



FAMILY HOLIDAY. C. C. Stephens, Atoka, made Orange Bowl trip a family outing. With him at Alumni Registration desk in Miami are his two grandsons. John Wishnick, '48eng, New York City (standing) is seen, also. All are equipped with red and white O.U. buttons.



SIGN HERE. Ed Fleming, '14, Enid, shows Bill Parry, '23ba, and Mrs. Mabel Wells Parry, '22ba, Houston, the register at Miami's McAllister Hotel headquarters.

# Victory in Miami

Sooners seemed to come from every direction to Miami to watch Oklahoma play Maryland's national champs. Here are some sights and sounds of the fabulous holiday.

By GUY BROWN, '42ba, '48ma

As comedian Ed Wynn would say, "people are the craziest things!" When it comes to football, I agree. Personally, I hope that I never reach the point of sacrificing pleasure for logic in this respect.

When the Orange Bowl engagement was assured for the University of Oklahoma, I would have wagered that the number of Sooner alumni and friends making the jaunt to Miami would be few compared to the number following the team to say Dallas and New Orleans in previous years. Distance was too great, I reasoned.

My reasoning was as faulty as a Jim Tatum alibi following the Terp trouncing by the Sooners. Ticket demand exceeded all expectations—the "sold out" sign was posted by Athletic Business Office officials far in advance of the December 10 deadline for priority orders.

The ordinary summer vacation almost always requires careful planning—even a trip to Texoma or Colorado. But this is football! Trips were planned in haste—destination: Miami.

Surely some of the thousands driving to

the game took the shortest route to Miami—but I didn't talk to anyone who did. Oklahoma motorists encountered at Alumni Headquarters in Miami's McAllister Hotel had taken advantage of the trip to visit relatives or enjoy other points of interest in the "Deep South." No one seemed to go "directly to Miami." My wife and I were no exceptions. An early departure permitted a visit to historic New Orleans.

I mention New Orleans because I think you will share my surprise that the Sooners were a ready topic of conversation in the home of the Sugar Bowl. Business men voiced disapproval of the Sugar Bowl match pairing Georgia Tech against West Virginia. One fan told me that he was joining a carload of New Orleans residents to journey to Baton Rouge to see the O.U.-Maryland game on TV. "Nobody wants to see the Sugar Bowl game—tickets are a dime a dozen," he said. "The Sooners are the most popular team ever to visit our city," more than one Orleans citizen confided.

One peek at Jackson Square and I thought the Sooners were holding a pre-game rally on Sunday afternoon. The num-

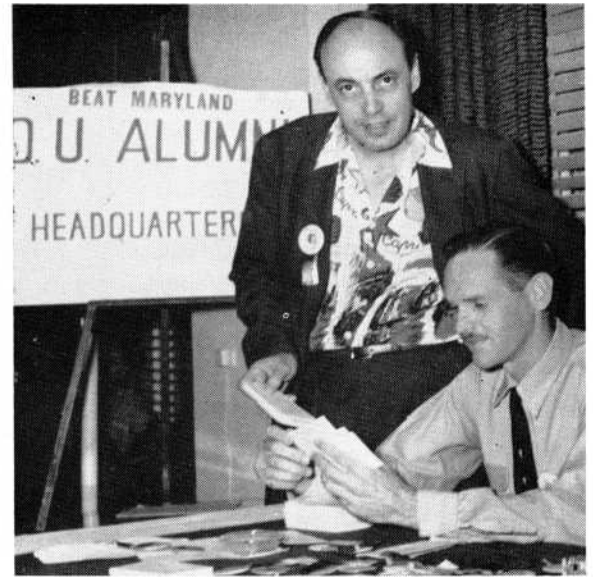
ber of Oklahoma licenses supported an earlier statement that few went directly to Miami. One group of O.U. Ruf Neks was following the normal tourist procedure of watching the sidewalk artists drawing portraits and peddling paintings depicting the architecture and landmarks of the famous old French Quarter.

The sights of New Orleans were so intriguing that I had to keep reminding myself that the Orange Bowl was still 1,000 miles away and that time would not permit me to tarry long at all of the historic landmarks. Previous views of this wonderful city had been limited to Royal and Bourbon Streets on New Year's Eve just prior to the O.U.-Kentucky game in 1950. Take my advice and see the French Quarter in the daytime—it's much more enjoyable.

I wondered if all Oklahoma fans shared my feeling that the Southern states were pulling for Oklahoma to defeat Maryland. My Oklahoma license plate always brought an encouraging reference to the Big Red wherever I stopped. Tallahassee, Florida, was the lone exception. The gas station attendant volunteered that "I'm afraid that Oklahoma is in for a rough time against



PICTURE OF CONFIDENCE. Bert Hodges, '26-'27, his wife and two daughters, Norman, apparently anticipated Oklahoma's Orange Bowl win at pre-game Oklahoma breakfast. Daughters are Sue Ann (seated) and Patsy. L. J. Burkett, Tulsa, holds pennant.



ENCOURAGING SIGN. With notice of O.U. sympathies in background, Harry Kornbaum, '33, Oklahoma City, and Charles Schaefer, '37-'40, Miami, Florida, check those registered.

Maryland. They'll never beat 'em unless the Maryland team stays up all night before the game." "Well, our team is definitely going to Miami to *win* the ball game—so let's not give the Terps any more excuses than Tatum has created already," I replied. Other than a high regard for the Maryland team, the man showed normal tendencies, especially regarding road information. "Take the middle of Florida for least traffic and the shortest route," he advised and proceeded to show me how to avoid the crowded highways of the coast.

The McAllister Hotel served as official Oklahoma Alumni Headquarters in Miami. It is customary for the Alumni Association to establish headquarters for big events that attract a large following of graduates and former students—so this wasn't an entirely new experience. However, the reception given us by the hotel management was the most refreshing and gratifying that we have encountered.

Ample space was reserved for registration facilities and no objection was made for placing signs anywhere, anytime—the hotel manager even asked us for an O.U. flag that could be displayed atop the building. Unlike Dallas, the furniture remained in the lobby—much to the satisfaction and comfort of the guests.

It was Tuesday—and the McAllister was alive with Sooners already. One group of Oklahomans had just returned from a tour of Havana. Before our bags were unpacked, calls were received from Ed Fleming, '14, Enid; Charles Schaefer, '37-'40, Miami, Florida; John Wishnick, '48eng, New York, and a dozen others asking about alumni headquarters for the event. Early

visitors also included Lt. and Mrs. T. M. Baughman, formerly of Sulphur. Lieutenant Baughman, '52bus, now stationed at Elgin Airforce Base in Florida, was eager for news of the Sooner school and Oklahomans who made the trip to Miami.

**T**he arrival of Boyd Gunning, '37ba, '37Law, Alumni Association executive secretary, marked the formal opening of the registration desk Wednesday morning. Believe me, the rush began and never stopped! First alumnus to register was Ed Fleming, '14, member of the Alumni Association Executive Board. Noting the tremendous work ahead, he stayed to help during the three-day period with a generous devotion of his time to registering Sooners, answering their many questions, and helping with their problems.

Red and white buttons bearing the inscription "Proud to be a Sooner" were distributed without charge. The demand for these buttons by alumni was little surprise to us—soon the hotel lobby and Biscayne Avenue were completely dominated by button-wearing Oklahomans.

On several occasions, a hesitant individual approached the registration desk saying, "Now, I'm not an Oklahoman—I live in Kentucky, Tennessee, or some other state. I came down here to watch Oklahoma beat the daylights outa Maryland. I sure would like to wear one of those buttons. May I have one?" We always took advantage of this opportunity to recruit another member into the Oklahoma rooting section.

Hundreds of alumni registered at alumni headquarters. Space does not permit us to mention all of them. Naturally, life membership always comes to our attention—it is a sure indication of loyalty to O.U. and the Alumni Association—and the following were among the Life Members that were seen in Miami: Mrs. Vival Hooper Barber, '29ed, Oklahoma City; Robert M. Bass, '22, Kilgore; Harold Belknap '25ba, Norman; Ebert E. Boylan, '17ba, Caracas, Venezuela; Cecil Brite, '29bus, '31Law, and Mrs. Brite, Norman; Dr. Ned Burleson, '26ba, '29bs, '31med, and Mrs. Julia Wallace Burleson, '27ba, Prague; Walter W. Butcher, '37geol, Oklahoma City; Harry Diamond, '12Law, and Mrs. Diamond, Holdenville; Ed Fleming, '14, Enid; B. S. Graham, '24, and Mrs. Graham, Oklahoma City; Robert A. Green, '36pharm, Chickasha; D. H. Grisso, '30geol, Norman; O. T. McCall, '40bus, and Mrs. Virginia Wall McCall, '44-'45, Norman; Dick March, '14, and Mrs. March, Duncan; Joe W. Myers, '33bus, Frederick; Max E. Rogers, '42bus, Blackwell; C. V. "Blue" Sidwell, '23geol, P.E. professor, University of Tulsa; Dr. Logan A. Spann, '34bs, '34med, and Mrs. Doris Nichols Spann, '30fa, Tulsa; Willis Storm, '20ba, San Antonio, and John H. Wishnick, '48eng, Scarsdale, New York.

Few can match the Sooner loyalty and devotion displayed consistently by John Wishnick, '48 graduate mentioned above. My wife, Betty, and I were his guests at the Embers and later the Moulin Rouge Room of the fabulous Di Lido Hotel. John is an avid Sooner wherever he goes—while driving in Miami Beach, a busload of Sooner Band members passed us and John

gave them a "twenty horn salute." Mrs. Wishnick proudly provided the Ritz Brothers with Sooner buttons at the Di Lido.

These wonderful Sooner alumni! I wish space would permit the names of all who were present. The following represent only a sprinkling: Dr. E. J. Allgood, '28bs, '30 med, Altus; S. M. Anderson, Jr., '39ba, '41 Law, Elliswood, Kansas; Harriet Baker, '51fa, Oklahoma City; Bill Biggers, '30Law, Wewoka; Ralph Bogart, '36Law, and wife, Pat, Tulsa; Tom Brown, '50eng, Tulsa; Harold Brand, '26-'28, and wife, Connie, Oklahoma City, (Connie was in touch with Vice-President Nixon's headquarters to secure his attendance at the O.U. Kickoff Brunch); Dr. B. T. Brundage, '34bs, '36 med, and the Vic Thompsons, '48bus, from Thomas; Wm. R. Cook, '49geol, '38eng, Duncan; the Jim Dugans, '22, Houston, Texas; Olin Evans, '23, Wewoka, (always wearing a big smile in the lobby); T. J. Fuson, '34eng, and Mrs. Nita Marlotte Fuson, '32ed, Houston; Nolan J. Fuqua, '19ba, Duncan; Mrs. Martha Hunter Giblet, '43fa, Oklahoma City; J. L. Hexley, '25, and Mrs. Hexley, Oklahoma City; James Henley, '30bus, Tulsa; John B. Henry, '35 bus, Altus; Josie Hickman, '23, and Mrs. Lessie Austin Hickman, '22, Altus; Bert Hodges, '26-'27, and family, Norman; Mrs. Jeanette Hayden Hollman, '41m.us.ed., Norman; Bill Lillard, '50m.ed, Oklahoma City; Warren McManus, '34eng, Muskogee; Mary Helen Montgomery, '53journ, Poteau, Oklahoma; Leo W. Pokorny, Lawton; M. L. Roberts, '26, Nowata, (entire family is Sooner); Dr. Milton Sebring, '38 bs, '40med, Oklahoma City; L. B. Selman, '36bus, Tulsa; Hubert Smicka, '36, Yukon; Mrs. Joan Johnson Stauffer, '52fa, Chickasha; C. C. Stephens and family of Atoka; John Swearingen, '52fa, Blackwell; Don Lee Wallace, '52geol, '53ms, Hobbs, New



**THREE GUYS NAMED JIM.** The Jackson, Mississippi, Alumni Club held an early January meeting. The three Jims pictured here are all Jackson club officers. James J. Frazier, '51bs, was the club's first president and is immediate past president; James P. Evans, Jr., '29-'33, is current president, and Jim Williams, '51Law, is the Jackson club's new secretary-treasurer for this year.

Mexico; Mr. and Mrs. Ralph Williams, Oklahoma City—and all of them having a wonderful time!

The Orange Festival Parade was as much a part of the activities as the football game itself. Certainly the Orange Bowl Committee goes all out to provide visitors and Miamians a truly wonderful show. Costumes alone must have cost a figure running into the thousands.

By early afternoon some spectators had taken choice locations along the parade route. Bleacher space was sold in ticket form for parade seats along Biscayne Avenue—but there was plenty of space for spectators without buying a seat.

And there was plenty of parade for everyone. The parade lasts much longer than one's feet. It's just beauty plus beauty—and then more beauty. What a show!

The Kickoff Brunch highlighted the Sooner pre-game activities for alumni. Tickets were sold out the day before the

event on January 1 and it was with great regret that more than 500 requests for tickets had to be refused simply because of the space problem.

**T**he program was outstanding! Boyd Gunning, '37ba, '37Law, was in fine fettle as master-of-ceremonies, moving the activities with alertness and good humor.

Orange Bowl President Bruce McIntosh gained popularity with the O.U. crowd when he placed his hand over the Sooner button he was wearing and said with a smile, "Of course, I'm absolutely unbiased in this football game." His special guest was Miss America, Evelyn Ay, a student at the University of Pennsylvania, who did herself proud in a brief talk to the Sooner fans.

Maestro Gunning pulled a "delightful switch" by calling on Mrs. George L. Cross to extend greetings from the President's chair. Carroll Freeman, '47ba, '48Law, Oklahoma City KWTW, interviewed Darrell Royal, '50bus, former Sooner quarterback and present coach of the "Edmonton Sooners" of the Canadian professional league. Governor and Mrs. Johnston Murray received a standing ovation just prior to the entry of the Sooner Band. The crowd whooped it up as the bandsmen blared forth with "Boomer Sooner," "O.K. Oklahoma," and listened enthralled as the band sang the "O.U. Chant." I heard one alumnus say, "Seeing and hearing that band makes me doubly-proud that I contributed a few dollars to make its trip to Miami possible."

Concluding the breakfast program was Harold Keith, '29ba, '39ma, a choice selection for "speaker I like to hear best." The modest Sooner Sports Publicity Chief was interesting and original as usual. He gave the Sooner crowd just what they wanted—a factual report on the football team sea-

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**GEORGIA PEACH.** Atlanta, Georgia, alumni held a meeting January 3, hard on the heels of Oklahoma's Orange Bowl win. The meeting was arranged by Clarence D. Musser, '34ba, '39Law. The author found Sooner spirit in abundance. Group saw a screening of the "O.U. Album."

November 28 in the First Baptist Church, Gainesville.

J. Toney Hill, '53bus, and Mrs. Hill, the former Carolyn Brodell, '50bs, have chosen the name Karen Ann Hill for their daughter born October 6. Hill received his discharge from the Army on December 31 and the family is now at home in Oklahoma City.

Josef G. Solomon, '53bs, and Mrs. Solomon, are now living in Columbus, Ohio, where Solomon is stationed at Lockbourne Air Force Base.

JANSING-LEBLANC: Miss Kathryn M. Jansing, Norman, became the bride of Lt. Robert F. LeBlanc, '53eng, Midland, Louisiana, November 7 in St. Joseph Catholic Church, Norman. The couple

is now at home in Rantoul, Illinois, where Lt. LeBlanc is now stationed.

SEALE-CUMMINS: Thelma Seales, Lawton, became the bride of Lt. Billy Wayne Cummins, '53ed, Hollis, recently in the home of her parents.

Ensign Joe R. Firou, '53eng, has recently received a naval appointment to the Pensacola Flight Training School.

JANOWIAK-CASTEEL: Miss Mary Martha Janowiak, Harrah, became the bride of Pvt. Billy Glenn Casteel, '53eng, Harrah, December 5 in St. Teresa's Church, Harrah.

Lt. Robert L. Carder, '53eng, and Mrs. Carder, Oklahoma City, have chosen the name David Robert Carder for their son born November 19. Lt. Carder is now serving in Detroit, Michigan with the army ordnance school.

DEERE-TURMON: Miss Betty Lou Deere, Hobart, became the bride of Jack B. Turmon, '53ed, Hobart, November 27 in the First Methodist Church, Hobart. After a wedding trip to New Orleans, the couple is now at home in Wichita, Kansas.

Neal Barrett, Jr., '53journ, and Mrs. Barrett, Oklahoma City, have chosen the name Katherine Elizabeth Barrett for their daughter born November 24.

Bartlett-Collins Company of Sapulpa, furnished souvenir tumblers autographed by the members of the 1953 Sooner football team. Sooner alumni lost little time in placing the prized gifts in secure places.

The 700 plus guests attending the breakfast indicated by their applause and comments that the event was a popular feature of the Sooner activities. Special guests were numerous—Judge Royce Savage of Tulsa, '25ba, '27Law, President of the O.U. Alumni Association, the elected chief of

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### Covering the Campus . . .

both of Norman; Bob Beverly and Audrey Posey, both of Amarillo, Texas; Sandra Cohen, Duncan; Otis Gallas, Kermit, Texas; John Eagleton, Tulsa; Georganne Levite, Apache; George B. Lewis, Shamrock, Texas; Kent Kyger, Monett, Mo.; Marilyn McGehee, Bristow; Raymond Ray, Madill; Fred Cook, Holdenville; Patricia Sessions, Idabel; Martha Plummer, Bixby; John Jeter, Indianapolis, Indiana; Bill Crawford, Grandfield, and Carolyn Alt-house, Bartlesville.

### Victory in Miami . . .

soned with clever stories and "Keith witticisms." He referred to the Maryland squad as "having greater manpower and *almost* as well-coached."

Charley Bartlett, '20, was responsible for a very popular gift for everyone attending the Kickoff breakfast. His company, the

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125,000 graduates and former students of Soonerland—House Speaker James C. Nance of Purcell—football letterman Karey Fuqua, '36bus, Houston—Boyd "Bronco" McGugan, '50geol, Holdenville coach—Congressman Page Belcher of Enid—former Safety Commissioner Paul Reed, '21, of Sulphur—Senator George Miskovsky, '36Law, of Oklahoma City—Rayburn Foster, '16Law, Bartlesville—oh, but what's the use—everyone attending the event was important and worthy of mention, so let's stop the list here.

One more "Brunch" item—our ticket takers! D. H. Grisso, '30geol, Norman banker who is a former president of the O.U. Alumni Association, and Harold Belknap, '25ba, Norman publisher, provided the event with the most efficient ticket collectors on record. Poor fellows didn't even get to eat—and their job of turning away the unfortunate non-ticket holders at the door was not an enviable one, indeed! What wonderful jobs these two alums performed—and all with good relations intact—I don't believe their lives were threatened even once.

A special bouquet is due Harry Kornbaum, '33, for his splendid service to Oklahoma fans. A goodly portion of the Oklahoma crowd had their trips arranged by Harry and charming wife, Donna, through the Rainbow Travel Tours of Oklahoma City. Harry was the "crowd mother," carefully looking after his flock with concern and patience. Special buses were engaged to transport the crowd from the hotel to the Orange Bowl stadium. When I left the hotel in one of the buses, Harry was standing on the sidewalk looking after other buses. When I arrived at the stadium, Harry was there already, directing the buses to convenient parking places within the shadow of the stadium. Believe me, he's one fellow that goes far beyond a job—a definite asset to Oklahoma football rooters away from home.

Victory is sweet—it gives one such a smug feeling—and it definitely shortens the distance home. Distance was especially important in this instance as I had scheduled alumni meetings at Atlanta, Georgia, and Jackson, Mississippi.

As I checked out of the hotel, the Florida people made me feel that they had genuinely enjoyed the Oklahoma invasion. Even the doorman rejoiced in the Oklahoma victory, holding me up fifteen minutes to discuss the Maryland downfall. "I kept telling folks that Maryland hadn't played anybody and that Oklahoma would take 'em. If Oklahoma hadn't lost its quarterback, they would've scored at least two more TD's in the second half," he quipped. His words were music to my ears and I wondered why

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such an intelligent man wasn't heading a bank or big corporation.

A successful Atlanta alumni meeting, coming right on the heels of the Sooner victory, was assured. Clarence D. Musser, '34ba, '39Law, was Chairman of the Arrangements Committee in the Georgia city. Musser serves as attorney for the Lockheed Aircraft Corporation, taking the post in 1951.

I told my wife that since few alumni resided in Atlanta that the meeting would likely be of short duration. Again, I was guilty of underestimating the Sooner spirit. The meeting was adjourned just twenty minutes short of midnight! Mr. and Mrs. Dale Clark eagerly inquired about O.U. staff members, especially the Journalism faculty. Clark, '35journal, is a former editor of the *Oklahoma Daily*. He is News-Editor of WAGA radio and TV in Atlanta. Mrs. Clark, the former Mary Eleanor Merten, received her B.F.A. at O.U. in 1936.

Mrs. Clark was one of three Fine Arts graduates attending the Atlanta meeting. Jack M. Collier received the B.F.A. in 1939—taught for several years—is now serving Delta C.S. Airlines as pilot. Kathleen Bowden Lowance received the B.F.A. in 1926—though her youthful looks would date her much later. Mrs. Lowance visited Oklahoma City recently on an autograph tour concerning the publication of her new book, *Much Ado about Music*.

Dr. Melvin Hess, '48zool, and wife showed unusual interest in the Alma Mater. Dr. Hess is assistant professor of anatomy at Emory University. Fortunately, he uses visual aids in his classes and aided in showing the "O.U. Album" to highlight the evening's Sooner get-together.

If you ever move to Jackson, Mississippi, be sure to join the O.U. Alumni Club of that city. You'll miss something if you don't! This is truly a collection of "live-wire" Sooner alumni—the word "rabid" is too mild to give a true indication of their loyalty and interest. See if you recognize the following alumni:

Richard A. Billups, Jr., '25; Allan J. Stinnett, '52bus; J. K. Wright, '39; R. V. Ewing, '39geol; William A. Fowler, Jr., '50 geol; Jack Durkee, '22; Mrs. Virginia Absher Womack, '42ba, and husband, Robert Womack, Jr., '41eng; Howard Cotten, '52 geol; George Harrison, '31; Robert L. Shaw, '51eng; William M. Walton, Jr., '51 geol, and Dr. J. Harold Conn, '41ba, '44 med.

On arrival at Jackson we were greeted by Jim J. Frazier, '51bs, and Mrs. Frazier. Frazier engineered the club organization about a year ago and was the first president of the group. Present officers are James P. Evans, Jr., '29-'33, President; Mrs. Homer Lynn, '30bus, Vice-President, and Jim Wil-

liams, '51Law, Secretary-Treasurer. Jim (Williams) and wife, Shirley, are former students of mine at Claremore High School—back in '42, my first teaching job—makes one feel his age.

Just like a football victory, the experience of a meeting such as the Jackson rally shortens the distance home. This must have been Southern Hospitality at its best. When they said, "We're sure glad to have you," it had a genuine ring. I still remember Jim Williams saying, "Tell Earl Sneed and Dale Vliet hello for me and that I appreciate everything they taught me." And when Jack Durkee, '22, who played football for Bennie Owen, exclaimed, "Tell Bennie

Owen that I love every bone in his body," his eyes were moist. Sincerity like that makes you "Proud to be a Sooner."

The Orange Bowl Festival was a grand occasion. As I see it, the Sooners liked Miami—and Miami liked the Sooners.

O.U. opens the 1954 season against California at Berkeley, September 18. Thinking here in January, there should be plenty of tickets "because of distance." But—if you're contemplating the trip—here's sound advice: Get your ducats just as soon as the ticket sale opens April 1. Come September 18, the Sooner following will be in Berkeley. When it comes to football, "people are the craziest things!"

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