

November 16, 2006

To the OSU Campus,

As we celebrate Thanksgiving this week, I want to acknowledge a few of the things for which I am thankful.

OSU students are among the best in the nation and excel in virtually every area of study. The dedicated work of our faculty makes an OSU diploma a cherished possession that opens doors around the world. We offer one of the best college experiences possible due to the tireless effort of the OSU staff. The selfless support of OSU alumni and others helps us pursue excellence on countless fronts.

We have an outstanding university and by learning and working together, I believe we are poised for even greater success. Thanks for the part you play...

As we gear up for Bedlam football Saturday, it is important we consider the valuable role OSU and OU play as economic drivers in our state. I was pleased to appear on OETA's Oklahoma Forum yesterday with OU President David Boren to discuss the many ways our great schools work together in teaching and research. You can hear an audio replay of the program at OETA's website...

Congratulations to the 39 students selected as OSU Seniors of Significance. Each year the OSU Alumni Association recognizes students who have excelled in scholarship, leadership and service to campus and community. These students now are eligible to win the OSU Outstanding Seniors Award, which will be announced in the spring ...

Each school year our campus is fortunate to have the opportunity to hear experts from across a variety of disciplines. I am particularly pleased that Edward O. Wilson, one of the most distinguished scientists in the world and considered by many to be the father of the modern environmental movement, will visit OSU in January.

Wilson, a two-time Pulitzer Prize winner, makes a passionate argument that proper stewardship of the earth's biodiversity is not an option, but a choice we must make if life is going to continue to thrive on our planet. Be sure to mark your calendar for his talk at the Click Alumni Hall at 7 p.m. on January 18...

If you haven't already started, Thanksgiving weekend kicks off holiday shopping for many. If you need a gift for the OSU lover on your shopping list, please consider "Oklahoma State Portraits: Celebrating the Centennial of Oklahoma Statehood." Proceeds from the beautiful coffee-table book will help fund the renovation of Old Central. To learn more and reserve a copy of the book, go to www.okstateportraits.com <<http://www.okstateportraits.com/>> ...

The OSU men's cross country team, ranked 12th in the nation, will be running in the NCAA championships today at Terre Haute, Indiana. The Cowboys have had an outstanding season under first-year head coach Dave Smith and hope to improve upon last year's eighth-place finish in the NCAA...

I hope you have a safe and relaxing Thanksgiving break, capped by a Bedlam victory. Beat OU!

David Schmidly