

Reviewing Sooner Sports

By Harold Keith, '29

BIG SIX title hopes of the Sooner basketball team were crushed in late February when the Oklahomans were defeated by Kansas 30-19 in a game at Lawrence. However, the Sooners still held third place in the conference with five victories and three losses, and had chalked up several non-conference victories that helped give a touch of success to the season.

Most pleasing of the Sooner victories was the 30-to-24 trimming of Coach Iba's Oklahoma Aggies at Norman, January 13. That upset triumph, scored before 3,707 people in the Fieldhouse, the largest home basketball crowd of the last eight years, broke an Aggie winning streak of nine consecutive games and gave Coach McDermott the record of having won two of three contests from Iba's teams on the large Fieldhouse floor.

Don Gunning, Sooner center from Enid, who isn't tall enough to get the important center tip, was nevertheless the game's heroic figure with his eternal hustling, his aggressive post play and his feat of holding both Kalsu and Barringer, Aggie centers, scoreless.

Iba's team tied the score at 11-11 and 15-15 but each time Tee Connelley, Sooner guard from El Reno, broke the tie with beautiful long pitches.

The Sooners kept going after that Aggie triumph, defeating Kansas State 34 to 32 at Manhattan, Kans. and Nebraska 34 to 31 at Lincoln, Neb., the following night.

They lost a return game to the Iba's Aggies at Stillwater, 27 to 32, but rallied three nights later to defeat Missouri 42 to 26 at Norman.

How McDermott's team can go on winning without the important center jump is stumping fandom. The answer probably is that seven of the first eight regulars are seniors who handle the ball coolly and smartly and can hit from any angle in the offensive third of the court, making a higher percentage of their shots although they usually get less shots than the foe, owing to loss of the center jump. Also, the '37 team is one of the fightingest aggregations McDermott ever developed or else it wouldn't win so many close ones.

Huskers get Biff Jones

Biggest news of the month was the announcement that Major Lawrence "Biff"

Jones, whom the War Department last November forced to resign the Oklahoma coaching assignment to attend staff school at Fort Leavenworth, Kans., had resigned from the army to accept a five-year coaching contract at Nebraska which had just lost Dana Bible, its fine coach, to the University of Texas.

Tom Stidham, the new Sooner coach, of Creek Indian blood, is glad Biff has chosen to remain in football. With Biff Jones' Nebraska team and Dana Bible's Texas team both on the Oklahoma schedule next fall, Tom feels the young Sooner team has a real mark to shoot at and despite the odds he wouldn't forfeit either of these games for a bale of wampum.

Matmen drop two matches

Coach Paul Keen's Sooner wrestling team, defending national collegiate champions, lost its first two matches, Edmond Teachers triumphing 19-11 at Norman and Weatherford Teachers winning 18½ to 7½ at Weatherford.

Without taking anything away from either the Edmond or Weatherford teams, it might be said the Sooners are largely a sophomore aggregation this year and of the veterans left, D. C. Matthews, 126 pounds, and Port Robertson, 165 pounds, each a finalist in the national collegiate, were unable to wrestle in either meet because of injuries.

Billy Carr, 118-pounder from Cushing who hasn't lost a bout in two years, and Bill Keas, 155-pounder from Carter, are leading the team in scoring.

Floyd Lochner, Sooner runner who set a new American record of 10m. 1.5s in the two-mile steeplechase at New Orleans

in December, placed fourth in the two-mile run in Boston's Knights of Columbus Indoor meet January 30 and third in the Millrose Games two-mile at Madison Square Garden, New York, February 6.

At New York, Lochner beat such stars as Joe McCluskey, Ray Sears, and Wayne and Blaine Rideout but was passed by Indiana's Don Lash on the last lap. Tommy Deckard of Indiana, whom Lochner defeated by 30 yards at New Orleans in the steeplechase, won the Millrose two-mile.

Lochner is teaching school at Agra, Okla. high school, his interscholastic alma mater.

Gridmen big and willing

Spring football practice has started. With Capt. Connie Ahern, guard; Ralph Brown and Ferd Ellsworth, tackles; Bill Breeden, fullback; Elmo "Bo" Hewes, blocking half; and William "Red" Conkright, center, having served out their eligibility, the squad is green. But it is big and tremendously willing.

The complete list of material available for the '37 football team is as follows:

ENDS—Varsity: Pete Smith, 185; Roland Young, 190; Clay Casey, 185; John Bridges, 170; Herbert Mathers, 180; Dean Cutchall, 160. **Sophomores:** Frank Ivy, 190, Skiatook; Alton Coppage, 184, Hollis; John Shirik, 193, Oklahoma City; George Darrow, 160, Oklahoma City; Ed Beardsley, 175 Enid; Gordon Kirby, 190, Blanchard; Ken Sharp, 173, Henryetta; Roscoe Walker, 170, Pawhuska.

TACKLES—Varsity: George Grace, 210; Tom Short, 195; Bill Estell, 215; Bruce Gilbert, 200. **Sophomores:** Gilford Duggan, 215, Benton, Ark.; Harold "Red" Edgeman, 218, Zaneis; Howard Teter, 220, Granfield; Charles Martin, 204, Ponca City; Ken McGoldrick, 218 Shreveport, La.; J. R. Manley, 197, Hollis; George Turner, 191, Holdenville; Richard Ronine, 204, Wakita.

GUARDS—Varsity: Fred Ball, 180; Jiggs Walker, 170; Jim Thomas, 170; Woodrow Vaughan, 173; Everett Athens, 180; Harry Williams, 178. **Sophomores:** Ralph Stevenson, 183, Ponca City; Joe Jeter, 204, Guthrie; Paul Bolton, 177, Jenks; Edward Morse, 190, Fletcher; James Miles, 170, Sapulpa; Bill LaRue, 168, Tulsa; Albert Ryan, 207, Dewey; Claude Roark, 168, Tulsa.

CENTERS—Varsity: Vernon Mullein, 185; Joe Kraft, 190. **Sophomores:** George Wilhelm, 198, Oklahoma City.

QUARTERBACKS—Varsity: Jack Baer, 170; Webber Merrell, 165; Woodrow Huddleston, 160; Hugh McCullough, 175; Eddie Toribio, 160. **Sophomores:** Howard "Red" McCurdy, 172, Pauls Valley; Beryl Clark, 155, Cherokee.

OTHER BACKS—Varsity: Al Corrotto, 165; Gene Corrotto, 165; Earl Crowder, 180; Otis Rogers, 160; Raphael Boudreau, 173; Nathan Anderson, 165; Andy Stoner, 160; Norvel Locke, 175; James Miller, 165. **Sophomores:** Nathan Stufflebean, 178, Pauls Valley; Bob Seymour, 187, Commerce; Buck Simms, 180, Henryetta, Texas; Jack Marsh, 197, Perry; Joe Phillips, 170, Jet; Dick Favor, 190, Crescent; Rex Garrett, 174, Oklahoma City; Ben Freeman, 174, Oklahoma City.

Jack Swineford, senior drama student from Enid, was pleasantly surprised in January by word that he was chosen as the first student to receive an anonymous scholarship fund donated to the College of Fine Arts.

SPORTS SCHEDULE

Wrestling

March 5, 6, Big Six meet at Lincoln, Neb.
March 16, Okla. Aggies at Stillwater.
March 19, National Collegiate meet at Terre Haute, Ind.

Indoor Track

March 6, Big Six meet at Columbia, Mo.

Outdoor Track

March 26, 27, Texas Relays at Austin, Tex.

Tennis

March 25, Baylor at Norman.