

THE BAJA OKLAHOMAN

Newsletter of the OU Club of Austin

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

Board looks ahead to 2011

Basketball weekend in January, revised bylaws and 2nd watch party site discussed

Plans for 2011 occupied much of the time when the board of directors of the OU Club of Austin met last week.

Discussed were revised bylaws, the possibility of finding a second watch party site — possibly downtown — and seeing if a local gathering can be set up the third weekend of January, when the Sooner men's and women's teams will be here to play Texas.

- The basketball weekend plans still are being formed. Perhaps OU Club members will attend one or both games as a group. And/or a

gathering with the teams(s), possibly featuring a meal, may be set.

- The revision of bylaws will be considered further by the board at its next scheduled meeting, Jan. 20. A draft of the new provisions has been drawn up by Graham Kenney, local lawyer and OU Club member.

- Although the board and club members are quite happy with the watch-party arrangement the club has enjoyed for several years with the Marriott in Round Rock, it is thought a second site in or near downtown might attract people who presently don't attend.

Membership chair Janet Atwood has noted that in the last few years more of our members live in Central and South Austin than used to be the case, when most lived in far north Austin or in Round Rock.

In other business:

- Treasurer Jessica Benedict reported that the club has \$72,386 in its account with the OU Foundation. The total a year ago was \$57,286.

It is from this account that the scholarships granted by the OU Club of Austin are paid. The University chips in a matching amount on each scholarship.

Jessica mentioned that the board might want to consider increasing the scholarships from their present \$1,000 level.

She also reported that the club's operating fund, which stood at \$10,471 last August, now is at \$3,887 after a \$7,000 contribution to the OU Foundation.

- Club membership stands now at 170 now, an increase of some 20 since late summer, Janet reported.



— Photo by Greg Olds

PHOTO OPPORTUNITY — Boomer and Sooner, the two ponies who pull the Sooner schooner at OU football games, have been getting in plenty of camera work this fall. Before games the ponies are stationed at the northeast corner of Memorial Stadium. This fetching trio is typical of the many kids — and older fans, too — who have had their pictures shot.

Inside . . .

New Big 12 football schedule announced [Page 2](#)

Former OU prof's book recalls Norman's racially segregated days [Page 3](#)

Sooner football 1895-1946 comes to life on new DVD

[Page 3](#)

New Big 12-minus-2 football schedule set

Sooners get to end season in Waco and Stillwater again next year. Yay!

Football schedules for the Big 12 in the near future have been recently announced. The new schedules reflect the departure after this school year of the universities of Colorado and Nebraska from the conference.

Beginning in 2011, OU will play all nine conference teams, in this order: Missouri, Texas, Kansas, Texas Tech, Kansas St., Texas A&M, Iowa St., Baylor and Oklahoma St.

In 2011 the Missouri, Tech, A&M and Iowa St. games will be in Norman. In 2012, those will be road games and OU will host the teams it will visit in 2011.

OU's non-conference games next year will be Tulsa and at Florida St. One other non-league game is to be added.

Sports notes

In 2012 non-conference games are set with Notre Dame and at TCU, with one other game yet to be scheduled.

Coaches get raises The University's nine assistant football coaches received raises recently.

The defensive and offensive coordinators, Brent Venables and Kevin Wilson, respectively, were raised \$45,000 each, to \$440,000 and \$430,000.

The other assistants were given raises to the \$250,000 range. Josh Heupel, quarterbacks coach, received the biggest raise, \$50,000.

von Foot at the podium Uwe von Schamann, forever enshrined in Soonerland hearts as the guy who kicked That Field Goal at Ohio St. in 1977, was the speaker last month when graduates of Welch (Okla.) High School held a fund-raising banquet.

Since leaving professional football, von Schamann has been operating his own consulting business and has worked in the securities and insurance business.

He presently is director of fund raising for the J. D. McCarty center

for children with developmental disabilities in Norman.

Oklahoma sports history Former OU student Max Nichols, who writes a column for the Oklahoma Historical Society, recently recalled his days in Norman washing dishes at the athletic dorm during the 1950s.

Writing in *The Daily Oklahoman*, Nichols says that through his part-time job, Nichols came to know many of the players who were on the Sooner football teams that won 47 straight games.

Nichols also recalls his days as a sportswriter when he met Carl Hubbell, the Meeker, Okla., pitching great. Hubbell, then pitching coach for the San Francisco Giants, "walked with his left hand turned inward from the years he pitched a screwball, or reverse curve."

Nichols writes also that during his sportswriting days he interviewed another Oklahoma baseball great, Mickey Mantle, "for three hours while he taped his leg before a game.

"I also went duck hunting with Mantle and Billy Martin, then a Twins coach, on a Minnesota game farm one January. It was 5 above zero, and ducks were flying only a few feet over us.

"Mantle put blanks in Martin's gun, so Martin blazed away and cursed as the ducks flew away."

Bob Barry Sr. calls his last game at Owen Field, will retire soon

Retiring long-time Sooner play-by-play man Bob Barry Sr. was saluted at halftime of last Saturday's game against Texas Tech.

Barry, OU's radio announcer for football and men's basketball for several decades, will retire at the end of the year.

Fans gave Barry a standing ovation as he took a victory lap around Owen Field in a golf cart, the band spelled out "THANKS BOB"

Barry, also honored last month in ceremonies at the Oklahoma Memorial Union, spoke of the day he called his first OU game, at Notre Dame.

"I was so nervous that morning." Barry also was the grand marshal of OU's homecoming parade last month and is the subject of a newly released book, *Voice of Bedlam: The Life of Bob Barry*, by Bob Burke and Michael Dean. The book is available at the Oklahoma Heritage Assn.

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	Janet Atwood
Watch parties	Lee Lanham
Events coord.	Stephanie Rodriguez
Scholarship chair	Ailsa Macy
Recruitment chair	(vacant)

Club website:

<http://www.ouclubofaustin.com>

Webmaster: Craig Likes

Club email:

austin-club@ouclubofaustin.com

Greg Olds, bulletin editor

e-mail: goldsa@austin.rr.com

2811 Inridge Dr., Austin 78745

phone: 512-891-0078

'NEATH A WESTERN SKY: Former OU prof's book recalls Norman's old days of racial segregation

A book written by University of Oklahoma professor George Henderson released this fall recounts the African-American's struggles on moving to Norman in the late 1960s.

Race and the University, published by the OU Press, tells of a highly stratified society in Norman. This, despite the University's beginnings to accomplish desegregation.

Dr. Henderson and his wife were denied their first three choices of homes by local realtors. In time, however, the Hendersons became the first African-Americans to own their own

Campus notes

home in Norman.

As the years went by, the couple struggled and finally saw success in their efforts to overcome generations of prejudice.

Dr. Henderson, an OU faculty member since 1967, has won many honors for his work at the University and in Norman in interracial understanding and racial diversity.

The OU Press says that Dr. Henderson's work "contains valuable recollections of former student activists who helped transform OU into one of the nation's most diverse college campuses."

Research addition viewed OU's regents have OK'd a bond issue to fund a fourth private-partners building at the University's Research Campus.

An estimated \$40 million will fund the new structure, which is already fully leased. A fifth building is planned, OU President David Boren says.

New DVD takes OU football back to Day 1

Even the most knowledgeable Sooner fans will learn a number of interesting things about OU football in a recently released DVD, "History of Oklahoma Football."

Part I, "Birth of a Champion, 1895-1946," was released this fall. Three other installments, covering later years, will come out each of the next three autumns.

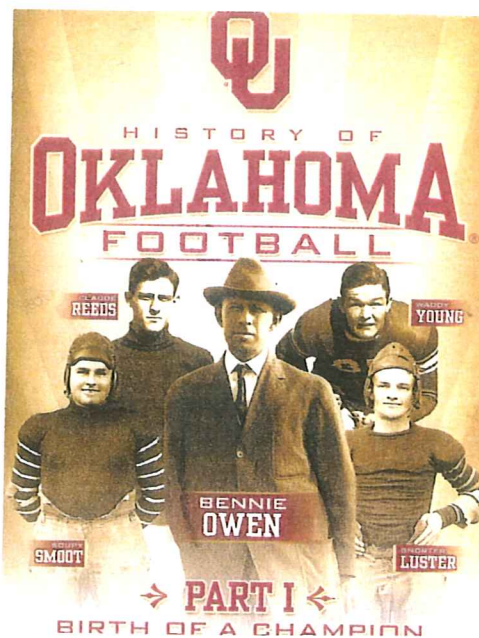
The DVD is not limited to football. There's a good deal of state and campus history in the 88-minute video, as well as a number of photos and film clips recalling life both on and off the gridiron in days gone by.

Narrated by former star running back Spencer Tillman, the DVD begins with film of the 1889 Land Run, which opened the countryside that includes Norman to white settlement. At sundown that day Norman's population stood at 150.

The next year OU was established with classes held downtown until the first building was opened in 1893. A wooden sidewalk led from Main St. to the campus.

Thousands of trees were planted in those early days, because of the leadership of David Ross Boyd, OU's first president, and Oklahoma City civic leader Anton Classen.

The first five OU head football coaches had short tenures. The very first, John A. Harts, left after the first season to prospect for gold in Alaska. The sec-



ond, Vernon L. Parrington, coached four years before going on to the University of Washington and winning a Pulitzer Prize for a book on political thought.

Four years and three coaches later, in 1905, Bennie Owen was hired and OU football began attract wider attention.

The year 1907 usually is recalled as a good one in Oklahoma. Statehood was formalized that Nov. 16. However, the year also saw fire destroy OU's administration building and a new political regime in Oklahoma City caused President Boyd and seven professors to be fired, Parrington among them.

Also that year Coach Owen lost his right arm in a hunting accident. But three weeks later he was back on the sidelines, coaching his team and selling season tickets at \$5 a pop.

During Owen's tenure OU fans, when the team was playing out of town, would stand in Main Street and watch a telegraph office employee move a marker on a board that represented a football field as the game went on. This was before radio began broadcasting games.

The DVD also recalls the year that students and other fans chipped in and gave Owen a new car. He used the car's headlights to light practices after sunset.

The video also features:

- Mex, the dog adopted as an OU mascot, who would run and bark along the sidelines during games and practices. Mex, it is believed, is buried at Owen Field.
- Roy "Soupy" Smoot, a football star whose talent at singing opera at times interfered with football.
- Owen moving games from the old field to the site of today's stadium and getting regents to sell bonds to fund a stadium and student union.
- The recollections of Coach Owen offered in 2004 by former player (1923-26) Dale Arbuckle, then 100 years old.
- The Dust Bowl and Depression days of the 1930s, when former player

next page, please →

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

Forwarding services requested

DVD . . .

« from previous page

Gene Corrotto (1936-38) recalls, the Sooners practiced even when they couldn't see the sun because of the dust.

- The early days of the broadcasting

careers of Walter Cronkite (1937) and Curt Gowdy (1946-47), who were heard on the radio broadcasting OU games.

- The 1938 team, which shut out all five of its conference opponents (as well as all but one of its five regular season non-league foes; Tulsa scored six points against the Sooners).

- Darrell Royal recalling, still with awe all these years later, the talents of "Indian Jack" Jacobs (1939-41).

- Merle Dinkins (1943-47) relating the history of the Blub-Blub Club, in which freshmen players' heads were held under the water of a toilet and the frosh were required to say "blub-blub" three times.

- OU officials, having heard that Coach Jim Tatum (1946) was going to interview at Maryland and take his entire staff with him, intervene to keep Bud Wilkinson at Norman.

Their course is made easier when Tatum spends his entire budget for the year before the first game, then blows all of OU's money received for the Gator Bowl game to take his team to Cuba.

The DVD can be ordered at www.soonersports.com, then click Promotions/TV + Guide Store. It's \$26.90 including shipping.

Calendar of events

Event/(TV channel)	Day/date	Time	Where
Watch party (ABC or ESPN2) Oklahoma @ Baylor	Nov. 20 Sat.	7 p.m.	Marriott Hotel, 2600 La Frontera Blvd. (near Tx 45 between MoPac and I-35)
Watch party (ABC) Oklahoma @ Oklahoma St.	Nov. 27 Sat.	TBA	Marriott Hotel, 2600 La Frontera Blvd.
Oklahoma @ Texas men's basketball	Jan. 15, 2011 Sat.	3 p.m.	Frank Erwin Center 17th and Red River Sts.
Oklahoma @ Texas women's basketball	Jan. 16 Sun.	12:30 p.m.	Frank Erwin Center
Board meeting (all club members welcome)	Jan. 20 Thurs.	6 p.m.	301 Congress Ave. ste. 2000
Sooner-Bound Texans dinner and program	Feb. 23 (date tent.)	TBA	Iron Cactus Inn 10001 Stonelake Blvd.
Sooner Sendoff dinner and program	May 3 or 4 (date tent.)	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