

# In this issue

- 2015 Fall Reunion Recap
- SMU Hosts Centennial <u>Celebration on the</u> Hilltop
- <u>Purchase your</u>
   Lettermen's Pullover!
- In Memoriam
- <u>Upcoming dates and</u> events
- Ponies in the Press
- SMU Unveils "Pony Promise" Initiative
- Happy Birthday, SMU Volleyball!

Fall Sports are Underway!

Visit <u>smumustangs.com</u> for up-to-date schedule information for all fall sports.

Need tickets?

Login to your account to purchase or check out SMU's official ticket reseller,

Vivid Seats.



Did you know? The SMU Lettermen's Association is on Facebook!

Follow us <a href="here">here</a> to stay in touch!

## 2015 Fall Reunion brings Letterwinners back to the Hilltop

The 2015 Fall Reunion weekend took place on September 11-12 this year. The Lettermen's Association welcomed back many of our alums to the Hilltop as longtime Track & Field Coach Dave Wollman (right) was presented with the Honorary Letter Award, and the 2010 Football, 1999-2000 Women's Basketball, and 1955-56 Men's Basketball teams were honored.

Following the traditional barbeque dinner on Friday evening, Letterwinners tailgated on the Boulevard and celebrated the Mustangs' first win under new Head Coach Chad Morris as they defeated crosstown rival UNT 31-13.

For more great photos of the Reunion weekend, visit us online.











# **President's Corner**

Mustangs, it's hard to believe, but the Fall season is already quickly coming to an end. It has been a busy semester thus far, with one of the main events being SMU's Centennial. The University celebrated its 100th birthday on Homecoming weekend this September. With many exciting events and celebrations, capped off by a spectacular fireworks show following the homecoming football game, it was a time that many Mustangs will never forget.

Time flies on the Hilltop when the fall sports are in session. We hope that you've been able to make it out for some games this season and supported one of our 17 SMU teams. We also hope that you were able to make it to our Fall Reunion this year and not only had a great time mingling with old friends and teammates, but also enjoyed honoring the extremely accomplished Coach Dave Wollman, who led our women's track & field teams from 1988-2015. The honored teams this year were 1955-1956 Men's Basketball, 1999-2000 Women's Basketball, and 2010 Football, and we enjoyed welcoming our letterwinners back to campus. The reunion weekend continued with the SMU Football game vs UNT the next day, including a pre-game tailgate on the Boulevard. The Mustangs came out with a win against the Mean Green to end a wonderful reunion weekend!

As some of our conference schedules like Men's and Women's Soccer and Cross Country are coming to an end, other sports are just taking off. The Men's Basketball non-conference schedule begins with a home-opener on November 14th against Sam Houston State, and the women open against Northwestern State on November 15th. We hope you can make it to some of the games this season to witness some Moody Magic!

I'd like to remind you that active Letterwinners are able to nominate individuals for the Honorary Letter Award and the Silver Anniversary Mustang Award, as well as to submit names for consideration for the SMU Athletics Hall of Fame. Help us honor the very best SMU has to offer and submit your recommendations to lettermen@smu.edu.

As my tenure as President wraps up with the end of the 2015 calendar year, I wish all of you the very best. I've enjoyed my time serving as President for the Lettermen's Association, and I look forward to its continued success. I look forward to seeing you at upcoming games, and wish you all well as we go into the holidays. It's an exciting time to be a Mustang.

Pony Up!





## SMU Celebrates its Centennial Homecoming on the Hilltop

SMU celebrated its centennial birthday on September 26, 2015, capping off a weekend of festivities on the Hilltop. The date also marked

SMU's homecoming weekend, and included a variety of reunions, performances, and parties combined with a Centennial concert by the Eli Young Band on Wednesday evening, a worship service, Centennial Picnic, and much more.

On Saturday evening, the Mustangs took on the James Madison University Dukes in their homecoming game. Fans were able to enjoy several special surprises, including free Peruna bobbleheads to the first 5,000 fans, a car giveaway, and a Centennial Fireworks Show.

SMU President Dr. R. Gerald Turner also announced during the festivities that the campaign goal for the Second Century Campaign of \$1 Billion had been reached. The university is immensely thankful to the alumni,



donors, and friends that helped make this goal possible.

We hope to see you again on the Hilltop soon! Go Mustangs!

# **New Merchandise on Sale Now!**

Looking for a holiday gift for the Letterwinner in your life? Or maybe you want to cheer on the Mustangs in style when the weather gets cool. Either way, we have your answer!



Get Your Exclusive Nike Lettermen's

Pullover Today! Made of Nike DRI-fit fabric with a waffle fleece lining, you'll stay comfortable and warm when the weather gets chilly. Perfect for football and basketball season! Order early for shipping in time for the holidays!



Blue with black mesh accents, customized with Lettermen's logo (left). Sizes S-XXL available while supplies last. \$65.

Call 214-768-4000 or e-mail <u>lettermen@smu.edu</u> to place your order!

# IN MEMORIAM

Ben Mack Brown Bishop (1944-2015): Bishop, a member of the class of 1964, was an engineering major who lettered in swimming. He and his family resided in the Dallas area, where he built a successful career in

construction.

Keith Manning (1942-2015): Manning, who lettered on his freshman team, attended SMU on a football scholarship before finishing his degree at Baylor University. Manning attended high school in Waco and eventually retired there with his wife.

Blake Tucker (1934-2015): Tucker, a three-time letterwinner on the 1953-55 football squads, playing alongside some of the greatest Mustangs to wear the uniform. Tucker served in the Air Force prior to launching a career in property development.



Do you know an outstanding Mustang doing great things in their community? A supporter who might as well have played on the team, their loyalty is so strong? An SMU athlete who constantly won titles, medals, or championships? Help us honor the best! Send your nominations for the Silver Anniversary Mustang Award, Honorary Letter Award, and SMU Athletics Hall of Fame to lettermen@smu.edu.

# Mark Your Calendars for upcoming events and dates this fall!

#### October

23rd: SMU FB at USF, Tampa, FL, 4:00 pm ET

27th: Football Coaches' Media Luncheon feat. Coach Chad Morris, Miller Event Center, 11:45 am

Contact the Mustang Club at 214-768-2582 to purchase tickets. Attendance limited to 150; registration required.

29th: Basketball Tipoff Dinner featuring the Men's and Women's Basketball Teams, Moody Coliseum, 7 pm (buy tickets)

**31st:** SMU FB vs. Tulsa, Time TBA (Family Weekend)

Come Trick-or-Treat on the Boulevard and enjoy Halloween fun for the whole family!

#### November

**6th:** SMU FB vs. Temple, 7:00 pm CT (Military Appreciation Night)

14th: SMU FB at Navy, Annapolis, MD 3:30 pm ET (Register for the Mustang Club/Alumni Relations official tailgate here)

14th: SMU Men's BB opener vs. Sam Houston State, 7:00 pm
15th: SMU Women's BB opener vs. Northwestern State, 5:00 pm
19th: SMU Men's BB at Stanford, Palo Alto, CA, 8:30 pm

Join the Mustang Club and fellow alums for a pre-game happy hour at Jimmy V's Sport Café! Call 214-768-2582

or e-mail mustangs@smu.edu for more info and to register! Call 650-724-3981 to purchase tickets.

21st: SMU FB vs. Tulane, Time TBA (Senior Day)

27-28: SMU Women's BB Thanksgiving Classic Tournament, Moody Coliseum

Visit <u>smumustangs.com</u> for details on game times and tickets.

**28th:** SMU FB at Memphis, Memphis, TN, Time TBA

#### **December**

**2nd:** SMU Men's BB at TCU, Fort Worth, TX

Join the Mustang Club for a pre-game happy hour! Contact 214-768-2582 or mustangs@smu.edu to sign up!

8th: SMU Men's BB vs. Michigan, Moody Coliseum, 8:00 pm

**19th:** December Commencement

22-23: SMU Men's BB at Las Vegas Continental Tire Classic (buy tickets)

# Ponies in the Press

Celebrate the achievements of SMU student-athletes this quarter!

## **Equestrian:**

Nora Gray—UEC Hunt Seat Rider of the Month (Sept) Schaefer Raposa—UEC Hunt Seat Rider of the Month (Sept), NCEA Rider of the Month, Equitation over Fences (Sept.) Team—currently ranked 10th in NCEA Poll

#### Football:

Matt Davis—Two-time AAC Weekly Honor Roll Selection Taylor Lasecki—Named to Rimington Trophy Watch List, Rotary Lombardi Award Watch List

Cameron Smith—Named to Wuerffel Trophy Watch List Courtland Sutton—Named to Biletnikoff Award Watch List

#### Men's Basketball:

Markus Kennedy—Named to Karl Malone Watch List

#### Men's Golf:

**Bryson DeChambeau**—Golfweek Preseason All-America Selection; USA Walker Cup team member

**Team**—won the Erin Hills Intercollegiate team title

#### Men's Soccer:

Mauro Cichero—AAC Offensive Player of the Week (9/7, 10/5), College Soccer News National Player of the Week (10/12) Emil Cuello—AAC Rookie of the Week (9/21, 10/5) Michael Nelson—AAC Goalkeeper of the Week (10/12) Jared Rice—AAC Defensive Player of the Week (9/28) Team—Currently ranked No. 21 in the NSCAA Division I Coaches' Poll

### Men's Swimming & Diving:

Sam Straughan—American Athletic Conference Swimmer of the Week (10/6)

**Daniel Pitts**—American Athletic Conference Diver of the Week (10/6)

#### Women's Golf:

**Lindsey McCurdy**—AAC Women's Golf Player of the Month (September)

Katie Page—named WGCA All-American Scholar (July)
Team—won the Marilynn Smith/Sunflower Invitational team title

#### Women's Soccer:

**Lauren Guerra**—AAC Weekly Honor Roll Selection (9/7) **Paige Jacobs**—AAC Weekly Honor Roll Selection (9/14, 10/12) **Vanessa Valadez**—AAC Offensive Player of the Week (9/28); AAC Weekly Honor Roll Selection (9/14)

# Women's Swimming & Diving:

**Maddie Hoch**—American Athletic Conference Swimmer of the Week (10/6)

**Madeline Wainman**—American Athletic Conference Diver of the Week (10/6)

## Volleyball:

**Avery Acker**—AVCA National Player of the Week (9/22); two-time AAC Offensive Player of the Week (9/14, 9/21); set AAC record with 67 assists vs. TCU; one of 30 candidates for 2015 Senior CLASS Award in collegiate volleyball

**Morgan Heise**—three-time AAC Defensive Player of the Week (8/31, 9/21, 10/5)

Cailin Bula—American Athletic Conference Offensive Player of the Week (10/5)

**Team**— received votes in AVCA Top 25 Coaches Poll three times this season

#### SMU Unveils "Pony Promise"

SMU released a new outline of its commitment to student-athlete success and wellbeing this fall. This new initiative provides for everything from full-cost-of-attendance to mental health and wellbeing, academic services, facilities upgrades, and more that offer the very best to our 424 student-athletes from their first day on campus until their last.

The new program outlines SMU's approach to the total student-athlete experience. The Athletics Department addresses many hot topics in the world of collegiate sports, including concussion protocols, supplemental meals and snacks, and financial aid. This initiative is another way SMU Athletics is working towards its goal of "preparing students for life."

For full details on the Pony Promise, visit our website for the press release. To support these important initiatives, contact the SMU Mustang Club at 214-768-2582 or visit smumustangclub.com. With your gift, the Mustang Club provides the resources to help our 424 student-athletes reach their academic and athletic potential.

### Volleyball Celebrates 20 Seasons at SMU

Head coach Lisa Seifert and the SMU volleyball team held a birthday celebration during the match against Temple in October to commemorate 20 seasons of volleyball on the Hilltop.

After a 3-0 victory for SMU, the team and the crowd celebrated with a birthday party, complete with cake and



lemonade. Coach Seifert addressed the crowd and recognized alumni of the program who were in attendance.

SMU is currently 17-3 overall, and in first place in the American Athletic Conference with a 7-1 record. At the midpoint in conference play, the team has hopes of finishing out the season with a conference championship and earning a postseason berth.

Last year, the team finished with an overall record of 26-6, setting a program record in season wins, and a 2nd place spot in the conference Standings. Coach Seifert, who has the Mustangs earning votes in the AVCA Coaches' Poll for the fourth time this season, signed an extension last year to keep her with SMU through 2017.

Congratulations to SMU Volleyball on 20 great seasons, and we look forward to the next 20!