

WADDY WENT DOWN HELPING A BUDDY---News stories from Saipan have somewhat amplified the aerial dogfight over Tokyo that on Jan. 9 resulted in Capt. Waddy Young, Oklahoma's All-American end of 1938, being shot down and listed missing in action. Here are excerpts from two stories: "Big grinning Waddy Young, who formerly ran interference as an All-American end at the University of Oklahoma, is missing in action because he still insisted on running interference for his team mates. He was one of the most popular plane commanders at this base and his flying mates still think 'Old Waddy will probably show up one of these days.' The 29-year old Young was flying the No. 2 position in that Jan. 9 flight. The group was struggling through bad weather and being attacked by scores of Jap fighters. The No. 3 man, Lt. Benjamin Crowell of Avondale, Pa. was hit by a Jap fighter which knocked out one engine, causing him to lose altitude and speed and finally drop out of formation. Capt. Paul Beard of Beaumont, Tex., the unit leader, heard Waddy say on the phone, 'Slow this formation down, I am going to ride herd on Crowell.' The formation slowed down and they saw Young maneuver his plane in close to help Crowell who was under attack by swarms of fighters. Over the phone again came Young's voice, "We are okay." Then the weather closed in. Visibility was extremely poor and the last formation saw two planes flying out to sea but still dropping down. A search for the planes proved fruitless. "He's just that kind of a guy." Waddy's C.O. said. Young flew antisubmarine patrol off England near Biscay Bay and ran up more than 9,000 combat hours. Flying "Waddy's Wagon" Young participated in the first B-29 raid on Truk, the first on Toyko, and the first on Nagoya."

GOSSIP....From Lt. Don Smith, our infielder three years ago: "I was sure surprised to hear that Pan Face Campbell (Sooner blocking back of 1942 who now has an European APO) was married. I was with him at Lincoln only three days before the big event and he didn't say a word about it. But you know old Pan. When I get back to the states I am going to spend the first month taking sun baths and drinking all the milk I can hold. We seldom see the sun for more than a few minutes and milk is impossible. But on the whole we have it pretty nice. I can tell you that I have seen a lot of Germany from the air."....from Lt. Jack Jacobs, March Field, Calif.: "I ran into Karey Fuqua at Pearl Harbor and we spent several afternoons together at Waikiki Beach swimming. O.T. McCall was there. He is a major in the QM. I ran into Moon Mullens (track '42, Fuqua quarterbacked Biff Jones' Sooner football team of 1935) and he is the keeper of the guardhouse at the marine Transient barracks at Honoulu. I also ran into Abbott Sparks, the boy who used to make sweet music for the Ramblers Orchestra at the University Club....In the Army-Navy game I played fullback and blocked the ends for Dobbs so he could pass. Also backed the line. Not the easiest job in the world but I had a lot of fun (Jake has always been a tail-back). I saw a lot of Okies out there. I think they are running the Pacific War." From Lt. (jg) Paul Updegraff, our No. 1 fan, "I have been visiting Jap Maskell (O.U. athletic director on leave, a lt. com. in charge of phys. ed. at the navy's big base at Jacksonville, Fla.). Old Jap has a real sports program and has Don Faurot (Missouri coach) as his executive officer. Don and Jap went bird hunting Sunday and as usual Jap killed his quorum. In fact one might stretch that statement a bit and say he shore did get his share." Col. Roger W. Peard, (basketball '10, from Enid) of the Marines is back at San Diego....Lt. (jg) Carl Lochner (track 1937) has been discharged from the Navy and is entering private business....from Lt. Gordon Clarke, jr., (baseball '36): "This sea air is wonderful but I'd trade it for the wind-swept prairies any time. From Ensign Andy Cary (our half-miler who will do 1:50 or better some day but will blush when he reads about it here: "I am still fighting the battle of Fort Emory. We have been going out in the surf in these landing craft. It is just like riding a wild horse only you don't get seasick on a bucking horse." Pfc Mitch Shadid (football 1940-42) is now at March Field, Calif. From Sgt. Ben Tillman with the marines in the Mojave Desert in California: "My conception of a desert has been shot all to hell. It has been raining steady here the last four days; ice everywhere. Say, our little basketball team is doing okay, isn't it?"