

THE BAJA OKLAHOMAN

Newsletter of the OU Club of Austin

1905 Shadow Brook Circle, Round Rock, Texas 78681 • 512-431-2069 / 512-255-6402 • October 2011

From the president

Help wanted by our club

By FRED DUPY, President

First off, let me put out the word that we very much need a new head of our scholarship committee.

After nine effective years of loyal and dedicated service on the scholarship committee, much of it as chair, Alisa Macy is retiring from this important job.

During her tenure, we saw our scholarships jump big-time. In 2002, the OU Club of Austin granted one scholarship, that for \$2,000.

Compare that with the three scholarships we conferred earlier this year — each for \$5,500.

Please give me a call at 512 431-2069, if you think you might like to work for us in this regard.

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I hope you've been getting the DVD series on OU's football history. The second of what will be four discs was shipped this month.

Watching Part II on the Bud Wilkinson era brought back a flood of memories for me.

I especially recall late Sunday afternoons in the fall when I was a kid. That time of the week was spent watching Bud's TV show, the first college football coach's show ever aired.

My grandparents were both OU graduates and they felt about the Sooners as I did while growing up in Oklahoma. My parents, however, were OSU grads but, I must say, were understanding when we tuned in that Sunday TV show.

I used to enjoy greatly Wilkinson's explaining football with those little figures he employed.

Other memories refreshed in the latest DVD were of Prentice Gautt's breaking the color barrier at OU. This was at a time when many African-Americans were not even permitted to remain in some towns after sunset.

The DVD also details that holiest of holy OU memories, the 47-game winning streak. I never say never but it's hard to imagine that record ever being broken.

Then there is footage of Cecil Samara's dear old Model T Ford, the flags adorning the rim of the stadium when it held "only" 61,826 fans. And so much more.

The DVD makes for a fine trip down memory lane.

Watch party jubilation: Oklahoma vs. Texas 2011



—Photo by Manuel R Garcia

Members of the OU Club of Austin applaud yet another good moment in this year's Oklahoma-Texas football game. The watch party for the game was hosted at the home of Shane Cordova, since our regular site was unavailable that day. Shane served as the club's third president, 1996-2001. Our watch parties will resume at their regular site this weekend for the Kansas St. game, at the Marriott in Round Rock. (See the calendar, page 4.)

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OU needs two non-league games for 2012

The Sooner football team already had scheduled a game with TCU next year. That now will be a Big XII game, so who might OU add to the 2012 non-conference schedule?

Notre Dame already was set to visit Norman next fall, so that means OU is looking for two non-league games in 2012.

Post-big game blues The Sooners took some shots from critics for their play after their two biggest wins in the first half of the football season.

They fell behind 14-3 at home to Missouri the week after beating Florida St. and were up by just one touchdown at halftime against Kansas the week after beating Texas.

A bit of comfort was offered by *The Tulsa World's* John E. Hoover, who observed that OU shut KU down completely in the second half of that game. The Jayhawks ran just 27 plays in that half, netted 6 yards of total offense, just one first down and no scores.

Still, the Red Zone problems persist,

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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	Alisa Macy
Student recruitment chair	(vacant)

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Sports notes

as witness the four field goals the Sooners kicked against Kansas, a team that's been giving up lots of points this fall. And, of course, the problem recurred last week against Texas Tech.

Red Zone woes The Tulsa paper's Hoover also had a good analysis of the Sooners' problems near opponents' goal lines.

He examined the situation by compiling OU's record inside opponents' 13 yard line, and broke it down further by passing plays and runs in the four years since OU switched to an up-tempo, no-huddle offense.

He found that the Sooners scored 93 per cent of the time in 2008, 85 per cent of those touchdowns.

But since then the figures have dropped markedly for touchdowns, ranging from 58 per cent in 2009, 57 per cent last year and 56 per cent so far this season.

Adding in the field goals, the last three seasons have yielded Red Zone scoring percentages of 86, 82 and 91 per cent, respectively.

Women's BKB: 4th? The Sooner women's basketball team has been picked fourth in the Big XII in a pre-season poll of league coaches.

OU is predicted to finish, in order, behind Baylor, Texas A&M and Texas. Baylor received nine first-place votes; the Aggies, one. Coaches were not permitted to vote for their own team.

On the men's side, OU is picked to

share the Big XII basement with Texas Tech.

Kansas and Texas A&M are picked as joint favorites to win the league title. KU got five first-place votes, A&M and Baylor, two each, and Missouri, one.

Rehire Mike Stoops? The recent firing of former OU defensive co-coordinator Mike Stoops as Arizona's head coach naturally caused Oklahoma fans to wonder if he might be coming back to the Sooner sidelines.

Probably not, wrote Berry Tramel, sportswriter of *The Daily Oklahoman*. He says that unless defensive coordinator Brent Venables quits to take a head coaching job somewhere, Mike Stoops won't be back. Not soon, anyway.

Tramel points out that Stoops always as head coach has promoted from within his staff when naming coordinators.

And if another defensive coordinator is needed, another Stoops brother, Mark, is doing an outstanding job in that position over at Florida St.

Mike was on the sidelines — as a guest — when OU hosted Tech last week. But he wasn't doing any coaching, brother Bob said.

Merv's milestone Merv Johnson, a longtime fixture now on the OU football scene, watched his 400th consecutive Sooner game last week. That's 34 per cent of OU's games since 1895.

Johnson came to OU in 1979 as line coach and since 1998 has been special assistant to the athletic director and director of football operations.

He also handles color commentary on OU's football broadcasts, serves as professional-football scout liaison and coordinates OU's football walk-on program.

Tisdale documentary released

Emmy Award-nominated documentarian Brian Schodorf has produced a film on the life of Wayman Tisdale, OU All-American basketball player of the 1980s and a jazz all-star.

Much of Schodorf's work has been seen on national television. He was in the process of interviewing Tisdale in the spring of 2009 when death came.

Several showings of the documentary

will begin this weekend, including Nov. 4 at OU's Lloyd Noble Center.

The film has numerous interviews touching on Tisdale's personal qualities as well as his remarkable skills in basketball and in music.

Sales of the film in CD/DVD will start on Nov. 22. Pre-orders are being accepted on Amazon.com or online at thewaymantisdalestory.com

'NEATH A WESTERN SKY: The world's largest and smallest Apotosauri now standing at OU

The sound of bones clacking together this month wasn't the noise of preparations the neighborhood kids were involved in as Halloween approaches.

No. That sound came from Norman, where paleontologists were assembling fossils of the world's smallest Apotosaurus at the Sam Noble Oklahoma Museum of Natural History.

The baby dinosaur now stands at the museum beneath the imposing remains of an adult of the same species. The adult is the world's biggest Apotosaurus. The baby is the world's smallest..

The remains of both were recovered in Oklahoma during the 1930s. That's when J. Willis Stovall, director of OU's first natural history museum, hooked up with the Works Project Administration to finance archeological digs near Kenton, near the northwesternmost tip of the Oklahoma Panhandle.

Campus notes

The site produced more than 70,000 specimens between 1935 and 1942.

The baby's skeleton is comprised of 298 bones recovered near Kenton. The missing bones, another hundred or so, are being crafted by OU's College of Engineering, using a 3-D scanner.

The adult dinosaur stands 92 feet long and some nine feet tall at the shoulder. The baby: 11 feet long, three feet at the shoulder.

Gould Hall reopened The fall semester has seen the reopening of the fully remodeled and expanded Gould Hall, longtime home of OU's College of Architecture.

After more than two years' work the

building now enhances the South Oval at the University.

Merit Scholars abound OU's work to attract more Merit Scholars to campus continues to thrive. Last year the University ranked first among public colleges in the number of Merit Scholars and fifth among all colleges.

Each scholarship is worth some \$46,000 to in-state students, twice that to out-of-state students.

New Music School head Larry Mallett has become the University's new director of the School of Music.

He comes to OU from the University of Kansas and has 36 years' experience in music education.

East Lindsey project Norman has begun widening Lindsey St. east of the football stadium, to four lanes from two.

The University has drawn up a landscaping plan for a median in the street.

BOO! Bet you didn't know OU was haunted

University instructor leads spooky tours of the University's 'other history'

The campus in Norman of the University of Oklahoma seems a normal enough place. But every now and then a group of people can be seen moving among the trees, buildings and the beautiful landscaping that is OU. And they are there on an eerie quest.

Their mission: to see OU's spooky side. Particularly around Halloween.

The information has been compiled by Jeff Provine, a graduate instructor of freshman programs at OU's University College, who for the last three years has been conducting a tour he titles "Mysterious and Macabre Norman."

The 80-minute campus tour runs from the North Oval down to the Houston-Huffman Gym.

"We've had a wide variety of students and members of the community — from young families to retirees" participating in the tours, Provine says.

"Most are twenty-somethings looking for a good spooky story."

The Norman tour was born in En-

gland, where Provine had visited. While in that country he was taken on several conducted ghost tours.

Back home, he told a friend of the tours and was advised: work up a ghost tour of Norman.

The tour begins at Holmberg Hall, "home of our organ-playing ghost, Prof. Mildred Andrews Boggess, eternally displeased with renovations."

Then there's:

- the '06 Rock — once kidnapped by the DDMC secret society of OU students, the rock was buried in a graveyard. This was the first of many pranks in those days.

- Ellison Hall — where a rollerskating ghost boy makes mischief. Across the street is the site of the old Tri-Delta House, where an exorcism was performed in 1973.

The boy is believed to have died while being treated at Ellison, which was built as an infirmary in 1928.

- The Bizzell statue and the legend of Jimi Hendrix "and the more bizarre

truth."

- Cate Center — a beheaded basement ghost. The "ghost" is believed to be that of a 13-year-old boy who was decapitated while playing on a Cate dumbwaiter. Some workers at the cafeteria refuse to enter the building's basement after sundown.

- Walker Tower — once the tallest structure on campus, where several students and others leapt to their deaths.

- Houston-Huffman — "a basketball-loving ghost."

Provine, born in Enid, was raised on the family farm that originally was owned by his great-great-grandfather in the Cherokee Outlet that was opened to white settlement by the Land Run of 1893. He says he's agnostic when it comes to ghosts.

Still, a good story is a good story, as his tour participants will attest.

See the tour's website at:

<http://www.jeffprovine.com/oumm.html>

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1905 Shadow Brook Circle
Round Rock TX 78681

Forwarding services requested

Publishing company offers long list of Oklahoma books

Some half a hundred titles are offered about Oklahoma locales by a publishing house you may not have heard about.

Arcadia Publishing has for a number of years published books about the

cities, counties and special activities of American locales.

Book titles about Oklahoma range geographically from Beaver County in the Panhandle to McCurtain County in Little Dixie, from Lawton (*Holy City of*

the Wichitas) in the southwest to Bartlesville in the northeast.

And there are several titles on Oklahoma City and Tulsa but none, yet, on Norman or OU.

Other books take up subjects such as aviation in Northeast Oklahoma, baseball in Tulsa and in Oklahoma City, the Choctaw Nation, music in Oklahoma City's Deep Deuce, etc.

You might want to check out the website and see if any of the titles are of interest to you for your library or as gifts. Arcadia's books are well put together, are paperbacks, and most sell for less than \$20.

See the Oklahoma title listings at: <http://www.arcadiapublishing.com/category/oklahoma>

Calendar of events

Event/(TV channel)	Day/date	Time	Where
Football watch party OU @ Kansas St. (ESPN)	Oct. 29 Sat.	2:30 p.m.	Marriott Hotel, 2600 La Frontera (near Tx 45, between MoPac and I-35)
Football watch party Texas A&M @ OU (TBA)	Nov. 5 Sat.	TBA	Marriott Hotel, 2600 La Frontera
Football watch party OU @ Baylor (TBA)	Nov. 19 Sat.	TBA	Marriott Hotel, 2600 La Frontera
Football watch party Iowa St. @ OU (FX)	Nov. 26 Sat.	7 p.m.	Marriott Hotel, 2600 La Frontera
Football watch party OU @ OSU (ABC)	Dec. 3 Sat.	TBA	Marriott Hotel, 2600 La Frontera



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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