

Since Head Coach Henry Shenk has a pretty good knowledge of the competition in the Big Six Conference this coming season, I asked him what he thought of Kansas' chances. I recall the days when Shenk played for Kansas, and particularly when he caught a pass from Art Lawrence (now coaching at Rosedale High School) and ran down the east side of the field for a touchdown that beat Missouri 14 to 7. Barrett Hamilton caught the pass that made the first touchdown. Kansas had had a rather mediocre season up until that time. Missouri was Big Six champion and had beaten Nebraska and Northwestern, and were odds on favorites.

So when I asked Henry Shenk about the prospects for this season he replied: "So far as the Big Six this year is concerned it looks as if Oklahoma will probably be the team to beat for the championship. They have a large V-5 unit and a good many of their players back from last year, and they can also be counted on to get some freshman talent. Iowa State should also present a strong team since they not only have a large V-12 unit but also play a group of naval trainees corresponding to our electricians' mates. Oklahoma beat Kansas 26 to 13 last year in a thrilling game at Norman, and Iowa State defeated Kansas at Lawrence in a rather drab game 13 to 6.

"Missouri and Nebraska and Kansas State have no naval trainees. However, this may be an advantage in Big Six competition next year. It is quite likely that the three schools that have naval trainees will suffer from the cut of personnel announced for November first, and those schools playing civilians should at least be able to keep their squad intact from the beginning of the season until the end. The civilian teams are able to have longer practice sessions and more time for chalk-talks than the naval schools. The naval trainees have to maintain much higher standards of scholarship to be allowed to participate than do the civilians. These factors to a certain extent counterbalance the lack of manpower in the schools having civilians.