



Four broadcasting Sooners: Hoyte Allen, Clifton Daniel, Joe Callaway and Irwin Bingham (left to right)

WNAD's graduates are making good

By Homer Heck, '35

TUNE in your radio most any time and you are likely to hear a Sooner caressing the microphone with the most professional suavity.

A survey of University graduates and former students who have climbed high since the days when they made their radio debut over WNAD on the O.U. campus shows that several are in important spots on major stations in the United States.

One who has advanced with great rapidity is Hoyte Allen, '36as, who in 1935 was doing his original Alf Goss character sketches over WNAD each week, and is now a contract broadcaster for WLS, Chicago, Ill.

Allen is under contract on the continuity staff at WLS and his work consists chiefly of writing and "doing" a 15-minute show at 7:30 o'clock Monday, Wednesday and Friday mornings with "The Arkansas Woodchopper" and writing and appearing in "The Tall Story Club" which is broadcast 10:30 to 11 o'clock every Saturday night.

His radio name is Pokey Martin, a country boy character. Until a short time ago the little show was a 5-minute daily "single" much like Allen's programs over WNAD.

"It was even like it in that many times I would write part of it walking down to the studio," Allen confesses. "I have even gone so far as to come out of the studio after putting on the program and then try to recall and write down what I had said so that the staff would have something to check for errors in policy and stuff. That's something that's never done in radio, but nobody ever listens to my program anyhow."

However, that last statement is professional modesty, because he gets letters

from Oklahoma and other points far away from WLS.

Discussing how the ambitious youngster can break into radio, Allen suggests that participation in WNAD programs presents a wonderful opportunity for students.

"I didn't realize how wonderful the opportunity was until since I've been away," he said. "I took some advantage, but not nearly as much as I should have."

The radio-ambitious student should make up his mind it's a hard grind but be determined to succeed, and then develop one or two new ideas for programs, unlike anything already on the air, Allen believes. He advises the students to get the greatest possible experience in all kinds of radio work.

ANOTHER Sooner who began his radio career with WNAD is now chief announcer for Station WCAE, Pittsburgh, Pa. He is R. Clifton Daniel, '34ex.

A month after leaving the University Daniel started a weekly "Hollywood Reporter" program over WKY, Oklahoma City. After 13 weeks of this he took a position on the WKY announcing staff. A year and a half later he resigned to take a similar position with WCAE, which is owned by Hearst Radio Inc. and affiliated with the basic red network of the NBC and Mutual Broadcasting system. The station feeds many programs into the networks each week.

After a year on the staff here Daniel was promoted to the position of chief announcer. He has announced many of the leading orchestras of the nation, as well as many celebrities of radio, stage and screen, and last October had the pleasure of an-

nouncing President Roosevelt when he spoke before a Pittsburgh audience of 60,000.

Daniel, who is now only 24 years old, got his first radio experience by broadcasting over WKY the original oration with which he won first place at the state interscholastic meet.

J. Wesley Henke, '33ex, who was staff announcer for WNAD when in the University, is now sports announcer for WEEI, Boston, Mass. He had his first commercial radio experience with KOMA at Oklahoma City after leaving the University.

Irwin Bingham, '32bs.ed, '34bs.pc., who was staff announcer and active in radio dramatics with WNAD when in school is now newscaster with WKY, Oklahoma City, under the name Irwin Drake.

"I am now a confirmed radio man, and nothing could be worse," Bingham writes. In his sophomore year in the University he was stand-by announcer for KOMA. Later he started for New York but stopped in St. Louis to take an audition with KSD and was hired. He went on to New York and was offered a job on the dramatic staff of CBS but the salary wasn't attractive enough so he went back to St. Louis as announcer and in two weeks was promoted to the post of production man. His experience there included several programs broadcast over the NBC red network.

Getting homesick, he came back to Oklahoma and KOMA and also married Marie Battey, then a student in the University. Later he took the newscasting position with WKY.

Joe Callaway, '34ex, who was a dramatic star over WNAD, has achieved wide recognition as a Shakespearean actor

since leaving the University, and has been on the air many times.

Callaway played walk-ons in Chicago when the Globe Theater Productions company was first organized, and swept floors of the theater to help pay his expenses. Then a director discovered that his long, angular body could be used to great advantage in low comic parts.

He proved such a success in these smaller roles that he eventually has been cast in and has received fine notices in both comedy and tragedy roles.

He has played more performances of Shakespeare for his age than any actor who has ever lived, Globe Theater officials have computed (age 22, performances 4,000). The unit presented Shakespeare plays at the Texas Centennial exposition at Dallas, California's exposition at San Diego, and Great Lakes Exposition at Cleveland.

The Globe company was to go on tour in January, and arrangements were under way for the making of two Shakespearean movies financed by the Rockefeller Foundation with Callaway playing featured parts.

When he was on the Pacific coast Callaway was a favorite with the movie colony. Jimmy Gleason and Boris Karloff both went on record as saying he is the foremost low comedian on the American stage.

Other former WNAD dramatic stars and announcers have gone into various occupations.

FINDING ingenuity needed in order to make a niche for himself in Hollywood, Fred Wheeler, '34ex, former WNAD dramatist, worked out a character sketch type of entertainment which has made him about tops in the Hollywood night spots where film notables go to be amused.

Figuring that movie folks who are familiar with super-colossal choruses and brilliant gags in their every-day routine want to see something different when they go out to relax, Wheeler decided to combine his voice, radio, dramatic and dancing experience he obtained at the University.

Ernie Hill, '33journ, Oklahoma City newspaperman who recently wrote a full-page feature in the *Oklahoma News* to tell Wheeler's success story, said that the Sooner entertainer worked out an act that is "part singing, part recitation, part pantomime with a lot of wild and woolly comedy."

Paul Barnett, '36fa, who was staff announcer and radio dramatist for WNAD, has been getting varied experience, first with the Warden Lawes Crime Show on the Midway of the Texas Centennial, and later with the Federal group in Dallas. In Dallas he has worked nights as announcer for station KABC and also has done drama work on KTSA.

"I have done nothing to set the world on fire yet, but I'm getting a lot of valuable experience," Barnett writes to friends

in Norman. "The farther one goes in this game, the less he feels like he knows about it. I am reconciled to a period of apprenticeship in the theater before I ever expect to gain my ultimate goal."

Julian Howard, '36as, who was a WNAD announcer, is now a graduate assistant in botany at Tulane university, and spent last summer as ranger in Yosemite National park.

Harold McCollum, '34as, program director and staff announcer for WNAD for a time, worked a while as assistant program director for a radio station on the Pacific coast but more recently has been connected with a funeral home at Los Angeles.

Mr. and Mrs. Bresse Holtschue, both former Phantom Mask dramatists on WNAD, are now living in Oklahoma City. Mr. Holtzschue, '34as, operates a filling station and Mrs. Holtschue, '35fa, (the former Josephine Landsittel of University Playhouse fame), is doing children's theater work.

Of course the voices you hear over the radio represent only a part of the heavy work necessary to produce a program. Behind instrument panels are the technical men who control the intricate machinery that make broadcasting possible.

Former WNAD transmission engineers in many cases have advanced to important technical positions over the nation, and are scattered from coast to coast.

Maurice L. Prescott, '24bs, the man who set up the first broadcasting equipment ever used by WNAD, is now radio transmission design engineer for the General Electric company, Schenectady, N.Y. He has a position of considerable responsibility and is G-E contact man with the Federal Communications division.

Leroy Moffett, '29bs, another former WNAD technician, is now transmitting engineer for WENR, Chicago.

Bryan Cole, '34bs, is on the transmitting staff of KYW, Philadelphia, Pa.

W. E. Ragsdale, '35bs, is in studio control work with the National Broadcasting company at Chicago.

Out on the Pacific coast, Pat Shultz, '28as, '29bs, who once twirled rheostats for WNAD is now doing sound engineering work with RCA Photophone in the film production area.

Harry Edwards, '19ex, a graduate of WNAD's technical department, is now a ship radio operator.

Several have responsible technical positions in Oklahoma City. These include C. E. Bathe, '25bs, '33as, who now is in charge of solving radio interference problems connected with transmission lines of the Oklahoma Gas and Electric company.

Byron McDermott, '28bs, is a transmission engineer with the Southwestern Bell Telephone company at Oklahoma City, and Ansel Challenner, '25bs, '33ms, is in theatrical sound equipment work at Oklahoma City.

Two former WNAD technicians who have gone into other fields are George S. Hammonds, '33bs, '33as, who is in the oil business in Oklahoma City, and Francis Floyd, '23bs, who is doing geophysical work in various oil centers.

Radio is a comparatively new field in education, but the University already has turned out a surprisingly large number of professional radio men—both performers and technicians—who are moving toward the top.

Probably oftener than you realize, you are enjoying the work of a Sooner when you idly turn the radio dial that brings into your home the latest news, entertainment and instruction.

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Teacher wins archery honors

DIANA of Oklahoma and the Southwest is the archery title won by Miss Eunice Lewis, '28as, now mathematics instructor in Sapulpa High school.

Her bow and quivers, first a hobby, have become an obsession of sufficient proportions to make her 1936 queen of the Oklahoma bulls-eye range, winning huntress in the Southwestern Archery tournament, and first in the Ozark Archers invitation match—all in a single year. More than a dozen almost equally coveted honors preceded the three-title success of the past year. She plans to enter even broader competition during 1937.



Eunice Lewis established the

Sooner archeress among those in the top brackets of the country.

She won her first signal honor in the Southwestern tournament in 1933. Since that time, cups, medals and trophies have been added so often that a bridge table is inadequate to hold all of them.

Her score of 1,263 registered in the state championship match of 1935 still stands unbeaten.

Exercise, aim, utter relaxation, self confidence and poise are the prime requisites for the development of ability in archery, Miss Lewis believes.

"In archery as in geometry, the shortest and swiftest path between two given points is a straight line," she says.

She became interested in archery during her last year on the University campus.