

SOONER

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EDITOR • Carol J. Burr
ASSOCIATE EDITOR • Margaret French
ART DIRECTOR • George Dotson
STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER • Gil Jain
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Ron D. Burton, Executive Director

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We've always had them, the exceptionally fine teachers whose influence is legend, who are never forgotten by those fortunate enough to sit in their classrooms. But what's in it for them? Why did they choose such a critical yet criticized profession?

9 LEADER OF THE GODS

After a decade spent conquering the great opera houses of Europe, OU alumnus Robert Hale came home in April to debut at the Met in his signature role, Wotan in Richard Wagner's 19-hour, four-opera cycle known to aficionados as the "Ring."

16 AN EXERCISE IN ETHICS

Teaching business ethics involves more than showing students how to make a profit within the boundary of the law. Nim Razook, professor of business strategy and legal studies, is concerned not only with what is legal but also with what is right.

20 IN SEARCH OF THE EXTRAORDINARY

Jack Grimm is a legitimate eccentric, an outrageous oil field millionaire of the old school, a disappearing breed. But this OU graduate sees his penchant for flamboyant adventures simply as doing what others would give their right arms to do.

24 BUILDING CHARACTER—OR CHARACTERS?

Trent Gabert views youth sports as inspiring or disappointing, a positive learning experience or dangerously unsettling. "Children's sports programs should be run for children," he insists, "not for parents or society. Kids want to play for fun."

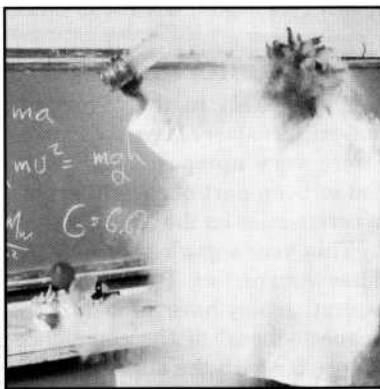
30 SOONER SPOTLIGHT • YOSHI SASAKI

Most meteorologists are content to forecast weather with a fair degree of accuracy. Sasaki takes a world view of weather, envisioning an international consortium working to alleviate the loss of lives and property from natural disasters.

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Gil Jain

ON THE COVER

Dr. Indestructo, a.k.a. Stewart Ryan, was created to excite younger audiences about the physical world around them, but he also is not above sacrificing his dignity to lessen the intimidation factor in physics for college students. Story on Page 3.

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Address all inquiries and changes of address to the Editor, 100 Timberdell Road, Norman, OK 73019-0685. Letters-to-the-editor must be signed. Letters not intended for publication should be so marked.

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