Prentice Gantt

Your article on Prentice Gantt (Spring 1987) evoked strong memories of that time and place.
Although it is true that many Sooner fans would have been pleased by his failure, many ardently wished for his success. When Prentice played his first varsity game on Owen Field, I was working for Ken Parris operating the stadium's switchboard located in the press box. Prentice was deep to receive the kickoff. You could feel most of the 63,771 fans hold their breath and then groan with dismay as he stumbled the kick. I can clearly remember the sense of relief that ran through the stadium as Prentice’s “game-day jitters” quickly passed and he began to play in the way that would thrill us so many times through his career.
A lot of Oklahomans felt then that Mr. Wilkinson, Prentice Gautt and the University had made the right choice at the right time. We still do.

Scott Stanfield, ’62 B.A.
El Paso, Texas

Excellent story!
I was glad to see the recent article that you wrote for Sooner Magazine appear in the June 3, 1987, edition of the NCAA News (page three).
You have done an excellent job in capturing this story and it’s with a sense of pride I look back on the progress athletics and our society have made, and yet I recognize that we still have room for improvement.

Robert E. Smith, ’70 B.B.A.
OU Athletic Department
Norman, Oklahoma

Great job on the Prentice Gautt article . . . Of course, you had a great subject to write about.

Bob Connor
Norman, Oklahoma

The writing you did in the piece on Prentice Gautt is really first-rate. He is a good friend, and I read the article with great pleasure.

J.R. Morris, ’56 M.N.S., ’60 Ph.D.
Norman, Oklahoma

Keep OU Beautiful
I’ll second Neil’s letter (Neil W. McElderry, Spring 1987) regarding the need for more trash barrels.

Norman always has an outstanding “Keep Norman Beautiful” program, and these litter barrels would help the cause.

Wouldn’t it be nice and challenging to other universities in Oklahoma if OU had a “Keep Our Campus Clean and Beautiful” organization, maybe out of the Student Council, to ride herd on the litter and debris problem presented by Neil. Of course, “Keep Oklahoma Beautiful, Inc.” would help.

Why Oklahomans dirty their state when others don’t is a good question to discuss at the University level. Writing in the Tulsa World recently, David Averill says maybe trash dumping and littering comes from a dust-bowl, “dumb Okie” mentality that won’t go away. If so, a big dose of state pride among our young and old would go a long way to curing a careless, slipshod habit that is giving our state a dirty image.

C.E. Cummings, ’46 M.A.
Bartlesville, Oklahoma

Editor’s Note: Green Country is an 18-county, eastern Oklahoma volunteer organization that promotes tourism, recreation and quality of life attractions throughout the region, state and nation. Alumnus Cummings is chairman of the group’s advisory council.

The Memorable Mrs. Shultz

The article about Audrey Shultz in Sooner Magazine (Spring 1987) was a joy to read. I knew her years ago when I was an engineer while Bennie Shultz and Walter Kraft directed the Physical Plant. Being from Norman, my mother has kept me informed about her; however, in recent years my mom had lost track of Audrey.

Betty Jo Kerr Everett, ’47 B.S.
New Orleans, Louisiana

Editor’s Note: Alumna Everett is director of the department of streets for the City of New Orleans.

Your editor’s Introduction praised me too highly—but I ate it up just the same. When you get as old as I am, you can’t “kill any more bears”—so you live on the reflected glories of your children and grandchildren—but it did my soul good to show them I had accomplished a few things in my life also.

I do miss Oklahoma and my friends.

Audrey Shultz,
’17 B.A., ’18 M.A., ’67 J.D.
Altamonte Springs, Florida

Our Readers Write

It was a lovely way to be greeted upon my return from Switzerland with the tribute to WLT you printed in the most recent issue of Sooner Magazine (Spring 1987). I had certainly read Bill’s article before, but it was a different matter to reread it in your elegant layout and accompanied by all those photographs. Thank you for having commissioned and published Bill’s “Trilogy” which now memorably enshrines WLT and its two international programs, the Neustadt Prize and the Puterbaugh Conferences.

Ivar Ivask
Editor
World Literature Today
Norman, Oklahoma

Professor Lloyd Slow has let me see his copy of Sooner Magazine, Vol. 7, #2, which I much admired and enjoyed. I congratulated you on such excellent reporting as that of Robyn Bodin and William Riggan. As a former chairman of OU’s department of English, I would very much like to have a copy of this issue of your magazine.

Also, as a former contributor to Books Abroad, I would like to subscribe to World Literature Today, if that can be arranged.

Leonard B. Beach
Nashville, Tennessee

Editor’s Note: Leonard Beach is dean emeritus, Vanderbilt University.

I have just read the article in Sooner Magazine about World Literature Today. Would you please inform me what subscription charges for this publication are?

Rev. Joe B. Frederick
Altus, Oklahoma

Editor’s Note: Subscriptions to World Literature Today, OU’s international literary quarterly, are available at $23 per year by writing WLT, 630 Parrott Oval, Norman, 73019.