

Sooner Sports

By HAROLD KEITH

THE UNIVERSITY'S athletic department has streamlined itself for the war effort with four important measures:

(1) It scheduled football games with the Georgia Naval Aviation school of Athens, Georgia, and Keesler Field of Biloxi, Mississippi. Both will play at Norman this fall.

(2) It sent Athletic Director and Line Coach Lawrence (Jap) Haskell to the Navy's Aviation physical education program. Haskell reported June 15 at Annapolis, Maryland, for training. He is a lieutenant senior grade. President Joseph Brandt named Dale Arbuckle, football backfield coach, as acting director until Haskell returns.

(3) It purchased \$50,000 worth of war bonds, the limit prescribed by law, from its football surplus.

(4) It will toughen 100 additional students for war this fall with its new Junior Varsity football team which will practice apart from the Varsity and play its own schedule. This is Head Coach Dewey (Snorter) Luster's idea and he is remaining at Norman to follow it through.

The athletic department is still sending its best athletes into the service. Most recent to go is Lee Cowling of Eufaula, sophomore football center who played the entire Nebraska game last fall without substitution. Cowling enlisted in the air corps June 1. Jack Jacobs, senior tailback, enlisted in the Air Corps June 10. Nearly 60 Sooner athletes in all the sports have enlisted in some branch of the Nation's service since Pearl Harbor.

Hard-Hitting Service Teams to Play Here

In World War I the university discovered that the average college football team hasn't any business trying to defeat a well-organized service team. Back in 1917 Bennie Owen's Sooners learned that when they clashed with Camp Doniphan of Fort Sill. The Soldiers won, 21 to 7, at Oklahoma City.

Addition of the Georgia Naval Aviation School and Keesler Field to the Sooner schedule this fall amounts to about the same proposition.

Both these powerful modern service teams start practice August 1 (the Sooners do not get going until September 7). Both will enrol on their squads professional football stars as well as the best college players. Both will have big-name coaching staffs.

The Georgia unit in particular is rated formidable. It is one of the nation's four biggest service schools (the others are Great Lakes, Iowa University and St. Mary's, California) in the nation and it is collecting former All-Americans at such a dizzy pace that Tom Lieb, University of Florida

coach, recently raised a hullabaloo in the newspapers, charging his returning varsity was being raided by skilled recruiters from the newly-created service schools.

"Playing that team will be just like playing the Chicago Bears," Director Haskell



HE'S IN THE NAVY NOW
Jap Haskell, '22geol, sporting his new Navy uniform, says goodbye to Dale Arbuckle, '27law, '36ed, who will be acting athletic director at O. U. during Haskell's leave of absence

commented grimly, as he signed for the game.

"We're facing an almost certain licking," Head Coach Luster declared, as he nervously doubled his hot coffee ration. "Of course we'll be trying to knock their ears down but they've got far too much experienced playing talent and too much head start."

The revised Sooner 12-game schedule, which now resembles a hockey team's slate, is as follows:

- Sept. 19 Georgia Naval Aviation School at Norman.
- Sept. 26 Oklahoma Aggies at Stillwater.
- Oct. 3 Tulsa at Tulsa.
- Oct. 10 Texas at Dallas.
- Oct. 17 Kansas at Lawrence.
- Oct. 24 Nebraska at Norman.
- Oct. 31 Iowa State at Ames.
- Nov. 7 Kansas State at Norman.
- Nov. 14 Missouri at Norman (Homecoming).
- Nov. 21 Temple at Philadelphia.
- Dec. 5 William and Mary at Norman.
- Dec. 12 Keesler Field at Norman.

Haskell Will Be On Leave of Absence

Jap Haskell, the University's new athletic director who just completed his first year, will be on leave of absence and will return to his duties here soon as the war is over, President Brandt emphasized.

"I think it is a fine thing for Jap, the University and the service," President Brandt said. "Jap has built such a wise foundation that his job can almost run itself for a while. He has built a splendid football schedule through 1946 and he has left his department financially sound. He will be associated with some of the nation's biggest coaches and athletic figures and should make some valuable athletic contacts that will be useful to the University when he returns."

President Brandt said Luster had also discussed with him going into the service. "Although I believe entering the service is any man's free choice, I am glad Snorter and his staff has decided to stay, the president said. "The next two years are the most critical in the history of the athletic department. We are just starting a new football system. Many of our best players have joined the service, creating a problem there. Our new Junior Varsity program moves forward this fall. We need to maintain close contact athletically with Norman's new naval units. There's a world of important work right here at home."

Dale Arbuckle, the acting director for the duration, is 39 years old. He came to the University from Enid High School, playing on Bennie Owen's Sooner teams of 1923, 1925 and 1926. He holds the all-time Sooner record for forward passes intercepted in one game, nine against Ray Morrison's Southern Methodist Mustangs at Dallas in 1925. His Duncan and Oklahoma City Central High School teams won nearly 90 percent of their games. He will continue on as backfield coach. His industriousness, ability to get along with everybody, and his knack of transmitting his enthusiasm to everybody with whom he comes in contact, are qualities that should help on the new job.

Lyda Wins National Collegiate Half-mile

Bill Lyda, Sooner senior who joined the Naval Air Corps, was assigned to Oklahoma's famous Wiley Post Tornado squadron and reports June 23 to Athens, Georgia, for training at the gigantic Naval Aviation School there, climaxed his brilliant running year by winning the National Collegiate 880-yard run at Lincoln, Nebraska, June 13.

Lyda won in 1:50.8, conquering by two full steps Campbell Kane, Indiana's rangy twice defending champion. Kane won the national 880 in both 1940 and 1941, and was hopeful of scoring a triple.

John Jacobs, Lyda's coach, refused to accompany Lyda to the meet. Jacobs stayed home, saving the expense of the trip to apply to Lyda's expenses when the Sooner runs at New York June 20 in the National A. A. U. meet.