Northeastern Oklahoma is dominated by lakes and streams, making it a playground for those who enjoy water sports and other outdoor recreation. But the pulse of Green Country can best be measured in booming downtown Tulsa — and it's an up beat. Throughout the area is the rich influence of oil.

This is the second in a series Oklahoma Today plans on different regions of the state. Only a sampling of the area’s many attractions are included.

COMING IN THE SUMMER ISSUE Are there any real working cowboys left? Oklahoma Today features the Contemporary Cowboy at work and at play along with other suggestions for summer fun in the next issue.
A larger-than-life golden eagle sculpture by Richard Ten Eyck perches above the Shangri-La entrance. Luxurious condominiums (left), the Golden Eagle Ballroom (center) and a championship 18-hole golf course make Shangri-La a favorite resort.

PARADISE
Oklahoma Style
There are no discos at Shangri-La. Or playgrounds.

It's miles to the nearest McDonalds, and visitors' attire runs more to ultra suede than to denim.

Shangri-La is a resort designed for luxurious vacationing by folks whose tastes run more to Saturday morning tee offs than to "Saturday Night Fever."

Not that children and young adults aren't welcome. Quite the contrary. However, this spectacular resort set on a jutting peninsula of eastern Oklahoma's Grand Lake o' the Cherokees definitely caters to the more mature.

Proof? Every night, year-round, under hundreds of twinkling lights in the resort's Golden Eagle Ballroom, couples indulge in a little nostalgia and dance to music reminiscent of Tommy Dorsey and Jan Garber. Big Band is alive and well and living at Shangri-La in the form of Forrest Wasson and his 12-piece orchestra.

Owner Charles Davis' philosophy is "you can't be all things to all people . . . so, at Shangri-La, we decided that we wanted to appeal to the upper income levels."

Davis has in mind the sort of vacationers who can hop in their private jets and wing their way to Shangri-La for a little first-rate relaxation and recreation. And to accommodate them, the former Wichita, Kan., industrialist built the resort's own private airport — the Golden Falcon Airpark, which

PHOTOS BY PAUL LEFEBVRE.

By Judith Wall

Judith Wall is a Norman free-lance writer.
is fully lighted and sports a 4,000-foot runway and instrument landing capabilities.

But it is not uncommon for families of more modest means to motor over in the old Chevy wagon, perhaps to take advantage of one of Shangri-La's package vacations.

The name of the resort, which is located 17 miles south of I-44's Afton exit, brings to mind the imaginary paradise depicted in James Hilton's novel, *Lost Horizons*, and the word has come to mean a remote, beautiful place where life approaches perfection.

And although Shangri-La's European, chalet-like architecture of native stone and rough timbers might seem a little incongruous with paradise, the isolated and beautiful setting, the splendid dining and wide range of recreational possibilities are more in keeping with the exotic name.

A night's lodging at Shangri-La ranges from $60 to $220 in accommodations varying from standard motel room to plush condominiums. The rooms are located in the main lodge and the nearby Golden Oaks Lodge. The condominiums hug the shoreline of Grand Lake and are clustered around a lovely, lavishly landscaped lagoon.

Dining is an occasion at Shangri-La with prices comparable to those in fine restaurants in the state's metropolitan areas. The resort's five beautifully appointed restaurants are overseen by a chef who has seen service at the world-famous Waldorf Astoria.
The resort's main dining area is the Angus Room which offers breakfast, lunch and dinner in a family atmosphere. The room's dinner menu includes steaks and seafood.

The fare in the Garden Room is prepared with the gourmet in mind, and the Cellar with its Sidewalk Cafe in the Tahitian Courtyard provides light fare and refreshment throughout the day.

The Tahitian Terrace with a flowing stream, waterfall, lush tropical foliage and live Polynesian music offers a South Seas flavor for its diners.

But it is the Golden Eagle Ballroom that symbolizes the “good-life” image of Shangri-La. To the tones of saxophones and muted trombones,
Lush foliage and soft South Pacific music add to the tropical atmosphere of the Tahitian Terrace. Diners can view swimmers at the adjoining indoor pool.

couples dine and dance in an unhurried atmosphere that features not only live music but a distinctive menu and elegant surroundings.

The resort's lodging and dining facilities have earned it Mobile Travel Guide's four-star rating and AAA's four-diamond award, but Shangri-La's main attraction is probably its 27-hole golf course (soon to be 36).

The prospect of golfing on a fine course while staying at an above-par resort attracts both weekend duffers and top-notch professionals and has made the Afton resort somewhat of a mecca for city-bound golfers. And no expense has been spared to make golfing at Shangri-La memorable. A crew of 25 caretakers maintains the course, which is kept lush and green by a complete underground watering system.

The course has been lauded in golfing magazines and serves as home course for touring pro Bruce Lietzke. Its rolling terrain offers a wide variety of lies, and the course is abundantly dotted with water and sand hazards. The stately trees and surrounding lake offer a scenic setting that would certainly place the course among the nation's most beautiful.

Oklahoma's mild weather has made the resort especially popular with golfers from more northern locales who find the private airport and interstate highway system make Shangri-La's nearly year-round golfing easily accessible.
In addition to golf, Shangri-La offers an ever-expanding repertoire of other attractions to fill its visitors' days and nights. The Golden Leaf Recreation Center features four indoor and four outdoor tennis courts — each of championship size with a cushioned plexipave surface. The recreation center also has a four-lane bowling alley and a game room.

There is a full-range of water sports available at Shangri-La centered around a modern marina which offers fishing, water skiing and excursion boats.

The Tahitian Health Spa is the place to go for a relaxing massage, and there are saunas and whirlpools to soothe the vacationing athlete after a day on the links or the courts.

Plans are under way to add 102 new rooms, handball courts and a beauty farm such as Neiman Marcus' famous Green Door in Dallas. Shangri-La's beauty farm will offer a staff of dietitians, beauticians and exercise specialists as well as a luxurious setting for milady to reduce, tone sagging muscles, and to receive facials, massages, manicures, pedicures, hair styling and makeup consultation.

The resort also has facilities for conventions, sales meetings, retreats, training seminars and other business meetings. Organizers of such meetings have discovered the desirability of a site which has lodging, food service, meeting rooms and recreation in one location. Shangri-La's Royal Hawaiian Conference Center can accommodate 600 and is equipped with the latest in audiovisual aids. Smaller meeting rooms are found in both the main lodge and the Golden Oaks Lodge.

Resort personnel are accustomed to arranging golf and tennis tournaments, fishing derbies and boating excursions for groups who choose Shangri-La as their meeting site.

The eyes of the nation will focus on Shangri-La in 1982, when the National Governors Conference will hold its annual meeting at the Grand Lake resort. The management of Shangri-La believes the conference will offer an excellent opportunity to show the rest of the country what fine vacationing is available in Oklahoma. According to George Overton, Shangri-La manager, the greatest obstacle in establishing a first-class resort in the Sooner state has been convincing people that Oklahoma is a desirable vacation site.

Visitors to Shangri-La not only enjoy a luxurious stay in a fine resort, but they also have the opportunity to visit some of the scenic and historic sites in Oklahoma's Green Country. One of the most popular attractions for summertime visitors is a tour of Har-Ber Village, which is just a boat ride across the lake from Shangri-La. The village is a faithful reproduction of an Early American settlement with a collection of relocated homes and stores and features thousands of antiques.

Antique collectors will find their own paradise on eastern Oklahoma's back roads. Many a farm house sports a weathered sign on its gate post announcing antiques are sold within.

The Will Rogers Memorial in Claremore is one hour to the west and has long been one of the state's foremost tourist attractions. To the south, the city of Tahlequah is the site of the internationally known "Trail of Tears" pageant depicting the tragic relocation of the Cherokees to Oklahoma. And historical Fort Gibson near Muskogee provides sightseeing with a historic bent. The old fort located there once housed such famous personages as Jefferson Davis, Sam Houston and Washington Irving.

So whether it is sightseeing, antique hunting, golfing, tennis, water sports or dancing to the big band — there is lots to do at Oklahoma's version of paradise.

Charles Davis celebrated his 10th year as owner of Shangri-La last summer, and during this 10-year span he has convinced lots of folks that Oklahoma and his resort are the perfect place to vacation. When he took it over in 1970, Shangri-La was a small motel patronized mainly by fishermen. Now his $30 million resort is a place fit for corporate presidents, oil magnates, entrepreneurs, governors and anyone who seeks a first class vacation — Unless they want to disco.
Lowrance fish locator units glow on the burn-in bench. All units are tested for eight hours before production is completed, and the fish finders are sold.

PHOTOS BY PAUL LEFEBVRE.

TULSA: TACKLE TOWN, USA

Tulsa civic and business leaders are quick to point out their oil and aviation industries, but it is less commonly known that Tulsa — and northeastern Oklahoma — is a leader in another multi-billion dollar business.

That business is fishing, or, more precisely, fishing tackle. Within the industry, Tulsa is known as “Tackle Town.”

As a leisure-oriented industry, fishing tackle manufacturing doesn't get the media attention shared by the big oil companies, airlines and aircraft manufacturers. But in this leisure-oriented nation, the tackle business accounts for a lot of jobs and for a sizeable chunk of the annual gross national product.

In the Tulsa area alone, nearly 1,500 people are involved in the making of rods, reels, lures, boats and other tackle items.

The largest single group among that number — more than 800 employees — work for a firm that got its start in the oil business making explosive devices for use in the oil patch.

In 1949 the Zero Hour Bomb Co. in Tulsa manufactured a bomb that exploded louder than all expectations. The reverberations from the new product are still echoing around the globe.

That was the year that ZHB, facing the expiration of its bomb patents and searching for a way to diversify, turned out the world's first spincast fishing reel. They called it a Zebco.

In the 31 years since, the bomb company has faded from existence. But Zebco, the tail that wagged the dog, became the world's largest manufacturer of fishing reels.

Among fishermen, from the greenest of beginners to the accomplished pros, the name Zebco is synonymous with spincast equipment. In 1979, 48 percent of all reels sold in the United States were spincast reels. Of that amount, 61 percent were Zebcos.

Zebco bought the spincast reel design from inventor R. D. Hull, then hired Hull in its design staff, a position he maintained until his death.

The key to spincast's popularity is its ease of operation. Backlash, the angler's curse, is virtually unheard of in a closed-face spincast reel.

Spincast's introduction opened rod-and-reel fishing to a whole new segment of the population. Children, women and men, who were frustrated with untangling or cutting “bird-nests” out of their casting reels, welcomed the homely new invention.

Other reel manufacturers once scoffed at the Zebco, calling it a “beer can with a hole in both ends” and a “pencil sharpener on a rod.” But the last laugh was Zebco's.

In the 1950s there were many other U.S. reel makers. Today there are only...
two, and Zebco is by far the largest. Competition with imports, primarily Japanese, killed most of the other companies.

Zebco currently operates two plants with roughly a quarter-million square feet of space in Tulsa. Their 800-plus employees turn out some 20,000 reels a day. Zebco president John Charvat says an additional 300 to 400 people including materials suppliers, contractors and others in Tulsa depend on Zebco for their livelihood.

Included in the product line are some 26 models of reels and 45 models of rods as well as a pocket-sized scale and tape measure called a “De-Liar.”

Zebco was purchased in 1961 by Brunswick Corp., a conglomerate that also owns Mercury Marine. Mercury has a manufacturing plant in Stillwater making electric trolling motors and Mercruiser Inboard/Outboard engines.

While Zebco is the oldest, and still the largest, fishing tackle manufacturer in Tulsa, it is far from being the only one.

More than a dozen area businesses manufacture tackle. The number is much larger if one counts the many cottage-industry-sized operations where individuals custom-build fishing rods or man-and-wife teams turn out lures and other small products.

Lowrance Electronics, now 24 years old, is, like Zebco, the undisputed leader in its field. Lowrance makes sonar equipment for sportfishing and marine navigation systems.

With approximately 325 employees, the firm makes some 25 products ranging from digital read-out depth meters to fish finders that draw pictures of the fish beneath one’s boat.

Lowrance’s domination of the sonar market is strong, says company spokesman Thayne Smith. About 40 companies manufacture sportfishing sonar equipment, but Lowrance alone has some 45 percent of the market.

Its most recent innovation is the graph recorder fish finder. These devices send out sonar signals which bounce off the bottom of the ocean, lake or river. The fisherman or boat pilot can “see” the shape of the bottom, including any submerged obstructions or sunken objects, as they are drawn on the paper graph.

Lowrance’s latest graph recorders are so sensitive they can show a fishing lure jigged beneath the boat or even the thermocline (the depth at which the sun-warmed surface water meets the colder lower waters). This is a real boon to deep-water fishermen who troll in open waters on big lakes because many fish seek out this layer for its optimum combination of oxygen and temperature.

Lowrance still makes many depth sounders that interpret their signals as flashes of light or audible sounds. The various models are designed for either shallow waters (down to 30 feet) or deep ocean waters.

Another Tulsa-based success story in the fishing tackle industry was written by a fisherman named Don Butler. Ten years ago, Butler began manufacturing a highly effective bass lure, known as a spinnerbait.

Searching for a catchy name for his lures, Butler took his cue from then-Gov. Dewey Bartlett’s OKIE (Oklahoma — Key to Industry & Enterprise) campaign and called them Okiebugs.

Okiebug spinnerbaits have proven themselves as fish-catchers. Professional and amateur anglers alike have dunked thousands of Okiebugs in bass lakes throughout the United States, Mexico and Cuba, reeling them in with a lot of bass attached.

Butler opened a successful retail outlet for his lures and other fishing tackle in Tulsa, and the Tulsa Okiebug store is now the flagship of a chain of such stores.

For several years, Butler had a second and related career as a professional bass tournament fisherman. In 1972 he won the most prestigious bass tournament in the nation, the BASS Masters Classic.

Following an accident, Butler sold a major portion of his business to partner Larry Skelton in early 1980. Skelton now runs the firm while Butler “field tests” his lures at Grand Lake where he has a home.

While boats may not be fishing tackle exactly, Tulsa manufacturers can also fill the needs of the boating angler.

Several boat makers are in northeastern Oklahoma (Hunter Boats in Pryor, Kenzie Kraft in Broken Arrow, Quapaw Canoes in Quapaw, Webcraft Marine in Collinsville, etc.), but one of the newest is in Tulsa.

Interceptor Marine Products Inc., founded in early 1980 by Dewain Carney and Dave Smith, manufactures several models of boats geared to the energy-conscious 1980s.

Their first model, called a Game Tracker, is a scaled-down bass fishing boat. With aerated live-wells, casting platforms and all the other trimmings associated with big, gas-guzzling craft, the Tracker performs the same tasks but at much less cost.

The 10-foot mini-boat will carry two fishermen and their tackle and scoot them across the water at 20 to 25 miles an hour with a 15-horsepower outboard. With one person in the boat, a 9.9-horsepower motor pushed one test boat to 25 mph. A slightly larger boat, rated for 25 horsepower, will be marketed in early 1981.

The little craft can cruise all day on a six-gallon gas tank, using about one-fourth as much fuel as conventional fishing rigs.

Many other tackle makers are in and around Tulsa, ranging from the Ketch-Um Sporting Goods Co. which makes hook sharpeners and fish measuring boards to the C & G Tackle Co. which makes heavy-duty fish stringers. Add to that the rod-builders, other lure makers, fabricators of knot-tying devices and other gadgets and the list grows long.

It’s not hard to figure out why Tulsa has become Tackle Town. Like much of Oklahoma, it offers a dependable labor force and other resources necessary for productive, efficient industry.

But it also offers what many industrial centers cannot. With Lakes Keystone, Oologah, Port Gibson, Webbers Falls, Tenkiller, Hudson and Grand nearby, not to mention more than a dozen smaller lakes, a tackle tester doesn’t have far to go to put his equipment through its paces.

TACKLE TOWN
Bike The Pathfinder Parkway:

THE BARTLESVILLE CONNECTION

On the banks of the Caney River from a trickle of oil gushed a prosperous Oklahoma town throbbing with oil rigs. They called it Bartlesville and some say the town was never born, “it just growed.”

Today this city of 35,000 is a testament to the oil barons who built its skyline and also to the people who live there — people who keep Bartlesville growing larger and better.
Elaine Burkhardt is assistant editor of OK Magazine, The Tulsa World.

A few years ago when a stranger asked to see the sights, Bartlesville natives would point toward the center of town, which cradles the city's oil rich history. Or they'd tell him to keep heading down SH 123 to Woolaroc, a museum packed with western history, art and general Americana as well as a spectacular wildlife refuge.

But Bartians now point proudly toward the Pathfinder Parkway, a bikepath originally conceived as a Bi-centennial project to connect all the city parks.

So it's spring, and if you're heading toward Bartlesville, what better time to take the natives' advice? Bike through Bartlesville to see the sights, starting, of course, with the Pathfinder Parkway.

The ride begins in Johnstone Park on one of three bikepaths. The park itself is surrounded on three sides by the Caney River, and you'll spot joggers on a path that skirts the park's perimeter.

Johnstone Park stands in the shadow of its namesake, the Nellie Johnstone, a replica of Oklahoma's first commercial oil well that was brought in during the spring of 1897. Until 1950 the well was still pumping one-fourth barrel daily, but it was later considered a fire hazard and plugged with cement. This well marks Bartlesville's beginnings in oil and brought men like Frank Phillips and Harry Sinclair here.

Before you pedal away from Johnstone Park, look at the large display of names at the entrance. Those are the people who contributed more than half of the parkway's $200,000 projected cost. The other 45 percent was financed by various government sources. So when you ride down this bikepath and notice it's as clean as a freshly swept sidewalk, it's because those private donors have as much pride in that path as parents in children.

Riding the Pathfinder Parkway is a delight and one of those places you need to experience to appreciate.

You can imagine breezing through the woods where wildflowers wash the hillsides, and dogwood and redbud flower in canopies above you. You can picture riding past mulberry bushes so thick that the path is stained purple in autumn when they fall. You can visualize stopping on a bridge to watch the Caney River below you or looking far into the sunset where the city skyscrapers peer over the masses of trees. But being there is better.

Once on the path you might see a house or two camouflaged by brush, and especially in spring, you'll come across other bikers, walkers, joggers. But this is a retreat — not a bikepath that runs next to a busy street. This is a path that steers you away from it all.

It's not a tough ride, says Donna Rhoades, president of the recently formed Bartlesville Pedalers bike club, because there's really only one "killer hill." And there's no way to get lost, she explains. The parkway was declared a nature trail, so its route appears on state maps. Also, markers let you know just how far you've gone.

Mrs. Rhoades says the bike club also has outings planned for every weekend this spring, and everyone's welcome to come along.

The first section of the path is about six miles, and the other two sections are somewhat shorter. The second leg, about three miles, is also heavily wooded and starts in Robin Wood Park. And the third section, recently completed and more than a mile, starts at Will Rogers School, winds along Turkey Creek and ends in Sooner Park. This path, Mrs. Rhoades advises, is mainly for local use as it goes through neighborhoods.

Just one word of caution on all the paths: there are no lights. So head out of the woods well before dark.

If all this biking on the Pathfinder Parkway sounds idyllic, well it is. The only problem is how to connect the three existing paths. The beauty of the parkway now is that it never crosses a city street, and some of the proposed plans plot it not only across streets but through housing developments.

New paths, which will be integrated with the old, also are planned with most of the financing already secured, so bikers will be able to enjoy continuing routes.
When you tire of pedaling along the parkway, turn toward town and find out why Bartlesville has been called "headquarters hometown." The city bears the massive imprint of the Phillips Petroleum Company, headquartered there since Frank Phillips founded it in 1917 on $3 million and a dream.

Ride toward Phillips Plaza, a pedestrian mini-park completed in 1979 which is the nucleus of the Phillips complex. The feeling here is much the same as on Tulsa's downtown mall; it's a gathering place for a melting pot of people and activities from poetry reading to gymnastic exhibitions.

From the plaza, the Phillips Exhibit Hall is just a step away into Bartlesville's oil rich historical past. On the second floor the exhibit hall offers a panoramic view of this granddaddy oil company's diverse history, displaying everything from old cans of motor oil to models of complex drilling rigs.

Also in the area of Phillips Plaza is the Price Tower, a Frank Lloyd Wright-designed building tower 221 feet high. A study in architecture, the design is based on a diamond modular of 30 and 60 degree triangles. The tower was built in 1956 for Howard Price of H. C. Price Company (oil pipelines), but Wright dreamed up the design in the thirties for "a utopia-like city."

In the spirit of the Price Tower, a new community center is now under construction by the Frank Lloyd Wright Foundation and should be completed in December.

The new $10.5 million center will include an 1,800-seat theater, convention and meeting halls, according to William Peters, chief architect. The building's style will reflect a Frank Lloyd Wright influence but will be
sculptured and more ornate than the Price Tower.

Phillips built his dream home just down the road from town. Pedal next to this Bartlesville landmark where you can still smell success on the front porch. The Phillips' Mansion, built by Jane and Frank Phillips in 1908, was one of the first in Oklahoma to be financed with oil money. It was elegant, equipped with accoutrements like a Turkish bath, a refrigerator in Phillips' bathroom as well as a handmade chair where Phillips routinely met his barber for a shave at 6 a.m. each day.

Phillips chose to make his home in Bartlesville, but Woolaroc was his retreat and now his legacy. The 4,000 acre ranch sprawls in the Blackjack hills, 14 miles southwest of Bartlesville down SH 123. The highway is fairly level with limited traffic, and a trip to Woolaroc was the first outing organized by the Bartlesville Pedalers.

If you decide to bike there, however, a car must meet you at the gate to avoid the masses of roaming wildlife which include buffalo, oriental silka deer, shaggy red cattle, Brahma cows, peacocks and ostriches. The museum itself has been called the “cultural storehouse of a region and the biographical story of a man.” Its contents are as varied as the patches of wildflowers that cover the surrounding land.

And how appropriate to end your view of Bartlesville from over the handlebars with a trip to Woolaroc. Here, the man who began what is now the state's largest business, once entertained the famous, men such as Harry Truman, Herbert Hoover and Will Rogers. And today, Woolaroc is recognized as one of the state's finest museums.
Oil Companies Re-Shape Skyline

DOWNTOWN TULSA

BECOMES PEOPLE-WATCHING,
Cardboard cereal boxes masqueraded as skyscrapers. Celery stalks were "planted" as trees and bushes. And convenient piles of dirt filled in the necessary "landscaping" contours.

The year was 1972 and the "sandbox architects" were business and civic leaders who, under the guidance of San Francisco consultants, used these elemental props to "get the feel" of how to bring Tulsa's downtown back to life.

Fueled by $2.8 million in urban renewal funds, the project was completed by 1978. Builders and bureaucrats called it The Central Tulsa Pedestrian Way.

But for the thousands of Tulsans who work downtown, it's quite simply The Main Mall. It's a people-watching, people-participating and most of all people-pleasing seven-block promenade reclaimed from traffic snarls and auto pollution and turned over to trees and seasonal blooms, benches and glass-topped arcades, brick walkways and a spectacular three-tiered fountain.

But mostly turned over to people. When the clock strikes noon, it's humanity in review. And downtown Tulsa steps to a special beat.

Three to four times a week when the weather's fine, Downtown Tulsa Unlimited coordinates lunchtime entertainment on The Main Mall. But the best show in town needs no special scheduling. High noon on The Main Mall raises the curtain on street the-
DOWNTOWN TULSA

ater at its finest.

There are the regulars. The Bible-thumping, street corner preacher, as reliable as the noon hour itself, intones his hell-fire and brimstone message to a congregation that changes with each traffic light. And the stone-faced old man, dapper in a starch-crisp Hawaiian shirt, stands motionless for the hour absorbing the noon day heat.

To fortify all this activity, ethnic eateries have boomed. Downtowners still line up for old favorites — chicken fried steak and "Coneys." But they're just as likely to be scarfing down Japanese yakitori, German bratwurst, Lebanese tabouli, fish and chips or that comer of an American specialty, the baked potato with exotic toppings.

The past three years have proved The Main Mall a success in countering suburban sprawl and keeping retail establishments downtown. But the revival of downtown shouldn't be surprising. Although incorporated less than a century ago, Tulsa has proved itself an adaptable town.

The Creek Indians, the original Tulsans, put it on the map as "Tulsey Town," the journey's end on the Trail of Tears; cattlemen quickly made the downtown a trading center; railroad workers, a transportation center. And finally, wildcatters, investors and drillers arrived. They struck black gold and quickly christened Tulsa the Oil Capital of the World.

Tulsa became a wealthy town, and its downtown flourished. It was the place to work, shop, socialize — until the Fifties and the boom of the suburbs. By the late Fifties, Sears left its downtown location for greener pastures on South Yale Avenue. The handwriting seemed to be on the urban wall.

City fathers knew something needed to be done. But it wasn't until the Seventies and a unique partnership between government and private industry that downtown was pulled up by its boot straps.

For all its delights, The Main Mall has another important function — connecting Tulsa's Civic Center and government buildings with the other dynamo behind downtown's revival, the $200-million Williams Center, one of the largest privately financed urban renewal projects in the country.

To many Tulsans, the center is "The Miracle of Third Street." Once the site of Tulsa's earliest mercantile establishments, this nine-block area of central downtown north of Third Street had rotted into urban decay.

Third Street was a physical and psychological barrier, but by 1978 the
Williams Center smashed it. Surrounding the “centerpiece building,” the 52-story Bank of Oklahoma Tower, the center also includes the 400-room Williams Plaza Hotel, the Williams Center Forum (a shopping and entertainment center), a two and one-half acre park and the Performing Arts Center.

Robert A. Curnutt, general manager of the Williams Center Forum, calls the center a “carefully orchestrated mixed-use development.”

After two-plus years of living with the results, the downtown work force and an increasing number of other Tulsans rediscovering downtown simply call it FUN.

The Williams Center is much more than first class office space. It’s first class shopping, entertainment and dining. Not to mention indoor tennis, swimming and ice skating plus a gem of a park where the greenery and the flowers change with the seasons.

In short, it’s an intown resort with something for everyone — Tulsa’s top attraction and a weekend get-away for other Oklahomans.

Not only did the Williams Plaza Hotel help bring Tulsa’s social and entertainment center back downtown, it is one of only 43 hotels in the United States, Canada and Mexico to receive the American Automobile Association’s coveted Five Diamond Award.

The Forum is the largest single retail investment in Tulsa’s history, Curnutt says. Built on three levels, the trendy shopping center revolves around The Ice, a gigantic, sky-lit year-round ice skating rink that is turning countless Tulsans into newborn Hans Brinkers — particularly as the summer mercury camps over the century mark.

And since shopping and skating work up an appetite, in addition to several higher priced restaurants in the Williams Center, The Ice is ringed with international cafeteria-style eateries where everything from pastry and pastrami to egg rolls and enchiladas can be carried to rink-side tables to watch the show of flashing blades.

If the revitalization of downtown was a dual project of the public and private sector, there’s no better object lesson than the crowning jewel of the Williams Center, the Performing Arts Center.
**DOWNTOWN TULSA**

Center.

Debuting March 1977 to sell-out crowds and Ella Fitzgerald in concert with the Tulsa Philharmonic, the center has since hosted everything from Bach to boogie and grand opera to Grand Old Opry. With four separate performing areas, it is unique in the central portion of the United States.

But it takes a true Tulsan to appreciate the new Performing Arts Center. Previously, cultural events were staged at the Municipal Theater on Brady Street, dubbed the "Old Lady of Brady." The theater, always in ear's range of the railroad tracks, had been shared with matches of fisticuffs, gospel revivals and beauty contests. But best of all, the stage was tilted one foot toward the audience. The designers reasoned the ticket buyers could get a better view, but tell that to Madame Pavlova who pirouetted to the front only to have to climb back to stage center, or the professional roller skater who almost found himself a member of the orchestra.

The big chance for change came in 1973 when Mrs. Leta A. Chapman of the oil-rich Chapman family announced that her family would pledge $3.5 million, and John Williams of the Williams Companies, a diversified energy resource company, would raise another $3.5 million if the city would match the $7 million through a bond issue.

The voters approved.

Tulsa is no longer the Oil Capital of the World, but in keeping with the legacy of the title, oil and energy-related companies continue to mold the Tulsa skyline.

Adding to that "Miracle of Third Street," the Williams Companies has already broken ground for two 16- and 23-story office towers of bronze glass and natural bright aluminum on the west side of the Williams Center.

Getty Refining and Marketing Co. is constructing a second 13-story tower at Boulder Avenue and 15th Street.

And in this cordial battle of the buildings, Cities Service Co., which moved its corporate headquarters to Tulsa from New York in 1974, broke ground last October for a spectacular, polished granite and bronze $150 million skyscraper at Boulder and 5th Street. At 712 feet, it will be Oklahoma's tallest building. The Main Mall will link it to the Williams Center.

The dollar signs are impressive: $200 million mixed use developments; $150 million corporate headquarters; $21 million mecca for culture. But the real story downtown is still the Tulsans who've embraced it.

All during the revitalization process, the average Tulsa has taken a personal — sometimes very vocal — interest in how his downtown was reshaped.

The center of The Main Mall is a three-tiered fountain designed to re-collect water rushing through the Oklahoma countryside. Its designers decreed it a "participatory fountain," and Tulsans, liking the concept, took to it like ducks to water, wading, soaking feet and indulging in an occasional hot weather dunk.

And when local artist Jim Corlett painted a 140 by 35-foot scape of branches called "Trees" on a Main Mall wall, that, too, got the popular OK.

Through their active concern in what goes, in three short years Tulsans have given their downtown a host of new traditions far beyond the daily show at noon.

Long after they've slipped out of their office gear, downtowners are bringing their families back downtown to sample the songs and spices of the September Blue Grass and Chili Cook-off Festival and to run in the November Tulsa Run which attracts athletes from all over the country.

The Sunday after Thanksgiving is the day to head for the holiday-decked Williams Center Forum to herald in the Christmas season with a performance by the Tulsa Philharmonic staged on The Ice. Not long after, it's time for caroling and the lighting of the Christmas tree on The Main Mall.

This spring will bring the annual Frog Jumping Contest and on May 14-17, MayFest, an arts and crafts extravaganza that attracts more than 300,000 people.

For countless Tulsans, downtown is more than just a place to work. It's become a second neighborhood. OKLAHOMA TODAY
FOLKS CAN FEAST ON INDIAN FOOD AT RED CORN'S HA-PAH-SHU-TSE

Raymond Red Corn

When the Osage Indians ceded their Kansas land to the United States government, they were given by treaty the present Osage County to have and hold "as long as water flows, grass grows and fire burns."

Raymond Red Corn's ancestors lived in the heart of Osage county then. Today he and his wife, Waltlena, cook and serve Osage Indian food.

Travelers on SH 11 can spot their sign, Ha-Pah-Shu-Tse (Red Corn), as they enter Pawhuska's Main Street. It promises Indian delicacies prepared by a veteran feast cook and a painless history lesson for customers with curiosity.

The restaurant has attracted customers from all sections of Oklahoma, many other states and some foreign countries. It is a favorite spot for Tulsa and Bartlesville residents who like to introduce eastern and northern visitors to American Indian cuisine.

"Until we opened the Red Corn, the only way people got a taste of authentic Indian food was to know a tribe member and get invited into their home," Waltlena said.

The Red Corns launched their current business eight years ago after much talk of merchandising fry bread because "young people don't know our cooking any more."
So many people were turning to convenience foods, the Red Corns decided this was the most logical way to sell Indian bread to the public.

There was no specific recipe for the bread mix when the Red Corns began to market it. Waltena had previously used a favorite mixing bowl and intuition to measure “a pinch of this or a blob of that.”

Her recipe contains flour, sugar, salt, baking powder and shortening which she blended, mixed and packaged by hand until February of last year. Today there is a monthly demand for 15,000 pounds of the mix.

The Red Corns use the mix in their kitchen for fry bread, meat pies and dumplings.

Meat pies originally were made of venison, although today Waltena uses a “good grade of ground chuck from a market over in Fairfax.” The meat filling is wrapped in thinly rolled fry bread dough. As the pies are baked, the juices are absorbed by the dough, creating a rich crust.

Typically, wild grapes are used for the purple dumplings. But because of the scarcity of such grapes as well as labor to gather them, Waltena has improvised. “A bottle of Welch’s grape juice works as well,” she says.

Fry bread, meat pies and soups made from lily root, Indian corn, and hominy are familiar to older Indians but for many others they are new experiences in dining. The Osage soups are traditionally thin but the broth is rich. Indian corn is coarser than sweet corn and it has a robust flavor. The lily root soup, or ya-kah-pi, has a more delicate flavor.

Each tribe has its own preferences in taste. Some like hot and spicy food. Others like it mild. “Osage people were not oven people because they traveled. They cooked over an open fire and didn’t have access to many spices,” Waltena says.

“A lot of people think of Indian food as something with ashes in it and not particularly clean,” she says. “I am able to show them differently.”

Waltena, who claims “little or no Indian blood,” says she has been an Osage for 48 years—since she and Raymond were married. She is a surprise to customers who expect to find a fullblood Osage behind the counter.

When they married, Raymond cooked the Indian foods. But soon, as they went to powwows, festivals and feasts, Waltena learned to prepare the Osage recipes.

In the 1920s and early 1930s the Osages were oil rich, and feasts were frequent and lavish, she remembers.

Feast cooks usually prepared meat from cows, hogs, turkeys, chickens and a variety of vegetables. Candied squash was her specialty, and she cooks it today for her restaurant.

Because of rising costs and changing lifestyles, special feasts are becoming a vanishing tradition. But the Red Corns occasionally serve small breakfasts at the restaurant for a “child naming” celebration, observed when a child is given an Indian name.

Raymond first served fry bread to the public in 1929 when he attended a World Scout Jamboree in England. Baden Powell, founder of the Boy Scouts, brought King George VI and the Prince of Wales out to the encampment for a visit. Red Corn offered some fry bread to the king. He remembers the king liked it so well he invited the Indians to visit Buck-
By Camille Sartain

ingham Palace and Windsor Castle.
The restaurant has tables and chairs for 40 but the Red Corns have managed to accommodate busloads of school children and tourists into the two dining areas.

A tape recording of a tribal dance provides background music in the renovated filling-station. Dining rooms are decorated with old Indian photographs and pictures. Burlap curtains with bright ribbonwork and large plants hang from the windows.

The atmosphere is informal with small talk over the counter and customers who occasionally carry their plates back to the kitchen.

The Red Corns believe the Ha-Pah-Shu-Tse restaurant is the only one in the country serving Native American food full-time. Hours are 8:30 a.m. to 6 p.m., Monday through Saturday. Oil leases are sold three times a year in the Osage Indian Tribal Museum (above), which also contains an Osage art gallery and artifacts. Originally built as a chapel, the building was opened as a museum in 1938. A bell from an early day Pawhuska school sits in front of the Osage County Society Museum (below). Both museums are within walking distance of the Ha-Pah-Shu-Tse restaurant.
To Escape The Crowds

Eastern Oklahoma’s super-abundance of new water in the past three decades has greatly changed the face of outdoor recreation in this state.

Now we enjoy a tremendous variety of water sports in a state that has made a remarkable come-back from the dark days of the dust bowl. Water recreation, in all its many different forms, is a big, big part of Oklahoma’s economy, and has brought us quality...
boating, fishing, sailing, and some forms of hunting, all within close driving range.

Most of this is comprised of big, man-made lakes. And this recreation is fine. It has its place in today’s world; our state would be a lot poorer without it.

But many are also looking for spots to get away from the crowds, the regular traffic jams you will find at a popular lake in the prime outdoor months.

You can see this on any given weekend. From early spring to late fall in eastern Oklahoma, thousands of vehicles towing boats headed for the big lakes will be joined here and there by a car or two, maybe in a little convoy, carrying their craft lashed on top. Most likely, they will be carrying canoes, heading for a float trip on any number of wonderful streams out there.

The huge lakes that shine like mirrors on a bright spring day in the eastern woodlands are laced together by rippling ribbons of water. The creeks and rivers of the eastern part of the state are being discovered by new fans of canoeing and floating each season.

In spite of the great rise in popularity of this outdoor sport, you still won’t see one-tenth the people on a float trip that you will at a big lake’s camping and recreation areas.

The rougher the terrain, the more isolated the streams, the more you’ll truly return to nature.

The diversity of streams available to a floating enthusiast in this state is surprising. Here are brief looks at streams and rivers, all of which we have personally floated, and what you can expect to find there.

The Illinois River means floating to literally thousands in Oklahoma. More folks enjoy canoeing on this great river than probably all other streams in Oklahoma combined.

But in all honesty, this is not the place to go if you want to get away from crowds which may have driven you from your favorite lake. But if you have never tried canoeing and just want to enjoy a day in the hot sun with the comradeship of a big group of friends, this is the place.

Canoeing has become big business on the Illinois in the past 15 years or so. More than 3,000 rental canoes are available during the peak summer season. The number of outfitters and resorts along the river changes from year to year, but it’s expected around 20 or so will be open for business when spring days start drawing floaters out for a day on the river.

Floating the Illinois is easy, and in most cases safe. Canoe outfitters furnish everything needed; all you have to do is show up. It’s a convenient, delightful way to spend a day in the great outdoors.

Most places charge anywhere from $5 to $10 per person for a float that will put you on the water for five to six hours. They’ll take you up the stream, unload canoes, put you in the water, and you float back down to their place located right on the banks of the stream.

This stretch of the Illinois is only a few miles northeast of Tahlequah on SH 10. Many of the resorts now offer sleeping accommodations, or there are motels back in town. If you like to camp, many fine camping sites are along the river, and Tenkiller State Park is close by, too.

The lower Illinois is a different scene. Here, water pouring from the bottom of Lake Tenkiller is cold year-round, and this is one of only two streams in Oklahoma that offer trout fishing. About four years ago a new canoe operation opened. It offers the opportunity to see a pretty river and perhaps catch a mess of trout. Floaters should check water conditions as this stretch can see great fluctuations in swiftness and water depth.

Two other streams that join the upper Illinois are great for floating,
particulariy in early spring. The Baron Fork is a superb smallmouth bass stream. Flint Creek is much smaller but still has some beautiful scenery. Both of these streams will require do-it-yourself operations but definitely belong on your list.

The Spring River is the last major float you can enjoy before leaving Oklahoma's far northeast corner. This stream flows into Grand Lake and also has tremendous fishing. There's a fairly new operation going here, offering some nice floats of widely varying lengths and durations. This is a particularly good summertime stream, when catfishing is excellent in its clear, cool water.

The “sleeper” for challenging, remote floats is enchanting Lee's Creek, north of Sallisaw. This strictly do-it-yourself stream will take some planning, scouting and quite a bit of driving to set up a float.

Lee's Creek has been the site of battles concerning a proposed dam, but as of now it still flows unhindered. This is one of the best streams anywhere for quality fishing, and it will take you into country where you'll be far removed from habitation. It enters Oklahoma north of the tiny community of Short in Sequoyah County, makes a big loop through this rugged part of Green Country and flows into the Arkansas River Navigation System near Fort Smith.

For the serious canoeist and float-fisherman, southeast Oklahoma remains a special, intriguing area.

Clear, fish-filled streams course down through the Kiamichi mountains, and transport floaters through some of the grandest vistas in Oklahoma.

The Glover River, flowing due south through the mountains of McCurtain County, and the Little River, west of Broken Bow, are both streams reached off SH 37.

The Mountain Fork River in McCurtain County is an easier operation since SH 259 runs close by in many areas, aiding access. Beavers Bend State Park is right on the river, one of the most scenic camping areas and a perfect spot to headquarter a float outing.

Only one float outfitter now works in southeast Oklahoma. He specializes in fishing trips on the upper Mountain Fork and some smaller creeks in the area. He uses johnboats, which many natives in that country prefer for a float-fishing trip. Canoes, however, are really perfect for these streams.

The southeast, though, is not the place to try your hand for the first time in a canoe.

For that, take a leisurely float along the Illinois, perhaps the Baron Fork, on one of those wonderful, wine-sharp early spring days as redbuds and dogwood are standing out along towering bluffs like jewels in a just-awakening landscape.

When's the best time to float these streams? Spring is a great time as you'll likely see a lot of wildlife, such as deer, raccoons, squirrels, all out moving around and enjoying the first warming sun of a late March afternoon.

If you enjoy fishing, don't forget a light little spinning rod and a small packet of reliable stream lures. The angling can be superb in many of these streams.

The lure of floating, whether in a shiny new canoe or rusty old johnboat, goes far beyond what you will see, photograph, or maybe catch. It's an emotional release from the tensions of today's high-pressure world.

Whether our float was a short, swift
one, or a long day of fishing from daylight to full dark, we’re never really tired at journey’s end. Rather, we’re rejuvenated, refreshed and most often inspired and stimulated by what we’ve experienced that day. And ready to go again? Most definitely.

Some final tips.

Good maps are vital if you’re planning an outing on your own in fairly remote country. Topographic maps from the U.S. Geological Survey are the best. If you don’t have those, start with a recent Oklahoma highway map and then try to pinpoint the area you’ll be floating.

If the stream impounds a major lake or feeds into one, most likely a new U.S. Army Corps of Engineer’s map of that reservoir will be a help. The Corps’ Tulsa District Headquarters has maps of its impoundments.

The Oklahoma Wildlife Federation in Norman has published many excellent maps on state floating streams along with articles describing the area.

Here’s a list of float outfitters and canoe rentals that are slated to be in business this spring:

- The upper Illinois River: For a complete list, along with other information on tourism in that area, write the Tahlequah Chamber of Commerce, 311 S. Muskogee, Tahlequah, OK 74464. 918-456-3742.
- The lower Illinois River: Tenkiller Valley Ranch, Box 231, Gore, OK 74435. 918-489-5895.
- The Spring River: Blue Hole Canoe Floats, Inc., Route 1, Quapaw, OK 74363. 918-542-4962.
- The Mountain Fork River: John Benge Floats, Smithville, OK 74957. 405-244-3284.
Take the spectacle of a three-ring circus, the clamor of a country auction, the hospitality of a down-home barbecue, and the grandeur of an antique automobile museum, and you have the makings of an annual Oklahoma event.

The James C. Leake antique and classic automobile auction is held every June in Tulsa's I.P.E. building in Expo Square. Those summer days are busier than an old time tent revival. More than 500 antique cars roll across the auctioneer's block. Nearly 30,000 people attend from every state and from Japan, England, Mexico, Canada, Australia and Europe. Almost $3 million in sales changes hands.

The action is fast. Cars sell at an average of two a minute.

For sightseers, the $4 admission price is one of the best entertainment bargains in town. You can eat hotdogs, popcorn and have soft drinks. You can browse among the gleaming Rolls Royces or T-birds. You can star gaze, watching for celebrities such as Paul Newman, Pat Boone or Kris Kristofferson, who slip into the auction unannounced.

For antique car collectors, the Tulsa auction has become "the one you don't miss." Author Clive Cussler ('Raise the Titanic') is a collector from Denver who recently bought a 1925 Isotta Fraschini at the Leake auction.
Cussler explains that the three biggest auctions in America have been at Auburn, Ind.; Scottsdale, Ariz., and Tulsa. Over the years, however, the auctions at Auburn and Scottsdale have diminished. "They are not run with the same class," he said. "Now, Tulsa's auction is the biggest and best in the world."

The auction begins with a sumptuous preview party that looks like a Cecil B. DeMille epic. The night before the auction opens, 4,000 invited guests arrive for cheese, fresh fruit, homemade barbecue and drinks.

Both the auction and the party are Leake family productions.

For the party, all the food, drink and decorations have been bought and arranged by the James C. Leake (pronounced lake) family. As daughter Nancy Leake Sevenoaks explained, "Big Jim thinks if you are going to do it right, you have to do it yourself. He believes you ought to go first class."

Leake's right-hand man, Ben Zeigler, who is known to everyone as "Hollywood," has been holed up in a smokehouse over the Memorial Day weekend cooking 1,000 pounds of beef and 6,000 pounds of hot links. Nancy has ordered 5,000 buns and has bought all the fresh fruit. Jim Leake, Jr. has bought the rest.

The family works all day trans-
ASSIC gg;~;;
CARS shows, into a gay,
colorful party room
decorated with 250
pots of yellow and
white chrysanthemums. They tie
bright balloons to barbershop poles,
tape crisp tablecloths to banquet-size
tables, and lay out hundreds of wine
glasses.

That evening, Leake presides over
the party like a knighted Southern
colonel. Wearing a white suit and his
Oklahoma Hall of Fame medal on a
wide ribbon around his neck, he is the
epitome of a Southern gentleman. If
he drank, and he doesn’t, he would
be sipping a mint julep.

His friends call him Jimmy; his em-
ployees call him The Chief; his
daughter calls him Big Jim. Even
Leake, however, is not the center of
attention at this shimmering three-day
show.

The most lavish cars ring the party
area like grande dames in regal finery — a cream 1937 Packard town car
built for Mae West, a purple 1930
Cadillac Madam X Imperial Limou-
sine, a 1951 Rolls Royce Silver Wraith,
a red 1979 Ferrari Boxer.

These beauties, with classic lines
from different eras, are what the fuss
is all about.

The thrill of an auction, says Nancy
Leake Sevenoaks, is the unexpected.
Anything can happen at a Leake an-
tique car auction.

Comedian Paul Linde bought a
Bentley. Pat Boone tried to, but
didn’t bid high enough.

A 14-year-old girl was the youngest
person to buy a car.

Jess Odom, owner of Dogpatch
U.S.A., bought nine cars for his own
car museum, including a 1956 Rolls
Royce Silver Wraith for $26,000, which
had belonged to British actor Laurence
Harvey.

A Reno, Nev., man paid $35,000 for
a 1959 Minerva Cabriolet that had
been owned by Gypsy Rose Lee.

A dark, handsome young man, iden-
tified only as one of the wealthiest
scions in Mexico, bought two Bentleys
and a Mercedes-Benz and took them
away on his private railroad car.

A classic 1933 Isotta Fraschini sport
phaeton sold for $110,000 to a man
who “just wanted to get his wife a
nice present.”

An Oklahoma City man had the
_distinction of paying the lowest price
at one auction, $100 for an unrestored
1940 Austin Devon sedan.

A man in his 60s bought a museum
— 26 cars and a trailer for $207,350.

A Muskogee banker, who said he
got carried away with the heat of the
moment, bought two cars for $40,000
—and never drove them.

“Unlikely people and impulsive
buying,” said Nancy Sevenoaks. “That
is part of the excitement of an auc-
tion.”

The speed of the sales and the wit
of auctioneer Dean Kruse intensify
the action.

“The auctioneer once sold my Uncle
John a Chevy convertible for $4,000,”
Nancy said, “and he was fast asleep
at the time.”

The richest purchase of the 1980
auction was a 1930 Packard 734 Boa-
tail Speedster, which sold to an un-
identified Massachusetts man for
$155,000. The day before, a Cali-
fornia man paid $150,000 for a 1932
Packard Phantom.

“You only sell one or two at those
prices,” Nancy said. “Most of the cars
at the auction sell for $5,000-$10,000.”

The vintage cars steal the spotlight,
but the spirited sports cars (Ferrari,
Porsche, Lamborghini) sell like wild-
fire. Now, the younger generation of
car buyers has opened a new nostalgia
market for “collectors cars” such as
Thunderbirds, Mustangs and Corv-
ettes.

Antique cars are a better invest-
ment than diamonds, Leake once said.
“Yes,” his son, Jim, Jr., agreed, “they
can mine more diamonds, but they
can’t mine antique cars anymore.”

There is another charm that lures
buyers to antique cars. When Leake
drives the 1954 Humber Pullman lim-
ousine that belonged to Winston
Churchill, he feels a link with the
past. “I like history that drives on
four wheels and has a horn on it,” he
said.

Leake bought his first antique car,
a 1911 Rolls Royce Silver Ghost built
for the Maharaja of Mysore, in 1966.
Everyone thought he was crazy for
paying $27,000.

Someone asked him what he was
going to do with it.

“Start her up and drive her,” he
replied.

Today he has the largest private
collection of Rolls Royces and Bent-
leys in the world. They are the nucleus
of the Antiques, Inc., museum in Mus-
kogee, valued at $5 million. Approx-
imately 50,000 people visit the museum
each year.

Eight years ago, when the antique
car museum began to bulge, Leake
began the classic car auction. The cars
he keeps are not dusty museum pieces.
He still starts them up and drives
them, a different car every week or so.

The 1911 “Maharaja” Rolls runs so
silently one could set a glass of cham-
pagne on the hood and it would not
even ripple.

The driveable history in the An-
tiques, Inc., museum ranges from a
1955 Daimler owned by England’s
Queen Mother to the “Okie” car of
the Dustbowl era, complete with a
whiskey still, mattress and rubber
With a body made of German silver, the Gray Star of India is the most expensive car in the world. Built for the Maharaja of Rewa, the Daimler was used for parades and hunting white tigers. Note the cobra snake horns and the gold and enamel crests on the doors designed by Cartier. Two shooting seats are mounted on the outside. It is on display at Antiques, Inc.

Photo by Paul Lefebvre.
When Leake was a Lincoln County farm boy, by his own estimate chopping 5,000 miles of cotton and plowing 10,000 miles of corn rows, he dreamed of owning a 1924 Buick that a prosperous neighbor drove.

Today Leake is a wealthy Muskogee businessman who owns the Razor Clam gourmet restaurant in Tulsa, and television stations in Tulsa, Little Rock and Puerto Rico. He is an enthusiastic promoter of Oklahoma recreation and tourism.

At 65 Leake says he has never had a boring day in his life. And he has no intention of inviting one by retiring.

The Ninth Annual Classic, Antique, Special Interest (famous owners) and Sports Cars Auction will be held June 5, 6 and 7, 1981.

It will be done the way Big Jim likes to see things done — with style.

In 1978, an escaping prisoner from the Muskogee jail stole a Rolls Royce Silver Cloud from the antique automobile museum and used it for a get away car. In a high speed chase with police the prisoner rolled the $40,000 car, and the classic Rolls was demolished.

“At least he went first class,” Leake said.
It was quite a party!
Oklahoma Today's 25th anniversary celebration opened with Duane Jeffers of Tulsa's Discoveryland singing, "Oh, What A Beautiful Mornin'" — and it was.

Gov. George Nigh and former Gov. Raymond Gary made super talks, Donna Nigh cut the cake and the apple cider was chilled just right.

Our past contributors — writers, photographers and artists — came from all over the state, Kansas, Texas and even Chicago. And we had a good crowd to greet them.

Specially designed plaques went to Bill Burchardt, our former editor; Paul Lefebvre, who has been art and production director almost from the beginning, and to Gov. Gary, who started Oklahoma Today.

It was thrilling when the Discoveryland group sang "Oklahoma!" but best of all, everyone seemed to have a good time.

Tulsa will join in celebrating our anniversary with an exciting opening for Oklahoma Today's 25th Anniversary Cover Exhibit in the downtown Tulsa City-County Library. The program begins at noon on March 4. The exhibit, which hung in the Capitol during January, will be displayed there during March before touring other state libraries and museums.

A brunch preceding the opening will honor the magazine's past contributors.

The library also plans noon-time programs each Wednesday during March on travel and recreation in Oklahoma. Films and discussion sessions with representatives from the Oklahoma Tourism and Recreation Department will help their patrons decide on this summer's vacation.

** You're doin' fine, Oklahoma! 1907 Diamond Jubilee 1982 **

Top people from the film industry in Hollywood will be judges during the second annual Oklahoma Film Festival. The two-day festival begins May 29 at Western Hills Guest Ranch, near Wagoner.

Screenings of films are open to the public throughout the festival. More than 100 films competed for prizes last year.

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Oklahoma officially begins celebrating its 75th birthday on June 13 in commemoration of the Enabling Act that authorized admission of Oklahoma Territory as a single state. Congress passed the act on June 16, 1906, and the following year on Nov. 16 President Roosevelt proclaimed Oklahoma the 46th state.

The first stage of a trip that will retrace the flight around the world of Wiley Post and Harold Gatty is one of the most unusual activities planned for that weekend. The flight will celebrate the 50th anniversary of this famous trip. The three pilots are on the advisory board of the new Oklahoma Air Space Museum in Oklahoma City. Their Beechcraft Bonanza, which will leave Oklahoma City's Wiley Post Field June 13, has been named "The Spirit of Winnie Mae."

Future Farmers of America blitzed the state selling subscriptions to Oklahoma Today during National FFA Week, Feb. 21-28.

We think it's great that these young people are out bragging about their state and helping us spread the word about the fun places to go and interesting things to see in Oklahoma.
THE OKLAHOMA PETROLEUM INDUSTRY by Kenny A. Franks, Univ. of Okla. Press; $17.50. Published on the 75th anniversary of the discovery of Glenn Pool, Oklahoma's first major oil field, this complete history of the oil industry describes how some of the country's major oil companies evolved and the men who started them.

The successful completion of Oklahoma's first commercial well, the No. 1 Nellie Johnstone near Bartlesville, is described as a financial failure before Frank Phillips arrived and launched the Phillips Petroleum Co. in the area.

The excitement and danger in the early day search for oil in Cushing, Healdton, Seminole, Oklahoma City and other early day boomtowns is related. Runaway wells and devastating fires led to the development of technology.

The involvement of state and federal government began with leasing land owned by Indian nations and reached a climax when Gov. William Murray imposed martial law and closed down the oil fields. Contemporary government regulation is discussed.

Rare photographs illustrate the growth of the industry, from the first wood derrick to the modern offshore drilling rig.

WILL ROGERS' WEEKLY ARTICLES, Harding / Coolidge Year 1922-23, Vol. 1, edited by James M. Smallwood and Steven K. Gragert; Okla. State Univ. Press; $19.95. This is the first in a series of six volumes planned on Rogers' weekly syndicated newspaper columns.

Rogers' humorous writings allow insight into the news, special events and controversies during the administrations of Presidents Harding and Coolidge. He kids about Prohibition, laments Henry Ford's decision not to run for president and describes how the Prince of Wales beat him in polo.

CLIMBING THE MOUNTAIN by Travis Anthony; Harlo Press; $8.95. It is hard to set aside a book that describes the joys and hazards of teaching in small town Oklahoma schools during the 1940s. An autobiography, Anthony's amusing anecdotes range from his superintendent's disapproval over his failure to wear a necktie in town to his difficulties with getting a decent meal in that pre-fast food restaurant era.

He hitch-hiked to job interviews and coped with coaching girls basketball — without extra pay and no uniforms.

His enthusiasm and satisfaction with teaching shine through all the tales of hardship and school politics. The reader will be amazed at the advance in Oklahoma's public schools and grateful that teachers no longer have to live with these conditions.

A JOURNAL OF TRAVELS INTO THE ARKANSAS TERRITORY DURING THE YEAR 1819 by Thomas Nuttall and edited by Savoie Lottinville; Univ. of Okla. Press; $25. This is the only surviving complete journal of Nuttall, a self-taught botanist, and his trips into Arkansas and eastern Oklahoma.

Nuttall not only describes the trees, plants and wildlife of the regions he travels but also notes the geological formations, prices of food and supplies and the customs, dress and lifestyles of Indians he meets.

THE SAC AND FOX INDIANS by William T. Hagan; Univ. of Okla. Press; $14.95. Reissued, this history details such tribal customs as scalp lock and use of paint, their government, and enthusiastic horse racing and ball playing.

The tribes are virtually wiped out in battle with whites in Wisconsin. The remaining members eventually were moved to Indian Territory.

MOTION PICTURES: THE DEVELOPMENT OF AN ART by A. R. Fulton; Univ. of Okla. Press; $14.95. Movie fans should enjoy this updated version of the history and development of motion pictures.

The author describes how special effects were achieved in A Trip to the Moon, the first film about interplanetary travel. Made in 1902, it also was the first to have a musical score composed for it. The staging of other early films is analyzed.

Placement of the camera, lighting, costumes, film editing and matching music to the film action — all began with different filmmakers experimenting as the cinema art evolved.
ART EXHIBITS

MARCH
1-29 East Indian Musical Instruments, Stovall Museum, Norman
1-29 Graphics of Mabee-Gerrer Collection, St Gregory's, Shawnee
1-29 Young Talent in Oklahoma, Okla Art Center, Okla City
1-29 Photography by Eliot Porter, Okla Art Center, Okla City
1-31 Chet Nichols Art Exhibit, McMahon Aud, Lawton
27-29 Eastern Trails Art Show, Vinita

APRIL
1-6 Pottery by Montee Hoke, St Gregory's, Shawnee
5-26 Exhibition of Prints & Drawings, Okla Art Center, Okla City
5-12 National Exhibition of Prints & Drawings, Okla Art Center, Okla City
6-29 Gifts from an Ethiopian Market, Stovall Museum, Norman
6-12 Soldered Trinket Show, Civic Center Arena, Muskogee
26-July 12 Roman Portrait Sculpture, Philbrook, Tulsa

MAY
2-24 19th Century Paintings of Wagner’s Operas, St Gregory’s, Shawnee
10-14 Decorative Arts & American Heritage, Okla Art Center, Okla City
16-18 Magic Carpets: Rigs of Orient Exhibit, Philbrook, Tulsa
21-23 Paintings of Rev Gregory R. Gerrer, St Gregory’s, Shawnee

JUNE
7-July 8 Jewelry by Ben Nighthorse, Southern Plains Museum, Anadarko
11-July 10 Greg Burns: Original Drawings & Prints, Okla Art Center, Okla City
21-July 26 State of Okla Art Collection, Okla Art Center, Okla City
27-July 12 Trail of Tears Art Show, Cherokee Natl Museum, Tahlequah
21-July 26 Western Art Show, Fairgrounds, Pawhuska
21-July 12 Trail of Tears Art Show, Cherokee Natl Museum, Tahlequah
21-July 26 State of Okla Art Collection, Okla Art Center, Okla City
27-July 12 Paintings from Mabee-Gerrer Collection, St Gregory’s, Shawnee

DRAMA

MARCH
1-7 "The Pajama Game," Cabaret Supper Theatre, Ft Sill
5-8 "J. B.," OCU, Okla City
12-29 "Kashomon," Okla Theatre Center, Okla City
14 "Dr Cook's Garden," Okieene Playhouse, Okieene
19-22 "Fiddler On The Roof," Shortgrass Playhouse, Hobart
20-Apr 4 "Little Mary Sunshine," Ponca City Playhouse, Ponca City
20-Apr 4 "The Philadelphia Story," Jewel Box Theatre, Okla City
20-Apr 12 "Till We Meet Again," American Theatre Co, Tulsa
21-23 "Bye, Bye, Birdie," OCU, Okla City
30-Apr 1 "The Rainmaker," Ardmore Little Theatre, Ardmore

APRIL
2-11 "A Thousand Clowns," Act 1, Alva
2-12 "Dark Of The Moon," Town & Gown Theatre, Stillwater
2-18 "No Sex Please, We’re British," Cabaret Supper Theatre, Ft Sill
3-12 "The Seven Year Itch," Community Playhouse, Broken Arrow
9-11 "Bedroom Farce," CSU, Edmond
9-25 "Chapter Two," Okla Theatre Center, Okla City
10-18 "The Robber Bridegroom," Community Theatre, Lawton
10-26 "The Women," Theatre Tulsa, Tulsa
16-18 "The Killing of Sister George," Cameron Univ, Lawton
16-19 "The Curious Savage," Oklahoma City, Oklahoma
23-25 "See How They Run," Bartlesville Theatre, Bartlesville
23-26 "Gay Fever," OCU, Okla City
24 "Stanley Marcus, Town Hall," Performing Arts Center, Tulsa
24-26 "Mary, Mary," Performing Arts Center, Tulsa
24-May 1 "Time of Your Life," R.J. Jones Theatre, OU, Norman

FAIRS & FESTIVALS

APRIL
11 Spring Festival, Chelsea
11-12 Waurika Rattlesnake Hunt, Waurika
11-20 Azalea Festival, Honor Heights Park, Muskogee
13-18 Arts & Crafts Spring Festival, 1st Natl Bank, Wynnewood
14-19 89'er Day Celebration, Guthrie
21-25 Cimarron Territory Celebration, Beaver
21-26 OKC Festival of the Arts, Civic Center Plaza, Okla City
23-25 Annual Pioneer Day Celebration, Okemah
24-26 Mangum Rattlesnake Derby & Flea Market, Mangum
25-26 Waynoka Rattlesnake Hunt, Waynoka
26-May 2 Western Heritage Days, Cushing
29-May 2 No Man's Land Pioneer Days Celebration, Guymon

MAY
2 Kelsoke Festival, Prague
8-9 Historic Old Timers Day, City Park, Shidler
9 Strawberry Festival, Stilwell
9-10 Artfest 6, Texas County Activity Center, Guymon
14-16 Rooster Day Celebration & Rodeo, Broken Arrow
14-17 Mayfest, Downtown, Tulsa
14-19 Canton Lake Walleye Rodeo, Canton
16 Founders Day, Locust Grove
16 Pioneer Days, Nowata
23-24 Italian Festival, McIntosh
23-24 Festival '81, Paseo Street, Okla City
29-31 Summerfest, Bartlesville
30 Bigheart Day, Barnsdall

JUNE
4-7 Santa Fe Trail Daze, Boise City
5-6 Love County Frontier Days, Marietta
13-14 Canterbury Arts Festival, Stephenson Park, Edmond
15-20 Durant Western Days, Durant
26-29 Damsel Days, Bartlesville
29-July 4 Blue Mountain Festival, Hartshorne
**INDIAN EVENTS**

**APRIL**
- 4 Native American Council Pow Wow, SEDSU, Durant
- 23-25 Kiowa Veterans Blackleggings Ceremonials, Indian City, Anadarko
- 4-6 Okmulgee Pioneer Pow Wow, Fairgrounds, Okmulgee

**MAY**
- 4-5 Blackfeet Nation Pow Wow, Crown Point, New Mexico
- 5-7 Sequoyah Intertribal Pow Wow, Elk City
- 13-14 Kiowa-Apache Ceremonial Dances, Indian City, Anadarko
- 22-24 Western Okla Bluegrass Festival, Elk City

**JUNE**
- 4-6 Okmulgee Pioneer Pow Wow, Fairgrounds, Okmulgee
- 22-24 Bluegrass Festival, Red Oak Park, McLoud

**MUSIC/DANCE**

**APRIL**
- Chamber Orchestra Concert, 1st United Methodist Church, Tulsa
- Peter Nero, Pops Concert, Tulsa
- Bluegrass Festival, Hilltop Bluegrass Park, McRae
- Western Okla Bluegrass Festival, Elk City

**MAY**
- Bluegrass Festival, Red Oak Park, McLoud
- Summer Arts Institute, Quartet Mountain State Park
- Sanders Family Bluegrass Festival, McAlester
- Dance Theater, Performing Arts Center, Tulsa
- Davis Bluegrass Festival, City Park, Davis

**RODEOS & HORSE EVENTS**

**APRIL**
- Round-Up Club Rodeo, Club Arena, Oologah
- Annual Dogwood Ride, Green Country Stables, Tahlequah
- All Arabian Horse Show, Expo Square, Tulsa

**MAY**
- Johnny Lee Wills Rodeo Stampede, Expo Square, Tulsa
- CSRA Championship Rodeo, Muskogee
- Tulsa Charity Horse Show, Expo Square, Tulsa
- Annual 4-Way Rodeo, Rodeo Grounds, Pryor
- Memorial Week CSRA Championship Rodeo, Sundown Arena, Henryetta

**JUNE**
- World's Largest Jr. Rodeo, Jaycee Arena, Idabel
- Will Rogers Annual Rodeo & Parade, Rodeo Grounds, Claremore
- Will Rogers Round-Up Club Stampede, Claremore
- Shortgrass Country Rodeo, Park Arena, Sayre
- Annual Round-Up Club CSRA Championship Rodeo, Muskogee
- Ben Johnson Memorial Steer Roping, Fairgrounds, Pawhuska

**SPECIAL EVENTS**

**MAY**
- Annual Okla Film Festival, Western Hills Resort, Wagoner
- Meet The Beatles, Pops Concert, Okla City
- Natl Parachute Finals, Davis Field, Muskogee

**JUNE**
- Antique & Vintage Car Auction, Expo Square, Tulsa
- My Hair from the Past, Tulsa Opera, Tulsa
- Native American Pow Wow, Pawhuska

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*Kiowa Veterans Blackleggings Ceremonials, Anadarko*