

Grizzly Bites - Issue No. 7

Oct. 30, 2009

TO: Fans, Friends, Alumni, and supporters of Oakland University Athletics

It seems that our fall seasons are getting ready to wrap up and what a tremendous fall for Oakland athletics. The volleyball team continues to shine and stands in second place with five matches remaining, including two at home to close out the regular season. Please continue to support them as they host UMKC on senior night during our festival of sport weekend on November 13-15.

The men's and women's cross country teams will fight for a Summit League championship tomorrow in Southern Utah. We wish Coach Paul Rice and his student-athletes the best of luck.

The men's soccer team remains undefeated in league action and can clinch the regular-season title with a win or tie over their next two matches versus UMKC and Western Illinois. We are fortunate enough to host The Summit League Championship once again and hope to see all of our fans at the games as they try and win the tournament title on November 13-15.

The women's soccer team is playing this weekend and is fighting for one of the top four slots for the Summit League Championship. They have an outside chance at the regular-season title with a pair of wins. They advance to the tournament with a win over Western Illinois on Sunday.

The men's and women's golf teams concluded their fall seasons and one of our talented freshman Jakob Ziegler picked up his first collegiate win at the F&M Bank APSU Intercollegiate. Congratulations to him and the spring could bring some special things for both programs.

We hosted our third annual basketball media day this past Thursday and had the best turnout yet. The excitement of basketball is grabbing our fans, friends and alumni and coaches Greg Kampe and Beckie Francis will most certainly have their teams fighting for another league championship. Thanks to all the fans that came out and watched our open practices. Single game tickets will go on sale on November 2nd if you have not purchased season tickets.

Swimming and Diving is underway and will host Wane State on Saturday in a breast cancer awareness meet. Please come out and support this worthy cause and watch our 2009 Summit League championship teams receive their rings before the start of the dual meet.

Our first-ever annual report will be available online on Monday, Nov. 2nd. This document contains information on the 2008-09 seasons and highlights the successes that all of our athletic programs had. It also displays some other key factors about our athletic department, such as academic success, community service, life skills programs, financials and a list of donors that continue to allow Oakland University to produce Graduates and Champions. We appreciate all of your support!

Alumni Spotlight

Former baseball standout Paul Phillips made great strides this summer through the minor league ranks and was promoted to the Tampa Bay Rays Triple-A squad the Durham Bulls, helping the Bulls win the international league championship. We are all proud of his accomplishments this past summer and look forward to what the future might bring.

Brian Stuard also had a superb first full season on the Nationwide Tour. Stuard finished 26th on the money list, missing earning his PGA Tour card for 2010 by one spot. With his finish, he surpasses the first stages of Qualifying School and will compete in the final stage for a chance to make the PGA Tour.

Please continue to send me your feedback whenever possible. While I cannot guarantee a personal response to every e-mail that we receive, please know that they will all be read, so I do encourage your participation in this process. Some of your questions/comments could become subjects for future issues of Grizzly Bites.

I also encourage you to share this letter with any OU fan that may not have access to the internet. Our mission is to inform and engage as many Golden Grizzlies supporters as we possibly can.

I want to thank you for your continued support of Oakland University athletics as we move forward with our vision for excellence.