

OU Golfers Also Score In NCAA Sweepstakes

When we salute the NCAA finishes by the University of Oklahoma teams, let's not forget the teams of Gregg Grost. Gregg has had three teams in the NCAA Men's Golf Tournament in his three years at Oklahoma.

In 1986, OU finished 3rd in the nation; in 1987, again we finished 3rd; and in the recent 1988 tournament, we were nosed out at the finish, and OU was tied for 2nd.

As you can see, the men's golf team is really a winner. With the 1989 NCAA being played at Oak Tree in Edmond, and with our young players in 1988 returning, we will be an early favorite to win the National Championship next year.

Joseph J. Lawnick,
'51 B.S., '56 M.S.
Tulsa, Oklahoma

Editor's Note: When OU hosted the 1988 Big Eight Golf Championship at the Golf Club of Oklahoma in May, tournament director Lawnick marshaled Sooner alumni in Tulsa to pull off one of the most successful events the conference has had to date.

Those Golden Memories Evoke Warm Response

A friend has sent me a copy of your spring issue which I have read with great interest. I commend you on the high quality and wide-ranging appeal of the articles you have presented.

In the enjoyable "Scenes from a Scrapbook" by F. L. Dennis, mention is made of "Sooner Memories" by Frank Heaston in your previous issue. Since I was on the OU faculty from 1937 to 1952 and have very warm and fond memories of those years, I would like very much to read Heaston's article. Is it possible for me to secure a copy of the winter issue of your publication?

H. Lloyd Stow
Nashville, Tennessee

Editor's Note: The response to our "Sooner Memories" series has been so uniformly favorable that we intend to continue until the nostalgia begins to pall or the memories run out, whichever comes first.

"Just David"

As one does, or as I do, I think many times of writing, but do not do so. I felt like writing when David Burr died, but now as I read the last *Sooner Magazine*, which I enjoy so much, I wanted to write to tell you how great the article was ("Just David," Winter 1988). Now as I read more letters about him, I want to say he had three of my six children as "President's Leadership" scholars — Randy first, Clela second and Scott last. Randy just turned 40, so he must have been early in that program. When Scott came to OU, David Burr said to me that he still remembered Randy, who was so conscientious. David Burr had a big impact on the three of them, and I feel that program did also. What a memory he had.

I want to say thanks to you for the beautiful work you do with *Sooner Magazine*, and that you carry on for the University. I will always be grateful to all the faithful leaders and workers associated with the school and all they did for my children.

Modean Deatherage
Oklahoma City, Oklahoma

The Unforgettable Percy

"The Unforgettable Percy Buchanan" in your Summer 1987 issue of *Sooner Magazine* captured the personality of the colorful professor. We in the Asian studies program are indebted to the author, Eddie Frost.

Dr. Buchanan left this life with style, just as he lived it, by providing that his remains should be cremated and cast in the Pacific Ocean, which touches the two countries he loved, the United States of America and Japan. The Frost article has moved us to establish an annual Percy Buchanan Scholarship for the outstanding undergraduate student in Asian studies. We invite his former students to contribute to the endowment.

Checks may be made to the University of Oklahoma Foundation (Percy Buchanan Scholarship Fund) and sent to the University Affairs Office, Oklahoma Memorial Union, Norman, Oklahoma 73019.

Sidney D. Brown
Director, Asian Studies
OU Department of History

Much More About Pakistan

Having spent more than 10 years in South and Southeast Asia, including living in Pakistan in the mid-1970s and a long-term involvement through the University of Illinois in the development of the University of Agriculture for the Northwest Frontier Province in Peshawar, I was pleased to see the article "Lynn of the Khyber Rifles" by Lynn Grigsby. Knowing the international reputation of OU's journalism program (my mother started in the program in 1944 and graduated in 1980), quality articles like this are what we have grown to expect from *Sooner Magazine*. More than dry newspaper reports, such real world experiences help the American public understand some of the realities of the war in Afghanistan. The article gives one a good feel for that part of the world, although it presents some impressions that perhaps need to be clarified.

Lynn states "the Grand Trunk Road is a single-lane dirt road with traffic worse than Washington, D.C.'s, rush hour on the Beltway. The road is a free-for-all — no traffic laws, no speed limits, no center lane — only horns honking loudly as cars, trucks and bus-loads of people attempted to pass each other." Since the Grand Trunk Road has been a major invasion route before the time of Alexander the Great, and was the main artery the British had with their large military contingent in the Northwest Frontier, it has been paved longer than most roads in Oklahoma have existed. A better description of this road is to compare it with the stretch of single lane asphalt on Highway 77 that used to run south through the Arbuckles. Just think of the traffic returning from Dallas after OU pulled off one of their rare wins over Texas in the 1970s: the drunken drivers passing at will, fraternity chasing fraternity, sorority after sorority, buses mixed in and here and there the typical farmer out for a Sunday drive in a broken down pickup. Throw in a few long-haul truckers and open trucks hauling cattle, sheep and hay, and a diehard Sooner can easily get the picture.

The veil or chador as worn in some of the more traditional Islamic

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After the landing, refueling takes another 30 minutes. Maintenance and staff debriefings occupy an additional two hours. Then Wallace bicycles home. He relaxes by flying his small private plane called a "Mooney."

"It's kind of funny, but when I want to relax from flying, I fly to relax," Wallace says.

He also runs, exercises, swims and skis — hard. All of his play goes into keeping him in shape.

Wallace is now a resident of Irvine, California, and a tactics instructor at the Light Attack Weapons school. He returned last summer to perform at an airshow at Oklahoma City's Will Rogers World Airport. He also returned to his alma mater for a visit.

In Norman, he went to the OU hangar where he first learned to fly, recalling drills like touch-and-go landings, in which the plane touches the ground but immediately takes off again.

"It was fun remembering all that," he says. "Looking back makes you realize the respect you have learned (for flying). The mistakes you've made can remind you of the true level of your incompetence."

He views his time at the University of Oklahoma as invaluable — not so much for the technical skills he gained as for the skills he acquired in relating to others.

"The ability to relate and interact is something a university gives you that you wouldn't get if you skipped that route," Wallace contends. "Those skills are necessary to be a leader."

Wallace's goal is to keep flying. He is now a flight instructor at an advanced tactics school, which focuses on strike fighter tactics.

"Right now I am going to continue where I am," he says. "My goal is to spend the rest of my service time, the next six years, flying. I would like to be a commanding officer of a fighter squadron. That's not unreasonable."

When he does retire, he plans to sail around the world . . . or something.

"You gotta have dreams," he insists, recalling his late entry into flying. "Sometimes it seems outlandish. I was told that (because of age) I didn't have a chance. But here I am.

"Now I honestly can say, without reservation, that it was the best thing I ever did."

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societies is not a particularly pleasant garment to wear. Imagine going out in 110-degree heat, as the women in Pakistan do, wearing a solid black piece of cloth that covered you from the top of your head to your ankles. A woman wearing a white chador looks like a giant badminton shuttlecock, or Casper the Friendly Ghost, shuffling along the road. On the other hand, the women that are known not to be Muslims and, yet, are required to work around Muslim men, can simply wear a scarf as long as their heads are properly covered. Of course, wearing an outfit like the shalwar kameez with its baggy pants and long shirt that cover the female bottom "twice" is also highly recommended. Lynn appears to have quickly picked up this message (often expatriate women in Islamabad never figure this out), but I suspect she wore a scarf as we see in the picture rather than a veil as she states in the article. My wife (the former Jane Seay, '67 B.A.) has spent a considerable amount of time working in Peshawar as a consultant to the library at the University of Agriculture and has never had any problems as long as she double covered and wore a scarf. For some reason, she has yet to see the value of wearing a veil!

As Lynn states, Dara is a fascinating town. When I first visited in 1976, Dara was a town of gun factory after gun factory interspersed with stores selling hash. The war in Afghanistan has certainly changed the town, yet it is incorrect to characterize it as the black market gun capital of the world. The workers in Dara are proud of their ability to copy any gun made anywhere in the world. They highly prize an original gun as it gives them a model to replicate. Usually, as long as the ammunition is not too powerful, these copies will last at least a few hundred rounds, but more than one "tourist" has been killed when a copy blew up in his face.

While the Afghan refugees and the U.S. experience with them has been positive from a political standpoint, we should not try to glorify the situation. For once the U.S. supported the winner, and we have gained considerable political goodwill in the larger Islamic community with our support of the Af-

ghan freedom fighters. In spite of this, we must not delude ourselves; with Iran on one border and Russia on the other, there are always going to be forces that prevent the U.S. from having very much influence in the country. The British learned a long time ago, and the Russians have recently learned, do not try to control Afghanistan; only learn to live with it.

As the Russians depart, there are going to be tremendous upheavals in the country. The U.S. government does not have a particular political advantage in the country, and we must be very careful not to get pulled into the vacuum created by the departure of the Russian troops. The boy that taught Lynn "assalam-alaikum," as has been demonstrated, can also use a Kalashnikov. People all over the world are unhappy with their poverty, and they will not continue to be content with nothing. Sticks of Big Red cinnamon gum are seen as gestures of kindness; much more will be required to bring peace and prosperity to the people that now reside in the refugee camps.

I hope Lynn enjoys her year in Australia. My family and I just returned to campus after two years in Indonesia, Australia's neighbor. If Lynn has time to travel to Indonesia, she will learn about the fifth largest country in the world with the largest Islamic population. In Indonesia she will find an Islam where women do not wear veils, and they do not practice "purdah." Keep up the good work and maybe you can persuade Lynn to write something from down under. Just because she is on the other side of the world, she does not have to be lost to *Sooner Magazine*.

Sam H. Johnson III, '68 B.S.

Urbana, Illinois

Editor's Note: Industrial engineering alumnus Johnson is associate professor of international agriculture in the department of agricultural economics, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. His mother, Elizabeth Mansfield Johnson, began her OU career in 1944, married Sam H. Johnson Jr. and lost a coin toss to determine who would have to delay the degree. Three children later, she returned to OU, lived in the dormitories and completed her journalism degree in 1980.