

Sooner Sports

By HAROLD KEITH

WHETHER they'll have their standouts half a season, or all season, is worrying Dewey "Snorter" Luster and Dale Arbuckle, Sooner coaches, as the University's 1944 spring football practice swings into its second week, thus inaugurating the University's 50th consecutive pigskin season since the first in 1895.

If the Navy again advances the graduation date of its Naval R.O.T.C. juniors and seniors, as it did this winter, such Sooner mainstays as Bob Mayfield, all-Big Six center; Derald Lebow, all-Big Six back; and Merle Dinkins, finest defensive end in the league, may be lost after completion of the Navy semester ending approximately November 1.

This would mean they could play in the Texas Aggie, Texas, Kansas State and Texas Christian games, first four on the Sooner slate for '44, but would miss the last five contests against Iowa State, Missouri, Kansas, Oklahoma Aggies and Nebraska.

Despite the loss of 14 of last year's 26 lettermen, the Sooners of '44 probably will have as much manpower as last year's club, because of the addition of several promising high school players next fall. Last year the team was built around its Naval trainees and possessed only a sprinkling of civilians and high-schoolers.

The 14 departed lettermen are: Bob Brumley, all-Big Six fullback; Gale Fulghum, all-Big Six guard; Lee Kennon, all-Big Six tackle; Omer Burgert, Jim Desmond, Jim Reedy, Boone Baker, Donald Link, Hilliard Parsons, Lewis Dunn, Jim Gassaway, Joe Breeden, Bill Geter and Lloyd Meinert.

The eight now reporting for spring practice are Mayfield, Lebow, Dinkins, John Harley, Charley Heard, Finn Jackson, Homer Sparkman and Bobby Estep.

Four more, classified 4-F and now out of school in war jobs, but who may return this autumn, are W. G. "Dub" Wooten, all-Big Six end; Thurman Tigart, Don Tillman and Louis Dollarhide.

Last year's squadmen now out for spring football are Millard Cummings, 185-pound Enid tackle; Joshua Sharp, a guard; Harold Latham, 200-pound Chickasha guard; Dick Peddycoart, a fullback; Bob Stover, center from Enid; Bill McGinty, guard from Norman, and Art Kenworthy and Steve Sawyer off last year's Junior Varsity squad.

The Sooner football schedule for 1944:

- Oct. 7—Texas Aggies at Norman.
- Oct. 14—Texas at Dallas.
- *Oct. 21—Kansas State at Norman.

- Oct. 28—Texas Christian at Norman.
- *Nov. 4—Iowa State at Ames.
- *Nov. 11—Missouri at Norman (Homecoming).
- *Nov. 18—Kansas at Lawrence.
- Nov. 25—Oklahoma Aggies at Stillwater.
- *Dec. 2—Nebraska at Norman.

*Big Six Conference games.

Some of the home games may be moved to Oklahoma City.

Sooner Baseballers Play Full Schedule

With Ensign Bill Scheerer, University Naval V-12 athletic officer and former first-baseman for the fast Buford, Georgia, semi-pro club, the new coach, a 40-man Sooner baseball squad is hard at work at Haskell Park.

Scheerer retains two last year's lettermen, Outfielder Herb Smith of Tulsa, and Pitcher Ray Lacer of Anadarko. He also picked up two college southpaw pitchers in Bob Reese of Kansas State and Bob Scheble of Oregon State.

Addition, also, of Bobby Estep, last year's Norman Naval Air Station Zoomer second-baseman; Bob Clark, former University of Nevada third-sacker who was up for a while with the San Francisco Seals of the Pacific Coast League, and Jack Phillips, former utility player of the Tulsa Red Sox, a fast junior American Legion club, gives the Sooners some pretty fair boys.

Athletic Director Dale Arbuckle has

booked the following schedule and says more games will be added with service clubs:

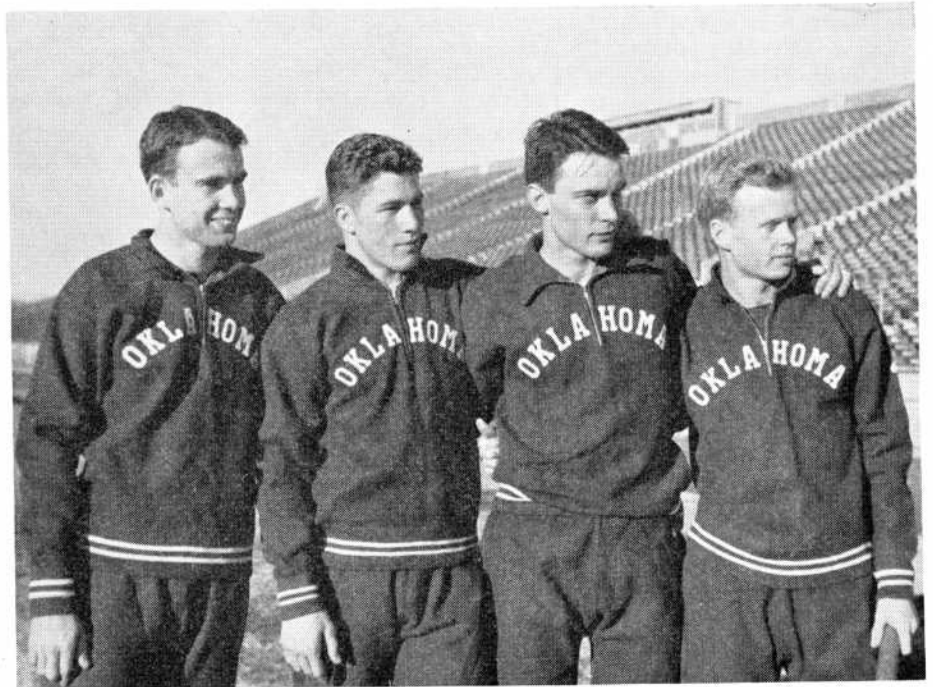
- March 28—NATTC Skyjackets there.
- April 1—NATTC Skyjackets here.
- April 4 and 8—NAS Zoomers here.
- April 15—Phillips U. there.
- April 25—Phillips U. here.
- May 2—Purcell Gunners there.
- May 6—El Reno Reformatory there.
- May 13—Purcell Gunners here.

Outdoor Track Team Goes to Texas Meets

Coach John Jacobs' Sooner outdoor track and field team placed fourth in the 21st Southwest Exposition track and field meet March 18 at Fort Worth, Texas, behind Texas, Texas Aggies and Southwestern University. However, the Oklahomans defeated Rice and North Texas Teachers of Denton.

Eugene Sauer, Sooner high-jumper, won. The Sooner Mile relay quartet of Jimmy Jones, Gene Pruet, Bill Sylvester and Dave Day was second. Day placed second in the 440, Wallace Hunt fourth in the high hurdles, Clarence Vicklund third in the mile, Jimmy Jones fourth in the 220 and Sauer fourth in the shot.

The team's next competition is the Texas Relays at Austin April 1.



O. U. RELAY TEAM

The mile relay team which won second in the Big Six Indoor meet was composed of (left to right) Jimmy Jones, Charley Heard, Bill Sylvester and Dave Day.