

# Second Guessing with Harold W. Andersen

**OKLAHOMA PAPERS PLEASE COPY:** With its decision not to send a team to the annual Big Six outdoor track and field championships in Lincoln May 19-20, the University of Oklahoma has the rather doubtful distinction of becoming the first Big Six school to fail to muster a team for competition in one of the conference's major sports. Through football, basketball, and indoor track seasons, all the conference schools had teams in competition. Now the Sooners, with athletic teams loaded to the gun-wales with naval trainees, back out of outdoor track competition on the basis that they cannot make the jaunt to Lincoln and keep within the navy's 48-hour leave limit.

The Sooners' contention that the navy leave-limit keeps them from sending a track squad to Lincoln raises several questions. How were Sooner athletic teams, restricted by the same 48-hour limit, able to make their frequent jaunts during football and basketball competition? The Oklahoma school seemed only too anxious to fulfill schedule obligations in football and basketball, in both of which sports the Sooners had extremely powerful squads. Could it be that the Sooners are reluctant to journey to Lincoln because they admittedly have a weak track squad, one which could not hope to fare nearly so well in conference competition as did their grid and cage teams? In the conference indoor track championships, readers will remember, the Sooners finished a poor fifth, outscoring only Kansas State's all-civilian squad. All of which leads us to believe that Oklahoma's decision to withdraw from the outdoor track championships was prompted simply by the Sooners' reluctance to take a beating.

Even if the 48-hour leave-limit excuse is legitimate, what's to prevent the Sooners from sending a civilian squad? Three other conference schools—Nebraska, Kansas State, and Missouri—have been fielding all-civilian squads in all sports throughout the school year. Kansas State, with only civilian entrants, failed to score a point in the conference indoor meet, but at least the Wildcats had enough courage to enter a team.

Oklahoma's decision to withdraw from the conference outdoor track carnival, though definitely a body blow to Big Six athletics, makes all the more laudable the courage of the other conference schools, particularly those with all-civilian squads, in carrying out their athletic programs.

We in Nebraska can be particularly proud of the Cornhuskers, who have surely faced as severe manpower shortages as any conference school. Never once did we see Husker coaches Lewandowski and Weir contemplate cancelling scheduled contests or consider dropping from conference competition. The Huskers played the last basketball game of the season with an eight-man squad, but the point is, they PLAYED. No excuses or alibis or attempts to cancel the game.

Track coach Weir is still wrestling with the manpower problem as he readies his charges for the conference outdoor championships. The Huskers competed in the triangular meet at Lawrence yesterday with only a six-man squad, but, once again, the point is, they competed. No alibis or thoughts of withdrawing from the meet.

UN athletic followers can well be proud of Husker coaches and players. Though the Huskers have taken their share of beatings this year, never have they cancelled a scheduled contest or considered dropping from conference competition. Nor have they taken to hiding behind questionable alibis in order to conceal team weaknesses. In short, the Huskers have left a record of courage and determination of which they may well be proud.

# Sports



## K. U. Sweeps Past Scarlet, Kansas State

Handicapped by a lack of second and third place winners Nebraska's Cornhuskers finished in second place far behind the naval trained-spiked Kansas Jayhawks in yesterday's triangular meet at Lawrence, Kansas. Kansas State was a bad third.

The scores were Kansas 85, Nebraska 37, Kansas State 12. The Huskers had three double winners, but were unable to match the all-around squad strength of the Jayhawks, who swept eight firsts, tied for another, and grabbed 13 second places. Double winners for the Huskers were Dean Kratz, 440 and 880; Buzz Hollins, shot put and discus, and Norval Barker, high and low hurdles.

## FEM FUN

BY ELEANOR KNOLL.  
Softball tournament will be finished this week with a little co-operation from the weather. The schedule has been run an unknown

number of times already but here it is again:

Monday at 5:00.  
Raymond Hall vs. Pi Phi. Winner to play the Gamma Phi on Tuesday.

Northeast Hall vs. Delta Gamma (1). Winner to play Alpha Xi on Tuesday.

Finalists will be determined after these matches and the final game is to be played Wednesday at 5 p. m. in back of the coliseum—if it doesn't rain.

The schedule for the badminton games is as follows:

Calmer-West vs. Beedle-Hagen.

Demel-Horton vs. Giotfelty-Legge.  
Klindt-Klindt vs. Bromley-McKissich.  
Brinkman-Milton vs. Hansen-Ormesher.

The entire table tennis tournament must be finished this week, says Mickey McPherson, president of WAA. The participants should find out whom they are playing and make arrangements to play soon. If the game is not played this week, it will not be counted in the intra-mural series.

WAA awards will be presented on Friday at 5 p. m. at Grant Memorial. Awards will be made for each intramural tournament played this year and a grand award to the group who has the largest number of points for winning the most events. A new award will be given to the group which has had the largest number of participants in the intramural series. Three senior women who have shown outstanding interest, performance, and sportsmanship will be given special recognition.

University Theatre Presents  
Noel Coward's  
**"WAYS AND MEANS"**  
Charles George's  
**'WHEN SHAKESPEARE'S LADIES MEET'**  
8:00 P. M., THURS., MAY 11  
UNION BALLROOM

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Sunday, May 14!



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