

# THE BAJA OKLAHOMAN

*Newsletter of the OU Club of Austin*

1905 Shadow Brook Circle, Round Rock, Texas 78681 • 512-431-2069 / 512-255-6402 • April 2013

## April 30: Postmark deadline for scholarship applications

*Four \$5,500 grants to be given*

Applications for the scholarships that will be awarded this spring by the OU Club of Austin for Central Texans to attend the University of Oklahoma must be postmarked by Tuesday, April 30, for consideration.

In recent years the club has granted four \$5,500 scholarships to Central Texas high school seniors. That is the anticipated action that will be taken this year.

Scholarship applications are available at the OU Club of Austin website, [www.ouclubofaustin.com](http://www.ouclubofaustin.com)

Applications should be mailed to Fred Dupy, 1905 Shadow Brook Circle, Round Rock 78681.

## Club member thanks OU staffers for return of daughter's lost laptop

An OU Club of Austin member has a heartfelt letter of thanks published in the current *Sooner Magazine*, publication of the OU Foundation.

Carla Smith, a 1983 journalism graduate who lives with husband Steve in Cedar Park, writes:

Please publish this letter as my only way of saying "thank you" to Walker Tower R.A. Christina and an OU staff member who I don't even know.

On Dec. 12 my daughter, an OU sophomore, was packing her car and getting ready to drive home for the Christmas break. She inadvertently left her laptop on the hood of her car and drove off.

I received a call from Christina

saying an OU staff member found the laptop on the street and turned it in to her.

As an OU alum, this is just one of hundreds of reasons I wanted my daughter to attend OU. Honesty, integrity and a small-town atmosphere is the norm in Norman. Not only could someone have kept the laptop, they also had access to the personal and private information on it.

This letter, or any words, can never express our appreciation to the people involved in getting my daughter's laptop back to her. I only wish I knew who the staff member is and am hoping someone reads this and is able to tell me so I can personally thank her/him and Christina.

## Club assets approaching \$100,000

The OU Club of Austin's treasury balance stood just above \$5,000 as this year began, reports treasurer Jessica Benedict.

In addition, another \$90,000 of income produced from club members is in the Austin club's account at Norman with the University of Oklahoma Foundation.

In addition to funding month-to-month operating expenses of the club, the fund is the source of most of the scholarship money that the club awards each year.

## Zakaria to speak at OU commencement

Fareed Zakaria, CNN broadcaster and regarded as one of the nation's leading critical thinkers, will address the University of Oklahoma's commencement exercises.

He will speak at Memorial Stadium Friday, May 10, 7 p.m.

## *Inside . . . .*

Coach Bob Stoops: no need for college athletes' stipend

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1st President's Day of Learning set at Norman this month

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# Stoops: US college athletes are already being paid

Don't count Oklahoma football coach Bob Stoops among the rising number of people calling for stipends to be paid scholarship athletes.

"You know what school would cost here for a non-state guy?" Stoops asked a reporter for *The Sporting News* recently. "Over \$200,000 for room, board and everything else. That's a lot of money. Ask the kids who have to pay it back over 10-15 years with student loans."

Scholarship athletes at OU "get room and board, and we give you the nutritionist, the best strength coach to condition you, the best tutors to help you academically and coaches to teach you and help you develop," Stoops said.

"I don't get why people say these guys don't get paid. It's simple. They are paid quite often, quite a bit and quite handsomely."

**ADs' Million \$\$\$ Club** Nine of the 120 athletic directors of Football Bowl Subdivision colleges make \$1 million

## Sports notes

a year or more.

This was the finding recently of *USA Today*. The survey of colleges excludes some 20 FBS private schools or colleges that have been exempted by state laws from having to report staff salaries.

Topping the millionaires' list is Vanderbilt, a private university that nonetheless released the figure: \$3.239,000.

Rounding out the top nine were, in order (expressed in thousands of dollars): Louisville \$1.411, Florida \$1.233, Wisconsin \$1.230, Nebraska \$1.123, Texas 1.109, Ohio St. 1.099, Notre Dame \$1.026 and Oklahoma \$1.000.

The figures include income from all sources, except performance bonuses. For example, OU director Joe Castiglione can earn bonuses totalling \$760,000 in addition to his regular pay.

**Bulletin** We just discovered — three months after the fact — who won the first Longhorn Invitational Regatta right here in Austin.

Held on Lady Bird Lake, the regatta saw host UT swept by the Sooner rowers in four races during the three-day event.

It was the first time in the Oklahoma program's five-year history that the Sooners won every varsity race in

multi-day competition.

So reported *The Tulsa World*. *Austin American-Statesman*: Please copy.

**Whitney Jones still at it** Expected to lead OU's women's basketball team this season, senior Whitney (*nee* Hand) Jones saw those hopes dashed in early January.

A knee injury meant Jones had come to the end of her college career.

Not to be denied, Jones, a two-year captain, attended most of the team practices after her injury, helping Coach Sherri Coale, the rest of the coaching staff and her teammates by being an extra pair of eyes on the sideline.

**Gasso gets her 900th** Sooner softball coach Patty Gasso won her 900th game at OU a couple of weeks back when the Sooners, ranked no. 1 nationally most of the season, beat Wichita St.

Gasso, 908-281-2 in her 19th year at the helm in Norman, has a career record of 1,069-340-2 overall (through last weekend's Texas Tech series).

**Owens reminisces** Former Sooner Heisman Trophy winner Steve Owens recalled recently the impact former coach Chuck Fairbanks had on his life.

Owens and his wife used to babysit for Fairbanks back during Owens' playing days. "He was like a father to me," Owens said of Fairbanks, reminiscing for a reporter about the OU coach who died at 79 this month.

**The Baja Oklahoman** is a publication of the OU Club of Austin, a non-profit organization of University of Oklahoma alumni and friends of the University in Austin and Central Texas • Members are encouraged to submit material for publication. • An application for club membership appears on the club's website. Membership is \$25 a year; \$35 for a family.

### Club officers — 2012-13

President	Fred Dupy
Vice president	Dan Hodges
Secretary	Graham Kenney
Treasurer	Jessica Benedict
Membership	Janet Atwood
Watch parties	(vacant)
Communications co-ord.	(vacant)
Scholarship chair	(vacant)
Student recruitment chair	(vacant)

#### Club website:

<http://www.ouclubofaustin.com>

Webmaster: Craig Likes

#### Club email:

[austin-club@ouclubofaustin.com](mailto:austin-club@ouclubofaustin.com)

Greg Olds, bulletin editor

e-mail: [gold@s@austin.rr.com](mailto:gold@s@austin.rr.com)

2811 Inridge Dr., Austin 78745

phone: 512-891-0078

### June 4-5 in Houston, Plano

## Sooner Caravan stops set in 5 cities

Five stops have been scheduled for the Sooner Caravan this year.

The annual gatherings of alumni, friends and fans of the University of Oklahoma will, as usual, feature top coaches and student-athletes.

The schedule:

- **Tulsa** — Monday, May 6, 7 p.m., OU-Tulsa campus, 41st and Yale.
- **Wichita** — Wednesday, May 22, 7 p.m., Hyatt Regency.
- **Houston** — Tuesday, June 4, 7 p.m., Lakeside Country Club, 100 Wilcrest Dr.

• **Plano** — Wednesday, June 5, 7 p.m., Gleneagles Country Club, 5401 W. Park Blvd.,

• **Oklahoma City** — Thursday, Aug. 1, 7 p.m., National Cowboy & Western Heritage Museum, 1700 NE 63rd.

Adult admission at all five sites is \$30 and \$15 for children younger than 13 (except at Houston, \$20).

And reserved tables of 10 for \$300 are available at Oklahoma City.

To register for any of the sites, phone 405-325-8000 or toll-free 866-766-6372.

# 'NEATH A WESTERN SKY: First President's Day of Learning will feature some of OU's leading faculty

The first President's Day of Learning will be held on the campus of the University of Oklahoma on the weekend of April 20.

Current students and faculty, alumni and civic leaders from across

## Campus notes

Oklahoma have been invited.

They will hear lectures from some of the University's leading faculty members, specialists in a wide variety of fields.

For information, phone 405-325-3488 or email Chris Elliott at [elliott@ou.edu](mailto:elliott@ou.edu)

**OU and climate** Climate change has been under some discussion on the campus of the University of Oklahoma lately.

First, researchers at the Norman-based National Weather Center are trying to figure out if such a thing as climate change is affecting tornado strength and frequency.

Harold Brooks, a top researcher at the Weather Center, has been comparing recent years to more remote years.

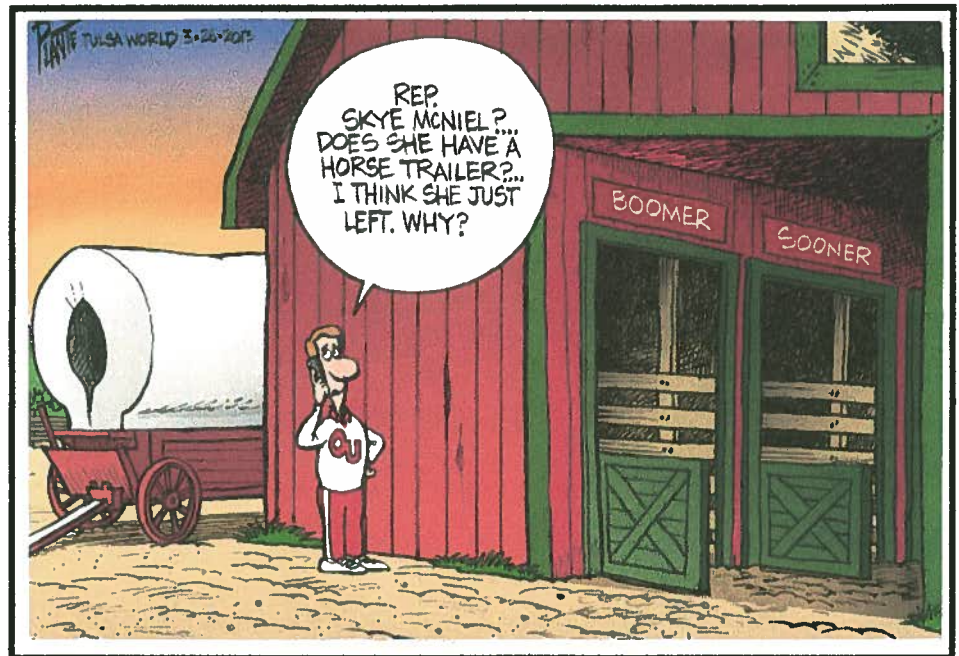
Brooks and other researchers are studying the ingredients that cause tornadoes.

In particular, they are checking wind-shear, which is the difference between wind speeds at high altitudes and those nearer the ground. The greater the difference between the high and near-ground wind speeds — and the higher that moisture levels are — the more violent a tornado may be.

Researchers are trying to figure out which is more vital in storm violence — wind shear or moisture.

**Fracking study** Meanwhile, an OU professor's peer-reviewed article in a scholarly journal has caused some conversation.

Katie Keranen, a geophysics professor, has written that three 2011 earthquakes in Lincoln County, just northeast of Oklahoma City, were likely the result of fracking. That's the injection of fluids into the ground to promote



**NEWS ITEM:** Oklahoma Gov. Mary Fallin has signed into law a bill co-sponsored by Sen. Eddie Fields (R-Wynona) and Rep. Skye McNiell (R-Bristow) that will enable slaughterhouses for horses to be operated in the state. Most — if not all other — states do not allow this practice. And a federal law prohibiting it is pending in Congress. *Tulsa World* cartoonist Bruce Plante had this reaction to an otherwise unfunny situation.

petroleum production.

Keranen contends that the seismic data she gathered from Lincoln County offers solid support for her paper.

She notes that all three earthquakes existed within a few hundred yards of injection wells.

The day after news of Keranen's article was published, the Oklahoma Geological Survey called reporters' attention to a position statement that OGS had posted the week before. In the statement, OGS denies that fracking was the culprit; natural causes were, the society contends.

**Journalism Hall inducts** Four OU alumni will be among nine journalists inducted this month by the Oklahoma Journalism Hall of Fame.

They are Joe Hancock, publisher of *The Hobart Democrat-Chief*; Jerry Laizure, senior photographer at *The Norman Transcript*; Mary Mélon, publisher of *The Daily Record*, Oklahoma City business daily, and Tom Muchmore, publisher of *The Ponca City News* and *The Tonkawa News*.

Hancock, in the newspaper business since age 9 while growing up in Hobart, worked while attending OU in the backshop of *The Norman Transcript* and *The Oklahoma Daily*.

Laizure has worked for Oklahoma newspapers since age 14 and also worked while attending OU at the *Daily*.

Mélon, a 1983 journalism graduate at OU, became publisher of *The Daily Record* in 2001 after serving as advertising director and associate publisher.

Muchmore is a third-generation publisher of the Ponca City and Tonkawa papers. He holds a business degree from OU.

**Bizzell: more work due** Regents recently voted to search for an architect to draw up further improvements for Bizzell Memorial Library.

OU President David Boren says that the new work will, in particular, mean a library that offers greater usage of digital technology.

The library, opened in 1929, underwent major additions in 1958 and 1982.

OU Club of Austin  
1905 Shadow Brook Circle  
Round Rock TX 78681

Forwarding services requested

*OU Club of Austin*

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*on Twitter, Facebook*

### Calendar of events

Event (TV channel)	Day/date	Time	Where
Postmark deadline for scholarship applications	Tues. Apr. 30		Applications on club website. Mail to: Fred Dupy, 1905 Shadow Brook Cir. Round Rock
Sooner Caravan in Houston	Tues. June 4	7 p.m.	Lakeside Country Club, 100 Wilcrest Dr., Houston
Sooner Caravan in Plano	Wed. June 5	7 p.m.	Gleneagles Country Club, 5401 W. Park Blvd., Plano



## CLUB OF AUSTIN

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_  
City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Work No. \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail address \_\_\_\_\_ FaxA \_\_\_\_\_

Areas of interest \_\_\_\_\_

Membership dues: \$25 a year • \$35 for a family       NEW     RENEWAL

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