

Biff Jones Tours Oklahoma

BIFF JONES' first month on the University of Oklahoma campus was nothing short of hectic.

There were press conferences. Pictures. Two and one-half weeks of spring practice. More pictures. Football schedule making at the Big Six meeting in Kansas City.

And then came the state tour. Ten Oklahoma cities and towns in four days. Other luncheons and dinners. And then off to R.O.T.C. camp at Fort Sill with more banquets during June scheduled in the vicinity of the army post.

His election as athletic director came after he had gone to camp.

The state tour, sponsored by the alumni association, proved to be a knock-out. Almost one thousand persons wrung the hand of the colorful new football coach in four days and more than half that number attended luncheons and dinners and heard him speak.

Accompanied by Frank S. Cleckler, '21 bs, alumni secretary, and Bill Cross, '09as, business manager of the athletic association, Captain Jones hit the Oklahoma highways May 27.

In the line of his personal appearances were Muskogee, Okmulgee, Weleetka, Wetumka, Wewoka, El Reno, Clinton, Guthrie, Perry and Enid. Already, he had appeared at meetings in Shawnee, Ponca City, Chickasha, Oklahoma City and Norman.

There were curb-stone meetings, hotel lobby gab fests, cafe bull-sessions over midnight coffees, receptions in private homes, bands playing Boomer Sooner and all of the football conscious of the state were out to meet the great "Biffter" whose Army and Louisiana State football teams have been nationally prominent.

Starting May 27, Biff had Muskogee as a first stop. Getting in around 4:30 P.M., Captain Jones, Cleckler and Cross put up at the Severs hotel. By 5 o'clock, Muskogee's alumni were conscious that Biff had come to town.

There were pictures taken out in front of the hotel. Newspaper reporters interviewed Biff concerning what he thought about everything from football to caviar. Those most interested in the University and its football team stayed around for informal chats until Malcolm Rosser, '21ex, regent-alumnus, announced that the dinner of greeting was awaiting Captain Jones. Seventy-five alumni and friends of the University attended the meeting. The dinner lasted until 9 o'clock.

Biff and his Sooner escorts were then taken to the home of S. F., '17ex, and Jewell Risinger Ditmar, '19as, for an informal re-

ception. More football talk was in order. After an hour or so, the group was steered down to the office of the *Muskogee Phoenix* where Biff met the editors and talked more football.

About 1 A.M., those still with the party adjourned to a Chinese restaurant across the street for hot coffee. More alumni and football fans joined the group on every move. At 2 A.M., the rapidly tiring trio sought the rest and relaxation of hotel chairs out in front of the Severs. At 3 o'clock in the morning, the residents of Muskogee and the touring trio decided to call it a day.

Six hours later, those who had retired early were at the hotel to start the day. A number of persons who had missed the evening session were on hand. Football was talked over breakfast coffee. At 11 A.M., the party left with Okmulgee as the next destination.

Max Chambers, '21as, '29M.S., superin-

tendent of schools at Okmulgee, had a noon luncheon crowd awaiting the arrival of Biff. Sixty attended the meeting at which more questions were asked about Sooner football hopes and about the University in general.

The party was off at 2 o'clock in the afternoon. Jack "Tex" Durkee, '22ex, a star baseball pitcher not so many years ago, and Jim Fleming, '22ex, auto dealer, were on hand to greet the group in Weleetka. A dozen or so gathered together to talk over the situation, before the group was off for Wetumka where they were met by Mutt Fleming, aviator and former Sooner student. Another twenty or more were on hand to meet Biff and ask about Oklahoma's chances.

Regent J. C. Looney, '20as, '22law, and Hicks Epton, '32law, met the party at Wewoka and had a reception and smoker planned for the evening. The turn-out at Wewoka was in the neighborhood of 175 and the meeting was held at the Aldridge hotel.

A banquet of the past commanders club of the American Legion was sandwiched in between dinner and the alumni smoker.

After the smoke had cleared away, the trio of weary travelers decided to call it a day and left for Norman at 11 P.M.

Up early Wednesday morning, Biff and



From varsity center, seasons '31, '32, '33, Paul Young, '35as, stepped into a coaching position at the University. All-state, all-Big Six, all-Missouri Valley and all-American honors were showered on this tall Norman lad throughout his high school and collegiate career.

Frank Cleckler picked up Wrestling Coach Paul Keen, Baseball Coach Lawrence "Jap" Haskell, Basketball Coach Hugh McDermott and Varsity Gridman Ben Poyner and took out for El Reno and Clinton.

Fifty turned out for the El Reno Kiwanis club luncheon. Informal sessions were held in the lobby of the Southern hotel after the noon meal.

A band greeted the party of six when they pulled into Clinton late that afternoon. While the trumpets blared Boomer-Sooner, Bert Meacham,'18law, and Percy Main,'34ex, conducted the party to a dinner at the Methodist church. Two hundred alumni and football fans from Clinton, Sayre, Elk City, Cordell, Weatherford, Hinton and Frederick were on hand. Main was chairman of the committee and Meacham was toastmaster.

More informal sessions were held before the six again turned toward Norman at 10:30 P.M.

Guthrie, Perry and Enid were on the program for the next day. Dr. Guy Y. Williams,'06as,'10M.A., chief executive of the athletic council, joined the party, as did Football Coach Paul Young,'35as, and Harold Keith,'27as, director of sports publicity.

Gordon Bierer,'21as, member of the alumni association executive board, was toastmaster at the noon luncheon at the Ritzhauph cafe in Guthrie. Fifty attended the meeting.

Twenty were on hand for a curb-stone meeting at 3 o'clock at Perry before the group had to leave for Enid.

Doctor Williams, who is an alumnus of Enid high school,'02, was the chief introducer of the evening. Carl Ford,'19as, was toastmaster and Ralph Miller,'24bus, was general chairman. A crowd of 150 attended the dinner.

After the meeting, informal sessions were held at the Youngblood hotel and the group was steered to the newspaper office for interviewing. About midnight they started home.

Other dinners have been planned for Hobart, Altus, Duncan, Lawton and nearby places during the summer while Captain Jones is at Fort Sill.

Following were the alumni at the Muskogee meeting:

Malcolm E. Rosser, jr., '21; Mayes Thompson,'22; Laurel N. Childers,'26; J. E. Arnold,'22; C. A. Ambrister,'10; Richard Martin,'28; Earl Anthiis,'27; J. C. Buchanan, jr.; Raymond M. Fox,'28; Mrs. Mayes Thompson; Herbert Branan,'32; Elizabeth Trumbo,'29; Don Cameron,'17; Jewell Risinger Ditmar,'19; Mr. and Mrs. W. R. Wolfe,'26; Jacob Johnson,'31; S. F. Ditmar,'19; W. S. Warner,'19; Earl Pruet,'21; Eunice Davis Pruet,'21.

Alumni registered at the Okmulgee dinner were:

W. Max Chambers,'21,'28; Camon McMahon,'29; Jack A. Horner,'34; Ernest Lambert,'11; W. A. Burress,'24; A. N. Boatman,'16; Roy K. Valla,'34; Frances

Willard Wood,'32; E. K. Wood,'23; G. Graham Smith,'30; Walter Christian,'29; C. B. Steele,'15; Ab Walker,'33; Paul G. Shelley,'28; W. K. Cunningham,'25; Robert W. Henry,'21.

Alumni registered at Wewoka were:

Joe Looney,'22; John L. Garrison,'34, Seminole; Harold Skinner,'32, Holdenville; J. Bart Aldridge,'25; Dr. Agnew A. Walker,'34; George Oliphant,'31; Floyd C. Smith; S. W. Biggers,'30; Leon J. McDonald,'18; R. N. Chase,'27; Bob Howell,'28; Hicks Epton,'32; Pliny S. Frye,'21; L. J. Gregg,'32; Mainard Kennedy,'29.

Alumni registered at Guthrie were:

Lloyd H. McGuire,'25; F. L. Scrutchild; Howard Smith,'28; Owen Acton,'09; Fred W. Green,'05; Eugene Boland,'20; Milo Remund, summer graduate student; James Roe,'31; Henry Wolgamot,'30; Gerald Peterson,'30; George Taylor,'22; John E. Carter,'31; R. H. Beyer,'20; Charles S. Olson,'33; Merle G. Smith,'27; Frank Fitzpatrick,'33; Geordon Bierer,'21; F. A. Holman,'24; L. E. McDaniel.

Alumni registered at Clinton were:

Walter H. Foth,'31, Cordell; Bryan Hyder,'28; H. N. Doughty,'21, Weatherford; George A. Meacham,'20; Walter Goggin,

'28; Roy C. Cain,'22, Sayre; Don Waters,'28; Tom McLin,'28; F. A. Lee,'26; R. Lockwood Jones,'30, Cordell; Omer S. Luellen,'31, Hinton; H. D. Brown,'24; L. W. Kitchens,'16, Cheyenne; Jess C. Wesner,'27; George Posey Wild,'31, Weatherford; Elmer C. Gardner,'31, Sentinel; Roy R. Gardner,'34, Sentinel; Percy Main,'34; W. E. Hood,'26, Erick; Byron Dawson,'25; Henry Ford.

Alumni registered at Enid were:

Milton Asfahl,'30; Bro McDonald,'31, Fairview; Charles E. Ford,'26; J. Richard Gentry,'20; Mrs. Milton Asfahl,'30; Ed Fleming,'12; Ralph V. Miller,'24; Marion E. Sheets,'28; Dan Mitchell,'23; H. C. Mitschrick,'28; Page Belcher; Herbert Reinhardt, student; E. B. Mitchell,'26; M. F. Priebe,'25; Park Lamerton,'34; F. B. Couch,'19; Byron Layton,'17; Max Minton,'21; J. Allen Thomas,'20; N. F. Weatherly,'20; Kenneth C. Anderson,'31; Delmer Anderson,'28; Lloyd McKnight,'31; Jere G. Crowley,'26; Paul Edwards,'31; Dorothy Tourtellot,'34; Lucile Maize,'34; Lulu Moohouse,'34; Vera Frances Swigert,'33; Loraine Hague,'32; H. C. Triggs; Jane Edwards Champlin,'32; Louise Gordon; Craig Campbell.

The Board Elects

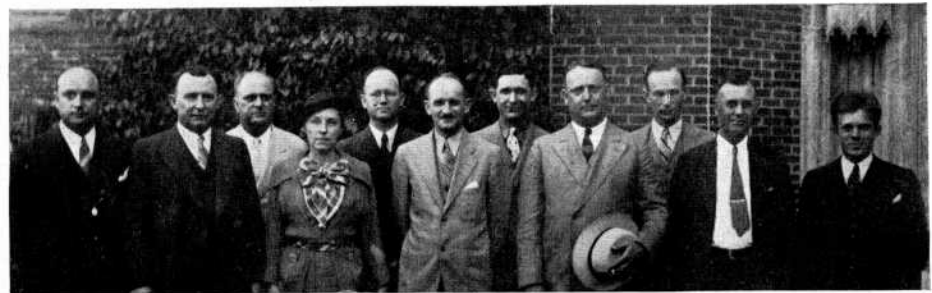
EARL FOSTER,'12as,'13law, Oklahoma City attorney, was elected president of the Alumni association executive board at its commencement-homecoming meeting on the campus.

He succeeds Lewis Morris,'15as,'15M.A., '17law, Oklahoma county attorney, as president. Other officers elected were Lowry H. Harrell,'16law, Ada attorney, first vice-president; Mrs. Floy Elliott Cobb,'17as, Tulsa homemaker, second vice-president; George D. Morgan,'17as, San Angelo geologist, vice-president for Texas; and Frank S. Cleckler,'21as, secretary-treasurer.

Results of the annual executive mail

ballot were announced and the five new members were seated. They were R. W. Hutto,'10as, Norman banker, and J. Malcolm "Bud" Gentry,'15as, state highway commissioner, Enid, members at large; Dave Logan,'16as, state senator and geologist, Okmulgee, district two; Lowry H. Harrell, Ada, district four; and Buffington "Buff" Burtis,'27as, Clinton editor and publisher, district seven.

The meeting was held in the Oklahoma Union following the commencement luncheon. Plans were made for activities for the coming year and routine business was handled.



Members of the Alumni association executive board attending the meeting at commencement time were Frank S. Cleckler, secretary-treasurer, Norman; Earl Foster, Oklahoma City; Lewis R. Morris, Oklahoma City; Mrs. Kitty Shanklin Rountree, Oklahoma City; Buffington "Buff" Burtis, Clinton; Lowry H. Harrell, Ada; T. Jack Foster, Norman; A. G. C. "Gordon" Bierer, Guthrie; Dave Logan, Okmulgee; R. W. Hutto, Norman; and Ernie Hill, editor of the "Sooner Magazine," Norman.