

# UT MARTIN SKYHAWKS



**HUNTER RICHARDSON**



**MEDALIST**



2017 DIVISION I MEN'S

**GOLF CHAMPIONSHIPS**

COLLEGE GROVE, TN • Middle Tennessee State University, Host



# **THE GROVE**

## **COLLEGE GROVE, TENN.**

**HOSTED BY MIDDLE TENNESSEE STATE UNIVERSITY**

Two-time Ohio Valley Conference medalist Hunter Richardson will represent the University of Tennessee at Martin at the NCAA Golf Regional hosted by Middle Tennessee State University in College Grove, Tenn. on May 15-17.

Richardson found out his NCAA Regional destination this morning as the pairings were revealed live on the Golf Channel's Golf Central Pregame Show. He is one of 10 individuals and 13 teams who will participate in the NCAA College Grove Regional, held at The Grove.

Joining Richardson at the NCAA College Grove Regional is Vanderbilt, Texas Tech, Clemson, Georgia, Missouri, Lipscomb, Kennesaw State, UCF, host Middle Tennessee State, TCU, Troy, East Tennessee State and Harvard. The field will also include individuals from Wofford, UNC Wilmington, East Carolina, Tennessee, Charlotte, Davidson, Wagner and Alcorn State.

Known as one of the most luxurious golf communities in Tennessee, The Grove is a signature golf course that opened in 2012 and was designed by World Golf Hall of Famer and former PGA Tour Player of the Year Greg Norman. The par-72 course plays at 7,333 yards.

Richardson punched his ticket to the NCAA Regional after a thrilling Co-Medalist win at the 2017 OVC Championships on April 24-26 in Muscle Shoals, Ala. The three-time All-OVC honoree carded rounds of 71-68-73 for an overall score of 212 (-4), becoming the first Skyhawk in program history to nab OVC Player of the Year accolades after the tournament was completed.

The OVC Championships victory was the fifth of the season and eighth in the stellar career of Richardson, who carries a 71.1 season scoring average into his second career NCAA Regional appearance. He has shot par or better in 25 of his 36 rounds in 2016-17 while setting a new school record for most adidas OVC Golfer of the Week awards (five) in a single season.

In all, 81 teams and 45 individuals spread out over six NCAA Regionals will vie for the opportunity to advance to the NCAA National Championships held at Rich Harvest Farms in Sugar Grove, Ill. on May 26-31. The low five teams and the low individual from each NCAA Regional will qualify for the NCAA National Championships. The other five NCAA Regional locations are: West Lafayette, Ind.; Stanford, Calif.; Austin, Texas; Baton Rouge, La. and Sammamish, Wash.

**Teams (seeded in the following order):**

1. Vanderbilt
2. Texas Tech
3. Clemson
4. Georgia
5. Missouri
6. Lipscomb
7. Kennesaw State
8. UCF
9. Middle Tennessee
10. TCU
11. Troy
12. East Tennessee State
13. Harvard

**Individuals:**

1. Andrew Novak, Wofford
2. Patrick Cover, UNC Wilmington
3. Tim Conover, East Carolina
4. Thomas Eldridge, UNC Wilmington
5. Lorenzo Scalise, Tennessee
6. Hunter Richardson, UT Martin
7. Seth Gandy, Charlotte
8. Jack Lang, Davidson
9. Anton Frondelius, Wagner
10. Daniel Racioppa, Alcorn State





# HUNTER RICHARDSON

JUNIOR  
CLARKSVILLE, TENN.  
CLARKSVILLE HS

**2016-17:** Became the first golfer in program history to be named OVC Player of the Year while also earning a spot on the All-OVC team for the third consecutive year, tying the school record for most career All-OVC mentions...Was the seventh golfer in OVC history (and first since 1999-2000) to repeat as the league's medalist, shooting a 212 (-4) to tie Jacksonville State's Bo Hayes in the three-day tournament...Played in 36 rounds overall, pacing the OVC with a 71.1 scoring average...Won five total tournaments, including the Skyhawk Fall Classic (Oct. 3-4), F&M Bank APSU Intercollegiate (Oct. 17-18), Samford Intercollegiate (Oct. 31-Nov. 1) and the TSU Big Blue Intercollegiate (April 10-11)...Finished in the top-eight in 10 out of 12 tournaments...His low rounds of 68 came in the second round of the Murray State Invitational (Sept. 12) and in the second round of the Grover Page Classic (March 13)...Established a new school record for most adidas OVC Player of the Week accolades (five) in a single season.

**2015-16:** Capped off another all-conference season by capturing medalist honors at the OVC Championships, winning the tournament by three strokes (211, -5)...Saw action in 34 rounds, ranking second in the OVC in scoring average (71.0)...In addition to his OVC Championship win, he also won the F&M Bank APSU Intercollegiate (203, -13) on Oct. 19-20 and the UALR First Tee Classic (215, -1) on March 28-29...Was responsible for seven top-five finishes...Carded a low round of 65 in the second round of the F&M Bank APSU Intercollegiate on Oct. 19...Was named adidas OVC Golfer of the Week four different times...Earned a spot on the OVC Commissioner's Honor Roll.

**2014-15:** Had a remarkable debut season, becoming only the eighth golfer in OVC history to sweep all three OVC postseason categories (All-OVC, OVC Freshman of the Year, OVC All-Newcomer)...Played in 33 rounds, ranking seventh in the OVC in scoring average (72.5)...Posted five top-10 finishes...Carded a low round of 69 on three different occasions (second round of the F&M Bank APSU Intercollegiate on Oct. 20, second round of the A-State Red Wolves Intercollegiate on April 4, first round of the TSU Big Blue Intercollegiate on April 13)...Best finish was sixth in the Frito Lay/All-State Intercollegiate on Feb. 23-24.

**BEFORE UTM:** Prepped at Clarksville High School, where he played for head coach Adam Welch...Earned a spot into the 2014 US Amateur in Johns Creek, Ga. after finishing in the top-three at a qualifier at the Cleveland (Tenn.) Country Club...His dynamic senior season included his first-ever TSSAA state golf championship appearance, where he finished tied for eighth place with a final score of 148 (72-76)...Qualified for state by emerging victorious in both the District 10-AAA and Region 5-AAA tournaments...An all-area selection by the Clarksville Leaf-Chronicle, he carded 21 top-10 finishes in 31 tournaments spanning from 2010-13, including tournament victories in the 2010 TaylorMade/adidas Championship Series in Hendersonville (first out of 21), the 2010 Craig Rudolph Memorial in Clarksville (first in age division), the 2011 Craig Rudolph Memorial in Clarksville (first out of 42), the 2011 TSSAA AAA district championship in Dickson (first as both an individual as well as helping CHS to a team title), the 2012 Mayors Men's Classic in Clarksville (first out of 55) and the 2013 Belle-Meade/Hillwood Invitational (first place overall)...Also represented the West team in the Tennessee Junior Ruder Cup, hosted by PGA Tour professionals Scott Stallings and Brandt Snedeker.

**PERSONAL:** Born on July 1, 1996...Son of Rick and Betsy Richardson...Has two older siblings, Ashlee and Carlee...Father Rick played basketball at Wichita State before transferring to play baseball at Austin Peay...Majoring in humanities and fine arts.

**2016-17 TOURNEY STATS**

Host	Scores	Finish
Murray St.	71-68-71; 210 (-3)	6th
Eastern Ky.	73-69-71; 213 (+3)	18th
SIUE	75-69-73; 217 (+4)	8th
UT Martin	69-69-72; 210 (-6)	1st
Austin Peay	72-70-71; 213 (-3)	1st
Samford	72-70-73; 215 (-1)	1st
Loyola	70-71-74; 215 (-1)	30th
UT Martin	74-68-71; 213 (-3)	2nd
Little Rock	71-71-71; 213 (-3)	2nd
Ark. St.	70-74-73; 217 (+1)	3rd
Tenn. St.	75-69-69; 213 (-3)	1st
OVC	71-68-73; 212 (-4)	1st

**TOP-10 CAREER ROUNDS**

Score	Host (Date)	Round
65	Austin Peay (10-19-15)	2
66	Loyola (3-1-16)	3
66	SIUE (9-28-15)	2
67	UT Martin (3-14-16)	2
67	SIUE (9-29-15)	3
68	OVC (4-25-17)	2
68	UT Martin (3-13-17)	2
68	Murray State (9-12-16)	2
68	Austin Peay (10-19-15)	1
69	Tenn. St. (4-11-17)	3
69	Tenn. St. (4-10-17)	2
69	UT Martin (10-3-16)	2
69	UT Martin (10-3-16)	1
69	SIUE (9-26-16)	2
69	Eastern Ky. (9-17-16)	2
69	OVC (4-25-16)	1
69	Loyola (2-28-16)	1
69	Ark. St. (10-26-15)	2
69	UT Martin (10-5-15)	2
69	Tenn. St. (4-13-15)	1
69	Ark. St. (4-4-15)	2
69	Austin Peay (10-20-14)	2

**CAREER STATISTICS**

YEAR	RDS	STROKES	AVG	LOW	-/E RDS	TOP-5	TOP-10	TOP-20
2016-17	36	2561	71.1	68	25	8	10	11
2015-16	31	2201	71.0	65	21	7	7	8
2014-15	33	2394	72.5	69	18	0	5	10
3 YEARS	100	7156	71.6	65	64	15	22	29





# CAREER TOURNAMENT STATISTICS

2016-17 (JUNIOR)

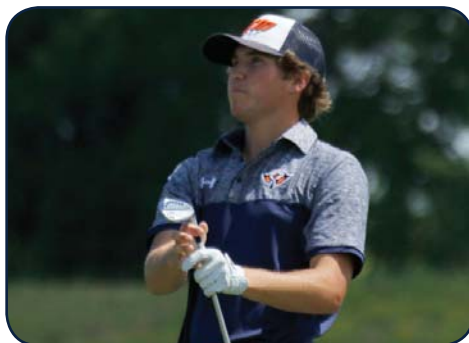
Tournament (Dates)	Course (Location)	Score	Finish
Murray State Invitational (Sept. 12-13)	Miller Memorial GC (Murray, Ky.)	71-68-71; 210 (-3)	6 of 63
EKU Intercollegiate (Sept. 17-18)	University Club at Arlington (Richmond, Ky.)	73-69-71; 213 (+3)	18 of 100
SIUE Derek Dolenc Invitational (Sept. 26-27)	Gateway National Links (Madison, Ill.)	75-69-73; 217 (+4)	8 of 87
Skyhawk Fall Classic (Oct. 3-4)	Paris Landing GC (Buchanan, Tenn.)	69-69-72; 210 (-6)	1 of 69
F&M Bank APSU Intercollegiate (Oct. 17-18)	GreyStone GC (Dickson, Tenn.)	72-70-71; 213 (-3)	1 of 60
Samford Intercollegiate (Oct. 31-Nov. 1)	Greystone Golf Club (Birmingham, Ala.)	72-70-73; 215 (-1)	1 of 44
Loyola Intercollegiate (Feb. 25-27)	Palm Valley GC (Goodyear, Ariz.)	70-71-74; 215 (-1)	30 of 96
Grover Page Classic (March 13-14)	Jackson CC (Jackson, Tenn.)	74-68-71; 213 (-3)	2 of 48
Little Rock/First Tee Classic (March 27-28)	Chenal CC (Little Rock, Ark.)	71-71-71; 213 (-3)	2 of 78
ASU Red Wolf Intercollegiate (April 3-4)	RidgePointe CC (Jonesboro, Ark.)	70-74-73; 217 (+1)	3 of 85
TSU Big Blue Intercollegiate (April 10-11)	Hermitage GC (Old Hickory, Tenn.)	75-69-69; 213 (-3)	1 of 69
OVC Championships (April 24-26)	RTJ at The Shoals (Muscle Shoals, Ala.)	71-68-73; 212 (-4)	1 of 55
<b>12 Events (36 Rounds)</b>	<b>6 States</b>	<b>71.1 Avg/Low 68</b>	<b>10 Top-10's</b>

2015-16 (SOPHOMORE)

Tournament (Dates)	Course (Location)	Score	Finish
Memphis Intercollegiate (Sept. 21-22)	Colonial CC (Cordova, Tenn.)	76-74-71; 221 (+5)	28 of 75
SIUE Derek Dolenc Invitational (Sept. 28-29)	Gateway National Links (Madison, Ill.)	71-66-67; 204 (-9)	3 of 88
Skyhawk Fall Classic (Oct. 5-6)	Paris Landing GC (Buchanan, Tenn.)	70-69-70; 209 (-7)	3 of 73
F&M Bank APSU Intercollegiate (Oct. 19-20)	Links at Novadell (Hopkinsville, Ky.)	68-65-70; 203 (-13)	1 of 65
ASU Fall Beach Classic (Oct. 25-27)	Peninsula GC (Gulf Shores, Ala.)	79-69; 148 (+4)	16 of 62
Loyola Intercollegiate (Feb. 28-March 1)	Palm Valley GC (Goodyear, Ariz.)	69-72-66; 207 (-9)	4 of 104
Grover Page Classic (March 14-15)	Jackson CC (Jackson, Tenn.)	73-67-70; 210 (-6)	3 of 73
Little Rock/First Tee Classic (March 28-29)	Chenal CC (Little Rock, Ark.)	71-71-73; 215 (-1)	1 of 84
ASU Red Wolf Intercollegiate (April 4-5)	RidgePointe CC (Jonesboro, Ark.)	72-72-80; 224 (+11)	24 of 80
TSU Big Blue Intercollegiate (April 11-12)	Hermitage GC (Old Hickory, Tenn.)	75-74; 149 (+5)	22 of 89
OVC Championships (April 25-27)	RTJ at The Shoals (Muscle Shoals, Ala.)	69-72-70; 211 (-5)	1 of 55
NCAA Franklin Regional (May 16-18)	Vanderbilt Legends Club (Franklin, Tenn.)	69-73-71; 213 (-3)	25 of 75
<b>12 Events (34 Rounds)</b>	<b>6 States</b>	<b>71.0 Avg/Low 65</b>	<b>7 Top-10's</b>

2014-15 (FRESHMAN)

Tournament (Dates)	Course (Location)	Score	Finish
SIUE Derek Dolenc Invitational (Sept. 8-9)	Sunset Hills CC (Edwardsville, Ill.)	70-75-72; 217 (+1)	7 of 88
Murray State Invitational (Sept. 22-23)	Miller Memorial GC (Murray, Ky.)	71-73-72; 216 (+3)	11 of 75
Cardinal Intercollegiate (Sept. 29-30)	Cardinal Club (Simpsonville, Ky.)	72-71-74; 217 (+1)	9 of 84
Skyhawk Fall Classic (Oct. 6-7)	Paris Landing GC (Buchanan, Tenn.)	75-72-70; 217 (+1)	11 of 53
F&M Bank APSU Intercollegiate (Oct. 20-21)	Links at Novadell (Hopkinsville, Ky.)	72-69-70; 211 (-5)	9 of 74
Frito Lay/All-State Intercollegiate (Feb. 23-24)	Dancing Rabbit GC (Philadelphia, Miss.)	76; 76 (+4)	6 of 62
Grover Page Classic (March 9-10)	Jackson CC (Jackson, Tenn.)	72-73; 145 (+1)	13 of 78
Bobby Nichols Intercollegiate (March 16-17)	Sevierville GC (Sevierville, Tenn.)	77-71-74; 222 (+6)	40 of 81
Little Rock/First Tee Classic (March 30-31)	Chenal CC (Little Rock, Ark.)	72-74-75; 221 (+5)	24 of 90
ASU Red Wolf Intercollegiate (April 4-5)	RidgePointe CC (Jonesboro, Ark.)	72-69-78; 219 (+6)	9 of 114
TSU Big Blue Intercollegiate (April 13-14)	Hermitage GC (Old Hickory, Tenn.)	69-72-74; 215 (-1)	17 of 80
OVC Championships (April 24-26)	RTJ at The Shoals (Muscle Shoals, Ala.)	74-72-72; 218 (+2)	11 of 55
<b>12 Events (33 Rounds)</b>	<b>6 States</b>	<b>72.5 Avg/Low 69</b>	<b>5 Top-10's</b>





# 2017 OVC CHAMPIONSHIPS

## MUSCLE SHOALS, ALA.



### **RICHARDSON CLAIMS CO-MEDALIST HONORS AND PLAYER OF THE YEAR AWARD AT OVC GOLF CHAMPIONSHIPS**

**MUSCLE SHOALS, Ala.** – Hunter Richardson won his second consecutive Ohio Valley Conference medalist trophy as the University of Tennessee at Martin finished in fourth place at the 2017 OVC Golf Championships held at The Shoals on the Robert Trent Jones Golf Trail.

One year after he won the same tournament with a 211 (-5), Richardson tallied his fifth victory of the season and eighth career win by sharing co-medalist honors with Jacksonville State's Bo Hayes. The duo each shot a 212 (-4) for the tournament, battling it out in the same playing group throughout the day.

Richardson overcame a four-shot deficit en route to a 73 (+1) today. The junior from Clarksville, Tenn. generated three birdies in the third round, with his last birdie coming on Hole No. 14 to take a one-shot overall lead over Hayes. After a Richardson bogey and a Hayes par on Hole No. 17, each golfer parred the final hole to enter the clubhouse in a three-way tie with Tennessee Tech's Charles Seals, who led the tournament after two rounds of play. After an approximately 75-minute wait while the remaining three teams finished up the tournament, Richardson and Hayes were each crowned as Co-Medalists.

At the conclusion of the tournament, Richardson was named OVC Golfer of the Year by the league's head coaches. A three-time All-OVC honoree, Richardson becomes the first UT Martin player to earn that prestigious award while becoming the seventh golfer to win the OVC Championship in back-to-back seasons (first since Brett Alexander from Middle Tennessee won three straight times in 1998-2000).

"Hunter is a special young man," Skyhawk head coach Jerry Carpenter said. "He has been a very good player for our program. Being a medalist for the second time was extra special. It was tough out there today and he did a good job. I'm very proud of him."





## FEATURE STORY

### RICHARDSON EAGER TO TAKE ON NCAA REGIONAL FIELD AFTER SECOND STRAIGHT OVC MEDALIST WIN

Jerry Carpenter distinctly remembers the first time he encountered him. The University of Tennessee at Martin head golf coach had settled in at the 2010 Craig Rudolph Memorial in Clarksville with the intent of scouting some future Skyhawks to join his program.

Carpenter's attention quickly zoned in on one of the local kids – a 14 year-old named Hunter Richardson who was about to enter his freshman year at Clarksville High School.

"I usually go up to that tournament every year but in that one particular instance, I saw this little guy running around," said Carpenter, who is now in his 15th season at the helm of the UT Martin golf program. "He was just a little dude at the time but he had a short game that was phenomenal. I thought that if he keeps improving and grows a little bit, he has a chance."

Richardson went on to win his age division in that tournament. It was just one of many wins in Richardson's future – eight of which have occurred at the collegiate level in his first three seasons at UT Martin.

It's a path that Carpenter admits he wasn't so sure would happen after his visit to see Richardson in the summer of 2010.

"I stayed after him but I really thought he was going to a bigger school," Carpenter said. "Some of the bigger schools talked to him and wanted him to walk on. I met with him and told him he had a scholarship at UT Martin and we'd be happy to have him. He decided he was going to come and it all worked out. He was a steal – and I knew that at the time."

"I wanted to stay close to home but I kind of wanted to get away and enjoy the college experience," Richardson said. "I'm really happy with where I'm at. I love the Rhodes Golf Center facility and my teammates and coaches have been great. I've had a lot of good times here."

Richardson burst onto the collegiate golf scene in 2014-15, becoming just the eighth golfer in Ohio Valley Conference history to sweep all three conference postseason accolades (All-OVC, OVC Freshman of the Year, OVC All-Newcomer). He followed that with another all-conference nod en route to a medalist victory and helping the Skyhawks to their first-ever OVC team championship in 2015-16.

Richardson took a valuable lesson from UT Martin's NCAA Regional berth in Franklin, Tenn., where he placed in the top-third in the field of some of the nation's best collegiate golfers.

"Patience was the main thing," Richardson said. "It was pretty tough out there – you just have to learn not to be overwhelmed by that and pace yourself."

This year, Richardson became the first golfer in Skyhawk history to be named OVC Player of the Year while tying a school record with his third mention on the All-OVC team. He won five tournaments, including his second consecutive OVC championship to become only the seventh golfer in league history to repeat as a medalist.

"I learned a lot about myself this past year," Richardson said. "I learned not to get ahead of yourself. It's really easy to be leading and start thinking about celebrating and everything else. You can't do that – you just have to take it shot-by-shot and hole-by-hole."

That demeanor could prove to play big dividends for Richardson next week when he makes his second career NCAA Regional appearance. He was assigned to the College Grove Regional and will tee it up at The Grove, a golf course which he is familiar with.

"I played a lot of junior golf there – that's a pretty popular spot for those tournaments," Richardson said. "I actually played there two years ago for the state match play and I shot 11-under in two rounds. I've had good success there in the past so I'm excited to see what I can do."

"We had talked about how neat it would be to get to play near home," Carpenter said. "The fact that Hunter has played that course and had success there, he could possibly have a chance to be in the top part of the tournament. Any time that you know the golf course and you know where to hit your shots, that's a big advantage."

Richardson's upcoming participation in the NCAA Regional continues the legacy that he has helped establish at UT Martin. The Skyhawks have now been represented in the postseason in three consecutive years under Carpenter and are just the third school in OVC history to produce three consecutive medalists (joining Eastern Kentucky from 1982-86 and Middle Tennessee from 1998-2000).

"It's a good thing that we have going here," Carpenter said. "We have elevated our program to the stature that we have been working for. The bar has been raised and set for UT Martin golf. We are only going to go forward, we're not going back."





# COACHING STAFF



**JERRY CARPENTER**

Head Coach

15th Season

UT Martin, 1966

Leading the University of Tennessee at Martin golf program to unprecedented heights is Jerry Carpenter, who has served as Skyhawk head coach since 2002.

The Skyhawks won their first-ever Ohio Valley Conference golf championship in 2016 and have also boasted the last three OVC medalists, becoming just the third school to accomplish that feat (first since 1998-2000).

Carpenter is a two-time recipient of the OVC Coach of the Year award (2014, 2016), becoming the first UT Martin representative to garner the league's top coaching accolade. He recruited the OVC Freshman of the Year in three straight seasons (2013-15) and has coached 22 of the program's 27 All-OVC, All-OVC Tournament or All-OVC Newcomer winners.

UT Martin has also earned the OVC Team Sportsmanship Award in four straight seasons and five times in the last six years.



**SCOTT CARPENTER**

Volunteer Assistant

13th Season

UT Martin, 2004



**BRENDON CABALLERO**

Graduate Assistant

Second Season

UT Martin, 2015



Built in 2013, the Rhodes Golf Center ranks amongst the finest collegiate golf facilities in the nation. The outdoor portion features a 6,000 square foot putting and chipping green with a Tif-Eagle Bermuda grass surface, an 8,000 square foot tee box; a 1,600 square foot elevated tee box with Meyer and Palisades zoysia grass; an auxiliary tee box next to a 4,500 square foot putting green with Mini-Verde Bermuda grass; mini target greens with flags at 50-, 75-, 100-, 150-, 200- and 250-yards; two sand bunkers (spanning 1,200 square feet and a 400 square feet) and a state-of-the-art programmable irrigation system.

The inside of the Rhodes Golf Center building features covered and climate-controlled hitting bays for indoor practice during cold weather, as well as complete computerized video and swing analysis camera, a 400 square foot true putting green, a student lounge for golfers, office space, a kitchenette and restrooms.

The Skyhawk golfers aren't the only ones who are benefitting from the Rhodes Golf Center. The UT Martin Department of Agriculture, Geosciences and Natural Resources heads a class in golf course management, covering advanced art and science principles associated with turfgrass management such as modern golf courses, sports fields, sod production and commercial lawn care. The Rhodes Golf Center provides those students with a hands-on approach as a valuable learning tool.

The building is named in honor of Bill and Amy Rhodes. Bill is a 1987 UT Martin golf alum who is currently the Chairman, President and Chief Executive Officer of AutoZone, Inc. Amy, a 1991 UT Martin alum, was instrumental throughout the entire process and has made numerous other investments in UT Martin including contributions to benefit the communications department.



71.1

2016-17 SCORING  
AVERAGE

71.6

CAREER SCORING  
AVERAGE

1

OVC PLAYER OF  
THE YEAR AWARD

8

CAREER TOURNAMENT  
VICTORIES

3

CAREER ALL-OVC  
TEAM MENTIONS

9

CAREER OVC PLAYER  
OF THE WEEK AWARDS

2

OVC MEDALIST  
VICTORIES

15

CAREER TOP-FIVE  
FINISHES

**HUNTER RICHARDSON**  
UT MARTIN

