Broadway star to give Shapiro Lecture Nov. 5

By Meghan Cunningham

The University of Toledo has partnered with the Toledo Symphony to welcome Broadway star and Tony- and Grammy-winning performer Audra McDonald to town.

McDonald will share the story of her career, both as a singer and an actress on Broadway, opera stages, film and television, at the Edward Shapiro Distinguished Lecture Sunday, Nov. 5 from noon to 2 p.m. in Doermann Theater.

McDonald’s lecture at UT will follow her performance with the Toledo Symphony Orchestra Saturday, Nov. 4, at 8 p.m. at the Toledo Museum of Art Peristyle.

“The opportunity to engage in a conversation with an artist of Audra McDonald’s stature is an honor and a privilege for our students and the greater Toledo community,” said Charlene Gilbert, dean of the UT College of Arts and Letters. “We are pleased to partner with the Toledo Symphony to bring this internationally renowned performer to campus following her Toledo performance. This lecture is exactly the type of event that shapes and enriches the academic experience of our students and engages the community with our university.”

McDonald is the winner of a record-breaking six Tony Awards, two Grammy Awards and an Emmy Award. She was named one of Time magazine’s 100 most influential people of 2015, and she received a 2015 National Medal of Arts — America’s highest honor for achievement in the arts — from President Barack Obama.

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UT researcher makes discovery about massive stars as part of international team of astronomers

By Cherie Spino

For the first time, astronomers have mapped the surface of a massive hot star, proving a decades-long theory that hot spots on the star’s surface affect the behavior of stellar winds. A University of Toledo astronomer was a member of the international research team that made the groundbreaking discovery.

“We’re now better able to understand how massive stars send out material into space through their winds,” said Dr. Noel Richardson, postdoctoral research associate in the UT Department of Physics and Astronomy, who was a member of the research team. “This research gives us a better understanding of how stars lose material, which then forms new stars and planets.”

The team’s research appears in a paper recently published in the Monthly Notices of the Royal Astronomical Society, one of the world’s leading astronomy journals.

For decades, astronomers have theorized that there were hot spots on the surface of massive stars that affected stellar winds, but they didn’t know how those spots behaved or how they impacted the winds.

To test that theory, the research team chose as its test subject a supergiant called Zeta Puppis, a massive star 60 times larger than the sun and seven times hotter at the surface. Massive stars are rare and usually travel in pairs. But Zeta Puppis flies solo — and it flies fast. The star hurtles through space at 37 miles per second, 60 times faster than a speeding bullet.

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Hail to the Chief

Kareem Hunt signed autographs for fans during the Toledo-Akron game Oct. 21 in the Glass Bowl. The UT alumus and NFL Kansas City star was on campus to receive recognition for being voted No. 7 on Toledo’s All-Century Football Team. Read more on p. 4.

Deadline for 2018 benefits open enrollment extended to Thursday, Nov. 9 — see p. 3
Interim dean of College of Business and Innovation named

By Meghan Cunningham

Dr. Hassan HassabElnaby, associate dean for graduate programs and research in the College of Business and Innovation, has been named interim dean of the college.

HassabElnaby will lead the College of Business and Innovation while a search is conducted for a permanent dean to replace Dr. Gary Insch, who resigned Oct. 26 after leading the college since July 2014. He will return to a full-time faculty appointment in the Department of Management.

“I appreciate Dr. Insch’s leadership for the College of Business and Innovation during the last three years,” said Dr.

Andrew Hsu, provost and executive vice president for academic affairs. “The college has an important role in preparing the next generation of leaders for the global marketplace. We will continue our positive momentum as we move forward providing our students a high-quality education and engaging experiential learning opportunities.”

“I look forward to the opportunity to serve our students, faculty, alumni and business leaders in the community as interim dean of the College of Business and Innovation,” HassabElnaby said.

HassabElnaby joined UT in 2003 as an assistant professor of accounting. HassabElnaby, whose research focuses on financial reporting and corporate governance, holds PhD, master’s and bachelor’s degrees in accounting from Cairo University.

UT honored for excellence in teacher education

On behalf of the University, Dr. Andrew Hsu, provost and executive vice president for academic affairs, accepted the Christa McAuliffe Award for Excellence in Teacher Education Oct. 22 from the American Association of State Colleges and Universities at its annual meeting in San Diego. UT was recognized for the Judith Herb College of Education’s NURTURES (Networking Urban Resources with Teachers and University to Enrich Early Childhood Science) professional development program, which promotes science as a critical component for reducing achievement gaps in science, reading and math.

Great Lakes Water Conference to focus on Trump, Trudeau and calls for Lake Erie impairment designation

By Christine Billau

United States and Canadian water law and policy, as well as a discussion over whether Lake Erie is impaired, will be the focus of the 17th annual Great Lakes Water Conference this week at the UT College of Law.

The conference titled “The Trump and Trudeau Administrations on Water” will take place Friday, Nov. 3, from 8:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. in the Law Center McQuade Law Auditorium.

The conference is sponsored by the UT College of Law and its Legal Institute of the Great Lakes.

“Newly elected leaders in the U.S. and Canada have promised changes in direction,” said Ken Kilbert, UT professor of law and director of the Legal Institute of the Great Lakes. “What that means for water law, policy and resources on both sides of the border will be explored by two expert panels.”

The keynote speaker will be Patricia Morris, director of the Great Lakes Section of the International Joint Commission, at 8:45 a.m.

The first panel at 9:15 a.m. will focus on the administration of President Donald Trump and feature speakers from the Natural Resources Defense Council, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and the Wayne State University Law School.

The second panel at 11 a.m. will look at the administration of Prime Minister Justin Trudeau and feature speakers from the Ontario Ministry of the Environment and Climate Change, Forum for Leadership on Water, and the University of Calgary Law School.

UTMC completes Joint Commission accreditation survey

By Sarah A. Velligante

The Joint Commission visited The University of Toledo Medical Center and outpatient facilities and while official results aren’t in yet, preliminary findings have been positive.

“We are leaving here today [Oct. 20] with a very thin report – one of the most minimal looking reports we have seen this year,” said Katherine Chamberlain, Joint Commission nurse surveyor and team leader, during the exit interview. “We are exceptionally proud of the good work you have done here. Congrats. It’s a job well done.”

The Joint Commission is an independent, not-for-profit organization that accredits and certifies 21,000 health-care organizations and programs in the United States. The Joint Commission accreditation and certification is a voluntary process that is recognized nationwide as a symbol of quality that reflects an organization’s commitment to meeting certain performance standards.

“I want to extend a heartfelt thank you to everyone for the enormous amount of work and dedication that contributed to these positive results,” said Dan Barbee, CEO of UTMC. “I am very proud of the efforts of the entire UTMC team.”
Open enrollment extended to Nov. 9

The open enrollment period has been extended to Thursday, Nov. 9. Benefit-eligible employees should use the open enrollment tool through the myUT portal to review coverage options and either elect benefits or waive coverage by this date. Benefit elections will be effective Jan. 1.

If you have a Health Savings Account or Flexible Spending Account, you must re-elect annually, per Internal Revenue Service regulations. If you do not re-elect, contributions to your accounts will stop Dec. 31.

You also can ensure your spouse maintains coverage by using the open enrollment tool. If your spouse works outside the University and is covered through UT’s Gold, Silver or Bronze health-care plans, you must submit a Spousal Coverage Affidavit. If you cover a child age 19 to 26, you must complete an Adult Child Certification form in the open enrollment tool.

Please take time to examine the plan overview, which details deductible and general plan information. Complete benefit information is at utoledo.edu/depts/hr/benefits/open-enrollment.

Employees are encouraged to contact Human Resources and Talent Development representatives if they need assistance with the open enrollment process. Call 419.530.1470 to make an appointment, drop in to Human Resources Monday through Friday from 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m., or attend an informational session:

- Thursday, Nov. 2, 10 a.m. to 1 p.m., Four Seasons Bistro’s Pinnacle Lounge at UT Medical Center on Health Science Campus.
- Friday, Nov. 3, 10 a.m. to 1 p.m., Catharine S. Eberly Center for Women, Tucker Hall Room 1068 on Main Campus.

Human Resources is located in Academic Services Building Room 1000 on Scott Park Campus.

UT OPEN ENROLLMENT FOR 2018 BENEFITS

Open enrollment for 2018 ends at 11:59 p.m. on Thursday, Nov. 9, 2017. In an effort to ensure correct coverage, all employees must complete the open enrollment process. New dental and vision options are available for 2018, so all employees must review their options.

Log into your myUT portal. Under Benefits Information on the left, click 2018 Open Enrollment to start the process.

For more information or to speak to someone about your benefits, please visit utoledo.edu/depts/hr/benefits, call 419.530.4747 to make an appointment or email us at benefits@utoledo.edu.
Hunt returns to Glass Bowl, honored as No. 7 on UT’s All-Century Football Team

By Paul Helgren

A special guest made an appearance at the Rockets’ football game in the Glass Bowl Oct. 21. But he certainly was no stranger to Toledo fans.

Kareem Hunt, Toledo’s all-time leading rusher and a meteoric rookie for the NFL’s Kansas City Chiefs, was back on campus along with fellow NFL rookie Trevon Hester to witness the Rockets’ 48-21 victory over Akron on a sunny autumn afternoon.

Hunt also was presented with a framed photo commemorating his spot on UT’s All-Century Football Team during a break in the first quarter by President Sharon L. Gaber along with Vice President and Athletic Director Mike O’Brien.

Hunt was unable to attend the original ceremony Sept. 16 honoring the top 50 players in Toledo’s 100-year history. The University is celebrating the 100-year anniversary of its football program, which was founded in 1917.

“It’s a great honor to be No. 7 on the All-Century Team with all those great players of the past,” Hunt said.

Hunt, who, as of Oct. 27, is leading the NFL in rushing and recently was featured on the cover of Sports Illustrated, is No. 7 on the All-Century Football Team. He rushed for 4,945 yards from 2013 to 2016 for the Rockets before he was taken in the third round of the NFL Draft by the Kansas City Chiefs.

He is only the second rookie in NFL history, along with Pro Football Hall of Famer Eric Dickerson, to gain at least 100 yards from scrimmage in his first seven games.

ROCKETING CHIEF: Kareem Hunt waved to fans after President Sharon L. Gaber and Vice President and Athletic Director Mike O’Brien honored him for being voted No. 7 on Toledo’s All-Century Football Team. The UT alumnus and NFL Kansas City star accepted the recognition during the Oct. 21 UT-Akron game.

UT researcher

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Using a network of nanosatellites from the “BRIght Target Explorer” (BRITE) space mission, researchers monitored the surface brightness of Zeta Puppis every 100 minutes for six months in 2014. They simultaneously monitored the behavior of its stellar winds over time from several ground-based observatories.

After correlating the two sets of data, the team found that Zeta Puppis rotates at tremendous speed — once every 1.78 days. In comparison, our sun, which is 60 times smaller, takes almost a month to rotate once.

Astronomers in the past had never had enough data to verify their claims about hot spots and their effects on stellar winds. The new data allowed them to map the surface of Zeta Puppis. It proved what the astronomers suspected: The structures on the star’s surface were indeed there, and these hot spots did affect the star’s winds.

Astronomers have mapped the surfaces of cooler stars, Richardson said, but this is the first time they’ve mapped a hot star. They learned that a brighter, hotter spot creates huge spiral structures in stellar winds that scatter more material into space.

A team of more than 40 astronomers participated in the research. The group included six amateur astronomers in Australia, New Zealand and Brazil, who spent three to four hours every night for six months peering into their telescopes and collecting data.

The ultimate deadline — that’s what spurred Erin Adair-Hodges to get tapping on the keyboard.

“I’d kept intending to write poetry again only to realize one day in my late 30s that ‘one day’ had probably already passed and that my chance to create is finite,” she said. “This is true for all of us, it’s part of the mortal bargain, but knowing this intellectually and knowing this with your whole soul is pretty different.

“I kept waiting for someone to tell me it was OK to take myself and my work seriously, but it was understanding that no one would do so which actually allowed me to make the commitment to poetry.”

Making that promise led to her debut, “Let’s All Die Happy,” which was released last week. The 112-page book is part of the Pitt Poetry Series published by the University of Pittsburgh Press.

The title is the first line of the poem, “Everybody in the Car We Are Leaving Without You.”

“Titling a book is a fairly soul-crushing process,” Adair-Hodges said. “It has provoked strong reactions — love or hate … But, ultimately, I think it’s an honest presentation of the tone and concerns of the collection.”

Through witty, spot-on observations infused with cerebral pop culture references, the UT visiting assistant professor of creative writing shares her perspective on being a woman. Titles of poems include “American Idyll,” “Ode to My Dishwasher,” “Self-Portrait as Banshee,” “The Mammogram” and “I Would Have Listened to Rush.”

“Many of us, especially women, are taught that adherence to certain conventions will provide us with meaning and fulfillment — the idea that if we do what we’re supposed to, believe what we’re told, we will be happy. I believed this for a long time until the evidence of my life could no longer support that,” Adair-Hodges said.

“Breaking from what we’ve been inculturated with frees us to find the truest versions of ourselves, but it can also leave us without the security that these kinds of institutions provide. It can be scary, this figuring out of what’s next and why. This has been part of my own personal, intellectual, emotional and spiritual path, one that I’m still on and using art to sort out.”

After receiving a master of fine arts degree from the University of Arizona, Adair-Hodges shelved poetry — for eight years. She was the arts editor of a weekly paper for a while, taught writing, and started a family. After her son was born, the allure of words beckoned.

“At the newspaper, I wrote hundreds of pieces — criticism, profiles, reviews and more — all of which sharpened my attention to language and precision,” she said. “Teaching writing required I be able to articulate and provide evidence for my instruction and insight. All of this provided me with the tools to express the vision of my work I’d been carrying around inside me for years.”

The native of New Mexico recently had her work featured on “PBS NewsHour” and took home the 2016 Agnes Lynch Starrett Poetry Prize for “Let’s All Die Happy.”

“I think now as much as ever, we need to heed women’s stories. The work may resonate with some while challenging the imagination or empathy of others, but I believe it has value if for no other reason than it’s an honest expression of my experience in the world.”

That candor comes with comedy.

“As a poet, I use humor to engage, to get closer to the matter,” Adair-Hodges said. “Humor, to me, is a way to honesty, a path that must necessarily cut through some darkness.”

She will read from and sign “Let’s All Die Happy” Thursday, Nov. 2, at 6 p.m. in Libbey Hall. Books will be available at the free, public event sponsored by the UT Department of English Language and Literature. Purchases also can be made at online book retailers and the author’s website, erinmolly.com.

“I think we’re all drawn to poetic expression, the translation of our experiences into art, into something that connects to others,” Adair-Hodges said. “Poetry is only as hard to understand as life is, so I think if you’re inclined to work through some of life’s mysteries and truths, you’ll find value in poetry — often, it’s just a matter of finding the work that speaks to you.”
Broadway star
continued from p. 1

In addition to her Tony-winning performances, including “Carousel,” “A Raisin in the Sun” and “Porgy and Bess,” she has appeared on Broadway in “The Secret Garden,” “Marie Christine” (Tony nomination) and “110 in the Shade” (Tony nomination).

On television, McDonald played Mother Abbess in NBC’s “The Sound of Music Live!” and Dr. Naomi Bennett on ABC’s “Private Practice.” She won an Emmy Award for her role as host of PBS’s “Live from Lincoln Center.” On film, she has appeared in “Seven Servants,” “The Object of My Affection,” “Cradle Will Rock,” “It Runs in the Family,” “The Best Thief in the World,” “She Got Problems,” “Rampart, Ricki and the Flash” and, most recently, Disney’s live-action “Beauty and the Beast.”

Doors will open for McDonald’s free, public lecture at 11:30 a.m. with seating on a first-come, first-served basis.

Tickets remain available for McDonald’s performance with the Toledo Symphony. Tickets range from $49 to $99 and can be purchased by calling the box office at 419.246.8000 or visiting toledosymphony.com.

“We are reaching new heights this season with our programming, bringing the greatest voices of our generation to Toledo,” said Felecia Kanney, director of marketing for the Toledo Symphony. “Audra McDonald is one of the finest voices in the world. Her program of Broadway favorites by Rodgers & Hammerstein, Stephen Sondheim, George Gershwin, and songs from her latest album titled ‘Go Back Home’ is a program that will be remembered for years to come.”

The annual lecture is made possible by the Shapiro endowment left by Dr. Edward Shapiro, professor emeritus of economics, who retired in 1989 and wanted to provide opportunities for the University to bring world-renowned speakers to Toledo.

Past Shapiro Distinguished Lecture speakers include Elie Wiesel, Oliver Sacks, Robert F. Kennedy Jr., Toni Morrison, Wynton Marsalis and E.J. Dionne Jr.
The University of Toledo Department of Theatre and Film’s production of playwright Tom Stoppard’s acclaimed comedy, “Arcadia,” will open this week.

Performances will be Friday through Sunday, Nov. 3-5 and 10-12, in the Center for Performing Arts Center Theatre. Curtain time Fridays and Saturdays will be 7:30 p.m., and the Sunday shows will start at 2 p.m.

Special matinee performances for schools and community groups will be held Tuesday and Wednesday, Nov. 7-8, at 9:30 a.m.

“Arcadia,” Stoppard’s 1993 play, has been praised by many critics as the finest work from one of the most significant contemporary playwrights in the English language. Set in a Derbyshire country estate in England, “Arcadia” takes visitors from 1809 to the present — and back again. The characters of the past try to predict the future, while those in the present attempt to uncover the past. It is a comedy about history and science, philosophy and mathematics, love and death, and the human desire to know everything — even if that’s impossible.

The production is directed by guest director Qarie Marshall. In addition to teaching at UT on an adjunct basis, Marshall is a professional actor, voice-over artist and choreographer. He said he is excited to direct a Stoppard production having appeared in some of his plays, including “The Real Inspector Hound” and “Rosencrantz and Guildenstern Are Dead,” and having seen many of his productions.

Marshall said his goal is to deliver audiences an authentic Stoppard production. “Quite simply, I want to get out of the way of the playwright and let him do his work. Stoppard has done all the heavy lifting in the construction of this beautiful play.”

“Arcadia” is one of two math-based plays the department is presenting this season. The other, “Proof” by David Auburn, will run Feb. 2-11. The department is collaborating with the Mathematics and Statistics Department on the production. Dr. Alessandro Arsie, associate professor and associate chair of mathematics, approached Dr. Edmund Lingan, professor and chair of theatre and film, during spring semester and suggested the collaboration to coincide with the 100th anniversary celebration of the Department of Mathematics and Statistics. Working together, they decided that Stoppard’s play, with its plot and themes rich with mathematical ideas, would be perfect to commemorate the centennial celebration.

Marshall said it’s all good fun, and you don’t need to be a math wiz to enjoy the show. “You don’t have to know anything about chaos theory, fractals or iterated algorithms. Stoppard’s genius gives you everything you need.”

The cast of “Arcadia” features UT students Justin Petty, a sophomore majoring in theatre, as Septimus Hodge; Zane Traxler, a freshman majoring in mechanical engineering, as Jellaby; Bryan Harkins, a senior theatre major, as Ezra Chater; Keeyong Hong, a senior theatre major, as Richard Noakes; Faith Murphy, a sophomore theatre major, as Lady Croom; Rachel Hybarger, a senior theatre major, as Capt. Brice; Kenzie Phillips, a senior majoring in theatre and environmental science, as Hannah; Becca Lustic, a sophomore theatre major, as Chloe Coverly; and Austin Rambo, a junior majoring in theatre and media communication, as Valentine Coverly.

Rounding out the cast are Brad Smith, a 2005 UT College of Law alumnus, as Bernard Nightingale; Jude Lingan, a student at the Toledo School for the Arts, as Augustus/ Gus Coverly; and Grace Mulinix, a student at Toledo Early College High School, as Thomasina Coverly.

Tickets are $8 for students and children; $10 for UT faculty, staff and alumni, and military members and seniors; and $15 for the general public. Call 419.530.ARTS (2787) or order online at utoledo.tix.com. Tickets also will be available at the door.
Men’s Head Basketball Coach Tod Kowalczyk was beaming and upbeat after the Rockets’ first official practice earlier this month.

“I’m really excited about the group we have and can’t wait to get going,” said Kowalczyk, who has guided the Rockets to the second most victories (81) in the Mid-American Conference over the last four years. “I believe the biggest strength of our team this season is going to be our versatility. We have a lot of length; we’re not a big, physical team, but we are long and athletic.

“I also think we’ll be able to cover some ground defensively. I hope that provides us the chance to play with more versatility defensively and with different types of lineups.”

The Rockets are returning a pair of starters, as well as one of the MAC’s top reserves in 2017-18. Junior point guard Jaelan Sanford is UT’s top returning scorer after tallying 13.6 points per game and a 39.2 three-point field-goal percentage last year. Junior forward Nate Navigato registered 9.5 points per game and a 40.8 three-point clip coming off the bench, while sophomore center Luke Knapke notched 6.9 points per game and 3.8 rebounds per game in his initial season at the collegiate level.

UT also is gaining the services of a pair of impact transfers in senior guard Tre’Shaun Fletcher (7.1 points per game and 2.4 rebounds per game at Colorado) and sophomore forward Willie Jackson (5.9 points per game and 4.6 rebounds per game at Missouri). Jackson will not be eligible to play for the Rockets until the conclusion of fall semester.

The Rockets will play their only home exhibition game Saturday, Nov. 4, at 2:30 p.m. vs. NCAA Division III foe Trine University. The contest will follow the Rocket women’s exhibition contest vs. Lock Haven (Pa.) University.

Toledo will open its regular season with three straight contests in Savage Arena, beginning with its home opener vs. Saint Joseph’s Saturday, Nov. 11, at 7 p.m.

The nonleague slate consists of seven home dates and six road contests, including trips to Phog Allen Fieldhouse vs. Kansas, the Carrier Dome vs. Syracuse, and the historic Palestra vs. Penn.

“I thought our schedule last year was tremendous in terms of challenging us, and this year’s version is even better,” Kowalczyk said. “We’re playing at Kansas and Syracuse as part of the HoopHall Miami Invitational and have the unique opportunity to play in the Palestra, which is regarded as the most storied gymnasium in the history of collegiate athletics. I also think we have a good home schedule against quite a few strong mid-major programs, and I believe playing three straight early home games really helps us.”

After tipping off the season Nov. 11 in Savage Arena, Toledo will stay home for two more contests against NCAA Division III foe Ohio Northern Nov. 14 and 2016 NIT participant Oakland Nov. 18. The Rockets then will venture on the road for games at 2016 NIT participant Syracuse Nov. 22, Cornell Nov. 24, and 13-time defending Big 12 Champion Kansas Nov. 28.

UT will open the month of December with four of five games in Savage Arena, starting with a Dec. 2 matchup vs. 2016 NCAA Tournament participant Texas Southern. After making a short trip up I-75 to take on Detroit Mercy Dec. 6, the Rockets will host Marshall Dec. 9, Wright State Dec. 16 and Jackson State Dec. 20. Toledo will wrap up its nonconference slate with road contests against Cleveland State Dec. 23 and Penn Dec. 29.

The first two MAC contests in 2018 will be nationally televised. The Rockets’ road game against Buffalo Jan. 2 and home matchup vs. Akron Jan. 5 will be shown on the CBS Sports Network. UT’s matchup at Akron Feb. 3 also can be seen on the CBS Sports Network.

After its opening week of nationally televised games, the Rockets will host Western Michigan Jan. 9 before playing three of their next four contests away from Savage Arena. UT will visit Central Michigan Jan. 13 and Ohio Jan. 16 before entertaining defending MAC Tournament Champion Kent State Jan. 20. Following a trip to Kalamazoo, Mich., to battle the Broncos Jan. 23, Toledo will finish the month of January with home dates vs. archival Bowling Green Jan. 27 and Ball State Jan. 30.

UT will open February with a rematch at the Zips Feb. 3 before hosting Northern Illinois Feb. 6 and Ohio Feb. 13. A contest at Miami Feb. 10 splits up the Midnight Blue and Gold’s home encounters vs. the Huskies and Bobcats. The Rockets then will visit Ball State Feb. 17 before meeting Eastern Michigan for the first time Feb. 20 in Ypsilanti. Toledo will close out its regular season with a home game vs. Central Michigan Feb. 24, a road date against Northern Illinois Feb. 27, and its regular-season finale vs. Eastern Michigan March 2.

Students are admitted free to home games with UT ID; tickets are half-price for University employees and retirees.

For ticket information, stop by the UT Athletic Ticket Office in the Sullivan Athletic Complex in Savage Arena, go to utrockets.com or call 419.530.GOLD (4653).
Toledo set to court success in 2017-18 season

By Brian DeBenedictis

Expections are high: UT is coming off a memorable 2016-17 campaign that saw the Midnight Blue and Gold capture its eighth Mid-American Conference title in program history and advance to the NCAA Championships for the first time since 2001.

The Rockets finished the year with a 25-9 overall ledger and a 12-6 mark in the league. They tallied at least 20 wins for the fifth time in Head Women’s Basketball Coach Tricia Cullop’s tenure, and their 25 victories tied for fifth most in school history.

“Our players now understand what it takes to get to the NCAA Championships, and they are extremely motivated to get back,” Cullop said. “We would like to be the first team in a decade to repeat as MAC Tournament champions.”

Toledo also led the MAC in attendance for an unprecedented 27th consecutive season in 2016-17 and ranked No. 27 in the NCAA, averaging a league-high 3,744 fans per home game. UT has ranked in the top 30 nationally in home attendance each of the last six seasons.

“We’re excited to be on the court and get things started,” said Cullop, who is in her 10th year as head coach and ranks fourth in league history in overall winning percentage (202-96, .678) and seventh in conference winning percentage (108-44, .711).

Toledo’s roster in 2017-18 consists of three seniors, five juniors, three sophomores and four freshmen. As far as numbers go, the Rockets welcome back 77.4 percent of their scoring, 76.9 percent of their rebounding, 86.9 percent of their assists and 77.5 percent of their steals.

Providing experience and leadership for the Rockets will be two-time All-MAC honoree senior Jay-Ann Bravo-Harriott (11.5 points per game, 4.2 rebounds per game, 2.2 assists per game), 2016-17 third-team All-MAC selection junior Mikaela Boyd (12.2 points per game, 7.9 rebounds per game, 4.0 assists per game, 2.0 steals per game), junior Kaayla McIntyre (10.0 points per game, 5.0 rebounds per game, 1.2 blocks per game) and 2016-17 MAC All-Freshman Mariella Santucci (7.7 points per game, 3.1 rebounds per game, 4.6 assists per game).

Toledo’s four returning starters have logged extensive minutes and played key roles for the Rockets, and their leadership will be crucial if UT wants to successfully defend its conference championship.

“I need these four players, as well as the other returning players, to set a good example for the younger players and be vocal,” Cullop said.

The Rockets’ lone home exhibition game is scheduled for Saturday, Nov. 4, against NCAA Division II member Lock Haven. Tipoff will be at noon in Savage Arena.

Less than one week later, Toledo will open the regular season at home against Saint Francis (Pa.) in the first round of the Preseason Women’s National Invitation Tournament (WNIT) Friday, Nov. 10, at 7 p.m.

“It’s certainly an honor to play in the Preseason WNIT,” Cullop said. “It’s a great way to create some buzz and enthusiasm for our program, as we will compete against some very good teams.”

The Rockets, who will take part in the Preseason WNIT for the fourth time in program history, are one of eight teams in the field that qualified for post-season play in 2016-17. The Preseason WNIT will feature at least three games for all squads with all contests hosted by participating schools.

“All of the teams that will participate in the Preseason WNIT are there for a reason,” said Cullop, whose team also took part in the Preseason WNIT during 1994-95, 1998-99 and most recently 2010-11. “We’re very excited to be included in this event and even more excited to start the season at home.”

The winner of the UT-SFU contest will face either nationally ranked Louisville or Southeast Missouri in the second round at a site to be determined Nov. 12 or Nov. 14.

Following the Preseason WNIT, Toledo will host 2017 NCAA Championship participant Dayton Nov. 22 before hitting the road for six of its final eight nonleague contests. That stretch of road games includes matchups at Iona Nov. 27, St. Bonaventure Dec. 4 and Duquesne Dec. 6.

The two nonleague home games during this stretch are against Maine Nov. 30 and Cleveland State Dec. 9.

UT then will venture back to the road for a pair of neutral-court games against Northern Kentucky Dec. 17 and 2017 NCAA Championship participant Western Kentucky Dec. 18 at the West Palm Invitational before wrapping up nonconference action at Detroit Mercy Dec. 21.

The Rockets’ 18 MAC contests will consist of 10 games against West Division opponents and eight versus East Division foes.

UT will play four of its first five league contests at the friendly confines of Savage Arena, but will finish with four of its final seven conference games away from home.

The 2017 MAC Champions have been nearly unbeatable in the Glass City under Cullop, compiling a stout 112-32 (77.8) ledger. They have been even more dominant against MAC opponents on their home court, winning 63 of 79 contests (.797).

The Rockets will begin defense of their league crown Dec. 31 when they travel to 2017 Postseason WNIT participant Ohio. Toledo will play two games against the Bobcats and Buffalo from the East Division as part of its conference schedule, as well as the five other MAC West Division schools.

Toledo also will face the remaining MAC East Division teams once, with Akron Jan. 3 and 2017 MAC East Division champion Kent State Jan. 24 visiting campus, and the Rockets traveling to archival Bowling Green Jan. 27 and Miami Feb. 7.

The MAC Tournament will begin with first-round games at campus sites March 5. Students are admitted free to home games with UT ID; tickets are half-price for University employees and retirees.

For ticket information, stop by the UT Athletic Ticket Office in the Sullivan Athletic Complex at Savage Arena, go to utrockets.com or call 419.530.GOLD (4653).
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TRINE 2:30 P.M.

SATURDAY
NOVEMBER 4
SAVAGE ARENA
FREE ADMISSION
Alumna to give lecture Nov. 1 on Islam in France

By Ashley Diel

“Islam in France Secular Society” will be discussed Wednesday, Nov. 1, at 1 p.m. in Memorial Field House Room 2420.

Mariah Pasternak, who graduated summa cum laude this year with a bachelor of arts degree in French, will deliver the lecture hosted by the Department of Foreign Languages and Literature.

Her lecture will cover information from surveys she conducted in Pau and Lyon, France. These surveys asked people for their opinions about secularism in France and about their perceptions of Islam. She also will give some background about secularism in France, as well as cover some information about Islam.

“This topic is crucial today because as Western societies become more and more multicultural and terrorism becomes more frequent, there is a need to evaluate opinions people in the West have about Islam and its integration in society,” Pasternak said.

She came up with this topic due to her contact with Muslim students on the UT campus, as well as her interest in French politics.

“I felt concerned about some of the comments from the French far right and wanted to investigate how much impact those ideas had on people,” Pasternak said.

She began her research on this topic during her freshman year as an undergraduate for an honors project. Afterward, she decided to expand upon her research and create a survey project.

“Students should attend this talk because the college-age generation will eventually lead the way in deciding how to work with multiculturalism, immigrants and the Muslim community to find solutions during times of societal tension and terrorism,” Pasternak said. “As a part of this future effort, today’s students will have to consider the balance between religion and state separation and religious expression.”

For questions or more information, contact Dr. Gaby Semaan, director of Middle East studies and assistant professor of Arabic, at gaby.semaan@utoledo.edu.
Fans encouraged to arrive early for 6 p.m. kickoff in critical MAC West game Nov. 2

By Paul Helgren

The University of Toledo Athletic Department announced parking lot information on campus for Thursday’s football game vs. Northern Illinois. Kickoff is at 6 p.m. Gates open at 4:30.

With classes in session that evening, fans are advised to arrive on campus well before kickoff. Fans also should be aware that due to construction, traffic on West Bancroft Street near campus is one-lane in both directions, so using alternate routes to parking areas via Secor, Dorr and Douglas roads is advised.

Some parking lots will be restricted in preparation for the game. The following parking areas near the Glass Bowl will be closed to general public, employee and student parking throughout the day and are available by parking pass only on game day: Parking areas 5, 6, 7, 9 and 10 will be closed all day to general public, employee and student parking. Parking areas 3 and 4 will close at noon. Parking areas 18 and 28 will close at 3 p.m.

New this year, parking fees will not be collected in general admission parking areas. General admission parking can be found in areas 1, 2, 12, 13, 19, 20, 25 and 26, as well as the East and West Parking Ramps. Fans are encouraged to arrive by 5 p.m. in order to secure the best possible parking spaces.

Access to the ticket office at Savage Arena will be permitted from 8:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. Thursday. Please access the ticket office via parking area 4 off of Douglas Road.

The box office at the Glass Bowl will open at 2 p.m.

The ticket office is also open Monday and Tuesday from 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m., and Wednesday from 8:30 a.m. to 7 p.m.

For tickets, call 419.530.GOLD (4653) or order online at utrockets.com.
Biology graduate students to host research symposium Nov. 3

By Ashley Diel

The Biology Graduate Students’ Research Symposium will take place Friday, Nov. 3, from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. in the Thompson Student Union Ingrman Room.

This is the fifth year for the symposium, which is designed to showcase the biology research being conducted at the University and introduce graduate studies to students.

The free, public event will include a poster presentation by graduate students followed by an introduction to undergraduate research opportunities by faculty. Snacks and beverages will be provided.

“Biology research can be an alien language for a lot of the people in the community due to its complexity and ambiguous findings,” said Kyoung Jo, a PhD candidate in the Department of Biological Sciences. “We are attempting to simplify our findings and research subjects into posters so that people can understand better what kind of science we are doing in the community.”

There will be poster presentations on fertility; cancer, including breast cancer; viruses and the immune system; neuroscience; and plants.

The event also will include a presentation from Dr. Claire Walczak, assistant director of research for the Medical Sciences Program at Indiana University. Her presentation titled “Polypoid Cell Divisions and Genome Stability” will begin at 3:30 p.m.

The event is sponsored by the Graduate Student Association, the College of Natural Sciences and Mathematics, and the Department of Biological Sciences.

UT student chapter receives gold award

By Ashley Diel

The UT chapter of APICS was presented the Gold Award last month. APICS is the leading professional association for supply chain and operations management. UT received recognition through the association’s Student Chapter Management and Recognition Program.

This award is presented to student chapters for management, growth, programs, certification and professional networking opportunities.

Along with the award, the chapter also received an APICS gift certificate for educational purposes.

“For me, it is an honor to receive the award, but I am accepting the award on behalf of the work that the board members, past and present, have done,” said Scott Ballard, president of UTAPICS. “It’s a team effort.”

APICS is a global organization for supply chain professionals that offers educational programs and certifications, holds supply chain conventions, and provides opportunities for members to further their careers through the attainment of knowledge and networking.

The UT chapter strives to help students obtain employment after graduation by bringing in guest speakers who are looking for new talent and scheduling plant tours so students have a chance to learn firsthand about supply chain operations, as well as network with potential employers.

“Serving as the president of UTAPICS has given me an opportunity to use my leadership skills while gaining a network of knowledgeable supply chain professionals around the area,” Ballard said. “I find the most satisfying thing about being involved in this organization is the feeling I get from helping others achieve their goals and having met and worked with the wonderful professionals from our local chapter.”

With more than 200 student chapters nationwide, APICS strives to foster the advancement of end-to-end supply chain management through a body of knowledge, innovative research, systems and methods to create value for customers, members and organizations.

EPIC leadership and professional development conference to be held Nov. 9

By Ashley Diel

EPIC Toledo will host the largest leadership and development conference in the region Thursday, Nov. 9.

The event will take place from 7:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the Renaissance Toledo Downtown Hotel, 444 N. Summit St.

The EPIC Toledo Leadership Summit will include a day of career building and networking by giving students and employees an opportunity to meet with area community and business leaders.

“We want to encourage and equip young professionals with the tools to begin to lead in our community and their careers, and the leadership summit does just that,” said Sara Swisher, director of EPIC Toledo.

The event will include a variety of speakers on topics such as social intelligence, entrepreneurship, servant leadership and unconscious bias.

The closing keynote speaker for the event will be Joe De Sena, CEO and founder of Spartan Race, the No. 1 endurance sports brand in the world. Other featured speakers will be Barb Roose, a local author, speaker and life coach, and Mike Wilcox, chairman and CEO of Wilcox Financial and Wilcox Sports Management.

“The speakers we have coming to the event have something that will move the people in attendance,” said Andy Hudak, investment adviser representative for TransAmerica Financial Group Division and co-chair for the EPIC Toledo Leadership Summit. “It might be their own unique story, or it might be tangible things they have to share regarding communication, personal growth and skill development.”

The University of Toledo is a corporate member of EPIC Toledo, so students and employees who wish to attend will receive member pricing for the event.

For the full day, the cost for members is $75 and includes breakfast, lunch and a happy hour. For the afternoon only, the cost is $35.

“The purpose of the leadership summit is to inspire those in attendance to strive for personal greatness and grow as leaders, business people and human beings,” Hudak said. “We are confident everyone that attends the leadership summit will be impacted in a positive way. Our diverse group of speakers makes sure there is something for everybody.”

UT Opera Ensemble to present tragedy

By Angela Ridell

The University of Toledo Opera Ensemble will present Henry Purcell’s tragic opera, “Dido and Aeneas,” Friday through Sunday, Nov. 3-5, in the Center for Performing Arts Recital Hall.

Friday and Saturday performances will be at 7 p.m., and Sunday’s show will start at 3 p.m.

This 17th-century English opera recounts the love of Dido, queen of Carthage, for the Trojan hero, Aeneas, and her despair when he abandons her. A monumental work in Baroque opera, “Dido and Aeneas” is remembered as one of Purcell’s foremost theatrical works. It was also Purcell’s only true opera, as well as his only all-sung dramatic work.

One of the earliest known English operas, “Dido and Aeneas” owes much to John Blow’s “Venus and Adonis,” both in structure and in overall effect.

The cast features UT students Meridian Prall and Alan Miller, mezzo-sopranos, as Dido; Paige Chapman, soprano, as Belinda; Robin Smithberger, soprano, as Second Lady; Ryan Tequilla, baritone, and Moises Salazar, tenor, as Aeneas; Katie Driscoll and Kate Walcher, mezzo-sopranos, as Sorceress; Mackenzie Payton, soprano, as First Witch; Danielle Hale, soprano, as Spirit; and Nate Krebs, baritone, and William Floss, tenor, as First Sailor. Elizabeth Atkins, soprano, also will perform as the Second Witch.

Sailors and chorus members are UT students Brandon Warren, tenor; Phil Smith, bass; and Nicole Savastuk, soprano. In addition, Dillon Sickels, bass, will perform.

Dr. Denise Ritter Bernardini, assistant professor of music, is producing and directing the show.

The production is the first of the season for the ensemble. Its spring show will be Benjamin Britten’s “A Midsummer Night’s Dream” March 23-25.

Tickets $10 to $15 are available through the Center for Performing Arts Box Office, online at utoledo.tix.com or by calling 419.530.ARTS (2787).

Fire and Ice Anti-Domestic Violence Charity Ball to raise money for local shelter

By Ashley Diel

To raise awareness about domestic violence, the Delta Sigma Theta Sorority Inc. and Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity Inc. will host the Fire and Ice Anti-Domestic Violence Charity Ball.

The event will take place Thursday, Nov. 2, at 7 p.m. in the Thompson Student Union Ingman Room.

Tickets can be purchased in advance at Ask Rocky’s in the Thompson Student Union for $7 or for $10 at the door.

All proceeds will be donated to the Bethany House, a long-term shelter for domestic violence victims and their children in northwest Ohio. The Bethany House provides emotional and financial support and gives survivors the time and resources to rebuild their lives.

“This event is important to us because this is something that occurs in our communities that people are afraid to talk about or feel like they have no one to go to,” said Dominique Jenkins, president of Delta Sigma Theta Inc. Beta Lambda Chapter. “There are a large percentage of students at The University of Toledo who have been victims of domestic violence and it still affects them to this day.”

The ball will include keynote speeches from Kevin Powell, author and activist, and Danielle Haynes, UT sexual assault and domestic violence survivor campus advocate. Both will talk about domestic violence by sharing personal stories and telling students how to spot the signs of domestic violence, as well as how to get help.

“We would like to encourage people to talk about it and not be ashamed or afraid to tell people what they went through in order to stop someone else from going through the same thing,” Jenkins said.

For more information, contact Jenkins at dominique.jenkins@utoledo.edu.
Information Technology joins global Wi-Fi network

UT faculty, staff and students can use their school authentication credentials for secure Internet access anywhere on campus and at most schools around the world.

That’s because the Information Technology Department is participating in the eduroam — educational roaming — wireless network access service.

This is a new wireless network that is available in academic areas, residences halls and administrative buildings.

“This service has two main components — a new wireless network at all of our locations, and reciprocal access to this wireless network wherever it is being offered around the world,” Michael J. Firsdon, manager of network operations, said.

Eduroam allows UT students, faculty and staff to securely access its wireless network off campus at thousands of participating locations across the globe.

In turn, guests at The University of Toledo from other participating institutions can securely connect to the eduroam wireless network here using their own credentials to access the Internet.

University of Toledo users can connect to the eduroam wireless network on campus and other eduroam locations using their UTAD username followed by @rockets.utoledo.edu (for example, jsmith@rockets.utoledo.edu) and their password.

“I was at the University of Minnesota recently and was able to connect to the Internet using my UT credentials,” Dominic D’Emilio, senior director of network services and technical support, said. “This is a great feature, and we’re excited to share the news with the campus community.” Further instructions can be found at http://www.utoledo.edu/it/ns/pdfs/eduroam.pdf.

Wanted: Artists, vendors for UT Holiday Bazaar

The Professional Staff Council is accepting applications from craft fair vendors, direct sales merchants, Etsy-style boutiques and local artisans for The University of Toledo Holiday Bazaar.

The holiday sale will be held Friday, Nov. 17, from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. at the UT Medical Center’s Four Seasons Bistro Atrium.

The fee is $20 per eight-foot table for the one-day event. Proceeds from the vendor fees will benefit an endowed scholarship fund for the Professional Staff Association.

Friday, Nov. 3, is the deadline to submit applications. Check payments are due Friday, Nov. 10.

For more information and to submit a vendor application, go to utoledo.edu/org/psa/webforms/vendorapp.html.

Get a flu shot

Walk-in clinics are taking place on Main and Health Science campuses; for dates and times, visit influenza.utoledo.edu.

Have an idea for a story or cool photo op? We want to hear from you!

Go to myUT and click on Submit Your News Ideas.

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.

The University of Toledo is committed to a policy of equal opportunity in education, employment, membership and contracts, and no differentiation will be made based on race, color, religion, sex, age, national origin, sexual orientation, veteran status or the presence of a disability. The University will take affirmative action as required by federal or state law.
REGISTER NOW FOR SPRING 2018

Determine your registration date. Check your UT transcript to determine your earned hours, and watch your Rocket email for notification of your priority registration date.

**10.18.2017**
*Priority Registration:* Honors, graduate levels, athletes including varsity cheerleaders, ROTC (all contracted ROTC cadets), Salford students, students with disabilities, Student disability services volunteer note takers, military/veteran, distance learning only program

**10.23.2017**
*Seniors* (90 or more earned hours)

**10.27.2017**
*Juniors* (60 – 89 earned hours)

**11.2.2017**
*Sophomores* (30 – 59 earned hours), UWD (undergraduates with degree)

**11.8.2017**
*Freshmen* (0 – 29 earned hours)

**11.17.2017**
Open registration

Aim for 15 credit hours per semester to graduate on time. Most degree programs require 120 total credit hours or more to graduate. Meet with your academic adviser each semester to create a plan for success.

Check your account for registration holds in the myUT portal. MyUT>My Reg Steps>View Holds

Learn more about spring registration by visiting
utoledo.edu/offices/registrar/registration_dates_spring

For additional assistance:
Visit Rocket Solution Central
Rocket Hall 1200
Call 419.530.8700