

The Sooner sport world

BY HAROLD KEITH, '28

Contributing Editor

JUST one thing, and it not very concrete, gives University of Oklahoma fans hope that the Sooners may give the classy Vanderbilt team a stiff go in the big intersectional opener at Owen Field September 30—Oklahoma has not lost an opening day game at Norman in nine years.

Aside from that, the game has a decided Vanderbilt complexion. Sooner fans can't help remembering that last year Coach Dan McGugin's Vanderbilt team drove through the best elevens in the South for six victories and two ties before finally meeting defeat in the last game. And the Southern conference plays a much faster brand of football than the Big Six loop. In fact Lewie Hardage, Sooner coach, says the fastest football played in the nation today is played in the South.

Another thing that makes Oklahoma's chance look poor is the fact that Vanderbilt will have had twenty-three practice days and the Sooners only sixteen when they clash on the green turf at Owen Field. Also that the Commodores, with ten letter men and seven squad men back, can start a veteran team whereas the Sooner coaches must shoot the works with sophomores.

But the Sooners always fight their heads off in an opening day game played at Norman. And if Coach Lewie Hardage's boys follow that precedent against the dashing Southern team, fans who throng Memorial Stadium here September 30 may see a real football game instead of a rout.

Spectators will probably see a duel of rival tailbacks that should sparkle like early sunshine off a frosty field on a clear November morning. The Sooner tailbacks are more or less well-known to state football fans, and include Bob Dunlap, Bill Pansze and the three sophomores, "Nig" Robertson of Seminole, Delmar Steinbock of Frederick, and Raleigh Francis of Blanchard. Of the five, Dunlap so far has been the most versatile. He can run, plunge, block and tackle reasonably well. Besides he is probably as fine a quick-kicker and passer as the Mid-west has seen in years. Lawrence Perry last year selected Dunlap as quarterback on his second all-American team, ranking him second only to Harry Newman of Michigan.

However Vanderbilt, too, has several tailbacks who can "go," as the players say. Especially behind the blocking of her big backs and the veterans Talley and Dickison, two of the finest guards in the South. These tailbacks are Rand Dixon, Pete Curley, Bobby Oliver and Larry Burton, hero of Vanderbilt's 6-6 draw with mighty Tulane last fall.

The 1933 Sooners are pretty well fixed in all departments save the important one of being able to gain off the ground. Although "green," the squad is big and strong defensively. It will have good kicking and passing. It will have ample reserve strength for the first time in years which means the regulars will have more rest and won't go stale.

Last year Oklahoma was a weak blocking team, which, coupled with Halfback Bill Pansze's early loss because of a knee injury, was forced to rely almost wholly upon a kicking and passing game. The best teams are those which can run with the ball as well as kick and pass it, but a running attack is predicated mainly upon good blocking, especially by the backs, and Oklahoma hasn't had a good blocking back since Frank Crider, '29 and Clyde Kirk, '30.

Two sets of playing jerseys, one red and one white, will be worn by the University of Oklahoma football squad this fall, says Lewie Hardage, head coach. Each will have playing numbers on both front and back of the jersey, eight inch numbers on back and six inch on front, so even the most short-sighted spectator may recognize them from any point of the stadium. The team will again wear its lightweight "scanties" and helmets, with an improved knee pad the only change from last year.

Each women's fraternity on the University of Oklahoma campus will select one of its most beautiful girls to sponsor a Vanderbilt player at the Vanderbilt-Oklahoma dance in Oklahoma City, September 30, night after the Vandy-Sooner intersectional game.

After a four-year lapse, the old five-mile cross-country run is coming back at the University of Oklahoma. Abandonment of the two-mile team race by the Big Six conference precipitated a discussion between Ben G. Owen, Sooner athletic director, and John Jacobs, track coach, the result of which is the an-

nouncement of a statewide cross-country meet sponsored by the University of Oklahoma at Norman November 4, the date of the Homecoming day football game with Kansas. Also the Sooners will engage state colleges in a number of dual meets over the five-mile distance.

Old-time University of Oklahoma football players and coaches are sending their sons to Soonerland. Bob McMahan, son of Mark McMahan, of Fort Worth, Texas, Sooner football coach back in 1902 and 1903, is seriously considering the University as a prospective alma mater. So is Harry Hughes, jr., son of Harry Hughes, now football coach at Colorado Agricultural college but better known in Norman as Oklahoma's hurdling halfback of 1905. James A. Long, 16-year old son of Frank A. Long, Sooner football and track luminary of 1908, is now in Norman to attend the University after a 25-day trip from Brazil where his father is a Y. M. C. A. secretary.

Glen Dawson, former University of Oklahoma distance running phenom, won the mile championship of the Canadian National Exposition at Toronto, Canada on Labor Day for the third consecutive year. Although he gave generous handicaps to all his opponents, Dawson breezed home a winner by six yards in 4:21.

"The game that Washington, D. C. fans liked best last year was that between George Washington university and the Oklahoma Sooners. The Westerners played the type of football that greatly thrilled the crowd and next season Pixlee hopes to have them back," says Earnest Mehl, in the *Kansas City Star*.

An inspiration for better scholarship has been given freshmen athletes of the University of Oklahoma by Chester Westfall, of Ponca City, president of the University of Oklahoma Association, who has announced that he will give a valuable trophy to the Sooner freshman athlete who makes the best grades next school year. The trophy may be a gold wrist watch, although Mr. Westfall has not definitely decided yet. In his undergraduate days at the University, Mr. Westfall was sports editor of the *University of Oklahoma*, student newspaper, and an enthusiastic devotee of athletics.

University of Oklahoma band will have some new stunts for spectators at Sooner home football games this fall, says William R. Wehrend, director. A new drum major and baton twirler will take the place of Hugo Goetz, Pryor, efficient leader of the last three years, who graduated. His successors are Ralph Erwin, Muskogee; Archie Graham, Tahlequah; and Leo Ball, Cement. A new set of colorful formations will also be worked out, Wehrend said.

Two highway cutoffs that will permit spectators motoring to University of Ok-

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Sooner roll call

COX-BECKER: Miss Milbray Cox, '32ex, and Herman A. Becker, '30ex, July 16 in Carmen. Home, Meno.

GRABLE-NAY: Miss Margaret Gladys Grabel, and Joseph Boyd Nay, '31bus., July 22. Home, 428 Southwest 28th Street, Oklahoma City.

BARR-WEST: Miss Angie Barr, and Johnie West, '31ex, July 19 in Nashville, Tennessee. Home, Louisville, Tennessee.

SITTON-DAWSON: Miss Louise Sitton, '32ex, and Madison Dawson, August 6. Chi Omega. Home, Ardmore.

SILVER-SULLAWAY: Miss Myona Belle Silver, and Guy Burrell Sullaway, '30eng., August 16. Home, 1816 Northwest 15th Street, Oklahoma City.

HARRAL-BACHELOR: Miss Virginia Harral, '28ex, and James W. Batchelor, '28as., '29law, August 24. Home, Durant.

BEARY-HEWES: Miss Elma Beary, and Leslie Hewes, '28as., June 24 in Earlville, Iowa. Home, Norman.

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An unusual record as a fine prosecutor of criminal cases is being made by David Rutherford, '23law, as Jackson county's attorney at Altus.

Helen Myers, '33as, Oklahoma City, is attending the Horner's Conservatory in Kansas City this fall. She studied piano under C. F. Giard while she attended the university.

John Squire, '33eng., Chandler, has been employed by the Standolind Pipeline company in Oklahoma City. He was a major in electrical engineering. He is making his home at 1501 East 10th Street.

J. F. Hatcher, '13as., Chickasha lawyer, has been appointed to membership on the state board of education. He resigned to accept a nomination to the university board of regents, but was reappointed to the board of education when the legislature failed to approve his regent appointment.

Ab Walker, '33phys ed., Okmulgee, was one of the principal speakers at the closing session of the three-day coaching school held for Oklahoma and Kansas mentors at Blackwell. Walk was a backfield man on the 1933 and 1932 Sooner grid teams.

Homer Courtright, '33fa., has accepted a position in the department of music, at the Murray School of Agriculture, Tishomingo. He will have charge of the school band.

John Clark, '32phar., Lawton, has accepted a position as registered pharmacist in the new Earl Drug company which opened recently in Lawton. Clark has been employed for the past year in Stillwater.

J. Harvey "Zek" Van Zant, 23as., '26M.S., was elected secretary-treasurer of the Grisso Royalties company. He also is chief geologist for the Eason Oil company at Enid. Van Zant is remembered at the university as the winner of the first Wrightsman scholarship in geological engineering.

Cecil Rhea Crawford, '32fa., was to open a studio to teach piano and violin September 1 in Wewoka. Crawford was a student under Charles Francois Giard during his undergraduate days. His early training was done under Mrs. Carl Soderstrom of Pawhuska.

UNIVERSITY
Book Exchange
Charles C. Miles, Manager

Seitz, Ruth Hackler, Leota Smith, Pauline Foreman, Florence Henry, Mary Williamson, Mary Elizabeth Filson and Bertha McGuire.

1927

September 25—Six schools, including Oklahoma, announce withdrawal from the Missouri Valley conference and the establishment of the Big Six conference. Unwieldy schedules with too many teams to compete for the titles is given by Dean S. W. Reaves as the reason for the withdrawal.

September 28—Excavation work is started on the new \$130,000 university infirmary.

September 28—Marguerite Croy, of Drumright, is elected freshman queen at a hilarious meeting. William Schooler, Oklahoma City, is elected president at the meeting.

1929

September 20—Mex Curry's anti-administration party sweeps the administration group out of office in a big student council upset. Curry is elected dance manager in the place of Clarence McElroy. Each party has the same number of votes on the floor, but the deadlock is broken on each question by the ballot of President Merton Munson.

September 28—Suspension of all Ruf Neks and Jazz Hounds from the university is threatened by the board of regents as a result of rough initiations. After numerous meetings, the pep leaders are reinstated in school with a warning never to paddle again.

1931

September 28—Swede Ellstrom plunges for a touchdown and kicks a field goal to give the varsity eleven a close 10 to 7 victory over the freshmen. The Boomers score when Bud Browning sails a pass to Melbourne "Nig" Robertson who runs 25 yards to the goal line.

1932

September 30—Marian Mills and Bernard Doud, both of Norman, are elected to the *Whirlwind*, humor magazine, hall of fame. The pictures of the university's two outstanding students will appear in the first issue of the publication.



THE SOONER SPORT WORLD

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Oklahoma football games to avoid traffic and save time, will be marked soon, Ben G. Owen, athletic director, has announced. One will route fans driving south on highway 77 from Tulsa, Ponca City and Guthrie, around Oklahoma City via the gravel road cutting south off highway 77 at a point three miles east of Edmond. The other will divert fans from Shawnee, Seminole and Wewoka straight west off highway 270 from Mc-

Loud, saving them eight miles and allowing them to dodge the Oklahoma City traffic. Both detour roads are either graveled or hard-surfaced.

Ben G. Owen will watch his twentieth consecutive annual Sooner football practice this fall. Owen coached at Oklahoma from 1905 through 1926, and not only developed powerful teams but also teams that were known all over the southwest for their hard, clean playing and sportsmanship.

Starting time of all University of Oklahoma home football games this fall will be 3 o'clock instead of 2 o'clock, starting hour in the past.



YOUR ASSOCIATION

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be kept from being active, loyal, enthusiastic supporters of the University. Some thorough revision of these pledges, satisfactory alike to the Union and to those who made the commitments, is an early essential.

III. Activities for the protection of the University in times of need.

A. This is largely political activity. The Association through alumni who are scattered throughout the state, should keep in closest contact possible with candidates for legislative and other state offices. Activities of the Association should result in the thorough education of candidates before their election, rather than in the attempted defeat of unfriendly candidates. The latter could be resorted to only in extreme cases. An active interest by alumni in political affairs will result in most candidates' committing themselves to a friendly attitude toward the University before their election, and also will cause those elected to be careful not to take a destructive attitude toward the University, whose interests are watched over by a large band of active and aggressive men and women.

B. This activity must be handled with the greatest discretion and judgment. Above all, care must be taken not to build a "University political clique." The latter would result ultimately in great harm to the University. Political activity of the "University folk" as such must be confined to building up soundly and protecting the University of Oklahoma and the Oklahoma school system.

IV. Activities for strengthening the Association itself, i.e., adding to its membership, keeping it alive and active.

A. Despite the fact that the Association has been built from nothing over a period of a few years to its present position of some influence and assistance to the University, the fact is that it now has only a few hundred voluntarily paying members, a very large number of them