



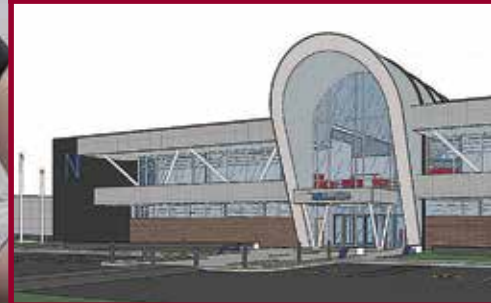
SOONER

MAGAZINE

Welcome to *Sooner Magazine's* special issue on aviation, defense and aerospace, showcasing OU's groundbreaking initiatives and stellar achievements in each of these vital fields. Explore and see how OU and its alumni have claimed their rightful place in the sky.



ON THE COVER: Students from OU's top-ranked School of Aviation show off the university's new helicopters and fleet of Piper single-engine airplanes. Story on Pg. 2. Photos by Shevaun Williams.



SOONER MAGAZINE

EDITOR Anne Barajas Harp
ASSISTANT EDITOR Sara Morrell Cowan
ART DIRECTION Walker Creative, Inc., *Steven Walker*
STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER Travis Caperton
PUBLISHER The University of Oklahoma Foundation Inc.
Guy L. Patton, President

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 authors and do not reflect the official position of the University of Oklahoma or the University of Oklahoma Foundation Inc. Archived copies of *Sooner Magazine* are available



2 AVIATION

Flying Into a New Era

OU's School of Aviation welcomes a fleet of nine new planes and launches a helicopter program, leading Oklahoma's thriving aviation industry and meeting the nation's growing need for pilots, air traffic controllers and airport managers.

Semper Fly

Helicopter pilot and Marine Brandi Rector is taking the School of Aviation to new heights, making OU the only SEC school with rotor training.

Taking the Controls Early

Youth flight academies are helping K-12 students incorporate aviation into their dreams for the future.

12 DEFENSE

Confronting the Global Security Challenge

OADII, the Oklahoma Aerospace and Defense Innovation Institute, collaborates with disciplines across OU to bolster America's national defense.

A Strategic Alliance

Two distinguished combat veterans are bringing decades of hard-won defense experience to OADII.

Since its Earliest Days, OU Has Supported Those Who Serve

OU's commitment to national defense is a continuum from World War I's Student Army Training Corps to today's student ROTC members, veterans and active service members.

22 AEROSPACE

Fred Haise: A Hero for the Space Ages

OU alumnus and Apollo 13 astronaut Fred Haise inspired the world, but he hasn't forgotten his days as a Sooner.

A Slingshot Into History

OU's own David Proctor created the code behind Apollo 11 and 13.

OU's Place in Space

Fred Haise isn't the only OU alum to become an astronaut. Learn more about Owen Garriott, Shannon Lucid and Fred Leslie.