

BUCKEYE CONFERENCE EXPECTS FINE CAMPAIGN

B. T. Grover, Ohio University

With each of the five teams in the Buckeye Inter-collegiate Athletic Conference well fortified with veterans from the hottest competition the league has witnessed, the race this season should be a hardboard scorcher.

The Battling Bishops of Ohio Wesleyan were the crown wearers when the snow melted, and are back on the court this year with their 1933-34 lineup intact. A glance into the seer's crystal tells us that they are the favorites for the title again. Bracing the banner wearers of Don Mewhort and Myron Prech at forwards, Clovis Stark at center, Howard Stammler and Ernie Talos at guards, are several good veteran reserves and a few outstanding sophomores.

The Bishops, however, cannot expect to sail easily into the port of champions for there are four other teams with the same designs. Not least among these are the Bearcats of Cincinnati who probably were the second best team in the running last year.

Cincinnati will have their center, Carl Austing, high point man in the conference the past winter, back at the helm with a noble crew of veterans and sophomores as the supporting cast. With Ballard, Raidt, and Summerville heralding the coming of their best court year, the Cincinnatians are going to be tough to beat on any evening. Crystal prediction: Strongest contenders.

To the fort, men, the Redskins are coming. Those Miami sophomores who played some good basketball last season are juniors now and intend letting their war whoop send chills to every member of the conference. With Woodburn, Henry, Vernetzy, Shook, Cline, and Weiland making up in speed what they lack in height Miami will be tough opposition for any of them. Crystal prediction: Very troublesome.

Down at Athens the Ohio University Bobcats have seven lettermen back from last winter's very mediocre team, and at present it appears as though only two of the veterans will keep their posts as regulars. Ohio will be built around Berens, 6' 4" center who was All-Buckeye as a sophomore, but slumped slightly last year, and Reichley, speedy guard. Supporting this nucleus there are three sophomores in Reeves, Burt, and Doll who are muscling lettermen out of their positions. Crystal prediction: With plenty of height, excepting Reichley, Ohio will be a much improved team.

Now we come to the youngest member of the Buckeye who has been having a little trouble fitting in with the new company, but at present is acclimating itself fast. That is Marshall which is also replete with veteran material. Kincaid, Wellman, Humphery, and Hallahan are the lettermen who will no doubt bother a lot of other contenders. The Marshall team lacked size last year, but in spite of that gave a good account of themselves. Crystal prediction: Better than last year.