

August 14, 1939.

Mr. Ben F. Van Alstyne,
Coach of Basketball,
Michigan State College,
East Lansing, Michigan.

Dear Van:

I was sorry indeed to learn of your dad's passing and that you were called away by this sad event. However, these things come to all of us and we must face them, although we never get accustomed to the shock. My sincerest sympathies are extended to you.

I am indeed sorry to learn that you have lost your two nice senior forwards caused by a change in some of your courses.

Right now I am in an impasse. They are talking about a tournament here in Kansas in which some of our state schools would participate, and we have tentatively half way agreed to enter if the thing culminates. They are to let me know by August 15th.

I will be down at Atlanta, Georgia, at a coaching school, so perhaps when I return here about September 1st we will know definitely and I will write you then. The guarantee you mention seems entirely reasonable and I trust that we will be able to get together with a ball game.

With all good wishes, I am

Sincerely yours,

Director of Physical Education and Recreation,
Varsity Basketball Coach.

FCA:AH

MICHIGAN STATE COLLEGE
OF AGRICULTURE AND APPLIED SCIENCE
EAST LANSING

DEPARTMENT OF PHYSICAL EDUCATION

August 9/39.

Dear "Phog"

Am settling up Dad's Estate here in New York and will be away for week or two yet.

Our Itinerary at present is

- Dec 18- at Creighton
- 20- " Provo Utah B young
- 22- California at Berkeley
- 23- Tentative game in California
- 25 or 26- start back and have no other games set until Jan 1st in Chicago.

Just learned I have lost two nice forward. Seniors because of change in Police Administration Course from a five to four year affair and they can not participate in extra-curricular activity so maby I had better call the whole trip off.

Would like, if we do play you to have a two year plan should you be agreeable at a 300.00 Guarantee - will be at home next year 40-41 season during Texas.

Sincerely
Ben F. Van Blotum

August 2, 1939.

Mr. B. F. Van Alstyne,
Coach of Basketball,
Michigan State College,
East Lansing, Michigan.

Dear Coach Van Alstyne:

Thank you for your kind note of July 28.

The dates you mention, December 26-30, come during our Christmas recess and we are never able to get a very large crowd at that time. For that reason we could not offer you a very sizeable guarantee. Lawrence is a town of about 16,000 population, and when the students go home at Christmas-time we do not have large crowds at games at this time of year.

I have most of my schedule arranged for the coming year, but there is still a possibility that we might schedule a game with you. If not, I might be able to get a game for you with one of our neighbor schools. What other schools are you playing in this section of the country? Also, I would like to know what sort of a guarantee you would suggest.

I shall be glad to hear from you again.

Very sincerely yours,

Director of Physical Education and Recreation,
Varsity Basketball Coach.

FCA:AH

MICHIGAN STATE COLLEGE
OF AGRICULTURE AND APPLIED SCIENCE
EAST LANSING

DEPARTMENT OF PHYSICAL EDUCATION

July 28, 1939

Mr. Forrest C. Allen
Basketball Coach
University of Kansas
Lawrence, Kansas

Dear Mr. Allen:

We are taking a western trip during the Christmas Holidays this year, and I am wondering if you would be able to play us a game at your place on our return trip between December 26th and 30th.

What guarantee could you give us?

Hoping to hear from you, I am

Very truly yours,

B. F. Van Alstyne
B. F. Van Alstyne,
Coach of Basketball.

WASHBURN

ATHLETIC DEPARTMENT

ELMER W. HOLM, Football Coach
C. D. ERICKSON, Basketball Coach
GEORGE PARKER, Track Coach
GENE BARNETT } Assistant Coaches
PETE FAIRBANK }
MIKE RASHER }

ELMER W. HOLM,
Athletic Director



TOPEKA, KANSAS

November 25, 1939

Dr. F. C. Allen
Kansas University
Lawrence, Kansas

Dear Dr. Allen:

In regard to the officials, I have decided three officials can handle this tournament, and am endeavoring to secure three of the best officials that I can get. I have not heard from them yet, but have already contacted Ab Hinshaw and Ted O'Sullivan of Kansas City; and Gene Kemper will probably work.

I am sure that it can be arranged for you to select the two officials out of the three that you wish to have work your ball games.

As to the balls, I am endeavoring to have the type of ball you suggested in your letter. In regard to the high school clinic with Mr. Thomas that I spoke to you about, I will say that this clinic is under Mr. Thomas' direction. He is planning this for the high school coaches, and it will be through him that you should take the matter of the clinic up with.

I thoroughly agree with you that you have a talking point and I certainly don't blame you for mentioning the fact that there should be some remuneration for your time and energy. Any other suggestions that you might have, I am always glad to hear from you.

We are receiving publicity daily from the teams who are entering the tournament. Everything, I think, is coming along O.K.

You had a nice game with your freshmen last night, and it looks as though you are going to have a fine team at Kansas this year. Good luck to you.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Dee Erickson".

Dee Erickson
Coach of Basketball

CDE:ls

WASHBURN

ATHLETIC DEPARTMENT

ELMER W. HOLM, Football Coach
C. D. ERICKSON, Basketball Coach
GEORGE PARKER, Track Coach
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PETE FAIRBANK }
MIKE RASHER }

ELMER W. HOLM,
Athletic Director

W

TOPEKA, KANSAS

December 19, 1939

Dr. Forrest C. Allen
University of Kansas
Lawrence, Kansas

Dear "Phog":

Enclosed find drawings for our invitational
basketball tournament here in Topeka, December 28-29-30.

Your team will play its first game at 8 o'clock
Thursday night against Baker.

We are looking forward to seeing you and your team.

Very truly yours,

Dee Erickson

Dee Errickson
Basketball Coach

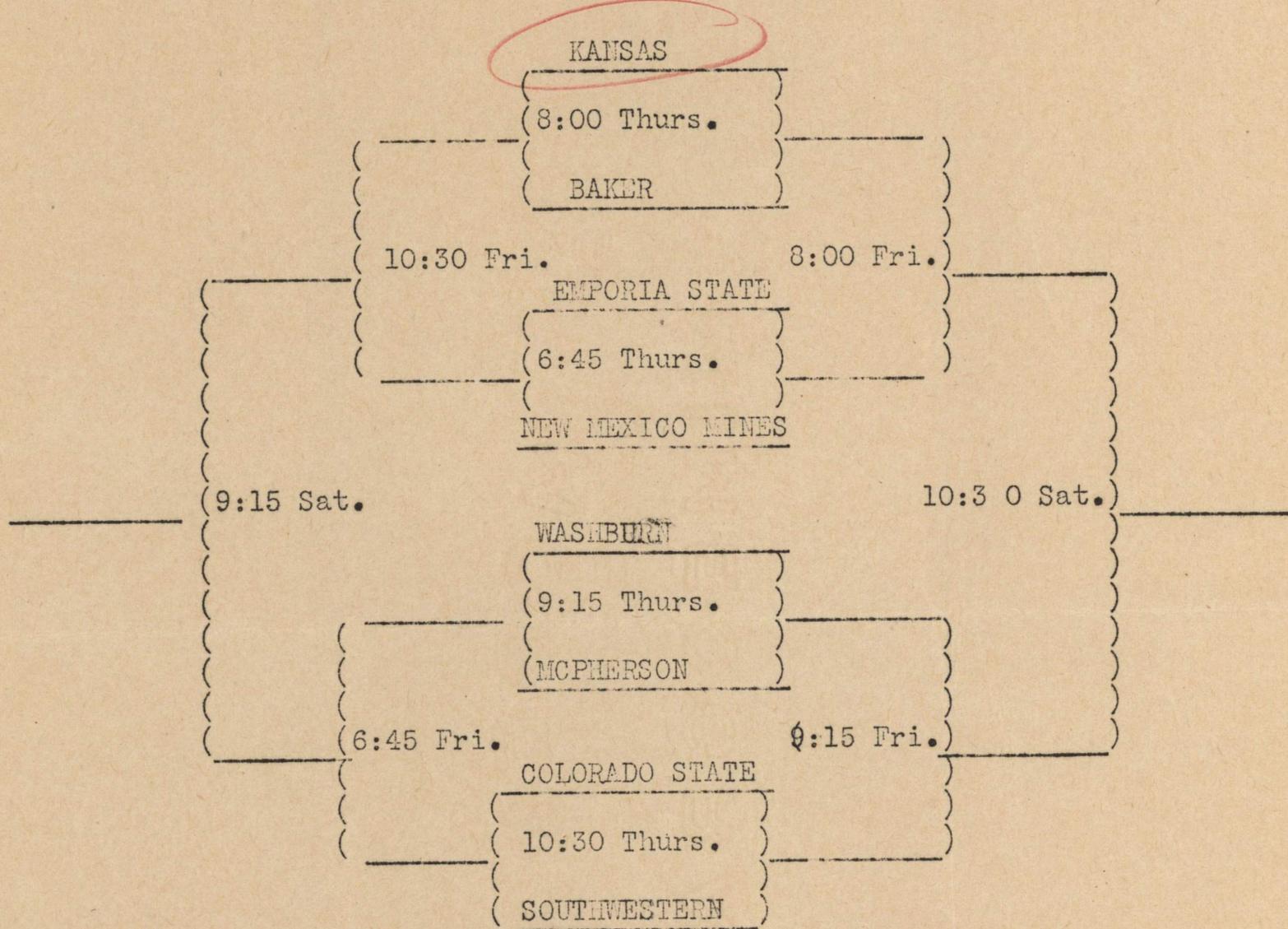
First Annual
SUNFLOWER COLLEGIATE INVITATIONAL BASKETBALL TOURNAMENT
At Topeka, Kansas

DECEMBER 28-29-30

-oOo-

All games will be played on the Whiting Fieldhouse Court at Washburn College.

-oOo-



6:45 Sat. Third place consolation bracket.
8:00 Sat. Third place in championship bracket.

TICKET INFORMATION---

Season tickets: Reserved seats \$2.00 *inc. tax*
Unreserved " 1.50 *inc. tax*
Per session: Downstairs .75 *plus tax*
Upstairs .50 *plus tax*

OFFICIALS***

Ted O'Sullivan (Missouri)
Ab Hinshaw (College of Emporia)
Gene Kemper (Lake Forest)

DIRECTOR OF TOURNAMENT---Charles (Dee) Errickson, Washburn College.

December 23, 1939.

Mr. Dee Errickson,
Basketball Coach,
Washburn College,
Topoka, Kansas.

Dear Dee:

I acknowledge receipt of your drawings in the
invitational tournament and note that our game is
with Baker on Thursday at 8 o'clock.

Confirming my telephone call yesterday, we have
ordered 12 reserved seat season tickets at \$2.00 each,
for which we will reimburse you when we arrive in Topoka.

Very sincerely yours,

Director of Physical Education and Recreation,
Varsity Basketball Coach.

FCA:AH

December 23, 1939.

Mr. Hurst, Manager,
Hotel Kansan,
Topeka, Kansas.

Dear Mr. Hurst:

Confirming our telephone conversation of yesterday, there will be 15 or more of us desiring reservations for the Sunflower Tournament on December 28, 29, and 30. We want rooms with bath, and will probably arrive Thursday morning.

Sincerely yours,

FCA:AH

Director of Physical Education and Recreation,
Varsity Basketball Coach.

December 23, 1939.

Mr. Lose, Manager,
Hotel Jayhawk,
Topeka, Kansas.

Dear Mr. Lose:

I wish to cancel tentative arrangements which were made for the University of Kansas basketball team to stay at the Hotel Jayhawk on December 28, 29 and 30.

I appreciate your courtesy very much, but we have made other arrangements.

Very sincerely yours,

Director of Physical Education and Recreation,
Varsity Basketball Coach.

FCA:AH

WASHBURN

ATHLETIC DEPARTMENT

ELMER W. HOLM, Football Coach
C. D. ERICKSON, Basketball Coach
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PETE FAIRBANK }
MIKE RASHER }
JIM REED, Publicity Director

ELMER W. HOLM,
Athletic Director



TOPEKA, KANSAS

January 19, 1940

Dr. Forrest C. Allen
Basketball Coach
Kansas University
Lawrence, Kansas

Dear Phog:

I have been holding up the distribution of the net gate receipts for these several days to make sure that all items of expenses showed up before the funds were distributed. You no doubt know how the telegrams and telephone calls show up after you think you have all the expenses accounted for.

However, the distribution has been made, and the accounting thereof sent you in the mail since receiving your letter. In the particular counting made to you, a little more information was sent than to the rest of the teams.

We were very well pleased with the results of this first tournament, and we certainly hope we can put it on again next year. In another year, I think it would be wise to improve the calibre of the teams over this year, and I am sure it would assure us of a much greater financial success than we had this year.

I should like to have an expression from you about the tournament, particularly your opinions about conducting the same during the holiday period of this year, 1940.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Gus".

Elmer W. Holm
Athletic Director

EWH:ls

January 22, 1940.

Mr. Elmer Holm,
Director of Athletics,
Washburn College,
Topeka, Kansas.

Dear Elmer:

This will acknowledge receipt of the University of Kansas share in the basketball tournament held at Washburn College. Mr. Falkenstein, the financial secretary of the Athletic Association, will no doubt also acknowledge receipt of your check.

It was my understanding that we were entitled to the tournament ball, and I am wondering if you will look into the matter. If it has not been sent, will you take care of it at your early convenience?

Sincerely yours,

Director of Physical Education and Recreation,
Varsity Basketball Coach.

FCA:AH

January 4, 1940.

Mr. E. A. Thomas, Commissioner,
Kansas High School Activities Association,
204 National Reserve Building,
Topeka, Kansas.

Dear "Tommy":

Thank you very kindly for your check which was received in this morning's mail.

I am glad that you were pleased with the clinic, and I am happy to know that you felt we put out the very best we had in the way of clarifying screen plays and fundamental drill. Our boys enjoyed the demonstration and we were pleased that you and the coaches who came in for the clinic felt that they got something worth while.

With best wishes, I am

Very cordially yours,

Director of Physical Education and Recreation,
Varsity Basketball Coach.

FCA:AH

KANSAS STATE HIGH SCHOOL ACTIVITIES ASSOCIATION

MEMBER OF NATIONAL FEDERATION OF ATHLETIC ASSOCIATIONS

ROOM 204 NATIONAL RESERVE BUILDING

TOPEKA

January 3, 1940

E. A. THOMAS
COMMISSIONER



Dr. Forrest C. Allen, Director,
Department of Physical Education,
University of Kansas,
Lawrence, Kansas.

Dear Doc:-

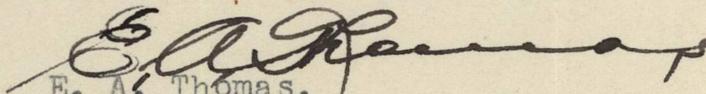
I am a little late in writing you but have been on the jump since last week. Enclosed you will find a check for \$25 for your services in directing the basketball clinic for us Saturday.

I think it was one of the most profitable one-day sessions we have ever experienced and I know the coaches and officials were well pleased. We appreciate the hard work you put in and the demonstrations with the members of your team were exceptionally valuable.

Many thanks to you. You certainly did not withhold anything and it was a pleasure and a privilege to have you do what you did.

With best wishes, I am

Yours very cordially,


E. A. Thomas,
Commissioner.

E. R. STEVENS, PRESIDENT
INDEPENDENCE

J. R. JONES, VICE-PRESIDENT
SUBLETTE

E. A. FUNK, TREASURER
ARKANSAS CITY

D. E. WOLGAST
MARYSVILLE

J. E. BOWERS
SENECA

HUGH W. SPEER
HAYS

W. W. Davis

Karl Kloss

Guy Smith

Frank Stockton

Gwinn Henry

October 6, 1939.

Mr. Gwinn Henry,
Director of Athletics,
University of Kansas.

Dear Mr. Henry:

I desire to submit for your approval certain basketball games which we have tentatively scheduled. I am enclosing correspondence which I have had with the parties concerned so that you may have the background in each case.

The Kansas College Tournament will be held in Topeka on December 28, 29 and 30. We desire to enter this tournament, and yesterday I had a conference with Mr. Gene Kemper, Mr. Elmer Holm and Mr. Dee Erickson concerning arrangements for the play.

We propose to play Michigan State College on December 28 in the Washburn fieldhouse, and then continue in the tournament, whether we win or lose the game with Michigan State. The tournament officials will pay a guarantee of \$200.00 to Michigan State for this game. They will pay us expenses amounting to \$3.00 a day for fifteen men, for the duration of the tournament. We are the only team for whom they are allowing expenses. The other teams in the tournament will receive their pro-rata share of the receipts after the expenses have been paid.

I have also made tentative arrangements to play Loyola University at Chicago on January 8, in a double-header program, for a guarantee of \$600.00. As you will note in my correspondence with Mr. Leonard Sachs, the director at Loyola, I have requested no publicity on this game until we have the approval of the officials here. I imagine they will want to make some announcement soon.

With the scheduling of the above mentioned games we will have completed our twenty game limit. I am enclosing a copy of our entire schedule. I shall greatly appreciate early action on these games so that we may definitely close our schedule.

Very sincerely yours,

Varsity Basketball Coach,
Director of Physical Education and Recreation.

FCA:AH

UNIVERSITY OF KANSAS BASKETBALL SCHEDULE

1939-1940

BIG SIX CONFERENCE SCHEDULE

January 5 Oklahoma at Lawrence
January 12 Kansas State at Lawrence
January 18 Missouri at Columbia
January 23 Nebraska at Lawrence
February 12 Iowa State at Lawrence
February 20 Kansas State at Manhattan
February 24 Nebraska at Lincoln
February 26 Iowa State at Ames
March 1 Missouri at Lawrence
March 8 Oklahoma at Norman

NON-CONFERENCE SCHEDULE

December 5 Oklahoma A. & M. at Lawrence
December 8 Central Mo. St. Tch., at Warrensburg
December 18 &
19 Southern Methodist U. at Lawrence
Dec. 28 Mich. State at Topeka
February 15 Oklahoma A. & M. at Stillwater
Jan. 8 Loyola - Chicago
March 4 Creighton University at Omaha, Nebr.

Dec. 29 - Kans. College Tournament at Topeka
" 30 - " " " "

(COPY)

October 6, 1939.

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University of Kansas.

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Varsity Basketball Coach,
Director of Physical Education and Recreation.

FCA:AH

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Very sincerely yours,

Varsity Basketball Coach,
Director of Physical Education and Recreation.

FCA:AH

November 23, 1939.

Mr. Dee Errickson,
Basketball Coach,
Washburn College,
Topeka, Kansas.

Dear Dee:

I am wondering what officials you will have at the tournament. Personally, I hope that you get some very high grade officials and some that all the teams will think are the very best. Will you kindly give me a tip on this possibility?

I have not had a chance to write E. A. Thomas regarding the suggestions that he desired for subjects that the various coaches should speak on. I will do this in the next day or so, but I find my time is so limited between teaching, coaching and administrative work.

When Gene Kemper wrote me regarding the tournament he stated that it was his plan to ask some coaches to speak and to demonstrate to the clinic group, and if they did so he expected to remunerate them for their work. I am wondering if you have altered that plan since you and E. A. have taken the job over. Naturally a fellow feels worthy of his hire and if he spends time in giving instruction it seems to me it is not unthinkable that there should be some compensation for this activity, especially if the gate receipts justify it. I am an advocate of living and letting live, but I have not brought myself to the point where I believe that just because some other coaches of smaller colleges are willing to get out and talk on clinic demonstrations that I should spend my time and energy doing this.

Very sincerely yours,

Director of Physical Education and Recreation,
Varsity Basketball Coach.

FCA:AH

WASHBURN

ATHLETIC DEPARTMENT

ELMER W. HOLM, Football Coach
C. D. ERICKSON, Basketball Coach
GEORGE PARKER, Track Coach
GENE BARNETT } Assistant Coaches
PETE FAIRBANK }
MIKE RASHER }

ELMER W. HOLM,
Athletic Director

W

TOPEKA, KANSAS

November 11, 1939

Dr. F. C. Allen
Kansas University
Lawrence, Kansas

Dear Dr. Allen:

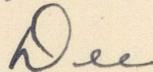
The tournament seems to be coming along very well. We already have five teams who have definitely stated that they will be here, and several other teams that have not definitely made up their minds.

The Mexico School of Mines who are playing in St. Joe have definitely stated that we could count them in.

Colorado State have not decided definitely, but I hope they will decide to come.

We are planning on shooting the works on this immediately after Armistice Day.

Very truly yours,



Dee Erickson
Basketball Coach

CDE:ls

November 15, 1939.

Mr. Dee Erickson,
Basketball Coach,
Washburn College,
Topeka, Kansas.

Dear Dee:

What kind of a ball are you planning to use in the tournament? I hope you do not use a lastbuilt for the reason that it is more like a beach-ball.

The Riddell ball is a much better ball. Kenny Baldwin, of the Rawlings Company, stopped by here the other day with some new Rawlings balls. Doubtless he stopped in to see you. That ball is a peach. At least, I hope if you do use a lastbuilt you will have either a Riddell or a Rawlings ball, and permit the teams some latitude in the choice. They might use one ball one-half of the time and another ball the other half.

I am writing you early on this point so that some equitable solution can be worked out ahead of time.

Very sincerely yours,

Director of Physical Education and Recreation,
Varsity Basketball Coach.

FCA:AH

November 6, 1939.

Mr. Dee Errickson,
Coach of Basketball,
Washburn College,
Topeka, Kansas.

Dear Dee:

If you could land Nebraska it would be a ten-strike for you. I am sure that would put your tournament over. Anyhow, as I told you before, we will go along with you this year.

What I would like to ask you definitely, Dee, is if you are sure that you are going to have the tournament. If you are uncertain, of course that puts us up in the air regarding three games, and we would like to have you make a definite decision and announcement very soon so that we will know that our three games that we are holding out on our schedule for your tournament will be these three. That will complete our schedule.

If you are not certain, then of course we will have to go ahead and arrange some other games, as I want to play my limit and I must know soon. Please let me hear from you at your very earliest convenience.

I can understand your dilemma for December 9th. I wrote Artie Eilers Saturday that I am endeavoring to have our basketball coaches meet the same time as your group, even though our directors are meeting a week earlier. It is my feeling that all coaches of the two conferences should meet at the same time if possible. I thought if we had that clinic on the 9th we might invite all the Big Six and the Missouri Valley coaches down to our place here. But maybe they wouldn't care to leave Kansas City in the evening, so we had better forget that angle.

With all good wishes, I am

Very sincerely yours,

FCA:AH

Director of Physical Education and Recreation,
Varsity Basketball Coach.

WASHBURN

ATHLETIC DEPARTMENT

ELMER W. HOLM, Football Coach
C. D. ERICKSON, Basketball Coach
GEORGE PARKER, Track Coach
GENE BARNETT } Assistant Coaches
PETE FAIRBANK }
MIKE RASHER }

ELMER W. HOLM,
Athletic Director



TOPEKA, KANSAS

November 2, 1939

Dr. Forrest C. Allen
Director of Physical Education
Varsity Basketball Coach
Kansas University
Lawrence, Kansas

Dear Dr. Allen:

In answer to your letter of November 1, I was glad to know that we can definitely count on your cooperation in this tournament.

The eight teams that I am in contact with at the present time are: Washburn; K. U.; Emporia Teachers; Southwestern; Baker; Nebr.; Colo. State; Ottawa; and Wichita. I really believe these teams will make a nice start for our tournament.

I am sure that if we get this started this year, that other teams will be interested in coming. I am sure Kansas State will enter in another year; also Creighton will be interested in another year or so.

As to your clinic on December 9, I have just received a letter from Artie Eilers, saying that our conference meeting will be held at Kansas City, December 9 and 10. If this is true, it will be almost impossible for me to be at your clinic. It is too bad that these meetings cannot be held on the same day. As I understand it, the Big Six are holding their meeting this year on the second of December. I think your plan is very fine and would be glad to cooperate in any way possible if the date could be so arranged so as not to conflict with the meeting in Kansas City.

Very truly yours,

Dee Erickson
Dee Erickson
Basketball Coach

CDE:ls

November 1, 1939.

Mr. Dee Erickson,
Basketball Coach,
Washburn College,
Topeka, Kansas.

Dear Dee:

This will acknowledge receipt of your letter of the 31st ultimo. I understand that Missouri is to play in Madison Square Garden, so they will be in the east at the time of your tournament. But I am not sure what Nebraska is doing. If you can get Colorado State we will go in. It would be better, of course, to get some stronger teams, but I doubt if we can get them.

I have just received a letter from Montana State saying they are not even going to enter the Oklahoma City tournament.

You can count on my cooperation in your tournament. Whom do you have definitely lined up for the games? I still believe that you can play smaller schools in this tournament and draw better than you might imagine, because people like their basketball, and it will be an innovation in Topeka to have a college tournament.

What would you think of our tentative plan to have a clinic down here on the 9th of December? I thought we might have Washburn and Ottawa and perhaps one other team here on the 9th and have a rules discussion meeting and clinic for the high schools here. We wouldn't have to play a complete game, or have any regular scrimmage, but I thought each team might play for a quarter of an hour to show these high school boys our different styles of play. I should be glad to know what you think of this clinic idea. What other team besides Washburn and Ottawa would you suggest?

Very sincerely yours,

Director of Physical Education and Recreation,
Varsity Basketball Coach.

FCA:AH

WASHBURN

ATHLETIC DEPARTMENT

ELMER W. HOLM, Football Coach
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MIKE RASHER }

ELMER W. HOLM,
Athletic Director

W

TOPEKA, KANSAS

October 31, 1939

Dr. Forrest C. Allen
University of Kansas
Lawrence, Kansas

Dear Dr. Allen:

I am very anxious to get the proper set up to make this a good tournament. Due to your wide acquaintance among the basketball coaches, I am wondering if you would make some suggestions as to some outstanding teams who might be interested in coming.

I know exactly how you feel about not coming into this tournament unless we have some outstanding competition for the Kansas University team.

I am writing Nebraska to see if they might be interested, and also Missouri. If you have any other suggestions, I would certainly be glad to hear from you as soon as possible.

I feel that if we can get either Nebraska or Missouri or some other outstanding team with Kansas University, then our tournament would be made.

Hoping to hear from you soon, I am

Sincerely yours,

Dee Erickson
Dee Erickson
Basketball Coach

CDE:ls