



Fairest of Them All

our Miss O.U. is a hit at the National Football Festival

THE PRETTY girl on the opposite page is Ann Kent, Miss O.U. of 1963-64. Ann, a five-foot seven-inch, green-eyed blond endowed with enough natural beauty and charm to test the mettle of the most dedicated misogynist, has begun her reign in fine fashion.

In September she became the third Miss O.U. to be named Miss Football, U.S.A., at the 18th annual National Football Festival held in Berkeley, California. The two previous winners, Ann Campbell and Donna Sue Cason, won their titles in 1955 and 1956. Fittingly, the Sooners won the national football championship both years. Oklahoma football fans with an eye for omens can't ignore this one. If history repeats itself, although sometimes it merely starts all over, then O.U. can start counting its chickens. At any rate, Ann has done her part.

In addition to her Miss Football crown, she has represented the University at the Festival of Five Flags in Pensacola, Florida, the American Royal Livestock Show in Kansas City, Missouri, and the Miss Oklahoma Pageant in Oklahoma City.

Besides her good looks, Ann has a mind that can make the "dumb blond" stereotype self-consciously slink away. She has made the dean's honor roll both of her semesters at the University and sports a 3.6 grade average. Ann is a sophomore, majoring in medical technology. After graduation from O.U. and a year of internship, she plans to work as a technologist in a hospital. This past summer she was an assistant in the hematology laboratory at the Children's Hospital in Oklahoma City, which is Ann's home. During the school year she is helping Dr. Arthur Ghent, assistant professor of zoology, in his laboratory in the zoology building.

Along with the "beauty, grace, poise and charm" a Miss O.U. must obviously possess, it is fitting and proper that she have good grades and an ability to make them, for absence is an ever present fact of life for her.

Ann missed the first week of school because of the Miss Football contest, and a week after her return to the campus, she was absent for another two days while attending the American Royal in Kansas City. "I'm just now catching up," said Ann when she was interviewed during the four-weeks test grind. "I'm carrying a pretty heavy load this semester, and I don't plan to miss any more school. Going to these contests and shows is a lot of fun, and I'm grateful for the opportunity. But I'm glad to be home and to stay for awhile."

Another must for a beauty candidate is stamina. The relentless pace and packed schedules of affairs like the Miss Oklahoma Pageant and the Miss Football contest can wilt a fragile female before you can say 36-23-36. A contestant must be in good shape, no pun intended, and in fine fettle to make it through the events and still look her loveliest. Once again, Ann is a winner. The picture of her which appears in this issue was taken at 5:30 p.m. on a warm October day. She had been on the campus continually since 8 a.m. and posed without benefit of makeup—no powders, creams, lotions, potions or lipstick. The result testifies to Ann's natural beauty, which is bolstered by a good supply of stamina which keeps her soaring instead of sagging.

The high point of Ann's reign thus far is the National Football Festival. The event lasted a grueling 11 days and was filled with functions from morning to night.

Eight college queens were chosen from more than 50 applicants to compete in

Berkeley. Representatives from the Universities of Arkansas, Mississippi, Maryland, Oklahoma, Rice, Tulane and from Clarion State College and Southern Oregon Teachers made the trip.

Seven of the eight coeds met in Dallas and flew together to San Francisco. During the official ten days of the festival the eight contestants were photographed as many times as the Grand Canyon, were interviewed by the press, radio and television often enough to make a politician envious, were shown the sights of San Francisco, Berkeley and the University of California campus and got in and out of convertibles 437 times. All the while, they were being observed by a surreptitious bunch of judges whose identities were kept secret until the winner was crowned.

THE EIGHT girls also took part in a fashion show, were entertained in San Francisco night spots and were fed at least three Chinese dinners.

The climax came on a Thursday night before the Saturday California-Iowa State football game. Ann became the 18th Miss Football at a coronation ball at the Claremont Hotel. The next night Miss Football and her seven ladies-in-waiting (probably the best looking line in football) were the main attractions in the Parade of Lights.

The festival ended with a farewell party after the football game.

Continued on Page 24

On the next page last year's Miss Oklahoma, Billi Kaye Smith, a junior in the University, is interviewed about the agony and the ecstasy of being Miss Oklahoma.

Fairest of Them All

Continued from Page 11

Most coeducational colleges and universities have more beauty queens than parking spaces. O.U. is no exception. Almost every fraternity has a sweetheart. The Independent Students Association has a queen. The Army, Navy and Air Force R.O.T.C. units each year select enough honorary cadet colonels to stock a small Pentagon. The school yearbook annually selects a bevy of beauties, who gaze indistinctly through the hazy focus of the beauty photographer's camera. Then there's the Engineer's Queen, the Homecoming Queen, the Ruf Nek Queen, Miss Campus Chest, Miss Scheherazade and the Senior Queen, to name a few.

But the Miss O.U. title, though one of the most recent, tops the list in prestige. The winner reigns for a year whereas some, like the Homecoming Queen, have only a weekend or a day of duties. Miss O.U. represents the entire student body, not just a college, club or clique. And the manner in which she is chosen is different from the way other groups find their fairest.

The contest is sponsored by the Student Senate, which inaugurated the affair in 1952 so that the University might have an official representative to appear in national and state pageants, contests and festivals.

In the spring each campus house—female, that is—whether sorority or dormitory, enters not more than two candidates, who are given brief, preliminary interviews by a panel of judges chosen by the senate. Predictably, there is no difficulty whatsoever in finding judges. After visiting each house and talking with each contestant, the judges narrow the field to 50 semifinalists.

Next the semifinalists are interviewed at greater length by another set of judges. Last spring the semifinal judges were Miss Dolly Hoskins, queen mother of the Miss Oklahoma pageant; Miss Billi Kaye Smith, last year's Miss Oklahoma; Mrs. Galand Kramer (Mary Ann Bell), Miss O.U. of 1962-63; David A. Burr, director of University Relations, and John Braly, chairman of the senate's Miss O.U. committee.

The judges asked no stock questions. The idea was for the contestants to be as relaxed as possible and to visit comfortably with their inquisitors. From the semifinalists, ten finalists were chosen. These coeds competed for the Miss O.U. title in the fin-

als, which is modeled after the Miss Oklahoma pageant, which is modeled after the Miss America pageant, which is modeled after the twelve labors of Hercules.

The final judging is held in Meacham Auditorium before a capacity crowd of students who don't have any studying to do or who are devotees of beauty contests or both. The contestants walk across the stage in bathing suits; then they walk across the stage in evening gowns. They are also required to display a talent of some sort—anything from bird calls to beachcombing is acceptable.

And the judges picked Ann. The choice was a good one, as you can see, but it was not an easy one. O.U. is blessed with plenty of pulchritude, which compensates somewhat for the shortage of parking spaces.

For her talent, Ann played a selection on the flute. "I used to play the flute in the high school band in Bristow, where I grew up. When I found out I had to have a talent for the contest, I got it out and started practicing," Ann said. "I can only say that I doubt I have much of a future as a flutist."

Ann's music may not have cast any spells over the judges, but it didn't prevent her from becoming the twelfth Miss O.U. Our compliments to the judges for their decision, and our congratulations to Ann Kent for her achievements.

IMAGE IS NOT AVAILABLE ONLINE DUE TO COPYRIGHT RESTRICTIONS.

A paper copy of this issue is available at call number LH 1 .O6S6 in Bizzell Memorial Library.

Statement of Ownership, Management and Circulation under the Act of October 23, 1962; Section 4369, Title 39, United States Code. The Sooner Magazine, Oklahoma Memorial Union Building, Norman, Oklahoma, is published monthly (ten issues per year) by the University of Oklahoma Association. The editor is R. Boyd Gunning, executive director of the University of Oklahoma Association. The managing editor is Paul V. Gallo-way, associate editor of alumni publications. Owner: (If owned by a corporation, its name and address must be stated and also immediately thereunder the names and addresses of stockholders owning or holding one per cent or more of total amount of stock. If not owned by a corporation, the names and addresses of the individual owners must be given. If owned by a partnership or other unincorporated firm, its name and address, as well as that of each individual must be given.) The University of Oklahoma Association, R. Boyd Gunning, Oklahoma Memorial Union Building, executive director. Known bondholders, mortgagees and other security holders owning or holding one per cent or more of total amount of bonds, mortgages or other securities: none. Average number of copies each issue during preceding 12 months: 12,120. Number of copies of single issue nearest to filing date: 12,500. Paid circulation: average during preceding 12 months, 11,279; single issue nearest to filing date, 11,956. Sales through agents, news dealers, or otherwise: average during preceding 12 months, 14; issue nearest to filing date, 16. Free distribution: average during preceding 12 months, 236; single issue nearest to filing date, 236. Total number of copies distributed: average during preceding 12 months, 11,529; issue nearest to filing date, 12,208.