



DECORATING TIME for the Oklahoma University Club of Dallas' annual pre-game party for the O.U.-Texas game. Blowing up the balloons are Bill Scott, '42ba, Mrs. Scott, Isham 'Push' Nelson, '43bus, club president, and Bill Warren, '20-'25-'27. The club's dinner-dance was sellout.



STANDING IN FRONT of one of the 'O' decorations at Dallas dinner-dance, Benny Owen and the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. W. O. Freeman, Ada, seem to be having a pleasant talk. Owen was honored at the start of O.U.-Texas game next day by introduction into football's Hall of Fame.

The Alumni Executive Secretary relates the alumni activities for the first four games of the football season. Football luncheons and two pre-game parties head the list.

On the Sooner Scene

By BOYD GUNNING, '37ba, '37Law

Football, the fall fever, descended upon the campus in September with the furious expectancy of the Sooners clash with the Irish of Notre Dame. The untried sophomore Big Red was given little chance for victory against a senior team from Notre Dame which was rated number one in the nation, and had the same players that had beaten our great team of 1952. However, on the day of the game, the spirit and speed of the lightest Sooner team in years carried the fight to the Irish all afternoon, and, although losing the game by a narrow one touchdown margin, sent the 55,000 fans home pleased with the showing and confident that the 1953 Big Red would be another great team by the time they cleared their first three or four games.

Spirit and speed have become the trademark of Bud Wilkinson's teams. It is primarily because of these factors that Bud's well-drilled boys soon gain the confidence and efficiency which make them so hard to beat. Even the alumni and friends who follow the teams closely absorb some of that same feeling. It makes you proud to be a Sooner.

"It takes Oklahoma to win one like that," was the jubilant remark by Dick

Bowman, stellar O.U. tackle, following the hard-fought Colorado game last month.

As I watched Benny Owen and four of his all-time great footballers walk on to the field before the O.U.-Texas game this year, when Benny was to receive the Football Hall of Fame appointment, I wondered what kind of teams were those of early years. Oh, I knew they had phenomenal won and loss records, but did they also have the spirit and finesse we are so accustomed to in these days? You need only a casual glance at Harold Keith's book, *Oklahoma Kickoff*, to know that they had it—in spades. Of the four who accompanied Benny at Texas, one represented the team of 1915, which Keith calls the "golden year of O.U. football," and three were from the great teams of 1918-19-20. The earliest of these was Neil Johnson, '15ba, '17Law, Norman, the first of a family of four famous quarter-backing brothers, who after finishing his eligibility, served a year or two as assistant coach. Neil was an outstanding team leader and according to Elmer 'Trim' Capshaw, '15ba, '33m.ed, deceased, one of his teammates, "The best tackler I ever saw." Another was one of O.U.'s first all-Americans, Roy Smoot, '18, Oklahoma City. Keith writes

about him that, ". . . he was big and fast and when bearing down he could do things no other tackle of his time could do." Phil White, '22, Oklahoma City, another great performer, who had a wealth of natural ability and who participated in establishing records from left half back position.

The fourth, Dow Hamm, '22ba, Dallas, a center they called the perfect passer. He is described in this way, "Cool, heady, dependable and hard to hurt. He was a superlative passer who could snap the ball almost as well with one hand as with two. Standing in a gravel parking space, Hamm once demonstrated his passing range and accuracy by spiralling a football through his legs into a third floor window of the old Beta house."

There are many thrilling stories about these Sooners of early years. They were always out-weighted but never out-played. They out-passed, out-faked, out-kicked, and out-ran nearly everyone they met. If you haven't read about them in the *Oklahoma Kickoff*, then you have missed something.

Nineteen fifty-three has been one of the most interesting football seasons in years for the followers of the Big Red. Starting with three tough games, the untried team



FOOTBALL LUNCHEONS for home games were serving more alumni than ever this year. Biggest crowd turned up for Notre Dame meal. At luncheon were Ronald ('47ba) and Mrs. Champion (Bette Yarger, '48journ), Shawnee, and Jim Miller, '34ba, '34Law, also of Shawnee.



ALSO PRESENT FOR THE NOTRE DAME game luncheon were these two couples. (Standing) Donald and Mrs. Wilburta Garlinghouse Congdon, '44h.ec, came from Denver and William Schubert, '47, and Mrs. Virginia Eisenlohr Schubert, '45bus, came from Kansas City for game.

soon established itself in the hearts of all and every game they played found their supporters rallying to the cause.

The Alumni Club of Pittsburgh did an excellent job arranging for a pre-game alumni party and luncheon at the Schenley Hotel on the day of the O.U.-Pittsburgh game. Dr. Ernest E. Brown, '19ba, '25ma, is president of the club, and he and Mrs. Brown were assisted by the other officers of that area including Neal J. Mosely, '43 eng, chairman for the occasion; Henry W. Phelps, '49pharm, John Moynihan, '47eng, and Mrs. Moynihan. A number of O.U. graduates were present who now live in Pittsburgh and other parts of Pennsylvania and eastern states. Lloyd J. Hibbard, '14 eng, and Mrs. Hibbard attended with their son Donald, who is a graduate of Pittsburgh University. Lloyd received the University's Distinguished Service Citation for his outstanding achievements in the field of electrical engineering. Glenn Wilson, '51ba, '52ma, and Helen O'Dell Wilson, '52journ, attended. At one time Glenn was campus reporter for the *Daily Oklahoman and Times*. Helen was an editorial assistant for the *Sooner Magazine*. Both are now working in Pittsburgh. Helen for the General American Transportation Corporation, and Glenn for the United Mine Workers organization. Robert A. Yoder, '44ba, was there from Chicago. Bob is president of the big O.U. Alumni Club of Chicago, which sponsored the alumni party at the Notre Dame game last November. A number of Sooner's from Philadelphia had made reservations for the luncheon; however, the only one who arrived in time was Marjorie French McKaig, '50Lib.sci,

the Philadelphia club secretary, who by the way, is one of the most effective alumni club officers anywhere in the country. Marjorie saved the day by bringing an O.U. pennant which could be displayed at the entrance of our meeting room.

A number of young graduates now stationed at Aberdeen Proving Grounds, or other military establishments in that area, attended the meeting, including Jim Earnest, '53bus, Coleman B. Fite, '53geol, Jack V. Cowan, '53eng, Camille C. Despot, '52 geol, Robert L. Pendarvis, '51ba, Franklin B. Teeter, '49ba, '51Law, and Mrs. Betty Thompson Teeter, '51ba, of Baltimore and a number of others.

From Oklahoma we saw Charles F. Foster, Jr., '46-'49, and Mrs. Foster, of Cushing; Joe B. Champion, '38ba, '40Law, and Mrs. Champion, of Ardmore; Dave McKown, '21geol, and Mrs. Florence Monnet McKown, '22ba, Louis G. Kneeland, '19Law, and Mrs. Annie Rowland Kneeland, '19ba, all of Oklahoma City; former Sooner footballer Gene G. Heape, '50geol, Gainesville, Texas; Quintin Little of Ardmore, a member of the University Regents; Dr. E. M. Gullatt, '28ba, '30bs, '32med, and Mrs. Flora Rainbolt Gullatt, '32nurse, of Ada; Lee E. Minter, '33eng, and Mrs. Minter of Bradford, Pennsylvania; Dr. Ray R. Mosely, '18med, and Mrs. Mosely, of Alliance, Ohio; and of course Neal's wife Marjorie (formerly Marjorie Duerksen, '43) was also there helping with the arrangements. There were many others which space will not permit listing.

Everyone had a good time and were proud of the Sooner team even though it had to fight hard to gain a tie with the

rugged Pittsburgh eleven.

A week later the Sooner fans began their annual expedition south of the Red River to a meeting with the Texas Longhorns in the Cotton Bowl. Many Sooners had their fingers crossed on the game this year; however, it turned out to be one of the most successful football weekends in a long, long time.

The big Alumni dinner-dance at the Baker Hotel, Friday night, sponsored by the O.U. Club of Dallas, was a great success and more than 700 excited Sooners made their preparation for the game at this occasion. The officers of the Dallas Club are very active and the club is well organized. President Isham "Push" Nelson, '43 bus, actually had 40 or 50 members of that club working on this party. It is difficult to name a few of those without naming all; however, this is the risk that must always be taken in an article of this kind. Those who were most helpful at the alumni headquarters in the Baker included W. B. "Bill" Warren, '20-'27, the ticket chairman, Jim Langham, '35eng, Irvin Higbee, '42bus, Leo Baker, '38eng, Nick Tinker, '40eng, Jim Stevens, '40bus, Abbott Sparks, Jr., '41mus, '43ba, Earl Holden, '39bus and Arno C. "Dick" Adams, '33-'37.

Since there were more than 700 persons in attendance it would be impossible to even begin to name all of the celebrities who were there.

The weekly Saturday alumni luncheons, started two years ago, have continued to grow and become a regular meeting place for all alumni and their friends. The luncheons are held in the ballroom of the Memo-

Continued page 29

friendship of Asia, Americans must earn this right by accepting Asians as equals. Asia is anxious to be treated as a full partner and undoubtedly could be counted on for more assistance in almost any program if encouraged to co-operate on such a basis.

Much of the success of the Communists is due to their ability to get across that intangible feeling of "belonging." Communists have a unity of purpose, they are going somewhere, they have a common bond.

America is being challenged to come up with something better. America is being challenged to prove it wants Asia's friendship.

Once the United States has proved to the Asians it wants their democratic friendship, the United States will be in a position to take a second step. Many experts on Asian affairs believe the second step is necessary if Communism is to be defeated.

The second step is this: A full-fledged, free-swinging, all-out wide open campaign to sell Capitalism.

Combatting Communism is not enough. We must sell Capitalism, the only real hope for the millions of poverty stricken citizens of the Asian nations.

We must sell "Capitalism for the Common Man" just as the Russians are selling Communism.

Americans know what Capitalism has given them—the highest standard of living in the world. We must convince the Asians that Capitalism—not Communism—can do the same for them.

In a sense, the American slogan can be "Capitalism Makes Every Man Rich." Compared with most people of Asia, almost all Americans are "rich." Certainly, we could help Asia lift itself out of the hole.

A sales campaign of this nature will not be easy. "Capitalism" has a bad name in many areas in Asia. Capitalism as practiced by some of the native capitalists—and the former colonial powers—has an evil reputation.

The United States must sell "American Capitalism"—the kind that develops natural resources, raises the standards of living, provides families with basic needs and some of the luxuries of life.

To do this, America must have friends—influential people such as government leaders, editors, teachers and others who will "sell" American Capitalism with as much drive and enthusiasm as local Communists are selling Communism.

So, America's initial program in Asia today is this: To clearly and vigorously demonstrate to the Asians they are wanted as friends, full and equal partners in a dynamic union of free and prosperous men.

Campus Vignette

The Coffee Break

By DOROTHY SHULER

"I still haven't made up my mind about the one platoon system. Now, look at last week's game. . ."

"I'm not doing anything about raising hemlines yet, Paris or no Paris."

"It will be interesting to follow the development of the bases in Spain. . . I rather doubt the feasibility of such a program. . ."

"Bring me another cup while you are up, Tom. I like a little cream."

While it is not listed in the University class schedule, the "coffee break" is as much a part of O.U. as red and white. It is the time for refreshment, relaxation, reflection and, yes, romance.

The four R's of the coffee break are listed, however, as required courses in the curricula for the School of Campusology, which confers a Bachelor of Campusology degree after two years of regular attendance or 360 hours of elbow bending at the Union. (It has been known for a few eager souls to receive their B.C. by mid-term of their freshman year, but advisors do not recommend this for those seeking degrees in other schools.)

"Meet you at the Union about ten?"

Students find time each day to make their way to the Union. Here, one can "fortify himself" or easily kill time before an 11 o'clock. Here, one may glean first hand information about the Team, a psych test, who's been seen with whom, the Kinsey report, politics and the other infinite variety of subjects the coffee drinker delights in exploring, hearing about or making profound observations about. Here, Big Deals are born, nurtured and buried.

Processions of small classes often arrive en masse. Over a coffee cup, the professor continues to project certain points of his philosophy he introduced in class. The pleasant, informal experience enables the student and the professor to know one another better.

In contrast, the dewey-eyed brunette with all the pseudo-assurance of a freshman sits with an admiring blue-jeaned companion. Obviously, they are not well acquainted. At this table, the coffee break is serving as a means of arranging a date for a Friday night party. The girl carefully lets the crewcut-topped coffee drinker know she is impressed. Their

romance may flourish over many succeeding cups of coffee.

In the excitement and anticipation of the Big Game Saturday, spontaneous pep rallies may originate at one table and spread over the room to the tune of "Boomer Sooner."

There are scribblers who like to draw on endless numbers of napkins, while others play with straws. The incorrigible table-hopper makes his rounds. "Coffee, black. Coffee, white." Some come to look and drink and not to talk. All have long ago mastered the art of making a cup of coffee last from 30 to 60 minutes.

From today to tomorrow, this year to next year, the crowd may change. Maybe, more will use sugar or more cream. They don't play cards much any more. There are new faces, new hair styles, new fads. But the institution of coffee drinking remains.

On the Sooner Scene . . .

rial Union Building on each home football game Saturday. While many of these special events of the football season seem frivolous on the surface they are really all heartwarming experiences and they add to the tradition which is O.U. and to the spirit which is so characteristic of Soonerland—wherever you find it.

Under Cover . . .

little criticism. Apprehensive that the Big Seven would not lift its bowl ban for any reason this year, football fans in this area appeared pleased that the Sooners have a chance to shoot for an automatic bowl bid. Too, the prospect of playing Maryland had something to do with the reaction.

I am inclined to think that the tieup for a short trial period is the answer to Oklahoma's bowl ambitions. The players will get a chance to perform periodically in a bowl if they are good enough, the fans will have a chance to watch or hear the team in action against a good post season opponent, and a degree of post season sanity will prevail under the can't repeat rule. Besides wouldn't it be great to play Maryland.