



Tuesday, October 15, 2002

## WOCOU 2002 spreads OU spirit

The Spirit of WOCOU (Week of Champions @ Oakland University) 2002 wrapped up Friday, Oct. 11, during OU's fourth annual Midnight Madness.

"The O'Rena was rockin'," said Mark Doman, assistant athletics director. "We had our largest crowd ever for Midnight Madness."

The Athletics Center O'Rena was hopping Friday evening in anticipation of Midnight Madness. Beginning with the OU faculty and staff basketball game at 10:30 p.m., the excitement continued to build through the laser show, a performance by the dance team, and a spirit and slam dunk contest. At midnight, more than 1,700 fans cheered as the 2002-2003 men's and women's basketball teams were introduced.

"It was a big party for the fans," Doman said. "It really got us in the swing for the upcoming season. WOCOU is a unique fall event and Midnight Madness is a great topper to the week."

It was a week filled with events and celebrations throughout campus, including a talent show, free WOCOU T-shirts, live performances by the OU African Ensemble "Akwaaba" and Steel Band "Pan Jumbies," and making s'mores and roasting marshmallows outdoors.

"The week was terrific," said Jean Ann Miller, director of the Center for Student Activities. "Everybody got into the OU spirit."

Another highlight of the week was the University Appreciation Dinner. More than 1,000 students, faculty and staff gathered Friday evening to enjoy dinner and entertainment.

"It was the first big event for our new on-campus food service vendor, Chartwells," said Miller. "It was a showcase event to the entire OU community for them. The dinner and its presentation were awesome. I heard comments about how the food was well prepared and delicious."

"WOCOU is a great way to start the fall season, and to pump the students up and get them excited about OU. It was an overwhelming success."

### SUMMARY

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