

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 2012

117th season: OU football



Time once again for watch parties, trips to Norman

As the OU Club of Austin enters its 25th year, we'll note our silver anniversary by resuming our fun-filled watch parties.

There'll be two venues for the frolics this football season: our good old standby at the Round Rock Marriott and, added this fall, Fado's Irish Pub in downtown Austin at 214 West 4th.

For the opening game, however, we'll gather only at the Round Rock site, to watch the Sooners open at UT-El Paso.

The week after, when OU hosts Florida A&M, there'll be no watch party. But thereafter we'll host events at both Round Rock and downtown at Fado's.

In case you were wondering, it has been decided to skip the pre-season barbecue get-together this year that usually is held on the Thursday before the

opening of football season.

But we'll be in full swing at the watch parties as the season progresses. If you haven't tried one of the parties, come on out and see for yourself: They're good fun.

Inside this issue . . .

OU students receive Fulbright and other prestigious scholarships this year — Page 2

OU TV channel still dark; officials say negotiations continuing — Page 3

Got some time? Your OU Club could use your help — Page 4

'NEATH A WESTERN SKY: OU students win Fulbright, Goldwater, Truman and Udall grants

Four OU students have been announced so far this year as recipients of Fulbright Scholarships to study abroad.

Two of them are from Tulsa. One will conduct agricultural research in Malawi. The other will serve as an English-teaching assistant in Malaysia.

Also, a student from Oxnard, Calif., will go to Russia, also on an English-teaching assistantship. And an Oklahoma City student will study wind energy in the U.S. and Germany.

Students were chosen for the Fulbright grants after a national competition among more than 6,000 applicants. The Fulbright Student Program, sponsored by the U.S. Department of State, supports students for up to a year of research, coursework or teaching practicum in more than 155 countries around the world. It is designed

Campus notes

to give recent graduates, graduate students and young professionals international experience.

Other grants, too Two OU students have become the University's 32nd and 33rd winners of Goldwater Scholarships.

OU President David Boren said that "OU is in the top ranks of U.S. universities whose students have won this award" since 1995.

Two other notable grants to OU students this year were Truman and Udall scholarships.

Boren noted the grants in a recent newsletter, also reporting that last fall's freshman class was the largest in OU history, just over 4,000, compared to some 2,400 in 1994. And the 2011-12 freshmen class had an average ACT score that was four points higher than that of the '94 freshmen.

This fall, a new record was set, when 4,100 freshmen entered the University.

Graduation rate way up Also in his newsletter, President Boren said the freshman class that entered OU in 2005 graduated at a 67.8 per cent rate. This was an increase of 20 per cent since 1990 and is the highest for a public-supported university in Oklahoma.

OU-Italy work continues Work on OU's campus in Arezzo, Italy, is proceeding on schedule, Boren also reports. A 17th century monastery is be-

ing prepared to house living and learning quarters for OU students studying abroad.

Boren says in the last 10 years the proportion of OU students studying abroad during their time at the University has increased from two per cent to nearly 25 per cent.

He attributes this to "the success of our new College of International Studies, which has seen rapid growth in student enrollment and added new faculty members who have significantly expanded international-studies course offerings."

Campus Corner lofts OK'd In a 6-3 decision the Norman city council has given approval to a combination lofts and retail project near Campus Corner.

The two-story structure on Boyd just east of Jenkins will have five retail outlets on the ground floor and 12 loft apartments on the second.

Norman casting office busy With the beginning next month of filming in Oklahoma of the movie version of "August: Osage County," a Norman casting company is having busy days of late.

The movie, starring Meryl Streep, Julia Roberts and Chris Cooper, will be shot in and around Pawhuska and Bartlesville for eight weeks.

Freihofer Casting, based in Norman, is handling telephone, mail and email applications for those who wish to appear as extras in the film.

A casting call in Tulsa for extras a few days ago attracted some 4,300 people.

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 — 2011-12

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)

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Too expensive out west

Californians' numbers rising at OU, OSU in recent years

In the last few years tuition and fees at California's state-supported colleges have leaped. The rise also has been seen to a lesser extent in Oklahoma.

This has led recent increases in Californians enrolling at OU, as well as Oklahoma St. University, *The Daily Oklahoman* reports.

Historically, out-of-state population at the two universities has been dominated by Texans — 66.8 per cent at last reckoning. That won't change soon.

Nonetheless, OU has added some 40 Californians to its student body each of the last two years, and perhaps even more than that will enter this fall.

OU TV channel still in the dark

Negotiations remain in progress, athletic department officials say

At the beginning of this year, supporters of the University of Oklahoma, particularly sports fans, were looking forward to a Sooner Network taking to the TV screens.

Plans were to make some 1,000 hours of programming — mostly about OU sports but about the University itself, as well — available each year to 8.6 million homes on Fox Sports Southwest.

Word was then that an agreement was near that would get the OU story on TV in a few more months.

One national publication, *Sports Business Daily*, reported just that in January.

But negotiations clearly have hit a snag, as an OU athletic department official recently conceded to a *Daily Oklahoman* reporter.

"We're still weighing options," Kenny Mossman, OU senior associate athletic director, said.

It was unclear in the *Oklahoman* article whom Mossman meant by "we." It may be OU is considering its options or that both the University and Fox are doing so.

Anyway, it seems clear that the situation is unclear, as the 2012 football season approaches.

Stay tuned.

OU streak to end? If OU-TV does not make it into the airwaves very soon it may be that Sooner football's streak of consecutive games being carried on TV will end.

In recent years, all games have been aired live, some by pay-per-view. The question of the streak's remaining intact will occur on the second weekend of the '12 season, when OU will host Florida A&M.

It's not certain the game would be a pay-per-view offering. In that case, the only hope would be that the still-nascent OU network would be on the air.

Mossman predicts that "I think [the Florida A&M game] will be televised in some fashion. I just don't know how at this point."

OU favored in opener The opening line in the OU season opener at UT-El Paso has been announced: OU by 30.

Sports notes

The game will be aired beginning at 9:30 p.m. on Fox Sports Net.

Single-game tickets At last word, single-game tickets still were available for four of six OU home football games this fall.

The Notre Dame and Oklahoma St. games are sellouts but tickets still were available for Florida A&M, Kansas St. Kansas and Baylor.

Check out the availability at: www.soonersports.com

Jim Grisham dead at 69 Former OU All America running back Jim Grisham died last month.

Grisham averaged 5.2 yards per carry over the 1962-64 seasons at OU. He was drafted by both the NFL's Min-

OU ranked 16th among 2011-12 athletic programs

Four Big 12 schools ranked in the top 25 in the final 2011-12 Learfield Director's Cup standings.

They were Texas, 6th; Texas A&M, 9th; Oklahoma, 14th, and Baylor, 25th.

For the 18th consecutive year, Stanford came out on top. Points are awarded for national rankings in 10 men's and 10 women's sports for the fall, winter and spring college sports seasons.

The Sooners have been in the top 15 for the last three years.

Florida came in second to Stanford, followed by UCLA, Ohio State and Florida State, rounding out the top five.

The conference's two new members, TCU and West Virginia ranked 45th and 52nd, respectively.

nesota Vikings and AFL's Houston Oilers but didn't play pro football.

Instead, he used his OU degree in industrial engineering and went on to work in that field. He died in North Carolina, his residence.

Hall of Fame adds Dewey Former OU defensive great Dewey Selmon was among six athletes inducted recently into the Oklahoma Sports Hall of Fame.

His brothers Lee Roy and Lucious Jr. were inducted in years past.

Gault being honored A Wall of Fame, honoring people of accomplishment who have had association with the Oklahoma City public school system will add the name of former OU running back Prentice Gault in October.

Gault was senior class president at OKC Douglass High School when his name first became part of history. He was a key player in the state's first integrated high school football game when Douglass took on Capitol Hill High School.

He broke down more race barriers at the University of Oklahoma, where he became the first African American to receive a football scholarship, which initially had been denied him.

In 1999, the University named its academic center in his honor. He was an Academic All-American, played seven years in the NFL and is a member of the Orange Bowl and Oklahoma halls of fame.

He coached at the collegiate level and earned a doctorate in counseling psychology. Gault was an administrator for the Big 8 and Big XII conferences before his death in 2005 and was posthumously awarded the 2005 Outstanding Contribution to Amateur Football Award by the National Football Foundation.

Football captains named Coach Bob Stoops has announced the team captains for this year

Stoops named quarterback Landry Jones, center Gabe Ikard, defensive lineman David King, punter Tress Way and fullback Trey Millard as team captains.

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

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Got some time? We could use your help

A number of OU Club of Austin members have volunteered to help out with club activities in recent weeks.

But more help is almost always needed.

If you might have some time to help out, please consider doing so.

We probably could use some more help staffing our football watch parties, particularly since we now have two

venues to serve in the weeks ahead.

And then there is the annual round of College Fairs coming up this fall, as in autumns past. That's when volunteers from our club's ranks join with OU staff members to tell area high school seniors about the advantages of an education at the University of Oklahoma.

We also are searching for people to staff our scholarship committee. The panel each year handles the distribution and evaluation of applications for the scholarships the club gives out each year to deserving students to attend OU.

Chairs and members are needed in several spots.

If you can help, or might want to consider doing so, please call Fred Dupy, club president, at 431-2069.

Calendar of events

Event (TV channel)	Day/date	Time	Where
Football watch party OU @ UT-El Paso	Sept. 1 Sat.	9:30 p.m.	Round Rock Marriott 2600 La Frontera
Football watch party Kansas St. @ OU	Sept. 22 Sat.	TBA	Fado's, 214 West 4th, <i>and</i> Round Rock Marriott, 2600 La Frontera
Football watch parties OU @ Texas Tech	Oct. 6 Sat.	TBA	Fado's <i>and</i> Round Rock Marriott
Football watch parties OU-Texas	Oct. 13 Sat.	TBA	Fado's <i>and</i> Round Rock Marriott
OU class reunions, esp. classes of 1962-2002	Oct. 19-20 Fri.-Sat.		OU campus. Contact: Jill Stephens 405-366-2056 or jills@ou.edu
Football watch parties Kansas @ OU	Oct. 20 Sat	TBA	Fado's <i>and</i> Round Rock Marriott



CLUB OF AUSTIN

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Areas of interest _____

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

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