

Homer Sherwood, V-12, of Arkansas City, has stolen the quarterback job from Dean Corder and Bill Lindquist. This position is very difficult to play and Sherwood is doing a good job of it. He came out rather late in the season after some Navy restrictions, but is showing improvement with every game.

Bob Turner, V-12, from Seattle, Washington, went home during the Christmas holidays, as did Lloyd Palmer. They got none of the fundamentals that the boys generally get during Christmas, so there has been quite a turnover. The men who stayed at Christmas time, many of them, are not playing on the team now, meaning that had we had many of these other boys during Christmas our team perhaps would have been further along.

Charles Moffett, from Peabody, was inducted into the service, went to Ft. Leavenworth for three days and developed a very bad case of asthma and hay fever when they put him to sweeping out the barracks. He was discharged from Leavenworth, and played a sterling game at tailback in football and is doing a fine job in basketball.

Joe Brasch, V-12, from Spokane, Washington, has been coming along but has not broken in any of the games. Gordon Stucker, alternate to Annapolis, is a local boy, having played a fine game at end on the football team, and started out brilliantly at the beginning of the season in basketball but has suffered a slump in his offensive power.

At the present time the line up is Don Barrington and Charles Moffett at forward; Homer Sherwood at center and quarterback; and Bob Turner and Sparky McSpadden, captain, at guard. Bill Lindquist, Gordon Stucker, Willard Frank, Don Diehl, Bob Malott and George Dick are first alternates, but it seems that no combination will work from one game to the next. It is like shuffling the boys' names in a hat and drawing them out. I never can pick a line-up from one game to the next. The boys that play splendidly in one game will play disappointingly in the next.

But why should this not be the case? All of these boys come from different sections of the country, under different systems, and being freshmen in all cases, with the exception of Sparky, naturally we should not expect more. But this is a war year and we are hoping that this thing will be over some time when we can all get back to old Mt. Crede and show our friends that Kansas still has the punch.

I want to say that this group of boys is a fighting bunch, but they lack intelligent fight. They fail in their fundamentals, which, after all, is real basketball. In times of excitement one reverts to previous experiences, and this accounts for many lapses in strategy and good fundamental playing that would have brought us victory had we carried through on our fundamentals. For instance, we lost to Oklahoma 24 to 23 at Lawrence on January 21 because Oklahoma made 10 out of 12 free throws, and we made 3 out of 8. We outscored them in field goals, as we did at Norman last Saturday night, by a 3 goal margin. Oklahoma got 15 out of 17 free throws and Kansas got 5 out of 15. The boys just tighten up on the free throw mark and can't hit. I have never had a team that was consistently this poor on free throws. And yet every day we throw 50 free throws against competition and I go around from fellow to fellow working on them. They hit good in practice, although some of them are as discouraging as my good old friend, Lt. Johnny Kline, who threw them up there from every angle