

SOONER MAGAZINE

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The Cover

Jane Steinhorst, Pawhuska journalism senior, decided that her education would not be complete without some athletics, so she has enrolled in Coach Jack Baer's class in Baseball Theory. In class with O.U.'s lettermen in major sports, Jane is learning how to throw a curve in the sport which has fascinated her as a spectator since she lived across the street from a baseball diamond as a student in grammar school. A story about the only woman student in Baer's class will be found in Riding the Sooner Range.

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Riding the Sooner Range

By TED BEAIRD

There is not a ground hog on the Sooner Range, nationwide, that could see his shadow on this Friday, February the 13th! With sub-zero temperatures plus 50-mile-per-hour gales "outside" in many sections over the Sooner Range, there are other items not quite so cold and frosty "inside" taking place here, there, and yonder. So, let's gallop along and observe some of 'em!

Take out DENVER way for example. Those Sooners have set up a new trail on their Mountain-top Range. The Denver boys tell me by long distance, wire and air-mail that they have had to shovel deep to get down to their path on that Range in sub-zero temperature! Yes, those Denverites have swung into action! It's been a long tedious grind. It has taken a lot of pounding and hounding on theirs and our part to get that organization established. But the DENVER, COLORADO, O.U. Alumni Group is *now* a reality. They have set into motion a program that will bring the "mile high city" group into the national limelight as are other Sooner gangs from coast to coast! (So—Los Angeles, Detroit, Washington, and New York take note—the Denver Sooners are on the march!)

Yes, Denver is underway. They are getting set for our own Coach BUD WILKINSON to be the next Sooner "hot shot" to fly Colorado-way for visitation and participation. In the very near future Bud is going to "hit the pale blue yonder" via Denver, on to San Francisco and Los Angeles and to meet Sooner alums by the hundreds.

But, back to this baby outfit in Denver. They met, they saw, they conquered! The "chosen" trio in their initial organizational meeting to head up the activities and to get the Denver outfit going strong are ROSCOE WALKER, JR., '42law, as prexie; ROBERT McWILLIAMS, '40journ, vice-president, and WILLIAM A. CLARKE, JR., '47ba, secretary-treasurer.

Now let's do a bit of observing on this trio. Today, as over a series of years (in fact, leading back to the balmy hours of 1908—the graduation hour of DOCTOR WALKER, SR., PAWHUSKA resident and father of ROSCOE, JR.), the name WALKER has been synonymous with Sooner activity and spirit. So—that young prexie of the Denver Alumni group is not a new name on the horizon of the Sooner universe.

Dipping back a few years ago, we find in an AP release what the sports writer said of ROSCOE, JR.

"When ROSCOE WALKER, JR., was recommended for a basketball letter by Coach HUGH McDERMOTT, '20ba, he stepped upon a pedestal that will have to be shared with no one, as far as Sooner old-timers can recall. He is the first son of a former University athletic letter winner who ever won an 'O' for competition on Oklahoma sports teams.

"The father, Roscoe Walker, Sr., Pawhuska doctor, earned four Sooner letter awards back in the years ending in 1908. All four were in baseball, a sport he helped inaugurate on the O.U. campus, and the son earned his first entirely outside that field—in basketball—during the past season as a first team member of the 'Boy Scats'.

"Bill Cross, University athletic business manager, likes to razz Walker, Sr., about the latter's baseball playing at the University, saying that because the only two gloves and only pair of bats on the campus were owned by the former star, he was permitted to play. But the truth lies far from that jesting."

"Now, here's the vice-prexie of the Denver outfit, BOB McWILLIAMS. Looking back a brief eight years, the news-hounds said of Bob on that graduation morning in June, 1940:

"Bob McWilliams graduated in June from the University of Oklahoma School of Journalism, has joined the staff of radio station KFEL, Denver, as news editor. McWilliams worked briefly this summer as news editor of radio station KTUL at Tulsa and later as newscaster and announcer for radio station KHBG, Okmulgee. At the University, McWilliams for two years was Norman correspondent for the *Daily Oklahoman* and *Oklahoma City Times*."

Bill Clarke? Yes it is *the* Bill Clarke, Jr., secretary-treasurer of the Denver Group. He is a '47 Sooner graduate who is now an established Denverite. On the campus he was one of the men about town in the O.U. Glee Club, plus many other activities. Commissioned February 28, 1944, in the Naval Reserve Officers' Training Corps, that boy Bill knows the "more recent inside dope" due to watching O.U. fluctuate through its trials and tribulations during World War II, than do his two colleagues, Walker and McWilliams, six and eight years removed from the campus and its pre and post war activity.

All in all, "the Roscoe, Bob and Bill" combination will lead the Denver group to a successful club!

But, away from the "mile high city," and let's flip back to the seething O.U. campus with the 12,000 alums of tomorrow! On this stormy Friday, February 13, 1948, here is a good yarn that has broken about an alumnus in the making. A special student with the *unusual slant*—in fact, quite unusual!! Here's the yarn:

"It was the first day of the new semester. Baseball Coach Jack Baer, '42ed, addressed his class in baseball theory in the same manner he had done so often in the past, explaining what to expect in the course, and giving other routine information expected on the first day. Everything seemed normal. The all-male class was made up mostly of athletic greats at O.U.

Varsity basketball stars Paul Courty and Paul Merchant and football stars John Rapacz and Dee Andros were in the class.

"Suddenly the door opened and a very feminine voice questioned timidly, 'Is this baseball theory?'"

"It was JANE STEINHORST, Pawhuska senior in journalism and former society editor on the *Oklahoma Daily*. She was enrolled in the class.

"Jane's been in class every day since, and says she's learning a lot about baseball.

"When queried why she had enrolled in a traditionally male class, Jane answered, 'I got tired of going to a baseball game with my boyfriend and having to ask him such foolish questions as "what does 'fan' mean?'"

"Also," she continued, 'I had some electives coming during my last semester in school, so I enrolled in some courses I thought I'd like. One is baseball theory and another is Zoology 17, a course in marriage relations.'

"Baseball is very interesting, thinks Jane after her few days in the course. The text is good too, but Jane couldn't find a text. However, Coach Baer came to her rescue by lending her his text. He said he 'probably doesn't need it as much as she does.'

"After completing the course Jane has no fear of the predicament in which she found herself a couple of summers ago. She was society editor on the *Pawhuska Daily Journal-Capital*. Her editor suddenly left on a two-week vacation with Jane in complete charge of the paper. That was during the baseball season. Before the two weeks were up Jane had more than enough of wrestling over confusing box scores.

"Jane is the second Jane to take baseball theory under Baer. Jane Wilson, '47ba, took the course while she was sports editor on the *Oklahoma Daily* in 1944 during the man-short-age war years.

"At the University Miss Steinhorst is a member of Gamma Phi Beta sorority; Theta Sigma Phi, national journalism fraternity for women, and Alpha Lambda Delta, national scholastic fraternity for freshmen women.

"Her primary concern now is securing an athletic season ticket. She lost the one she had and can't be issued another. How can she expect to pass baseball theory if she can't get in her lab work?"

In another field of accomplishments (far removed from the "mile high city" and the gal behind the bat) is a man among men (and gals)—yes, *the one* among 12,000 of 'em on these traditional acres! The featured man? HUGH TREADWELL, native son of Sooner soil from down WAURIKA way where he first witnessed the break of dawn, but with most of the 26 years in his young life spent in OKLAHOMA CITY. Here is what the news-hounds say about him this a.m.:

"Selection of Hugh Treadwell, Oklahoma City O.U. Senior in the College of Arts and Sciences and candidate of the Norman Rotary Club, as the 124th Rotary district's representative in national competition for 50 foreign scholarships, was announced late in February.

"Treadwell won the district honor over representatives from 67 other Rotary clubs.

"The scholarships are awarded annually as a part of the Rotary International's program to sponsor an exchange of students between universities and colleges in the United States and in foreign countries.

"Each scholarship pays expenses (approximately \$3,000) for one year of study in some university or college abroad. National winners will be announced May 5.

"Treadwell, '26, has an outstanding scholastic record in the University, and a war record which Ted Beard, past district Rotary governor, described as brilliant.

"Out of 97 hours in the University, Treadwell has 87 hours of straight A, including 36

in French; 21 in German and 10 in Russian.

"He plans to enter the language field in international relations work.

"During the war, Treadwell was a B-17 pilot. He made 31 missions over Germany and was shot down on the 32nd mission. After being a prisoner for 63 days, he and his crew escaped.

"Treadwell is a member of the choir and a soloist at the First Methodist Church in Oklahoma City.

"All scholarships will be effective next fall, Beard said. If Treadwell is a winner, he plans to attend the University of Sorbonne in Paris.

"The District selection commission which named Treadwell from this district, was composed of J. Phil Burns, '27ba, Fairview, present District Governor of Rotary International, District 124; Joe McBride, '28bus, Anadarko, past district governor; Elmer Fraker, '20ba, '38ma, Oklahoma City; Dr. William C. McCurdy, '32ba, Purcell; and Beard, '21ba."

So there you are! Its been a gallop over the wintry trails. Just now its up, off and away to make that 5 p.m. Frisco TULSA way. Yes, to dash over with Prexie GEORGE L., historian-lecturer "the Professor" M. L., '19ba (WARD-DELL), plus numerous others. Yes, to TULSA, there to join the "Professors" (and school marms) at the 57th OEA session. There we will meet (and greet) the venerable (and vulnerable) ole sages who now and have for multiplied years dished out the "three Rs" in Oklahoma public school systems! Some who *will be on the receiving end* in Tulsa? Well, in advance, the designs on the TRESTLE BOARD records, HARRY SIMMONS, '24ba, MUSKOGEE; JIM FRAZIER, '24ba, '32m.ed, and CALVIN SMITH, '40m.ed, WEWOKA; DENVER DEE KIRKLAND, '33m.ed, McALESTER; RAY WHITE, '41m.ed, O.U. business professor; President BRUCE CARTER, '32ma, MIAMI; REX MORRISON, '39m.ed; Prexies DAN PROCTER, '36m.ed, '43d.ed, O.C.W., Chickasha, and TOM T. MONTGOMERY, '26m.ed, Southeastern State Teachers College, DURANT; O. T. DAVIDSON, Public School Superintendent, DURANT; DAVE PHILLIPS, '25ba, CHANDLER; BRAD RISINGER, '23ba, department commander, The American Legion of Oklahoma; LECK THOMASON, '36ba, '39ma, Legion Americanism officer, OKLAHOMA CITY; PAUL MacMINN, O. U. director of student affairs; RALPH MILLER, '24bus, '41m.ba, the Oklahoma City Central High dean of men; GUY WAID, '47m.ed, the O.U. High School principal; PERRILL MUNCH BROWN, '14ba, '38ma, the O. U. staff "gal of gals" in the field of speech training; BOYD GUNNING, '37ba, '37law, O.U.'s Foundation hired hand;—all these, plus hundreds of others will be there determining policy (and placin' it in effect) at the TULSA conclave! And, too, the road-bed will be constructed (prior to Pavin' the Trail) to shove off with a "select" fifty of this crew to ATLANTIC CITY, N. J.; NEW YORK CITY; WASHINGTON; ROCHESTER, MINNESOTA; KANSAS CITY; ST. LOUIS, MISSOURI, and other "ports" as we swing out on the highways of the Range and to *some more* Riding come Friday, February 20, 1948!

Correspondence . . .

Dear Ted:

We are now living in Electra, Texas. Earl is still plant foreman at a Magnolia Gasoline Plant.

Our daughter, Virginia, now Mrs. B. J. Collings lives at Eastland, Texas. Bill is with Texas Electric Company as company contact manager. Virginia is clerk for the county clerk of Eastland County. She went to O.U. but did not graduate there.

Electra, Texas

Our son, Walter E., Jr., is a student at University of Texas. He would have been there at Oklahoma had you allowed out-of-state freshmen to enroll his first year. He likes T.U. and is in the School of Business.

If you are ever down our way, we would be happy to have you visit us. It is always nice to see old friends—those days at Shamrock were a long time ago were they not?

We had been married thirty years the seventh of February, but we don't feel old yet!

Best regards to you and your family, Maude A. Lowry, '21ba, and William E. Lowry.

BOQ Treasure Island
San Francisco, California

Dear Mr. Beard,

It seems as though my luck is still holding out so far as meeting my old Sooner pals is concerned. Ensign Paul Baker, '46, and I are classmates at the Electronics Materiel School here at Treasure Island. We're finishing the sixth week of a six-months' electronics course. (And whatta course! Very interesting, and pretty tough.)

By chance I ran into Ensign Ledridge, '46, and Ensign Cline Knowles, '46, here on the base. Ledridge was here long enough to get his arms full of shots, then was China-bound for duty. Knowles has just returned from small craft duty in Japanese waters. His wife, the former Gloria Gommels, '46, arrived by Navy transport from Yokasuka, Japan, a few days after Knowles hit town. Gloria's quite a sailin' woman. After 11 hectic days on a pitching ship ploughing through the North Pacific, she was feelin' fine . . . and was all ready to take another ocean trip. However, she quickly reconsidered in view of Cline's 30-day leave, and the prospects of seeing their folks in the East.

I had dinner with the former *Covered Wagon* editor, Lewis Thompson, '47, and his wife, the former Ellen Cain, '47, in their downtown San Francisco apartment recently . . . The dinner and visit, incidentally, were wonderful. "Tom" and Ellen were married last August after he received his present position with the Globe Wireless Company, Ltd.

Saw Orville Harsch, '46, in Los Angeles recently. He's a psych major at Southern Cal. . . . Also met Ensign Lawrence MacKenzie, '46, at San Diego. He's stationed on the Carrier Valley Forge.

By grapevine I've learned that Marine Corps Lieutenants Harold Mackey and Don Dowlearn, '46, are serving on Guam. . . . Dick Lee, '46, is now a Reno, Nevada, insurance man. Don Ledbetter, '46, is a public works officer in Yokasuka. E. K. Davis, '46, is a materiel salvage officer at Tsingtao, China. Comdr. W. M. Rakow, former University NROTC executive officer is now commander of a destroyer escort division operating in the Far East. . . .

And here's one for the books: Ensign Ledridge bumped into former Lieut. Comdr. J. E. Neff, who taught Naval Science at O.U., somewhere in the North Pole area. The latter is a civilian employee of the Navy, and was working on a survey at the time.

Enclosed is a check for \$5 toward my life membership in the Alumni Association. Give my regards to the Alumni office staff.

Sincerely, George Souris, '47ba.

(Souris is a former editor of *Sooner Magazine*, having left following his graduation last summer for a hitch with the Navy).

Oklahoma City

Dear Mr. Beard:

This letter gives you my new address for mailing of *Sooner Magazine*. You may send future issues to the State Legislative Council offices, state capitol, Oklahoma City.

Although hope for a stable world seems to be dwindling rapidly, there are many bright spots on the horizon of state government. During a brief period of service for the state, I have come to have renewed faith in the future of government. Our newly-activated Legislative Council is

Association Progress

striving to furnish Oklahoma lawmakers with the fact-data from which they will be in a position to make more intelligent policy decisions. The repeated decrying of the quality of legislators by many persons often is not justified. Our belief is that if the lawmaker has the facts of a given state problem, with alternative suggested solutions, he will make an intelligent policy decision—the very essence of true democracy, we believe.

Suggestions for a new constitution for Oklahoma are very much in line with trends in other progressive states. Dr. Thornton and his associates at O.U. are giving us valuable aid in this study. After a year at Harvard my reaction upon returning is that Oklahoma is progressively on the march!

Very sincerely yours, Jack A. Rhodes, '43ba, assistant director.

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Norman, Oklahoma

Dear Ted:

Per your request of February 2, 1948, the following is a list of the Alumni employed by the Central State Hospital, Norman.

Artie Marie Garrett, '33h.ec, surgical nurse; John William Gittinger, '38ba, '39ma, clinical psychologist; Harold Waton Hackler, '27ms, '33 med, physician; Leslie James Krob, '33Ph.C, '34 pharm, assistant steward; Harold Dewey Larsh, '21law, assistant bookkeeper; Shirley Clark Love, '47ba, typist; Margaret Lorene Medlin, '39nurse, staff nurse; Mae Morris, '34fa, stenographer.

Charles Ralph Rayburn, '23bs, '23ba, '25med, assistant medical superintendent; Joseph Anton Reiger, '23pharm, '26ms, '30bs, '32med, physician; Betty Short Shurley, '47fa, stenographer; Lee Steele, '23ba, attendant; George W. Winkelman, '38ba, '40med, physician, and Harold Byron Witten, '36ba, '36med, physician.

I do not have much in the way of news except that we are happy to have Dr. J. W. Gittinger as our clinical psychologist and we are indeed fortunate to be the only state mental hospital in Oklahoma to acquire such a service. Our Dr. G. W. Winkelman increased his family by the addition of a baby boy October 31, 1947. I trust that the above information will be of assistance to you.

Yours very truly, Charles R. Rayburn, '23ba, '23bs, '25med, assistant medical superintendent.

California Alumni Club Reports

Only a thick Los Angeles smog prevented Hiawatha Estes, '40eng, from sending his report of the Southern California Alumni Club's dinner-meeting by smoke signals. At least that's the tale the club's joking secretary wrote recently.

Details of the organization's first 1948 meeting were contained in Estes' long letter to Ted Beaird prepared January 30, the day after the alums got together.

Principal action was the dividing of the large Southern Cal area into eight "alumni" sections, and the appointing of representatives from each section by President Lyman Tibbitts, '16ba, '19ma. The representatives will meet monthly with the club's officers, then will contact their "constituents" to inform them of action taken. By such a plan, hundreds of O.U. alums will not have to undergo travel hardships to keep posted on club activities.

Those appointed by President Tibbitts are Floyd Norris, '35law, representing the Westwood and Santa Monica areas; Edith Barre Brashear, '30, '40-'43, central Los Angeles; Charley Forbes, '22ba, '25ma, Long Beach; Winifred Keys, '43bs, Pasadena and Glendale; W. M. Greene, '41law, East Los Angeles and Whittier; Albert Williams, '18bs, 19ms, Orange County; Ralph Brand, '33ba, '38ma, Riverside and San Bernardino, and Andrew Castile, '16ba, San Fernando Valley.

As for the rest of the meeting, Estes' recapitulation follows:

"After the above matter had been disposed of, each individual present arose and stated his name, class, and town he came from in Oklahoma. Everything went along well until D. E. Epperson, '40eng, tried to explain where his home town of Zaneis is located.

"Epperson worked from Zaneis to Ringling, to Healdton, to Wilson, and then to Ardmore before everyone knew just what section of the state he was from.

"During these introductions we were pleased to have two extemporaneous talks—one from Professor James I. Tucker, who now is with the University of Southern California. Professor Tucker was director of the civil engineering department (at O.U.) from 1911 to 1919. He recounted happenings and events on the campus during his stay there and was thoroughly enjoyed by all present.

"I especially remember his telling about the tree in front of the Administration Building which was only about six inches in diameter when he was at O.U.

"Our other talk was by George A. Heap, '23eng, '29ms, who gave a very interesting account of the founding of L.K.O.T. (Loyal Knights of Old Trusty). Since he was the engineer who wrote the ritual for this group in 1922, we were 'let in' on the events that occurred in and around that time, except, of course, those that must necessarily remain forever secret.

"The next event on our program was our scheduled main speaker, Dorothy Warren Chapin, '28ba, who is West Coast fashion representative for James A. Townsend Associates, who publish about 25 magazines, including *Parents' Magazine*, *Calling All Girls and Varsity*. We men were informed that we would have to put up with the 'New Look' for at least another five years, and also that we could expect to be wearing 'lipstick red' suits within the next three years!

"This just about brings you up-to-date on our club. Am enclosing one of our new directories, which I hope you can use. We will have corrections from time to time and also additions which I will forward to you . . ."

New O.U. Field House?

Other schools are getting larger fieldhouses, why can't O. U.? That's what Wayne Holmes, Wewoka senior in engineering physics and Student Senator, thinks. In fact, he believes it so strongly that he got the Student Senate to appoint him number one pluggler for the project.

After the Senate appointed a committee to investigate the possibilities of a new fieldhouse to replace the one which cannot seat as many fans as attempt to attend its events, Holmes went to work to get the administration on the boosting end.

Holmes hopes for a fieldhouse that will seat upward of 20,000. This plan would be similar to plans at many other schools. Kansas State is reportedly planning to build a 15,000-seat structure. The University of Iowa, possessor of a 15,000-capacity building, found it too small for this year's demand when 35,000 ticket applications were received before the start of the season. Purdue is planning to seat 18,000 in its blueprinted fieldhouse.

Harold Keith, '29, sports publicity director, recently conducted a survey of other universities to find out their plans for building. Colorado will spend from \$500,000 to \$750,000 to seat 15,000 in a new fieldhouse. Plans are underway at Oklahoma A. & M. for a 22,000-seat drill hall. Illinois plans to seat 20,000, and Texas has in mind a 17,500-seat fieldhouse.

As it now stands, all students at the University have student season tickets. Half of the tickets are pink and half white. The two are valid at alternate home games. It is Holmes' belief that the present 5,500-seat University fieldhouse would not begin to seat the fans who would apply for tickets if they were available.

The question to be placed before the student body at the plebiscite will be "Do you favor the Board of Regents' allocating a portion of the general student fee to help build a new Fieldhouse?"

Holmes' believes the administration will take



Here they are, the officers of the active Denver, Colorado, O.U. Alumni Club. They are, from left to right, Robert B. McWilliams, '40ba, vice-president; Roscoe Walker, Jr., '42law, president, and William A. Clarke, Jr., '47bus, secretary-treasurer.