

August 3, 1943.

Lieut. Paul D. Hinkle,  
Athletic Director,  
U. S. Naval Training Station,  
Great Lakes, Illinois.

Dear Tony:

Saturday morning, July 31, I received a letter from Mr. Clarence B. Hoff, Director of Municipal Auditorium, stating that he had noticed in his date book Mr. Lower had put a "hold" for Saturday, February 5th, for a basketball game between Great Lakes and the University of Kansas.

When you sent me your first wire I called Mr. Lower and asked if it was taken. He said, "No". I asked him to definitely consider the date closed, and he said that he would. However, he had not mailed out his contract, but his word was sufficient for me to know that we could have the date, and I wired you accordingly.

Mr. Lower met a very tragic death at the hand of a drunken guard on July 18th, and Mr. Hoff took over Mr. Lower's duties immediately.

As soon as I had received Mr. Hoff's letter I called him on the phone and told him the circumstances of what I am writing in this letter. It was as definite an understanding for a closed contract as we have ever had for any game. I did tell him, however, that if agreeable to you we would change the date as the Big Six has not made out our basketball schedule, but I stated to him that I was sure that inconvenience would come to you.

I can understand how the Municipal Auditorium would want to back the Boilermakers for a two weeks period as the Chamber of Commerce convention committee puts on quite a drive to get conventions to their city, and I imagine the hall people would be rather on the spot in this instance.

I am sorry, Tony, for this unfortunate turn of events. It is just one of those things where people desire to trade you out of an engagement when they have a solid two weeks booking. Please let me know your reactions.

Very sincerely yours,

Director of Physical Education,  
Varsity Basketball Coach.