

A Salute...to Athletes of the Sooner Classes

Of '02, '07, '12, '17, '22, '27, '32, '37, '42 & '47



Through the years, the University of Oklahoma consistently has produced fine athletes. The following are a few of the many Sooner stars who have brought fame to O.U.

1902—Everybody took part in most everything back in '02, and three grads who'll be honored in this section comprised exactly one-fifth of their graduating class. Football and baseball were the principal sports then, and participants included Clyde Bogle, '02ba, Norman business man; Roy Gittinger, '02ba, now Dr. Gittinger, regents professor of history at O.U., and Gardner H. Applewhite, '02ph.c, Shawnee physician.

1907—A big sports hero at O.U. was Bob Severin, '07ba, ferocious football center. Severin is now a Paisley, Oregon, merchant. His greatest individual feat happened at Oklahoma City in 1905 when he tackled a Texas U. back for a safety to give the Sooners a 2-0 victory over T.U. Other grads of '07 who have been remembered for their athletic prowess include Gilbert G. Caudell, '07ba, who captained the Sooner baseball nine, and William M. Clark, football letterman. At last report, Caudell was in the insurance and real estate business in Blytheville, Arkansas, and Clark was living in Pawhuska.

1912—Jerry B. Newby, now an Oklahoma City geologist, was winding up his collegiate basketball and football careers during this year. The football team the preceding fall was the best in Sooner history up to that time, closing the season undefeated. The big cog in the Sooner grid machine was Fred Capshaw, '13ba, '14law, football captain, who ranks as one of the greatest halfbacks in O.U. history as well as an outstanding scholar and leader. (He made Phi Beta Kappa!) Capshaw is an Oklahoma City oilman. On the Athletic Association that year was Victor E. Monnett, now director of the O.U. School of Geology.

1917—Norman Brillhart, '17ba, and Otto A. Brewer, '17ba, were a pair of Sooner athletic standouts in 1917. Brillhart starred for three years on O.U.'s basketball hardwoods and is now a Madill geologist. Brewer, terror as a center on the Sooner football team and a basketball letterman as well, is practicing law in Hugo. Neil Johnson, '15ba, '17law, Norman stockman, is another one-time O.U. great. He captained the grid squad in 1915.

1922—An all-Missouri Valley grid end who was also captain of the O.U. squad in 1921 was L. E. "Jap" Haskell, '22geol. "Jap" played in the outfield on the Sooner baseball team. W. Dow Hamm, '22ba, now a geologist in Dallas, was center on the 1920 all-victorious football team. A letterman in football and basketball was Myron Tyler, '22ba, now an automobile dealer in Bristow.



1927—Pollok Wallace, '27ba, '35ms, and Frank Potts, '27ba, were outstanding athletes in their respective fields. Wallace, who is now an Oklahoma City geologist, was center on the '24, '25 and '26 Sooner grid squads. He was named team captain in his last year. A wizard in the classroom as well as on the gridiron, Wallace is a member of Phi Beta Kappa and Pe-et. Potts, now track mentor at the University of Colorado, was twice named on the all-Missouri Valley Conference team. He won pole vaulting trophies from the Kansas, Texas, Drake and Rice Relays, the Missouri Valley-K.C.A.C. indoor meet and the National Collegiate Athletic Association championships. Potts won the N.C.A.A. title at Chicago with a 12-foot, six-inch vault, although his best height was 12 feet, 11 and seven-eighth inches at the Kansas Relays while competing with Charley Hoff of Norway, then holder of the world record.

1932—Gordon "Gordy" Graalman, '32, was an outstanding football and basketball player while at O.U. George Miskovsky, '32, '36law, Oklahoma City-Norman, won laurels as a welterweight boxing champion as well as winning the first gold medal Letzeiser award in 1932. E. L. "Iron Mike" Massad, '32, a star fullback from 1928 to '31, recently was discharged as a colonel from the Army and is now living in Ardmore.

1937—Glen Dawson, '37ed, Skiatook oil driller, was captain of the 1931 track team. Not content with smashing five school records, he entered meets at New York City, Philadelphia, Chicago and Kansas City, earning fame as one of the nation's outstanding distance runners. Conrad "Connie" Ahrens, '37bus, a former Army major now living in Little Rock, Arkansas, played football in '34, '35 and '36, and was captain in his last year.

1942—Jack Jacobs, '42, now a professional football player, lettered in football, baseball and track. Lt. Col. Ralph Stevenson, '42bus, now stationed with the Army Air Forces at Scott Field, Illinois, was a baseball outfielder, setting an all-time record for number of bases stolen.

1947—Outstanding athletes graduating this year include two-time all-American cager Gerald Tucker, Winfield, Kansas, who was named most outstanding basketball player of this year; Allie Paine, Oklahoma City, all-American and all-Big Six title winner, and Dick Reich and Jack Landon, both of Oklahoma City, who have won Big Six cage honors while attending O.U. On the cinder paths, Clarence Vicklund, Iron Mountain, Michigan, won laurels as a Big Six mile and two-mile champion.

These athletes, along with their teammates, have been a credit to the University of Oklahoma and to their respective classes of '02, '07, '12, '17, '22, '27, '32, '37, '42 and '47. But to be champions, Sooner athletes and teams need Sooner backing. Support your O.U. athletics!

