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## Tiger Woods shares golf tips at OU

By **Kalee Iacoangeli**, *OU Student Writer*

He's one of the biggest names in sports and one of the most talented athletes to ever play the game of golf, and on Sept. 13, he was at Oakland University.

Tiger Woods held a golf clinic at **Oakland University's Golf and Learning Center** where he shared a few secrets to his success. The event, which attracted more than 1,700 fans and golf enthusiasts, showcased the knowledge and pure talent of the 28-year-old golf pro.

Woods began the clinic by demonstrating his warm-up procedures, which he humbly admitted he borrowed from golf legend Jack Nicklaus. He continued by explaining the fundamentals of his golf swing, pointing out key elements such as focus, balance and simplicity.

"I try to keep this game as simple as possible," said Woods, as he demonstrated the slight differences in his swings. "The key is maintaining balance."

The clinic, although only an hour long, left some spectators feeling more insightful and better prepared for improvements.

"I was in awe," said Carl Ventimeglia of Memphis, Mich. "I learned a lot about staying balanced and making good contact and also how to make the ball go farther and straighter without swinging so hard."

Along with learning how to improve their golf games, fans were honored to be in the presence of such a high-caliber athlete.

"I was proud just to be a part of it," said Roger Fachini Sr. of Sterling Heights. "You never expect to see those quality of shots, no matter how skilled or talented someone is. It was excellent."

Even the youngest of viewers were amazed at seeing Woods perform.

"It was good. I want to be like Tiger one day," said 4-year-old Gunner Wallgren, who was there as part of an early birthday present.

Woods ended the clinic on a playful note by performing some of his favorite tricks. Similar to his juggling routine in a Buick commercial, he repeatedly bounced a golf ball off the end of his wedge and then hit it one-handed nearly 100 yards. The final performance left the audience stunned as he hit a 210-yard drive from his knees.

The Tiger Woods Golf Clinic was an unprecedented event for Oakland University and its golf courses. The clinic, along with the Ryder Cup Champions Invitational, gives OU exposure on an international level.

"This is a tremendous feather in our cap for Buick to select our learning center and this university to host these events," said OU Head Golf Professional Larry Hamilton. "The clinic was outstanding, and I think they knew that our facility really provided a great venue and the perfect atmosphere."

For more information on OU's golf courses, visit the **OU Golf and Learning Center** Web site.

### SUMMARY

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