

Army Draws Athletes

[Sooner Sports]

By HAROLD KEITH

UNCLE SAM'S khaki will be worn by exactly one-third of the University of Oklahoma's senior sports lettermen this summer. This doesn't include sports undergraduates, several of whom already have enlisted.

Novel Wood, husky football center, and Gus Kitchens, football honor captain, are already in the air corps following enlistment several months ago. Baseball Player Ralph Bollinger has followed them to the air corps.

Harold Byrd, Sooner national collegiate wrestling champion last year, has already joined and been accepted in the Royal Canadian Air force.

Bill Tenhagen, Sooner Big Six tennis champ in the No. 3 bracket last year, was commissioned in the naval engineers.

Bill Stubbs, No. 4 of the polo team; Hugh Ford, all-Big Six basketball center; Harry Fender, holder of all university's pole-vaulting records; Ed Ham, Big Six diving champion; and Matt Zollner, basketball player, all of them advanced students in the University's R. O. T. C. unit, will go on active duty in the army as reserve officers this summer or fall.

The complete list of Sooner sports seniors:

FOOTBALL—Kitchens, Wood, Harold Lahar, Bill Jennings, Johnny Martin, Cliff Speegle.

TRACK AND FIELD—Fender, Tommy Harrison.

BASKETBALL—Ford, Zollner, Bill Richards.
BASEBALL—Bollinger, John Heath, Harold Parks, Jeff Young, Melvin Bullington, Tom Lally, Harold Halling.

WRESTLING—Byrd, Hoy Stone, Bennie Young, Charles Delhotel, Bob McKinney.

SWIMMING—Ham, Dean Walker.

TENNIS—Tenhagen, Walter Mead, E. P. Litchfield, Jr., Herb Newman.

GOLF—Lahar, Jack Pruett.

POLO—Stubbs.

Spring "O" List

Spring sports letters went to 45 Sooner athletes when the university athletic council approved the following list of lettermen in June:

TENNIS

Walter Mead, Bill Tenhagen, Bob Davis, Eddie Bedwell, Herb Newman, E. P. Litchfield.

GOLF

Ted Gwin, Charles Hutchins, Harold Lahar, Howard Teeter, Charles Smith.

TRACK AND FIELD

Don Benson, Laddie Birge, Jack Denton, Harry Fender, Elmer Heard, Tommy Harrison, Jack Jacobs, Warren Lehman, Bill Lyda, Orville Mathews, Ray Mullen, Dick Smethers, Archie Walker.

POLO

Norris Haney, Clark Hetherington, Bill Stubbs, Bill Scott, B. D. McCampbell, Arthur Wood.

BASEBALL

Melvin Bullington, Hal Cumberland, Johnny Chyz, Dwight Collins, Harold Halling, John Heath, Tom Lally, Sam Mabry, Milton Mc-

Grath, Glyndol Pace, Harold Parks, Walter Stephenson, Virgil Ward, Maury West, J. D. Young and Manager Fred Wright.

Nebraska All-Sports Champion

The University of Oklahoma's youthful sports teams bowed during the school year 1940-41 to the University of Nebraska when the Big Six All-Sports table was computed and announced.

Teams wearing the traditional Cornhusker scarlet won the ten-sport all-around test this past school year with a low total of 25½ points. Oklahoma had won the conference all-around title eight of the last twelve years and the last three years consecutively before the Northern school finally broke through.

The Sooners tied with Iowa State for second place with 28 points each, Missouri was fourth with 38, Kansas State fifth with 44 and Kansas last with 46½.

Nebraska's feat of sweeping the three running sports on the conference program—fall two-mile race (formerly called crosscountry), indoor track and outdoor track—plus a Cornhusker championship in football carried the big school from the Cornlands home ahead of the field. Iowa State won swimming and wrestling and tied for first in basketball. Oklahoma won tennis and golf, Missouri baseball, and Kansas tied for first in basketball. The Sooners also licked Missouri and Iowa State in polo which isn't a recognized conference sport since only three schools play it.

The table for 1940-41:

| | NEB. | OKLA. | I. S. | MO. | K. S. | KANS. |
|---------------|------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|------------|
| football | 1 | 2 | 4 | 3 | 5 | 6 |
| basketball | 3 | 4 | 1½ | 6 | 5 | 1½ |
| indoor track | 1 | 4 | 5 | 2 | 6 | 3 |
| 2-mile race | 1 | 2 | 4 | 3 | 5 | 6 |
| swimming | 3 | 4 | 1 | 6 | 2 | 5 |
| wrestling | 4 | 3 | 1 | 5½ | 2 | 5½ |
| outdoor track | 1 | 5 | 3 | 2 | 4 | 6 |
| baseball | 6 | 2 | 4 | 1 | 3 | 5 |
| golf | 2½ | 1 | 2½ | 4½ | 6 | 4½ |
| tennis | 3 | 1 | 2 | 5 | 6 | 4 |
| totals | 25½ | 28 | 28 | 38 | 44 | 46½ |

Trim Aggies

Some compensation for the all-sports loss to Nebraska was the University of Oklahoma's feat of winning the school year's ascendancy from its friendly intrastate rival, Oklahoma A. and M. College of Stillwater.

Sooner athletic teams defeated the Aggies in football, fall two-mile race, track and field, tennis and baseball. Aggie teams defeated the Sooners in wrestling, swimming and basketball. Golf was a draw, each school winning one dual meet.

The school year's tally by sports was: Sooners 5, Aggies 3.

Tennis Is Tops

Coach Leslie Hewes' Sooner tennis squad won its fourth Big Six title in the past five years during the conference single round robin competition for 1941.

Oklahoma was all-victorious in Big Six team play and also won 23 of the 24 individual Big Six matches. Kansas, Kansas State and Missouri were beaten at Lawrence, Manhattan and Columbia, while Nebraska and Iowa State fell before the Sooners at Norman.

The decisive meet was the Oklahoma-Iowa State finale at Norman. The Cyclones and Sooners were tied for the top with four wins and no defeats but in their dual meet here, moved indoors onto the R. O. T. C. Armory court because of rain, Oklahoma won all six matches without dropping a set.

Walter Mead, corpulent Sooner senior and captain, closed his three-year Big Six career all-victorious. Walt Newman, big transfer student from Jamestown, N. Y. who played at No. 4 or No. 5 for the Sooners, won all eleven matches this year.

Golfers Also Best

Oklahoma also won the Big Six golf championship, finishing all-victorious. Strangely enough, Coach Bruce Drake's Sooners got their hardest match from the conference's cellar team, Kansas State, which was defeated by one point on sand greens at Manhattan, Kansas.

The Sooners' record in Big Six play:

| | | | |
|-----------|-----|--------------|----|
| *Oklahoma | 10½ | Nebraska | 7½ |
| Oklahoma | 9½ | Kansas State | 8½ |
| Oklahoma | 13½ | Kansas | 4½ |
| Oklahoma | 14 | Missouri | 4 |
| *Oklahoma | 11½ | Iowa State | 6½ |

*played at Norman.

Ted "Golfer" Gwin, Oklahoma's long-hitting business student from Tulsa, was medalist in the State Amateur championship at Oklahoma City early in June, firing 143, four better than the nearest of his 123 opponents, as he trimmed the best amateurs in Oklahoma. However Gwin was eliminated in the second round of match play, 1 up, on the 19th hole.

Baseballers Second

Handled most of the season by Assistant Coach Jack Baer, the fledgling Sooner baseball team finished second in the Big Six race with six wins and two defeats. Missouri's veteran team also finished with two defeats but won the championship because they played more games than Oklahoma.

The Tiger-Sooner series in Norman late in May was a thriller. In the first game

Jim Hester, Oklahoma's 30-year-old polo coach, and two of the Sooner R. O. T. C. ponies he discusses in his chat on horse whims in this article. At the left is War Chief, smartest pony on the Sooner string. At the right is Snuzzle, the dumbest



Bill Spencer, Missouri's big right-hander, showed consummate control and a slow curve that bent like a trout hook to beat the Sooners and Hal Cumberland, Sooner fire-balling sophomore, 3 to 2. It was the first conference baseball game Oklahoma had lost at Norman in nine years.

The line score:

| | R | H | E |
|----------|---------------|------|---|
| MISSOURI | 001 000 100 1 | 3 10 | 5 |
| OKLAHOMA | 000 010 100 0 | 2 8 | 0 |

Spencer and Queveraux; Cumberland and Chyz.

However in the second game of the series Virgil Ward, Sooner junior, strangled the Tigers, pitching hitless ball for eight innings. Meanwhile the revenge-bent Sooners were hitting sharply and batted out a 4-2 triumph.

The line score:

| | R | H | E |
|----------|-------------|-----|---|
| MISSOURI | 100 100 000 | 2 2 | 4 |
| OKLAHOMA | 010 030 00x | 4 9 | 5 |

Graham, Hugu and Queveraux; Ward and Chyz.

Walter Stephenson, fleet Sooner base-snatcher and lead-off man, was the batting champion of the Oklahoma team with an average of .392. Stephenson led in hits, three-baggers and stolen bases. The Henryetta Whippet purloined 15 sacks in 15 games, an average of one a game for the season.

Ward had the best pitching record with four wins and one defeat, while Cumberland fanned 60 enemy batsmen in 46 in-

nings, blowing out 17 strikes in one night game against Kansas State.

Poloists Win Nine

Only the hard-riding New Mexico Military Academy team of Rosewell, New Mexico claimed a bulge this spring on the Sooner polo team, coached by Jim Hester, former Sooner player. The Roswell Cadets trimmed the Sooners twice at Hal Niemann field, Norman, 4-3 and 7-2.

Oklahoma split with Texas Aggies, tied one game with O. M. A. of Claremore, and defeated Ohio State, Missouri, Iowa State, O. M. A. and Illinois, closing with nine games won, three lost, one tied for a spring percentage of .750.

Lyda Beats Littler

Although Oklahoma's short-handed track team finished only fifth in the annual Big Six Outdoor meet May 24 at Lincoln, Neb., three Sooners won first places, Orville Mathews whirling through the 100 in 9.6 seconds, Dick Smethers spurting beautifully on the last lap to win the two-mile by 15 yards and Bill Lyda setting a new Big Six record of 48.4 seconds for the 440 yards around two full turns.

The top ranking 440-yard marks made in America this spring are:

- *46.4s by Klemmer, California.
- 47.5s by Littler, Nebraska.
- 47.6s by Lyda, Oklahoma.
- 47.7s by by Hall, Rice.
- 48s by McDowell, St. Johns.
- 48.1s by Cochran, Indiana.
- 48.2s by Bogrow, New York U.
- 48.2s by Boswell, Alabama.
- 48.3s by MacMitchell, New York U.

*ties world's record.

Lyda's triumph was epochal since he defeated, for the first time, Nebraska's saucy little red-head Gene "Red" Littler, defending Big Six champion and runner-up last year in the National Collegiate meet to the great Grover Klemmer of California. Three times last year and twice this season Littler had met and conquered Lyda at 440 yards.

The Sooner drew a wretched starting lane, sixth place, while Littler broke from the second position. This meant that Lyda had to spot his opponent four or five yards before the race began. But the Sooner didn't complain. Employing Coach John Jacob's advice "not to let that Littler settle down and float," Lyda made the tiny Nebraskan sprint at top speed the first 340 yards. After that the pair of them staggered in the best they could (because no man can sprint a full 440) with Lyda out-tottering his foe to win by two and one-half yards.

Even in defeat, Littler, who had just lost the first 440-yard race of his life before his home crowd at Lincoln (5,000 shocked Nebraska track fans saw the race) was cocky.

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SOONER HITTING AVERAGES

| | AB | R | H | 2B | 3B | HR | SB | SH | RBI | PCT |
|----------------|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|-----|------|
| Stephenson, cf | 56 | 9 | 22 | 2 | 2 | 0 | 15 | 2 | 7 | .392 |
| Mabry, 1b | 61 | 11 | 19 | 1 | 1 | 4 | 0 | 3 | 8 | .311 |
| Halling, c | 13 | 1 | 4 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | .307 |
| Collins, 3b | 47 | 9 | 14 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 2 | 2 | 8 | .297 |
| West, rf | 48 | 10 | 14 | 1 | 0 | 4 | 4 | 2 | 13 | .291 |
| Pace, ss | 60 | 6 | 17 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 5 | 2 | 5 | .283 |
| Bullington, lf | 64 | 13 | 17 | 5 | 0 | 1 | 3 | 0 | 13 | .265 |
| Lally, 2b | 58 | 14 | 14 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 5 | 1 | 2 | .241 |
| McGrath, u | 14 | 3 | 3 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 3 | .214 |
| Chyz, c | 43 | 5 | 9 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 6 | .209 |

mocracy without education. But if you have education, much depends on the kind of education it is. Consider Germany and England, for example. The Germans had in some ways an admirable educational system, so admirable that much of our present American educational system is based on it, unfortunately. But the defect in Germany's system was two-fold. Great as was their education in science, yet the Germans worshipped fact rather than ideas. And in the humanities, the Germans misread into their classical education a false worship of Caesar. It was no accident that their emperor was called Caesar, or that Hitler can assume, even though representing a minority of the German people, absolute authority as a Caesar. The essence of German education was to train people in mass thinking rather than in individual thinking. And frankly, this is the one thing that alarms me about our state educational systems in this country—we've borrowed too liberally from the German system and we tend entirely too much to deplore the brilliant, individualistic genius. Now, England was different. England trained people to think as individuals. It is true that the English did not educate the masses but they did educate people to be interested and concerned with the welfare of the masses. And it is because of the great and abiding strength of this form of education that England, in the midst of the bitterest war of her existence, can afford to allow a wide measure of freedom of expression to all her people. And it is because we have tended to the German form in this country that we are beginning to move away from the democratic process, to curb freedom here and there.

The English educated for tolerance. They realized, thanks to the slow revolutionary nature of their history, that free inquiry was an enriching thing, that the untrammelled exchange of ideas was like the blessed rain which stimulates new life in the plant world. And even though we have had a longer history as a democracy than has England, we can still learn from her, through her educational plan. We, too, must see that truth is the only end of man; and that truth can flourish when there is free inquiry. As educational institutions we must reexamine, as does the business man, our methods to find out why it is that we have not always succeeded in training people how to think.

Each of you, of the class of '41, should be a beacon of democracy in your communities. You should resist with your whole being anything that takes away from democracy. Our country and England today remain the sole hope for a world in which individuals can live as individuals, where free thoughts may flourish. To preserve that life of freedom is worth any and all sacrifices—except freedom itself.

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"I don't think he'll come back for the half-mile," the impudent little Cornhusker told a teammate, after he had congratulated the Sooner and climbed into his warmups.

Polo Pony Types

Jim Hester rolls his own cigarettes, speaks softly and articulately, practices a little law and coaches the University of Oklahoma polo team on the side. He contends that polo ponies have whims and personalities just like polo players.

In other words, Jim contends that horses, just like human beings, are sulky, dependable, smart or dumb, and furthermore he can name you examples from the R. O. T. C. string now playing in all Sooner polo games at Norman.

But let's put Jim up in the saddle and give him the reins.

"The orneriest pony on the Sooner string is a 10-year old dark brown blaze-face called Dr. Pepper," Hester asserts, "If Dr. Pepper doesn't agree with his rider, he will go anywhere he wants to and you can't do anything about it. He's hard to handle. His favorite pastime is breaking loose at the South Canadian river and running every step of the two miles in.

"He is stubborn and headstrong. Once this spring when somebody in a riding class rode him across a highway, Dr Pepper ran over an approaching car, knocked it off the highway and demolished it to the extent of \$190 damages.

"The steadiest and best-behaved pony on our string is Betty Co-ed, a little 950-pound paint. She's not fast nor brilliant, but she's gentle and reliable and experienced and always ready to go. She's never missed a game that I know of. Betty is the favorite of all the girls in the riding classes although she's so much smarter than the average rider that sometimes when an especially dumb one mounts and tries to ride her off, Betty refuses to leave the picket line.

"Snuzzle is the dumbest pony we've got. He's even dumb looking, a big bulge-faced, roman-nosed, pig-eared bay. He won't run when you kick him or whip him, he turns the wrong way and when you try to ride off an opponent he may shy away.

"The smartest and best horse is War Chief, a big 13-year old brown. He's handy, rugged and can take it. He does everything well. He's fast, turns quickly, rides off well and can run in so small a circle you can write your name on him and dot the i.

"The clown of our string is Promenade, a long-legged bay. If you touch him a certain way with the reins, he will suddenly stop on all fours, causing his rider to sail over his head. His pet stunt is leaving the field without permission."

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