

The Midwest Mountaineer

The Greater Cincinnati-Dayton Chapter of the WVU Alumni Association

Spring 2013 Vol. 37

#### Annual Summer Family Picnic and Cornhole Championship at Sharon Woods

#### **By Jason Smith**

Our annual picnic at **Sharon Woods Park** in Sharonville, OH will be held at the Great Meadow Shelter on Sunday, August 4<sup>th</sup>. Admission is free to dues paying members. Non-members pay a small admission fee. An entire picnic meal and beverages will be provided to all Mountaineers, big and small. The Chapter will be holding our 11<sup>th</sup> annual cornhole tournament for both WVUthemed prizes and more importantly bragging rights until next year's champion is crowned. As has become tradition, members and guests are invited to bring their musical instruments (guitars, harmonicas, washboards, jugs, etc.) as we will attempt to tap into our WV heritage and put together a mountain jam. Vehicle permits are required to enter the park and can be purchased at the park entrance upon entry.

### Save the Date: Our Annual Spring Dinner is set for Saturday, June 8<sup>th</sup>! By Jason Smith

The Greater Cincinnati/ Dayton WVU Alumni Chapter invites you to spend an evening with WVU Athletic Director, Oliver Luck, Saturday, June 8th.

Born April 5th, 1960 in Cleveland, Ohio, Luck attended St. Ignatius High School where he was a standout guarterback. He then came to WVU in 1978 and was a standout quarterback and three year starter for the Mountaineers. A two-time Academic All-American and Rhodes Scholar Finalist, he led WVU to a stunning victory over the University of Florida in the 1981 Peach Bowl. Luck then went on to a four year career in the NFL as a for quarterback the

Houston Oilers. After receiving his law degree from the University of Texas in 1987, Mr. Luck went on to various executive roles with the NFL including President and CEO of NFL Europe. In 2001, Luck was sworn in as Chief Executive Officer of the Houston Sports Authority. In this role he oversaw the operations of the Harris County Houston Sports Authority, the governmental entity created in 1997 to provide the financing, construction and management oversight of the three large sports and entertainment venues in Houston: Minute Maid Park (home of the Houston Astros), Reliant Stadium, (home of the Houston Texans), and the new Downtown multipurpose arena (home of the Houston Rockets and Comets). In 2005, he was named president of the Houston Dynamo of Major League Soccer.

(Article continued on Page 4)

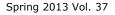


### WVU vs. Purdue, Saturday January 19th Mountaineers Invade Indiana! By Justin Bond

A combination of 40 Mountaineer Alumni and Friends from the Cincinnati and Columbus chapters made an epic bus trip to West Lafayette, Indiana to see the men's basketball team play a nationally televised basketball game on CBS against the Purdue Boilermakers. Although the game is one some may like to forget, as the Boilermakers ran away with the win, the trip itself is one that will not soon be forgotten. Eric Gresak (aka 'Gresso'), owner of Gresso's Pub and Grill in Columbus Ohio, provided the trip participants with themed mugs, towels, and koozies. Great music and plenty of food and beverages made the 4 hour bus ride to and from the game seem like a breeze.

The Purdue campus and facilities were rather impressive. A Purdue fan that had joined the trip from Columbus provided some play by play commentary as we rolled in to town, giving us a quick history lesson and highlighting some of the sights around town. Better still, we met members from the neighboring Columbus, OH chapter, and even welcomed some new local Cincinnati Alumni and friends of WVU on the trip.

With the trip a successful merger of two Ohio Alumni chapters that have always been proud to represent our university and the state of West Virginia, here is to hoping that some future out-of-conference basketball games land somewhere in the region so we can fire up the Gresso's 'G-Bus' time and time again!



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A Mountaineer Memory By TJ Simyak

One memory that I often share is our recent trip to Austin, TX for the WVU vs. Texas football game back in October. This is a tradition for myself, and chapter members Ryan Keiser, and Jamie Smalligan. We attend at least one away game a year together. This trip was extra special because it was our, and the Mountaineers, first Big XII road game.

Seeing all the Mountaineer fans walking around Austin almost made it a miniature Morgantown. For several days Sixth Street in Austin became High Street in Morgantown. We ran into so many fellow chapter members that it seemed like half of Cincinnati was there. Texas fans were heard saying "I thought this was a home game for Texas, I have never seen so many visiting fans?" I always find myself overcome with Mountaineer pride when we 'take over' other cities and all of their fans ask "Where did you all come from.." They receive one answer, West Virginia.

The large contingent of Mountaineer fans could be heard not only on Sixth Street, but throughout the 100,000+ seat stadium before, during, and especially after the game. As the game ended, I'll never forget celebrating with the fans and hearing the famous "Let's go Mountaineers" chant as it rang out in Austin. We look forward to seeing other Big XII venues, learning about the traditions of the member schools, and meeting and sharing a beverage or two with their fans. Even though we will keep the tradition alive by attending more away games in the future, our 2012 trip to Austin was one for the ages and will be hard to top.



Cincy/Dayton Mountaineers inside Texas Stadium

## How Do You Communicate?

Like most other organizations and businesses, the Chapter uses the 'Net for communicating with our members. Although we send a newsletter through the US mail, electronic communication offers a more immediate method for telling you about Chapter events and activities. Here's how we do it:

**Email List.** The Chapter uses a Yahoo Group, Midwest Mountaineer as our primary method to communicate with Chapter members. This moderated list enables Chapter officers to easily update WVU Alumni. It's easy to join the list, anyone can do it themselves.

To join, simply send an email to <u>midwest\_mountaineer-subscribe@yahoogroups.com</u>. Once approved, you'll receive Chapter emails at your e-mail address.

To unsubscribe, send an email to <u>midwest mountaineer-unsubscribe@yahoogroups.com</u>. Change your email address by unsubscribing the old address and subscribing with the new one. Just remember to send the email using the address for unsubscribing and subscribing.

**Web Site.** The Chapter's web address is <<u>http://midwestmountaineer.com</u>> On this site you will find Chapter events, men's and women's athletic schedules, and lots of pictures of Chapter activities. We also have a links page, with links to other Alumni chapters, and WVU related websites.

**Facebook.** The Chapter has a Facebook Group called Midwest Mountaineer for those who are Facebook members. To find us, search for "Midwest Mountaineer".

<u>**Twitter.</u>** @WVUalumInCincy. <u>**LinkedIn.**</u> WVU Alumni Midwest Mountaineers</u>

**<u>Electronic Newsletter</u>**. We typically send out an annual spring newsletter. Snail mail is expensive for the Chapter.

# Springtime in WV from top:

Hampshire County, Grand View State Park, Cacapon River, Dolly Sods, Dolly Sods, Valley Falls State Park.













## Greater Cincinnati/Dayton WVU Alumni Chapter Scholarship

For the past 12 years the Cincinnati/Dayton WVU Alumni Chapter has provided a \$1000 per year scholarship to a local student who attends WVU. The scholarship is one of the ways our chapter gives back to our alma mater and to the local community. To date our chapter has given out \$12,000 to help support local students. In 2010 we began the process of endowing our scholarship. Once our scholarship is fully endowed it will provide approximately \$1000 scholarship each year in perpetuity for a deserving student in our area to attend WVU. Through our major functions, including the WVU/UC pregame football tailgate we have organized in the past, we have raised \$18,000 for our endowment. Our goal is to have our chapter scholarship fully endowed by 2015. To achieve this goal we need to raise \$7000 over the next 3 years.

With WVU's move to the Big12 our primary fundraising source, the pregame events when we play at UC, will no longer occur. Because of this we ask for your help. By making tax deductible contributions directly to the WVU Foundation you can help make the goal of our scholarship being fully endowed by 2015 a reality. By including the information below any donation sent to the WVU Foundation will be added to our endowment.

Donations can be made via the WVU Foundation website (<u>http://www.wvuf.org/</u>) or by mail using the order form below. Always refer to <u>Greater Cincinnati-Dayton Chapter WVU Alumni Association Scholarship Fund #3Z308</u> on the check memo line or in the online comments section.

Contributions totaling \$1300 were made to the Cincinnati/Dayton WVU Alumni scholarship fund by chapter members last year. We, and future Mountaineers would like to thank the following members for their generous support: Jim Ankrum, Bobbie Farley, Joan Franz, Helen Kirbabas, Colleen Herrington, Tracey Kornau, Wafa Nasser, Rodney Raines, Susan Ridgway, Dorthy Sellers, Jason Smith, and Larry Utt.

Support the Cincinnati/Dayton Chapter's Scholo ductible Gift	•								
Name	Class of								
Street/PO	Phone								
CityState	Zip								
Please indicate amount contributed \$50 \$100 \$500 \$1000	\$other								
Please make your check payable to <i>West Virginia University Foundation, Inc.,</i> and mail directly to One Waterfront Place, PO Box 1650, Morgantown, WV 26507-9939									
Specify "Greater Cincinnati/Dayton Chapter WVU Alumni check memo line	Association Scholarship 3Z308" on the								

### June 8th Dinner with Oliver Luck (Continued from page 1)

On June 27, 2008, Luck was appointed to the West Virginia University\_Board of Governors. On June 9, 2010, Luck was hired as the eleventh director of athletics at West Virginia University. During his time as WVU's AD, he has presided over major capital projects including the basketball practice facility and women's soccer training complex, as well as WVU's move from the Big East Conference into the Big 12 Conference. Oliver will be our keynote speaker at our annual Spring dinner. We hope you will join us and fellow Mountaineers as we welcome Oliver back to Ohio and to the Queen City!

Our Spring Dinner will take place at the Original Montgomery Inn located at 9440 Montgomery Road, Cincinnati, OH 45242.

A cash bar and appetizer cocktail reception will begin at 6:30 pm followed by dinner at 7:30. Dinner includes your choice of Salmon, Shrimp, Chicken, Rib/Chicken Combo, Ribs, or Pork Chop. Your entrée will be accompanied by a tossed salad & your choice of a baked potato, french fries, seasonal vegetables, sweet potato or famous saratoga chips. Dinner will also include your choice of non alcoholic beverages (coffee, tea, soft drinks

and water) and dessert. Your dessert options are traditional cheesecake, marble cheesecake, or Graeter's raspberry chip ice cream. The cost to attend the event will be \$50 per person for dues paying members or \$70 per person for non dues paying members. Future Mountaineers (Children 16 & under) will be \$25 and a kids' menu will be offered for those 12 & under. Approximately \$10 of every ticket sale will go towards our Chapter Scholarship Fund. Dinner orders will be taken on the evening of the event. Please send in your order form and check by Monday, May 27th.

### DIRECTIONS:

**TAKING I-71 SOUTH** – Go to Exit 14 - Ronald Reagan Highway East. Turn left onto Ronald Reagan. Stay in Left lane, follow Montgomery Road North. Cross Cooper Road (first traffic light) and Montgomery Inn is on the right.

**TAKING I-71 NORTH** – Go to Exit 14 - Ronald Reagan Highway - bear right (East). Get in left lane - follow Montgomery Road North. Cross Cooper Road (first traffic light) and Montgomery Inn is on the right.

**TAKING I-75 NORTH** – Follow to Ronald Reagan Exit - go east. Follow until Ronald Reagan ends - stay in left lane - follow Montgomery Road North. Cross Cooper Road (first traffic light) and Montgomery Inn is on the right.

**TAKING I-75 SOUTH** – Follow to I-275 East - Exit 16. Follow I-275 East to I-71 South - (approximately 5 miles) - Exit 49. Follow to Ronald Reagan Highway - Exit 14. Turn left onto Ronald Reagan Highway. Get in left lane - follow Montgomery Road North. Cross Cooper Road (first traffic light) - Montgomery Inn is on the right.

Valet parking is available for \$3. Additional parking is available off Cooper Road on Shelly Lane.

#### 2013 WVU Football Schedule

Aug 31 William & Mary Sep 07 at Oklahoma Sep 14 Georgia State Sep 21 at Maryland Sept 28 Oklahoma State Oct 05 at Baylor Oct 19 Texas Tech Oct 26 at Kansas State Nov 02 at TCU Nov 09 Texas Nov 16 at Kansas Nov 30 Iowa State



Chapter members riding the 'G-Bus' on their way to Purdue

Future Events: Annual football season kickoff party (August: Date and Time TBD)

**Items of Interest:** After many years of discussion, we are finally creating a chapter logo. With the help of chapter member Matt Pauley along with input from many other members, we have a draft logo which is undergoing review by the university. We hope to unveil the new logo by the time of our chapter dinner.



# Spring 2013 Order Form

Please return this form for the Spring Dinner, to pay Chapter dues, or to comment to the officers.

Name		Phone	
Address		Email	
City	State	Zip Code	
Dinner with WVU	Athletic Direc	tor Oliver Luck; 6:30	Reception, 7:30 Dinner
Saturday June 8, 20	013 Montgon	nery Inn, 9440 Mont <u>o</u> Ohio	Jomery Road, Cincinnati,
Dues paying membe	rs:		
Number attending:	Adults	(\$50/person)	(\$25/for 16 and under) Kids menu available for 12 and under
Non-dues paying mem	bers:		
Number attending:	Adults	(\$70/person)	
Please respond by Mor	nday May 27th		

## **CHAPTER DUES for 2013**

I wish to become a member or renew my membership with the Greater Cincinnati/ Dayton Chapter of the WVU Alumni Association. Dues are \$15.00 per individual or \$20.00 per family. Amount enclosed \$\_\_\_\_\_

**BECOME INVOLVED!** 

Are you interested in helping with events sponsored by the Cincinnati/Dayton WVU Alumni Chapter? We are always looking for chairpersons and coordinators to help with our fun social activities. It's a great way to meet fellow Mountaineers!

\_\_\_Check here if you would like someone to contact you about how you can help

Please	return	to	<b>Cincin</b>	nati/	/Dayte	on	WVU .	<u>Alumni</u>	Chapter,	4827	HIGH	<b>IPOIN</b>	<u>Т СТ., LI</u>	BERTY	<b>TWP.</b> ,
<u>OH 45</u>	<b>011</b> .	Cal	l (513)	858	-2001	or	E-mail	jsmithV	VVU@gma	il.com	if you	ı have	questions	s. Make	checks
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