

SOONER MAGAZINE

SUMMER 2006
Volume 26 ■ Number 4



contents

4 THE MAN WHO PREDICTED 9/11

Rick Rescorla's heroism in Vietnam and at the World Trade Center is a thing of legend; less known is the fact that this British-born "tough guy" earned two degrees from OU.

10 COLBERT HACKLER'S KIDS

Twenty-five years after leaving the college classroom, this 88-year-old professor is still passing along his lifelong love of music to a gaggle of violin-toting Norman youngsters.

14 THE AMBASSADOR AND ME

The launch of Ed Perkins' biography marked an eight-year, exhaustive collaboration with author Connie Cronley involving mountains of material and travel on two continents.

19 TRACKING WITH ZIGBEEF

A wireless technology developed and marketed by student entrepreneurs enables ranchers to monitor their herds by means of ear tags containing each animal's life history.

22 SOONER IN BAGHDAD

Darren Nance works where the concept of free elections is virtually unknown; yet in spite of overwhelming difficulties, he remains optimistic about the future of democracy.

28 SUMMERTIME SCHOLARS

Under names like Horizons Unlimited and Mini College, OU summer programs reach out to the younger set who want something more than the traditional camp experience.



Photo Provided

PAGE 22



Robert Taylor

PAGE 10

PROLOGUE • INSIDE FRONT COVER

LETTERS • PAGE 2

POSTSCRIPT: VICTIM OF PROGRESS

• PAGE 32

AS THE WORLD TURNS

• INSIDE BACK COVER

ON THE COVER • An image forever seared into the national memory, an unimaginable horror—and yet one man did see it coming and saved 2,700 lives at the cost of his own.

Story on Page 4. AP Images photo by Patrick Sison

EDITOR

Carol J. Burr

ASSISTANT EDITOR

Lynette Lobban

ART DIRECTOR

George T. Dotson

STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Robert Taylor

PUBLISHER

The University of Oklahoma Foundation Inc.

Ron D. Burton, President

Archived copies of *Sooner Magazine* are available on the University of Oklahoma Foundation Inc. Web site: <http://www.oufoundation.org>.

Sooner Magazine is published quarterly by the University of Oklahoma Foundation Inc. with private funds at no cost to the taxpayers of the state of Oklahoma. The magazine is printed by the Transcript Press, Norman, Oklahoma, and is intended primarily for private donors to the University of Oklahoma and members of the University of Oklahoma Alumni Association.

Opinions expressed are those of the author and do not reflect the official position of the University of Oklahoma or the University of Oklahoma Foundation Inc.

Copyright 2006 by the University of Oklahoma Foundation Inc. Address all inquiries and changes of address to: Editor, *Sooner Magazine*, 100 Timberdell Road, Norman, OK 73019-0685. Phone: 405/321-1174; email: sooner magazine@ou.edu. Letters to the editor must be signed and are submitted with the understanding that they may be reproduced; emailed letters must include name, address and phone number for verification. Letters not intended for publication should be so marked.