

# Sooner Sports

By HAROLD KEITH

BRIEFLY reviewing Oklahoma's first three football games of 1944:

## OKLAHOMA 14, NAVY ZOOMERS 28 SUMMARY

	OKLA.	ZOOMS
earned first downs	7	9
net yards rushing	119	241
forward passes	3-16-60	2-5-43
pass interceptions, by	0-0	3-70
kick runbacks	5-162	5-67
penalties	67	100

The Norman Naval Air Station Zoomers with five former professional players and a host of collegiate stars, some of them recruited from the Norman Navy Air Technical Training Center, had too much weight, experience and reserves for the lightish Sooners, winning 28-14.

The Sooners scored first, Derald Lebow returning the opening kickoff 48 yards and the Sooners driving 52 yards to a touchdown without giving up the ball. Lebow scored it on a plunge and Dub Wooten kicked goal. Oklahoma led, 7-0.

Just before the first quarter ended, Emil Sitko, Notre Dame frosh who was a star last year at Great Lakes, ran 41 yards around end to a touchdown. Miller goaled and the score was 7-7.

Just before the half ended, Miller place-kicked a field goal from 22 yards away and the Zooms led, 10-7.

The Zooms made two quick touchdowns in the third quarter. They drove 44 yards to their first with Welsh scoring. Eshmont intercepted Lebow's pass and ran it back 60 yards for their next one. Miller missed both goals. In the fourth quarter, Herron forward passed to O'Brien for a fourth, Goodall missing goal.

Oklahoma counted again in the final three minutes when Bobby Estep ran a punt back 38 yards and Louis Dollarhide scored with an 18-yard run off a weak-side sweep. Wooten goaled.

## OKLAHOMA 21, TEXAS AGGIES 14 SUMMARY

	OKLA.	TEXAS AGGIES
earned first downs	14	15
net yards rushing	220	141
forward passes	4-6-51	7-20-131
pass interceptions, by	1	0
kick runbacks	5-63	7-141
penalties	51	26

Oklahoma's sustained running game drove 74 yards to the first touchdown, Lebow scoring on a buck. In the second quarter Oklahoma drove 75 yards for a second touchdown, Lebow scoring, with Wingback Charley Heard running 62 yards on a reverse to the Texas Aggie five.

Wooten kicked both goals, Oklahoma led 14-0 and the puffing Sooner first team came out for a badly needed rest.

Then Coach Homer Norton's Texas Aggie team scored in five plays on the Sooner seconds. Jim Cashion forward-passing to Gene Spires who outran all the Sooners to the goal. Abraham goaled. Oklahoma led, 14-7.

At the start of the last half Texas A. and M.'s deceptive T formation running attack tore the Sooner starting line apart as they marched 80 yards to score. Abraham goaled and the game was tied, 14-14.

Oklahoma then received the next kick-off and on a drive most of which occurred in the fourth quarter, drove 69 yards to score the winning touchdown. Lebow scored it after shooting passes to Wooten and Louis Dollarhide. Wooten goaled.

Taft stadium in Oklahoma City was a sellout for this game, 15,000 attending. It was the first Oklahoma-Texas Aggie game in 32 years (Oklahoma won in 1903, Texas Aggies in 1907, 1909 and 1912) and the first of a new five-year series, all to be played in Oklahoma.

## OKLAHOMA 0, TEXAS 20 SUMMARY

	OKLA.	TEXAS
earned first downs	5	3
net yards rushing	117	74
forward passes	6-17-40	8-15-132
pass interceptions, by	2-18	4-33
kick runbacks	6-87	5-87
penalties	46	25

Oklahoma began the game by rushing the ball to Texas' one-foot line. Lebow shot passes to Wooten and Burgert and himself ran 16 yards to the Texas six. Here Oklahoma was penalized for back-field in motion and Lebow's pass to Homer Sparkman and a Lebow buck failed by inches to score.

Texas scored a touchdown just before the half ended when Bobby Layne took a lateral, ran wide, suddenly faded back, pegged 30 yards to End Hubert Bechtol who fielded the ball in the end zone. Layne goaled. Texas led, 7-0.

In the fourth quarter Texas scored twice more, both times on forward passes. Maxie Bell passed in the right flat to Leroy Anderson who ran 40 down the sideline to score. Layne hit Wayne Bennett with a long throw down the middle. Andrews passed to Layne for one extra point after failing to cash the play on an earlier conversion.

The crowd, surprisingly good for wartime, went 25,501.

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