

THE BAJA OKLAHOMAN

Newsletter of the OU Club of Austin

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

From the president

A memorable evening in Tallahassee

By FRED DUPY, President

What a trip.

Monica and I had quite a weekend, in the company of veteran OU Club of Austin member Steve Watson, our former president and first lady, Rod and Janene Davis, and some 12,000 other Sooners fans who journeyed to Tallahassee to see the Sooner football team challenge Florida St.

We withstood one of the loudest crowds you're ever going to hear (but nice folks, considering all the pressure everyone felt going into this game).

And the Soonerland faithful also withstood the Seminoles' four-part challenge offered by a game at FSU:

- The Tomahawk chop.
- Fear of the Spear — signs warning visitors to beware.
- Renegade, the horse whose rider is honored each game at Florida St. to plant a feathered spear into the 50-yard line as warning to visiting teams: this is where we make our stand. And
- Chief Osceola, the student chosen to represent FSU atop Renegade, handling spear chucking honors.

And, oh yes, we also withstood one other thing: the Florida St. football team.

But it was no stroll in the park.

In the end, OU won — coming out on top in a stirring gutcheck game that ranks among the most memorable in the Sooners' rich and wonderful football history.

Football watch parties drawing record crowds

Attendance this fall reinforces the need to find a 2nd site, either central or south

Attendance at the OU Club of Austin watch parties in the early going this fall has gone off the charts.

With high hopes for a banner season, fans are understandably responsive these days.

But we've never seen attendance like this in the club's nearly quarter century of existence.

We had more than 50 fans at the opener with Tulsa and the head count soared to 81 for Florida St.

The crowd at the Round Rock Marriott for the game in Tallahassee was beyond the capacity of the bar where the TV sets are located. Those attending spilled over into an adjacent dining area.

Lee Lanham, watch party chair, is, of course, mightily pleased by the turnouts.

"It appears to be the sentiment of the first two parties," Lee says, "that, while the place is packed, those attending appeared OK with that."

"It was quite a cozy and electric crowd."

But Lee adds that he heard that a number of people left early because of the crowd. He says he's not sure those leaving were all OU fans wanting to get in on the fun.

This has energized the OU Club of Austin's board to redouble efforts to find a possible second location for the increasingly popular gatherings.

But efforts in recent months to find a

No watch party for Ball St. But UT maybe

Since Ball St. is a pay-per-view event, unavailable at the Marriott, we won't have a watch party this Saturday.

As for UT the week later, Oct. 8, we will let you know via the club website, email and/or Facebook.

For sure, we'll be back at the Marriott on Oct. 15: Kansas.

location in central or south Austin have turned up problems. Many places contacted want a guaranteed minimum price, while others are hesitant to commit to having a group present, fearing it might crowd out regular customers.

But the search goes on, energized now by a sense that we need additional space.

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'NEATH A WESTERN SKY: Reopening of OU's expanded Fred Jones Jr. Museum set Oct. 22-23

The eagerly awaited opening of the new wing of the Fred Jones Jr. Museum of Art on the campus of the University of Oklahoma will take place next month.

That will occur on the weekend of Oct. 22-23 (coinciding with OU's football game with Texas Tech).

"This newest addition to our art museum includes a magnificent new gallery," says OU President David Boren, "designed to showcase the remarkable Adkins Collection of Taos Colony art, the Bialac Collection of Native American paintings and the Sandor Collection of photography."

The entire building, erected in 1971, has been modernized and beautified and a mezzanine gallery added that will enable display of more of the museum's photography holdings.

The Jones museum is now ranked in the top five among the nation's universities in the strength and value of its col-

Campus notes

lections, President Boren notes.

Adkins book released A book describing the Adkins Collection of art was recently published by the OU Press. *Eugene B. Adkins Collection: Selected Works* describes the four decades that Adkins, a Tulsa native, spent acquiring his collection of Native American and Southwestern American art.

The 304-page book features numerous photos of the collection's contents.

\$10 million donation An OU tennis letterman from the early 1970s, Tim Headington, has given a \$10 million do-

nation to the University to assist in funding the \$75 million student residential center being built in the block where O'Connell's used to stand.

The building will house OU athletic and non-athletic students.

Longtime donor dies Cy Wagner, a Tulsa native who gave millions of dollars to OU, died this month.

Wagner and his wife Lissa, among other things, established the University's largest scholarship endowment.

Veteran reporter dead Chuck Ervin, veteran Oklahoma reporter, died this month. The McAlester native was an OU journalism graduate.

He worked 34 years for *The Tulsa World*, much of that as the paper's chief correspondent at the Oklahoma Capitol.

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

Club website:

<http://www.ouclubofaustin.com>

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James Garner's brother dies

A brother of TV and movie star James Garner died this month.

Jack Garner died in Palm Springs, Calif., six days before his 85th birthday. He was one of three Garner brothers born in Norman.

The third, Charles Bumgarner, was a long-time Norman school administrator who died in 1984 at age 60.

Jack Garner was a professional baseball player, actor, singer and golf pro.

Jack appeared in 60 movies and TV series installments from 1966 through 1999.

The surviving brother, James, has been a significant contributor to the University of Oklahoma, particularly its School of Drama

In 2003, he endowed the \$1 million James Garner Chair in the drama school.



—The Norman Transcript

The Garner brothers, from left, Jack Garner, actor James Garner and Charles Bumgarner gather for a game of golf in Norman in this July 1973 photo. James and Jack Garner changed their names when they moved to California. Charles Bumgarner retained the family name and became an educator in Norman.

Big XII-Minus-III evidently still alive

'Progress' hasn't driven a stake through its heart yet

The situation has been changing almost daily — make that hourly — but at presstime it appeared that the Big XII Conference will live beyond the end of the current academic year.

For the second successive summer, there was a dalliance with the Hollywood Hills. But as with so many summer flings, the first cool breezes of autumn (you notice those yet?) brought on yet another sobering up.

Yes, Texas A&M appears lost to the conference next summer. It seems the Aggies will head to the Southeastern Conference, possibly nursing a few bear paw wounds to their maroon buttocks, inflicted by a jilted Baylor

But hopes persist among the conference's surviving nine schools that the threats to the Big XII's survival have passed for now and that future news may involve additions to the league's ranks, or that the status will remain quo.

Place your bets, ladies and gentlemen.

Women's basketball on TV Five Sooner women's basketball games will be among 19 contests involving Big 12 teams televised this winter by Fox Sports Network.

Part II of OU's football-history DVDs due for release next month

Orders are now being accepted for the second of four videos planned on the history of football at the University of Oklahoma.

Part II centers on the years that Bud Wilkinson was the Sooner head coach, 1947-1963.

The second DVD — lasting nearly three hours — offers interviews with former players and coaches and never-before-seen footage of the period in which OU won its first three national championships and ran off its historic 47-game winning streak.

About this time last year the first video of the series was released. The remaining parts III and IV — center-

Sports notes

OU's games with Texas A&M (Jan. 8), Oklahoma St. (Jan. 14), Texas (Jan. 21 and Feb. 25) and Baylor (Jan. 26) will be aired.

Jimmy Harris dead at 76 Funeral services for former Sooner quarterback Jimmy Harris were this month in Shreveport.

Harris, who had a 25-0 record as Oklahoma's starting quarterback, was a native of Terrell, Tex.

New Love's in Pauls Valley Love's has opened a new travel center in Pauls Valley. It's on the east side of I-35 northbound at exit 70, replacing the firm's old convenience store on the west side of the highway at exit 72.

A parade from the old location to the new highlighted the center's opening.

The Oklahoma-based firm's new store features more gas pumps, larger restrooms, a complete gift shop and a wider selection of merchandise.

OSU: .500 at last Oklahoma St. made a bit of history in its recent victory over Tulsa.

ing mostly on the Barry Switzer and Bob Stoops eras — will be made available at the beginning of the next two seasons.

Part I, "Birth of a Champion," covered the years 1895 thru 1946, when Wilkinson was named head coach and covers mostly the period in which Bennie Owen coached OU.

Orders may be placed online at <http://shop.soonersports.com/search/dvd> Each DVD copy is \$19.95 plus \$8.71 shipping and tax, a total of \$28.66. Orders will begin being shipped on Oct. 17.

The series is narrated by former Sooner running back Spencer Tillman

We're not talking about the 12:16 Sunday morning kickoff. No, it seems that with the win that morning the Cowboys evened their all-time football record: 522 wins, 522 losses and 47 ties.

By comparison, OU's all-time football record (through the Florida St. game) was 813-304-53.

Ahem.

More historical notes Tulsa also contributed a bit to OU football history this month. OU's win enabled the Sooners to become the first college football team to be named No. 1 100 times in the AP football poll since the ratings were instituted in 1936.

New book tells of Sooners' football in 1960s

Tulsa native Wann Smith, a regular contributor to *Sooners Illustrated* magazine, has authored *Wishbone: Oklahoma Football, 1959-1985* (Norman: OU Press \$24.95).

Smith, a lifelong OU fan, wanted to write a book about Sooner football but was uncertain where to focus, since so many such books have been written.

In conversation with Castiglione, Smith was given an idea: check out the 1960s.

"One thing I keep hearing from people I've interviewed for the book," Smith told *The Tulsa World's* James D. Watts Jr., "is how surprised they are by some of the facts in it — such as the story of how OU player turned Texas head coach Darrell Royal helped the OU staff perfect the Wishbone offense.

"Barry Switzer put it best — it was like Ford sharing its secrets with Chevrolet," Smith said.

"But Royal did it because Chuck Fairbanks and his staff were in danger of being fired, and he wanted to help them. It's an attitude that's hard to imagine in the world of college football today."

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

Forwarding services requested

Calendar of events

Event/(TV channel)	Day/date	Time	Where
Big XII Happy Hour (story, this page)	Sept. 29 Thurs.	6-8 p.m.	The Park at The Domain 11601 Domain Dr. (512-478-7275)

NOTE: There will be no watch party on Oct. 1 for Ball St.
There may be one on Oct. 8 for Texas. We'll let
you know via the club website, email and/or Facebook

Please see the
story on page 1

Football watch party OU @ Kansas (TBA)	Oct. 15 Sat.	TBA	Marriott Hotel, 2600 La Frontera (near Tx 45, between MoPac and I-35)
Football watch party Texas Tech @ OU (TBA)	Oct. 22 Sat.	TBA	Marriott Hotel, 2600 La Frontera
Football watch party OU @ Kansas St. (TBA)	Oct. 29 Sat.	TBA	Marriott Hotel, 2600 La Frontera
Football watch party Texas A&M @ OU (TBA)	Nov. 5 Sat.	TBA	Marriott Hotel, 2600 La Frontera

Big XII happy hour set Thursday at the Domain

OU Club of Austin members are invited to attend another Big XII Happy Hour this Thursday.

This gathering will feature a raffle to raise money for the American Red Cross to aid their fire-relief efforts throughout the conference.

Details of where, etc., are in the calendar elsewhere on this page.

See you there.



CLUB OF AUSTIN

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

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E-mail address _____ Fax _____

Areas of interest _____

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

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