GOLF was the University's most successful spring sport through March and April.

Coach Bruce Drake's Sooner daisy-trampers had not only thumped six consecutive opponents this spring, but at this writing had won 25 consecutive dual meets since their last defeat to the powerful Stanford team, national collegiate champions, at Palo Alto, Calif., in April of 1938.

The team's phenomenal success this year is all the more remarkable considering that only one regular, Marvin Mesch of Bartlesville, is back. And with Mesch, who is also captain of Oklahoma's basketball team, getting a late start because of basketball, two sophomores, Ted Gwin of Tulsa and Charles Hutchins of Cushing, have been the most dependable shot-makers.

Gwin made a phenomenal comeback against his Texas Tech opponent on the University intramural course early in April. Four down at the end of the first nine and forced to look at a sizzling 33 by his opponent, Gwin rallied savagely, winning seven holes of the second nine and winning his match, 2 and 1.

Two more sophomores, Jack Pruett of Sand Springs and Bill Shipley of Oklahoma City, and Harold "Sandy" Lahar, clouting senior who weighs 216 pounds and plays guard on Coach Tom Stidham's Sooner spring practice football squad, round out the squad.

Coach Jap Haskell's Sooner baseball team has had its ups and downs and prior to its opening Big Six contest against Kansas State here April 19 and 20, had won four and lost four.

The Sooners began the season by wal-laping Baylor university of Waco, Tex., twice at Norman, 8 to 2 and 13 to 4. Then Oklahoma traveled to Waco for a return series, splitting two games, 4-0 and 4-5.

Against "Uncle Billy" Disch's powerful Texas Longhorns, who were all-victorious and had numbered among their victims Tulsa of the Texas league and Toledo of the American Association, Oklahoma lost 6 to 8 although out hitting the Steers 13 to 10 on Texas' home field at Austin. The first Texas game was rained out.

Then came a night game against Hank Iba's Oklahoma Aggies at Stillwater. Strongest Aggie team of modern times, Iba's club licked the Sooners 8 to 1. The result was all the more surprising since Oklahoma got but two hits.

On April 12 and 13 Iba brought his Aggie powerhouse to Norman for return contests. The Sooners won the first 9 to 8, with a thrilling three-run rally in the last of the ninth. Popeye Lasater, Oklahoma's diminutive second-baseman from Broken Bow, got four hits and Jack Riley three to pace the Sooner attack, Oklahoma out hitting the Aggies 16 to 10.

However the Aggies won next day, 9 to 2, chiefly because of timelier hitting. Their 1940 club has a great deal of speed at most positions, hits viciously, has a strong defense, three able pitchers and in Danny Doyle, senior catcher, the best college backstopper to play at Norman since Joe "Skunk" Mayes, the Cherokee boy from Pryor who used to catch for Bill Owen's powerful Sooner teams.

Feature of the Sooner season, aside from Third-baseman Jack Riley's great all-around play and the hustling of little Lasater, has been the phenomenal batting of Ralph Bollinger, junior outfielder from Norman. At this writing Bollinger had gathered 11 hits in 18 trips and was leading the club in hitting with a neat .611.

John Jacobs' crack Sooner sprinters came through as predicted at the Texas Relays April 6 at Austin, Oklahoma winning the 440-yard relay, in which each man runs 110 yards, by three yards and the 880-yard relay, in which each man runs 220 yards, by 30 yards. Sooner time for each event was 41.7 and 1:26.7, good considering the rain-soaked track and the strong wind.

George Koettel, Alex junior; Fred Coogan, Sayre senior; Orville Mathews, Chickasha sophomore and Bill Lyda, Oklahoma City sophomore, comprise the Sooner sprint team.

Oklahoma also won its opening dual meet against Kansas State, 77 2-3 to 53 1-3 at Owen field April 4. Koettel won the 100 in 9.6 seconds with a brisk north tail wind scooting him along while Lyda shot through the 440 in 49.4 with Coogan just a jump behind, very good time considering the first 220 yards of the race was run into a brisk north wind.

The Sooners then overwhelmed the Edmond, Okla., Teachers and Oklahoma City university in a tri meet April 13 at Norman, scoring 93 to Central's 16 and O. C. U.'s 7.

However the track team suffered a severe loss April 15 when Jack Morris, senior hurdler from Anadarko and Big Six conference indoor champion in the high
Edwin Ramsey at 1 and B. D. McCampbell have completed their collegiate athletic career since this is his last meet at Urbana, Ill. Their 128-pound championship at the national tournament was one of their many successes.

Harold Byrd of Tulsa, a junior, won the national wrestling title and finished third in the Big Six tournament and claimed the Oklahoma Aggies' championship at Norman.

The Fort Sill field artillery four, one of the most successful teams in the country, returned to the Fort Sill for their spring game against the University of Oklahoma's military academy, twice defeated in Norman, Oklahoma Military Academy twice. University of Illinois was defeated by the Sooners in Claremore, Oklahoma. The Sooners were defeated in their spring game against Texas Aggies, 10 to 7.

Clark Hetherington and Alex Cheek, at No. 2 and Harry Hill No. 3, are back while Bill Tenhagen, Kansas City Junior College transfer at 3, and E. P. Litchfield at 4 complete the squad.

Another all-victorious Oklahoma sports team is Captain L. R. Wingfield's Sooners polo team which has won six matches in a row this spring, defeating Texas Aggies twice at Norman, Oklahoma Military Academy at Claremore, University of Illinois once at Norman and the crack Fort Sill field artillery four at Fort Sill, 10 to 7.

Three veterans, Jerry Galbreath and Alex Cheek, at No. 2 and Harry Hill No. 3, are back while Clark Hetherington and Edwin Ramsey at 1 and B. D. McCampbell at 4 complete the squad.

Coach D. C. Matthews' green Sooners wrestling team, defeated in every dual meet this past season, nevertheless finished third in the Big Six tournament and claimed one national collegiate champion when Harold Byrd of Tulsa, a junior, won the 128-pound championship at the national meet at Urbana, Ill.

Phil Handler, line coach of the Chicago Cardinals, professional football team that probably will contain five former Sooners on its 1940 roster, Earl Crowder, Jim Thomas, John Shirk, Alton Coppage and Beryl Clark, saw the Sooners spring football drills one day recently.

"Oklahoma has the biggest intercollegiate squad I've seen this spring," Handler said. He had already seen spring drills at Southern Methodist, Texas Christian, Centenary, Colorado Mines, Texas Tech and Hardin-Simmons.

The University of Oklahoma's forward passing attack was lauded as the most consistently effective in the nation the last three years by the American Football Statistical bureau's compilations for the 1939 season, just out.

"Oklahoma's Sooners ranked third in completion percentage in 1937 and were second in 1938. Their three-year record of 206 completions in 461 attempts for a .510 percentage has no modern counterpart for percentage of effectiveness," the report says.

The ranking of the nation's leading teams in forward pass offense:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Team</th>
<th>Had Pct. Total Av.</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Okla.</td>
<td>123 133.46 13.537 810 12.27</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. N. C.</td>
<td>100 119.90 20.500 985 10.94</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. Tex. C.</td>
<td>245 120.16 .490 1,485 12.38</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4. Ind.</td>
<td>142 146 19.486 1,032 14.96</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5. S. Cal.</td>
<td>183 145.84 12.459 1,068 12.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6. Princn.</td>
<td>153 62 12.438 1,055 15.75</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7. Oregon</td>
<td>137 58 11.423 866 14.93</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8. Tex. Ag.</td>
<td>166 70 15.422 948 13.54</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9. La. S.</td>
<td>159 67 15.421 918 13.70</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10. Miss.</td>
<td>120 50 13.417 880 17.60</td>
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Coach Tom Sidham's Sooners punting game ranked 12th in the nation with an average of 39.55 yards per kick, the best mark Oklahoma has had since the Big Chief became head coach here in 1937. Auburn was tops in punting length with 43.25 per kick, followed by Alabama, Washington State and Ohio State.

The Sooners ranked ninth nationally in runbacks of opponents' kickoffs with their average of 25.71 yards per runback and topped the nation in number of penalties with 74 and with the most yards lost by penalties, 581, closely followed by their state cousins, the Oklahoma Aggies, who drew 60 penalties for 510 yards.

Beryl Clark, Sooner back, was the national individual leader in forward passing accuracy for all passers who threw more than 50 times. The Cherokee boy hit 38 of 64 tosses for a completion percentage of .594 and was trailed by Lalanne, North Carolina; Boell, New York and Odle, Texas Christian, in this department. Bill Jennings, Oklahoma back, was sixth nationally in received passes, grabbing 21. Ken Kavanaugh of Louisiana State was high with 30 catches for the year.

There were several surprises in the 1939 ratings. For instance Kansas led the nation in forward pass defense, yielding only 34.1 yards per game for seven games.

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**SPORTS CALENDAR**

- May 2 (tennis)—Denton, Tex. Teachers at Norman.
- May 2 (golf)—State Intercollegiate meet at Oklahoma City.
- May 3 (track)—Oklahoma Aggies at Stillwater.
- May 3 (baseball)—Iowa State at Norman.
- May 3, 4 (polo)—Iowa State at Ames.
- May 4 (tennis)—Tulsa university at Norman.
- May 6, 7 (baseball)—Texas at Norman.
- May 6 (polo)—Illinois at Urbana.
- May 7 (tennis)—Oklahoma Aggies at Norman.
- May 7, 8 (polo)—Missouri at Columbia.
- May 10, 11 (baseball)—Kansas at Lawrence.
- May 13, 14 (baseball)—Missouri at Columbia.
- May 16, 17 (baseball)—Nebraska at Norman.
- May 16, 18 (polo)—Oklahoma Military academy at Norman.
- May 17, 18—Big Six championships in tennis, track and golf at Lincoln, Neb.

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- Oct. 19—Kansas State
- Nov. 2—Nebraska
- Nov. 16—Missouri
- Nov. 23—Temple

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University of Oklahoma Athletic Association

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