

Allen Picks Oklahoma Cagers To Win Big Six

Hope for the future, rather than optimism, was expressed yesterday by Dr. F. C. Allen, coach of the Jayhawk cagers, in remarks on the Big Six outlook in general and the Kansas team in particular.

"Already we have lost two out of our first three games played," said Dr. Allen. "This is as many games as we have lost the whole season last year—two out of twenty. We will lose several more games this year. The Oklahoma Aggie games were very similar to our experience with Drake last year. We lost to Drake University of the same conference later in December by about the same difference in points. But we play these early season games for experience.

"Our final goal," Dr. Allen added, "is the Big Six conference championship play which starts Jan. 7. Personally, I would rather lose every pre-season game on the schedule than to lose a Big Six championship game. I do not look for a very bright season this year so far as our chances of winning the Big Six championship are concerned. However, it has been ten years since we have had a very bad season. Ten years ago we lost 15 out of 18 games.

"Perhaps due to the fact that Kansas has won championships the last few years, many experts are picking Kansas again this year. No team

can lose an incomparable Pralle and a versatile Schmidt, the quarterback, without feeling the loss. The veterans on the Kansas varsity are not going well. The sophomores are showing much promise. We have been unable, however, to find a man who can spark the team as Pralle did last year and we miss Schmidt's steadiness tremendously.

"Henry Iba's team at Stillwater is a good team this year, but any time a Kansas team makes but seven out of 20 free throws there is no need to look further for the reason of the defeat. From the field Saturday night Kansas shot 65 times and hit only six. We beat ourselves. But these defeats are good things if analyzed intelligently.

"Very few of the Kansas followers last year at the beginning of the season expected Kansas to win the Big Six. Neither did the players nor the Kansas coach. The players voted on a guess that they would finish third in the conference. It is the coach's business to develop leaders. We will do our best.

"Personally," said Dr. Allen, "I see three major championships for Oklahoma—Tom Stidham in football, Bruce Drake in basketball and Jap Haskell in baseball. Missouri is powerful and George Edwards' team will undoubtedly rank second if it doesn't nose out Oklahoma.