The Cover
James J. "Sarge" Dempsey, was at work in August getting the football equipment ready for September use. The colorful Sarge has outfitted many All-Americans since he became equipment manager in 1935. He came by his nickname honestly. He is a retired master sergeant.

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ENVELOPE BEARING Colonel Fletcher's letter. Note special North Pole postmark, lower left.
Radio's Menace in 1932

Freshmen information for the school year 1932–33 included: The freshman uniform this year will be red cap, red sweater and white trousers. Freshmen are supposed to wear these uniforms to football games. The entire uniform costs $4.35.

No one dreamed of a TV ruckus in football. Radio was the enemy of the gate 20 years ago. The Sooner Magazine noted the controversy: "Big Six football games will be broadcast this year as in the past, although there was some opposition to doing so at a meeting of the various athletic directors in Kansas City."

The Sooner for October, 1932, had words of praise of the football team. "One of the outstanding and colorful players ever to grace Oklahoma's gridiron is Paul Young, Norman. Fans who have watched the University's pig-skin heroes for years have rated Young as one of the greatest centers of all time, along with Roy Campbell, '88, Roy Spears, '11, Dow Ham, '20, and Pollack "Polly" Wallace, '26."

A marriage of note took place October 4, 1932. Miss Margaret Monrowen, '31ba, and Dr. Frank Harbison were married in Oklahoma City.

Parking was no problem for students in the depression year. Auto permits were granted to 72 students by the members of the University car committee that year.

Project Icele...

... Dip, the depth decreasing to 11,500. The last couple of days the wind has been NW and we are backing off again. We are most anxious to know what we are coming upon. We took a sounding at the pole and got 14,000. We are starting now to lay out detectors the length of the island (about 10 miles) for some refraction shots. A plane from Alaska will come out and drop 500 lb. bombs for us when we are ready. We necessarily started out on a shoestring but fortunately we had meteorological equipment, current measuring equipment, surveying equipment, some oceanographic gear and seismic equipment. I am coming out in June to get a marine biologist, oceanographer and cryologist. Yesterday Craig and I made a trip around the perimeter (31 miles). On the east end we found a line of boulders two miles long, some of which weigh tons. It looks to me like New England granite—like they put on the front of a bank. Thin layers of dirt lie few feet in the ice for as deep as we have cored (about 25 ft.). The general elevation above sea level is 30' to 35', W have a Frost gravity meter which indicates a bobbing period of about 40 sec. From that you can make your own guess about the thickness. I suspect that numerous fresh water lakes are trapped in the ice. One such lake near the camp we use for a water supply. It is 11' deep and lies under 8' of ice.

We are all having great fun now that the temperatures are comfortable. We have seen bear tracks twice and fox signs twice but no living thing. I am planning to go sit by a lead one day soon and try to find a seal.

Please give my best to our mutual friends...

Cordially yours, Joe

(Lt. Col. J. O. Fletcher, '41bs)

In a letter to President G. L. Cross, Dr. Schrieber gives a thumbnail sketch of Lt. Col. J. O. Fletcher, '41bs.

I am sure you often wish for interesting news concerning graduates of O.U. I have a letter from the North Pole which, I believe, will be of interest to you. He (Colonel Fletcher) completed A.F. meteorology training and then fighter pilot training. He served in meteorological research for the A.F. during and since the war. In January 1950 he visited in my home with his bride; he was on his way to Fairbanks, Alaska, to command the squadron which flies to the North Pole and back to Tokyo and back, every few days.

These men located the floating ice islands in the Arctic Ocean on their flights. The largest is T-3 (about 9 x 7 miles); Joe got the A.F. to approve his expedition. He and two other men flew from Greenland to T-3 and landed on it and set up housekeeping and observations last spring—it was 55° below zero F. at that time. At least three different stories in Life, with pictures, have appeared since last January; two concerned T-3.

The weather station on T-3 is Joe's idea and he deserves a lot of credit for getting the Air Force to provide the necessary men and equipment.

Needless to say I am proud of Joe. Sincerely yours, William Schrieber.

(Ed's Note: Dr. Schrieber is chairman of the Physics Department.)