwegian Courts Administration to aid Western Balkan countries in improving their judiciary, I was able to speak with judges from many different countries and take back with me a lot of knowledge and experience that I will use in my future endeavors.”

Anderson also spoke highly of what she learned during her time in Norway: “I feel as though my perspective on the world and on the U.S. in particular has really been broadened. Seeing the way other countries run their judiciaries has taught me not to always assume that the way I’m used to is the only way, or even always the best way. To me, this trip only emphasized the importance of international sharing and collaboration. This internship has taught me the importance of being able to work both independently and with other people. It can

be easy to decide that you’re a person who can only do one or the other. However, I think to truly be successful, a person needs to know when to focus independently on a project and when to reach out for input from others.

“My favorite part about the internship was attending a conference on judicial reforms hosted in the country of Montenegro. At the conference, the attendees spoke several different languages, and we utilized translators so we were all able to understand each other. Seeing this kind of problem solving and collaboration has really helped me realize the boundless possibilities that are available to those willing to pursue them. Participating in the conference itself was such an honor, and I feel as though I learned so much by listening to and conversing with other people who are in the same field I hope to enter one day.”

Denlinger and Sanders spent their summers interning with Q-Free, an

electronic toll collection technology development company based in Trondheim, Norway. They reviewed proposed contracts, offers and bids to make sure they complied with Q-Free policies and interests, and learned about risk assessment, potential liabilities, commercial risks, legal feasibility and intellectual property rights protection.

“My favorite part about the internship was learning about the culture and comparing it to our culture back home,” said Denlinger. “The differences were incredible, and I loved seeing what the Norwegian work environment was like. It was truly an incredible experience.

“What I brought home with me was the knowledge of hard work. I learned that opportunities come and go, and that you have to take them whenever they come up. Specifically, I brought home a hard work ethic and the mentality of tackling an opportunity while it’s happening.”

Sanders was happy to speak on her time abroad and how it benefited her:

continued on p. 14

Norway

continued from p. 13

“While working for Q-Free, I learned so much. I learned how to identify and assess potential risks and liabilities in different types of corporate contracts; I worked mainly with public procurement contract bids. The biggest thing I will take away from this experience is that it is important to dive in head first and try something you are unsure about. I’ve learned that no matter what country you are in, there is always a helping hand that will guide you through unfamiliar territory and topics.

“This was the experience of a lifetime, and I highly recommend traveling abroad to any other students contemplating it. I also want to give a little shout-out to John Schlageter, without whom this experience would not have been possible.”

For more information on the Paralegal Studies Program, contact Schlageter at john.schlageter@utoledo.edu or 419.530.7748.



ON THE JOB: Samantha Denlinger, left, and Taylor Sanders, right, interned at Q-Free, where they worked with Tor Erik Nergård.

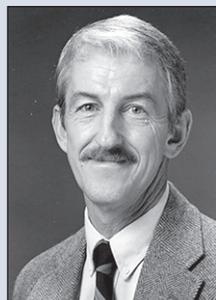


SIGHTSEEING: Travis Peterson, left, Audun Hognes Berg, senior adviser with the Norwegian Courts Administration, and Colleen Anderson smiled for the camera in Budva, Montenegro.

In memoriam

Thomas J. Fairhurst, Toledo, who was a member of the UT Foundation Board of Trustees from 1990 to 1991, died Aug. 13 at age 89. He worked at Dana Corp. for 33 years and retired in 1990 as a senior vice president.

Dr. Sherman A. Timmins, Maumee, former professor of management and director of the Small Business Institute, died Aug. 11 at age 79. He joined the faculty in 1976 and served on many College of Business committees.



Timmins

Correction

Dr. Linda Lewandowski’s last name was spelled incorrectly in a letter from the president in the Aug. 21 issue. She is the new dean of the College of Nursing.

UT NEWS

UT News is published for faculty, staff and students by the University Marketing and Communications Office weekly during the academic year and periodically during the summer. Copies are mailed to employees and placed in newsstands on the Main, Health Science, Scott Park and Toledo Museum of Art campuses. UT News strives to present accurate, fair and timely communication of interest to employees. Story ideas and comments from the UT community are welcome. Send information by campus mail to #949, University Marketing and Communications Office, Vicki Kroll. Email: vicki.kroll@utoledo.edu. Fax: 419.530.4618. Phone: 419.530.2248. Mailing address: University Marketing and Communications Office, Mail Stop 949, The University of Toledo, Toledo, OH 43606-3390.

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Book

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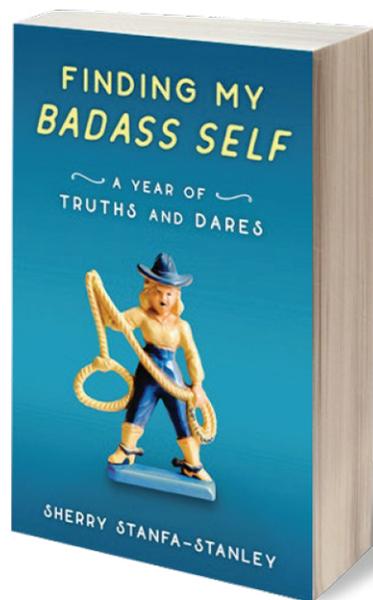
“Finding My Badass Self: A Year of Truths and Dares” was published by She Writes Press and released Aug. 15. The 321-page book is \$16.95 and available at most area bookstores and online through Amazon, Barnes & Noble, and all book retailers.

As folks flooded in and peeked around book shelves, Stanfa-Stanley read three excerpts from her debut.

She said “Catching a Flight to Nowhere” was one of her favorite adventures; she packed for an unknown destination, went to the Detroit Metro Airport, and booked the next flight out. It was winter, and, luckily, she jetted off to Fort Myers, Fla.

Conversely, “On the Ropes” was the least successful venture, she said. Stanfa-Stanley and two friends decided to skip the high-ropes course at the UT Student Recreation Center after seeing it was 35 feet above the gym floor — and watching an athletic college student slip from a beam and dangle by her safety harness.

“It’s obvious I can’t get away from the nude beach outing,” Stanfa-Stanley said and introduced her mother, Gloria Stanfa, a retired UT secretary, who accompanied her on the trip.



“‘Just be sure to mention we both kept our clothes on,’ my mother said,” Stanfa-Stanley read from the chapter titled “Baring it at the Beach.” “‘Um, maybe I didn’t clarify that,’ I replied. ‘I’ll be going au naturel, too.’ ‘Oh.’ She pondered this. ‘Well, then please don’t sit next to me. I saw you naked as a baby, and I really don’t care to anymore.’”

As laughter erupted during the readings, the author told the audience, “You’re a sadistic lot.”

Many seem to take pleasure in reading about Stanfa-Stanley’s frightfully fun escapades. Her debut has received raves from book bloggers, including dearauthor.com, bloglovin.com and abookishabode.com, as well as positive reviews from trade journals, including Kirkus Reviews, Midwest Book Review and Foreword Reviews. In addition, BuzzFeed.com named the book one of five fall reads “guaranteed to make you laugh out loud.”

Even a Los Angeles-based production company headed by a well-known actor/comedian inquired about film and TV rights.

“Usually nothing comes of these requests; it’s happened to a few author friends,” Stanfa-Stanley, ever the realist, said. “But a girl can dream.”

Meanwhile, the 1983 UT alumna is scheduling book-signing events. She’ll have a booth at the Roche de Boeuf Festival in Waterville Saturday, Sept. 23, from 9 a.m. to

5 p.m. And a reading and meet-and-greet will be held Saturday, Oct. 7, at the UT Barnes & Noble Bookstore at the Gateway; the time will be announced when the Homecoming football game kickoff is determined.

For the latest on appearances, check sherrystanfa-stanley.com, which links to facebook.com/The52at52Project, where the witty writer chronicled her derring-do — and daring don’t — and has more than 5,000 readers.

“I certainly wouldn’t say I’m fearless, but I’m desensitized. I worry less,” she told the crowd.

“My first published book out in the world at age 55 tells you it’s truly never too late to change your life. Maybe my stories will inspire you — or at least give you a couple laughs.”



SPIRITED ALUMNA: Sherry Stanfa-Stanley suited up as Rocky and exuded good cheer during a soccer game as part of “The 52/52 Project.”

Photos by Crystal Hand

NSF

continued from p. 1

of \$2.25 million in federal funding for the second phase of the program that extends it through 2021.

NURTURES, which stands for Networking Urban Resources with Teachers and University to enRich Early Childhood Science, is a professional development program and collaboration between UT, local daycare centers and nursery schools, Toledo Public Schools, informal science centers and other community resources to create a complementary, integrated system of science education.

Project participants in the second phase of the project will include 120 teachers, 2,400 preschool through third-grade children, and more than 7,200 family members in northwest Ohio and southeast Michigan.

“We are pleased to receive additional funding from the National Science Foundation for the NURTURES program,” said Dr. Charlene Czerniak, professor emeritus of science education and research professor in the UT College of Engineering. “Building on our previous success, we will simultaneously target early childhood teachers, families and children to create a broad support system for powerful and effective science teaching and learning. This program will help close the gaps in science, mathematics, reading and literacy for young children.”

During the first phase of the NURTURES program, 330 teachers of preschool through third grade and administrators participated in a total of 544 hours of professional development in the teaching of science inquiry and engineering design for early childhood classrooms.

According to research published recently in the *Journal of Research in Science Teaching*, every year that a student has a NURTURES program teacher adds on average 8.6 points to a student’s early literacy standardized test score compared to control students, 17 points to a student’s mathematics score, and 41.4 points to a student’s reading score.

The program includes five primary components:

- A two-week summer institute for preschool through third-grade teachers in which they have access to both scientists and instructional coaches;
- Academic year professional development, including monthly professional learning community meetings and one-on-one coaching;

- Family science activity packets sent home from school four times a year that each include a newsletter with directions for the investigation, necessary materials for the activity, and a journal sheet for children to record data or visually represent understanding;
- Family community science events, such as engineering challenge simulations, and observations and demonstrations at a park, zoo, science center, library or farm; and
- Public service broadcasts on television that promote family science activities.

According to the National Science Foundation, an important facet of this follow-up project is the research effort to understand how each component impacts student learning. Project leaders plan to use control groups and standardized tests to measure the effect of teacher professional development compared to family engagement activities.

“What a tremendous opportunity for the young children, their families and teachers in our region to participate in a project that will enhance their understanding of science and the natural world around them,” said Congresswoman Marcy Kaptur. “It is so important for the project team at The University of Toledo to continue to study the impact that family engagement has on a young child’s education. We know that spending time reading to a child exposes them to 1.8 million words a year. What other things could families be exposing to their children to set them on a pathway for success in life? The NURTURES project at The University of Toledo aims to find that out.”

The additional grant award comes one week after the American Association of State Colleges and Universities honored UT with its Christa McAuliffe Award for Excellence in Teacher Education in recognition of the NURTURES program.

Czerniak oversaw the development of the NURTURES program along with Dr. Joan Kaderavek, professor of early childhood, physical and special education in the UT Judith Herb College of Education; Dr. Susanna Hapgood, associate professor in the UT Department of Curriculum and Instruction in the Judith Herb College of Education; and Dr. Scott Molitor, associate professor in the UT Department of Bioengineering in the College of Engineering.



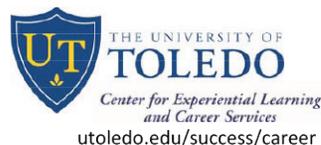
PART-TIME JOB FAIR & STUDENT INVOLVEMENT FAIR

Wed., August 30th | Noon - 3 PM | Centennial Mall

Inclement weather location: SU Room 2582/2584 (Job Fair) & SU Auditorium (Involvement Fair)

Apply for on-campus jobs • Sign-up with a student organization

Nurture your passions • Enhance your skills • Meet new people • Discover new interests



utoledo.edu/success/career



utoledo.edu/studentaffairs/osi

Part-Time Job Fair and Student Involvement Fair set for Aug. 30

By Cathy Zimmer

Career Services and the Office of Student Involvement are collaborating to host a Part-Time Job and Student Involvement Fair Wednesday, Aug. 30, from noon to 3 p.m. on Centennial Mall.

Students can apply for on campus jobs or sign up with a student organization.

“The Part-Time Job Fair is a great opportunity for students to speak directly with campus employers and get their questions answered about job openings for the upcoming academic year,” said Shelly Drouillard, director of the Center for Experiential Learning and Career Services. “Last year, 3,100 UT students filled over 4,600 different jobs located primarily on Main and Health Science campuses.”

She added, “This year will be our first time hosting this event outdoors in collaboration with the Student Involvement Fair, and our hope is that the larger venue will increase student awareness, interest and participation in on-campus employment.”

“Getting involved in campus can nurture a student’s passions and enhance

their skills,” said Donovan Nichols, assistant dean for student involvement and leadership. “Signing up with a student organization allows for students to discover new interests and provides a great venue to meet new people with similar interests.”

If it rains; the Part-Time Job Fair will move to Thompson Student Union Rooms 2582 and 2584, and the Student Involvement Fair will be held in the Thompson Student Union Auditorium.

Students who are unable to attend the fair can review and apply for on-campus employment on the Rocket Jobs website, utoledo.edu/success/career/rocketjobs.

Career Services works to connect students to meaningful experiential learning and employment experiences and assists students with major and career exploration. The Office of Student Involvement and Leadership seeks to build community and is committed to providing students with opportunities for involvement that will enhance and complement their UT experience.