A new era in basketball was begun when Doyle Parrack was hired as coach last spring. Now he is preparing an inexperienced team to win in the present season. New Coach Parrack is trying to overcome lack of height with lots of hustle and drive. Here, during practice session, he urges a player to move with greater speed.

GO NOW -- GO HARD NOW!

By PERRY ROBINSON

A new era in basketball was begun when Doyle Parrack was hired as coach last spring. Now he is preparing an inexperienced team to win in the present season.
His face reflects a serious intensity and the same expression has begun to appear on the faces of his men. The practices proceed at a terrific pace, for Parrack wastes no time talking; as soon as he makes his correction, the squad is running at full speed again. When he bellows "stop!" the sweating young men stop, as if paralyzed. The stop means that Parrack has information to impart, and impart it he does, with a thoroughness that leaves no question.

The black-headed, square-jawed coach follows every play with utmost attention, urging his boys on to perfection. He dominates the fieldhouse much in the same fashion as does his former teacher, the fabled Iron Duke, Hank Iba. Parrack commands the instant respect of all in the range of his voice. Waving his hands energetically, he follows play from one free throw circle to the other, offering criticism and praise liberally. As a regular during the Oklahoma Aggies' golden years of national championships and 7-foot centers, Parrack learned well that basketball success is the result of hours of hard work.

Parrack's "brand" of basketball is based on sound fundamentals, a good man-to-man defense and a pattern offense run at a deliberate speed. "They're moving into the style rather slowly but about as quick as I thought they would. I'm trying to simplify the offensive pattern a bit by cutting down on options," However, our main problem has been improving our defense and fundamentals," Parrack said.

Whether Parrack, who spends his leisure time on his 500-acre ranch south of Tecumseh, will revamp the Sooners to such an extent that they will fill the row after row of empty seats in the fieldhouse remains to be seen.

The new coach reflects no pessimism. Instead, he enjoys new-found recruiting advantages and the substantial schedule that the Big Seven provides. "We need student and alumni support and we're going to try to interest them enough so that they'll want to see us play," Parrack said.

Disregarding such high-sounding terms as "basketball renaissance," Parrack is methodically going about his work, teaching his kind of basketball. And he knows basketball. An onlooker at one of the practices soon has the impression that "Genius at Work" signs should be placed at strategic points in the fieldhouse.

He inspires confidence. Like a dedicated architect with one purpose in mind, he strides briskly around the fieldhouse court, spending every possible minute building a winning basketball team.

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'55 Basketball Games

Dec. 5—Baylor at Norman
Dec. 8—Rice at Houston
Dec. 12—Ohio State at Columbus
Dec. 10—Vanderbilt at Nashville
Dec. 15—Arkansas at Norman
Dec. 20—Oklahoma A&M at Norman
Dec. 23—Illinois at Champaign-Urbana
Dec. 27-30—Big Seven Tournament at Kansas City

Jan. 7—Kansas at Lawrence
Jan. 10—Kansas State at Norman
Jan. 14—Iowa State at Norman
Jan. 28—Iowa State at Ames
Jan. 30—Kansas State at Manhattan
Feb. 4—Missouri at Norman
Feb. 9—Oklahoma A&M at Stillwater
Feb. 13—Nebraska at Norman
Feb. 17—Kansas at Norman
Feb. 20—Colorado at Norman
Feb. 25—Missouri at Columbia
Mar. 3—Nebraska at Lincoln
Mar. 5—Colorado at Boulder