

Sooner Sports

By HAROLD KEITH

With seven first-string players and seven second-teamers gone from Oklahoma's Big Six championship football team of last year, the Sooners of 1945 will be largely selected from the new high school and Navy trainee crop that began a summer practice July 16 at Owen Field.

The University's new Navy contingent contains a few bigger players than the Sooners have ever before drawn from the campus Naval unit.

A rich opportunity faces the University's new players this year. Here are the departed Sooner letter-winners from last year whose places must be filled in the coming summer and autumn drills:

ENDS—Dub Wooten, all-Big Six and Merle Dinkins, all-Big Six, first teamers. Bob Gambrell and Johnny Austin, reserves.

TACKLE—George Martin, reserve.

GUARDS—Harley Smalley, first team. Steve Sawyer and Elvin Jackson, reserves.

CENTERS—Bob Mayfield, all-Big Six, first team. Bob Stover, reserve.

BLOCKING BACKS—Homer Sparkman, first team. Dick Peddycoart and Don Weir, reserves.

WINGBACKS—Charley Heard, first team. Bobby Estep and Max Culver, reserves.

FULLBACK—Billy Wright, reserve.

TAILBACKS—Derald Lebow, all-Big Six, first team. Tommy Meason, reserve.

Coach Dewey "Snorter" Luster has excused all members of his abbreviated spring football squad from the summer drills, a squad that dwindled to 15 men at the spring drill's close. Several high school boys not now enrolled in summer school were to be in Oklahoma's summer practice beginning in July, in addition to the new Navy group and the high school players already enrolled in O.U.

Nebraska May Cut Sooner 13-Game String

The opening game against Coach "Potsy" Clark's Nebraska Cornhuskers September 29 at Lincoln is objective No. 1. Tired of their second division role in wartime, Cornhusker athletic authorities have hired Clark, a former "pro" coach, and surrounded him with a strong staff. Nebraska could be the surprise team of the league this coming season. Her 1943 and 1944 clubs, by far the youngest in the league, were cleverly coached despite being green and having no Navy help.

It was a Nebraska team that last hung a defeat on Luster's Sooners. Back in 1942 at Norman, Nebraska beat Oklahoma 7 to 0. Since that time, Oklahoma hasn't lost a conference game in 13 states, sweeping

its slate clean in 1943 and winning all its conference games last year save the tie with Missouri on its way to a second league crown in a row.

After the Nebraska loss in 1942, the Sooners beat Iowa State 14-7, Kansas State 76-0 and tied Missouri's champions 6-6. In 1943, Oklahoma defeated Kansas State 37-0, Iowa State 21-7, Kansas 26-13, Missouri 20-13, and Nebraska 26-7. Last year the Sooners beat Kansas State 68-0, Iowa State 12-7, Kansas 20-0, Nebraska 21-12 and were tied 21-21 by Missouri.

The attractive Sooner schedule for 1945 is as follows:

Sept. 29—Nebraska at Lincoln.

Oct. 6—Texas Aggies at Norman.

Oct. 13—Texas at Dallas.

Oct. 20—Kansas at Norman.

Oct. 27—Kansas State at Manhattan.

Nov. 3—Texas Christian at Norman (Dad's Day).

Nov. 10—Iowa State at Norman (Homecoming).

Nov. 17—Missouri at Columbia.

Nov. 24—Oklahoma Aggies at Norman.

IMAGE IS NOT AVAILABLE
ONLINE DUE TO COPYRIGHT
RESTRICTIONS.

A paper copy of this
issue is available at
call number LH 1 .0686 in
Bizzell Memorial Library.