

## O.U.'s Golden Boys

# Sugar, Spice, Everything Nice

The Sooners head for the Sugar Bowl with the ginger

that made them the number two team in the nation

When Oklahoma's 'sweet' football squad pair's off against Louisiana State to do battle January 2 in the New Orleans Sugar Bowl, it will be putting its consecutive game won record of 20 against a team which has shown no inclination to read the form charts.

Oklahoma will have more at stake than win No. 21 since they will be trying to retain their throne as Sugar Bowl kings won last year from the North Carolina Tarheels, 14-6.

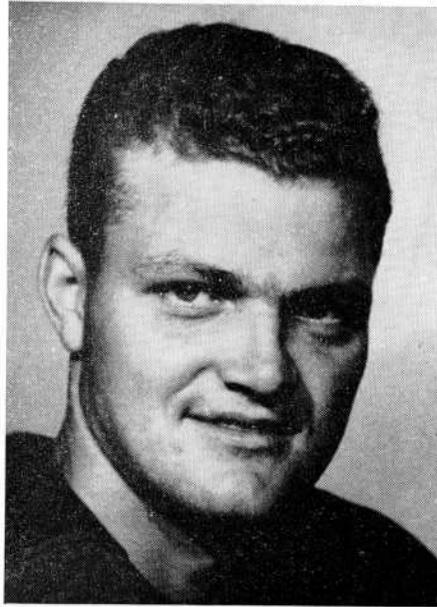
Their opposition will have their caps set to detrone the kings and add the scalp of still another conference champ. Louisiana State throughout the season stopped Kentucky, Rice, and North Carolina—all conference champs in their respective areas. In fact, it can be readily seen that State stopped both of the Cotton Bowl opponents and one of the Orange Bowl participants. Not bad for a team which came out of nowhere with a triumph over highly-regarded Tulane to cop the host bid to the Sugar Bowl.

But Sooner partisans need not be dismayed. Leading the Big Red crew into the classic will be five All-Americans—Wade Walker, tackle; Stan West, guard; Jim Owens, end; George Thomas, halfback, and Darrell Royal, quarterback.

They will also be carrying the defensive rushing crown for all teams in the U.S. as well as runnersup for the rushing crown. Throughout the season O.U. has held its opponents to 55.6 yards per game on the ground and has gained 320.5 net yards per game via the same route. These figures help demonstrate why Oklahoma successfully defended its Big Seven championship and came through the past campaign without a blemish.

Some of the personalities who will be playing their last game for the University deserve more than a casual look.

Junior Thomas, a blond, 177-pound right halfback, has an enviable record to show for his college football years. He broke the conference scoring record by totaling 117 points. The old record was 97. Thomas led the Big Seven in rushing for the second straight year. His total for 1949 was 859 net yards on a total of 133



GEORGE THOMAS

attempts for a 6.5 yard average per carry. His four year totals go something like this:

Rushing—334 attempts for 2,106 yards which averages 6.3 net yards per try.

Pass Receiving—8 for 117 net yards and 5 touchdown catches included.

Pass interception—6 for 156 yards in runbacks.

Punt Returns—5 for 81 yards.

Kickoff Returns—10 for 257 yards.

Thomas' offense adds up to a grand total of 2,717 yards.

Wade Walker naturally shares in Thomas' glory. Time and time again Walker cleared a hole for the Fairland Flash to help him compile his record. Walker helped Thomas' predecessors, Joe Golding in 1946 and George Brewer in 1947 to similar Big Seven conference individual scoring and yards gained rushing championships. He's a quiet, thoughtful senior from Gastonia, North Carolina. He's considered Oklahoma's greatest blocking tackle of modern times. Walker is 25, 6-0, 203, married.

Co-captain Stanley West is described by Harold Keith, '29ba, '39ma, Sooner sports publicist, as the biggest (236 pounds) and hungriest man on the squad. He's 22, 6-1, business major and married. Played high-

school football at Enid in 1941-43 and then spent two years in the navy.

Co-captain Jim Owens was one of the finest downfield blockers on entire squad. He's a rangy senior who stands 6-3 and weighs 195. Owens is married, 22 years old and a veteran of navy duty. Played high-school ball at Oklahoma City's Classen.

Darrell Royal is the man who was supposed to find the shoes of Jack Michell, 49, too big. His sparkling selection of plays dispelled the doubts and played no little part in the season's clean sweep. He's 25, 5-10, 170 pounds, senior, married, two children, and played highschool football at Hollis. Royal is Oklahoma's best pass defense man of modern times.

Charley Dowell, senior, 21, 6-1½, 186, center, was one of the most underrated men on the squad. A consistently good team man. He was named outstanding player of 1946 state high school all star game. He's from Tulsa and is majoring in history.

Bobby Goad, lightweight end from Muskogee, tips the scales at 170 but gets his blocking done so neatly that opponents suspect him of using explosives. He's 25, 6-1, married and a physical education major.

Leon Manley, senior tackle from Hollis, is described as the hardest worker on Oklahoma squad. He's 23, 6-2, 207 and married.

Dee Andros, senior guard from Oklahoma City, is short, squat, 210 pounds. Ranks close to Wade Walker as the squads best blocker in close line play. He's 24, 5-10, married. "Little" brother of Plato Andros, Oklahoma's All-American guard of 1946.

Buddy Jones, defensive back from Holdenville, has a year's eligibility remaining but will not return following graduation this spring. He's 22, 5-10, married and a geology major. He should qualify for Oklahoma's best defensive back of the year.

Kenneth Tipps, senior end from Oklahoma City, has done conversion kicking for the Sooners. He's 26, 6-3, 197 and married. He's a petroleum engineering major.

These then are the standout senior performers. They were the veteran performers who paced the 1949 team. The season record which they helped compile includes

(Sooner scores listed first):

46	Boston College	0
33	Texas Aggies	13
20	Texas	14
48	Kansas	26
48	Nebraska	0
34	Iowa State	7
39	Kansas State	0
27	Missouri	7
28	Santa Clara	21
41	Oklahoma A.&M.	0

How did they do it? It must be pretty obvious despite the nomination of 5 Sooners for All-American honors that the answer should be that the victories were achieved by squad play. That's the way Wilkinson calls it and that's the way it was.

In the opener against Boston College, Oklahoma was missing the services of Jack Michell, Myrle Greathouse and Buddy Burris—all considered great players who

neighboring states battle for the ten-gallon hat. Texas put up a great fight but the power of the Sooners seemed to go whenever a touchdown was needed. Against Missouri the team demonstrated their mid-season form and were never seriously threatened.

Santa Clara was a different situation. The Broncos from the West Coast boasted a fine record of but one defeat and one tie. They knew that a bowl bid awaited the outcome of the contest. If they could stop mighty Oklahoma they were in. And try to stop them they did. Playing inspired ball, the Broncs demonstrated spectacular football while Oklahoma dug in to take the contest away from the only team to stop them in two seasons of play. It was not the greatest game of the season for the Sooners but for sheer thrills for the spectators it was probably unsurpassed. It was Oklahoma's tightest spot, not excepting Texas, and they showed their calibre by winning 28 to 21.

The upcoming Sugar Bowl tussle will find two teams playing each other who use much of the same tactics. Louisiana State and Oklahoma both are strong rushing squads who use the forward pass sparingly. It may very well prove a battle for supremacy of the two lines. It should also prove that Oklahoma has more than an imaginary right to consider themselves the best in the nation.

### A New All-America Record

With the sound and fury of another football season dying away temporarily, football experts from coast to coast and some not so expert caught their breath long enough to tell the sports fan what teams in the final concensus were the greats of 1949 and to choose a variety of All-American teams.

Probably the poll most Sooner partisans consider the most authentic is the team rankings of the Associated Press. For most of the season Notre Dame, Oklahoma, California and Army stood out as the top four teams. Notre Dame led most of the way but the remaining three squads consistently shifted from second to fourth. Army took second place on its showing against Michigan and looked like a cinch for retaining it's spot. Then along came some close ones and Oklahoma spurted ahead. California nudged the Sooners in late season to give the battle a keener edge.

The three teams came into the last week of the campaign rated California, Oklahoma and Army. Then the Sooners put on a showing of power in the A.&M. rout that dispelled much of the Santa Clara uncertainty and the Sooners were in.

Much speculation has been rife about the relative merits of the four top teams. Could, for example, Oklahoma beat Notre Dame on any given Saturday.

That was a question which could have been answered conclusively had Notre Dame accepted an invitation extended by President George L. Cross to a post-season game with proceeds going to charity.



STAN WEST

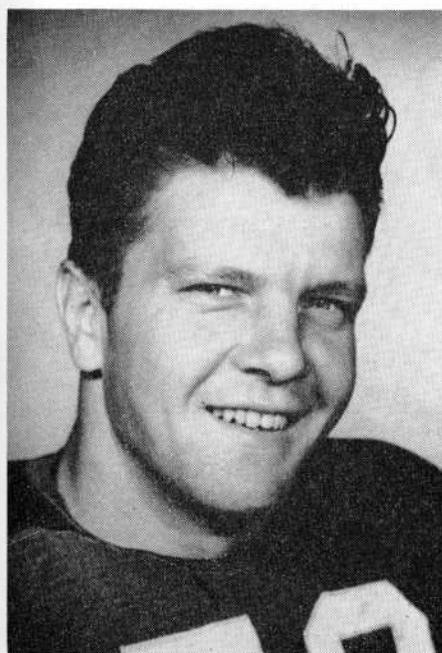
Since they did not accept, the matter is open for all forms of speculation. Floyd Olds, sports editor of the *Omaha World Herald*, speculated along these lines:

"If these No. 1 and No. 2 teams in the nation were to meet—and what a shame they're not going to—we'd be inclined to think a break here or there would decide the winner.

"Since they're not going to settle the argument on the field, we're sticking with our notion that the Big Seven kings deserve rating on an equal basis with Notre Dame."

That's a brief story on how the team was ranked.

It is apparent why comments on the team were given before a round-up of the All-American selections was made. Throughout the season the success of the Big Red depended on its excellent squad play rather than the performance of any individual. However, there were individuals who had the stuff All-Americans are made of and who

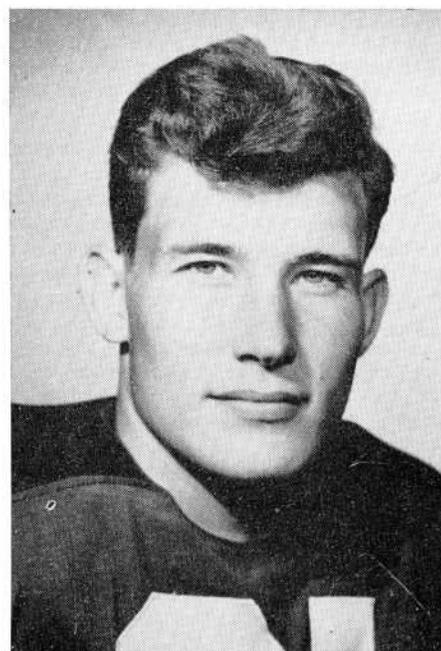


WADE WALKER

had graduated. In addition, Boston College was supposed to have a fine team. The backfield and line play didn't seem to be impaired as George Thomas took the opening kickoff and behind great blocking ran 95 yards for a touchdown. That set the tempo for the game and for games to follow.

In the Texas A.&M. rout, the line consistently ripped holes for the backs and the backs made the best use of their opportunities. The Aggies from Texas put on a show of line strength themselves but couldn't withstand the terrific pressure.

Three games drew more fan interest than any others. First on the list was the Texas U. encounter. The Cotton Bowl was filled to capacity to see the two titans of



JIMMY OWENS



DARRELL ROYAL

trotted into the winner's circle like the champions they are.

Oklahoma had five All-American football players. Honored were Stanley West, co-captain and guard from Enid; Jimmy Owens, end and co-captain from Oklahoma City; Wade Walker, tackle from Gastonia, North Carolina; George Thomas, halfback from Fairland, and Darrell Royal, quarterback from Hollis.

A sixth Sooner, Center Charley Dowell, Tulsa, whom Coach Wilkinson considers the top pivot in the Big Seven conference, was given honorable mention by Christy Walsh's All-American board.

West, the quantitative leader, made eight different first teams. Walker made seven and was the popular choice of most of the magazine elevens.

Five All-Americans in one year is an all-time record for Oklahoma. The Sooner team of 1946 placed three—Guard Plato Andros, Center John Rapacz and Guard Buddy Burris.

Bennie Owen's 1920 team placed two—Tackle Roy Smoot and halfback Phil White. Tom Stidham's 1939 team placed two—End Waddy Young and Tackle Gilford "Cactus Face" Dugan. Wilkinson's 1948 team landed two—Guard Buddy Burris and Quarterback Jack Mitchell.

With most of the All-American selections in, here's how the Sooners fared:

**WADE WALKER**—First team *Colliers*, *Look*, Associated Press, NEA Service, *Telenews*, MGM (Bill Stern's team) and *Cleveland Press*. Second team United Press. Third team Players All-American. Honorable mention All-American Board.

**STANLEY WEST**—First team Players All-American, All-American Board, Deke Houlgate, *New York Sun*, Paramount News, *Cleveland Press*, NEA Service and *Boston Record*. Second team United Press, Associated Press and *Look*. Honorable mention *Colliers*.

**GEORGE THOMAS**—First team Fox Movie-tone News, NEA Service and *New York Sun*. Third team *Look*. Honorable mention *Colliers* and All-American Board.

**DARRELL ROYAL**—First team Paramount News and INS. Honorable mention All-American Board.

**JIM OWENS**—First team INS. Houlgate's third team. Honorable mention *Colliers* and All-American Board.

**CHARLEY DOWELL**—Honorable mention All-American Board.

A variety of other all selections have been made. Uppermost is the all-conference selections. The Sooners fared better than any team in the conference completely dominating the first two teams. Walker, Thomas, Royal, West and Owens received the starting berths with Lindell Pearson, halfback, Oklahoma City; Leon Health, fullback, Hollis; Dee Andros, guard, Oklahoma City; Bobby Goad, end, Muskogee, and Leon Manley, tackle, Hollis making up the second team choices.

In the All-Oklahoma selections as picked by the *Daily Oklahoman*, the Sooners really came into their own. Wade Walker was named as player of the year to lead nine teammates into the select group. Others chosen were Heath, Royal, Pearson, Thomas, Andros, West, Owens, Norman McNabb, guard, Norman, and Charles Dowell, center, Tulsa.

Then there's the matter of all-opponent teams. Texas showed their respect by selecting West, Owens and Thomas on their enemy squad. Boston College did even better by naming five Oklahomans—Owens, Walker, West, Royal and Thomas.

That's the kind of men the Sooners will display when they romp into the Sugar Bowl against Louisiana State January 2.

## Bud—Coach of the Year

Bud Wilkinson, handsome personable head football coach, has copped about all the honors to be had on the gridiron. Now he has received the prize plum of the coaching profession. He has been chosen as the Coach of the Year.

Bud became head coach at O.U. in 1947 after serving as assistant coach under Jim Tatum. From the beginning, Oklahoma University football began to take on a new aspect. His string of wins began to make sports writers perk up and take notice around the nation. His mastery of the split T accounted for a three-year record of only three losses and one tie and 27 wins. Besides this he has broken the old Bennie Owen record of consecutive wins. He now boasts a 20-game winning streak with the Sugar Bowl yet to be played.

His first season ended with a tie with Kansas for the conference crown. In 1948 he wasn't asked to share conference honors with anyone and again this year the conference crown remained in Norman. Last year his team was the Sugar Bowl champs and he has ample reason to believe that the feat can be repeated this year.

Wilkinson is the only man ever to return to the All-Star game. He was the 1937 quarterback of the College All-Stars and in 1949 he was the All-Star coach, being the youngest coach ever to be named for this honor. Bud played his college football at the University of Minnesota. He was tutored in coaching by Don Faurot when both were with Iowa Pre-Flight, Ossie Solem of Syracuse, Dr. George W. Hauser of Minnesota and Jim Tatum of Oklahoma.

Thanks to a pleasing development of Sooner reserves and sophomores, Wilkinson's teams have been the Big Seven conference's greatest offensive teams of all time and has been the University's greatest football crowd-pleaser of all time, setting new attendance records. Records have fallen with alarming regularity before this young coach. One enviable record breaker was this year's team placing more men on All-American than any other team in the school's history.

While a student at Minnesota Wilkinson lettered in football, hockey and golf. He was goalie for Minnesota's Big Ten championship ice hockey outfits of 1934 and 1935, captaining the Gopher skaters the latter season.

He won the Big Ten conference medal awarded



BUD WILKINSON

to the graduating senior who makes the best record in both athletics and scholarship. The Sooner coach holds two degrees. He graduated in English and business management at Minnesota and later took a master's degree in English and education at Syracuse during his five-year coaching stint there.

During the war he was a navy first lieutenant, serving as hangar deck officer of the aircraft carrier *Enterprise*. He participated in the engagements of Iwo Jima, Tokyo, Kyushu and Okinawa. In 1945 he became athletic officer in the staff of the chief of naval air training at Pensacola, Florida.

Bud is married and has two sons who are beginning to look at a football with more than casual interest.

## Wilson Contributes Chapter

Lyle C. Wilson, '18, is the contributor of a chapter to the recently published book, *Dateline, Washington*.

Wilson was one of 21 selected by the National Press Club to contribute to the volume which tells the story of national affairs journalism during the 40-year history of the club.

Wilson's chapter, titled "World War II," describes a reporter's work from Pearl Harbor to V-J Day in the news capital of the world.

Since 1943, Wilson has been general manager of the Washington bureau of the United Press.

## Harris Appointed Jaycee Editor

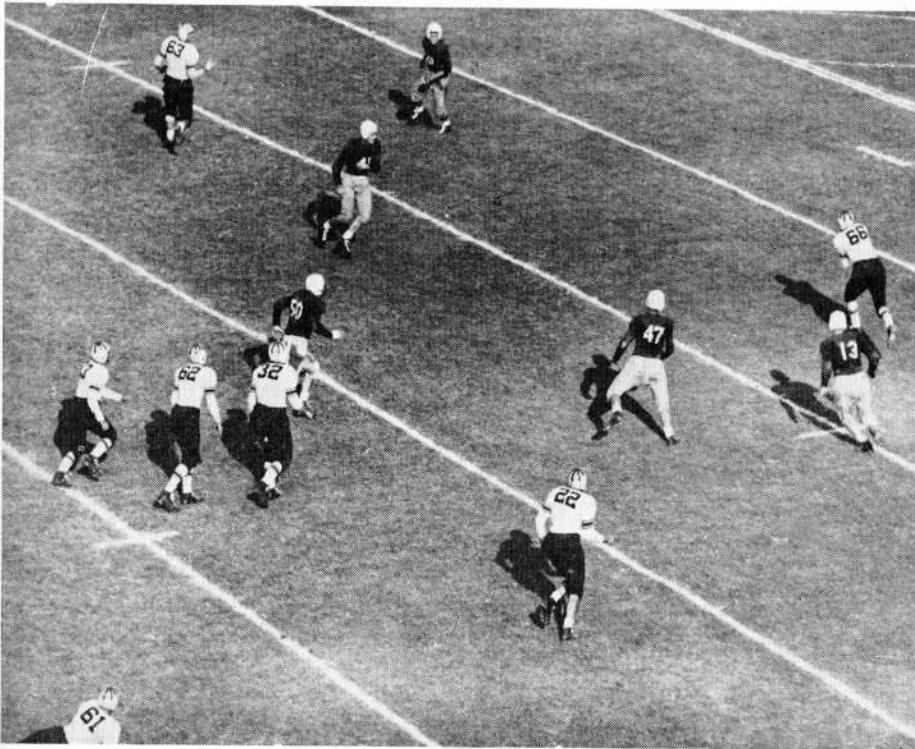
Kenneth Harris, '39ba, '49Law, senior public relations assistant at the University has been appointed editor of the *Sooner Jaycee*, official state publication of the Oklahoma State Junior Chamber of Commerce.

The appointment follows a long career of service to the Jaycee organization. In 1944, he served as editor of the *Sooner Jaycee* and also has been editor of the *Jaycee Builder* and the *Derrick*, Oklahoma City and Tulsa Jaycee publications.

Harris has been state radio and public relations director of the state Jaycee organization for the past five years.

# It's An Old Tradition

O.U.'s first bowl game was played eleven years ago and its first All-American was named in 1915



Oklahoma's first bowl team, the 1938 edition that played January 1, 1939, in the Orange Bowl, are shown performing against Texas with Bill Jennings, No. 66, Oklahoma wingback, catching a touchdown pass.

Plagued by regular season injuries, Oklahoma's Big Six grid champions went on the field in Miami, Florida on New Year's day 1939 to play the University's first bowl game.

They were meeting a highly touted University of Tennessee team in the Orange Bowl. Neither team had been defeated in season play, and both boasted lines that refused to yield yardage. Coach Tom Stidham's O.U. squad had not had a single point scored upon it in conference games. His team boasted 14 straight victories and opponents had been able to eke out a mere 40.6 yards against the Sooners per game. Only one team, Rice Institute, had found out what O.U.'s end zone looked like—and that was only for a meager six points.

But that afternoon, Oklahoma's vaunted attack could never seem to get moving. They were handicapped by the absence of two of their best running backs, Howard "Red Dog" McCarty, '36-'40, Tulsa, and Bill Jennings, '46bs, '49m.ed, Norman, Tennessee, however, was brilliant. It seems likely that no team could have beaten the Vols that day. The blocking and running of the orange-shirted Tennessee team proved too much for the Sooners and the Sooner squad bowed 17-0. In this one game they yielded almost three times as many points as they had all season!

Even a decisive victory by Tennessee didn't detract from Oklahoma's prestige. Sport writers devoted galleys of copy to members of the University team. Their particular favorite for comment that

day was Hugh McCullough, triple threat back. An Associated Press writer said about McCullough's performance:

"It was Hugh McCullough, as game a grider as ever came down the pike who played the hero's role all the way for the Sooners.

"He played 58 out of the 60 minutes and did about everything one man could do to stop the terrific Tennesseans. . . .

"He passed, he ran, he kicked (and how) and he played plenty of defense. Then, two minutes before the finish, when the scoreboard showed 17-0 and nothing mattered any more, Tom Stidham took him out.

"Both packed sides of this colorful Orange bowl boomed applause as he limped off. His right leg was hurt, one sleeve of his jersey had been ripped clear out, but one and all admitted that young Mr. McCullough was quite a lad with that pigskin."

Two great football teams were not all that gave color to that New Year's Day. Oklahoma's debut into the bowl games was marked by one of the most elaborately staged bowl games in the nation. One writer described the bowl as:

"... A holiday so packed full of color that it looked like a carefully-designed Hollywood set, was set in motion by the parading bands in red, orange, white, blue, yellow, green, totaling 1,700 players." Chosen as the official bowl band that year was the 150-piece Sooner band. It led the

parade on Saturday before the game, and just about stole the show in this department.

After the loss to the Tennesseans, the Sooner football squad failed to get into the national spotlight until 1946. Then in the first game of the season against the defending national champions, Army, the Sooners revealed a team that could not be ignored. They lost the game to Army, 21-7. It was a heartbreaking loss because the Big Red team outran the Cadets 127 to 83 net yards rushing and All-American Joe Golding, '42-'47, from Oklahoma was the top ground gainer with 72 net yards.

As President Truman said in his campaign speech at Norman last year, "I once saw Oklahoma lose a game with Army by a fluke." And that was what it was. The deciding score came on an intercepted lateral. But the football squad refused to call it quits after that loss. They lost only two more games that season, losing to Texas and Kansas. And they polished off the season by a 73-12 slaughter of the Oklahoma Aggies.

That was proof enough for the bowl men. They extended Oklahoma their second bowl invitation in the school's history. This time they were to meet a rugged little North Carolina State team in the Gator Bowl in Jacksonville, Florida. Oklahoma carried a team to that game that was liberally sprinkled with All-Americans and some that were later to become All-Americans. John Rapacz, '49, Kalamazoo, Michigan, was All-American center, Plato Andros, '40-'42, Oklahoma City, guard, Buddy Burris, '49bus, Muskogee, guard. Three All-Americans out of eleven may not be a record, as the saying goes, but it's a darn good average.

Not only were there three football greats represented on the team but several others have since been named to one or more All-American polls. Stanley West, George Thomas, "General" Jack Mitchell, '49, Blackwell, Wade Walker, Darrell Royal, and Jimmy Owens who have been placed on that enviable list since they played in the 1948 Gator Bowl.

In the Gator Bowl the game North Carolina Staters couldn't solve the Sooner running attack and fell 34-13. It was a game that was never in doubt with the Sooners leading in every department. So Oklahoma was now batting a .500 average in its bowl games and were destined to better that mark considerably.

Oklahoma's next bowl bound team came in 1948. The team retained many of the stars of the Gator Bowl squad. They were an experienced crew coached by the same man who had led them to victory in 1947. Coach "Bud" Wilkinson took his promising crew out to California in '48 to meet their first opponent, Santa Clara. Things went wrong and the Sooners were upset by the masterful upsetter Santa Clara, 20-17. But every team thereafter that expected to beat the Sooners were sadly disappointed. Even the two teams given high national ratings, Missouri and Texas, fell before one of the best teams ever to wear the red and white of Oklahoma.

When bowl bid time came around to play the post season games, O.U. was a natural. Every bowl but the Rose Bowl, which was obligated to the Big



*The O.U. January 1, 1947, Gator Bowl team is seen in action with Darrell Royal, No. 21, Hollis quarterback, circling end for 21 yards against Texas at Dallas earlier in the year.*

Pearson scored and Les Ming added his second extra point.

Oklahoma walked away from New Orleans the 1949 Sugar Bowl champions with a 14-6 victory. Now they are going back to New Orleans to defend their title against LSU, a team that has humble three conference champions this year. And they would certainly like to add Oklahoma to their trophy case. But Oklahoma will have something to say about that.

All of O.U.'s football greats have not been in bowl years. The Sooner squad feels definitely slighted if it doesn't place at least one All-American each year. Oklahoma's string of All-Americans began in 1915 when "Spot" Geyer, '15, deceased, was picked as All-American fullback. Since Geyer was named, thirteen Sooners have been chosen to the football hall of fame. And this does not include this year's All-American selections.

The men who selected the All-American teams seem to have an affinity for Oklahoma's line and particularly the tackles. Since 1915, six O.U. tackles have been honored by the sportswriters. The first tackle to be named to the mythical All-American squad and the second Oklahoma All-American was Soupy Smoot, '18-'24, Oklahoma City of the 1920 team. In the same year Phil White, '22, Oklahoma City halfback, was selected. The sportswriters then snubbed Oklahoma for a few years until Granny Norris, '29ba, Muskogee was named in 1927 as All-American tackle.

But from that time forward O.U. has made the grade rather consistently. In 1934 a rugged tackle by the name of Cash Gentry, '32-'34 was selected and the following year tackle Dub Wheeler, '30-'36, Norman was named. Then in 1937 the first Oklahoma University player to be named All-American end was placed on the coach's dream team. He was Pete Smith, '34-'39, Muskogee, as glue fingered an end as has been seen on the gridiron. Then the

Ten conference, extended Wilkinson's crew an invitation. But the team chose the prize of them all—the Sugar Bowl in New Orleans. Picked as their opponent was undefeated North Carolina. The North Carolina Tarheels, boasting All-Americans Charley "Choo Choo" Justice and Art Weiner, were seven point favorites to beat the Big Seven conference champions. But Oklahoma players have a bad habit of ignoring the dopesters.

They felt that their team comprised of All-Americans "General" Jack Mitchell and Buddy Burris was a good bet for beating any opponent. With players like Darrell Royal, Myrle Greathouse, George Thomas, Wade Walker and Les Ming there seemed little reason for the O.U. squad to go into the Sugar Bowl with any defeatist complex. They didn't.

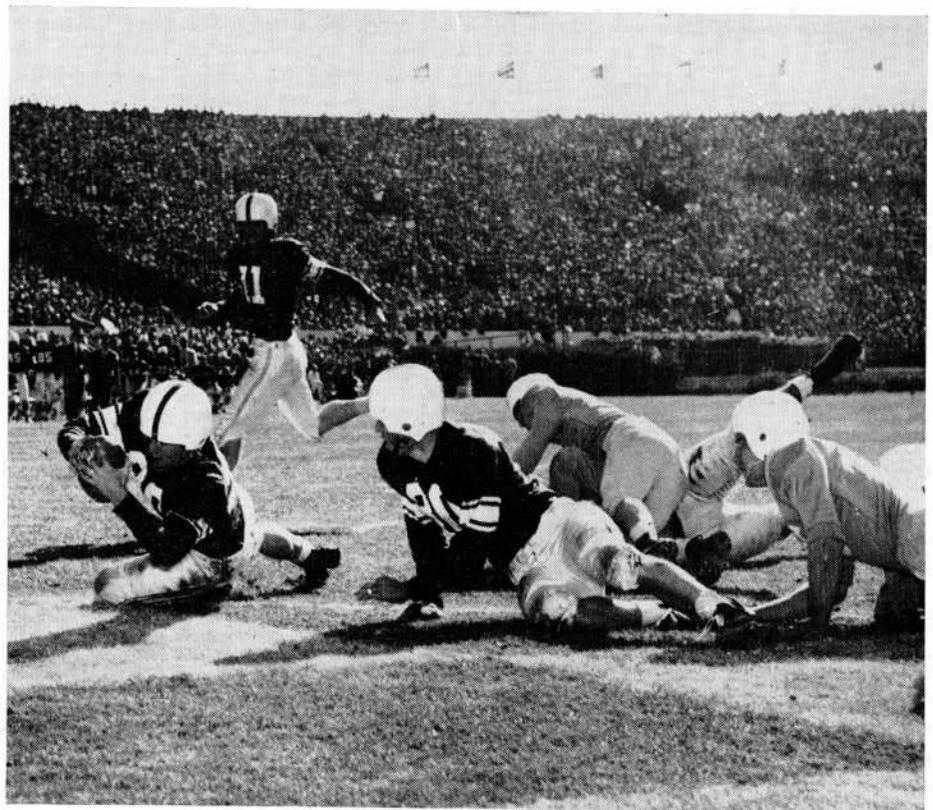
A blood-thirsty Oklahoma line proved the deciding factor in that New Year's fray. "Choo Choo" was side tracked; the high flying Weiner was grounded and the O.U. squad just couldn't be stopped. Walter Stewart of the Memphis *Commercial Appeal* summed up the Oklahoman's victory very neatly when he wrote:

"Running the ball down the sky-blue Tarheel throat throughout the afternoon, the Sooners clung to the earth as though they had found oil there, but it was the airplanes which placed both Okie touchdowns on the front burner—an intercepted pitch in the first period and a cloud-searing Oklahoma pass in the third.

"North Carolina was never in front and never really deserved to be there."

The two touchdowns referred to by Stewart featured Myrle Greathouse, Frankie Anderson, Jack Mitchell and Darrell Royal. In the first period Greathouse intercepted one of Justice's vaunted passes and struck out for Carolina territory. He was finally hobbled on the Tarheel 14-yard line. Nine plays later Jack Mitchell blithely scored over guard. Then in the third quarter Darrell Royal cocked his arm and let fly his "cloud-searing" pass.

Half the North Carolina team had an opportunity to knock it down. But Sooner Frankie Anderson decided it was intended for him and let the Carolinians know about same. He was downed on the Tarheel 10-yard stripe. A few plays later, Lindell



*General Jack Mitchell is shown cracking over O.U.'s first touchdown against North Carolina in the 1949 Sugar Bowl meeting.*

## Everything Seemed In Order

sports scribes decided they liked Big Red's brand of ends and picked Waddy Young, '35-'40, deceased, end, in 1938 and Frank Ivy, '40bs, Norman, made the team as an end in 1939.

In 1939 another player with the colorful name of "Cactus Face" Duggan, '36-'39, Nicoma Park, was All-American tackle. Then followed the war years, and you didn't see another Oklahoma All-American until 1946 when O.U. had a windfall and placed three on All-American. They were all linemen. Plato Andros, guard, John Rapacz, center, and Buddy Burris, guard, were the imposing three linemen who copped the prize football plum. Buddy Burris was the only repeater Oklahoma has ever had on All-American. He was named All-American guard for the second time in 1947 and took a third helping in 1948. Then in 1946 a sprightly running halfback, Joe Golding became the first Sooner backfield man to be selected. He was followed in 1948 by Jack Mitchell, quarterback, who made several All-American teams.

Add to this list the 1949 All-Americans from Oklahoma and you have a formidable list that compares with any university. Stanley West, Wade Walker, George Thomas, Darrell Royal and Jim Owens should be enough All-Americans for one season to please even the most exacting Sooner fan.

If there are any bowl records or All-American records to be broken—all Oklahoma needs is the time. They are toppling them as fast as they can.

### Gift Gives School Lift

Dr. Homer L. Dodge, former dean of the department of physics at the University and current president of Norwich University, Northfield, Vermont, will resign his position February 1 to administer a \$1 million gift to that university.

The gift was given by Dr. Godfrey Lowell Cabot, Boston industrialist and aeronautical scientist, with the stipulation that it be used to build a science building and teach aviation.

Dr. Dodge, now 62, came to Oklahoma as professor of physics in 1919. He also was named head of the department of physics that year. Leaving the University at the outbreak of World War II, he became director of the office of scientific personnel of the national research council. He assumed the presidency of Norwich in 1944.

Dr. Dodge will direct a program to carry out the wishes of Dr. Cabot that every student at Norwich learn the principles of flight.

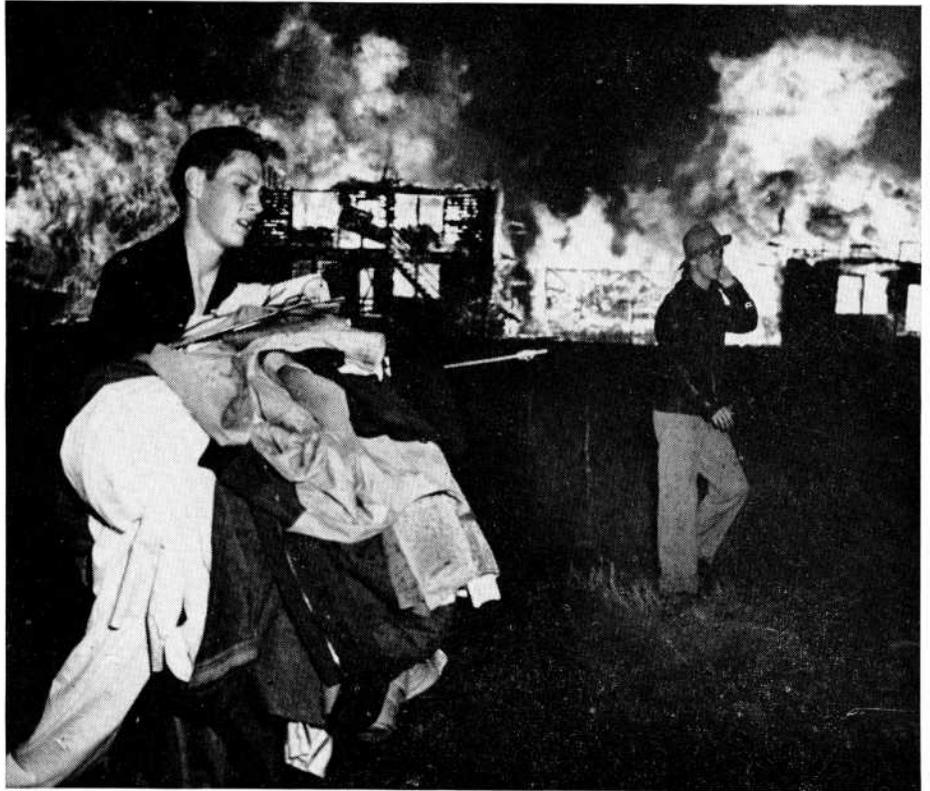
He is a fellow in the American Association for Advancement of Science, American Physical Society, Physical Society of London and Oklahoma Academy of Sciences. He is also a member of Sigma Xi, Phi Beta Kappa, Phi Delta Kappa and Phi Gamma Delta fraternities.

### Art Professor Honored

Professor Oscar B. Jacobson of the University art department was recently honored by the State of Oklahoma by induction into the Oklahoma Hall of Fame.

Dr. Jacobson, born May 16, 1882, is Westervik, Sweden, is one of the outstanding art critics of the midwest. For 34 years he directed the O.U. School of Art. As director of the school's museum or art, he now oversees a collection that numbers over 2,000 paintings and objects of art valued at about \$1 million. A major interpreter of the Southwest in landscape painting, Dr. Jacobson has painted more than 400 pictures.

Headquarters for his annual summer painting pilgrimage is a log cabin high in the Colorado Rockies near the Wyoming state line. A patron of Indian art, in 1930 he was adopted as honorary chief of the Kiowa Indians. He is listed in *Who's Who in America*.



*A boy with all the clothing he could save moves away from the blazing BOQ.*

Unseasonal warm weather and little rainfall had marked December's entry into Oklahoma. The University was picking itself up from the solitude and rest of the Thanksgiving holidays.

Out on the South Campus the men living in the temporary frame dwellings had enjoyed the beginning of the December 3 weekend. Those living in the BOQ were much like the rest of the campus. Some students had gone home for the weekend. Others were enjoying a night out. Still others engaged in the horseplay common to men's dormitories.

One by one they finished their evening's study or entertainment and went to bed anticipating the next day's work. About 2:30 p.m. a campus patrolman skirted the building and reported that everything seemed in order. Approximately one and one-half hours later the entire building had been burned to the ground with the loss of three lives and 71 injuries.

The dead were: Maurice Ahearn, 26, of Killingsworth, Connecticut, engineering junior, whose body was found near an exit and apparently could have gotten out of the structure had he not chose to remain trying to awaken others in the BOQ.

Sammy La Rue, 20, Clinton, fine arts junior, was believed from the position in which his body was found to have never gotten out of bed.

Price Starks Jr., 20, Oklahoma City, business sophomore, was separated from his roommate in an attempt to gain safety and apparently was overcome while trying to reach safety.

Approximately 300 men were in the building when the fire broke out. Few escaped with anything more than their pajamas.

Relief agencies, both formal and informal, took

up the work of helping replace the personal losses of the men.

The Red Cross issued checks for emergency needs and students, churches and civic organizations as well as newspapers dug deep and urged others to dig deep for funds.

The men without a home were given a new one less than 12 hours after the blaze. Women living in residential halls were moved into the new quadrangle area and the boys moved into the permanent brick dormitories.

On December 4, a coroner's jury ruled the fire originated from causes unknown and found no negligence on anyone's part in connection with the blaze.

It was the fourth major catastrophe to strike the campus in the past two years. Two fires and a tornado had struck previously.

### Dr. Palmer Dies in McAlester

Dr. Clara Fogle Palmer, '26Law, died at her home in McAlester, April 21, 1949.

Dr. Palmer was one of those rare individuals who never quite got rid of the urge to learn. She was 50 years of age when she attended the University to begin work on her law degree in 1923.

She also received the degree of Doctor of Medicine from the University of Illinois in 1903. Dr. Palmer's work was international too. She attended the University of Paris to study medicine during the summer of 1932 and also toured Europe on many occasions.

Although she never was actively engaged in the practice of law, she practiced medicine for many years in McAlester.