

Marching to a different beat

Band members take musical accompaniment to another level

Abby Wambaugh and Chase Harvick

Fall Saturdays at Boone Pickens Stadium are filled with energy, excitement and fun. Contributing to the game day atmosphere is the OSU Cowboy Marching Band.

Of the 250 band members, only 30 percent are music majors, according to director Brad Snow. The other 70 percent are members because they love music and OSU athletics.

"I love that the marching band is geared toward fans and students at the game," said Jenna Greenwood, a human development and family sciences sophomore and second-year clarinetist. "We perform a different show each week and we play famous and contemporary songs to get people involved."

Band members spend about 15 hours each week on pre-game, halftime and post-game performance rehearsals, music memorization and section rehearsals. They also arrive on campus before classes begin for band camp.

"The time commitment is big, but manageable," said Kacey Curley, an animal sciences/pre-vet freshman and first-year piccolo player. "Although the amount of hours per week practicing in a formal setting is less than it was in high school, we are expected to do more work independently."

Aaron Moore, a history graduate student and alto saxophone player, rejoined the marching band after a ten-year absence. He said the band is approximately the same size as it was when he was an undergraduate, but the musicianship has improved dramatically.

According to Snow, the marching band plays about 30 different songs at each football game to keep the crowd energized.

"We act as a sound track to the game," Snow said. "We are involved throughout the game, not just at the pre-game and halftime show."

"I think people view us as an asset to the game as far as ability to impact momentum," Snow said. "We try to capitalize on big plays with music and keep everyone fired up."

In addition to the Cowboys' season opener last weekend in Athens, Ga., the full band will travel to road games in Norman and College Station this year.



"Coming into this from high school, I wasn't sure what to expect," Curley said. "You always hear, 'college band is completely different,' and it was, but in a positive way. There is a lot of school spirit, and the members are treated with respect and as adults."

Curley said that on the recent trip to Georgia, band members didn't have major curfew

restrictions, "but we all knew Saturday was going to be a trying day and went to sleep at a reasonable hour. In high school they practically post guards at your room."

Tomorrow you can hear the sounds of the Cowboy Marching Band at OSU's home opener against Florida Atlantic.

OKLAHOMA STATE Portraits

Celebrating the Centennial: OSU contributions

1988 may forever be remembered as "The Year the Cowboys Ruled the Earth," when four Oklahoma State athletes – Barry Sanders, Robin Ventura, John Smith and E.J. Pfister – were the nation's greatest in their sports.



On the gridiron, all eyes followed Sanders as he slashed his way through defenses and rushed for 2,628 yards, a single-season record, and 39 touchdowns. He took home the Heisman Trophy before being selected by the Detroit Lions in the first round of the NFL draft and going on to be named NFL Rookie of the Year.

An eight-time all-NFL and Pro Bowl player, Sanders was eventually inducted into the College and Professional Football Hall of Fames.

Read about Cowboy and Cowgirl greats, and the traditions they helped build, in your own copy of Oklahoma State Portraits: Celebrating the Centennial of Oklahoma Statehood.

United Way kickoff



OSU Interim System CEO and President Marlene Strathe and her husband John Lowthian officially kick off the 2007/2008 OSU United Way campaign Wednesday by signing their pledge card. Strathe and OSU Grants and Contracts Financial Administration director Bob Dixon, who is looking on, will serve as co-chairs of the campaign. OSU has set a goal of raising \$180,000 for the Stillwater Area United Way. Serving the community since 1952, the United Way supports 26 different agencies. The Stillwater Area United Way Campaign runs through November 30 and this year's total goal is \$760,000, with 99 percent of the money raised in Stillwater staying in the community.

OSU to Commemorate Constitution Day

OSU will celebrate Constitution Day on Sept. 17 in the Browsing Room at the Edmon Low Library.

The presentation is part of a nationwide initiative to promote increased understanding of the U.S. Constitution and the role it plays in today's world. The event begins at 3 p.m. and is free and open to the public.

Danny Adkison, an associate professor of political science at OSU and an expert on constitutional law, will serve as keynote speaker. He'll discuss the "Negative Pregnant" and speak on President James Madison, the father of the Constitution.

"The Constitution is strong and enduring," Adkison says. "It needs the constant support of Americans."

Adkison plans on taking a unique approach – one found only in Oklahoma. His presentation will address the Oklahoma Constitution, which was first voted on Sept. 17, 1907, the same day the U.S. Constitution was adopted. Copies of both the U.S. Constitution and Oklahoma Constitution will be distributed. A question and answer session will follow the presentation.

In 2004, Sen. Robert Byrd added an amendment to Public Law 108-447, requiring that all educational institutions receiving federal funds provide a program commemorating Sept. 17, 1907.

Constitution Day is sponsored by the OSU Department of Political Science. To learn more, phone (405) 744-5569 or e-mail lib-pub@okstate.edu.

OSU three-for-three in NSF competition

The National Science Foundation has awarded more than \$1.5 million to OSU scientists for the acquisition and/or development of highly-specialized instruments used in research activities on campus and at Venture I in the Oklahoma Technology and Research Park.

OSU submitted three proposals – the maximum number allowed by any one university – in the NSF Major Research Instrumentation competition. The instruments will greatly enhance research capabilities in areas of interest to industry, government and other universities, according to Stephen W.S. McKeever, vice president for OSU Research and Technology Transfer.

NSF awarded \$605,000 to Charlotte L. Ownby, director of the OSU Microscopy Laboratory at Venture I; Bret N. Flanders, physics department; Eliot A. Atekwana and Estella A. Atekwana, Boone Pickens School of Geology; and Jim Smay, School of Chemical Engineering, for the acquisition of a field emission environmental scanning electron microscope.

Steven D. Hartson, Andrew J. Mort, Jose L. Soulages and Michael A. Massiah in OSU's biochemistry and molecular biology department and Robert L. Burnap, microbiology and molecular genetics department, received \$458,139 to acquire an LTQ mass spectrometer.

NSF awarded \$446,258 to Regina Kalchgruber, Radiation Dosimetry Laboratory at Venture I; Alexander R. Simms and Ibrahim Cemen, Boone Pickens School of Geology; and Eduardo G. Yukihara, physics department, to develop a confocal instrument for spatially resolved luminescence measurements in geologic and archaeological dating and radiation dosimetry.



A new electron microscope will upgrade imaging capabilities at the OSU Microscopy Laboratory, where director Charlotte Ownby is shown at work. The lab in the Venture I building at the Oklahoma Technology and Research Park serves five OSU colleges and 20 departments and eight private companies.

Academics at a glance. . .

Marketing department, Business

Offers bachelor's degrees in marketing (emphasizing dual study in a related field of interest) as well as international business, and an MBA and Ph.D. in business administration emphasizing marketing • 16 faculty and approximately 670 students • DEPARTMENT HEAD: Dr. Joshua L. Wiener (1996) • 1975 alumnus Kosta Kartsotis and his brother, Tom, conceived and head Fossil, one of the world's largest watch companies.



English department, Arts & Sciences

Offers bachelor's, master's and Ph.D. degrees in English with options in composition and rhetoric, creative writing, technical writing, screen studies, literature and teaching English as a second language and linguistics • 34 faculty and approximately 328 students • DEPARTMENT HEAD: Dr. Carol Moder (2001) • The department is home to three literary journals: "Cimarron Review," which recently celebrated its 40th anniversary, "Milton Quarterly," and the new online journal, "World Picture."

Biochemistry and Molecular Biology department, Agriculture/Arts & Sciences

Offers bachelor's, master's and Ph.D. degrees in biochemistry and molecular biology • 14 faculty and approximately 331 students • DEPARTMENT HEAD: Dr. Gary Thompson (2007) • The department maintains the OSU Recombinant DNA/Protein Resource Facility, giving state biomolecular researchers access to advanced technologies that may be too expensive for them individually for studies such as genetic sequencing.

