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Fiji Makes A Wish

On Nov. 21, The Fiji men joined with the University of Oklahoma Fiji chapter to reignite an old tradition. The men from both chapters met to run the game ball from Boone Pickens Stadium to The Gaylord Family Memorial Stadium in preparation of the bedlam game.

The charity benefiting from the Bedlam Run is the Make-A-Wish Foundation. The group states their mission as, “We grant the wishes of children with life-threatening medical conditions to enrich the human experience with hope, strength and joy,” according to the Make-A-Wish Foundation Web site.

During the Bedlam Run, which was organized by Jon Chang and Ben Stukenborg, each member completed a mile of the run and then relayed the ball to another member who was waiting in the bus that was following them. Their safety while on the streets was secured by police escorts, which made the journey less difficult.

The OSU Fijis made half of the 80-mile journey, and then turned over the game ball to the OU Fijis for the last half of the run. After the run was completed, their inspiring story was announced before the bedlam game at The Gaylord Family Memorial Stadium.

“The Fiji Bedlam run is a renaissance of an old Fiji tradition to run the game ball from stadium to stadium in light of bedlam. It presents the challenge of the road to its members hoping to raise awareness and money for the Oklahoma Make-A-Wish Foundation,” Stukenborg said.

The Fijis made a significant contribution to the Make-A-Wish Foundation and will continue to carry on this tradition for many years.

“Thanks to all of our sponsors and the Make-A-Wish Foundation, the bedlam run is a great philanthropy that we hope to continue for years to come,” Chang said.