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Where you turn.

‘We need to be booking events that bring people in from out of town.’

COUNCILOR BILL MARTINSON questioning the financial impact of the Tulsa Talons at the BOK Center.

Read it on **A-11**.



Online

Today at
TULSAWORLD.COM

New online

Vote in a poll: Do you agree or disagree with the refusal by state Rep. Rex Duncans and two dozen other lawmakers to accept centennial copies of the Quran, offered as gifts to legislators by the members of the Governor's Ethnic American Advisory Council?
www.tulsaworld.com/opinionpoll

From the blogs

Senior columnist John Klein:



Oklahoma State was not ready for a big game to open the season, but it better be ready to end the season with big games.

The Cowboys have a chance for a big finish because they are facing a huge challenge in the final month of the season.

OSU will have to prove it is ready for big games in the next four weeks. It plays three teams ranked in the top 15 of the BCS standings.

It starts with No. 15 Texas on Saturday, and then No. 8 Kansas comes to Stillwater. OSU closes the season at No. 6 Oklahoma.

The Picker:



Look at "American Idol," people eating bugs on islands, nerds having weekly TV shows, look at the popularity of

bloopers.

Sometimes what's awful is popular.

Here is the worst of the weekend:

The option is officially dead (outside of high school): The bodily harm Kansas put on the Aggies would have been illegal off a football field. The rinky-dink Aggie offense is an embarrassment to the conference.

Read the rest of these entries at www.tulsaworld.com/blogs

Tuesday's top 10

The most popular stories read online in the last 24 hours:

- Stoops today: A&M coach's comments won't be needed for motivation:** "There are a lot of people who have a lot to say when they don't have a Big 12 championship to talk about."
- Lawyers for ORU, Roberts fire back:** Motions claim the professors are using the media, and a gag order is sought.
- ORU's request for quick court date denied:** ORU and four administrators who have been sued will not get into a courtroom any faster than normal.
- Stoops unworried by remarks:** Franchione's words don't serve as motivation, he says.
- Hispanic groups call for moratorium on enforcement of state's anti-illegal immigrant law:** The law has sparked fear in the Hispanic community that families will be separated.
- Tulsa dentist questions sidewalk enforcement:** The Planning Commission wanted her to build a new sidewalk or pay an equivalent fee.
- Foot soldiers:** OSU's running game is the best in the Big 12.
- Child's football case passed back to court:** The parents of a third-grade Jenks football player were back in court Thursday.
- Fox Collision shuts locations:** Five Tulsa locations remained shuttered after closing unexpectedly over the weekend.
- AG seeks dismissal of lawsuit challenging HB 1804:** House Bill 1804 makes it a felony to shelter or transport an undocumented immigrant.

OU POLO: SINCE 1923



Courtesy

University of Oklahoma polo team members Robert Hefner V (left), Bryce Gill and Garrett Hull ride in OU's homecoming parade on Oct. 13. Hefner is the team president and coach.

Sooners' stirrup interest

By **GLENN HIBDON**
World Sports Writer

Famous for winning NCAA football championships and competing for national titles in other sports, the University of Oklahoma has a well-kept athletic secret. The Sooners have a club polo team with roots dating back to 1923.

In fact, the team and the sport are so unfamiliar to mainstream fans that many missed the Bedlam match on Saturday when OU defeated Oklahoma State 10-4 at the Tatonka Winery in Stroud. Robert Hefner V, president and a coach of the Sooners polo team, wants to bring his sport into the state's consciousness.

"It is surprising to people that we have a team, and we would like to change that," said Hefner, a senior majoring in entrepreneurship and venture management. "And the biggest thing we need is a sponsor for our team. We want to raise awareness of polo activity nationwide and get young people involved in the sport."

Hefner said the image of polo as an activity for the idle rich is misleading. He said membership dues for the OU club are \$350 per semester, and there are currently 12 members with the list continuing to grow. Horses are donated to OU, most of them retired polo ponies while others come from the equestrian ranks.

"I think the neat thing about the team is it dating back to 1923. We have a rich history," Hefner said. "The team was started by Clark Heatherington at OU. And then

when the Army no longer used horse-drawn artillery in World War II, we lost a string of nearly 100 ROTC horses and the club disbanded. We started back in 1989, and we've had a team ever since."

Hefner said the collegiate game is played by three-member teams, with four on the active Sooner roster. Seven other men and a woman ride with the team in reserve roles. The plan is to start a women's team when enough can be recruited.

Joining Hefner on OU's playing roster is senior Jeff Flick from Tulsa. Flick has a degree in economics and is completing his minor in entrepreneurship and venture management. He serves as the team's director of operations. When Hefner discovered that Flick had horsemanship experience, he recruited Flick for the team.

"All you need to know is how to ride to come on out," said Flick. "I love the fast pace, and there is a lot of action. It's an adrenaline rush and it takes a lot of hand-eye coordination. It also takes abdominal strength and the courage to go for it."

"You need a lot of talking and communication on the field, because the best teams are always talking. It's like football or soccer or any sport. It's a mix between golf and hockey, except you're going 35 miles an hour on a 1,500-pound animal."

Collegiate arena games consist of four 7½ minute chukkas, and Flick said each player needs a string of at least seven ponies for the outdoor game or eight in case one is injured. The United States

Polo Association is the governing body, with collegiate teams playing in regional tournaments for berths in the national championship.

The Sooners play their home games at the Broad Acres Polo Club in Norman.

In addition to OSU, Oklahoma's opponents include Texas A&M, Texas Tech, Texas and others. The first Oklahoma Polo Invitational, hosted by Broad Acres, will take place Saturday and Sunday. Louisville, TCU, OSU, New Mexico State and Colorado State will participate.

"We have a lot of great resources, and we're happy to have Broad Acres' support," said Hefner. "Anybody can join us, regardless of their riding ability. It is much more demanding than most sports, because we have to take care of the horses in the morning and evening. We have to clean their stalls, feed, water and ride them two times a day."

Flick said he expects to make polo a lifetime activity. He has a job lined up in Chicago and plans to join a club there. In fact, alumni of school teams are allowed to return and play with their teams.

"I'll graduate in December, and whenever I come back, I plan on playing as an alumni," said Flick. "Most of the alumni want to come back and usually bring their own horses. It is time consuming, but it's worth it in the end. You learn a lot about horsemanship and the sport. You really want to be into it and be a success."

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Psych professor mixes fear with fun

By **SETH BORENSTEIN**
Associated Press

In the lab, psychology professor David Zald studies how fast adults react to fear.

At his home this time of year, he watches kids adjust to it.

Zald, a professor at Vanderbilt University, turns his house in Nashville, Tenn., into a Halloween fear lab — with a reward of candy for those who brave it.

Skeletons hang from the tree, motion-activated sensors move objects around in a scary way and there's a creepy fog floating around the house. Zald decorates in classic horror motif for fun, but the shrink in him can't help but observe the classic fear response in children.

"They want the candy, but they're not sure they want to come up," says Zald, who in the past has dressed up as a devil but this year will be costumed as kitschy Disco Stu from the animated TV series "The Simpsons."

By the end of the night, even the young children aren't fazed by ghouls and goblins. They control their fear to get the reward of candy, Zald said, and they learn a healthy lesson.

Fear is a negative emotion, and for millions of Americans it's disabling. Yet people love horror movies, and Halloween is a holiday that celebrates fear while rewarding children with sweets. There are scientific reasons for this odd mix.

"One of the odder aspects of human nature is our willingness to pay money to actually get scared," Zald said. "Essentially we get off on the excitement. We get a high arousal state and we actually find that appealing."

There are physical chemical rewards in our brain when we experience fear, yet cheat an anticipated painful threat, psychologists say.

"Part of the fun of Halloween is that it's a way of experiencing fear in a pretty controlled setting," said University of Michigan psychology professor Stephen Maren. "People enjoy the fun and surprises, but they're putting themselves in situations where they are really not in danger."

On tap

For a full list of community events, and to submit your event, go online to www.tulsaworld.com/calendar.

WEDNESDAY

You go, ghou!

If you want to go beyond your neighborhood this Halloween, check out these area events:

- ▶ **HallowZOOween 2007**, 6:30 to 8:30 p.m., Tulsa Zoo, 5701 E. 36th St. North. Cost is \$6, \$5 for Zoo members.
- ▶ **HalloMarine!**, 6:30 to 9 p.m., Oklahoma Aquarium, 300 Aquarium Drive in Jenks. Cost is \$10 for adults, \$7 for children 3-12.
- ▶ **Trick-or-treat at Woodland Hills Mall**, 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. at the mall, 71st Street and Memorial Drive.
- ▶ **Trick-or-treat at the Tulsa Promenade**, 6 to 8:30 p.m. at the mall, 41st Street and Yale Avenue.
- ▶ **Trick-or-treating, carnival and haunted house**, 6 to 9 p.m., University of Tulsa Lottie Jane Mabree and Twin South residence halls.

THURSDAY

Day of the Dead

The Hispanic tradition of honoring departed relatives gets an artistic twist as Living Arts of Tulsa, 308 S. Kenosha Ave., presents its "Dia de Los Muertos Arts Festival," 5-11 p.m.

The event features food, music, dancing and an exhibition of altars commemorating the dead.

585-1234,
www.tulsaworld.com/livingarts

FRIDAY

On pointe

Tulsa Ballet's "In White" brings together three distinctive styles of dance.

There's the sophisticated silliness of Jerome Robbins' "The Concert," Val Caniparoli's subtly subversive take on neoclassical ballet in "Vivace," and the blend of ballet and boxing that is Stanton Welch's "Bruiser."

Performances are 8 p.m. Friday and Saturday and 3 p.m. Sunday at the Tulsa Performing Arts Center.

749-6006
www.tulsaworld.com/mytix

SATURDAY

College games

The University of Oklahoma and Oklahoma State University are tied atop the Big 12 South standings as they face teams from Texas.

OSU plays 14th-ranked Texas at 2:30 p.m. at Boone Pickens Stadium. Tickets remain for the game and are available by calling (877) 255-4678 or by going to okstate.com. Tickets start at \$85 apiece.

OU plays Texas A&M at 7 p.m. at Owen Field. Limited tickets remain for the game. They will be available online for \$67 at soonersports.com beginning at 5 p.m.

Wednesday. They also will be available by phone at 8 a.m. Thursday. To order tickets by phone, call (800) 456-4668 or (405) 325-2424.

www.tulsaworld.com/sportsextra

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