

Sports Review

By
Harold Keith

ALTHOUGH it was green and inexperienced at the start of the season, Coach Tom Stidham's Sooner football team this fall established the finest record an Oklahoma eleven has made in the last eleven years.

The Sooners, green at the start, began slowly but gathered power and poise with each game and closed the season with a rush, winning four straight games and losing but one game of the last eight played and it by an accident. The final tabulation was five games won, two lost, two tied for a percentage of .714.

Oklahoma was a second half team. Oklahoma scored 98 points, nearly all of them in the second half, to the foes' 39. And none of that 39 was made through the stout Oklahoma line.

Stidham's team missed winning the Big Six championship on an untimely deflection of a forward pass into an open Kansas player's hands in the last ten seconds of that contest.

Although Major Lawrence "Biff" Jones' Nebraska Cornhuskers won the flag by half a game, the Sooners made 62 points to Nebraska's 43, allowed 13 points scored against them to Nebraska's 20, outrushed Nebraska in Big Six play 652 yards to 538, completed 53 per cent of their forward passes to Nebraska's 31, outranked Nebraska in first downs, yards gained on kick runbacks, defense against rushing and passing and were even a slightly rougher team than the Cornhuskers, being penalized 195 yards to Nebraska's 185.

In the Nebraska-Oklahoma game at Lincoln October 23, the Cornhusker team that beat Minnesota, Indiana and Iowa and lost only to Pitt's Rose Bowl juggernaut 7-13 on a fluke, had an awful time with the Sooners. Oklahoma held Nebraska outside her 40-yard line the entire 60 minutes while penetrating Nebraska territory with the ball no less than 13 times, missing a placekick by inches and



John Pritchard, Oklahoma's star freshman shot put and discus prospect, who will return the second semester for the track season. Pritchard hurled the discus 168 feet 7 inches last year, best mark in America all year and second best in the world.

forcing the Cornhusker punters to kick the wet ball from behind their goal.

Although the game ended 0 to 0, on a dry field it seems only logical that Oklahoma would have made good on at least two or three of those 13 scoring opportunities. And with crippled Jack Baer able to be in the lineup, a Sooner triumph by two touchdowns would have been very probable.

▲ Good freshmen coming up

The question every Sooner alumnus is asking—who are the freshmen football players that will join the varsity next fall—is answered as briefly as possible below.

Don't condemn the Sooner freshman crop until you've had a chance to see how promising some of the out-of-state boys listed below are. Although the Sooners didn't get all the top-notch high schoolers in Oklahoma, they did draw some promising boys from surrounding states. Although the Sooner frosh crop isn't brilliant, it contains some pretty good prospects.

Here's the way the spring practice squad will probably line up, position by position.

End—Pete Smith lost. However six varsity holdovers remain, Waddy Young, Frank Ivy, Alton Coppage, John Shirk, Herb Mathers and Louis Hotchkiss. Freshmen ends include Gus Kitchens, Purcell, 170 pounds; Preach Jennings, Norman, 170; Eddie Calvert, Odessa, Tex., 170; Vic England, Ponca City, 175; Joe Tribbey, Purcell, 171.

Tackle—Tom Short and George Grace lost. However five varsity holdovers remain, Gilord "Cactus Face" Duggan, Howard Teeter, J. R. Manley, Albert Ryan and Charles Martin. Freshmen tackles include Justin Bowers, Waukegan, Ill., 210; Harold Lahar, Oklahoma City Central, 210; George McDermitt, Ardmore, 180; Wright Phebus, Union City, Tenn., 208; Dave Osmund, Gotebo, 185.

Guard—Fred Ball and Jiggs Walker lost. However four varsity holdovers remain, Jim Thomas, Ralph Stevenson, Ken Sharp and Jerry Bolton. Freshmen guards available are: Lavern Bearden, Marlow, 190; Charles Delhotel, Laverne, 200; Claude Gibson, Henryetta, 180; Homer Potter, Houston, Texas, 185; Lowell Wood, Stephenville, Tex., 194.

Center—Mickey Parks lost. However two varsity holdovers remain, Bill LaRue, and George Wilhelm. Freshmen centers available are: Fred Hoover, Muskogee, 200; Cliff Speagle, Oklahoma City, 170; and Norvel Wood, Norman, 170.

Backs—Jack Baer, Al Corrotto, Woody Huddleston, and Webber Merrell lost. Varsity holdovers remaining include Gene Corrotto, Howard "Red" McCarty, Beryl Clark, Otis Rogers, Nathan Stufflebean, Earl Crowder, Dick Favor, Hugh McCullough, Bob Seymour and Raphael Boudreau. Freshman backs available include: Jack Abney, Shreveport, La., 170; Don Desmond, Ponca City, 170; Bill Jennings, Norman, 170; John Martin, Broken Bow, 180; Verne Merrifield, Sayre, 172; Tom Myers, Tyler, Tex., 165; Ed Spottswood, Norman, 171; J. W. Stapelton, Wewoka, 170; Jim Stinson, Mountain View, 185; Michael Simon, Tipton, 150 and Merle Williams, Stroud, 172.

Of course this alignment is subject to change in position by the coaches. Also several of the freshmen listed above haven't yet passed the eligibility hoodoo. But the lineup gives a pretty good general idea what the Sooners will have back.

▲ Basketball squad green

Although he retains only one regular from last year's Oklahoma team that won 7 and lost 3 to gain third place in the Big Six and divided two games with Hank Iba's Oklahoma Aggies, Missouri Valley conference champions, Coach Hugh McDermott has some fine looking sophomore basketball players this season which means Oklahoma should be strong in 1939 and 1940.

Bill Martin, senior guard, is the only returning veteran. Vern Mullen, junior center, a substitute last year, will also return as will Harley Shirk, John Grayson, Harold Gist and Pete Smith, all squad men who did not letter.

This means McDermott will have to draw almost entirely from sophomores to build his squad. Among the most likely are: Marvin Snodgrass, Norman; James

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Belles Lettres and Bell Ringers

Why We Do It, by Dr. Edward C. Mason.
C. V. Mosby Company, St. Louis, Mo.
1937. \$1.50.

GREAT advances have been made in recent years in the fields of psychiatry, psychology and physiology, but most of the new developments have been presented in such technical form that they are of little advantage to the layman.

Dr. Edward C. Mason, professor of physiology in the University of Oklahoma School of Medicine, has boiled down the best established theories of practical psychology and presented them in an elementary discussion aptly titled *Why We Do It*.

In the preface of this book, Dr. Mason frankly admits that it seems impossible to use a terminology that would prove satisfactory to all the various schools of psychology. He therefore compromises by trying to use terms most nearly satisfactory to the psychologist, the psychiatrist and the physiologist, and at the same time make it intelligible to the general reader.

His thought in writing the book is well explained in this paragraph:

"If this brief presentation aids some parent in adjusting his child to its environment, or if it prompts some individual to seek the aid of a psychiatrist before filing suit for divorce, the author will feel his efforts have been justified."

The chapters on family relationships and the training of children are of special value, although they are discussed only as certain phases of the general subject of human behavior and the reasons behind it.

The discussions of the relation between physiology and behavior are especially interesting.

Psychological theories involved in the way in which the three "dynamis" of interest (Ego, Sex, and Herd) influence human conduct are well presented.

All in all, the book gives the impression of being scientifically sound, and at the same time non-technical enough to be read and understood by the general reader.

Newspapers and medical journals have praised the book extensively. Some typical comments are:

"Scientific terms which hitherto have been mere jargon for the lay mind take on a meaning easily understood by the educated."—*Journal South Carolina Medical Association*.

"It is addressed to the educated public and understandable terminology is used."—*New York Physician*.

"We congratulate the author upon his splendid presentation of the subject. We

recommend the reading of this book as compulsory home work for all physicians who wish to keep posted on new thoughts in medicine."—*Southwestern Medicine*.

"Dr. Mason explains how best to make the child acceptable to society and to insure it a happy and useful future. He shows the part of both parents and teachers in this transformation."—*Boston Globe*.

"This straightforward account of nervous and mental disorders will clarify for the layman many psychological terms more commonly used than understood."—*Tulsa World*.

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McNatt, Norman; Ben Kerr, McAlester; Marvin Mesch, Cushing; Don Branyon, Cushing; Gene Roop, Tulsa; R. E. Caruthers, Chickasha; Bill Haugh, Norman; Roscoe Walker, Pawhuska; Sam Harris, Maysville; Joffre Cross, Tulsa; Herald Francis, Blanchard; Albert Tone, Maud; Bob Seymour, Commerce; Frank Ivy, Skiatook, and John Shirk, Oklahoma City.

Lettermen lost from last year are Capt. Don Gunning, Tee Connelley, Jerome Needy, Ed Otte, John Remy, Jay Thomas, and Herman "Red" Nelson.

Remainder of the schedule is:

Jan. 3, 4—Rice at Norman.
Jan. 7—Kansas at Lawrence.
Jan. 13—Oklahoma Aggies at Stillwater.
Jan. 17—Iowa State at Norman.
Jan. 31—Kansas State at Norman.
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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Five mat veterans

Oklahoma will also have a sophomore wrestling squad this year. Coach Paul Keen retains five lettermen, Gene Ross 135 pounds; D. C. Matthews, 126; Buster Anderson, 145; Marshall Word, 165; and Fred Ball, heavyweight, but lost his national champion, Bill Keas, and also such standbys as Port Robertson, Billy Carr, and Charley Carson.

Squad men available this year include Harry James, 126; Jack Ridley, 118; Ralph Merkle, 155; Waddy Young, heavyweight; Ben Bell, 135; Woodrow Page, 165; and O. V. Northcutt, 145.

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