

Sooner Sports

By HAROLD KEITH

HEAT flashes from the Sooner sports front. . . . Two University players, Jack Jacobs and Roger Eason, have received bids from Arch Ward, sports editor of the *Chicago Tribune*, to play with the College All-Stars against the Chicago Bears late in August. . . . Neither Sooner led the national balloting for his position but both rank high with the coaches chosen to handle the Collegiate All Stars.

One hears all sorts of weird stories about the *Tribune's* nationally-publicized poll . . . since the game is played in Chicago, naturally most of the ballots come from the Great Lakes district, indicating a heavy vote for Big Ten area players . . . not very discerning football critics, the fans usually elect to starting positions on the college eleven three or four tailbacks.

A few years ago, four tailbacks were elected and actually started the game, but three of them were hurriedly withdrawn by the nervous coaches after the opening kickoff so a blocking back, wing-back and spinner back could be inserted . . . another time one of the starting college backs trotted out on the field for the first play with a broken arm in a sling . . . luckily the opening kickoff wasn't booted his way and he trotted back to the bench without raising a sweat.

Backers of another Big Ten candidate employed a novel means to elect him. . . . Borrowing a Chicago telephone directory, they cast a ballot for their man for every subscriber in the phone book . . . needless to say, their candidate won by several thousand votes.

Missouri's defending Big Six champs and 1942 Sugar Bowl participants who lost to Fordham 0 to 2 in the rain, play more football games this fall than any other Big Six team, 12. . . Coach Don Faurot's Tigers meet three service teams, Fort Riley at St. Joseph, Mo., Great Lakes at St. Louis and Bernie Bierman's Iowa Cadets at Iowa City.

The Sooner 11-game schedule is heavy enough. . . "Jap made the schedule, then read it, then joined the Navy," Coach Dewey "Snorter" Luster maintains and he may have something at that. . . Although Oklahoma rates a shade behind Nebraska and Missouri this year, the Sooners have the advantage of playing both the Cornhuskers and Tigers at Norman this fall. . . Oklahoma has been poison for Faurot's Missouri teams at Norman. . . the Tigers haven't scored on the Sooners at Owen field since 1936.

Bill Jensen, of Perry, Sooner sophomore end who is a relative by marriage to former Governor Henry S. Johnston, is

credited with writing the shortest missive to Sooner coaches this summer. . . "Getting along fine. Scenic country. Wide open spaces. High prices. Yours, Bill." Jensen recently penned on a postal from Rapid City, South Dakota, where he was working on an oil well.

Track Coach John Jacobs has lost nearly all his fleet Sooner runners from last year. . . . Bill Lyda, national collegiate 880-yard champ and two Big Six kings, Orville Mathews and Dick Smethers, have served

schedule before they built the big stadium at South Bend. Here it is:

Sept. 26 Okla. Aggies at Stillwater.
Oct. 3 Tulsa at Tulsa.
Oct. 10 Texas at Dallas.
Oct. 17 Kansas at Lawrence.

Coach Luster's travelers don't show at Norman until October 24 when the Nebraska Cornhuskers invade. . . Both the Aggies, who get the Sooners on their home field for the first time in four years, and Tulsa, last year's Sun Bowl champs



FOOTBALL PRACTICE

Head Coach Snorter Luster (left) and Line Coach Orville Tuttle were in charge as Sooner football practice officially opened for the new season September 7.

out their three years. . . Warren Lehman and Hoyt Burns are in the air corps while hurdler John Sharpe may go into the air corps in November. . . "Right now I'm grounded," admits truthful Jacobs.

The youthful Sooner basketball team, most of whose members are 18 and 19 years old, will return almost intact for the coming season. . . Coach Bruce Drake loses only Don "Bones" Jones, rangy reserve who passed up two more years of competition to graduate, and Lehman, both subs. . . Back in the fold for titanic battles this winter with Dr. F. C. "Phog" Allen's Kansas Jayhawkers and Hank Iba's finessing Oklahoma Aggies will be Gerald Tucker, "Ug" Roberts, Paul Heap, Dick Reich, Bob "Manacles" McCurdy and three or four sweet-looking sophomores headed by 18-year-old Jack Watkins of Tribbey.

The top portion of the Sooner football slate this fall reads like a Notre Dame

who retain intact their great corps of backs, are doing some tremendous pointing for the Sooners. . . They figure the balance of power has been too long at Norman. . . The Sooners have licked the Farmers seven years in a row and in their last joust with a Tulsa team, whipped Vic Hurt's Oil City boys at Norman 28-6. . . However a Sooner team hasn't beaten a Tulsa University team at Tulsa since 1931 when Ad Lindsey's Sooners won a December charity game, 20 to 7.

The 1942 football guide is fresh off the press and reveals that last year's Oklahoma team led the Nation in recovered fumbles, bagging 20. . . Bill Lyda, Oklahoma's national collegiate half-mile king, writes from Athens, Ga., where he is in training at the Georgia Naval Pre-Flight school, "I have scratches and mat burns since I have been learning 'man-to-man' technique. If it's as rough on the Japs and Boches as it was on me, they're in for it."