

THE BAJA OKLAHOMAN

Newsletter of the OU Club of Austin

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17 scholarship applications

What may be a record number of applications for OU Club of Austin scholarships is now being reviewed by the board of directors.

As we went to press, the club's board was planning to meet soon to review the applications for financial aid in at-

tending OU, said Fred Dupy, president.

Recipients will be named in the near future.

Last year, the club awarded three scholarships. Those grants were for \$5,500 each for the academic year.

The club has been awarding scholarships since 1998.

OU-Arezzo: the University expands into Europe

A fourth campus of the University of Oklahoma is being formed these days.

It's far from the other campuses at Norman, Oklahoma City and Tulsa but in a seemingly shrinking world it's right around the corner, in Italy.

The University is restoring an 18th century monastery in the Tuscany region of Italy, at the ancient town of Arezzo.

Today a city of some 100,000, Arezzo dates back more than 2,000 years to the days of the Etruscan republic and still bears signs of those ancient days. Among these are a Roman wall and numerous churches featuring old frescoes.

Arezzo is on the banks of the Arno River, which it shares with the cultural gem Florence, just a 25-minute railroad trip away.

The idea of the Italian campus, OU President David Boren says, is to provide study-abroad opportunities for University students. Particularly in mind when the new campus was proposed were foreign-language students and those majoring in OU's newly formed and rapidly growing College of International Studies.

Already, a handful of students are studying in Arezzo. Until the OU facility is completed in two or three years, they are being housed in private

homes and hotel rooms.

The new campus is expected to cost some \$20 million, all in private donations. Already, some \$14 million has been raised.

There already is a waiting list of faculty members wanting to teach at OU-Arezzo.

Zach Messite, dean of International Studies at OU, says the University is "the envy of our peer institutions" for forming the new campus in Italy.

"President Boren's academic and life-long passion for international relations is what ignited this program," he said.

OU's new College of International Studies and the development of the Arezzo campus means that OU "is poised to be a national magnet for students who want to study

and pursue careers in international affairs," Messite added.

This month, OU's regents approved a \$13.5 million renovation and expansion of Hester Hall in Norman to more adequately house the International Studies college.

Just five years ago, Hester Hall was renovated in anticipation of housing International Studies. Interest in the program has been so great that further work on the building was deemed necessary.



— Photo by Ryan Bowling, the University of Oklahoma
OU'S NEWEST VENUE — Santa Chiara, an 18th-century monastery is being renovated to become the fourth campus of the University of Oklahoma at Arezzo, Italy.

'NEATH A WESTERN SKY: OU regent buys London theatre from Andrew Lloyd Webber

As noted on the front page of this issue, the University of Oklahoma is spreading its wings further beyond the boundaries of the state with its opening of a new campus in Italy.

Also on the international front, an OU regent recently bought a storied theatre in London's West End.

Max Weitzenhoffer and an associate bought the 1,300-seat Palace Theatre from Andrew Lloyd Webber, noted composer and musical theatre impresario.

Rich Taylor, the University's dean of the College of Fine Arts, said that Weitzenhoffer has been most generous in sharing with OU students his knowledge of show business.

Weitzenhoffer is a graduate of OU's drama school and a Tony Award winner.

Hall of Famers Four of the seven newest members of the Oklahoma Hall of Fame are OU graduates.

Campus notes

Honored this month were: Bart Conner, Norman/Chicago, gymnast; Tom L. Ward, Shattuck/Oklahoma City, SandRidge Energy executive; Lee R. West, Clayton/Oklahoma City, lawyer, judge and professor, and Ronald White, Seminole/Oklahoma City, cardiologist.

The state Hall of Fame is sponsored by the Oklahoma Heritage Assn. Since 1928 the Hall has added 655 honorees to its rolls.

Boren writes an op-ed David Boren, OU's president, possibly concerned about the extent of financing that education is receiving these days, urged Oklahomans to support education.

Writing in *The Tulsa World* this month, Boren contended that money that goes to education is not so much an expenditure as it is an investment.

"In short," he wrote, "we need to ask ourselves what kind of future we want."

Former abductee on campus Elizabeth Smart-Gilmour, whose 2002 kidnapping in Utah stirred considerable publicity, spoke recently at OU.

She told a capacity crowd at Meacham Auditorium that when she was released after nine months' captivity her mother gave her a piece of advice: Don't give her captors any more of her life by dwelling on this.

Ms. Smart-Gilmour said she has sought to take that advice to heart. She formed a foundation devoted to preventing predatory crimes and child victimization. She has also become a correspondent for ABC News and a speaker.

OU med school opposed OU's plans to establish a medical school at Tulsa have run into opposition from the Oklahoma Osteopathic Assn.

The group is concerned that adding a third state-financed medical school will adversely affect Oklahoma State University's school, which specializes in osteopathy.

OU, and perhaps the University of Tulsa, are proposing to establish a

medical school in a 75,000-square-foot building in downtown Tulsa. Plans are for 400 students and faculty members beginning in 2014.

OU contends that the Tulsa school will address the growing need for physicians in small towns and rural areas of Oklahoma.

Choctaws give to hospital A \$1 million check has been received from the Choctaw Tribe by OU's Stephenson Cancer Center.

Choctaw Chief Greg Pyle said the incidence of cancer is increasing among Native Americans.

OU buildings cited Several new and renovated buildings on OU campuses have been honored for excellence by a state contractors' organization.

Cited were an addition to and remodeling of Collings Hall, Norman, and erection of Zarrow Hall (Social Work), Norman, the Stephenson Cancer Center and the OU Children's Physicians Facility, both in Oklahoma City.

November TV: Ken Burns film on Dust Bowl

Ken Burns' six-hour history of the Dust Bowl will air on two evenings in November on PBS television.

Burns was in Oklahoma in recent months to tape interviews with people who lived through those days.

And he was on hand last month in Oklahoma City when a preview of his documentary was shown at the Oklahoma History Center.

The TV showing will be aired on the evenings of Sunday-Monday, Nov. 18-19.

Also available by then will be a coffee table book, *The Dust Bowl: An Illustrated History*. And PBS will be selling copies of DVDs and Blu-ray versions of the film.

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	(vacant)
Treasurer	Jessica Benedict
Membership	Janet Atwood
Watch parties	Lee Lanham
Communications co-ord.	(vacant)
Scholarship chair	(vacant)
Student recruitment chair	(vacant)

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Joe Castiglione's vision

Athletic director putting the nation's best sports facilities on the OU campus

It's difficult to overestimate the value of Director of Athletics Joe Castiglione to the University of Oklahoma.

This was brought home vividly this month in a report by *The Tulsa World's* John Hoover.

Reporting on the work now going on with Headington Hall, the new

Sports notes

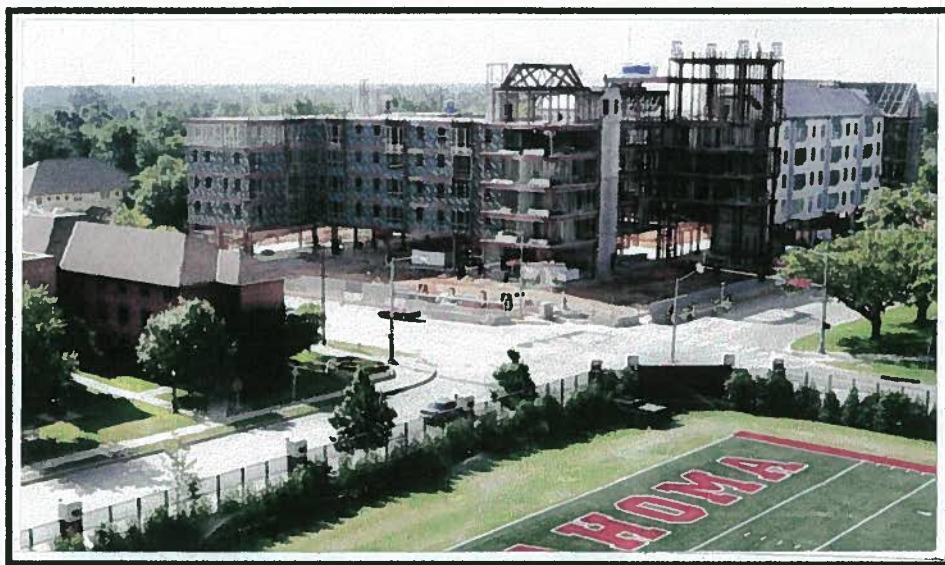
dormitory now rising just southeast of Memorial Stadium on a tract that once housed O'Connell's Irish Pub, Hoover said the work is the final stroke in what amounts to "a 13-year master plan for putting the nation's best athletic facilities on the OU campus."

As most work done in the past 13 years, the new dorm will be finished on time and on budget.

And, Castiglione says, "All the projects we do — all of them — are privately funded."

The 13 years worth of projects have cost \$330 million. There has been no state revenue used and student fees have remained unchanged.

All this is being done by an athletic department that is self-sustaining and which, moreover, contributes \$7 million each year to the University for its



— *The Daily Oklahoman*

HEADINGTON HALL — Work continues on the new six-story dormitory for both students and student-athletes. The dorm will nearly double the number of beds available to OU's varsity athletes. Headington is part of a \$330 million expansion program put into place by Athletic Director Joe Castiglione. All the financing has come from private sources, and work has been done within

academics budget.

Headington Hall will mean a jump in beds available to OU's varsity athletes. Half of the new dorm's rooms will be for students who are not athletes.

OU one of the few Of the 100 public universities that play major college football, just 22 have athletic programs that pay their own way.

The study was conducted by USA

Today and the results published this month..

The University of Oklahoma is one of these who don't rely on their schools for money, as are three other Big 12 members and two schools that are leaving the conference this summer.

Here's a breakdown of the six (figures are in millions of dollars):

School (U.S. rank)	Revenue	Spent	Surplus
Kansas St. (1)	69.9	49.8	20.1
Texas (2)	150.2	133.6	16.6
Oklahoma (9)	104.3	94.3	10.0
Okla. St. (11)	82.6	73.1	9.5
A&M (12)	87.2	78.3	8.9
Nebraska (19)	83.6	81.9	1.7

Softball honorees Patti Gasso has been named Big 12 coach of the year in softball.

Also honored were Sooner Keilani Ricketts, pitcher of the year, and Lauren Chamberlain, freshman of the year.

Switzer's life a movie? Former OU football coach Barry Switzer told *Daily Oklahoman* columnist Mel Bracht awhile back that he's been discussing a movie about his life.

He said he's been talking with producer Molly Smith, who was behind the recent film "The Blind Side."

OU Caravan will be in Dallas on Thursday, June 7, at 7 p.m.

The annual Sooner Caravan's stop at Dallas will be the closest to Austin that is planned this year. The Caravan has two other stops scheduled, at Tulsa and Oklahoma City.

On Thursday, June 7, 7 p.m., the Caravan will set up shop in the Dallas suburb of Plano. The event will be held at Gleneagles Country Club, 5401 West Park Blvd.

Appearing at the Caravans will be Joe Castiglione, athletic director; Lon Kruger, men's basketball coach; Sherri Coale, women's basketball coach; Bob Stoops, football coach, and several student athletes from the University.

The evening also will feature a dinner.

For prices and registration at Plano, go to the OU Club of Dallas website: ouclubofdallas.com

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

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Letter: Recalling the Garners, Bruce Drake

The current *Baja Oklahoman* newsletter is outstanding. Your club officers have the best.

The James Garner article (*Baja*, March 2012) brings back a lot of memories. I went to Norman High School with his brothers, Charles and Jack.

My parents, Harry and Hattie Lindahl, started out with Sinclair Co.

in 1919. My Dad was an engineer. They moved to Fort Worth in 1921, passing through Oklahoma City and Norman on their way.

I was born in a Sinclair oil camp in 1925. In 1928 my Dad and six other engineers left Sinclair and went to work for Stanolind Pipe Line (Standard of Indiana).

They started at Healdton, Okla., for three months, then went on to Pauls Valley, Shawnee and Drumright.

In 1938 my parents moved to Norman, so my brother Gene enrolled at OU.

Also, the article on the OU basketball program (*Baja*, also March 2012) reminded me of Coach Bruce Drake (the greatest) during the years 1938-41 at the Fieldhouse. My brother Gene and the OU Band got me into the games.

Gene also loved OU football. He went with the Band to the 1939 Orange Bowl.

I just wish they named the OU Fieldhouse after Coach Drake.

Go, Sooners!

—Wayne D. Lindahl, Austin.

Calendar of events

Event	Day/date	Time	Where
Sooner Caravan (Dallas, story p. 3)	June 7 Thur.	7 p.m.	Gleneagles Country Club 5401 West Park Blvd, Plano
Pre-season kickoff dinner	Aug. 30 Thur.	TBA	TBA
Football watch party OU @ UT-El Paso	Sept. 1 Sat.	TBA	TBA



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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