

# Tiger track team again wins Big Eight indoor title

Not quite the shoo-ins they figured to be after the preliminaries, Missouri's track team still claimed a repeat indoor title in the Big Eight meet last month—a triumph sparked by old pro Robin Lingle and a pair of hungry sophomores.

The Tigers made 52 points on the boards at Kansas City, scoring in 11 of 14 events to fight off surging Kansas, the runnerup with 47. None of the other six teams made it close. Nebraska was third with 25, followed by Oklahoma State 24, Kansas State 18, Oklahoma 17, Colorado 16 and Iowa State 9.

Mizzou's gold-jersied titlists won six individual crowns as Lingle again swung the mile and 1000-yard double, the latter in record time—and Gene Crews picked up his second indoor triumph in the shot at 59-5¼, his career best.

Other M.U. champions were: Cal Groff, high hurdles in :07.3; Steve Herndon, high jump in 6-8½; and Earl Denny, broad jump in 24-ft.

Lingle proved his class to a sell-out crowd of 9,700 by winning as he pleased, shattering the 1000-yard record by almost three seconds. His 2:08.8 clocking on the heels of a 4:08.9 mile was the night's most spectacular performance.

Still, it was a couple of rookies—Herndon and Denny—who probably hoisted the Bengals over the hump. They took top medals where the K.U. challengers were strong. Kansas entries still finished 2-3-4 behind Denny in the broad jump as the strapping Mizzou halfback unwound the best leap of his young career.

## Tiger cagers finish third

To the casual observer, Mizzou's final 13-11 basketball record and third-place finish in the Big Eight standings might be viewed as a so-so season. To the halfway-knowlegeable fan, it was a remarkable achievement.

Winning five of their last six contests, the Tigers gave Coach Bob Vanatta one of his most gratifying campaigns. Little was expected of a team that had lost its 1-2 scorers from last year, had no regular taller than 6-5, and lacked bench strength.

But with hustle and heart supplying the impetus, Missouri's crowd-pleasers sprung at least five upsets during the year, including a shocker over St. Louis U.—later to win a National Invitation Tournament berth—and two victories (in three tries) over Oklahoma State, the ultimate conference champion.

In addition, the Tigers ended a few embarrassing strings. They beat K-State in Columbia after 23 straight losses to the Wildcats, and then rocked them again at Manhattan to snap a nine-year hex on that court. Six years of frustration at Boulder were terminated with a victory.

All five Mizzou regulars wound up with double-figure averages, indicative of the team balance that helped M.U. post an 8-6 conference mark, tying

Colorado for third-place. Scoring leader was Gary Garner with a 15-point average followed by Ned Monsees (14.1), George Flamank (12.8), Ron Coleman (11.3) and Charlie Rudd (10.4).

Garner, Monsees and Flamank—the top three point-makers—are seniors, along with Don Early, lost at mid-season with a knee injury. Once again, Vanatta's remodeling job will be extensive—but the penalty for this year's success may come back to haunt him. Mizzou fans will be convinced their amiable skipper can come up with another winner.

## Intra-squad grid game May 1

Coach Dan Devine and his aides begin piecing together another football team this month—with 18 lettermen as the rebuilding nucleus. The Tigers will conclude their allotted 20 days of spring workouts with a final intra-squad game on May 1.

Most apparent need is the development of new offensive linemen to replace such seasoned graduates as Tom Wprostek, Bobby Brown, Joe Buerkle, Dave Holsinger and Jerry Crumpler. The defensive line, except for end Bud Abell, returns intact.

Backfield problems should be minimal. Back again will be 1964's top foursome of Gary Lane, quarterback; Charlie Brown and Earl Denny, halfbacks; and Carl Reese, fullback. As defensive insurance, the Tigers will have Johnny Roland, Ken Boston and Gary Grossnickle on call in a secondary which lost Vince Tobin and Gus Otto, sturdy two-way fullback.

Promising newcomers include a pair of hefty linemen, Russell Washington—a 6-6 and 265-pound end; and Mike Wempe, a 6-3 and 235-pound tackle. Best of the rookie backs should be Barry Lischner, fullback.

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