

Tribute to Oklahoma and Drake

Miller's knee is on the mend. A month ago he could hardly walk. He practiced for the first time about two weeks ago, and now he is far enough along to make all trips. He may be ready to take a leading part within two weeks.

"Oklahoma is a fine team and Bruce Drake is a fine young coach," Dr. Allen said following the Sooner victory. They may be beaten, but I don't know who can keep them. ~~They'll be beaten, but I don't know who can keep them~~ from winning the championship."

Drake refuses to recognize his squad as the favorite, but he confesses that it is a good team and better than the December record indicates. The Sooners broke even with an able Colorado squad in Boulder. After closing the series on a Saturday night, the squad drove back to Norman for two with Arkansas the following Monday and Tuesday.

"It was too much for us," Bruce explained, "it taught me something about schedule making. In addition to most of the boys being tired, we didn't have our full strength and haven't had all season."

There is an interesting story behind the story of Drake's victory over K. U. in his debut as a Big Six conference coach. Dr. F. C. Allen has never beaten a team with which Drake was connected as player or coach.

K. U. and O. U. did not meet in 1927, Drake's sophomore year as a player under Hugh McDermott. However, he sparked the Sooners to wins by 45 to 19 and 30 to 21 in 1928. In 1929, with Drake again playing an all-conference role, the Sooners won, 27 to 25, after trailing 11 to 2 early in the game. In the second game that season the Sooners won, 40 to 25.

Basketball Interest Runs High

The conference enjoyed a successful football season and basketball interest is running high because there is not an outstanding favorite. Basketball interest in general has been on the upgrade for a number of years and Dr. Allen explains it as follows:

Basketball is a game played in the open and easy to understand. In the last 10 years most of the large field houses and auditoriums have been built. An understanding interest has been developed and the rules have been kept simple.

The caliber of play is better because the players are taught more and taught better. Athletic journals and periodicals give coaches information formerly available only in an occasional book. Coaching schools and clinics enable coaches to exchange ideas and keep abreast of the times.

In Dr. Allen's opinion there is a big difference between high school and college and university basketball. He believes a difference in interpretation of the rules, making university play more rugged and demanding so much more aggressiveness, that high school boys find it almost a different game.

To be a good university player, the boy must have tremendously aggressive power. Basketball is being footballized, he says, and football basketballized. He believes a 12-foot basket, instead of the present 10-foot goal, would eliminate much of the contact of the modern game.