

Grizzly Bites - Issue No. 5

Sept. 1, 2009

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

The fall season has already begun as we head into the 2009-10. Congratulations to our women's soccer team for winning their home season opener this past Sunday over St. Bonaventure. Our men's soccer team begins competition today at UAB and we wish them good luck.

Congratulations to our volleyball team that won the West Virginia University Classic after sweeping WVU, St. Francis (Pa.) and Towson. It is the first time we have defeated a BIG EAST program in volleyball and first 3-0 start since moving Division I.

Cross Country begins the season with a home meet this weekend as they host the Golden Grizzly Open. Head Coach Paul Rice is also hosting the first-ever high school meet here on campus which will have the top male and female runners in the state. The Golden Grizzly High School Invitational will be on Friday, Sept. 4, starting at 10:30 a.m. with the varsity girls, having the varsity boys follow.

We have our student-athlete orientation tomorrow in the O'Rena and the staff is excited to meet and greet the incoming freshmen. We have a big weekend ahead of us this Labor Day with our first-ever volleyball tournament here at the O'Rena on Saturday and Sunday. As I mentioned earlier, the cross country teams will host a meet at 10 a.m. on campus, while men's soccer will take on Dayton at Ultimate Soccer Arena on Sunday night at 7 p.m.

Golden Grizzlies Golf Classic

We hosted our 26th athletic department golf tournament on Monday, August 24 at Katke-Cousins and R&S Sharf Golf Courses. Thanks to our event sponsors Plastic Engineering and Technical Services, Jim Causley Pontiac/GMC and Tri-County Sports, along with the 100 players that participated in helping us continue to support our 18 intercollegiate sports here at Oakland University. We had a beautiful day once again and the courses were in great condition. Congratulations to the winning teams of Kyle Martin, OU golfer Liz Ecker and Alanna Gerber, and women's assistant coach Kate Costello on Katke-Cousins, while Wade McDermaid, OU golfer Austin McDermaid, Mr. Burch and Mr. Eisman captured the crown on the Sharf Course.

VIP Courtside Seats Sold Out

Thanks to all Golden Grizzly fans who purchased VIP courtside seats for the men's and women's home basketball games. For the first time ever, we have sold out all of those seats on the floor. We are also seeing increased enrollment in our VIP hospitality program (which include season tickets, VIP reserved parking and access to the hospitality suite for pre-game meals and post-game press conferences). A limited number of these packages remain for the 2009-10 season, if you are interested please contact Chad Thompson at 248.370.4034.

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.