

Wonderful Wayman Who?

I join many others in enjoying the *Sooner*, and there are several things I want to mention. First, I was there 40 plus years ago doing graduate work while also principal at Norman Junior High School. The "Bruce Drake and the Goal Tending War" (Spring 1984) was most interesting since I was there during those days and enjoyed his brand of basketball so much. Football and basketball were great in those days and have become even better since.

Speaking of basketball, my wife and I were in Germany the first of March attending the Schafflertanz (Schaffler dance), which occurs only every seven years, and one night as I was listening on our small radio, which I always carry on such trips, a basketball game came in loud and clear from one of our Army stations over there, and to our surprise, it was OU playing Uni of Nevada. The game was being played at OU in the afternoon and came in play-by-play alive. While OU was behind a few points at the half, they came back and won the game. What a treat. I can't recall the large player's name, but he is a member of the Olympic team now, and I was a bit unhappy with his percentage at the free-shot line.

I just thought you might like to know that OU performances either in athletics or arts or business are heard and appreciated and enjoyed as we old Okies recall our days there long ago.

Theodore R. Schaffler
'33 MA, '42 Ed. D
Mankato, Minnesota

Editor's Note: Since Dr. Schaffler, a retired Mankato State University sociology professor, has been in the frozen northland since 1949, he should be forgiven for not knowing the identity of Wonderful Wayman Tisdale, the Olympian who is very large indeed with OU basketball fans. He is working on his free throws.

Why Isn't OU in the AAU?

The summer issue of *Sooner Magazine* has finally been read, and I want to congratulate you on the vast improvement of the magazine from cover to cover. The Duck Pond poster

cover is one of the best the magazine has ever used, in my judgment. I saw Joe Brandt last summer, and he was still grinning with glee over the issue which was devoted to his contributions to the University.

My main reason for writing is the speech of Robert Rosenzweig. I kept looking for something in it about OU, but alas, it was all glittering generalities. After finishing it, I still did not know any more about the key questions:

1. Why isn't OU in AAU?
2. Has OU tried to get in and been turned down — once, twice, three times?
3. If that is the case, what is preventing the acceptance of OU into AAU?
4. If that is not the case, why doesn't OU bend every bone and sinew to get into AAU forthwith?

Part of my questioning is, of course, personal. When I applied to Cornell as a graduate student in 1948, I wasn't given full credit for my work at OU; and one of the chief reasons cited was that OU wasn't in AAU, so, by inference, an OU degree was tarnished. I had to be a special student for one semester to prove I had some hope. Little things like this go on, and ought not go on. So I hope in some future issue you can address the questions I have raised which are so vital in today's climate of academic snobbery.

Robert A. Rutland, '47BA
Charlottesville, Virginia

Editor's Note: Point well taken. Qualifying for membership in academia's most prestigious "club" has become increasingly difficult and requires demonstrated strength in a number of areas, especially faculty size and qualifications and quality of the research program. AAU membership was President Banowsky's top priority as stated at his inauguration in 1978, and good progress was being made toward the goal before the cuts in state appropriations side-tracked the effort as survival supplanted superiority. Hopefully the diversion is only temporary.

Ducks Have Lots of Friends

While visiting in Norman this summer, I purchased a "Friends of the Duck Pond" poster. I shipped it with

me to West Germany. It was framed and hanging in our study and, lo and behold, we had several comments from alumni. (Who would believe you would find several fellow alumni in the Army officer corps stationed in the same housing area in Mannheim, West Germany!)

Finally, can I order several more posters for these loyal Sooners who remember those poverty stricken years when a picnic at the pond was such a treat? The poster indeed brings a smile!

Cindy Mansur, '79
APO New York, New York

I really enjoyed your article on "Friends of the Duck Pond." My husband and I really enjoyed that area back in the late '50s-early '60s. We'd like to send a donation, but don't know who to send it to or even if they are accepting funds. Please let me know who and where.

Kay Kingelin, '61 BS
Rosenberg, Texas

After seeing the cover of the Summer '84 issue of *Sooner Magazine*, I am interested in knowing where I might be able to obtain a "Friends of the Duck Pond" poster.

Patricia K. Cottle, '75 BS
Seguin, Texas

I have seen the "Friends of the Duck Pond" posters displayed all over town. I am interested in purchasing one or two of them but do not know who to contact.

Sharri L. Clark
Norman, Oklahoma

Editor's Note: These being just a few of the letters received on the subject of Duck Pond posters, Sooner Magazine has volunteered for mail order duty for our out-of-town readers, so long as the supply lasts. (We'd better get those nifty caps like the Duck Rangers wear.) The cost is \$5 each; Sooner Magazine will pay U.S. postage. Make checks to OU Foundation/Duck Pond Project, 100 Timberdell Road, Norman, OK 73019. Normanites may purchase posters at the OU Book Exchange, Morrison Drug, Hollywood Cleaners and Art and Frame. Yes, donations are being accepted.