CONTENTS

4 "THIS IS A SPECIAL PLACE..."
In his inaugural address, University of Oklahoma President David L. Boren shares his vision for the institution, paying tribute to the past, emphasizing the accomplishments of the present and outlining a plan for the future.

8 A WEEKEND TO REMEMBER
Come along with Sooner Magazine photographers as they record historic inaugural sights—pomp, pageantry and umbrellas on the oval, distinguished speakers and overflow audiences, a black-tie gala and a glorious concert.

15 THE REACH FOR EXCELLENCE CAMPAIGN
The heightened optimism of the inaugural weekend continues as the National Campaign Committee celebrates $41 million in advance gifts and recommits to the $200 million goal of the University's most ambitious private funding venture.

20 AND THE BAND PLAYS ON
In Gene Thrailkill's 25 years as OU's director of bands, The Pride of Oklahoma has won the Sudler Trophy as the nation's top marching band and a 1983 game ball as the OSU Cowboys' worst nightmare. No wonder the students call him "Coach."

25 SOONER CENTURY
The 100 years of Oklahoma football are replete with tales of heart-stopping victories and heartbreaking defeats, comic moments and personal tragedy. Author J. Brent Clark has selected a few anecdotes from his new commemorative book.

Prologue • Inside Front Cover
Letters • Page 2
Sooner Spotlight • Hastings & Stark • Page 31