

# THE BAJA OKLAHOMAN

*Newsletter of the OU Club of Austin*

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

## Graham Kenney our new president

### Becomes the club's 9th president as we enter our 26th year

Graham Kenney has become the ninth president of the OU Club of Austin.

He succeeds Fred Dupy, who served the last two years and remains on the club's board of directors, serving as vice-president of development.

Graham assumed duties of president at a meeting of the club's board of directors this month.

### *Will continue to have two watch-party sites*

At their June board meeting, directors discussed adding to the club's leadership and said they want to continue having watch parties at two locations, as was done last fall — at the Round Rock Marriott and in downtown Austin.

Manuel Garcia will continue to handle arrangements at the Marriott, while treasurer Jessica Benedict and Lawrence Cagigal will coordinate with the downtown venue, which last fall was Fado's Irish Pub on West 4th St.

### *Scholarships, College Fairs leader named*

Amy Rader Kice was appointed to oversee the Scholarship and College Fairs committees for the club.

Winners of the club's four \$5,500 scholarships to be granted Centex students this year have been determined. Before announcing their names, club treasurer Jessica Benedict is contacting

### *Club will offer four football tickets to each of seven OU games in 2013*

The OU Club of Austin will be offering four tickets to each to the six home football games this fall, as well as to the Texas game in Dallas.

Outgoing president Fred Dupy and club member Greg Olds are making the tickets available. Participation will be limited to members of our club.

Plans to determine the winners are still being formed. But preliminary discussions at this month's board meeting seemed to lean in the direction of holding drawings (and one or two silent auctions) at six of the watch parties and at the pre-season dinner on Thursday, Aug. 29.

It is known that the four tickets to the Texas game will be auctioned, to benefit the club's scholarship fund.

Fred's two seats are in the upper deck on the west side, about the 40 yard line (sec. 105, row 15). Greg's pair of seats are also on the west side, about five yards into the north end zone, (sec. 9, row 49).

each to see if they have made final decisions about where to attend college.

### *Other leaders being sought*

Graham indicated he also wants to find members who will:

- Handle the club's website and Facebook pages;
- Coordinate events other than the watch parties, and
- Serve as the club's secretary, the position Graham occupied until becoming president.

If you think you might be able to handle one of these jobs, please phone Graham, 512.382.9716, or email him at [gkenney@ydklaw.com](mailto:gkenney@ydklaw.com)

### *Kickoff party set for Thursday, Aug. 29*

Arrangements are being made now

to hold the club's annual kickoff party on the eve of football season.

The date will, as usual, be the Thursday before the first game, Aug. 29.

Kimberly Hodges will handle arrangements for the gathering. A site for the evening's fun is still being determined.

### *Oklahoma tornado relief party: June 27*

A local pub has contacted the OU Club of Austin, letting us know that they have scheduled a fund-raiser to assist the American Red Cross in providing help to the victims of the recent outbreak of tornadoes in Oklahoma.

Blackfinn Ameripub is offering a free beer to the first 25 OU Club members who attend.

The fun is scheduled 5-7 p.m. on Thursday, June 27. Blackfinn is in the Domain, 11410 Century Oaks Terrace.

# 'NEATH A WESTERN SKY: Bizzell Library space will be made more usable by groups and seating will double

Regents of the University of Oklahoma have approved a \$5 million plan that will double seating at the Bizzell Memorial Library.

Funding will be from both public and private sources.

Rick Luce, OU dean of libraries, said the work will recognize the trend of late in library usage. These days, he said, students tend to use a library for group study rather than for individual study.

Accordingly, big heavy tables will be replaced with smaller tables and chairs that can be moved aside or pushed together to accommodate larger groups.

OU president David Boren called the planned work "visionary" in helping students work together on

## Campus notes

collaborative projects and in study groups.

**Move to online textbooks** The University has lately begun taking steps to cut back on students having to rely on the traditional textbook.

The costs of many of these textbooks has been rising at the rate of 8 per cent a year or so, OU officials note.

To ease the burden on student budgets, a push now is under way to rely on online materials.

Now, after one year of going in this direction, president David Boren estimates that students have been saved about \$1,400 of their typical annual textbook costs.

Work will be continued to make alternative source material available to OU students, particularly from online sources, Boren indicates.

Leading the effort is Prof. Mark Morvant, an assistant chemistry profes-

## Club's resources now exceed the \$100,000 mark

Earlier this year, the account the OU Club of Austin maintains with the University of Oklahoma Foundation passed the \$100,000 mark for the first time in the club's 25-year history.

As of the end of February, the figure stood at \$100,615.06

The club also maintains an operating account here in Austin. Treasurer Jessica Benedict reported that \$4,117.36 was in that account earlier this month.

The Austin club's main use of the larger fund is to help pay for scholarships the club grants each year to Central Texas high school graduates.

The operating fund usually is kept around the \$5,000 level. Any excess is periodically sent on to the Foundation in Norman and added to the club's account there..

sor who doubles as executive director of OU's Center for Teaching Excellence.

**New campus sign** The Class of 2013 raised \$6,000 as its gift to the University. The money will fund a new brick-and-stone sign at the south entrance to the campus.

Graduating classes have given special gifts to OU since 1906.

## Letter:

### Who won scholarships in 1988-97?

The OU Club of Austin first began granting scholarships to high school students closer to 1988 than to 1998 [as the *Baja's* list published in recent months had it].

I know it was well before we moved from Austin, which was in 1995. I will never forget spending a Friday evening at Fred Dupy's house, getting ready for a garage sale fundraiser the next morning. It was a ton of work, and I think we made something like \$800.

At any rate, congrats on all you guys have accomplished with the club. It is just amazing to see you giving four \$5,500 scholarships in one year! Very proud of your efforts. Keep up the good work.

JENNIFER SCHUBERT-AKIN  
and RICK AKIN  
Steamboat Springs, Col.

**EDITOR'S NOTE:** The Akins are lifetime members of the OU Club of Austin. Rick was our first president (1988-95). The Akins were co-founders of our club, recalling that they were joined in this by "Fred Dupy, Mike Wilkinson, Rod & Janene Davis and a few other hearty OU fans who were not afraid to stand up and be counted in Longhorn Country!"

Searches of club records have not produced the winners of scholarships before 1988. If you know the names of any of these winners, please email or phone the *Baja* editor, as indicated in the club officers' listing on page 2.

**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	Graham Kenney
Vice president	Dan Hodges
VP of development	Fred Dupy
Secretary	(vacant)
Treasurer	Jessica Benedict
Membership	Janet Atwood
Watch parties	
Round Rock	Manuel Garcia
Downtown	Jessica Benedict and Lawrence Cagial
Communications co-ord.	(vacant)
Scholarship chair	Amy Rader Kice
Student recruitment chair	(vacant)

### Club website:

<http://www.ouclubofaustin.com>

Webmaster: Craig Likes

### Club email:

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Greg Olds, bulletin editor

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

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Hard to imagine its equal anytime soon, or ever

## 2013 Sooner softball team: a benchmark for the ages

It's difficult to think that the college sports world will soon see another team, in any sport, so dominant as this year's Oklahoma softball team.

Solid defense, two world-class pitchers, timely hitting, intelligence on the basepaths, power, finesse, speed — it all was there, as Sooner fans will attest, and made for a wonderful experience.

All that culminated on a pleasant evening this month in Oklahoma City when coach Patty Gasso's team completed a two-game sweep of Tennessee for the national championship.

The Sooners, top-ranked nationally from the season's start to its finish, compiled a 57-4 record in this memorable year, didn't lose a game after May 5 (at Kansas) and won a number of individual honors, as well.

**Players cited** Three OU players were finalists for the sport's player of the year award. Pitcher Keilani Ricketts won the honor (as she did the year before). Others in the running were pitcher Michelle Gascoigne and infielder Lauren Chamberlain.

Also, three Sooners were named to the sport's Team USA roster — Ricketts, Chamberlain and outfielder Destinee Martinez.

Four Sooners made the coaches' All

### Sports notes

America team: Ricketts and Chamberlain on the first team; outfielder Brianna Turang and infielder Shelby Pendley, second team.

In postseason play (10 games) OU was 91-16 in cumulative runs scored.

**Footballer does first pitch** Austin Woods, the deep snapper on the Sooner football team, threw the first pitch as the OU-Tennessee title series began.

Woods has been fighting Hodgkin lymphoma since last year.

**Tornado relief** Help for victims of the two tornado outbreaks in Oklahoma during May came from all sides.

The West Virginia baseball team, awaiting the start of the Big XII tournament in Oklahoma City, was given \$100 each by their university. With this, they shopped for clothing, flashlights and other items that might be of use in Moore and other communities facing cleanup.

Also, a University of Iowa alumnus Mike Riggan, who operates a trucking company in that state, filled two 18-wheelers and sent them to the Regional Food Bank of Oklahoma.

Riggan had contacted Iowa football coach Kirk Ferentz and asked him to check with OU coach Bob Stoops about getting Sooner football players' help in unloading the trucks. Some 20 Sooner team members volunteered.

And Texas A&M and its softball team also sent a truck full of items to Oklahoma.

Then, the Saturday between the two tornado outbreaks, OU administrators, coaches and athletes spent the day helping with cleanup, mostly in Moore.

**Castiglione honored** The National Football Foundation recently honored OU athletic director Joe Castiglione.

He "has demonstrated superior administrative abilities and shown outstanding dedication to college athletics and particularly college football," said the citation accompanying the award.

Castiglione was applauded also for the people he has hired for the athletic department, as well as for his fundraising success and facilities-improvement program.

**Mitchell Park expansion?** Greg Tipton, associate athletic director at OU, told *The Daily Oklahoman* recently that the University is considering expanding seating capacity at L. Dale Mitchell baseball park to some 5,000.

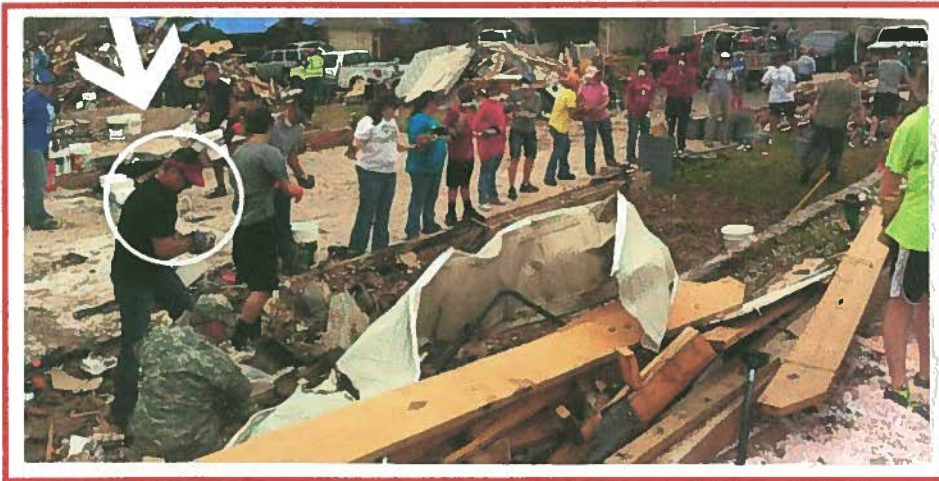
"Whatever we do," Tipton said, with the way the Sooner program is going, plans for OU baseball "need to be huge."

**Five kickoff times set** Kickoff times for five Sooner football games this fall now are known.

Starts of 6 p.m. are planned for the Louisiana-Monroe and West Virginia games. Tulsa will be at 11 a.m., Notre Dame at 2:30 p.m. and Baylor 6:30 p.m.

**Courtney Paris waived** The Tulsa Shock of the WNBA has waived former OU women's basketball star Courtney Paris in favor of a rookie player.

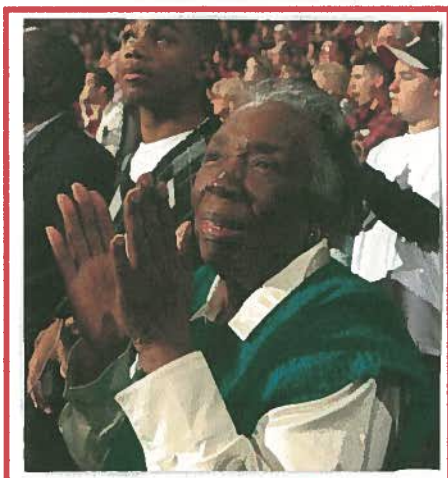
The four-time Sooner All American was drafted seventh in 2009 and played for four WNBA teams.



**BOB STOOPS AT WORK IN MOORE** — Oklahoma football coach Bob Stoops (arrow) was snapped by a photographer at Moore recently, helping the cleanup of the EF5 tornado that struck the city last month. Stoops was among a contingent of OU people who were involved in the recovery effort.

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

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— *The Daily Oklahoman*

DEBORAH TISDALE, 82, mother of OU basketball star Waymon Tisdale, died last month in Tulsa. The photo was taken at Lloyd Noble Center in 2010.

## Winners of club's four 2013 scholarships to OU will be announced in near future

The winners of the OU Club of Austin's four \$5,500 scholarships awaits each prospective recipient deciding where they will enter college this fall.

Jessica Benedict, OU Club of Austin treasurer, said no issues arose when University officials were informed of the prospective four scholarship winners names for this year.

### Calendar of events

Event (TV channel)	Day/date	Time	Where
Red Cross Oklahoma disaster relief benefit	June 27 Thur.	5-7 p.m.	Blackfin Pub, in the Domain, 11410 Century Oaks Terrace (First 25 OU Club members who show up get a free beer.)
Board meeting, OU Club of Austin	July 18 Thur.	6 p.m.	301 Congress, Suite 2000 (20th floor). All club members welcome.
Pre-season kick off party	Aug. 29 Thur.	6 p.m.	TBA



## CLUB OF AUSTIN

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

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

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

E-mail address \_\_\_\_\_ Fax/A \_\_\_\_\_

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

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

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