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THE COVER: The summer term differs from the fall and spring semesters not only in climate and length but also in its students. Photographer J. P. Smith sets out in search of the average summer student on pages 18-21.

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sooner scene

Despite poor positioning (always in the back pages), smaller type (8-point instead of the 10-point used throughout most of the magazine), a monotonous writing style (name, year of graduation, degree, hometown, verb, etc.—repeated, with few exceptions, *ad infinitum*), and a dearth of dramatic subject matter (John Soworthy's election as president of the Valley City chapter of the Mary Worth Fan Club is estimable but not really enthralling), Roll Call—the class notes section—is the most popular feature of the magazine, the one section read by practically every subscriber. It doesn't seem unlikely that alumni would read the class notes section if it were written in 4-point Sanskrit and printed in invisible ink. Although it may not be particularly stimulating reading to the outsider, it could be the only way that Sam and Irma, who live in Scarsdale, can learn that Hugh and Sue have a new son named Lou and live in Spokane.

The Alumni Office depends upon three sources for Roll Call items. First, alumni write in about themselves and their classmates. A second source is a company's public relations office which sends news releases to the alumnus' alma mater, telling of promotions, awards, and transfers. Third, the Alumni Office clips items from five state newspapers. With over 60,000 graduates and former students who are continually moving, marrying, giving birth, being promoted and promoting, electing and being elected, there is never a lack of news. The problem is finding space for all that flows in.

The past publishing year has not been a bountiful one for Roll Call in the magazine. The season's first issue was the special, 80-page "History of the University," which omitted the class notes. The January magazine, devoting 17 pages to the two-week 75th anniversary observance, also left out the section because of space limitations. The March and May issues, like this one, gave Roll Call little space. But while the section was withering in the magazine, to the consternation of a host of letter-writing alumni, a healthy Roll Call was being born in *Sooner*

News-Makers, the magazine's companion publication which appears on alternate months. The predominant purpose of *News-Makers* is to give news of alumni, and the tabloid will appropriately shoulder a growing portion of class notes in addition to its feature articles. The August issue of *News-Makers*, the special ADF Honor Roll edition mailed to all alumni, will contain an extended Roll Call section of items accumulated during the past months. The more expensive *Sooner Magazine* will concentrate almost entirely on news of the University. But rest assured, fellow alumni, that the class notes section will not only survive but will thrive—even if it is eventually written in 4-point Sanskrit and printed in invisible ink.

This last magazine of the school year 1965-66, the 75th anniversary of the University's founding, presents four articles which review parts of OU's past. Two former department chairmen, Dr. Richard Fowler of physics and Dr. Ralph Olson of geography, trace the histories of their respective departments within their articles, and two alumni have also contributed articles about earlier days. Phil Withrow writes about the formation of the American Association of Petroleum Geologists (page 3) by University alumni and faculty members, and Michael True reminisces about his four years in Norman (pages 15-17). Although Mr. True's nostalgia is matted with burrs, it's healthy to end this anniversary year being reminded, after months of self-congratulatory ceremony, that not everyone thinks everything was completely right. Mr. True obviously shudders when he recalls certain things about his days here, and almost every moving target comes into his sights—Greeks, the football syndrome, loyalty oaths, ROTC, and the school paper, to mention a few.

In its next issue *Sooner Magazine* will feature a special supplement on the future plans for the campus; blueprints for the next decades have already been prepared by OU's Center for Urban and Regional Studies. We think you'll find them fascinating.