

THE SCARLET AND GRAY

The Official Newsletter of the Ohio State Alumni Club of Austin
Vol. 2 Issue 3 Spring 2009

Letter

FROM THE PRESIDENT

Hi Austin Buckeyes! I hope all of you had a great winter and are enjoying spring. As you know, the club's board has been busy making a decision about whether the club should stay at Sam's Boat or move to a new game watch location. This decision-making process included asking you for your feedback through two separate surveys. The first survey told us that 34.2% weren't sure if we should stay at Sam's Boat, 27.4% wanted to leave, 19.7% wanted to stay, and 18.8% had no preference. You told us that TV viewing and how our club and members are treated/appreciated are the most important things in a game watch venue. Based on these survey results, we decided to seek out other venue locations. We held events at the alternative

locations (Bikini's Sports Bar & Grill and Champions Sports Bar), and, subsequently, asked for members to rank these locations and Sam's Boat in order of preference.

In early April, the board met to make a decision on the club's game watch venue. The board voted to move to Bikini's Sports Bar & Grill based on the following reasons:

- Survey results
 - A true majority (51.7%) voted for Bikini's as their number one choice
 - Champions was an overwhelming "no" due to its downtown location (50.4% had it as their last choice)
- Ability to reserve tables/area for our

members at Bikini's, which Sam's Boat has told us they will not do

- Capacity is sufficient
- More parking/clean bathrooms, which were regular complaints about Sam's Boat
- Centralized location
- Set-up is more conducive to socializing and meeting new Buckeye friends
- Lighting and viewing are better than Sam's Boat, plus outside viewing
- Sam's Boat has promised much, but didn't always deliver

We knew that no one decision would please everyone, but we chose the location that will best serve our group and members.

A few people have asked whether Bikini's is family-friendly. I understand the reason behind this question because, before I visited, I was against our club moving there. However, I have found that Bikini's is a sports bar, like any other. Additionally, after talking with members who visited Bikini's and meeting as a group, the board determined that there isn't any evidence that the atmosphere of either Bikini's or Sam's Boat is any more family-friendly than the other. I encourage you to visit during an Austin

Buckeye event before making a final judgment. As one mother said, any game watch venue with Buckeyes is family-friendly.

The board members and I are looking forward to a great football season at Bikini's. They are thrilled to have us and are already making changes to accommodate our group!

Leslie Reid
President



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BUCKEYE TENNIS COMES TO COLLEGE STATION

The Ohio State Men's Tennis team came to Texas on March 13th to take on Texas A&M. A small group of us ventured over to College Station to watch some great tennis and root on the Buckeyes.

The Texas weather wasn't very welcoming to the Scarlet & Gray since it was pouring down rain and about 40 degrees that afternoon. The team joked that it was nicer back in Columbus. We joked back that it's always like this in College Station. The match was moved next door to Bryan, TX in a covered facility. The problem was it was not enclosed, so it was like sitting in Ohio Stadium in October. Advantage Buckeyes!

The match started out with three lines of doubles, which was hard fought on both sides of the net. The Buckeyes lost the first two matches with scores of 9-7 and 9-8. The third line was tied when it was stopped because A&M had it won. This put Texas A&M on the scoreboard first, 1-0. *Quick review:* College tennis plays 6 lines of singles, each worth 1 point and 3 lines of doubles, worth 1 point. First team to win 4 points wins the match.

Next up was lines 1, 2, and 3 singles. Ohio State's strength is their singles play, and the top three players are ranked in the top 20 in the country.

Well, things weren't going well for the Buckeyes early on. Steven Moenke #8 (OSU) lost (6-4, 6-3) and Bryan Koniacko #4 lost a heart-breaker (5-7, 6-3, 6-4) due to some very questionable calls by the umpire in the final set.

Buckeyes are down 0-3, and things are not falling for them. A few moments later, Justin Kronauge #20 (OSU) pulled out a win (3-6, 6-3, 7-5) and got rid of the bagel on the scoreboard for the Buckeyes. 3-1... bad guys...

Next up, lines 4, 5, and 6 singles. The Buckeyes need to win all three to stay alive; otherwise, it's a long way back to Columbus. Balas Novak (OSU) took care of business rather easily (6-4, 6-4). Buckeyes are inching back into the match, 3-2... Aggs. Line 4 match is very spirited and hard fought. To make things more interesting, the umpire that called the Bryan K. match is now calling the lines on this court. In a matter of minutes, there are two very questionable calls, and Coach Tucker blows a gasket and has the umpire removed. This doesn't go without a few comments from the crowd. Matt Allare (OSU) hangs on and pulls out a huge win for the Buckeyes (7-6, 6-7, 6-3). WHEW... 3-3... All tied up.

All the marbles are on the last singles match. Each player has won a set and it now comes down to the last

set. Shuhei Uzawa (OSU) is the Michael Chang of this team. He was running everything down and made his opponent hit one more tennis ball. It was some great tennis, and Shuhei pulled out the win for the team (6-4, 3-

6, 6-2). The crowd went wild (at least the folks in Scarlet & Gray)!!! What an exciting win for the Buckeyes. 4-3... Good guys!

Rick Gabel
Secretary



The Ohio State Men's Tennis team cruised through the Big Ten Tennis tournament and finished the season with a perfect 10-0 record in the Big Ten. Their overall record is a season best of 31-1. This earned them a #3 overall seed in the NCAA Tennis Championship.

The NCAA Tennis Championship has a 64 team bracket, very similar to the NCAA Basketball Tournament. The Buckeyes defeated Xavier in Round 1 and number 35 Michigan in Round 2, in Columbus.

The regional winners head off to the Sweet Sixteen at Texas A&M in College Station. Ohio State will be playing on Thursday the 14th at 3 pm. After they finish off the third round opponent, the quarterfinals will be on Saturday the 16th at 4 pm. This will be a grudge match because Ohio State has beaten Baylor, the probable opponent, twice in two knock-down matches in the past two seasons.

We'd love to see you out there to root on the Buckeyes! Tickets on Saturday are \$10 for the entire day. The Austin club is also planning to host a BBQ dinner with the team afterwards. If you would like more information or want to carpool, contact Rick Gabel (rickgabel@sbcglobal.net) or Bruce Brandel (bruce_brandel@yahoo.com).

SPORTS UPDATE – FILLING HOLES

We are all aware the Ohio State Football team will have a number of holes to fill after this past season, but so will the OSU wrestling team. The Buckeyes recently finished second to Iowa for the second year in a row during the NCAA wrestling championships held in St. Louis. Senior J. Jagers won his second consecutive national championship at the 141 # weight class. The senior from Northfield, Ohio joined current OSU assistant coach Tommy Rowlands (2002, 04) and Kevin Randleman (1992-93) as OSU two-time individual champion. Jagers will now be viewed as one of the best Buckeye grapplers of all time.

After an up and down men's basketball season, the Buckeyes made a strong stand in the Big Ten Tournament only to lose in the Championship game to Purdue. That strong showing, with big wins against non-conference

opponents, enabled the Buckeyes to make it into the NCAA Tournament as an eight seed. The young Buckeyes played rather uninspired basketball in their first round tournament game against Sienna. The Buckeyes had their chances to seal a win in regulation but could not quite get it done. The Buckeyes ended up going into overtime against a Sienna team that hit shots when they most needed them. The first overtime ended with a big 3-point shot by Sienna to send the game into a second overtime. The Buckeyes seemed to be in control during the second overtime but Sienna came back and hit a clutch 3 pointer to go ahead by two points, giving the Buckeyes little time for a game-winning shot. The loss was tough but the bigger loss came later in the week when 7'0" freshman B.J. Mullens announced his intention to enter the NBA draft. Mullens is the fifth freshman to leave OSU early in the past three

years. These early departures have been tough for the Buckeyes to overcome, as they were the youngest division I basketball team on the roster. The departure of Mullens will hurt the Buckeyes more than in years past, as they do not have any commitments from High School seniors who are ranked in the top 100 nationally. The young Buckeyes will need to mature and grow rapidly, while attempting to replace Mullens next season.

The Buckeye Football team has won four consecutive Big Ten Titles, but if they want to win a fifth in a row they will need to find a way to replace 25 departing seniors and three underclassmen who departed early for the NFL draft. The big holes to fill are the teams leading rusher, leading scorer, a four-year punter, the top two receivers, a trio of veteran offensive lineman, and three of the top eight

tacklers from last year's Co-Big Ten Championship Team. The Buckeyes did secure one of the top recruiting classes in the country during the last recruiting effort. However, the Buckeyes will need a number of players to step during spring practice, and then have those in the new recruiting class come up to speed very rapidly when they step onto campus.

A number of new faces will be tested very early in the season when the University of Southern California makes a visit to the Horseshoe in early September. USC's roster will look much different than it did last year when the Buckeyes were embarrassed in the Coliseum. Hopefully the familiar home setting and underclassmen depth will bring the Buckeyes an early season non-conference victory.

Bob Joseph
Treasurer

Buckeyes Volunteer

OSU-Austin volunteered at the Capital Area Food Bank in February. Our group was assigned to inspect, sort, and pack meat, which Terry Tutchings said was the perfect assignment for Buckeyes in the land of the Longhorn. At the end of three hours, Buckeye volunteers had helped sort 11,880 pounds of food, which equals 9,504 meals!

Left to Right: Dave and Peggy Rinehart, Bruce and Emily Brandel, Leslie Reid, Wendy Worth, Carmine Doddato, and Terry Tutchings. Volunteers Paul Bloor and Jennifer Lingvai are not pictured.



AUSTIN CLUB HONORS MEMBERS

On April 16, 2009, we held the annual meeting and awards program. Leslie Reid reported on the business of the club over the last year and recognized the following Austin Buckeyes with awards. We congratulate and thank each of them for their leadership and service to OSU-Austin.

Volunteer(s) of the Year:

Dave & Peggy Rinehart
Dave and Peggy Rinehart have probably missed no

more than five (5) football game watches in as many years. Dave and Peggy have served OSU-Austin in both volunteer and leadership roles over the past several years by selling tickets for the scholarship raffle, manning the merchandise/sign-in table, welcoming new Buckeyes, participating in community service events, attending a variety of club events, and providing guidance and feedback to the club's officers.



Bill and fellow Buckeyes

Spirit Award: *Bill Brunton*

If you have been to a Buckeye game watch, you know Bill Brunton. The atmosphere is not the same without him serving in his role as the club's cheerleader and encouraging us to "show [him] the mustard." Bill's Buckeye spirit does not stop by leading cheers; he has started Austin club traditions, befriended new members, and shown good sportsmanship to opposing

fans (including Michiganders at the UM game watch). All of Austin probably know that Bill Brunton is a Buckeye, and we are all the better for it.

Young Buckeye of the

Year: *Gavin Fox*

Gavin Fox is a very active member of the Young Buckeyes. He has been on all of the Young Buckeye kickball teams, has organized a (non-official) kickball tournament team



Dave, Leslie and Peggy

consisting of all Young Buckeyes, and comes to Young Buckeye and club events every chance he gets. He is dedicated to the growth and future the Young Buckeyes and has demonstrated exceptional leadership in an active and emerging group within our club.

President's Award: *Lauren Reppy*

Lauren Reppy was recognized by President Leslie Reid for her

outstanding leadership. Lauren stepped up to be the first leader of the Young Buckeyes group, which is an active and key component of our club. Over the last two years, while going to graduate school and working, Lauren has done an exceptional job organizing YB events, coming up with new ideas, and getting Young Buckeyes involved in alumni activities. This leadership does not stop at the Young Buckeyes group, as she is an emerging leader within our club's board.



Lauren, Gavin and Leslie

SCHOLARSHIP WINNERS

One of the Austin Alumni Club's goals is to award an OSU scholarship to a local Austin-area high school senior. This year, we had six qualified scholarship candidates. Unfortunately, as a result of the current economic environment, none of the candidates selected OSU.

However, we are awarding scholarships to our returning recipients, Jamie Evans and Elizabeth Bigler. Both Jamie and Elizabeth will be sophomores at OSU next year. Jamie is enrolled in the College of Business Honors Program, and Elizabeth is enrolled in the Architecture Scholars Program. Jamie and Elizabeth will each receive a \$1000 scholarship from our

club. Congratulations, Jamie and Elizabeth!

Thank you to the scholarship committee for your help with the interview process. Paul Bloor, Tracie Chan and Judy Stubblefield – you are all awesome, and I really appreciate your honest opinions, clever questions, and candid feedback!

I'd also like to thank our club members whose donations have made these scholarships possible.

For any information on our scholarship program, please contact Cristina Crabtree at cristina@osuaustin.org.

Cristina Crabtree
Scholarship Chair

We are already receiving information on the fall college fairs for the Austin area.

- **October 5th** RRISD College Fair at McNeil HS time will be evening
- **October 6th** PISD College Fair at Connally HS 6-8:30 pm
- **October 7th** Hills of Austin College Fairs at Westlake 8:45-11 am, Lake Travis 12:30-2:30 pm and Combined private schools from 7-9 pm

If you are interested in helping out, please contact Carrie Proctor at buckeyeproctor@yahoo.com. We especially need help covering the fairs on October 7th during the daytime.

Are you receiving our e-newsletter? The **Austin Buckeye Connection (ABC)** is issued weekly during football season and at least monthly at other times of the year. To subscribe, visit our website, www.osuaustin.org, and fill out our online membership form.

SCARLET & GRAY MEMBERSHIP

The Ohio State Alumni Club of Austin invites you to become a Scarlet & Gray member. By doing so, you help support local club events, student recruitment activities, and our quarterly newsletter, *The Scarlet and Gray Letter*. Benefits of being a Scarlet and Gray Member include:

- Ability to purchase OSU sport tickets that the club acquires
- Discounted tickets for OSU-Austin events
- Discount on OSU-Austin themed merchandise (exception: items purchased directly from Cafe Press)
- Priority to attend OSU-Austin events if club demand exceeds availability

A Scarlet & Gray membership is \$10/year and is active for one year beginning in autumn. Membership is open to all supporters of Ohio State; you do not need to have attended. To join, visit our website, www.osuaustin.org.

Whether you graduated from Ohio State or not, you can become a member of **The Ohio State University Alumni Association**. When you do, you join 130,000 Buckeyes who are staying connected, supporting students, and “paying forward.” Just a few benefits of membership are:

- Ohio State Alumni Magazine
- Entertainment Discounts
- Classmate Search
- Football Tickets*
- NEW Alumni Online Library
- Alumni Insurance Program
- Alumni Tours
- Hotel and Avis Rental Car Discounts

Visit www.ohiostatealumni.org or call 1-800-762-JOIN (5646) for more information.

*Not available to associate members.

YOUNG BUCKEYES UPDATE

In the past couple of months, the Young Buckeyes have been keeping pretty busy. Back in November, we prefaced the victory over Michigan with an excellent turn out at our 2nd Annual Beat Michigan Happy Hour. In January, we all got together for a little Buckeye basketball and a good old-fashioned Euchre Tournament, where 20 Young Buckeyes duked it out for bragging rights. In March, 14 of us got together to show Texans how smart Ohioans are at pub trivia at BD Riley's. Although we didn't win it all, we did win the first round! Finally, April marked the start of our 3rd

Young Buckeyes kickball team with the Austin Sport and Social League. Our team of 20, the Nut Jobs, look to dominate and more importantly, have fun, on our Wednesday night games. Half-way through the season, the Nut Jobs are undefeated.

This summer will be full of fun Austin activities, including a BBQ, a Cleveland Indians versus Cincinnati Reds game watch, and another tubing trip in New Braunfels. Watch the newsletter for more info and we hope to see you there!

Lauren Reppy
Young Buckeyes
Coordinator



*Young Buckeyes at Pub Trivia at BD Riley's
Left to Right: Brian Romer, Sloane Harris, Justin Harris, Doug French, Colleen Romer, Eric Goodyke*

BUCKEYE BASEBALL

The 2009 Baseball team is enjoying an excellent season to date, and they are vying for a Big Ten Championship. As it is every year, the season got under way with the team on the road, playing most of the early part of the schedule in Florida in several tournaments. The Buckeyes came away with an 18-3 record, with key wins over Miami (FL) and Notre Dame, before starting the Big Ten schedule, also on the road at Penn State.

Since then Coach Bob Todd has the team playing very good baseball, with a key road series sweep at Purdue, and most recently taking two out of three games versus rival Michigan at home. The

latter came with a stellar pitching performance by Alex Wimmers, who threw a no-hitter, the first by a Buckeye pitcher in OSU history, for a 9-inning game. He had masterful command of his pitches, striking out 14, and was backed up with great defense from the middle infielders, which helped preserve the feat.

Ryan Dew and Dan Burkhart are leading the team in batting with .400 and .390 averages respectively, but the team is batting well over all. Last year the Buckeyes did not have a lot of power in their bats, but this year the team has hit the long ball well, tallying 49 homeruns. Alex Wimmers, who threw

the no-hitter against Michigan, has a record of 8-1, and Dean Wolosianski has a record of 10-1, to lead the pitching staff.

Currently the Buckeyes are ranked #27 in the country, with a record of 34-11, at the time this article was written. Hopefully, they will continue their winning ways with out-of-conference games against Louisville before returning to the Big Ten schedule. Illinois leads the Big Ten standings, but the Buckeyes are only a game and a half out, which should make for an exciting run. This year's Big Ten tournament will be held in Columbus, at Huntington Park, which is the new arena district home

of the Columbus Clippers (AAA affiliate of the Cleveland Indians).

It has been a while since the Buckeyes have made a run in the NCAA's, but this year's team seems to be poised for a run in the regionals and hopefully beyond. If that happens, stay tuned for notifications of potential game watches, or trips to a regional or super regional game (if applicable), in the Austin Buckeye Connection.

Bruce Brandel
Vice-President

SPOTLIGHT

You may know Karen Randle from the football game watches and other events. She's the one trying to start a band to play at the game watches. She loves to get together with other Buckeyes to "swap stories, catch up on what's happening in Columbus, and welcome new members." Here's some of her story.

Karen is from a suburb of Cleveland, Cuyahoga Heights. She says, "not to be confused with Cuyahoga Falls." She went to Ohio State in the 60s. "Yes, I was at Ohio State when there were protesters, hippies on the Oval, and The Doors were royalty." She graduated from Ohio State with a degree in textiles and clothing, and at the ceremony, received her diploma from Bob Hope.

While at Ohio State, she worked part time at Jerry's Restaurant on Olentangy River Road. One of her regulars was the one and only Woody Hayes. He would come in for breakfast before his Sunday morning TV show. She still remembers what he ordered: two eggs over easy, bacon, toast and coffee. "He never stayed more than 20 minutes, but it was always memorable when he came in."

Also, while at Ohio State, her house received an invitation to a Bunny recruitment session from the

Playboy Club in Cincinnati. "None of us pictured ourselves as Bunnies, but with [her friend's] Dad's club card, we had a license to party. The good news was that we passed the Bunny dip—the bad news was that we flunked the costume event."

After visiting her sister in San Antonio, she decided Texas was the place for her. She moved to Austin in 1980. She says, "I wake up every day and think I have died and gone to heaven."

She was one of the original founders of the Austin club. "This was in the days of network TV only—no cable, no cell phones, no email, and sports bars were rare at best. The only game we could depend on was the Ohio State v. Michigan game." One year (she thinks it was in 1982) they planned the event together with Michigan folks, and the San Antonio club came up for it. It was their biggest turnout and a great success.

She also tells the story of going up to Norman to play the Sooners in 1983. "Our seats were directly facing the afternoon sun and it was at least 95 degrees. It was 120 degrees on the Astroturf field, and you could see steam coming from the wheels of the Sooner Scooner as it wizzed down the field. Barry Switzer became hotter as the

Buckeyes, led by Coach Earl Bruce, won the game 24-14." On the way back, their van broke down, and Karen and her friends had to hitch hike. They caught a ride to the airport from a couple in an Ohio State custom van who had quit their jobs to follow the Buckeyes to all the

games that year.

Karen is currently a billing and collections manager for a commercial insurance company and lives with her cat, Mini-Me.

Emily Brandel
Editor



Buy Buckeye



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THE DEATH OF A TRADITION?

The chances are pretty good that at some point in your Ohio State football fandom you have spent some time at the Holiday Inn on Lane Avenue, at Hineygate. Recently it was announced that this home-game festival of bad quality beer, over-priced food, questionable music, and inebriated masses is no longer of this world.

Ohio State University has purchased the property and has plans for turning it into a dormitory. At least for now, a large crowd will have to seek out other places to revel in the football Saturday tradition of the tailgate/street party. Since its inception in the early 80's, Hineygate was an epicenter of the game day rituals of thousands of people each week. It was a constant in an everchanging campus. Now it appears that time and change will prove to be too much for this bastion of fall parties.

There are many rumors that other venues are being sought out to host Hineygate this football season. At this point no decisions have been made. Will it be as good as it was at the Holiday Inn, or will it even take place? For those that participate in the social networking site Facebook (www.facebook.com), there is a page specifically dedicated to "[Saving Hineygate](#)."

Buy Buckeye

The Scarlet & Gray Letter, is published three times per year, emailed to our entire membership (over 600 individuals), and distributed at club events. Advertising is available to Buckeye-owned local businesses.

Business card size ad = \$25

Discounts are available for purchasing ads in multiple issues. Larger ads are also available. To advertise, contact Emily Brandel at emily@osuaustin.org.

We cannot accept ads for any of the following:

- Alcoholic beverages
- Tobacco products
- Personal hygiene products
- Advocacy positions (political, philosophical, religious, moral, etc)

EVENTS



The Austin club is providing more opportunities for Buckeyes to get together. This year we started Thirsty Thursdays, a monthly happy hour. Locations have included Cedar Street Courtyard, Bikini's Sports Bar & Grill (new location of the football game watches this fall), and Santa Rita Cantina, where we had our first Annual Austin Awards presentation.

- **May 16th** The Austin club will host a dinner for the Tennis team College Station.
- **May 23rd** Thirsty Thursday at Freddie's Place, 1703 S. First St.
- **May 17th at 3pm** The Young Buckeyes will be attending Chicken Sh*t Bingo at Ginny's Little Longhorn.

Other upcoming events include the annual speaker event, Big Ten night at the Round Rock Express. Watch the Austin Buckeye Connection for information or visit www.osuaustin.org, or check out our [Facebook page](#).

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