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Robert Taylor

■ **ANOTHER AWARD FOR THE OTHER “COACH”**—On the way home from the January 3 National Championship victory over Florida State in the FedEx Orange Bowl, the Pride of Oklahoma serenaded visitors to the Magic Kingdom at the Walt Disney World Resort in Lake Buena Vista, Florida, where OU Director of Bands Gene Thrailkill, center, received Disney’s version of the Oscar, the “Mousecar.” Recognizing “Coach” Thrailkill’s 30 years of service with the Pride was 1972 OU graduate Rich Taylor, left, vice president of Walt Disney World Entertainment, and The Mouse himself. The prestigious award rarely is given to anyone outside the Walt Disney Company. Thrailkill, who retired this year, began his OU tenure in 1971, the same year the Magic Kingdom opened. The Pride of Oklahoma’s many awards include the 1987 Sudler Trophy as the nation’s No. 1 university marching band.

■ **KUDOS FOR KAREN, TOO**—Thrailkill shared the spotlight at his farewell Owen Field halftime performance with his wife, Karen, who also retired after 24 years in the OU Regents office, 15 as assistant secretary, where she served as *Sooner Magazine’s* most reliable source of official information.