

# Sports Review

By Harold Keith

## BIG SIX STANDINGS

	W	L	Pct.	Pts.	Av. Opp.
Oklahoma	5	2	.714	44.8	39.1
Missouri	4	3	.571	44.2	39.4
Kansas	4	3	.571	37.7	39.4
Iowa State	4	4	.500	43.8	46.5
Nebraska	3	5	.375	42.6	45.3
Kansas State	2	5	.286	37.0	39.5

**R**OAD games with Kansas February 25, Nebraska March 4 and Kansas State March 6 will thoroughly test Coach Bruce Drake's University of Oklahoma basketball team which was leading the Big Six conference race February 18.

The Sooners closed a perfect season at home by drubbing Iowa State February 18, 60 to 41, establishing the highest score made by a Big Six team this year.

Jimmy McNatt, junior forward from Norman, was the hero of the night, breaking Omar "Bud" Browning's Big Six individual scoring record with white hot shooting that saw him pour 14 field goals and a single foul shot through the iron rings for a total of 29 points. Browning scored 27 points against the championship Kansas club in the final game of his career at Norman in 1935. McNatt has one more year of competition.

The truculence Oklahoma showed against the Cyclones can be attributed to their defeat two nights earlier by Hank Iba's Oklahoma Aggies, Missouri Valley conference leaders, at Stillwater. The Sooners stepped out on the new Aggie floor with the determination to break the Farmer run of 35 consecutive victories there. However Iba's fine team screened and guarded superlatively the second half, holding the Sooners without a field goal and winning 32 to 22. Thus the two squads divided basketball honors for the year, the Sooners having thumped Iba's boys 34 to 30 at Norman in an earlier meeting.

Coach Bruce Drake's Oklahomans lost two regulars in the Aggie defeat, Herb Scheffler, 6-foot 3-inch center, and Marvin Snodgrass, crack junior guard, both of whom suffered badly sprained ankles and could not play against Iowa State.

However neither was needed as Drake sent in Vernon "Moon" Mullens, 6-foot 4-inch senior, and Ben Kerr, 6-foot 3-inch junior. Mullens and Kerr's defensive rebound play had as much to do with the Oklahoma victory over the Cyclones as McNatt's great gunning. They dominated the Iowa State basket, rarely failing to come down with the ball after a missed shot, gave the Sooners an over-



Coach Bruce Drake

whelming advantage on jump balls, played their post positions well and fought just as fiercely under the Oklahoma goal as they had under that of the opponents, leaping high to divert missed shots back to the smaller Sooner back-line players.

Perhaps the most thrilling game of the year at Norman occurred February 11 when Missouri's powerful aggregation unloosed one of the most deadly scoring surges ever seen in the Fieldhouse to whip into a 20 to 7 lead in the first half. The amazing long shooting of Hal Halstead, Tiger guard, helped break down Oklahoma's morale during this drive. Eight times Halstead fired from far out on the court, delivering low trajectory shots that had a long way to travel, yet on five occasions the ball whooshed through cleanly.

But the Boy Scats rallied to drive the Tigers off the court in the last half and win 43 to 40 as the crowd shrieked encouragement. Hero of that game was Snodgrass who checked John Lobsinger, Missouri ace, without a field goal the

first half and when given custody of the unstoppable Halstead the last half, also rode him without permitting a point.



## Indoor meet victory

Coach John Jacobs' Oklahoma track team won the first indoor dual meet of the University's history at Lincoln, Nebraska, February 18 by defeating the Cornhuskers, 54 to 50, second dual indoor licking Nebraska has ever taken on her home track.

Jacobs' highly-keyed charges won seven of the eight races, taking the decisive mile relay by 40 yards. Ray Gahan, blond Sooner junior from Blackwell, won both the mile and 880 by inches after thrilling stretch duels.

Nebraska was handicapped when Bob Simmons, her Big Six outdoor 440-yard champion, pulled a leg muscle before the meet and could not compete. Oklahoma was also crippled by absence of John Shirk, high-jumper, and John Pritchard, shot-putter, and further handicapped by a muscle injury to Malcolm "Red" Orr, her 24-foot broad jumper.



## Stidham seeks speed

Coach Tom Stidham has ambitious plans for his University of Oklahoma football squad next fall in spite of the drubbing of the Sooners by Tennessee in the Orange Bowl game.

"We are going to aim for speed and a more open attack in 1939," the big Indian whose Sooner teams have won 15, lost 3 and tied 2 games, including the first conference championship an Oklahoma team has won in 18 years, announced on the eve of Oklahoma's spring drill which starts March 1.

"That doesn't mean we'll go forward pass crazy," Stidham hastened to explain, "No good team can get away from the importance of fundamental off-tackle play. But we want both.

"Speed in every position is what we're after. Any football coach knows how essential speed is but its importance was especially emphasized to us at Miami January 2 in the bitter experience of the Orange Bowl game. That was the big thing we learned and none of us ever get too old to learn.

"Nope, we aren't going after lighter linesmen. A big man can be fast in spite of his heft. What we want from our players is a faster charge and more ability to move in a hurry. So John Jacobs, our track coach, is going to take over our entire squad for a short time during spring practice and teach the boys starting and sprinting."

Stidham is trying to schedule Tennessee, which returns the flower of its great team next fall save for Capt. Bowden Wyatt, right end, and Babe Wood, reserve fullback, for an intersectional game next December 2 at Norman, provided he can persuade Major Bob Neyland, the Vol coach, and also secure permission of the Big Six conference.

He also is seeking to induce Dana Bible, Texas athletic director, to switch the Texas-Oklahoma game site from Dallas to Norman on odd years, starting next fall. This would strengthen the Oklahoma home schedule on alternate years when Kansas, Iowa State and Oklahoma A. and M. come to Norman.

The Sooner schedule next fall, as it now stands:

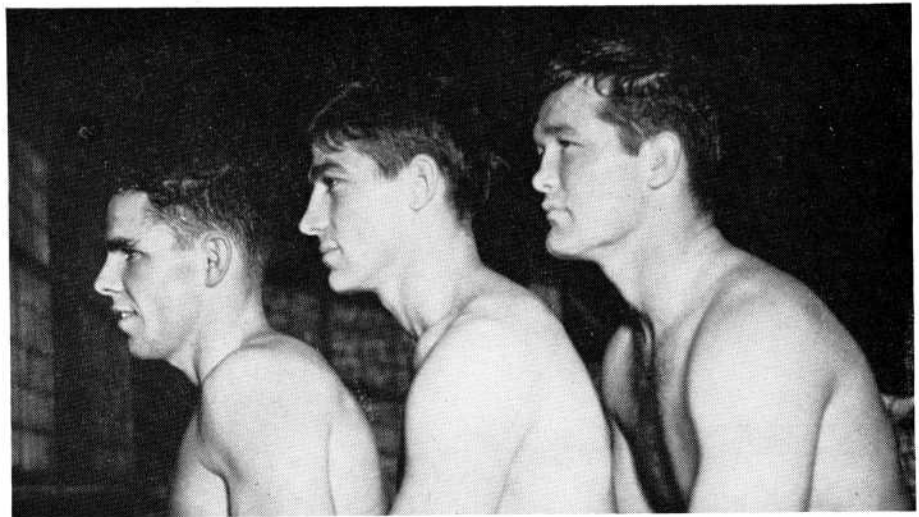
- Sept. 30 Southern Methodist at Norman.
- Oct. 7 Northwestern at Evanston.
- Oct. 14 Texas at Dallas.
- Oct. 21 Kansas at Norman.
- Oct. 28 Open date.
- Nov. 4 Iowa State at Norman.
- Nov. 11 Kansas State at Manhattan.
- Nov. 18 Missouri at Columbia.
- Nov. 25 Nebraska at Lincoln.
- Nov. 30 Oklahoma Aggies at Norman.

The Sooners lose seven players, nearly all of them first stringers, from their championship team of this season. Waddy Young, All-American right end, and Jim Thomas, guard, are linesmen lost. Hugh McCullough, all-Big Six fullback, Earl Crowder, all-Big Six halfback; Otis Rogers, Gene Corrotto and Raphael Boudreau, placekicking expert, are backs lost.

Bill Jennings, Jerry Bolton and Howard "Red" McCarty, the three men who were out of the Orange Bowl game with injuries, are doing fine. Jennings and Bolton are off their crutches and attending classes. McCarty is still in an Oklahoma City hospital but will be dismissed soon. None of the three will participate in spring drill, with the possible exception of Jennings who may be able to do light work.

Stidham plans several position changes in his spring practice. Gus Kitchens, Purcell sophomore, and Alton Coppage, Hollis junior, ends last year, will be tried at the right halfback position. Johnny Martin, Broken Bow sophomore and right half last year, will be used at fullback and George Wilhelm, 208-pound Oklahoma City junior, at tackle.

Among the new freshmen backs who will be sophomores next fall, Jack Jacobs, the Muskogee Indian, will be tried at left half. So will L. G. Frederichs, New Orleans, Louisiana, boy, and Ralph Stufflebean, Pauls Valley midget. Marvin Whited, Hollis, and Paul Woodson, Oklahoma City, will be tried at Crowder's blocking back post. Byron Potter, Oklahoma City, and Jack Steele, Lone Wolf, will work at fullback. Maury West, Oklahoma City; Wes Jones, Thomas, and J. S. Munsey, Norman, will be used at right half.



Principal strength of Coach Paul V. Keen's Sooner wrestling team this year lies in the three heaviest weights. Left to right in the picture are Charles Robinson, 165 pounds; Jim Miles, 175; and "Waddy" Young, heavyweight and also all-American end on Coach Tom Stidham's football team last fall.

Only sophomores will be called out the first ten days of the spring practice, Stidham said. They will probably line up as follows, subject to a change in position as often as the coaches decree:

**ENDS**—Fred Berg, 190 pounds, 6 feet 1 inch, Wewoka; Lyle Smith, 195, 6-1, Fairview; Louis Sharpe, 200, 6-4, Checotah; Keith Rigney, 180, 6, Muskogee; Charles Starr, 190, 6-3, Claremore; and Ray Mullens, 190, 6-2, Seminole.

**TACKLES**—Roger Eason, 205, 6-1, Oklahoma City; Clovis Pierce, 200, 6-2, Oklahoma City; Olin Keith, 210, 6, Hollis.

**GUARDS**—Chad Vallance, 200, 5-11, Greenwood, Mississippi; Ralph Harris, 240, 5-10, Stroud; Allen Fender, 190, 5-11, Stroud; Harmon Graham, 200, 5-10, Holdenville; Harold Reed, 220, 5-9½, Tulsa; Roscoe Miller, 170, 5-11, Norman.

**CENTERS**—Jack Marsee, 180, 6, Disney; Willis Wick, 190, 5-10, Muskogee.

**BACKS**—Maury West, 180, 6, Oklahoma City; J. S. Munsey, 164, 5-11, Norman; Wes Jones, 190, 6, Thomas; Marvin Whited, 185, 5-10, Hollis; Paul Woodson, 210, 6, Oklahoma City; Jack Jacobs, 190, 6-1½, Muskogee; L. G. Frederichs, 168, 5-10, New Orleans, Louisiana; Ralph Stufflebean, 145, 5-7½, Pauls Valley.

Varsity players will be formed as follows when they report:

**ENDS**—Frank Ivy, John Shirk, Louis Hotchkiss, Eddie Calvert, Joe Tribbey.

**TACKLES**—Gilford Duggan, Justin Bowers, Harold Lahar, J. R. Manley, Wright Phebus, Harold Edgeman, George Wilhelm.

**GUARDS**—Ralph Stevenson, Bill Larue, Norval Locke.

**CENTERS**—Cliff Speegle; Novel Wood.

**BACKS**—Dick Favor, Ed Spottswood, Bob Seymour, Beryl Clark, Bill Jennings,

Robert West, Merle Williams and Johnny Martin.

#### Coaches turn speakers

The Sooner football staff was swamped this year with high school football banquet invitations. After the season ended, invitations to speak and show motion pictures of Sooner games were accepted from the following Oklahoma cities and towns: El Reno, Okemah, Clinton, Hobart, Tecumseh, Konawa, Commerce, Wewoka, Ardmore, Thomas, Garber, Medford, Hugo, Okmulgee, Pawhuska, Erick, McAlester, Perkins, Wagoner, Anadarko, Cushing, Chickasha, Bristow, Ponca City, Shawnee, Cherokee, Oklahoma City, Miami, Altus, Madill, Walters, Duncan, Sapulpa, Lawton, Moore and Norman.

#### Mat defeat

The Sooner wrestling team lost a dual meet to the Edmond Teachers at Norman February 3, by a score of 12 to 14. Surprise of the meet was the defeat by Benton Hart, rangy Edmond man, of Hoy Stone, Sooner Big Six champion at 128 pounds. Hart won a decision, 3 points to 1, using a hook scissors to turn the trick.

#### Broadcast heard in Scotland

To Joseph Rutenberg Zabo, '35, goes the distinction of being one of the farthest away Sooner football fans. Zabo wrote from Glasgow, Scotland, that he heard a direct broadcast of an Oklahoma football game during the last season. He added that he "enjoyed it immensely."

Sports chaff . . . Coach Lawrence "Jap" Haskell's Oklahoma baseball squad, 35 strong, has been practicing since late in January. . . So has John Jacobs' Sooner indoor track team which faces Nebraska in the first dual indoor meet in the history of Sooner athletics at Lincoln February 18.