



'Indian Jack' Jacobs is slated to carry much of the passing load for the Sooners

Potter, L. G. Friedrichs and J. S. Munsey, backs.

What could they do besides eat heartily at the training table?

Coppage was about as fine an end as either Shirk or Ivy, so good that he, too, is playing "pro" football. Who can forget Bolton's ferocious tackling, particularly in 1938? Or big Potter's smashes through Kansas and Nebraska? Or Munsey's smart quarterbacking as he drove the second team to the touchdown against Missouri and also coxswained the two long drives against Nebraska that were stopped only by fumbles? Friedrichs was a promising triple threat, and Locke a double tough defensive guard who made several consecutive tackles every time he was put in, including two against Tennessee that saved a touchdown in the Orange Bowl game at Miami. Those chaps all earned their training table groceries.

Who are the first team players left?

Bill Jennings, the right halfback, who has been shifted to left end, and either Cliff Speegle or Novel Wood, the two centers who played about the same amount of time.

With all those players gone, is it true that the Sooner team will be weak this fall and that football at the state university will go back, for at least one year, to the mediocre teams we had from 1921 through 1936?

No. The Sooners this fall will have a green squad, but an extremely promising one. Thanks to Tom Stidham's aggressive stoppage of the leak of crack Oklahoma high school players to the high-pressure recruiting schools of the West Coast, Big Ten and Southern conferences, the Sooner sophomores are good and as they acquire experience with each passing game, the squad should improve. And everybody knows Stidham's ability to develop reserves.

What is the weakest position this fall?

End. With Ivy, Shirk, Coppage, Mullen and Starr gone, the Sooners are hard hit at end. Only the two substitute right ends from last year, Lyle Smith and Tree Top Sharpe, are back in the shafts this fall. Two sophomores, Dub Lamb of Ardmore and Ervin Oesterle of Henryetta, are available and also Bill Bentley of Oklahoma City, a husky basketball player. But the end situation is so acute that Stidham shifted Jennings, his only remaining first team back, to end and is even prepared to try Center Cliff Speegle there if enemy teams run over the Sooner wings in the early games.

What is the strongest position?

That's easy—center. Speegle and Wood, senior veterans, return. Also Jack

How About the Sooners This Fall?

By HAROLD KEITH

Is it true that the Sooners have really suffered a tremendous loss of veteran players or is that just Coach Tom Stidham's annual complaint?

Both. It's the Big Chief's annual complaint and it's true.

How many lettermen have been lost from last year's club?

Eighteen or almost two full teams of departed experienced players.

How many of them were on the first team?

Nine. Frank Ivy and John Shirk, ends; Gilford Duggan and Justin Bowers, tackles; Ralph Stevenson and J. R. Manley, guards; Dick Favor, blocking back; Beryl Clark, halfback; Bob Seymour fullback.

Were they any good?

Ask Northwestern. Or Texas. Ivy and Duggan were All-Americans and all-Big Six. Bowers, Shirk, Stevenson, Clark and Seymour were named on all-Big Six teams. Shirk, Ivy and Favor helped drive the West to a decisive triumph over the East in the Shrine game last New Year's day, Favor doing the quarterbacking. Clark was the leading scorer of the Big Six and

the most accurate forward passer in America last year. And everybody knows how valuable to the club Seymour was. Oklahoma was never beaten until he got hurt in the eighth game of the 1939 schedule. And if you want further proof, all of them are in "pro" football this fall except Bowers, who was accidentally killed in an automobile crash last February.

How many subs off last year's team are lost?

Nine. They are Alton Coppage and Ray Mullen, ends; George Wilhelm and Wright Phebus, tackles; Jerry Bolton and Capt. Norval Locke, guards; and Byron

OKLAHOMA FOOTBALL

1940

Oct. 5 Oklahoma Aggies at Norman.

Oct. 12 Texas at Dallas.

Oct. 19 Kansas State at Norman.
(Dads' Day)

Oct. 26 Iowa State at Ames.

Nov. 2 Nebraska at Norman.

Nov. 9 Kansas at Lawrence.

Nov. 16 Missouri at Norman.

(Homecoming)

Nov. 23 Temple at Norman.

Nov. 30 Santa Clara at San Francisco.



The names of the four men above are strange to most Sooner fans, but you'll see them in the lineups this fall. They're being groomed for the vital tackle spots where experienced men are lacking. Left to right, Laddie Birge, Duncan; Homer Simmons, Seminole; John Funk, Okmulgee; Clovis Pearce, Oklahoma City.

Marsee, junior letterman. Clare Morford, Lawton sophomore, is being readied and did some crisp line-backing in the spring drills.

Will the Sooner first team be green this fall?

No. It will be made up mostly of last year's reserves, all of whom have seen some experience although not nearly as much as regulars.

What are the most minutes an Oklahoma player could possibly have played last year?

Figure it for yourself—60 minutes in each ball game, nine ball games. The answer comes out 540 minutes if the player had played every minute of every game and was never substituted for.

Can you name an approximate first team lineup for 1940, listing the number of minutes each man played out of a possible 540 last year?

This won't be official, but we'll try. Ends, Jennings 376½ minutes (at half-back) and Smith 108½; tackles—Roger Eaton, 229, and Howard Teeter 57 (in 1937); Guards—Harold Lahar 193½ (at tackle), and Olin Keith 199½; Center—Speegle 285½; Backs—Johnny Martin 164½, Jack Jacobs 163, Marvin Whited 158, and Orville Mathews 102.

How about the Sooner second team this fall?

It's going to be green as a watermelon rind. The only men with varsity experience who could possibly play on it are Center Novel Wood, 201½ minutes (who may replace Speegle on the first team); Blocking Back Jack Marsee 54 (at center); end Sharpe 97½; guards Ralph Harris 42, and Paul Woodson 92¼ (at blocking back), and back Gus Kitchens 66½.

Who are the Sooner sophomores of 1940?

See the team roster elsewhere in this article.

How do the Sooner sophomores compare with those of other Big Six teams this fall?

Probably as good as any other Big Six team.

How about the weight of the Sooner team this fall?

In spite of its greenness, Oklahoma will be the biggest team in the Big Six, although shading Nebraska and Kansas State by only one pound to the man on the rosters.

Will the running game be as good as last year?

Not as good through the middle, probably, with Seymour gone, and not quite as good to the right with Beryl Clark gone. Maybe a little better to the left although Oklahoma's weak side offensive has been poor the last three years.

How about the forward passing game? With Clark, the ace thrower, gone and also crack receivers as Shirk, Coppage, Ivy and Munsey, is it totally shot?

No. For each of the last three years the Sooners have lost their ace passer only to have Stidham develop a crackerjack to take his place. For instance, Jack Baer was lost in 1937, but Stidham replaced

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PLAYER	MINUTES PLAYED		POSITION	WEIGHT	HEIGHT	CLASS	HOME TOWN
	1939	1940					
1-2 Speegle, Clifton	285½		center	182	6'	senior	Oklahoma City
1-2 Wood, Novel	201½		center	190	6' 1½"	senior	Norman
Morford, Clare	0		center	180	6' 1"	soph.	Lawton
2 Keith, Olin	199½		guard	195	6' ½"	junior	Hollis
3-2 Lahar, Harold	193½		guard	214	5' 11"	senior	Oklahoma City
4-2 Woodson, Paul	92¼		guard	220	6' 1½"	junior	Oklahoma City
2 Harris, Ralph	42		guard	230	5' 11"	junior	Stroud
Allton, Joe	0		guard	213	6' 1½"	soph.	Claremore
Stephens, Sammy	0		guard	190	5' 9½"	soph.	Walters
Haberlein, Jack	0		guard	185	5' 10½"	soph.	McAlester
Shadid, Mitchell	0		guard	170	5' 9½"	soph.	Oklahoma City
2 Eason, Roger	229		tackle	210	6' ½"	junior	Oklahoma City
5-2 Teeter, Howard	0		tackle	218	6' 3"	junior	Grandfield
Pierce, Clovis	0		tackle	190	6' 2"	soph.	Oklahoma City
Funk, John	0		tackle	210	6' 1½"	soph.	Okmulgee
Birge, Laddie	0		tackle	215	6' 1"	soph.	Duncan
Simmons, Homer	0		tackle	228	6' 5"	soph.	Seminole
4-2 Jennings, Bill	376½		end	175	6' 1½"	senior	Norman
2 Smith, Lyle	108½		end	195	6' 2½"	junior	Fairview
2 Sharpe, Louis	97½		end	205	6' 4"	junior	Checotah
Lamb, W. G.	0		end	185	6' 1"	soph.	Ardmore
Oesterle, Ervin	0		end	190	6' 2"	soph.	Henryetta
Bentley, Bill	0		end	185	6' 2"	junior	Oklahoma City
2 Marvin, John	164½		back	185	6' 1"	senior	Broken Bow
2 Jacobs, Jack	163		back	187	6' 1½"	junior	Holdenville-Muskogee
2 Whited, Marvin	158		back	190	5' 10"	junior	Hollis
2 Mathews, Orville	102		back	162	5' 9"	junior	Chickasha
2 Kitchens, Gus	66½		back	177	5' 11"	senior	Purcell
2 Marsee, Jack	54		back	180	6' 1"	junior	Tulsa
Hays, Lindell	0		back	165	5' 9"	soph.	Wagoner
Bibb, Boyd	0		back	172	6'	soph.	Sayre
Campbell, Bill	0		back	180	5' 11"	soph.	Pawhuska
Steele, Jack	0		back	183	6' 2"	soph.	Lone Wolf
Hamm, Huel	0		back	190	6' 2"	soph.	Oklahoma City
Shanks, Pat	0		back	190	5' 11"	soph.	Drumright
Mattox, Bill	0		back	172	5' 10½"	soph.	Walters
Rousey, Tom	0		back	165	5' 11½"	soph.	Quincy, Ill.

¹Alternate ²Letterman ³Shifted from Tackle ⁴Shifted from Backfield ⁵Last Competition, 1937

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him the following season with Hugh McCullough. With McCullough finishing in 1938, Stidham brought out little Beryl Clark. With Clark also gone after a single season of stardom, his place as the ace Sooner passer probably will be filled by Jack Jacobs, 6-foot $\frac{1}{2}$ inch 187-pound junior. Also, Fullback Johnny Martin is a good passer and so are two sophomores, Boyd Bibb of Sayre and Lindell Hays of Wagoner. And in Jennings, Bentley, Smith, Sharpe and some of the backs the Sooners have several good receivers. The forward passing game should come close to measuring up to last year's; might possibly surpass it.

How about the kicking?

If Jacobs plays regularly, the punting should be better. The Indian boy is probably the greatest straight-away power punter the Sooners have had since Bob Dunlap, '33, in spite of the fact he didn't play enough last year to prove it. Martin and Mathews are also experienced punters. The place-kicking probably will drop off some from the high standard set by Raphael Boudreau, '38, and Dick Favor, '39, and Favor's long kicking-off certainly will be missed.

Where will the team probably be most vulnerable because of its inexperience?

On defense, particularly against forward passes. The starting quartet of Martin, Jacobs, Mathews and Whited (if that proves to be the first team backfield) should do okay but the second team backfield will be green and also any subs that may have to go in for first team backs. Also, the team will sadly miss its slashing defensive end play of last season. Also, there is the quarterbacking problem. Mun-

sey, the most able signal-caller, won't return because of a shoulder injury and Clark is graduated.

Who will probably be Oklahoma's toughest Big Six foes?

Nebraska way out in front. Kansas State and Iowa State next. Missouri returns All-American Paul Christman and a host of backs but lost most of her linemen, plays her tough games away from Columbia and so probably will be relegated to the second division this fall.

What are the most difficult games on the Sooner schedule this fall?

Nebraska and Texas. Temple and Santa Clara may surprise. The danger spot of the schedule is probably the Iowa State game at Ames October 26 and the opener against the improved Oklahoma Aggies could be close since Jim Lookabaugh's boys will be improved, and moreover preface their game here October 5 with earlier jousts against the Edmond Teachers and Texas Tech, which means they should be smoother on their assignments than the Sooners.

How long has it been since the Sooners lost a game at Norman?

Three years. In 1937, Stidham's first year, Kansas beat Oklahoma 6 to 3 on that famous last-second forward pass that ricocheted off a Sooner's hands into Dick Amerine's arms. That's the only game a Stidham-coached Sooner outfit ever lost at Owen field.

How many games do you think Oklahoma will win this fall?

The Big Chief would probably sell out quickly for five wins, three losses and one tie. Probably a more reasonable forecast would be four wins, four losses and one tie which wouldn't be at all bad considering the class of the 1940 schedule.

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A New Goal in Radio Service

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pooling of resources for public service broadcasting, and an executive committee will be selected that will be held responsible for the operation of the project.

This executive committee will then set up a central office with a staff trained in all phases of radio, and with studios and recording equipment for the purpose of producing programs for broadcast. Standards for such programs will be kept high for we must admit that we are, whether we like it or not, in competition for the listener against programs of a high entertainment quality. While some of these programs will undoubtedly be carried over WNAD at the University, it will also be the aim of the council to make programs available through transcription to other stations of the state in order to secure wider listening audiences. Organizations

that become members of the council do not in any way lose their freedom of action in broadcasting other material. The council will simply serve to give wider circulation to exceptional programs and will see to it that any program bearing its stamp of approval shall have a high degree of excellence.

If such a council is eventually organized for Oklahoma, undoubtedly the University will play a prominent role along with other major educational institutions of the state in carrying out its functions; and it is believed that such a progressive program would result in tremendous improvement of the quality of public service broadcasting now carried on by various agencies throughout Oklahoma in a desultory and largely unsatisfactory manner.

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