Football, the fall fever, descended upon the campus in September with the furious expectancy of the Sooners clash with the Irish of Notre Dame. The untried sophomoric Big Red was given little chance for victory against a senior team from Notre Dame which was rated number one in the nation, and had the same players that had beaten our great team of 1952. However, on the day of the game, the spirit and speed of the lightest Sooner team in years carried the fight to the Irish all afternoon, and, although losing the game by a narrow one touchdown margin, sent the 55,000 fans home pleased with the showing and confident that the 1953 Big Red would be another great team by the time they cleared their first three or four games.

Spirit and speed have become the trade mark of Bud Wilkinson's teams. It is primarily because of these factors that Bud's well-drilled boys soon gain the confidence and efficiency which make them so hard to beat. Even the alumni and friends who follow the teams closely absorb some of that same feeling. It makes you proud to be a Sooner.

"It takes Oklahoma to win one like that," was the jubilant remark by Dick Bowman, stellar O.U. tackle, following the hard-fought Colorado game last month. As I watched Benny Owen and four of his all-time great footballers walk on to the field before the O.U.-Texas game this year, when Benny was to receive the Football Hall of Fame appointment, I wondered what kind of teams those of early years. Oh, I knew they had phenomenal won and loss records, but did they also have the spirit and finesse we are so accustomed to in these days? You need only a casual glance at Harold Keith's book, Oklahoma Kickoff, to know that they had it—in spades. Of the four who accompanied Benny at Texas, one represented the team of 1915, which Keith calls the "golden year of O.U. football," and three were from the great teams of 1918-19-20. The earliest of these was Neil Johnson, '15ba, '17Law, Norman, the first of a family of four famous quarter-backing brothers, who after finishing his eligibility, served a year or two as assistant coach. Neil was an outstanding team leader and according to Elmer 'Trim' Capshaw, '15ba, '33m.ed, deceased, one of his teammates, "The best tackler I ever saw." Another was one of O.U.'s first all-Americans, Roy Smoot, '18, Oklahoma City. Keith writes about him that, "... he was big and fast and when bearing down he could do things no other tackle of his time could do." Phil White, '22, Oklahoma City, another great performer, who had a wealth of natural ability and who participated in establishing records from left half back position.

The fourth, Dow Hamm, '22ba, Dallas, a center they called the perfect passer. He is described in this way, "Cool, heady, dependable and hard to hurt. He was a superlative passer who could snap the ball almost as well with one hand as with two. Standing in a gravel parking space, Hamm once demonstrated his passing range and accuracy by spiralling a football through his legs into a third floor window of the old Beta house."

There are many thrilling stories about these Sooners of early years. They were always out-weighted but never out-played. They out-passed, out-faked, out-kicked, and out-ran nearly everyone they met. If you haven't read about them in the Oklahoma Kickoff, then you have missed something.

Nineteen fifty-three has been one of the most interesting football seasons in years for the followers of the Big Red. Starting with three tough games, the untried team
FOOTBALL LUNCHEONS

Burgh University. Lloyd received the University's Distinguished Service Citation for his outstanding achievements in the field of electrical engineering. Glenn Wilson, '31ba, '32ma, and Helen O'Dell Wilson, '32journ, attended. At one time Glenn was a student in the Engineering Department and served as a member of the University Executive Committee. He was also active in various campus organizations and was an editorial assistant for the "Sooner Times." In his free time he enjoys playing basketball and football. For these activities, Glenn is a very active club member and a number of his classmates make up the core of the Sooner Club in Philadelphia.

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**Football Luncheons**

For home games were serving more alumni than ever this year. Biggest crowd turned up for Notre Dame meal. At noon luncheon were Ronald (47ba) and Mrs. Champion (Bette Yarger, '38journ), Shawnee, and Jim Miller, '36ba, '37Law, also of Shawnee.

Also present for the Notre Dame game luncheon were these couples. (Standing) Donald and Mrs. Wilhurta Garlinghouse Congdon, '36ba, came from Denver and William Schubert, '47, and Mrs. Virginia Eisenlohr Schubert, '45bus, came from Kansas City for game.

Rugged Pittsburgh eleven.

A week later the Sooner fans began their annual expedition south of the Red River to a meeting with the Texas Longhorns in the Cotton Bowl. Many Sooners had their fingers crossed on the game this year; however, it turned out to be one of the most successful football weekends in a long, long time.

The big Alumni dinner-dance at the Baker Hotel, Friday night, sponsored by the O.U. Club of Dallas, was a great success and more than 700 excited Sooners made their preparation for the game at this occasion. The officers of the Dallas Club are very active and the club is well organized. President Isham "Push" Nelson, '43bus, actually had 40 or 50 members of that club working on this party. It is difficult to name a few of those without naming all; however, this is the risk that must always be taken in an article of this kind. Those who were most helpful at the alumni headquarters in the Baker included W. B. "Bill" Warren, '20-27, the ticket chair-


Since there were more than 700 persons in attendance it would be impossible to even begin to name all of the celebrities who were there.

The weekly Saturday Alumni luncheons, started two years ago, have continued to grow and become a regular meeting place for all alumni and their friends. The luncheons are held in the ballroom of the Memo.
friendship of Asia, Americans must earn this right by accepting Asians as equals. Asia is anxious to be treated as a full partner and undoubtedly could be counted on for more assistance in almost any program if encouraged to cooperate on such a basis.

Much of the success of the Communists is due to their ability to get across that intangible feeling of "belonging." Communists have a unity of purpose, they are going somewhere, they have a common bond.

America is being challenged to come up with something better. America is being challenged to prove it wants Asia's friendship.

Once the United States has proved to the Asians it wants their democratic friendship, the United States will be in a position to take a second step. Many experts on Asian affairs believe the second step is necessary if Communism is to be defeated.

The second step is this: A full-fledged, free-swinging, all-out wide open campaign to sell Capitalism.

Combatting Communism is not enough. We must sell Capitalism, the only real hope for the millions of poverty stricken citizens of the Asian nations.

We must sell "Capitalism for the Common Man" just as the Russians are selling Communism.

Americans know what Capitalism has given them—the highest standard of living in the world. We must convince the Asians that Capitalism—not Communism—can do the same for them.

In a sense, the American slogan can be "Capitalism Makes Every Man Rich." Compared with most people of Asia, almost all Americans are "rich." Certainly, we could help Asia lift itself out of the hole.

A sales campaign of this nature will not be easy. "Capitalism" has a bad name in many areas in Asia. Capitalism as practiced by some of the native capitalists—and the former colonial powers—has an evil reputation.

The United States must sell "American Capitalism"—the kind that develops natural resources, raises the standards of living, provides families with basic needs and some of the luxuries of life.

To do this, America must have friends—influential people such as government leaders, editors, teachers and others who will "sell" American Capitalism with as much drive and enthusiasm as local Communists are selling Communism.

So, America's initial program in Asia today is this: To clearly and vigorously demonstrate to the Asians they are wanted as friends, full and equal partners in a dynamic union of free and prosperous men.