

# Letters

**Editor:**

I have been reading SOONER MAGAZINE since I graduated from OU in 1960 and have been very pleased with it, particularly in the last few years. The articles made no attempt to overcome the University's shortcomings, and I thought the viewpoint was remarkably liberal when compared to the usual conservative approach that is so prevalent in Oklahoma. Therefore, it is with considerable dismay that I read the September-October issue. It seemed to me that the new format is much less attractive than the old one, and that the quality of writing is much inferior.

Particularly disconcerting was the football story, a piece obviously

written before the season began, and at the time I read the article OU was already well past the midpoint of a disastrous season, and the rosy optimism of the article was not very credible. But the most upsetting article was the piece on the police. Besides being sophomoric, it had all the flavor of a highschool human-interest story. One sentence in particular, I think, caught my attention, and it sums up what I think is the entire tone of the article: "A small American flag on Jones' desk seems indicative of his belief in the values upon which the United States was founded." I call that an asinine statement, both as to content and style; but if it were not so representative of this issue and that article in particular, I would not have minded.

On the whole, it seems clear that your new format is not new in terms of physical appearance only.

For instance, I found no really interesting article that even smacked of controversy or attempted to wrestle with some of the real problems facing the University. The articles were all innocuous, and the sort of thing that a ladies' sewing circle might find endearing.

**William R. Robins**  
New York City

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**Editor:**

Your bragging over "new format" is revolting. If anything, the "new" is even worse than the old. Any alleged magazine that doesn't identify itself and its date on the cover shouldn't be allowed in the mails, certainly doesn't deserve to be opened. The Nov-Dec issue can't be read, anyhow — no one can even tell where the articles start.

**Arnold Court, '34**  
Northridge, California

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