

The Magazine of the Mizzou Alumni Association

MIZZOU

Rocket Men

The Toledo Rockets visit the Tigers for game No. 2 at Faurot Field.

Photos courtesy of University of Toledo

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The Toledo Rockets and the Missouri Tigers will meet on the gridiron for the first time in history at 2:32 p.m. Saturday on Faurot Field. The Rockets are coming off a 24–6 loss at No. 12 Florida — Mizzou’s Oct. 19 opponent — while the Tigers try to keep things rolling after whipping Murray State, 58–14.

The University of Toledo acquired its athletic nickname in 1923 after a game against the Carnegie Institute of Technology. Local sports writers pressured press box student worker James Neal to come up with a moniker for the nameless team. He suggested Skyrockets, indicative of the team’s flashy performance that day, but the writers shortened it to Rockets.

The exclamation of surprise “Holy Toledo!” refers to Toledo, Spain, according to the *Morris Dictionary of*

Word and Phrase Origins (Harper & Row, 1977). The Spanish city was a center of Christian culture after its liberation from the Moors in 1085.

Here are some other facts more pertinent to the university in northwest Ohio.

— *Marcus Wilkins*



A 206-foot-tall Bell Tower sits atop University Hall.

Founded: 1872 (public)

President: Lloyd A. Jacobs

Enrollment: 23,000

Undergraduate: 17,844

Size: 100 buildings, main campus; 300 degree programs through 17 colleges and schools; six libraries; Health Science Campus and UT Medical Center; Scott Park Campus of Energy and Innovation; and Lake Erie Center

Pride: UT has earned national and international acclaim for its expertise in environmental sciences and renewable energy, most notably in the area of thin-film solar photovoltaics technology. The Scott Park campus features a 1.12-megawatt solar array and a 100-foot-tall wind turbine.

Community: Toledo, Ohio; population 284,012; nicknamed the Glass City for its history of glass industry innovations; located on the western end of

Lake Erie; claimed by both Ohio and Michigan before the 1835–36 Toledo War helped settle the boundary dispute

Colors: Navy blue and gold

Mascot: Rocky the Rocket

Nickname: Rockets

Did you know? Designed by architect Frank O. Gehry, the UT Center for the Visual Arts is attached to the privately endowed Toledo Museum of Art.



Rocky the Rocket

Campus treasures: Bell Tower, a 206-foot-tall structure atop University Hall that symbolizes high aspirations, set the Collegiate Gothic architectural style for the main campus.

During its 100th anniversary in 1999, the American Society of Landscape Architects recognized Centennial Mall as one of the country's most beautifully landscaped areas.

Traditions: In October, UT monitors each residence hall's energy consumption compared to the previous year. The most improved hall wins.

Greeks and other campus groups have performed since 1937 in Songfest, a singing and dancing competition for charity.

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