

THE BAJA OKLAHOMAN

Newsletter of the OU Club of Austin

1905 Shadow Brook Circle, Round Rock, Texas 78681

• 891-0078

• May 2010

Sooner Send-Off dinner set

Record 110-plus CenTex students accepted for admission to OU this fall

A Sooner Send-Off Dinner is set for Wednesday evening, May 12, 7 p.m., to enable future students of the University of Oklahoma from Central Texas and their parents to become better acquainted with each other.

They'll also get to know other Austin area students at OU, alumni of the University and members of the OU Club of Austin.

We'll gather at the Brick Oven restaurant, 10710 Research Blvd. The restaurant is in the North Hills shopping center, just west of Hwy. 183, between Great Hills Trail and Braker Lane. A map is on the club website www.ouclubofaustin.com

Members can order an entree that ranges in price from \$9.95 to \$10.95 with the option of adding a salad for

an additional \$1.50.

The two pizza choices will depend on the size of pizza ordered. The pepperoni ranges in price from \$6.50 to \$13.50. The Cook's Spicy Special (supreme) ranges from \$9.95 to \$19.95, not including drink, tax or tip.

RSVP's aren't necessary but will be appreciated. If planning to attend, please phone 762-3971 or email Janet Atwood (janatwood@aol.com).

The count of Central Texas students who have been accepted for admission this fall has grown. Earlier, the University set the figure at more than 70. Since, another 40 have been accepted. The new total is a record

OU Club of Austin and University leaders attribute the record number to the University's recruiting staff, as well as our club's participation in College Fairs over the last decade.

About half of the students who have been accepted by OU plan to matriculate in Norman; others are still considering options.



—Photo by Brenda Olds

WE GATHER BY THE RIVER — Austin area Sooners enjoy themselves at last month's Spring Sociable, held on the river downtown at the Hyatt hotel. From left are Chip Holt, Rick Williamson, Janet Atwood and Fred Dupy. With her back to the camera is Holly Vandrovec.

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For 2010-11

Election due next month for new officers

A new panel of officers will be elected in June to guide the OU Club of Austin during 2010-11.

The date and place are still being determined. Please check the club's website for information on the coming election.

In the past the election has, at times, been conducted in conjunction with a social gathering. That way, we can conduct a bit of serious business but have a nice time doing it.

It was unknown at press time whether there'll be a slate proposed by a nominating committee. In any case, nominations from the floor are always welcome from current members.

Current officers are listed at the bottom of this page.

Scholarship winners will be announced soon

Alisa Macy, scholarship chair for the OU Club of Austin, says it will be a bit later this month before the winners of the club's three scholarships will be known.

Club leaders met last month to screen the applications. Their findings have now been forwarded to the University.

Once the word from Norman is received, the winners will be announced on the club's website, Alisa said.



—Photo by Janene Davis

SOONER NAVY PATROLS THE MEDITERRANEAN — With some 30 Sooner faithful aboard, the good ship *Insignia* proudly shows the colors while in the port of Valletta, Malta. Among the cruise passengers were Janene and Rod Davis, formerly of Austin, now living in Norman.

Club's website undergoing makeover; home to old *Bajas*

Craig Likes, new webmaster of the online site of the OU Club of Austin, has revised the site's appearance and much of its content.

You'll be interested in checking out the revisions on a regular basis.

Two recent back issues of *The Baja Oklahoman* newsletter are on the site. And future issues will be, too.

We greatly appreciate the work Craig has been doing lately on this important aspect of our club's work.

The web address is in the box to the left.

If you have ideas for additional content, or changes to present content, please contact Craig.

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 website:

<http://www.ouclubofaustin.com>

Webmaster:

Craig Likes

Club officers 2009-10

President
Vice president
Secretary
Treasurer
Membership
Watch parties
Events coord.
Scholarship chair
Recruitment chair

(vacant)
Steve Watson
Mark Carlson
Fred Dupy
Janet Atwood
Rick Williamson
(vacant)
Alisa Macy
(vacant)

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'NEATH A WESTERN SKY: Just another week at OU — top performances both in academics and athletics

"In just one week at OU."

So reads the headline on a full-page ad the University placed in Oklahoma newspapers recently.

The ad called attention to these developments during just one week last month:

- The OU debate team won its third national championship in four years.

- The Sooner women's basketball team became the first team in OU history to qualify for back-to-back appearances in the Final Four.

- Two students earned Goldwater scholarships. They were Elizabeth "Elise" Knowlton and Logan Maingi. That brings to 30 the number of OU students to win the awards since 1995, placing the University among the top ranks of schools nationally.

- OU's men's gymnastics team won its 10th conference title in 12 years and went on to finish third nationally.

- And two other OU students, Caleb Gayle and Austin Slaymaker, were named Truman Scholars, based on their potential for significant lead-

Campus notes

ership in the future.

Heisman sculptor busy Artist and sculptor Jim Franklin, who sculpted the statue of Billy Sims at Heisman Park at OU, has just placed another work in the state.

It's a statue of a life-sized girl reading *The Adventures of Tom Sawyer* as Tom Sawyer looks over her shoulder.

Franklin has a number of statues displayed around the state. His latest stands on the grounds of the Carnegie Library at Perry, where Franklin lives and works.

Dance school ranks high The School of Dance at OU was recently ranked third in the nation by *Dance* magazine.

CIA director speaks Combatting al-Qaida remains the CIA's primary concern these days, the agency's director, Leon Panetta, told an OU audience recently.

Panetta appeared at a foreign policy conference at the University.

Also appearing were Brent Scowcroft and Zbigniew Brzezinski, former national security advisers; David Sanger, *The New York Times'* chief Washington correspondent, and former Foreign Service Officer Matthew Hoh.

OU-Edmond hospital The OU Health Sciences Center has added a 94-bed hospital at Edmond to its system.

The merger will bring research and new technologies to Edmond and to OU, said Dr. Dewayne Andrews, dean of the college of medicine at OU Health Sciences Center.

OU engineering Haiti help Engineering faculty members and researchers at the University are studying ways to improve the quality of buildings in earthquake-stricken Haiti.

Among steps being taken are to manufacture structural beams in Norman and ship them to Haiti. Among problems determined in the wake of the February disaster was the weakness of structures erected in the country.

Norman ranked 3rd among US college sports towns

Based on across-the-board success in intercollegiate sports, Norman ranked third among the nation's college towns last year.

According to *Forbes* magazine, Soonertown ranks behind only Ann Arbor, Mich., and Chapel Hill, N.C.

Also considered were local housing costs compared to median income, crime rates and quality of public schools.

The magazine also noted that Norman is "home to an incredible collection of French Impressionist paintings" at the Fred Jones Jr. Museum of Art on the OU campus.

Rounding out the top 10 college towns were, in order, Palo Alto, Calif., College Station, Tex., Austin; Fayetteville, Ark., Lexington, Ky.,

Sports notes

College Park, Md., and State College, Pa.

Bittersweet reminder Sooner football fans' frustration about last season was reinforced by this spring's NFL draft.

Four OU players went in the first round, including the first, third and fourth players chosen overall. These were Sam Bradford, Gerald McCoy and Trent Williams, respectively. Also drafted in the first round was Jermaine Gresham, the 27th pick.

Rare double Bradford's going first in the NFL gave OU an uncom-

mon distinction. Only one other school, Notre Dame in 1972, has had the top choice in a single year's NBA and NFL drafts.

Joining Bradford after their '09 seasons was Sooner basketball player Blake Griffin.

'40s Sooner star dies Jim Tyree, one of OU's co-captains during Bud Wilkinson's first year as head football coach, died last month at Broken Arrow.

Tyree, a former president of Oneok bank, was 87.

OU athletes' GPA: 3.01 Athletes in all sports at the University compiled an all-time record grade-point average of straight B's last fall.

President David Boren said it's the highest GPA in OU athletic history.

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

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Princeton survey: OU in top 10 of 'best value' colleges

A recent survey released by *The Princeton Review* ranks the University of Oklahoma 10th among the nation's public universities in value.

The survey covered more than 30

factors, including academics, cost and financial aid. The survey also looked at the percentage of graduating seniors who borrowed from a loan program and the average

amount of debt they had.

Average tuition at OU is now \$7,423.

In order, the top 10 public universities, as ranked in the Princeton survey were: the University of Virginia, City University of New York-Hunter College, New College of Florida, Florida State University, the University of Colorado.

Also, State University of New York-Binghamton, the University of Georgia, Virginia Tech, Texas A&M and OU.

A ranking of private schools listed Swarthmore College at the top. Rice was 6th, the only school outside the East ranked in the private top 10.

Calendar of events

Sooner Send-Off Dinner	May 12 Thursday	7 p.m.	Brick Oven restaurant 10710 Research Blvd.
Sooner Caravan Houston	June 3 Thursday	7 p.m.	HESS Club 5430 Westheimer Road
Election of officers for 2010-11	June (exact date TBA)		TBA
Pre-season kickoff dinner	Sept. 2 Thursday		TBA
1st watch party of 2010 football (Utah St.)	Sept. 4 Saturday		Marriott Hotel, 2600 La Frontera Blvd. (near Tx 45 between MoPac and I-35)
Central Texas College Fair	October dates TBA		TBA



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

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