Hugh McDermott’s retirement from the basketball coaching job at the University of Oklahoma to accept the professorship of the department of physical education for men may mean that Sooner caging teams will adopt a new offensive vogue.

McDermott’s colorful squads usually have employed the fast break to almost total exclusion of any other style. The Scotchman’s chief reasons for coaching this mode were two-fold, first his playing material usually was too small and too light for any other type of game, and second, he has always favored speed over the slow break because basketball crowds everywhere liked it so well.

“Basketball fans like to see speed and scoring,” McDermott always has contended. “They don’t care so much for the slower more deliberate screening game.” And crowd statistics at Norman bear him out. Spectators attending a game in which McDermott’s Sooners played always came away as limp and spent and hoarse as the players themselves and yet with expressions of unspeakable enjoyment on their faces. The Scotchman’s speedy Sooner teams always gave them their money’s worth and ten times more thrills than any other team they ever saw.

This doesn’t mean that McDermott-coached Oklahoma teams haven’t been able to screen. The Boy Scats, as the whizzing Sooner basketball team of last year that set a new Big Six scoring record of 45.6 points per game was known, showed they could guard and screen with the best of them when they beat Hank Iba’s Oklahoma Aggies, a veteran senior aggregation, at their own deliberate game before 6,338 people at Norman last February, 31 to 28. But the little Scotchman has always preferred to coach the vastly more thrilling fast-break style.

And McDermott’s teams showed that there is much more to a fast breaking attack than just blind aimless speed. When three or four Oklahomans in possession of the ball would converge down upon two startled enemy defenders, the white-jerseled Sooners knew how to employ superb passing and precision to open the scoring lanes. Also they could thread the eye of the goal while traveling toward it on a dead run from any oblique the defense forced them to. McDermott’s “sprint for the bucket” game always had a delightful fineness of its own, and, it always seemed to me, a difficult one. It is lots harder to feed the ball accurately on a dead run than if the players are slowed down and set.

However, Bruce Drake, the young fellow...
who has succeeded McDermott as tutor of Sooner teams, may change up the traditional Sooner style of play. This requires explanation since Drake played under Mc-
tional Sooner style of play. This requires
whowhosucceeded McDermott astutorof
petuositythat so characterizethe bolting
and lacked theyouth and dash and hot im-
skilled users of the rougher blocking game
older, more experienced players who were
some of the fastestindependent teamsof the
of play he gotthis schooling in.
Perhaps one explanation is the fact that
after his graduation, Drake played with an
Oklahoma City independent club against
of some of the fastest independent teams of the
Nation. These squads all were made up of
older, more experienced players who were
Drake became adept at this slower, surer
style of play and liked it for its soundness.
He also likes the quick break style and his
system at Oklahoma probably will be a
blending of the two that will vary in propor-
tion to what the opponent does.
How will the Drake system be reflected
out on the court? The Sooners probably
won't compile quite as many high scores
as formerly, but neither will the Oklahoma
opponents. The crowds will still see
Sooners fast-breaking more than any other
teams fast-breaking more than any other
opponents. The crowds will still see Sooner
as formerly, but neither will the Oklahoma
won't compile quite as many high scores
portion to what the opponent does.
#*#*
Mastery of the new style naturally will
require time. For instance in the opening
game with Colorado's Rocky Mountain
Champions at Boulder, Colorado, December
and 17, Drake's boys were whipped
the first night, 52 to 40, and contributed
prominently to their own downfall by at-
tempting long solo dashes up the floor
and not trying to guard or screen when the
occasion presented itself.
However the Sooners changed their tac-
tics the second night, freezing the ball
and refusing to relinquish it unless their delib-
erate probing of the Colorado defense re-
vealed a reasonably good scoring oppor-
tunity. Oklahoma won, 33 to 29, and it was
Colorado's first defeat on its home floor
in three years.
The Sooner cagers lost only Bill Martin
from their last year's team and have back
lettermen Jimmy McNatt, all-Big Six for-
ward, Marvin Mesch, Roscoe Walker, Jr.,
Marvin Snodgrass, Ben Kerr, Gene Roop,
Bill Haught and Vernon Mullen; and also
Ralph Bollinger, Norman; Garnett Corbin,
Oklahoma City; Matt Zoller, Oklahoma
City; Hugh Ford, Billings; and Bill Rich-
ards, Okmulgee, sophomores, and Herb
Scheffler, Springfield, Illinois, a transfer.
However, despite its experience the squad
still lacks the height and weight under both
backboards that it needed so sorely last year.
Injuries are handicap
As this is written Coach Tom Stidham's
Oklahoma football team, all-victorious
through the regular span of its ten-game
schedule, is in the midst of its training for
the Orange Bowl encounter with Major Bob
Neyland's Tennessee Vols, all-victorious
Southeastern conference champions, January
2 at Miami, Florida.
The Sooner team will be crippled for this
game in that it lost three first-string players
by injuries in its last two games of the sea-
son. Howard "Red" McCarty, hard-running
junior back from Pauls Valley, broke his
thigh while attempting to field a punt dur-
ing the Sooners' 19-0 triumph over the Ok-
lahoma Aggies November 26 at Stillwater.
Bill Jennings, crack sophomore right half,
sustained a compound fracture of his ankle
during Oklahoma's 28-0 trouncing of Wash-
ington State December 3 at Norman, and
Jerry Bolton, tough left guard who had
thrown enemy backs for more than 100
yards in losses already this season, suffered
a split kneecap in the same game. All three
will be out of the Tennessee game and may
miss spring practice.
The Sooner defeated Babe Hollingbery's
Washington State Cougars of the Pacific
Coast conference by a much greater score
than did any team on the Coast. Howard
Jones' Southern California Trojans, who rec-
ently beat Notre Dame and will play Duke
in the Rose Bowl, defeated Washington
State only 19-6 at Los Angeles and the score
was tied until the fourth period. California
trumped the Cougars 27-3 and Stanford
only 8-0.
In spite of the loss of McCarty, Jennings
and Bolton, the Sooners should give Ten-
ssee a terrific game. The Vols are pri-
marily a running team and they should
find it difficult to run over Oklahoma's big line
that has allowed opponents an average of
only 40.6 yards rushing per game this year.
If the Vols blossom into a forward passing
threat at Miami, they should find Oklahoma
ready for that style of play too because
no team Oklahoma has played this year has
been able to pass with impunity against the
fiercely rushing Sooner forwards and the
alert backs in the Oklahoma secondary.
The Oklahoma record this year:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Team</th>
<th>Points</th>
<th>Points</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sooners</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sooners</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>Texas</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sooners</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>Kansas</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sooners</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>Oklahoma</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sooners</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>Tulsa</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sooners</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>Kansas</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sooners</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>Ohio</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sooners</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>Okla.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sooners</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>Wash.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Going into the Tennessee game, Oklahoma
had won 14 consecutive football tri-
umphs under the tutelage of its new coach,
Tom Stidham.

# National fame for Young
Roland "Waddy" Young, Oklahoma's
203-pound senior right end from Ponca
City, was named on practically every All-
American team chosen in the Nation this
year, including all the most prominent ones
such as Grantland Rice's Collier's selection,
and that of the Associated Press. In select-
ing the Sooner on his Collier's All-Americ-
an, Rice said of Young:
"Some ends are fine defensively, not so
strong on offense. Some are star offensiv-
ends. In Roland Young of Oklahoma we
have a star who combines both qualities-
a great blocker on offense—a fine pass re-
ceiver and one of the few skilled in the use
of the forward-lateral; one of the best at
rushing a passer. A rugged, 60-minute type
of player. Young won 13 of 15 wrestling
matches on the side, to show his versat-
ility."

# Statistics
Following are statistics on the complete
1938 football season, not including the
Orange Bowl contest:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Total Yards</th>
<th>Okla.</th>
<th>Opp.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Rushing (net)</td>
<td>1330</td>
<td>406</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Forward passing</td>
<td>1101</td>
<td>539</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lateral passing</td>
<td>36</td>
<td>19</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Punt returns</td>
<td>616</td>
<td>229</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kickoff returns</td>
<td>287</td>
<td>431</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Intercepted passes</td>
<td>228</td>
<td>134</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

3598 1758

Individual Leaders
Forward passing—McCullough completed 69 of
109 for 637 yards and 63.3%.
Rushing, most yards—McCullough 383.
Rushing, best average—Jennings 4.10 yards per
carry.
Most passes caught—Jennings 22.
Most pass interceptions—Roberts 5.
Most yards laterals—McCarty 25.
Most yards punt returns—McCarty 216.
Most yards kickoff returns—Crowder 138.
Most yards, total gains—Seymour 608.
Most blocked punts—one each by Shirks, Ivy and
Young.

Life-Time Records All Oklahoma Coaches

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Coach</th>
<th>Tenure</th>
<th>Won</th>
<th>Lost</th>
<th>Tied Pct.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Tom Stidham</td>
<td>1937-38</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1.000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Verne Parrington</td>
<td>1905-1910</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1.818</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Biff Jones</td>
<td>1932-1938</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0.000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Howard Young</td>
<td>1938-1939</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>0.750</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>John A. Harts</td>
<td>1905-1910</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>0.667</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fred Roberts</td>
<td>1901-1903</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1.000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Frank Ewing</td>
<td>1904-1905</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>0.750</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Adrian Lovey</td>
<td>1922-1932</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>0.500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lexie Hardage</td>
<td>1932-1934</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>0.750</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>John A. Harts</td>
<td>1895-1926</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1.000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Sooner at Carnegie
Five O. U. graduates are teaching in the
new $90,000 school plant at Carnegie.
Faye Hartman, '38ma, Sterling Gaylord, '37,
and Ethel Dunlap, '30ma, are teaching in
the junior high school.
Essie Lee, '38ma, are teaching in the

# Basketball Schedule

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Opponent</th>
<th>Score</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Jan. 7</td>
<td>Kansas at Norman</td>
<td>14-10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jan. 14</td>
<td>Missouri at Columb.</td>
<td>14-10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jan. 16</td>
<td>Iowa State at Ames</td>
<td>19-0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jan. 28</td>
<td>Nebraska at Norman</td>
<td>14-10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Feb. 2</td>
<td>Kansas Aggies at Norman</td>
<td>14-10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Feb. 4</td>
<td>Kansas State at Norman</td>
<td>14-10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Feb. 11</td>
<td>Missouri at Norman</td>
<td>14-10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Feb. 18</td>
<td>Oklahoma Aggies at Stillwater</td>
<td>14-10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Feb. 25</td>
<td>Kansas at Lawrence</td>
<td>14-10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>March 4</td>
<td>Nebraska at Lincoln</td>
<td>14-10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>March 6</td>
<td>Kansas State at Manhattan</td>
<td>14-10</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Big Six conference games.

JANUARY, 1939

185 12

109 12

3598 1758

# * Jan. 28 Nebraska at Norman .
# * Jan. 14 Missouriat Columbia.
# * Jan. 4 KansasStateat Norman .
# * March 4 Nebraska at Lincoln .
# * March 6 Kansas State at Manhattan .

Basketball Schedule

| Jan. 7 | Kansas at Norman. |
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BASKETBALL SCHEDULE