Sports review

By Harold Keith

SOONER athletic teams for the new school year beginning in September will be heavily manned by sophomores. Many of the names to be added to the roster of varsity teams are names that were made famous in high school competition.

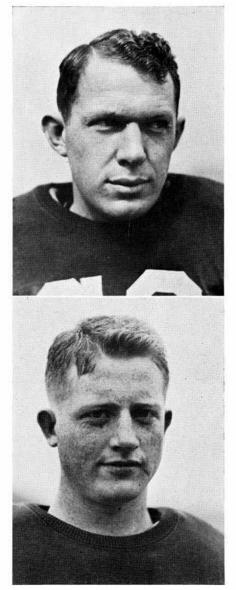
Sophomore backs who will stomp and prance for Coach Tom Stidham's Sooner football team this fall include Bob Seymour, Commerce, a 185-pound fullback; Howard "Red" McCarty and Nathan Stufflebean, Pauls Valley; Dick Clark, Cherokee, and Dick Favor, Crescent.

In the green Sooner line will crouch such sophomores as Alton Coppage, the Hollis speedster; Frank Ivy, Skiatook; John Shirk, Oklahoma City giant; and George Darrow, Oklahoma City, all ends. Also in the line will be Gilford Duggan, 218-pound tackle from Benton, Ark., and George Teeter, 210-pound tackle from Grandfield. Ralph Stevenson, Ponca City, a 180-pound guard, and George Wilhelm, Oklahoma City, a 190-pound center, also should see lots of play.

Losing seven seniors off his basketball team, Coach Hugh McDermott will throw a callow but salty sophomore squad on the floor alongside Senior Bill Martin. Among the new cagers are Marvin Mesch, Bartlesville; Jimmy McNatt, Norman; Clarence Buker, Gene Roop, Norman Sandusky and Bill Hough, Tulsa; Ben Kerr, McAlester; Clarence "Lefty" Benton, Shawnee; Roscoe Walker, Pawhuska; Donald Branyon, Cushing; Ted Deskins, Praise, Ky., and Bob Seymour.

Varsity baseball players of the last school year will have a heck of a time making the Sooner club next spring against such sophomore pitchers as Clarence "Lefty" Benton, J. R. Cross, Tulsa; James Pope, County Line; Jefferson Young, Loveland; Peewee Hartin, Oilton, and James Skinner, Ponca City, and also Joffre Cross, Billy King, Gus Baker and Clarence Buker, Tulsa; Victor Lasater, Broken Bow; Gene Hughes, Cushing; Roy Myers, McLoud; Jack Riley, Sayre; Joe Guelledge, Duncan; Francis Stephens, Duncan; Carroll Berryman, Ada; Melvin Bullington, Seminole, and J. C. Johnston, Oklahoma City.

Eight sophomores will make a strong try for places on Coach Paul Keen's Oklahoma wrestling team. They are Paul Lindsey, Tulsa, 118 pounds; Roy Stone, Tulsa, and Cecil Cross, Kingfisher, 126 pounds; Kenneth Chenault, Elk City, 135;



Nathan Stufflebean, above, and Howard "Red" McCarty, below, are two of the outstanding sophomore gridmen expected to go places for the Sooners this fall

J. W. Smith, Sulphur and Charles Robertson, Edmond, 155; David Ozmond, Gotebo, and James Miles, Sapulpa, 175 pounds.

Coach John Jacobs' Sooner track team should emerge from its 1937 mediocrity behind the eager charging of such kids as John Pritchard, Loup City, Neb., who is throwing the discus 158 feet and the shot near 50; Tim Finley, Mangum, a blond dash man whom Jacobs terms "a darned good prospects if I ever saw one;" Raymond Gahan, Blackwell, a half-miler; Jack Morris, Anadarko, who will cheerfully run anything from the hurdles to the two-mile; John Shirk and George Wilhelm, Oklahoma City, discus throwers; and Bob Seymour, a splendid decathlon prospect whom Coach Jacobs already has started grooming for the Kansas Relays next April.

Other leading sophomore runners, jumpers and peggers include Alton Coppage, Clarence Robinson, McClemmans, Mich.; Samuel "Red" Harris, Maysville; Willard Bradley, Olustee; Bill Hough, Malcolm Orr, Tulsa; Albert Tone, Okmulgee; John Mitchell, Oklahoma City; Joel Ketonen, Brooklyn, N. Y.; Halstead Townsend, New York City; and Ed Gross, Lynn, Mass.

Coach Jacobs' Sooner two-mile team next fall will be almost wholly a sophomore squad with Gahan, Morris, Robinson, Ketonen, Townsend and Gross reporting.

Nor will Coach Bruce Drake's golf team go begging for sophomores. Four of the best, among a horde of others, are Tommy Trower, Bartlesville, and Guy Underwood, Wichita Falls, intramural finalists; Marvin Mesch, the basketball player, and Rex Edwards, Oklahoma City, a pupil of Floyd Farley, the pro at Oklahoma City Woodlawn.

With the Big Six conference swimming meet coming to Oklahoma's new \$60,000 pool next March, Coach Drake also will be busy building a Sooner swimmir(g team. He'll construct it around such promising neophytes as Bob Cisar, Oklahoma City; Burton Hull, Houston, Texas; Alfredo Gamez, Maracay, Venezuela; and Bob Prince, Oklahoma City, all freestylers; Buddy Mott, Tulsa, back-stroker; George Satrapa, Oklahoma City, breaststroker; Herbert Reinhardt, Enid, diver and breast-stroker; and L. A. Swinney, Norman, fancy diver.

The Oklahoma tennis team of Coach Leslie Hewes also will benefit from addition of such sophomores as Joe Ben Champion, Ardmore, a Kemper transfer who once defeated Don McNeil in the interscholastic finals at Stillwater; Gene Roop, a member of Tulsa's state champion doubles team of 1936; Albert Slagle, a transfer from Central State Teachers College, and Sidney Selinger, Tulsa, a transfer from Wentworth Military Academy.

With this wealth of new material available for varsity teams, O. U. may well hope to regain the Big Conference allsports championship which it lost this year for the first time in five years. Nebraska was the winner for the last school year. Kansas State was second and the Sooners third.

The table for 1936-37:

	NEB.	K.S.	OK.	KAN.	MO.	I.S.
Football	1	3	4	6	2	5
Basketball	1 1/2	4	3	$1\frac{1}{2}$	5	6
Indoor track	1	3	6	5	2	4
Outdoor track	1	3	4	2	6	5
Baseball	5	3	1	6	*2	4
Two-mile	3	1	4	6	2	5
Swimming	1	4	51/2	3	51/2	2
Wrestling	5	2	3	6	4	1
Golf	1	6	2	3	5	4
Tennis	4	4	2	1	6	4
Totals	231/2	33	341/2	391/2	39 1/2	40

*Awarded championship plaque because Oklahoma didn't schedule the required number of games.