

Topeka Area Catbackers

Winter 2012



Bus Trip to Stillwater

We had a very successful bus trip to the KSU-Oklahoma State football game in Stillwater, Oklahoma on November 5. We teamed up with the Manhattan Catbackers headed by Charlotte Schartz. A total of 56 fans joined the two Catbacker groups and all had a great time. There were 32 from the Topeka club and 24 from the Manhattan club. As with our past trips, there were soft drinks, water, lots of snacks and door prizes for the trip along with lots of good K-State fellowship. The trip departed Topeka around 8:00am and then picked up the Manhattan group before heading to Oklahoma. There was one little problem, the bus company didn't provide a large enough bus, however they did a wonderful job providing us a larger bus when we arrived in Manhattan. We arrived in Stillwater with plenty of time for everyone to walk around downtown and enjoy some of the fun game day activities. Everyone was on their own for lunch before gathering to take shuttles to the game from the downtown area. There was a very large crowd and we were all ready to cheer on our great Wildcats.



As usual this year, the game was very entertaining and we were all so proud of the team and coaches. It was another one of those games when the outcome was determined in the last minutes, which kept it exciting until the very end. Unfortunately, we did come up a little short on the score. As we were leaving the stadium, many of the Oklahoma State fans congratulated our team for the great play and valiant effort they made.

Once everyone took the shuttles back to our bus, it was around midnight when our bus finally left Stillwater. We arrived back in Topeka around 4:00am after long but fun day cheering on our Wildcats.

The Topeka Area Catbacker board wants to give a special thanks to Earlene Jirik, the Bus Trip Coordinator. She did another fantastic job putting together this trip and we also want to say thank you to Charlotte Schartz, with the Manhattan club. Working together makes it easier and more entertaining for everyone.



Cats Football Watch Parties

This football season the Topeka Area Catbackers made a change by discontinuing the Tuesday night replay parties and instead organized watch parties for all the away games. They were held at Jeremiah Bullfrogs Live Sports Bar & Grille, which is the Gage Center location, in the upstairs private media lounge. There were door prizes at half time and attendance was very good. Because of the success we plan to do it again next football season.

Visit us on the web: www.topekaareacatbackers.com

Catbacker Day at the Pumpkin Patch

The Topeka Area Catbackers enjoyed Catbacker Day at Gary's Pumpkin Patch on Sunday, October 23rd. Members and their families received a discount for their admission for good eats and good times, and of course, to pick out their perfect Halloween pumpkin to take home. The corn maze, hayrack rides, and pig races provided fun and enjoyment on a mild and sunny fall afternoon. If you haven't had a chance to get out to Gary's Pumpkin patch, be sure to ask the Topeka Area Catbackers about the event before next fall.

Please mail renewal form and dues of \$20 to the address listed to the right.
Make checks payable to: **Kansas State Catbackers Inc.**

A membership renewal form can be found on our website:
www.topekaareacatbackers.com

Topeka Area Catbackers
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Coach Snyder Named Big 12 Coach of the Year

Kansas State head coach Bill Snyder was named the 2011 Associated Press Big 12 Coach of the Year after leading the Wildcats to a 10-2 record in the regular season and a No. 8 ranking in the final regular season BCS standings.

Snyder, currently the 11th-winningest active coach among FBS schools, was selected on 16 of the 17 ballots turned in by media members who regularly cover the league. The Wildcats, which headed into the 2011 season with nine first-year starters, were picked to finish eighth in the Big 12 preseason race and have won a nation-leading eight games this season by seven points or less and 10 games in a season for the first time since 2003.

The 2011 Woody Hayes National Coach of the Year honoree, and finalist for the Liberty Mutual and Eddie Robinson national coach of the year awards, Snyder was named the 32nd head football coach at Kansas State on Nov. 30, 1988, and again as the 34th on Nov. 24 2008. He has amassed a 159-82-1 (.659) record during his 20-year tenure with the Wildcats, including an 89-64-1 (.581) mark in Big 8/12 games, and currently ranks fourth among active coaches with 150 or more wins at FBS schools since 1990.

A two-time national coach of the year selection and three-time Big 12 coach of the year pick, Snyder's 159 victories are more than triple to second place on K-State's all-time coaching victories list, while the legendary head coach has led the program to 13 bowl games, which included 11 straight from 1993-2003 and back-to-back appearances in 2010 and 2011.



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AT&T Cotton Bowl Classic Pep Rally

K-State fans will have an opportunity to cheer on the Wildcat football team at an event that has become a fan-favorite of K-State bowl traditions. This year it's being held on Thursday, January 5th, at the Rangers Ballpark in Arlington, Texas. The ballpark is located at 1000 Ballpark Way and the gates open at 4:00pm. Admission is free. The pep rally, brought to you by the K-State Alumni Association, K-State Athletics, Kansas State University Foundation and the President's Office, will feature the football team, coaches and university dignitaries with performances from the K-State Marching band, Classy Cats, Cheerleaders and Willie the Wildcat. Those attending the pep rally will receive a free AT&T Cotton Bowl Classic commemorative button while supplies last.



Bowl Headquarters - Frankie's Sports Bar

Frankie's Sports Bar in Fort Worth, Texas is located in the historic Sundance Square District. Frankie's is the perfect spot for Cat fans to gather all week leading up to the game. Come by Frankie's for great food and drinks, plus stick around and watch the bowl games on 75 big screen televisions. There will be a special K-State watch party for the Sunflower Showdown basketball game against KU on January 4th. Also, Frankie's will be host to live broadcasts all week including KMAN's The Game, from 4-6pm starting on Tuesday through Thursday Jan 3-5, and Powercat Gameday taped live at Frankie's from noon til 2pm Friday January 6th. Frankie's Sports bar is 8000 square feet of EMAW for Cat fans all week long leading up to the Cotton Bowl. We'll see you in Fort Worth!

***Topeka Area Catbackers
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