

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 2012

Watch parties a big hit

New downtown location a popular 2nd home



— Photos by Jessica Benedict

It was standing-room-only when the OU Club of Austin held its first downtown football watch party.



As if the football game and other doings at Fado's Irish Pub weren't enough, there also was this Celtic band playing in the street outside.

Each time you looked around the scene it became more and more clear: two watch parties are even better than one.

While a goodly number of OU Club of Austin members gathered at our good old standby in Round Rock, the Marriott, to watch the Sooners host Kansas St., a standing-room-only gathering of Sooners crowded into Fado's Irish Pub on West 4th downtown.

"Saturday was a HIT!" reported Jessica Benedict, club treasurer.

"I showed up about 6:15 [at Fado's] and there were already four tables full of fans. By the end of the first quarter we had about 60 people in attendance and standing room only."

The game was showing on three TVs and the sound was high enough that fans could also hear the telecast.

And after the game many Sooners stayed on to enjoy the U2 cover band playing on the Fado's patio. Such added attractions are a usual feature at Fado's, we were told. So you might want to check that out each time you visit.

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'NEATH A WESTERN SKY: OU confers its largest number of degrees ever in 2011-12; sets state record

The University of Oklahoma granted 7,495 degrees during the 2011-12 academic year. That's the largest number ever conferred by a university in the state.

The count includes all three of the University's campuses at Norman, Oklahoma City and Tulsa.

OU's six-year graduation rate stood at 68 percent, also a state record for public universities.

"As we increase the number of graduates, we also help create more jobs and raise per capita income" in Oklahoma, said University president David Boren.

The news comes atop an earlier announcement that OU enrolled its largest freshman class ever this fall — more than 4,100.

Also, the new freshman class is the highest ranked academically in school history — having an average ACT

Campus notes

score of 26.

\$10 million grant to OU The National Institutes of Health have granted \$10 million to OU's Stephenson Cancer Center.

The grant will assist researchers in trying to determine why some cancers are resistant to chemotherapy and radiation treatment while most others are not.

In a related development, the University recently announced that it brought in a record \$852,177 through technology transfer last year.

Technology transfer is the process by which universities patent and license technology that has been developed by university researchers.

OU policy provides for income raised in this manner to be divided between the University and its researcher inventors.

Research park The University of Oklahoma's rapidly expanding health-research activity is taking yet another step forward.

OU officials have announced that they are nearing an agreement to buy a 700,000-square-foot building that houses laboratory and office space near the University's Health Sciences Center in Oklahoma City.

The seller is the Presbyte-

rian Health Foundation.

OU President David Boren says the newly acquired research facility will offer a "springboard to further biomedical research" by the University.

2012 tornadoes: record low This year may be the record setter for the fewest tornadoes in the United States.

That's according to the National Severe Storms Laboratory at Norman.

Figures were still being updated through September. But current estimates are that some 750 twisters have struck the nation so far in 2012. That compares with about 1,500 a year ago.

The current record low was set in 1987, when 1,013 tornadoes were reported. The usual annual number is in the range of about 1,200 a year.

Scholarship fund drive The University has been conducting a drive to increase the amount of scholarships available to students.

So far, the effort has raised \$206 million.

This is permitting OU to double its privately funded scholarships in the past five years.

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>

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



— The Daily Oklahoman

Two University of Oklahoma engineering students recently were in Uganda to assist in the construction of an eco-latrine. From left are OU student Cate Lynn, Sister Rosemary Nyirumbe, OU student Chris Breazile and another nun at a girls' school in Gulu, Uganda. The latrine will convert human waste into compost useful in the raising of crops.

OU television channel on the air

1,000 hours yearly to air on several Fox outlets

Fox Sports and the University of Oklahoma recently announced their plans to make some 1,000 hours of programming available to 9 million homes and businesses in Oklahoma, Texas, Louisiana and Arkansas.

Programming will be offered on several Fox Sports outlets, including Fox Sports Southwest, Fox Sports Oklahoma, Fox College Sports and Fox Sports Plus.

The 10-year deal will offer coaches' shows, game replays, press conferences as well as programs related to the University's academic undertakings.

Programming began to appear on Fox channels during September, and more will be offered in the next few months.

A good rundown is available at the website soonersports.com. Click "Multimedia" at the top of the page, then click "Sooner Sports TV." A full week-by-week schedule is offered there of all OU events. And there is a good deal of additional information.

Presidents and pigskins It appears that Sooner football fans should pull for a Republican victory in this year's presidential election.

Daily Oklahoman columnist Jason Kersey studied OU football history against the background of which party won the White House each season in which Oklahoma played football, dating back to the 1890s.

It is a landslide: GOP.

Kersey found that in years when a Republican was elected president OU's winning percentage was .801 (119-27-7). That compares to .606 (78-49-10) in years when Democrats prevailed.

Likewise, Kersey discovered that the Sooners did better against two longtime rivals, Oklahoma St. and Texas, in GOP-winning years.

Against Texas, OU was 7-4-1 in GOP years; 3-9-1 when a Democrat won. Against OSU, it was 13-1-0 Republican, 9-3-1 Democrat.

Two more kickoff times Fox Sports and OU have announced kickoff times for two November football games.

Both the Baylor and West Virginia games will air beginning at 6 p.m. on

Sports notes

Nov. 10 and 17, respectively.

Two games at McCasland The OU men's basketball team will step back in time for a couple of games in the coming season.

Two games have been scheduled to be played at 84-year-old McCasland Field House. In what has been dubbed the Field House Series, OU will play a Nov. 7 exhibition game against Central Oklahoma and a Dec. 31 regular season game against Texas A&M-Corpus Christi.

While making the announcement, Sooners coach Lon Kruger recalled that he played against the Sooners in McCasland in 1972 and again in 1974 while attending Kansas St.

In 1975 OU moved its basketball games to the new Lloyd Noble Center.

OU's men's basketball teams won eight conference titles and 68 per cent of their games while playing at McCasland.

The venerable field house remains the home of OU's wrestling and volleyball programs.

82 straight sellouts The Kansas St. game last month was the 82nd consecutive sellout at Owen Field for the football Sooners.

That's a school record and extends back to several games before Bob Stoops arrived in 1999.

Two Okies commit Men's basketball coach Lon Kruger has announced commitments from two students now playing in Oklahoma high schools.

They are the state's top senior point guard, senior Jordan Woodard of Edmond Memorial and junior Jacob Hammond of the homeschool Oklahoma City Sky.

Woodard had several other offers, among them Stanford, San Francisco and Memphis.

Hammond stands 6-9; Woodard 6-0.

Sooner Club \$\$\$ The University's athletic department reports that it has received nearly \$21 million in Sooner Club donations this year.

That's an 8 per cent increase over the last two years.

The Sooner Club has, since 2000, contributed more than \$300 million to the athletic department. That contributes significantly to the department remaining self-sustaining, needing no money from the academic side.



— Photo by Jessica Benedict

Part of the standing-room-only crowd that gathered at Fado's downtown to watch the OU-Kansas St. game is shown enjoying the good vibes and fine company. Here, four OU Club of Austin members await the kickoff.

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

Forwarding services requested

OU website offers classic football videos

A variety of DVDs recalling high points in OU football history is offered at the Athletic Department's website.

For example, two of a planned series of four videos depicting the careers of Sooner football's four winningest

coaches are available.

The first covered the years 1895-1946. Most of this video concerns the leadership of Coach Bennie Owen. The second is devoted to the Bud Wilkinson years, 1947-63.

And there are other videos of bowl games and, a particular favorite, of the entire 2000 season.

Another favorite is the "Collector's Edition," a five-disc set that shows the 1976, 1986, 1987 Orange Bowl victories and the 1987 wins over Texas and Nebraska.

You can check out the offerings at www.soonersports.com. Then click on "Shop OU" at the top of the page, then click "Multimedia Store."

Calendar of events

Event (TV channel)	Day/date	Time	Where
Football watch parties OU @ Texas Tech	Oct. 6 Sat.	2:30 p.m.	Fado's, 214 West 4th and Round Rock Marriott, 2600 La Frontera
Football watch parties OU-Texas	Oct. 13 Sat.	11 a.m.	Fado's and Round Rock Marriott
OU class reunions, esp. classes of 1962-2002	Oct. 19-20 Fri.-Sat.		OU campus. Contact: Jill Stephens 405-366-2056 or jills@ou.edu
Football watch parties Kansas @ OU	Oct. 20 Sat.	TBA	Fado's and Round Rock Marriott
Football watch parties Notre Dame @ OU	Oct. 27 Sat.	TBA	Fado's and Round Rock Marriott
Football watch parties OU @ Iowa St.	Nov. 3 Sat.	TBA	Fado's and Round Rock Marriott



CLUB OF AUSTIN

Name _____

Address _____

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Phone _____ Work No. _____

E-mail address _____ Fax _____

Areas of interest _____

Membership dues: \$25 a year • \$35 for a family NEW RENEWAL

O.U. Club of Austin • 1905 Shadow Brook Circle • Round Rock, TX 78681