



Friday, October 12, 2001

## OU dance team to be featured on ESPN2

By **Jeff Samoray**, OU Web Writer

Oakland University's dance team's award-winning performance from the 2001 National Dance Team Championships is being featured on **ESPN2** in a taped broadcast on Sunday, Oct. 14, from 2-3 p.m.

The team, Images, which is ranked No. 2 in the nation, finished second at the championships in January at Disney's Wide World of Sports Complex in Orlando, Fla.

Images Head Coach Teri Bossi said seeing her team compete on television will be a dream come true.

"I've seen Images go from a student organization to an athletic sport," said Bossi, who has coached the team for five years. "My only goal at first was to get the team to be competitive at a dance camp. My next goal was to go to nationals, which we did two years ago. It's always been a dream that my girls would receive a trophy as a group and then be able to see it on TV, and we've done that this year.

"I haven't seen the broadcast yet, so I'm excited to hear what the commentators have to say about the team."

A 20-minute routine that the team recently performed at the 2001 Arts and Apples Festival in Rochester also will be broadcast on Rochester cable public access channel 52 on Tuesday, Oct. 16, at 4 p.m.

Images currently is learning material for the upcoming basketball season, including seven two-minute halftime routines and more than a dozen 45-second short routines to use during timeouts. The team will perform two routines – a new one entitled "Fire" and a reprise of their routine from the Universal Dance Association College Spirit Camp competition where they took first place in August – at **Midnight Madness** on Friday, Oct. 12.

By the end of October, Images plans to bring in an independent choreographer to help develop a new routine for the 2002 National Dance Team Championships, to be held again in January in Orlando.

In the meantime, Bossi said the team is fine-tuning techniques such as toe touches, leaps, turns and keeping their basic dance skills sharp and in-sync.

"As a team, there's nothing in particular we need to improve on, but individually there are always things we can excel at," Bossi said. "At every practice the girls learn a new dance and I choose a different technique for us to work on. We also work on conditioning, muscle work, and proper warm ups and stretches. The girls also spend two days per week in the gym doing something structured like lifting weights, aerobics or cardio work."

Images also helps perform community services. In addition to its 2001 Arts and Apples performance, the team recently helped the **OU Bookstore** during its busy fall sales rush, assisted sales staff at area Kohl's stores, had car washes to raise funds for uniforms and camp outfits, and passed out brochures promoting OU basketball season tickets.

### SUMMARY

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