

Sooner Sports

By HAROLD KEITH

OKLAHOMA this year won its second Big Six conference championship and kept inviolate without defeat a string of 13 Big Six games since 1942. Five Sooners made the all-Big Six team of United Press. They were Ends W. C. "Dub" Wooten (who was invited to play in the East-West game and accepted) and Merle "Red" Dinkins, Tackle John Harley, Center Bob Mayfield and Back Derald Lebow.

The Sooners played hull-gull football this autumn, breaking a 25-year record by scoring 227 points and 34 touchdowns, the most an Oklahoma team has made in a single season since 1919. However Oklahoma also permitted her opponents an all-time record high of 149 points and 22 touchdowns, and football at Norman was 50 years old this fall.

Oklahoma's 1944 record:

Oklahoma 14, Norman Navy Zoomers 28.
Oklahoma 21, Texas Aggies 14.
Oklahoma 0, Texas 20.
Oklahoma 68, Kansas State 0.
Oklahoma 34, Texas Christian 19.
Oklahoma 12, Iowa State 7.
Oklahoma 21, Missouri 21.
Oklahoma 20, Kansas 0.
Oklahoma 6, Oklahoma Aggies 28.
Oklahoma 31, Nebraska 12.

The 6-28 defeat to Coach Jim Lookabaugh's Oklahoma Aggies at Oklahoma City November 25 marked the first loss to the Aggies in 11 years, or since Lynn Waldorf's Aggies beat the Sooners 13-0 at Norman in 1933. The Sooners dutifully but ruefully handed over the cherished Aggie bell-clapper after the game.

After the season, the Sooners turned down a bid to play Glenn Dobbs' Superbombers in the Sun Bowl game. Athletic Director Dale Arbuckle made the decision after conferring with President George Cross and Capt. John Donelson, commandant of the campus Naval unit. "The Navy's 48-hour rule forbids our playing at El Paso. Besides, our squad is tired from its long, hard ten-game schedule and we have achieved our season's objective, winning the Big Six championship," Arbuckle told the press.

The University of Oklahoma's new Big Six conference faculty representative, 44-year-old Dr. John Hervey, dean of the Law School, attended the semi-annual December meeting of the conference in Kansas City during which the Big Six dads voted that coaches could initiate contacts with high school athletes and offer them any employment open to regularly enrolled students. In other words, the



SEASON UNDER WAY
Coach Bruce Drake's Sooner cagers have more home games than ever before on their schedule for this season which opened in December.

conference finally got around to legalizing what has always been the custom, all around the league.

BASKETBALL: Coach Bruce Drake's O. U. team lost to the Naval Air Gunnery School of Purcell 33-39 in its opening game at Norman December 5, but nosed Southern Methodist in its second contest 41-40, when Jim Robison, freshman center from Tulsa, jammed home a free throw in the final seconds.

The Sooners are small and green this year and answer to the nickname of the Roundball Runts. Harold "Scooter" Hines, a 5-foot 5½-inch discharged Navy V-12er, is the smallest man on the club and heights of the other regulars run from Ed Lindenberg at 5-10, Don Buelow and Bill Whaley at 5-11 to Jack Landon at six feet.

CROSSCOUNTRY: Coach John Jacobs' Sooners closed their season by defeating the Norman Naval Air Technical Training Center Skyjackets at Owen Field, 31-23. Jerry Thompson, former national collegiate two-mile champion from Texas, was first in 15:58.6 for the course of three miles and 200 yards, Sooner Clarence Vicklund was second and Lt. Johnny Wall of the Skyjackets third. However the Sooners finished their next six runners, Bob Collins, Jack Osborn, Winston Hudson, Terry Van Buskirk, Frank Leach and Bob Patterson, well ahead of the rest of the Skyjacket team.

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