

# THE BAJA OKLAHOMAN

*Newsletter of the OU Club of Austin*

1905 Shadow Brook Circle, Round Rock, Texas 78681 • 512-431-2069 / 512-255-6402 • August 2010

## **Busy, busy, busy: New club year begins with a new president, full schedule**

### **Fred Dupy becomes our 8th president**

Longtime OU Club of Austin secretary Fred Dupy has been elected as our eighth president.

This was the result of email voting last month. Fred was the only nominee for president.

Likewise, the other three officers on the ballot, for vice-president, secretary and treasurer, were sole nominees.

Elected to these offices, respectively, were Dan Hodges, Heather Youree and Jessica Benedict. All are new to the club's board of directors.

#### **— The club's presidents —**

1988-1995	Rick Akin
1995-1996	Mike Wilkinson
1996-2001	Shane Hainzinger
2001-2003	Val Billups
2003-2004	Rod Davis
2004-2006	Rick Williamson
2006-2010	Kevin Niyah
2010-2011	Fred Dupy

### ***PoK-e-Jo's on Parmer Lane will host pre-season feed on Sept. 2***

The evening of Thursday, Sept. 2 OU Club of Austin members will gather once again for the annual pre-football-season barbecue.

The place: PoK-e-Jo's 2121 W. Parmer Lane (a few blocks east of MoPac).

Beginning at 6 p.m. that evening PoK-e-Jo's will become Okie-Jo's. PoK-e-eJo's executive Sam Saxon, himself an OU alum, has again been

our main man in setting up this year's event.

Sam notes that there's a new big-screen TV set where we'll be gathering, and even a football game on that night (Southern Mississippi at South Carolina) so those who feel the need can get back into football-fan mode a couple of days before a real game is played.

At Norman.

### **Big XII Happy Hour for Austin area fans planned on Sept. 9th**

Members of the OU Club of Austin are invited to participate in a Big XII Happy Hour on the evening of Thursday, Sept. 9, 5:30-8:30 p.m., at Abel's on the Lake, 3825 Lake Austin Blvd.

On hand that evening will be members of other Big XII Conference alumni groups. Accepting invitations

to participate so far with the OU Club of Austin are members of clubs devoted to Texas A&M, Texas, Kansas, Texas Tech and Kansas St. And other Big XII schools may be represented that evening, as well.

The event is being organized by the Young Women's Alliance and the Young Men's Business League.

#### **You're invited: Board will meet Thursday, Aug. 26; volunteers needed**

The board of directors of the OU Club of Austin will meet later this month. Your presence is welcome.

That's particularly true if you think you might be able to contribute some of your time and energy to

the work of the club.

Five committees exist that need more workers. And two of those committees at present don't have chairs. Perhaps you could take one of those (see the list on page 2).

If you think you could help, please phone Fred Dupy, 431-2069 or 255-6402, and/or attend the board meeting on Thursday, Aug. 26, 301 Congress Ave., ste. 2000.

We hope to see you there.



## Sooners top college football's prestige rankings

ESPN broadcasting has rated the collegiate football programs in the time since the Associated Press began its rankings in 1936. Topping what ESPN calls the Prestige Rankings is Oklahoma.

ESPN notes that OU is the only football program in which four coaches have won more than 100 games — the four B's: Bennie, Bud, Barry and Bob.

OU President David Boren, interviewed about the ESPN study, termed the findings amazing. He recalled for ESPN's Ivan Maisel being present in 1957 when Notre Dame broke the Sooners' 47-game winning streak. "No one left the stadium for 30 minutes after the game. We just sat there. We were shocked into disbelief."

Maisel recalls that it was one of Dr. Boren's predecessors who set in motion OU's rise in football. The move

### Sports notes

was made by President George Lynn Cross with the enthusiastic cooperation of regent Samuel L. Noble, Ardmore.

"The state of Oklahoma had barely survived the 1930s," Maisel writes, "when the Depression and the Dust Bowl sucked the life out of the Oklahoma soil and the pride from Sooners' bones."

"The University hit on football as a way to make Oklahomans feel good about themselves. Little did anyone know."

**Athletes graduating** Oklahoma's football, women's and men's basketball programs are doing above-average in graduation rates for their athletes.

The NCAA this month released reports on coaches' academic progress rates for the nation's collegiate athletic programs.

Football coach Bob Stoops scored an average of 951 in the six-year period the report covers. The national average was 934; failing was below 925.

Women's basketball coach Sherri Coale had OU's highest score, 979. Men's coach Jeff Capel had a 947 in his four years at Norman, including 969 in 2007-08 and 980 the next year.

Capel's average will dip when scores for 2009-10 are released next year. Five players left the program during that year without graduating.

**OU football a bargain** Oklahoma's football recruiting budget is yielding significant bang for the buck. That's according to a study conducted recently by *The Tulsa World*.

The newspaper compiled recruiting budgets for 43 collegiate football and men's basketball budgets over the last five seasons, then compared them to the number of wins.

OU ranked 6th in the number of football victories per recruiting dollar and 28th in men's basketball.

In football, OU averaged spending \$250,884 per year and winning 10 games per season. Boise State had the most economical wins in the 43 teams surveyed (averaging 11.6 wins on \$134,317 per year). Texas was 9th, Texas Tech 12th, Kansas 17th and Oklahoma St. 20th.

OU's expenditures were in the lower range among the football programs. Many schools spent more than \$500,000 a year, led by Georgia Tech, \$703,815.

**On the radio** In addition to hearing radio broadcasts of Sooner football this fall online at [soonersports.com](http://soonersports.com), people in Texas can also tune in to stations in Dallas (KKGW) and Houston (KGOW). Both are at 1560 on the a.m. dial.

Broadcasts begin 90 minutes before kickoff.

**Baseball endowed** OU's baseball program, fresh off a good showing in the College World Series at Omaha, has received another boost.

Dan Burrell, a Henryetta native who pitched three years for the Sooners after earning a Bronze Star in World War II, bequeathed \$850,000 to establish an endowed scholarships program for OU baseball.

Burrell, then nicknamed "Boom-Boom," helped OU to its first College World Series appearance, in 1947.

**Texas game at 2:30?** There are indications the Oklahoma-Texas football game will begin at 2:30 p.m. this year. And perhaps that starting time, desired by both schools, will become more or less permanent.

So writes sportswriter Barry Tramel in *The Daily Oklahoman*.

Tramel adds that both OU and UT have made it clear to TV officials that they greatly prefer not to have the game moved from early October to the first weekend of December and not to play at night. This will, school officials contend, retain the full flavor of the state fair atmosphere.

The Cotton Bowl is contracted to be the game site at least through 2015.

**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 — 2010-11

President	Fred Dupy
Vice president	Dan Hodges
Secretary	Heather Youree
Treasurer	Jessica Benedict
Membership	(vacant)
Watch parties	Lea Lanham
Events coord.	(vacant)
Scholarship chair	Allisa Macy
Recruitment chair	(vacant)

#### Club website:

<http://www.ouclubofaustin.com>  
Webmaster: Craig Likes

Greg Olds, bulletin editor  
e-mail: [goldsa@austin.rr.com](mailto:goldsa@austin.rr.com)  
2811 Inridge Dr., Austin 78745  
phone: 891-0078



# 'NEATH A WESTERN SKY: University's Bizzell Library rated one of the nation's most beautiful places to study

The University of Oklahoma's Bizzell Memorial Library has been cited as one of the nation's most beautiful college libraries.

The website Campus Grotto compiled the list, ranking OU's library 18th.

"Comfort and atmosphere play a huge role in getting in a quality study session," the site explains. "The problem is that some of these libraries are so beautiful that they almost become too distracting to study in."

Heading the list is the library at Boston College. OU's is 18th. No other Big XII library was in the top 25.

"We are proud that [Bizzell] is not only the largest library in the state of Oklahoma, but it is also the second largest library in the Big XII," said David Boren, OU president.

Built in 1929, the library features

## Campus notes

Cherokee Gothic architecture and serene study retreats — in particular, the Peggy V. Helmerich Great Reading Room. Formal endowed gardens, complete with sculptures, are additional features.

**E. Main sculpture** Work is under way in Norman leading to the erection of a glass sculpture on the East Main St. roundabout.

Standing 29 feet high, "Indian Grass" is the first major project undertaken by the Norman Public Arts Board.

The work of Juan and Patricia Navarette of Taos, N.M., the sculpture is based on Oklahoma's state grass and reflects the connection that exists between its people and place.

**State of the university** In his semiannual report to University financial donors, President Boren notes that despite a 5.2 percent cut in state appropriations, OU is having a good year, both financially and otherwise.



— Photo by Brett Harkey, Norman

### BIZZELL MEMORIAL LIBRARY

... among collegiate America's most beautiful

Dr. Boren reports that just over \$122 million has been raised in private gifts this year.

Likewise, the campaign to raise money for scholarships has now grown past \$160 million. This doubles the number of privately funded scholarships available to OU students in the last five years.

**OU achievements** Turning to other matters, the president goes on to note:

- the OU debate team won another national championship;
- students from OU's business entrepreneurship program won another Governor's Cup in Business. OU's entrepreneurship program is ranked in the nation's top 10;
- OU petroleum engineering students won the National Petro Bowl championship, and
- OU drama students won some more Kennedy Center Awards. The University has won more of these national awards than students from any other school.

**Athletes succeed, too** Turning to the athletic side of things, President Boren reported good news there, as well.

He says that for the first time in OU history, student-athletes, num-

bering more than 400 — had a combined grade average of above 3.0.

**Bartlesville's birds** Two young bald eagles, hatched a few months ago in Oklahoma, have been outfitted with satellite tracking devices. This was the work of OU's Sutton Avian Research Center at Bartlesville.

The birds' tracking patterns can be followed by going online at <http://www.suttoncenter.org> and clicking on "Eagle Tracking" at the top of the page.

In the mid 1980s and early 1990s, Sutton obtained some bald eagle eggs from Florida, oversaw their hatching in Oklahoma, then raised the chicks with hand puppets from behind one-way glass.

When mature, the birds then were released into the wild in Oklahoma.

In 1985, the state had no bald eagles. But this summer the Sutton Center has counted more than 120 active nests in Oklahoma.

"The young eagles we see today," says Steve Sherrod, Sutton's executive director, "are the grandchildren of the eagles we released."

The birds are expected to head north soon, then return later in the year to their birthplace near Sand Springs.



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

**Forwarding services requested**

## Utah State watch party cancelled; but next four games set

### Calendar of events

Event	Day/date	Time	Where
Board meeting (all club members welcome)	Aug. 26 Thursday	6 p.m.	301 Congress Ave., ste. 2000
Pre-season kickoff dinner	Sept. 2 Thursday	6 p.m.	PoK-e-Jo's BBQ, 2121 W. Parmer Lane (several blocks east of MoPac [Loop 1])
<b>CANCELLED (story, this page):</b>			
Watch party (pay-per-view) Utah St. @ Oklahoma	Sept. 4 Saturday	6 p.m.	Marriott Hotel, 2600 La Frontera Blvd. (near Tx 45 between MoPac and I-35)
Big XII Happy Hour	Sept. 9 Thursday	5:30 p.m.	Abel's on the Lake 3825 Lake Austin Blvd., ste. 201
Watch party (ABC) Florida St. @ Oklahoma	Sept. 11 Saturday	2:30 p.m.	Marriott Hotel, 2600 La Frontera Blvd. (near Tx 45 between MoPac and I-35)
Watch party (FoxSptsNet) Air Force @ Oklahoma	Sept. 18 Saturday	2:30 p.m.	Marriott Hotel, 2600 La Frontera Blvd. (near Tx 45 between MoPac and I-35)
Watch party Oklahoma @ Cincinnati	Sept. 25 Saturday	TBA	Marriott Hotel, 2600 La Frontera Blvd. (near Tx 45 between MoPac and I-35)
Central Texas College Fair	October dates TBA	TBA	TBA

We'll resume our TV watch parties once again this fall when the 2010 football season gets under way. But the beginning will be delayed by one week, to Saturday, Sept. 11.

Plans for the Sept. 4 Utah St. game watch party fell through this month when it was announced that the game will be seen only on pay-per-view. The cost to a business for a PPV event was deemed impractical by club leaders.

**BULLETIN:** If you think you might be paying the PPV fee (probably \$29.95) to watch the Utah St. game at your home and would like some company, please email the OU Club of Austin website and we'll spread the word: [austin-club@ouclubofaustin.com](mailto:austin-club@ouclubofaustin.com)



# CLUB OF AUSTIN

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Work No. \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail address \_\_\_\_\_ Fax \_\_\_\_\_

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

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

**O.U. Club of Austin • 1905 Shadow Brook Circle • Round Rock, TX 78681**