

OU coach appreciates Heckler card

By GEORGE WATSON
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When you've been a collegiate baseball coach as long as Oklahoma's Larry Cochell, and accomplished the things he has, respect from fans and opponents alike naturally comes.

So when the Sooners coach was diagnosed with prostate cancer during the off-season, cards and letters of support came pouring in, some still landing in his mailbox.

One of those came from one of the more vocal groups in the Big 12 Conference, the "Tech Hecklers." Admitted fans of the coach, the Hecklers sent Cochell a card signed by the members of the group, which sits up front and con-

stantly attempts to affect players from opposing teams.

"That was such a nice gesture on their part, and I want to thank those guys personally for those good wishes," Cochell said.

Chris Sneed, the unofficial lead Heckler, said the card was bought as soon as the news broke about the diagnosis, but that it took awhile to get everybody together to sign it. Thus, Cochell received the card only a few weeks ago.

"We dig him," Sneed said. "We really like him because he understands what we're doing, understands the purpose of what we're doing and doesn't take it personally — unlike the guy up the road from him."