



AP/Wide World Photos/Andrew Laker

CARRYING THE TORCH FOR OKLAHOMA—When the 2002 Salt Lake City Winter Olympic Torch Relay came through Oklahoma City in January, the Olympic cauldron was lit by OU Head Football Coach Bob Stoops, who described the experience as “one of the special moments” of his life. It had been a big week for Stoops, who had earlier provided a special moment for Sooner fans everywhere by resisting the overtures of the University of Florida and announcing that he was happy to remain at the University of Oklahoma. Florida’s defensive coordinator before coming to OU, Stoops long had been reported to be the top choice to succeed his mentor, Steve Spurrier, who left the Gators for the NFL’s Washington Redskins.