

Sooner Sports

By HAROLD KEITH

WITH 102 men reporting, most of them lightweight high school players, the University of Oklahoma's first summer football practice of all time hummed into its second week.

"Long on numbers but short on ability," is the way Dewey "Snorter" Luster, Sooner coach, rates the squad, 95 percent of which is composed of eligible military cadets sent to the campus by the government.

No big name athletes are included among the trainees. Only a few have had college experience of any kind, among them Jim Desmond, 175 pounds, a sub end from Santa Clara; J. M. Tharp, 185, guard, Arkansas freshman; J. H. Moyle, 190, end, Oregon State; Thomas Goodwin, 210, tackle, Kemper Military academy; Wayne Morgan, 165, back, Dartmouth freshman; H. D. Redus, 175, end, Texas Aggies frosh; R. Rice, 160, back, Texas Tech frosh and W. E. Hanson, 170, guard, Notre Dame freshman.

Only five men return from Oklahoma's recent spring practice squad. They are Boone Baker, wingback, only returning "O" man; Lee Kennon, guard, squad man; and Freshmen Derald Lebow, back, Okmulgee; Omer Burgett, end, Enid and Merle Dinkins, end, Blackwell.

However there is real comfort in the knowledge that so many men are reporting in war time. A football team this fall is now safely assured. While the squad falls far below any other of the university's modern history in experience and ability, it is twice as large as any varsity squad previously reporting at Norman and the coaches will not want for numbers.

Arbuckle Books A Ninth Game

Scheduling of an opening game September 25 at Owen Field against the Naval Air Station Zoomers (Norman's large north base) raises the Sooner schedule this fall to its normal strength of nine games.

The Zoomers will be handled by Lieut. Johnny Gregg, former coach at Altus, Oklahoma, high school and now chief athletic officer at the base. Lieutenant Gregg will be assisted by his staff.

Oklahoma's complete schedule to date is:

- Sept. 25 Naval Air Station at Norman.
- Oct. 2 Oklahoma Aggies at Oklahoma City (night).
- Oct. 9 Texas at Dallas.
- Oct. 16 Tulsa at Oklahoma City (night).
- Oct. 23 Kansas State at Manhattan.
- Oct. 30 Iowa State at Norman.
- Nov. 6 Kansas at Norman (Homecoming).
- Nov. 13 Missouri at Columbia.
- Nov. 27 Nebraska at Lincoln.

War Has Never Halted Football at Norman

Neither the Spanish-American war of 1898, nor the first World War 1914-18 caused the abandonment of Sooner football. In fact, university teams of both seasons seemed to be stimulated by the hostilities.

In 1898 Professor Vernon Louis Parrington's university team was all-victorious although it played but two games, its normal load in those times. It defeated the Arkansas City Town Team at Arkansas City 5-0 when Fred Merkle rushed a Railroader punter so fast he made him fumble, his brother Joe Merkle then scoring the university touchdown on the tackle-around play.

It also walloped Texas Christian university of Fort Worth 24-0 at Norman with red-headed Henry McGraw running 70 yards for one of the touchdowns and Jap Clapham booting four extra points. C. C. Roberts, now an Oklahoma City banker, captained this team and played fullback.

In 1918, last year of the first World War, Bennie Owen developed a young Sooner team made up mostly of the finest crop of freshmen ever to come to Norman. This aggregation whizzed through its short six-game schedule all-victorious.

Hugh McDermott, co-ordinator of the Army's and Navy's physical fitness programs on the campus, was its captain but enlisted in the air corps and didn't get to

play a game with the team. However he got back in time after the armistice to get in the squad picture.

The record of the 1918 team:

Oklahoma 44,	Central	0
Oklahoma 58,	Post Field	0
Oklahoma 33,	Kansas	0
Oklahoma 103,	Arkansas	0
Oklahoma 13,	Philips U,	7
Oklahoma 27,	Okla. Aggies	0
		7
		278

Tucker Rates Another All-America Team

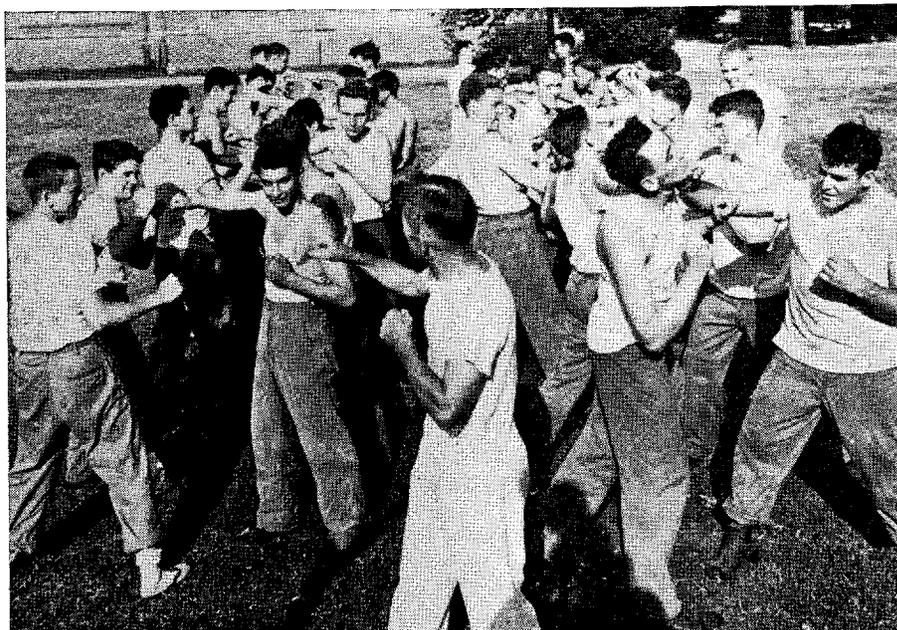
Chuck Taylor, former New York Celtic professional team basketball star whose annual All-America basketball five chosen for the Converse Rubber Company bears much of the reputation of the late Walter Camp's old-time All-America football teams, selected Gerald Tucker, Sooner center, on his first team for 1943.

Two years ago Taylor picked Jimmy McNatt, Sooner forward, on his first All-America five, making twice the university has been thus honored.

Taylor's first team for 1943:

- Forward—Phillip, Illinois.
- Forward—Senesky, St. Josephs.
- Center—Boykoff, St. Johns.
- Guard—Tucker, Oklahoma.
- Guard—Sailors, Wyoming.

On Taylor's second team were: Black, Kansas, and Rock, Southern California, forwards; Beisser, Creighton, center; Rensberg, Notre Dame and Closs, Rice, guards.



TRAINEES GET ATHLETICS ALONG WITH BOOKS
A class in boxing in the University's Army Specialized Training program, taught by Hugh V. McDermott (foreground), co-ordinator of both the Army and Navy physical education programs on the campus.