



# THE MONTHLY CHUKKER

Oklahoma Polo & Equestrian Club

September 2007

Volume 1, Issue 1

## Sooners

### SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST:

- The new beginnings of a historical presence.
- Find out what is going on this Fall with OU Polo.
- See who all has been involved in turning this badly beaten horse around.
- Revival of the "Sport of Kings".

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## OU POLO TEAM RIDES INTO THE FUTURE

The Sport of Polo was one of the first five competitive sports played at the University of Oklahoma; however in 1941, during a match between OU and Texas A&M, the news came that Pearl Harbor had been bombed. Intercollegiate polo at the University of Oklahoma was suspended due to cost and equipment restraints. After a 48 year hiatus, Polo returned to OU and today, 18 years later the program is still alive. It's return in 1989, marked the resurrection of the organized intercollegiate sport that today is still governed by the United States Polo Association. In 2007, under the direction of Team Coaches, Robert Hefner IV and Todd Gralla, the team is in the hunt for a strong national presence.



Broad Acres Polo Club, OU Polo ponies waiting to go

## CURRENT NEWS

Team Operations Director, Jeff Flick of Tulsa, has scheduled matches for the upcoming semester against some of the top teams in the nation including teams from California, Texas, Oklahoma, and Kansas. The lineup comes to a climax during "First Annual Oklahoma Polo Invitational", hosted by Broad Acres Polo Club on November 3rd and 4th. The tournament features teams such as USC, Texas A&M, University of Texas at Austin, Texas Tech, Texas Christian, and Oklahoma State. The possibility of other teams being present—such as Stanford or Westmont—are a very likely possibility. This tournament will be a precursor to the National Title which will be showcased on ESPN. "This could be one of the best polo tournaments in the nation this year and a lot of fun to watch," said Robert Hefner V, President of the OU Polo Team. "I am just excited that so many alumni and sponsors have stepped up this year."



Sunny Hale Playing with Panera Bread

## A ROYAL THANK YOU

We would like to thank all of those wonderful people at Broad Acres and all of the phenomenal individuals that have helped our program in the past, but more importantly, in the recent months. We would not have this opportunity today if there wasn't such a wonderful foundation of alumni members and others willing to donate their time to a sport that has given so much to the young people of Oklahoma.



# ABOUT US

The University of Oklahoma Polo and Equestrian Club is a nonprofit student organization, whose purpose is to get students interested and knowledgeable in the sport of polo by promoting intercollegiate polo and the United States Polo Association. This organization's main learning objective is that each student will walk away educated in an intermediate level of equine health care and possess the knowledge necessary to further increase not only their playing skills but also their life skills, such as work-ethic, leadership, and teamwork coupled with a desired to educate others in this wonderful sport.

## SEPTEMBER PRACTICE SCHEDULE

1. Team begins Horse Conditioning Program.
2. New members Begin Wooden Horse Training and Husbandry
3. 5:00pm Alumni Scrimmage Sunday, September 30th, 2007 @ Broad Acres Polo Club

## OU Polo Contact Information

### President:

Robert A. Hefner V (405) 206-4255

### Director of Operations:

Jeffrey Flick (918) 521-3301

### Head Coach:

Robert A. Hefner IV (405) 285-5465

### Horse Care Adviser:

Jana Brumley (580) 920-4560

### Alumni Adviser:

Bill Taylor (469) 855-7500

### Faculty Adviser:

Jim Wheeler (405) 325-7363

### Broad Acres Rep:

Sunny Hale (405) 329-8571

## OU Polo Membership Takes a New Form

The Oklahoma Polo & Equestrian Club has recently updated their membership to include new forms. This 2007-2008 season will allow for many new elements of membership to the club including: Trial Membership, Riding Membership, Playing Membership, Alumni Membership, and possibly a Group Membership. Trial members will pay \$45 for a two-week trial period. This time will allow for the student to find out whether or not they would like to become a riding or playing member. \$35 of the \$45 will transfer toward their riding or

playing member dues if they wish to continue on. Further, this \$45 covers their riding insurance required by the United States Polo Association (USPA). In order for a member to stick and ball, they will be required to pay playing member dues (this does include practices). If playing polo is not of interest however, the riding member option might be what suits you best. Finally, our alumni have a way to be actively involved with an Alumni Membership! Alumni members will have a match at the end of every month in which they are invited to come back down to

Broad Acres Polo Club for six intense chukkers against whomever they please.

This year is truly a quantum leap forward in the evolution of the Oklahoma Polo & Equestrian Club.

Dues are as follows:

Trial Membership: \$45

Riding Membership: \$250

Playing Membership: \$350

Equestrian Membership: \$350

Alumni Membership: \$100

\*Prices on a semester basis.

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\*For donations and sponsorship opportunities,

Please contact Robert Hefner V.