

Sooner Sports

By HAROLD KEITH

DEDICATING the race to the late Lt. Bill Lyda, his former running buddy at Norman, Lt. (jg) Dick Smethers, the University's Big Six indoor two-mile champion and record-holder of 1941, on July 4 won the Aleutian Victory Marathon, a three-mile race open to servicemen of the Alaskan theater.

Lieutenant Smethers set a new course record of 17 minutes 10 seconds for the approximately three miles of hill running, slashing more than two minutes from the previous standard. He won by 200 yards from his nearest of 60 opponents, many of them former college distance runners now assigned to the Aleutians theater. He wore tennis shoes to protect a sore toe. The race was run in freezing temperature.

Smethers came to the University from Ponca City High School. He won four Big Six Conference two-mile titles at Norman and anchored a Texas and Kansas Relays championship distance medley team for Oklahoma. He enlisted in the Navy in 1942. He is now executive officer of a mine sweeper. He is married.

High School Players Will Bolster Varsity

Five all-state high school football players below military age and several honorable mentions are now enrolled in the University's summer school and out for practice in the current summer drills, which last only two weeks.

The all-staters are Bob Williams, Weatherford, quarterback; Laddie Harp, Fairview back; Gene Bradney, 220-pound Henryetta tackle; L. P. Brown, Duncan guard, and Douglas Nix, Duncan wingback.

Other good high school men now at Norman include J. W. "Red" Cole, gang-



STILL IN GOOD FORM
Lt. (jg) Dick Smethers, '42bus,
sprinted three miles in freezing temperature to win the Aleutian Victory Marathon.

ling Shawnee high school football, basketball and track phenom; Albert Stover, Weatherford tackle; Harry Paramore, Duncan back; Elmer Butler, Ringling guard; Paul Ward, Pauls Valley tackle, and Tom Kenyon, Lawton end.

Fleet Sending Football Players Back to Norman

Several promising new Navy V-12 and Navy R.O.T.C. footballers have contacted Sooner Coaches Dewey "Snorter" Luster and Dale Arbuckle recently and reported for the current summer drills.

Among them were H. M. Smalley, an all-state guard from Birmingham, Alabama, who was transferred to the University from the fleet in Bermuda; Bill Vogel, who played center on the Texas Aggie freshman team five years ago and also has been assigned back from the fleet; Bill Hallett of Duncan, a seabee with campaign ribbons from the Pacific Asiatic theater; Bill Weir, a blocking back from Southwestern University of Georgetown, Texas, and others.

It appears that, barring an unexpected transfer of Navy cadets off the campus during the coming season, the University will have far more players to choose from this year.

Kennon Is Winner Of Nieman Award

Lee Kennon, Oklahoma's all-Big Six conference tackle from Tulsa, was awarded the Hal Nieman award as the outstanding senior athlete developed at the University this past school year.

The Sooner Athletic Council made the award. Kennon was a topnotch football linesman on Coach Dewey "Snorter" Luster's Big Six championship team and consistently played fine football. He was also a good student. Kennon was a Naval V-12 student transferred in March to the Naval Midshipman's school at Plattsburg, New York.

Athletic Director Dale Arbuckle announced letter awards to the Oklahoma track and baseball squads.

Those receiving baseball awards were: Bob Clark, Jim Douglas, Jewell Eastham, Bobby Estep, Bill Greenfield, Gus Hendrix, Kent Martin, Herb Smith, Dick Vaughan, Augustine Hernandez, Jack Phillips, Jess Sweeting, Bill Fry, Kenton King, Bob Reese, Bob Scheble and Student Manager Vester Coy Jones.

Those receiving track awards were Jim Christian, Jack Coe, Dave Day, Charley Heard, Wallace Hunt, Jimmy Jones, Jack Osborn, Kenneth Richardson, Gene Sauer, Bill Sylvester, Frank Thomas, Dick Vaughan, Clarence Vicklund, Bill Wilson and Gene Pruet.

IMAGE IS NOT AVAILABLE
ONLINE DUE TO COPYRIGHT
RESTRICTIONS.

A paper copy of this
issue is available at
call number LH 1 .06S6
in Bizzell Memorial
Library.