OUR OWN MISS AMERICA—Jennifer Berry, a 22-year-old senior education major and student in the OU School of Dance, wowed judges and audience alike with a ballet en pointe performance that propelled her to the 2006 Miss America crown. Berry, an articulate Tulsa native who won the Miss Oklahoma title in June 2005, is the fifth state representative to become Miss America. The pageant, held January 21 for the first time in Las Vegas, earned Berry $30,000 in scholarships. She still plans to become an elementary schoolteacher when her year’s reign ends after traveling 20,000 miles a month promoting the Miss America program and her own platform, the prevention of drunken driving and underage drinking.
4 SHOWTIME FOR CHILDREN’S LITERATURE
Two generations of Neustadts created an international stir with a literary prize second only to the Nobel; the next generation is focusing on works for young readers.

10 OU RESEARCH TAKES A CLASSICAL TURN
The interior design of the new, ultra-modern Stephenson Center encourages the cross-disciplinary discourse among University researchers that is reminiscent of another age.

16 LIVING ON THE WILD SIDE
Students in Steve Scott’s finance class quickly learn that in his other life, the adjunct professor transforms into a big-game hunter with camera crews following his every move.

20 TURNING THE CORNER
Campus Corner is once again the place to be—and not only on game days—as lively new shops and restaurants lead a major revival of the University’s historic neighbor.

26 THE LASTING FRONTIER
Thurman White saw learning as a lifelong pursuit and insisted that a whole new approach was needed to meet the needs of the University of Oklahoma’s adult students.

29 DOUBLE DOSE OF DEDICATION
Two of six national finalists for the Wooden Citizenship Cup were Sooner athletes, including the winner, Jackie Dubois, and Jacob Gutierrez—a couple of class acts.