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Head Coach Wilbur (Sparky) Stalcup

Wilbur (Sparky) Stalcup begins his tenth campaign at Missouri this season... recognized as one of the game's top tutors of defensive tactics and ball-control basketball . . . has compiled a record of 275 wins, 141 losses in 20 years of headcoaching . . . in nine years at Missouri his teams have won 123 games, lost 85 . . . attended Northwest (Mo.) State College at Maryville, and played basketball there under Henry (Hank) Iba present coach and athletic director at Oklahoma A. & M. . . . was an all conference selection in both basketball and football, and lettered in track . . . after graduation in 1932, Stalcup took his first coaching job at Jackson, (Mo.) high . . . stayed one year, and then was hired as head coach at Maryville in 1933, replacing Iba who went to Colorado . . . spent 11 seasons at Maryville, winning two undisputed M.I.A.A. titles and tying for another . . . came to Missouri in 1946 as George Edward's successor . . . was State Chairman of the March of Dimes for three years . . . the 45 year-old popular after-dinner speaker is married and has one daughter Susan, 14.



Head Coach Royner C. Greene

Royner C. Greene, whose 1953-54 team brought the university its first Ivy League championship in 30 years, is in his tenth season as head basketball coach at Cornell.

Roy has spent his entire collegiate coaching career in Ithaca. After turning in a brilliant record at Middletown (Ohio) High School, he came to Cornell in 1945 as an assistant and worked with the junior varsity.

His nine Cornell varsity teams scored 134 victories against 87 defeats. The 1946-47, 1947-48 and 1950-51 teams placed second in the league, the 1950-51 club setting the Cornell record for total victories (20) and equalling the single season winning mark of nine.

The 1953-54 team, however, was the most successful Cornell record-breaker. The 12 league victories were two more than the previous high and both the 1825 total points and the game average of 70.2 topped former marks by a big margin.

Greene's scholastic record included six Greater Ohio titles and a 43-game winning streak in 1943-44-45.

His offense is based on a flexible double-pivot, with one man operating in a corner, and he is an advocate of tight defensive play. A precisionist, he puts heavy stress on fundamentals.

Greene is a 1929 graduate of the University of Illinois where he played both basketball and baseball. He is also coach of varsity baseball. His 1952 team won the Southern Division of the Eastern Intercollegiate League, tying with Brown for the league championship.

Cornell's prospects for a successful basketball season, according to Coach Roy Greene, are "fair, at best."

Four regulars return, along with a letterman from the 1953-54 season when the Big Red won its first Ivy League title in 30 years, but Greene believes the play of several sophomores will be the decisive factor.

The big problem is compensating for the loss of pivotman Jack Sheehy, Cornell's all-time single season record-holder who last winter averaged 20.5 points and 16 rebounds.

Lettermen returning up front are senior Ray Zelek (6-5) and junior Milt Kogan (6-4). Last season Zelek was ineligible for the last seven games and Kogan missed 10 contests while recovering from a first-game knee injury.

Another veteran up front is Max Mattes, a 6-4 senior who was a key reserve two years ago prior to Army service. He can also play in the backcourt.

The chief competitors for the two front court posts (Greene's system calls for one man in the pivot and another in a corner) are sophomores Larry Pearson (6-4) and Harland Calkin (6-5). Off his pre-season showing, Pearson should win the corner assignment.

Co-Captains Chuck Rolles (5-6) and Dick Meade (5-11) are returning back court starters. Both are adroit playmakers. Rolles has established himself as the spectacular player in Cornell history. A brilliant jump-shooter and ball-handler, the poker-faced redhead averaged 15.7 points last season (17.4 in 14 Ivy League games) and was named to the All-Ivy first team by the league coaches.

Sophomores who figure prominently in the back court setup are Irv Roberson (6-1), Phil Marriott (6-3) and Carl Horning (5-11). Roberson, a halfback and the top ground gainer on the varsity football team, is adept at rebounding. Senior Don Hughes and junior Phil Monroe, both 6-3, may also see action.

Greene expects the team to be aggressive, to display excellent back court speed and to have more reserve strength than his recent clubs. His biggest concern is developing front court players who can show both scoring and defensive proficiency.