

Phys Ed Majors

More and more, high schools are turning to O. U. to find physical education teachers

CASUAL newspaper readers might be inclined to think of all women athletes as being divided into two classes: one consisting of big-muscled (and unusually homely) professionals, and the other consisting of curvaceous and sprightly co-eds ready to pose at the drop of a camera shutter, in scanty shorts and wielding a tennis racket or shooting an arrow into the sky.

Since 1926, when women's physical education was first made a major subject, the University of Oklahoma has been turning out a different kind of woman athlete.

One hundred twenty-six girls have majored in physical education in that period and have gone out from Norman to take responsible positions as physical education teachers, recreation directors and other similar posts. Many of them are now department heads in high schools or colleges, and direct the physical education work of large groups of students.

Evidence that women who go in for athletics rank high in attractiveness is found in the fact that fifty-two of the graduates—nearly half of the total—already are married. And better still, there isn't a single divorce in the entire list!

Miss Ima James is the head of the University's department of physical education for women, and effectiveness of her work is being demonstrated by the success of her graduates. There is such a close feeling between this department head and her former students that last Christmas Miss James received ninety-one Christmas cards from her "phys ed" majors.

The records of some of the graduates give a cross section of the kind of work that they are doing.

Mrs. Walter B. Cherry (Kathryn Short, '34phys.ed) is engaged for the fifth year in the field of recreation for physically handicapped children as instructor in the W. J. Bryan School for Crippled Children, Oklahoma City. There, she says, physical education has taken on a new meaning and involves the fine arts, handicraft, nature study, organized games, and other recreational pursuits for crippled youngsters.

For several years Mrs. Cherry has been a sponsor for both Camp Fire Girls and the Girl Scouts.

Before joining the Bryan School, Mrs.



Some of the outstanding graduates of the women's physical education department. Left to right across the top: Virginia Perkinson, Maxine Richardson, Marya Welch, Hazel Virginia Morris, Mary Louise McElwee. Left center, Maurine Bowling. The hurdling equestrienne is Lurline Kraft. On the far right, middle row, is Clennie Kilgore. Bottom row, left to right: Virginia Springer, Mrs. Opal Wilson Cowan, Elizabeth Barrowman, Mrs. Kathryn Short Cherry (with closeup just above), and lower right corner, Gladys Woods

Cherry was employed in recreational and playground work in Norman and Oklahoma City. On the University campus she was active in management of the women's intramural program, and was a member of varsity teams in hockey, volleyball, baseball, tennis, track, and basketball.

An assistant professor of physical education at the University now, Maurine



Ima James, head of the department of physical education for women

Bowling, '31phys.ed, began teaching at Oklahoma City University the year of her graduation. She was head of the physical education department there from 1931 to 1935. During several of those years she was also director of health and physical education at the Oklahoma City Y.W.C.A.

From 1935 until last September Miss Bowling was an instructor in physical education at the University of Oklahoma. She was made assistant professor last fall. This year she has helped to set up one of the best intramural programs for women in the Southwest.

Last summer Miss Bowling received the degree of master of arts at the University of Michigan. Her thesis, "A Content for Standards for Women's Intramurals in Colleges and Universities," received considerable recognition.

One the campus as a student she was prominent in Delta Psi Kappa, Women's Athletic Association, and Ducks Club.

Another outstanding "phys ed" major is Mrs. James A. Cowan (Opal Wilson, '31phys.ed). On moving to Houston, Texas, in 1936, she began working for the Houston Recreational Department. She later joined the faculty of Milby Senior High School for nine months before going to Reagan Senior High, where she is teaching at the present time.

Under a new program at Reagan High this year, each of the physical education instructors handles all of the 1,084 girl

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students during a semester. In addition to supervision over a department, every teacher supervises an extracurricular club, and sponsors an event on the annual May Fete program of the combined seven senior high schools of the city. Mrs. Cowan's presentation this year is to be an Indian water pageant.

Among the campus activities in which she took part are Delta Psi Kappa, W.A.A., Business Girls' Club, Ducks, Dusty Travelers, and Blue Divers.

In the summer of 1936 Elisabeth Barrowman, '36phys.ed, began her work in the field of women's athletics when she was chosen the tennis and swimming counselor for Camp Kamaji, Cass Lake, Minnesota.

Miss Barrowman is now head of the department of physical education at Southwestern State College of Diversified Occupations. She taught six weeks in Central High School in Oklahoma City before the college position was offered her.

Her work at Southwestern has included assisting in the direction of a number of varied programs, including a Spanish Fiesta and three style shows. She is sponsor of Forensia, honorary club for women there, of Delta Sigma Epsilon, national education fraternity for women, and of the college's freshman class.

In her final year at the University Miss Barrowman was president of W.A.A. She was also a member of Ducks, Racket Club, and Dusty Travelers.

After teaching "a little of everything" for a year in the small school at Telluride, Colorado, Virginia Springer, '35phys.ed, went the following year to Okmulgee High School as physical education instructor and pep club sponsor. She taught an adult education class at the same time.

Miss Springer was given the task of launching an entirely new department of girls' physical education in the new field-house of the Ponca City Senior High School, when she joined the faculty there in the fall of 1938. As head of that department, which is now well under way, she started a playday for high school girls of towns within a fifty-mile radius of Ponca City. It will be an annual affair, the attendance of 300 girls having indicated wide interest.

A member of Kappa Alpha Theta sorority, Miss Springer was social chairman of W.A.A., and belonged to the Ducks at the University.

Virginia Perkinson, '28phys.ed, is physical education instructor at Sherman Institute, Riverside, California, one of the largest Indian schools in the nation. She has charge of all girls, who make up about half of the enrolment of one thousand students. Her work includes taking them into the mountains near Riverside for a month each summer for camping in rough, outdoor fashion. Only tents, blankets, and other essentials are used.

Another part of Miss Perkinson's work takes her over a large part of the West contacting parents of Indian children. The school, a United States government institution, attempts to secure the enrolment of all children of high school age in Indian families on the western reservations.

For two years after her graduation, Miss Perkinson taught at Norman High School. She also served as Norman Camp Fire Girls executive at that time.

For the second year Gladys Woods, '34 phys.ed, is directing the department of physical education for girls in Okmulgee High School. She has organized two pep squads, the first Okmulgee district playday, and has secured the institution of health examinations and corrective courses in the high school.

As physical instructor at Perry, Oklahoma, 1935-37, she inaugurated intramural games. She supervised the first county playday there. At the time she was earning her master's degree at Oklahoma A. and M. in 1934 and '35, Miss Woods held a graduate teaching position.

Before leaving O.U. with her degree in physical education, she was president of Delta Psi Kappa, president of the Ducks and of Dusty Travelers. She was a member of the rifle, swimming, and hockey teams, besides belonging to the Riding and Polo Association.

Another alumna entrusted with the job of introducing physical education for girls into a school is Hazel Virginia Morris, '32phys.ed. She is teaching at the combined high school and junior college in Washington, Iowa. She also is building a physical education program for the elementary schools in the town.

Miss Morris began teaching in Wheeler grade school in Oklahoma City after her graduation. She later went to Taft Junior High as the head of girls' physical education.

At the University Miss Morris took part in the activities of the Ducks, Dusty Travelers, Y.W.C.A., Delta Psi Kappa, and W.A.A.

Prior to her graduation from the University Clennie Kilgore, '34phys.ed, had begun to teach in the elementary school at Washington, Oklahoma. She continued to teach afterward, going to Okmulgee for a year, to Phoenix, Arizona, for a year, and then to Corpus Christi, her present residence.

In addition to regular work, Miss Kilgore has directed Business and Professional Women's Clubs in the towns where she has taught. She has sponsored intramural activities, dance groups, pageants, and playdays.

She has done graduate study at Norman, at the University of Texas, and at Arizona State Teachers College, where she will finish in 1941. On the O.U. campus she belonged to the W.A.A., the Ducks, and Delta Psi Kappa.

Women's tennis champion of Arkansas for several years, Mary Louise McElwee,

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'38phys.ed, is head of the physical education department of Hendrix College, Conway, Arkansas. Last year she was in charge of the largest May Festival that has been presented at the college.

During the summers since her graduation, Miss McElwee has been studying chemistry and physics as part of the requirements for the degree of M.D. toward which she is working.

President of the W.A.A. at the University, Miss McElwee also served as treasurer of Mortar Board. She was president of Racket Club and Dusty Travelers, and a member of several of the other women's societies.

With only the horseback riding of freshman physical education to her credit, Lurline Kraft, '38phys.ed, was made assistant riding counselor at the large and exclusive Camp Kamaji, for girls, at Cass Lake, Minnesota. She has returned each succeeding summer to that position.

In the spring of 1938 Miss Kraft demonstrated her horsemanship by winning the cup for three-feet, six-inches, open jumping competition at the Oklahoma City Horse Show.

She is teaching her second year at Stand Watie, an Oklahoma City elementary school.

A member of Delta Delta Delta sorority, Miss Kraft served as secretary of the W.A.A., as treasurer of Racket Club, president of the Ducks, captain of Timber Cruisers, and was a member of the Y.W.C.A. and the Intramural Council.

Maxine Richardson, '39phys.ed, is teaching this year in Pampa, Texas, after working last summer as director of McKinley Park in Oklahoma City.

She has gained wide recognition for her pitching on the Street's Ready-to-Wear softball team in Oklahoma City. Under the business management of G. M. Byerley, her team has taken part in the National Amateur Softball Tournament at Chicago three years, and last year played a team of eastern all-stars in Madison Square Garden.

She also won the state tennis singles title for women in 1937 and 1939, and was co-winner in the doubles matches last year.

Elected to the Junior Women's Honor class of 1938, Miss Richardson belonged to Mortar Board, and was president of the W.A.A. at the University.

After attending the University of California at Berkeley a year, in addition to securing her degree at Norman, Marya Welch was given a position as instructor of physical education in the senior high school at Woodland, California, last fall.

At the University of California she was elected to Nu Sigma Psi, honorary physical education society. She taught two classes there, swimming and diving.

Before leaving O.U., Miss Welch became a member of the W.A.A., Rifle Club, Ducks, Racket Club, Dusty Travelers, and Newman Club. She belonged to Delta Gamma sorority.

Sports Review

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Orville Mathews, with some playing experience. Also Jack Steele and Maury West of the 1939 squad. Also freshmen Pat Shanks, Drumright; Huel Hamm, Oklahoma City; Lindell Hayes, Wagoner; Charles Denison, Idabel; Clyde Parrish, Ardmore; Dene Harp, Fairview; Bill Mattox, Walters; Boyd Bibb, Sayre; Bill Campbell, Pawhuska and Roy Cagle, Oklahoma City.



Thirty-five hundred students and faculty members, out to prove that they weren't fair-weather fans, marched into the University Fieldhouse after the close of the football season to pay tribute to Tom Stidham's Sooner football team, which the Saturday before had lost its second straight game of the season to Nebraska's powerful Cornhuskers.

Vigorous cheers echoed through the building in response to speeches by President Bizzell and Coach Stidham and short talks by the football players, who were introduced from the stage.

Biggest applause came to Dr. Bizzell's reference to Stidham as "one of the greatest coaches in America and one of the greatest football strategists in the nation."

"I'd like to remind you," the University president told his hearers, "that if you harbor any feeling of disappointment over the season, all that stood in the way of complete victory was a little arithmetic—one touchdown and one field goal."

"We should have won at Missouri. We had the best team on the field up there. We went up against a team (Nebraska) Saturday that had pointed for O.U. all year. It meant everything in the world to Biff Jones to beat Tom Stidham."



Paul Young, Oklahoma's great all-Big Six center of 1931 now coaching at Ardmore, figured humorously in the news right after Thanksgiving.

Young's green Ardmore team, losing all but one regular from its powerful last year's aggregation, had lost every game this fall up to the Thanksgiving finale with Pauls Valley, to be played at Pauls Valley.

Fearing Pauls Valley's favorite strategem, the old "hide out" play, Young stationed an Ardmore scout in the stands with an old-fashioned coon horn and instructed him to blow it long and loud every time Pauls Valley tried the "hide out" play. He then warned his boys to be alert and listen for the blast of the horn.

In the game that followed Pauls Valley tried the play twice, and each time Young's keen-eyed grandstand scout detected it and blew his horn with all the power in his lungs.

However, in spite of Young's precaution, his befuddled Ardmore boys had forgotten what the horn meant and Pauls Valley completed both passes and won the game, 19 to 7!

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