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OU mascot gets new look

By **Jeff Samoray**, *OU Web Writer*

The Grizz, Oakland University's athletics mascot, was reintroduced this fall with a new costume. The OU community caught a first glimpse of the new Grizz during Midnight Madness on Oct. 17, and the new costume made its first athletics appearance at the women's basketball game on Nov. 25.

"The new mascot look is more athletic, exciting and colorful," said Mark Doman, assistant athletic director – marketing. "We ordered it from a company that specializes in mascot costumes in Edmonton, Alberta, called About Face Mascots."

OU adopted the Golden Grizzlies mascot in 1997 while preparing the move from NCAA Division II to Division I athletics. The Grizz made its debut at OU's inaugural basketball game against Michigan State University in the new Recreation and Athletics Center on Nov. 17, 1998.

Before becoming the Golden Grizzlies, OU's nickname was the Pioneers and the unofficial mascot was Pioneer Pete. Pete started out in the 1950s as an aerospace pioneer, but when a student drew a mascot logo containing a buckskin-clad Pioneer Pete, the image stuck.

Visit the **OU Mascot** Web page to learn more about OU mascot history and the **OU Athletics** Web site for more information on Oakland's six men's and eight women's varsity teams.

You also can purchase Golden Grizzlies merchandise via the **OU Athletics** Web site and at the **Grizz Store**, located in the Recreation and Athletics Center. Grizz Store hours are 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Monday-Friday and 10 a.m.-4:30 p.m. Saturday. For more information or to place an order by phone, call (248) 370-3161 during store hours.

SUMMARY

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