

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 2012

Watch-party doubleheaders continue

*Full month of
more football fun
ahead of us*

OU Club of Austin members will have their hands full during November.

The Oklahoma football team is now into the final third of the regular season.

Central Texas Sooners will continue to enjoy the two watch parties the club sponsors downtown at Fado's Irish Pub & Restaurant, 214 West 4th, and up in Round Rock at the Marriott hotel, 2600 La Frontera.

We're having a fine time at these gatherings. Hope you'll join us if you haven't done so yet this season. And if you have been on hand, we don't need to tell you about the good times.

We resume play this Saturday, 2:30 p.m. against Baylor.



Baja drawing: Two tickets to the Nov. 24 Bedlam game

Two tickets to the Nov. 24 Oklahoma-Oklahoma St. game in Norman are the prize in a *Baja* offering.

The winner of the tickets will be determined by a drawing in the newsletter editor's home at 5 p.m. on Thursday, Nov. 15.

We'll put a little blindfold on the eyes of Snowflake The House Cat and she will draw the name of our winner. (Well, not really. But the drawing will be done so that no entry is favored over another.)

The tickets are in section 9, row 49, seats 22-23. That's on the west sidelines, about five yards into the north

end zone. The seats are high enough for a good view of most all the field.

To enter, please submit your name to: gold@sAustin.rr.com or drop a post card or letter into the regular mail to: Greg Olds, 2811 Inridge Dr., Austin 78745.

Entrants should provide a phone number if they don't enter by email. We'll arrange with the winner for delivery of the tickets.

All entrants who provide an email address

will be notified of the drawing's results that Thursday evening; others will be getting a regular-mail letter.

We hope to hear from you.

Inside this issue . . .

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'NEATH A WESTERN SKY: Four OU alums will be inducted into the Oklahoma Hall of Fame this month

Four of the six people who will be inducted into the Oklahoma Hall of Fame this month are alumni of the University of Oklahoma.

They are Bart Conner, Norman, gymnast; Tom L. Ward, Edmond, chief executive officer of SandRidge Energy; Lee R. West, Edmond, former OU law professor, and Ronald H. White, Oklahoma City, cardiologist.

The Oklahoma Heritage Assn. will conduct its 85th annual induction of new Hall members at a banquet in Tulsa on Nov. 15, the day before the 105th anniversary of Statehood.

Dust Bowl documentary Documentarian Ken Burns' four-hour film on the Dust Bowl will air on KLRU-TV (PBS) on Sunday-Monday, Nov. 18-19.

The Sunday show, "The Great Plow Up," will air at 7 p.m. The next night the second installment, "Reaping the Whirlwind," will be seen, also at 7 p.m.

Campus notes

The current KLRU schedule shows that the episodes will be repeated several times that evening and early the next morning.

Co-ed housing working OK Residential officials at the University, where mixed-gender housing was begun in one of the dorms this fall, say the program has been successful.

One wing on the fifth floor of Walker Center was designated as mixed-gender.

OU officials are working now on a proposal to expand the program in the years ahead.

New OU website offers lectures The University last month opened a new website (freedom.ou.edu) that is offering free video lectures on topics dealing with U.S. government and constitutional law.

The series is produced by the University's Institute for the American Constitutional Heritage.

It is hoped that, in addition to being watched by the public, the lectures will be used in U.S. history and civics classrooms.

OU engineers and port security The latest step in safeguarding security at the nation's ports has been taken by faculty and graduate students at OU-Tulsa's School of Electrical and Computer Engineering.

As recounted in a recent issue of *Sooner Magazine*, a computer-controlled mini-helicopter, bearing TV cameras and a wide range of other electronic devices, has been put into service in the skies over the Tulsa Port of Catoosa. And a similar land-based device, an all-terrain vehicle, also has been developed by the OU team.

The device may in time be replicated at ports around the world, to assure safe passage and deployment of shipments by water.

The Catoosa port, the nation's largest inland port west of the Mississippi River, yields some \$3.2 billion a year to the state's economy.

Not only does the OU helicopter and its gear provide security against possible terrorist attacks, it also yields routine information on the progress of a shipment.

OKC's Gold Dome bought A developer who has been buying properties at Norman's Campus Corner and Oklahoma City's Bricktown and Automobile Alley of late was the successful bidder recently at a public foreclosure auction for the landmark Gold Dome building on NW 23rd at Classen in OKC.

David Box said he is uncertain what to do with the two-story 1958 landmark that features a circular, anodized aluminum roof but said he does not intend to have it torn down.

Publisher alum dies Lawrence F. "Chub" Bellatti, 98, longtime publisher of *The Stillwater NewsPress*, has died.

Bellatti was a Navy veteran of the battles of Iwo Jima and Okinawa and witnessed the surrender of Japanese forces in Tokyo Bay aboard the *U.S.S. Missouri*. He was among the first U.S. service members to go ashore in Japan.

Fame, of a sort A group of OU students recently broke the Guinness world record for conducting the largest "trust fall" in history.

A trust fall is usually a group exercise in which a person deliberately falls backwards, relying on being caught by others of the group.

More than 250 people attending a gathering on campus of Sooners Helping Sooners set the new record.

Sooners Helping Sooners offers emergency short-term funding when "life happens."

Former OU football player Kelly Mitchell recently committed \$100,000 to the program.

Mitchell explained there are "a lot of students who have to decide between eating and buying books when unexpected things happen. I have known people who dropped out for this reason or that. They might have two or three classes left and never get to go back."

For more information on Sooners Helping Sooners, see their website at www.ou.edu/give/shs.html.

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	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)

Club website:

<http://www.ouclubofaustin.com>

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2811 Inridge Dr., Austin 78745

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Tailgating: a developing U.S. institution

Sooner faithful do their best in quest for top ranking in this, too

Tailgating has evolved into an American institution, it seems.

So much so, that there now is a nationwide contest, sponsored by *Southern Living* magazine, to determine the top sites in the southern U.S. for these sports-fan-driven socials on college campuses.

As you might expect, the University of Oklahoma was among the nominees. Somehow, Clemson won the crown, followed by Mississippi and Alabama.

Need to loosen up a bit? People interviewed by *The Norman Transcript* said they thought OU would rank higher if weren't so tightly controlled by the University.

One person told the *Transcript* that she has been to a number of games across the country and found that Southeastern Conference schools have the best tailgating. She explained that the scenes down South are more spirited.

Another OU tailgater agreed, saying he wishes things could be a bit looser and "a bit rowdier."

He added, "I don't think anyone freaks out at OU like they do at Ole Miss or LSU. But I still think we have the crazy fans like every other big-time school.

"I think we have a pretty good tailgate set-up."

OU fared better in another survey, conducted by *Tailgater Monthly*, which ranked the Sooner festivities 15th nationally.

Tailgating: ancient roots A cultural anthropology professor at Notre Dame recently conducted a two-year study of tailgating in America. John Sherry found that the campus parties are rooted in harvest celebrations in ancient Rome and Greece and in picnics during Civil War battles.

Sherry told *USA Today* that tailgating "is more about sharing than it is about competition. . . . The individual traditions that they are creating add to the larger tradition" of their favorite team.

Kruger's practices to TV OU men's basketball coach Lon Kruger kept the

Sports notes

Sooner men's practices open to the public last season. This year he's having them streamed online, free of charge.

OU is believed to be the first program in the nation to be trying this.

Kruger was approached by the staff at SoonerVision, the University's TV production department, about this.

Sessions are viewable at SoonerSports.com and are aired live, then archived for viewing anytime.

"Go-Go" Stevens dies Former OU men's basketball coach Bob "Go-Go" Stevens died recently in a boating accident on Lake Texoma.

Stevens, 88, coached the Sooners in 1962-67, compiling a 46-79 record. His teams were the first in OU basketball to featuring an up-tempo pace.

Fairbanks ailing Former OU football coach Chuck Fairbanks, 79, is undergoing treatment at the Mayo Clinic in Phoenix after being diagnosed with an inoperable brain tumor.

"I'm feeling good and I'm confident we're going to win this," Fairbanks told *The Daily Oklahoman's* John Rohde.

Fairbanks coached the Sooners in 1967-72 before moving to the National Football League. His teams at Oklahoma were 51-15-1, including the 1971 "Game of the Century" against Nebraska.

Other TV deals Three other Big 12 schools are nearing finalizing agreements with Fox Sports to have their own TV outlets.

The schools will join Oklahoma and Texas in having access to a good deal of programming each year.

A TV ratings hit The Sooners' game against

Notre Dame drew a 5.9 TV rating. This compared with a 7.2 for the third game of the World Series that night.

It was the best rating recorded for a Notre Dame game on any network in the last six years.

Bob just behind Bud The win over Iowa St. put Sooner football coach Bob Stoops into a tie with Bud Wilkinson in number of career wins at OU.

Wilkinson was 145-29-4 in 1947-63. Stoops since 1999 is 145-37 with the win at Ames.

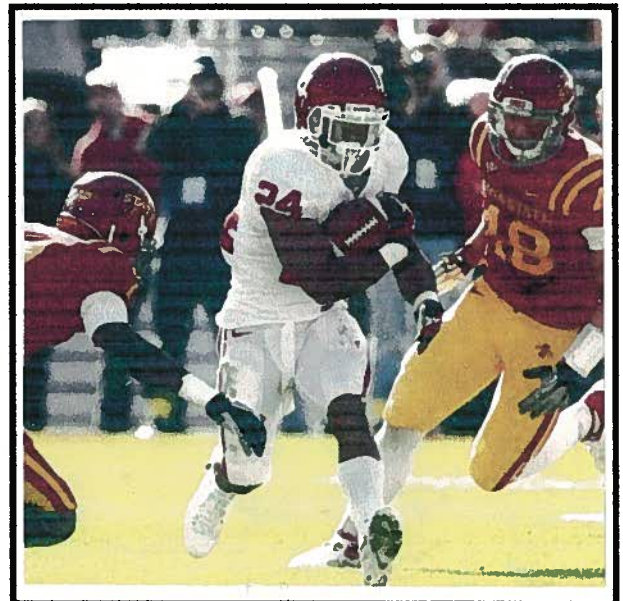
Both men trail Barry Switzer (157 wins in 1973-88) and Bennie Owen (152, 1905-26). OU is the only school to have had four head coaches with more than 100 wins to their credit.

Stadium suites upgrades set University regents recently approved a privately funded \$9 million project for Memorial Stadium.

Most of the work will involve refurbishing the luxury suites on the east side. Additional counter space and new furniture will be put into the suites and additional restrooms installed on the stadium's east concourse.

And roof repair is planned on the Siegfried Strength and Conditioning Complex.

Work is to be finished by next August.



— Photo by *The Tulsa World*

CLAY ON THE MOVE — OU running back Brennan Clay had a big day against Iowa St. Here he picks up some of the 157 yards he rolled up against the Cyclones.

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

Forwarding services requested

*A letter
of thanks*

Thank you so much for your help in allowing me to be able to attend classes at OU. I had an excellent and memorable first year.

Thank you for everything.
Boomer Sooner!

WOLFGANG HANFT

NOTE: Mr. Hanft was one of the three recipients of OU Club of Austin scholarships in 2011.

Calendar of events

Event	Day/date	Time	Where
Football watch parties	Nov. 10	2:30 p.m.	Round Rock Marriott, 2600 La
Baylor @ OU (Fox Sports Net)	Sat.		Frontera, <i>and</i> Fado's, 214 W. 4th
Statehood Day — in 1907	Nov. 16	All day	Soonerland
Oklahoma enters the Union	Fri.		
Football watch parties	Nov. 17	TBA	Round Rock Marriott <i>and</i> Fado's
OU @ West Virginia	Sat.		
"Dust Bowl" documentary	Nov. 18-19	7 p.m.	KLRU-TV (PBS)
by Ken Burns	Sun.-Mon.		Story, page 2
Football watch parties	Nov. 24	TBA	Round Rock Marriott <i>and</i> Fado's
Oklahoma St. @ OU	Sat.		
Football watch parties	Dec. 1	TBA	Round Rock Marriott <i>and</i> Fado's
OU @ TCU	Sat.		



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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