

Friday, September 3, 2004

Celebrities to appear at OU's golf courses

By Dawn Pauli, contributing writer

As the host of the 2004 Ryder Cup Champions Invitational, **Oakland University's Golf and Learning Center** will be brimming with sports, broadcasting and Hollywood celebrities.

Participants in the Champions Invitational, presented by the MGM Grand Detroit, are teeing off Thursday, Sept. 16, with one celebrity in each fivesome. The golf outing will benefit local charity organizations, including First Tee of Michigan, Covenant House of Michigan, Good Sports Foundation, Literacy Partnership of Southeast Michigan, The Charles H. Wright Museum of African American History and North Oakland Foundation.

Celebrity golfers include Detroit Red Wings Brendan Shanahan and Darren McCarty, Detroit Tigers Hall of Famer Al Kaline, New Pro-Football Hall of Famer Barry Sanders, and many others.

"Oakland University is proud to host such a spectacular event here in our community and to support, as the host venue, the various selected charities," said Bill Rogers, director of OU's Golf & Learning Center.

The pairings party for the amateur golf participants will be Tuesday, Sept. 7, at the Detroit Athletic Club, when the stars will be announced officially and placed with a foursome of golfers who will play at OU's Katke-Cousins and R & S Sharf golf courses.

Two hundred amateur golfers paid \$3,950 each to participate in the Champions Invitational and support the local charity organizations.

Only credentialed participants will be allowed on the Oakland Golf & Learning Center property during the event. There will not be any public access and the golf courses are open only to those individuals participating in the Champions InvitationalI.

For those who still want to get up close to a golf star, Tiger Woods is hosting a golf clinic Monday, Sept. 13, at OU's Golf and Learning Center. Tickets still are available through the **Ticketmaster** Web site. Purchasers of two tickets to the 2005 Buick Open in Flint will receive one admission to the clinic.

For more information, see **OU's Golf & Learning Center** Web site.

Champions Invitational celebrity golfers include:

Marcus Allen
Dick Anderson
Matt Bahr
Pro Football Hall of Fame (Raiders/Chiefs)
NFL All Pro and member (17-0 Dolphins)
NFL All Pro (Steelers-Browns-Giants)

Ernie Banks Baseball Hall of Fame (Cubs)
Lem Barney Pro Football Hall of Fame (Lions)
Ralph Boston Olympic Gold Medalist (Long Jump)

• Scotty Bowman NHL Hall of Fame Coach (Red Wings/Penguins/Canadiens)

• Joey Browner NFL All Pro (Vikings)

• Dick Butkus Pro Football Hall of Fame (Bears)

Gary Carter Baseball Hall of Fame (Expos/Mets/Giants/Dodgers)
Dino Ciccarelli NHL All Star (North Stars/Panthers/Red Wings)

Alex Delvecchio NHL Hall of Fame (Red Wings)

• Richard Dent NFL All Pro (Bears)

Eric Dickerson
Mike Ditka
Pro Football Hall of Fame (Rams/Colts)
Pro Football Hall of Fame (Cowboys)

Phil Esposito
Chuck Foreman
NHL Hall of Fame (Bruins)
NFL All Pro (Vikings)

Rod Gilbert NHL Hall of Fame (Rangers)
John Havilchek Basketball Hall of Fame (Celtics)

• Thomas "Hollywood" Henderson NFL All Pro (Cowboys)

Ted Hendricks Pro Football Hall of Fame (Raiders)
Paul Hornung Pro Football Hall of Fame (Packers)

Brett Hull
NHL All Star (Red Wings)

Tom Izzo Michigan State Basketball Coach

Vinnie Johnson
Ed "Too Tall" Jones
NBA All Star (Pistons)
NFL All Pro (Cowboys)

Al Kaline Baseball Hall of Fame (Tigers)
Harmon Killebrew Baseball Hall of Fame (Twins)

Mike Lucci
NFL All Pro (Lions)

• Frank Mahovlich NHL Hall of Fame (Canadiens/Maple Leafs)

Jack Marin NBA All Star (Bullets)
Darren McCarty NHL All Star (Red Wings)
Phil Niekro Baseball Hall of Fame (Braves)

Ahmad Rashad NBA "Inside Stuff" TV Host / NFL All Pro (Vikings)

Mickey Redmond NHL All Star (Red Wings)
Brooks Robinson Baseball Hall of Fame (Orioles)
Truck Robinson NBA All Star (Suns/Knicks)

Richard Roundtree
Barry Sanders
Gale Sayers
Joe Schmidt
Veteran Screen and TV Actor "Shaft"
Pro Football Hall of Fame (Lions)
Pro Football Hall of Fame (Lions)

Brendan Shanahan
Greg Stefan
NHL All Star (Red Wings)
NHL All Star (Red Wings)

Jan Stenerud Pro Football Hall of Fame (Chiefs)
Lawrence Taylor Pro Football Hall of Fame (Giants)

Mike Tirico
PGA Tour TV Host

Paul Warfield Pro Football Hall of Fame (Dolphins/Browns)
Earl Weaver Baseball Hall of Fame Manager (Orioles)

• Fred Williamson NFL player (Raiders/Chiefs), Actor "Starsky and Hutch"

• Kellen Winslow Sr. Pro Football Hall of Fame (Chargers)

SUMMARY

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