



LETTERS

Long-Lost Lew Rediscovered

What a pleasant surprise to find an article about my favorite author, Tony Hillerman, in the latest *Sooner Magazine*, but what an even more pleasant surprise to find an article BY Tony Hillerman also. Imagine my surprise when I discovered that the subject of Mr. Hillerman's article was a dear and long-lost friend, Lew Thompson.

Lew and I were both recalled to the Army during the Korean War and wound up at Fort Sill. Lew was the Public Information Officer, and I commanded a company in the Reception Center, but we lived across the hall from each other in a Lawton apartment house, and our families were constant companions.

It was easy to recognize Lew in the Hillerman article, which perfectly captured his zaniness. It seems to me that we spent most of our time trying to play practical jokes on each other, and he got me every time. Thanks to your help, we have gotten together by e-mail. Congratulations on a great issue.

*Bill Burkett, '50 law
Oklahoma City, Oklahoma*

EDITOR'S NOTE: Fans of Hillerman's books should know that his novel, The Wailing Wind, was a finalist for the 2003 Oklahoma Book Award for fiction.

A Scary Prospect for Historians

I hope your "Prologue" is not prologue ("Technology advances may enable us to disappear without a trace," Winter 2003)! I do a little genealogy, and this is scary. Your reference to doctored photographs was profound. It reminded me of a picture of my Mom's uncle, Gustavus Adolphus Ramsey, sitting at his desk in the Oklahoma Legislature during the 2nd session (1915), his nameplate bearing the name: "G.A. Ramsey—Bryan" county. Were the telephone poles out the windows behind him air-brushed out, I would

never have found out that the legislators were holding meetings in the old Levy or Mercantile buildings in downtown Oklahoma City!

Great Publication!

*Dick Hefton, '57bba
Oklahoma City, Oklahoma*

Photo Faux Pas

The picture on Page 17, *Sooner Magazine*, Fall 2002, contains an error. The person on the left is Dick Wharton, Tony Hillerman, center, but the person on the right is Stan Shelton, not Bill Shelton. Bill, my brother, took the picture. I, Stan, set it up. The same mistake was made in Tony's book.

*Stan Shelton, '49 ba journ
Norman, Oklahoma*



EDITOR'S NOTE: There is some comfort in sharing the responsibility for our mistakes. Our apologies to both Shelton brothers.

Game Date Exception Noted

The articles by and about Tony Hillerman (Fall 2002) were fascinating since I found that he graduated the year after my graduation. WWII had its effect on both of our lives. I do take one exception to the article, "A Word to Worried Parents." My memory says that Oklahoma beat Santa Clara in late November 1940, rather than October 1941. I met my wife, Betty, who lived in Dallas, on her seventeenth birthday, November 8, 1940. She came up later that month for our first official date. We watched

Jack Jacobs kick the hide off of that wet football. We were married in Dallas in 1942 where I watched Texas beat us 7-0. We were married that night.

I've been a long-time admirer of Tony's books, and it is nice to know that we were classmates.

*Robert E. Kent, '47 bs bus
Chapel Hill, North Carolina*

EDITOR'S NOTE: The Football Media Guide records that OU played Santa Clara on November 30, 1940, but it was an away game, closing the season with a 33-13 loss. Perhaps Bob's first date with Betty occurred at OU's home games that month—victories over Temple and Missouri—and they were too starry-eyed to realize who was playing. Then again, a fellow who chose the night after the Texas game for his wedding—and can remember the details of the game—has his Sooner priorities in order.

Composer Linked to OU

I am a fanatic classical music-lover. And recently, because I happened to know members of the American String Quartet, I bought one of their CDs (on the Albany label) of string quartets by a composer I'd never heard of, Kenneth Fuchs. I played it, repeatedly, growing increasingly fond of the music, and then discovered in the notes for the recording that this fellow Fuchs is chair of the music department at OU. As an OU alumnus, my heart swelled. I loved the recording so much I even wrote a "customer review" at *Amazon.com* declaring that "string quartet writing is alive and well in America."

I strongly recommend to any music-loving OU grad that they get this CD and find out what talent resides in OU's midst.

*J. Scott Morrison, '50 bs, '62 md
Prairie Village, Kansas*

EDITOR'S NOTE: Fuchs has been director of the OU School of Music since 1998. The title of the CD is "Kenneth Fuchs: String Quartets Nos. 2, 3 & 4," American String Quartet, Albany Records, 2001.

Missing Titles Troubling

I read with interest your story on the Western History Collection ("Window to the West," Fall 2002). I was very surprised, however, to see Dr. Dale and Dr. Gibson's titles of Dr. omitted. My mother was a great admirer of Dr. Dale, and I never heard her refer to him any other way, and Dr. Gibson was my Oklahoma History teacher and a hero of mine. I wouldn't dream of addressing him as anything but Dr. Have titles gone the way of other civilities in modern life?

*Suzanne Black Eder
Bartlesville, Oklahoma*

EDITOR'S NOTE: Publications adhere to "style" rules for consistency. Sooner Magazine uses the dominant resource, the Associated Press Stylebook, in which "Dr." is reserved for medical practitioners and then only on first reference, except in direct quotes. Many years ago OU had many more professors who did not yet have PhDs or were in areas where professional experience counted just as heavily, the fine arts, for instance. Keeping them straight was a problem. In personal contact with faculty, most students call their professors "Dr." just as reader Eder and her mother did. A few professors may prefer first names or "Mr." but the vast majority cling to their earned doctorates.

Sports Coverage Encouraged

I have been very impressed and pleased with my *Sooner Magazine*—and just wanted to let you know.

It is quite informative, and we have learned much about the University's rich heritage, traditions and individuals, as well as current projects and plans.

As a special note, I had to let you know that the recent article by Jay Upchurch ("A Very Good Year," Winter 2003) was of great interest in our household. We are ardent supporters and fans of the University and our student-athletes. While we are long-time season ticket holders in football, we highly value all of the students who participate in their chosen athletic endeavors.

However, since we live in Dallas, sources for information regarding our athletic programs are somewhat minuscule. So, we appreciate the coverage that you have provided and encourage you to continue in this effort.

Thank you for an excellent publication. It is always read from "cover to cover" in our home!

*David Bergthold
Dallas, Texas*

Ken Levit's Efforts Lauded

I particularly enjoyed your Fall 2002 issue and its focus on OU-Tulsa. Dr. Ken Levit's efforts have been nothing short of miraculous.

When you consider that OU-Tulsa has grown from 600 students in 1999 to 1,050 in 2002; the school's programs are being consolidated in the metropolitan area; all this makes Dr. Levit's efforts a remarkable feat.

He exemplifies exactly what OU-Tulsa needs as its President—a homegrown Tulsa with a superb academic and professional background and innovative leadership.

I predict even greater things in the future for OU-Tulsa under his leadership.

*Stratton Taylor
President Pro Tempore Emeritus
Oklahoma State Senate
Oklahoma City, Oklahoma*

EDITOR'S NOTE: Senator Taylor, who lives in Claremore and represents that area in the State Senate, was elected to his leadership position four times. He has been instrumental in marshaling support for the development of state-financed higher education in the Tulsa area.

A Simple Ethical Solution

The answer to "A Question of Ethics" in your Winter 2003 issue is simple: Look at the Preamble to our Constitution. Our Preamble serves not only as a requirement for our Constitution, but also as an unequalled guidepost for mankind. The reason is that it is all good, and it bears the force of Supreme Law. (Our government and politicians ignore it.)

An extension of its principles and equivalents has been made for industry (business), as well as other applications. The equivalents have been applied to include mankind and the government. The three "twains" of: Industry and Mankind; Industry and Government; and Mankind and Government were made to be met, irrespective of Rudyard Kipling's "never the twain shall meet."

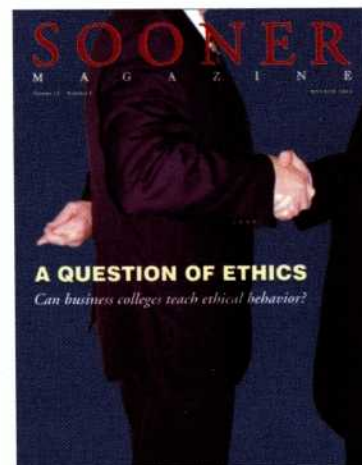
The analyses and solutions to these pairings are made in my book, *21st Century Turfs, Powers, Solutions*, which was published in 1996. Some clarification, as a Code of Life, is made on the www.cleareducation.com website. Incidentally, my essay, "Space Programs: A View from 2050," should be on the Future Generations Forum of the wfs.org (World Future Society) website before your next issue.

*Thomas B. Albright, '45 eng
Lewisville, Texas*

Keeping Your Hands Clean

A good issue (Winter 2003)! I enjoy the magazine. Why are the two people on the cover wearing vinyl gloves?

*Dr. Donald M. Smith, '56 ba
Oklahoma City, Oklahoma*



EDITOR'S NOTE: When dealing with "A Question of Ethics" in the corporate world lately, perhaps surgical gloves would be a good idea. Or perhaps our photo retouch fellow was overly kind in removing age spots.