

OKLAHOMA has a kid basketball team this year that streaks down the court so fast you can hear it whiz long after the boys have passed from sight.

Only one man on it ever scored a point in Big Six conference play before this year—Bill Martin. Nearly all the others are sophomores whose motto is: "Rush the ball down to the other fellow's goal before he gets there in time to stop you."

Sooner fandom has gone gaga over this cocky, speedy, youthful aggregation which the newspapers have dubbed the "Boy Scats"

This new Sooner team, which averages only 19 years of age, has scored 40 points per contest to its opponents' 29, and won six out of its first seven games this season although playing all but two of them away from home.

The Boy Scats began their Big Six conference season by defeating Dr. F. G. "Phog" Allen's University of Kansas Jayhawkers, perennial champions, on the Jayhawkers' own floor at Lawrence January 9 by a score of 49 to 46, first conference game Kansas has dropped on her home court in three years. It was also the highest score ever made against Kansas by a Big Six team.

By Harold Keith

Hugh McDermott, dour-faced little Scotchman who has coached Sooner basketball teams for seventeen years now, is grinning this season because the new rules finally have given him a break. Elimination of the center jump has made basketball a game of speed and stamina and scoring and that's always been Mac's style at Oklahoma.

The youthful Sooners lack the height, weight, experience and reserve strength of the co-championship Kansas and Nebraska clubs, so don't expect them to win the Big Six conference championship. But if you like your basketball streamlined for speed, with sudden dashes down the floor, sharp, deft passing and a fast-moving player rising into the air to score—come on down to Norman and watch the Sooner "Boy Scats" do their stuff.

Everybody expected a Sooner flop this season when McDermott lost seven of his

eight first-stringers from last year's senior team—Tee Connelley, John Remy, Jerome "Shocky" Needy, Herman "Red" Nelson, Ed Otte, Jay Thomas, and Capt. Don Gunning.

Bill Martin, 180-pound junior from Blackwell who was listed as a guard in the box but who really was a forward and the fastest breaking player on last year's team, is the only regular back this season.

But McDermott took several fast kids off his last year's freshman team, blended them with the fast-breaking Martin and also Vernon Mullen, improved squad center from last year, and adding the muscles from the hind legs of a jack rabbit, the chassis of Sir Malcolm Campbell's Bluebird and sprinkling the whole with meteor dust, cast them all into a trim basketball speedster that would get a blue ticket for speeding every time he rolls it out on a court—if the speed cops could catch it.

Jimmy McNatt, a Norman kid; Marvin Mesch, a Cushing youngster and Roscoe Walker, a Pawhuska stripling, all three of them sophomores, comprise the Sooner first string along with Martin and Mullen.

Among the sophomore substitutes are Gene Roop, a skinny boy from Tulsa;
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Sports Review

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 13)

Ben Kerr, of McAlester; Marvin Snodgrass of Norman; Bill Haugh, Tulsa; Ray Caruthers, Chickasha; Herald Francis, Blanchard and Bob Seymour, the footballer from Commerce.

The first games were against Tulsa University's veteran team at Tulsa. Although the Golden Hurricane was favored, the young Sooners won both nights, 23 to 17 and 31 to 29. In each game Mc-Dermott tried to use every man on his squad, sacrificing a chance for a higher score to school his green youngsters.

Oklahoma next traveled south to Austin, Texas, where the University of Texas Longhorns were encountered twice on their own court. Texas won the first game, 31 to 28, but the young Sooners avenged that three-point spanking by coming back the next night to whip the Longhorns by 15 points, the final score reading Oklahoma 47, Texas 32.

The first games on the home court were against Rice Institute. The Sooner "Boy Scats" shot into a lead of 16 to 2 and with Oklahoma reserves playing much of the route, Oklahoma won, 51 to 41. The Sooners routed the big Owls even worse the second night, 50 to 10.

Then followed the Big Six opener against Doctor Allen's Kansas team at

Oklahoma, fast-breaking past the big Jayhawkers, sprinted into a lead of 9 to 2. Then Doctor Allen inserted his own small fast players and Kansas worked into a lead of 24 to 20 at the half. The Jayhawkers had increased their margin to 32 to 24 in the second half when Oklahoma began to burn up the court with her quick-breaking dashes and tied the score at 38 all with only a few minutes to

At this point Mesch, Oklahoma guard, committed his fourth personal foul and was banished from the court. A few minutes later Martin forlornly followed him and with these two regulars out and Kansas leading by four points and time about up, it looked bad for the Sooners.

But McDermott's kids are fighters. With the reserves coming through beautifully in the pinch, the Sooners tied the score at 46 all, went ahead on a free shot by Vernon Mullen, with one minute to go, and stretched the lead out still farther when McNatt hustled up the floor and sank a one-handed side shot in the final seconds of play.

Remainder of the 1938 schedule is:

Feb. 5 Nebraska at Norman.

Feb. 9 Nebraska at Lincoln.

Feb. 10 Kansas State at Manhattan.

Feb. 16 Oklahoma Aggies at Norman.

Feb. 18 Kansas at Norman.

Feb. 21 Missouri at Norman.

Feb. 26 Iowa State at Ames.

Feb. 28 Missouri at Columbia.

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