

# FIRST CITIZENS . . .

Past,

Recalling early Indian contributions to our country is an old Thanksgiving custom. Welcomers of the Pilgrims, teachers of the soil, our native folklore describes them. Sharing the land of their fathers, Indians of the colonial days aided the early settlers in making the land produce—and kept them from bungling the whole venture.

Gradually these first bits of Indian knowledge drifting into everyday life became fused with the traditions of the new settlers to form the complex American culture. The mark of the past lies on the land—more significant here in the heart of the Oklahoma Indian lands—Tishomingo,

Okmulgee, Ponca City, Pawnee—a living history.

Early state government, education, the taming of the wilderness are all products of Indian industry. And more importantly, the first citizens of the past remain the first class citizens of today. There isn't a child in Oklahoma who doesn't feel a little cheated if he isn't just a tiny bit Indian.

Meanwhile the leaders of the past are becoming a part of the future as the college students of the present. Indian students do not form a distinct separate group on the University of Oklahoma campus by any means. But they do make a distinct contribution to campus life, both as a group and as individuals, never forgetting their proud heritage.

Some continue their cultural traditions as members of the Sequoyah Indian Club. The club, oldest organized group on campus, was established in 1912 and is now being sponsored by Boyce D. Timmons, di-

rector of registration, who describes himself as "a little Cherokee." A 1/32 Indian ancestry is required for club membership.

As a group, club members present authentic tribal dances at a Homecoming pow-wow and at a spring dance early in May. O.U. goodwill is spread across the state by Sequoyahans who perform and speak for civic and fraternal groups.

Individual contributions to the campus and student body from Indian students are numerous, yet hard to measure with so many collegians boasting of Indian descent.

Where would school spirit be without "Little Red," Phil Waller, the Sooner mascot? A member of the Cherokee and Ojibway tribes and an accounting major from Anadarko, Phil helps lead Sooner rooters at football games with a gridiron-type war dance when the Big Red needs it most.

Nationally known for his exploits on the gridiron, Wahoo McDaniel (whose first name is Edward, incidentally), is first string left end and a Chickasaw-Choctaw from Midland, Texas. His 91-yard quick-kick in the Iowa State game is the longest punt in modern Sooner history.

Two Indian students who are new to O.U. are not new to the arts. Jim Redcorn,



Opportunities in research and industry open to Bill Glass, Cherokee, in petroleum engineering.



Jim Redcorn, an Osage and artist in training, works at O.U. in developing his western style.



A business major during the week, Phil Waller, Cherokee-Ojibway, whoops it up on Saturdays.

# Present, Future

By Patty Flood, '59

an Osage, is well known around his hometown of Pawhuska for his paintings. He describes his style as "realistic western." At this season he is concentrating on original Christmas cards.

J. B. Dreadfulwater, a Cherokee from Tahlequah, came to the University with two years preparation at Bacone College (Bacone, Okla.) after having completed his military service. He is majoring in music with an emphasis on sacred music for voice.

Bill Glass, a Cherokee from Okmulgee, holds an outstanding record of activities. A senior in petroleum engineering, Glass is now president of the Engineers Club. He has served on St. Pat's Council and is active in the PE (Petroleum Engineers) Club and the student chapter of The American Institute of Mining, Metallurgical and Petroleum Engineers.

A beauty with humanitarian goals is Jo Beryl Henry, a Kiowa-Caddo from Anadarko. A social work major, she plans to enter the Indian Service somewhere in the Midwest. As princess of the Sequoyah Club, she was featured in Sooner Scandals.

Outstanding in scholarship and research is Don Ahshapanek, a Delaware also from Anadarko. Ahshapanek is working toward



Work with the Indians is the goal of Jo Beryl Henry, Kiowa-Caddo, Sequoyah Club Princess

a doctorate in plant sciences, teaches general botany and is completing a special project on grasses of the plains country. He is former president of the Indian club.

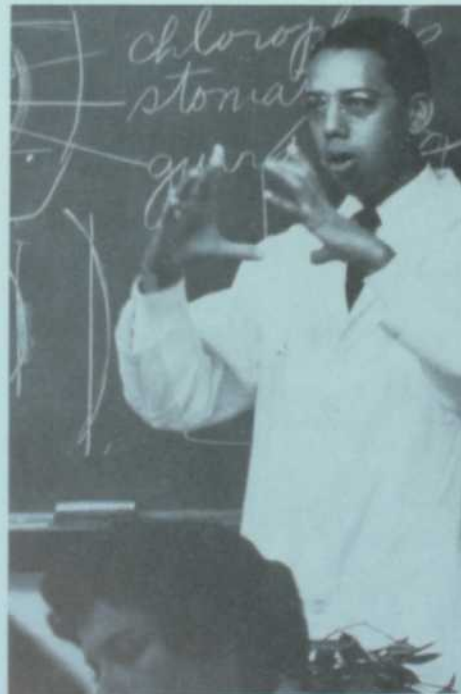
Students of former days, who claim descent from the Indian tribes (have been advancing in their professional worlds since O.U. first opened its doors.

In the educational realm, Ed McCurtain, '36ma, holder of one of the proudest Choctaw names, is now chairman of the sociology department at Drury College, Springfield, Missouri.

Richard West, '50m.fa, a Cheyenne, is chairman of the art department at Bacone College, while Judson Tonemah, '39bs, a Kiowa, is serving as principal of a Ute Indian school in Colorado.

A Creek familiar to football fans in the early '40s, Jack Jacobs went on to the professional game in a Canadian league.

Author Fred Grove, '37journ, an Osage, rides the western circuit in the publishing



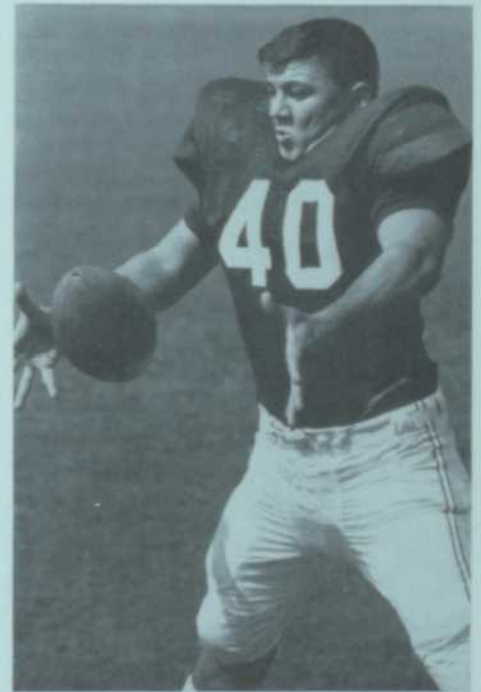
"Botany is my line," Don Ahshapanek, Delaware, explains to his plant science class.

field. G. K. Cobb, '41m.ed, was named as one of the first Indian chaplains for the U.S. Army in World War II.

Muriel Wright, a Choctaw, '20, serves the state as historian and editor of the *Chronicles of Oklahoma*. Chief of the Sac and Fox, Rex Whistler, '27bus, '33geol, is a consulting geologist in Oklahoma City.

Outstanding Indian artist is Woodrow Crumbo, '36-'38. Crumbo, a Potawatomic, now lives in Taos, N. Mex.

To list them all would read like an alumni roll call. But they are all riding high in public admiration in law, medicine and business, proud of their O.U. degree and the prestige of their Indian heritage.



Football fame is Chickasaw-Choctaw "Wahoo" McDaniel's route to lasting Sooner recognition.