

# THE SOONER MAGAZINE

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◆ OKLAHOMA ALUMNI NEWS ◆

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## Oklahomans at home and abroad

### Soonerland in Brief

After final examinations late in May and commencement early in June, the University will be set for another summer session that will appeal largely to teachers who wish to continue graduate study. A normal enrolment of from two thousand to twenty-five hundred students is anticipated.

A third University student has gone crooner in "big time" circles. Bobby Lancaster, student from Guymon, sang three solo numbers before Ted Fio Rito and his band when they played the Junior-Senior prom on the campus, and as a result was offered a position by Fio Rito, himself. Lancaster's contract will start in June at the Edgewater Beach hotel in Chicago. Truman "Pinky" Tomlin and Maurice Cotton last year were picked up by orchestra maestros.

Elisabeth Barrowman, Norman, has been elected president of the Women's Athletic association for the coming year. Other officers are Florence Broderson, Okarche, vice-president; Frances Peters, Norman, secretary; Nona Gibbons, Waurika, treasurer; Magdalena Cortazar, Norman, social chairman; Aileen Twyford, Oklahoma City, director of health week; Lucille Davis, Norman, intramural manager.

Seven new members have been pledged to Coif, the highest ranking senior law school organization that takes its membership from the ranking upper ten percent of the law school. The seven are Sylvan Andrews, Tulsa; Frank P. Dickey, Lima, Ohio; William Funk, El Reno; George Hoke, Norman; Francis Madison, Enid; Elmer Million, Clinton; and C. Leslie Pain, Carnegie.

*The Whirlwind*, campus humor magazine that has weathered many storms in its fourteen years of existence, appears finally and definitely dead. A new maga-

zine, combining humor and serious articles, will make an appearance on the campus in the fall under the directorship of James Hawes, Norman, and Billy Whiteman, Oklahoma City. A petition stating that the killing of the *Whirlwind* was a political move to give Hawes and Whiteman control of the campus humor organ has been filed by students who planned to run for the major staff positions next year.

An attempt to recall Louis Woodruff, president of the University men's council, was made by student political leaders for sending unfortunate telegrams expressing sentiment in connection with the hiring of a new football coach. Woodruff, whose home is in Edmond, was not recalled from office, however, when 202 voted for recall and 240 against it. A three-fourths vote was required to remove him from office.

H. H. Herbert, director of the University school of journalism was named head of the Southwestern Journalism Congress at a meeting during April at Baton Rouge, Louisiana. Hoyte Allen, Durant, journal-

ism student, was chosen president of the Southwestern Students' Press club at the same meeting. The group will meet on this campus next year.

A photographic study, "Sand and Shadows," taken by O. F. Evans, assistant professor of geology, won first place in the annual O.U. Camera club exhibition.

Ted M. Beaird, assistant in the University's public relations department, will be the commencement speaker this year at Norman high school.

The University board of regents rescinded its action by abolishing the compulsory athletic fee at a meeting in April. At a previous meeting, the board approved a recommendation that each student be required to buy an athletic ticket for five dollars. In reversing its action, the regents ruled that students do not have to purchase tickets for sports events unless they wish to.

Lawrence Brock, junior engineer, Abilene, Texas, has been elected president of the Engineering club for the coming year. Other officers elected were Booth Strange, Wilson, vice-president; Bessie Kniseley, Norman, secretary; and Joe Canon, Sherman, Texas, treasurer.

The campus presentation of the grand opera "Carmen" was hailed as a popular success. Reviews of the operatic presentation were complimentary to the production and good crowds watched the show both of the nights it was presented. Spencer Norton, '28 as, was in charge of the staging. He and Mrs. Helene Carpenter were responsible for the translation of the opera. They plan a series of new translations of popular old favorites.

### Arbuckle to Central

G. Dale Arbuckle, '27 law, has been appointed football coach at Central high school in Oklahoma City to succeed Ralph Higgins, Oklahoma A. and M. graduate.

### CONTENTS

Oklahomans at Home and Abroad	179
Downing Will Leave	181
Commencement-Homecoming	182
Forty-Third Commencement-Homecoming Program	183
See You in Norman, June 1-3	184
Three Reunion Banquets	185
Biff Jones, Captain, Coach	186
Josh Lee Speaks	188
Business Administration Building	190
Thirty-Two County Attorneys	192
Interscholastic Track Meet	194
The Next Biennium	194
Sooner Roll Call	196
Home Making Education	199
Fifty Scholarships	200
Outstanding Geologists	200

Harriet Russell, '26as, is playing a leading role in the motion picture, "The Strange Case of Dr. Crespi." Eric vonStroheim, veteran actor and director, is co-starred with Miss Russell in the motion picture. Miss Russell has played in several Elmer Rice dramatic produc-

tions on Broadway before going to California. She is under contract for six more motion pictures. Miss Russell is the sister of Hollis Russell, '28as, advertising manager of "The Bandwagon," Oklahoma City humor magazine. (Picture courtesy of "The Bandwagon.")

Major Harry J. Malony has seen his last University R.O.T.C. review as commandant. The popular officer completes his four-year assignment at the University with the close of the regular session in June. This is a photograph of the review last year.





### Union Hums with Visitors

The Oklahoma Union enjoyed one of its busiest months in its seven years of existence during April when 30 banquets were held with a total attendance of 2,882 persons.

During the first four months of 1935, there have been 91 banquets and luncheons in the Union with an attendance of 5,771 persons.

The largest dinners during April were held by the state convention of the American Association of University Women, the annual Southwestern Gas Measurement short course, the Sigma Delta Chi "Five Star Final" event and the national convention of Phi Eta Sigma, national freshman scholastic fraternity.



### St. Lewis Back from London

Roy St. Lewis, 15law, formerly United States district attorney, western district, recently spent several weeks in London on personal business. St. Lewis is practicing law in Washington, D.C. His office is in the National Press building.



### Keen May Go to Japan

Paul Keen, Sooner wrestling coach, and E. C. Gallagher, Aggie mat coach, have been invited to escort a team of National A.A.U. champions to Japan during July for nine meets with college and athletic club teams.

The National A.A.U. mat championship was won by the Oklahoma Aggies, who also took the national collegiate title this year. The Sooners were second at the college tournament.

Keen, who learned his wrestling under Gallagher, has coached the Sooners to Big Six titles during the past two seasons.

The team of American champions would be made up almost entirely of Oklaho-

mans who dominated both the A.A.U. and collegiate tournaments. The matmen would meet the best Japanese tusslers who are planning to compete in tryouts for the 1936 Olympic team.

## Downing Will Leave

**T**ODD DOWNING, instructor in Spanish at the University, will resign his faculty position in June to turn all of his efforts to writing.

Three successful murder mystery novels, the proverbial number necessary to make a writer an author, stand as Downing's contribution to the mystery field during the past two years. The popular young instructor, who was graduated in 1924 and granted an M.A. degree in 1928, will divide his time between New York City and Taxco, Mexico, when he leaves the University.

Recent reviews of his third book, *Vultures in the Sky*, an April Crime Club selection, have heralded him as one of the leading mystery story writers of the day. *Variety*, popular stage and writing organ, compares Downing favorably with Rufus King, the dean of the blood and thunder story.

*Variety* recommends *Vultures in the Sky* for motion picture production. Other reviewers have placed Downing on a par with Dashiell Hammett, S. S. VanDine,

Mignon Eberhart and the other leaders in the murder mystery field.

Downing's *The Cat Screams*, his second book, also a Crime Club selection, has been translated into Swedish and German and an English publishing house has purchased second publication rights. It also will be serialized during the summer in an American magazine.

Downing has been asked to write other books, short stories and make contributions to several publishing houses. He found that as a part-time writer, he was unable to supply the demand for his work.

He will be missed from the campus scene. Always popular since his undergraduate days, Downing has a host of friends in Norman and throughout the state. He was born and raised in Atoka and still spends considerable time with his family there. A Choctaw, he has been active in Indian affairs of the University and the state.

His sister, Ruth Downing, a former University student, is engaged in social welfare work in New York City.