

COPY

January 14, 1943.

Mr. Henry Iba,
Basketball Coach,
Oklahoma A. & M. College,
Stillwater, Oklahoma.

Dear Henry:

I have been thinking pretty seriously concerning what you said to me after the game last night. I am writing you frankly and freely, expressing my best thoughts regarding our game.

I can well remember when we started our series, when we brought a sophomore team down to your field house and we had two fine games. We lost both of them but the spirit was fine. In fact, I remember a game that Parke Carroll and Ted o'Sullivan worked at your place when there were but two fouls called, as I remember it, and those fouls were right near the end of the game. The game was free and open, with a lot of fine passing and no rough bodily contact marring the issue.

I am thinking particularly of our last two games here in Lawrence. They have been dull, multiple-fouling contests in which the spectators have been very much displeased at the type of exhibition. Last year many of our spectators came to me and said, "I hope you never play another game with the Aggies because this is not basketball." I was impressed this year with the toughness of the contest. It did not look like our former Aggie games. And then we played this one last night and it took on the same sort of a near brawl. Many of the people, different ones, this year came up with the same criticism.

I am wondering, Hank, if these games continue like this, frankly if it is the best thing to continue or to wait a while after this year. I know you felt pretty strongly regarding last night, but I did not have an opportunity to talk to you concerning your criticism. I know that you were not pleased and I was disappointed. Won't you write me as frankly as I have written you and explain why the two last games played here have had to be like this? We do not have them at Stillwater, and I am wondering why we have to have it here. The Kansas public simply does not like that kind of basketball.

And too, they could not understand why you finished the game with but four men when you had other men that you could have filled in with to make a five-man team.

Wishing you continued success, and assuring you of my friendship for you, I am

Very sincerely yours,

Director of Physical Education,
Varsity Basketball Coach.

FCA:AH