

Tom Stidham moves up

By HAROLD KEITH, '29

A native Oklahoman who has had broad experience in big time football has been given the tough assignment of handling the University's football destinies for the next two years.

He is Tom Stidham, line coach for the last two seasons. He was advanced to the position of head football coach and athletic director to fill the vacancy left by resignation of Major Lawrence "Biff" Jones. Major Jones reluctantly gave up the coaching duties at Oklahoma because of an army assignment to go to the general staff and command school next fall at Fort Leavenworth.

Although the teams produced by Major Jones in his two years in Norman were not hailed by fans generally as being the all-conquering type they desire, a careful analysis of the records shows that the record was actually a very creditable one—a percentage of .600 for the two seasons.

But even more important, in the minds of those who know the inside of modern football, is the fact that Major Jones in two seasons has installed a solid foundation for the future as well as making a good record of performance on the field.

Stidham, after his appointment by the University Board of Regents, stated that he will endeavor to carry on the Jones system.

"I'll be mighty happy if I can carry on, to the best of my ability, the great job Biff Jones has started at Oklahoma. It has been a great opportunity for me to work with him. I understand he is to be here until the end of the school year. I'm glad, because I know the help and advice he'll give me will be invaluable."

Stidham's salary is \$5,000 a year, his appointment as coach becoming effective January 1 and that of athletic director on July 1.

The regents authorized him to select his own staff and add an assistant. He subsequently announced Dewey "Snorter" Luster, '22as, '22law, Norman High school coach and former assistant on the University staff, would return to the campus as backfield coach. Luster, who has been unusually successful at Norman High school, was an O. U. football star from 1917 to 1920, and was line coach under Adrian Lindsey in 1929, 1930 and 1931.

Stidham retained the present coaching staff, but revised it to make Lawrence "Jap" Haskell line coach and R. H. Ers-



Tom Stidham

kine freshman coach. Frank Moore will continue to drill the ends.

Stidham announced that he'll stay with the Warner system and its variations. He grew up with the Warner system, since Dick Hanley coached it during the seven years Stidham was with him at Haskell Indian Institute and at Northwestern, and Major Jones used it for the last two years at Oklahoma.

The new Sooner coach is a close friend of Glenn "Pop" Warner himself, and sees him every year, and also a friend of Andy Kerr, the Coalgate coach who has always used the Warner system. When Kerr and Hanley formerly were joint coaches of the East team, the East squad used to come to Chicago and work out at Northwestern and there Stidham sat in year after year on the Hanley-Kerr conferences.

Stidham was born at Checotah, Okla., 32 years ago. He is one-sixteenth Creek Indian and the remainder Irish.

He played two years of football under Coach Hanley at Haskell institute, Lawrence, Kans., and was captain of the team in 1926 when it had an undefeated record. His running mate at tackle was Tiny Roebuck, another Indian even bigger than 220-pound Tom. After watching them beat the University of Hawaii 47 to 6 at San Francisco, Warner, then the Stanford coach, pronounced Stidham and Roe-

buck as fine a pair of tackles as he'd ever seen.

Stidham went from Haskell to the University of Iowa in 1927, Hanley meanwhile having accepted the coaching position at Northwestern. Before Stidham became eligible at Iowa, Hanley called him to Northwestern to be assistant coach and in 1933 and 1934 line coach.

He started off several great forwards at Northwestern who lately have played under Lynn Waldorf with great success.

When L. D. "Spud" Lewis took the coaching job at San Francisco university in 1932, he asked Stidham to go out and install the Warner system in spring practice.

In 1933, the year Bernie Bierman's Minnesota team started its great victory string, Stidham's Northwestern line was the last one to hold and tie the Gophers, the two teams playing 0 to 0 that year. From that game, Bierman's Gophers started compiling their great string that wasn't broken until this year.

In 1933 Stidham tutored the East line that defeated Howard Jones' West team 13 to 7 in a game before 80,000 at Soldiers field at the start of the World's Fair.

Major Jones' record for his two seasons as Oklahoma coach shows nine games won, six lost and three tied for a percentage of .600. The Sooners during that period scored 183 points to their opponents' 111.

Prior to Major Jones' coming, Oklahoma hadn't had a better than .500 per cent season since 1930 when Coach Ad Lindsey's Oklahoma team beat Nebraska 20 to 6 and finished the year with four wins, three losses and one tie.

Although Major Jones' record of wins and losses is superior to any coach the Sooners have had since Bennie Owen quit active coaching back in 1926, it is not the Major's greatest accomplishment at the university.

Thanks to Major Jones' sound, steady building, football at Oklahoma has been raised to a higher mechanical standard than ever before.

The Sooners will have good players available two and three deep for next year's Sooner team. Most of them will be green, but there'll be plenty of good players who should develop fast. Oklahoma should have stronger playing personnel than ever before.

Also Jones has changed the Sooners from a wildly forward passing team to a team that can run on the ground. Before Major Jones came, Oklahoma hadn't been able to gain 1,000 yards rushing over a season's span. But Jones' Sooners, wheeling off his newly introduced single and double wingback formation, gained 1,748 yards rushing in 1935 despite muddy fields in four contests and this year the total was almost as great. And in each instance the opponents' rushing was materially re-

(TURN TO PAGE 92, PLEASE)

Newspaper comments on his death paid tribute to him as "one of Chandler's leading citizens, a man who during his years of association with the people of this community, endeared himself to all with whom he came in contact."



Richard Van Duyne, '35ex, mathematics teacher in Woodward Junior college, died in an Oklahoma City hospital in November as a result of injuries received when he was struck by an automobile.

Van Duyne, who was 27 years old, had almost completed work for a master's degree in the University. Funeral services were held at Plainview church near Weatherford.



Dr. Gaines Brightwell, '29as, '31med, and Mrs. Brightwell were killed when a tire on their automobile blew out near Beaver, Okla. Their car was hurled over a 15-foot embankment and lay unseen until a passing motorist heard the cries of the Brightwells' 5-months-old baby which was in a basket in the car.

The parents were dead, but the baby had only head bruises. The child was taken to the home of Mrs. Brightwell's parents in Denver.

Dr. Brightwell had been practicing in Leedy for the last two years and was en route to Greenwood Springs, Colo., where he had been offered a hospital position.



Mrs. R. W. Skinner, the former Nora Cole, '27ex, died in December and funeral services were held at Dallas, Texas. She was the wife of a former member of the state legislature from Miami, Okla. Mrs. Skinner wrote for newspapers and magazines in both Oklahoma and Texas under the name Nora Cole Skinner.



Gerald Koos, 20-year-old student from Turpin, Okla., died December 2 in the University Infirmary. Death was due to complications which set in from a ruptured appendix, according to Dr. C. S. Bobo, director of the student health service. Physicians who examined him reported that the appendix was already ruptured when he was admitted to the Infirmary. He was a pre-medical student and was classified as a junior.



Chad Williams, 20 years old, a junior student in the University, died November 21 at Woodward as a result of blood poisoning that developed from a glandular infection. He was the son of C. E. Williams, Woodward.

DIRECTORY CHANGES

- Fred J. Anderson, '23pharm, Box 148, Elko, Nev.
- Georgia M. Ball, '29as, 5708 Maryland, Chicago, Illinois.
- Mrs. Mariel Ballard Baldwin, '32lib.sci, 209 South Independence, Cushing.
- Asher H. Bard, '29as, care Kiowa News, Kiowa, Kansas.
- Mrs. Marianne Bays Bard, '30fa, '31ed, care Kiowa News, Kiowa, Kansas.
- Fred William Becker, '35geol, Box 934, Kingman, Arizona.
- Robert E. Brittain, '29as, 2846 East Avenue, Columbus, Ohio.
- Mrs. Carrie Buttram Wails, '19as, '19fa, Ayer, Massachusetts.
- Mary Camille Carey, '31phys.ed, 739 Northeast 17th, Oklahoma City.
- John Ernest Cannon, '27ma, Checotah.
- Haskell Carpenter, '30eng, 1217 North Francis, Oklahoma City.
- William A. Clark, Jr., '32as, 6341 Vanderbilt, Houston, Texas.
- Robert B. Collins, '35law, 1908 West 20th, Oklahoma City.
- William V. Cox, '21as, '24ma, Missouri Military Academy, Mexico, Missouri.

- Thomas James Davey, '34 bus, 1034 Murray Hill Avenue, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania.
- Mary I. Davis, '32as, 484 Orange Street, New Haven, Connecticut.
- Luther John Donaghey, '31bus, 203 North Sycamore Street, Pauls Valley.
- Charles F. Edgerton, '30geol, 1537 West Magnolia Street, San Antonio, Texas.
- Johnnie Hendricks, '33nurse, Nurses Quarters, Veterans Facility, Los Angeles, California.
- John D. Hockensmith, '32geol, 422 Beacon Life Building, Tulsa.



TOM STIDHAM MOVES UP

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 83)

duced. Homecoming Day spectators at the Missouri game this year were amazed to see Oklahoma put on touchdown drives of 72 and 50 yards without throwing a single pass, something an Oklahoma team hadn't done in years.

There have been other contributions too, most notable of which was installation of a training room with modern apparatus for taking care of the players; a central equipment office, thousands of dollars in stadium improvements secured through NYA labor, and a decided increase in player morale. Every time a Sooner team has gone on the field, it has played to win and not just to keep down the score.

Major Jones' system also calls for a frequent check and encouragement of each player scholastically and as a result, ineligibility because of grades was not a worry this year and the players have been taught that it is better not to get behind in their studies than to get behind and to have to make it up by summer school attendance and correspondence.

Major Jones' record at Oklahoma:

	1935	
Sooners	3	Colorado 0
Sooners	25	New Mexico 0
Sooners	7	Texas 12
Sooners	16	Iowa State 0
Sooners	0	Nebraska 19
Sooners	0	Kansas 7
Sooners	20	Missouri 6
Sooners	3	Kansas State 0
Sooners	25	Oklahoma Aggies 0
	99	44
Sooners won	6.	
Sooners lost	3.	
	1936	
Sooners	0	Tulsa 0
Sooners	8	Colorado 0
Sooners	0	Texas 6
Sooners	14	Kansas 0
Sooners	0	Nebraska 14
Sooners	7	Iowa State 7
Sooners	6	Kansas State 6
Sooners	14	Missouri 21
Sooners	35	Okla. Aggies 13
	84	67
Sooners won	3.	
Sooners lost	3.	
Sooners tied	3.	

DAVID ROSS BOYD, 1853-1936

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 80)

most beautiful towns in the state and the campus of the University one of the most attractive in the entire country.

While president of the University Dr. Boyd checked credits and enrolled personally all students seeking admission. He also traveled thousands of miles each year visiting remote villages and country school houses to speak to the people assembled there and tell them of the University and its work. During the fourteen years he served as president of the Territorial Board of Education, he made up examination questions for county teachers' examinations and for eighth grade graduates and was in general the leader of educational work in the Territory.

Before the opening of the Cherokee Outlet to settlement in 1893, Dr. Boyd journeyed to Washington and persuaded the president to set aside sections thirteen and thirty-three in each township for higher education and for public buildings. This precedent was followed in subsequent openings and later while president of the University of New Mexico he also selected and had set aside lands for that University. The importance of this work in both states can hardly be overestimated.

Dr. Boyd's father was active in the work of the "Underground Railroad" and his home was a "station" on the route followed by escaping slaves on their way to Canada. As a little boy Dr. Boyd often accompanied his father on trips to take fugitive slaves to the next station farther north. Perhaps these experiences helped to fix in his young mind that deep sympathy for the poor and helpless and oppressed which was ever after one of his most pronounced characteristics.

As president both of the University and the Territorial Board of Education Dr. Boyd was by far the most prominent man engaged in educational work in Oklahoma. Yet throughout his life he remained intensely democratic, never losing touch with the plain people from whom he sprang and whom he loved most. In travels about over Oklahoma to tell people about the University he visited in homes of the humblest of people, sleeping in sod houses, dugouts and log cabins. He sat at the tables of the poorest of the settlers, talked to them of their problems and of the future of their children, eagerly seeking to interest them in education.

Young men who had but the barest rudiments of schooling were urged to come to the University. For these he organized his famous "Push Class" composed of mature persons who had had little educational opportunities. Sometimes four or five of these young men would rent a little cottage and do their own housekeeping. Dr. Boyd would often visit