



LETTERS

Wayman's Smile

I just wanted to drop you a note and tell you how much I enjoyed your commentary on Wayman Tisdale ["Prologue," Summer 2009]. He was truly a gentleman and a joy to be around, as well as to watch.

I remember seeing him outside the Lloyd Noble Center once when I was driving my Porsche, and he went on at length about how much he'd like to have one. I commented that I was quite sure that one day he would be able to indulge himself in such things to any degree he would like. He laughed and let me have the light from his beautiful smile.

What a lovely man. What a loss.

*Jerome C. Weber
OU Regents Professor
Norman, Oklahoma*

Who Gifted Darwin Material?

Interesting article re: books by Darwin in the OU History of Science Collections ["The Darwin Dilemma," Summer 2009]. Who was instrumental in securing this collection for OU? How and when was this accomplished?

*Bobbie Cary
Claremore, Oklahoma*

Editor's Note: The Darwin Collection was acquired over 50 years through many sources, including multiple donors. Several important first editions were among the 6,000 volumes donated by Everette Lee DeGolyer in the '50s, which resulted in founding the History of Science Collections and brought first curator Duane H.D. Roller to OU. Roller obtained many additional Darwin works on summer book-buying trips, a practice continued by his successor, Marilyn Ogilvie. On one excursion to England, she obtained a book by the 19th-century naturalist Robert Garner, which contained a handwritten letter from Darwin bound into the back of what turned out to be Garner's personal copy. The research collection grew to more than 400 Darwin works, in vari-

ous editions and translations, as well as four manuscript letters written by Darwin. Most recently, the beautiful Zoology of the Voyage of the Beagle was obtained through the efforts of University Libraries Dean Sul Lee, completing the set of Darwin first editions.

Controversy Disputed

The introduction to the recent article "The Darwinian Dilemma" by Anne Harp in the Summer 2009 edition does a disservice to your magazine. There is no "controversy" about evolution, it is simply a fact. The seeming controversy comes from religious persons who have their mythology and promote that mythology as a possible truth. Whether it be that creation came from the body of a slain monster, a stack of giant turtles, a sky god or earth goddess, it is all a belief system of religion. Science should never be in controversy with unprovable mythology, especially a fact such as evolution which is a universal scientific truth.

*Larry Steele, '70 ba
Norman, Oklahoma*

Old Science History Notes

Having just read the spring 2009, issue of the *Sooner Magazine* and being properly impressed with the article about the history and current use of the Old Science Hall, I am impelled to add a little historical detail.

In 1926, recently widowed Nell Rockey Evans (no relation to the earlier President of OU) moved to Norman with her two daughters and one son. The purpose of that move was to become a member of the teaching staff of the OU School of Home Economics. This was a very active and popular school in the days when many young women came to college to prepare themselves to marry and cook, sew and care for a family of their own. From 1926, and perhaps earlier, the Old Science Hall was known as the Home Ec building and was known thus until the new Home Ec building was built on Elm Street. Trust me on this: Nell Evans was my mother, and I grew up with that building and its wonderful faculty of interesting women. Among other uses during those years the

Extension Department was housed on the lower floor.

There have been a number of letters written earlier about the OU radio station. In 1938 while Lydia Spencer and Elmer Capshaw and I, as well as about 16 other great kids, were seniors in University High School, the building directly across the Oval and facing the Home Ec Building, Lydia and Elmer had a 15 minute weekly show on WNAD. They read poetry, much of which Elmer had composed. As I recall WNAD was at about 530 on the dial and broadcast all of the OU sports.

Just thought that someone there might want to know.

*Robert Rockey Evans Sr., '43 bs ce
Lawrence, Kansas*

P.S. Lydia Spencer ('43 speech) and I have been married, to each other, for something over 65 years now.

Editor's Note: Robert's late sisters, June Evans McNatt and Carol Evans McWilliams, as well as two of Lydia's sisters, the late Mary Belle Spencer Spring and Norman resident Betty Anne Spencer Silman, all graduated from OU.

KUVY Experiences

My brother, Dr. N.D. Glasscock of Yorktown, Virginia, (Class of '49) sent me an article a few months ago concerning the old days of KUVY Radio (with studios in Kaufman Hall).

I worked on the volunteer staff for three years, becoming sports director in 1955-56. Lila Jean Weeks had been station manager, and Mike Treps had been the previous sports director with Ansel Resler the professor in charge after Dr. Harry Lyle had preceded him. Dr. Sherman P. Lawton was in charge of the radio-speech-television department, and most of us also volunteered on his weekly show on KWTW in Oklahoma City. We worked closely with C. Joe Holland in the journalism department, and others might have had minimal paying jobs at WNAD. We actually broadcast OU football games, but our audience was extremely small due to the fact it was wired into the campus dormitories and no place else. But it was great experience, and I believe Ross

Porter who became the voice of the L.A. Dodgers came later, as most of us worked on the volunteer staff of Harold Keith and Addie Barker.

It also allowed us to be a part of major network broadcasts as I often spotted for Curt Gowdy when he was assigned by the network to broadcast an OU game from Owen Field. Bob Haight, who became a bureau chief for UPI, also worked a short time at KUVY. In the '50s, we also had Vic Dyer, Ed Turner (who became senior vice president of CNN) and the late Jack Ogle, who worked many years in Oklahoma City television.

Anyway, it was an article that allowed me to take a nostalgic trip down memory lane and recall the great talent that had passed through the doors of the old studio. We didn't have the wonderful facilities and equipment the OU communications department now utilizes, but we still learned a lot, and for many of us, it was indeed a great learning experience and confidence builder.

*Gary De Laune Glasscock, '56 com
San Antonio, Texas*

Scaling the WNAD Tower

Having received my FCC First Class Radio Telephone License in April 1942, I started work at WNAD at the start of the fall semester (my sophomore year).

Professor Clyde Farrar became my mentor, teaching me how to tune his uniquely designed transmitter. Other names at WNAD I remember are Virginia Hawk and later John W. Dunn, directors. Students included engineers Bob Ashby, Alfred Ashley and Alda May Gruenwald, announcers Gus King Babb and Gar Moore.

Events included my climbing the 300-foot antenna tower many times to replace bulbs and removing the 30-foot-long banners of girls' underwear that Navy V-12 Cadets hung from the top of the tower week after week for months (Think of all those poor naked girls).

In November 1943 a visitor to the studio, Mary Lou Dotson, caught my eye. Sixty years later, in November 2003, Mary Lou became my second wife, and now we are enjoying life here in Phoenix.

Volunteering for the Navy in May 1944, returning to school and WNAD in the fall of 1946, leaving WNAD in May 1947, graduating with a BSEE in 1948 and meeting David Boren at the 50th anniversary reunion in May 1998 completed my WNAD and OU experience.

*Robert Blackert, '48 bs ee
Phoenix, Arizona*

What a Concept!

I have just read with great interest your summer of 2009 *Sooner Magazine* and enjoyed it immensely. In particular I was proud and happy to see the article on pages 22-26 ["Going the Distance for Students"], featuring my old friend Cy Wagner, a friend since the 1940s and a great benefactor of OU. It is a beautiful building and a wonderful concept!

*William J. Welch, '57 bba, '58 law
Tulsa, Oklahoma*



Lissa and Cy Wagner

A Story to Tell

After reading my *Sooner Magazine* from cover to cover for possibly the 65th year, it occurred to me that I had a story to share. The problem might possibly be that I am beyond the point of remembering accurate names and dates, but this is the gist: in perhaps the late sixties or early seventies, the cover of *Sooner Magazine* was of an archeological dig made by OU students in Palestine. The group was part of a team made up of several colleges and universities. The actual site was a place called Caesaria Maritime situated on the eastern shore of the Mediterranean.

I read the story with great interest and decided to share it with a friend who grew

up in that area. She was delighted to read it and asked to borrow it to show her husband, a Jordanian, the pictures of where her grandfather had lived. I believe he (the grandfather) had been the mullah at the time.

Her actual words were: I spent every summer there with all my cousins. We swam in the Mediterranean all day long and those were the healthiest, happiest years of my life. We never had colds or any other illnesses. We used to find Roman coins in the water and would run to show our grandparents our treasure. My grandfather would say 'quick, throw them in the well; the British will arrest you.'

In the body of the OU story was an anecdote of the students finding old Roman coins in a well. I hope someone who made that trip will enjoy knowing how the coins got in the well.

*Mary Lou Arnold Lewis, '44 bba
Spring, Texas*

A Different View of Stoops

Thank you so much [re: "The Other Bob Stoops," Winter 2009]. I have always admired Bob as a coach, and now after reading the article you wrote, I will look at him in a different light.

Born in Oklahoma, but living in California. Always a Boomer Sooner!

Sally Diemer

Mission Accomplished

Thank you so much for putting my request for a '55 *Sooner* yearbook in the *Sooner Magazine* Summer 2009 issue.

Last count I have been contacted by more than 10 people offering their yearbooks. The fun thing to come out of this is that my university roommate, Judy Crumpler West, contacted me (we talked on the phone for 45-plus minutes), and I now have Bob West's '55 *Sooner* yearbook. It was great to hear Oklahoma talk, Boomer Sooner and Go OU.

I contacted each person, but if possible to put a little thank you in the next edition, that would be great! OU people are wonderful.

*Diana Carter Dickson, '57 bbe
Bosque Farms, New Mexico*