

Tournament of New York City. It was promoted and built up among the sport writers. This was such a vulgar promotion that policy and less heat desired caused them to call it the National Invitation Tournament. It has no bearing, no standing with any colleges at all. It is simply a promotion like the A.A.U. (Amateur Athletic Union). They pick the teams that they think will draw best at the gate, and keep the money.

In 1943 Utah won the National N.C.A.A. by defeating Dartmouth for the finals in Madison Square Garden. Then Utah went on to defeat St. Johns of Brooklyn for what they call the mythical, and it is very mythical because it has no standing at all, but the money is given to the Red Cross and has been for this play-off between the N.C.A.A. and the National Invitation. And that gives a semblance of standing to the mythical championship. It would never be played and the National Invitation would have no bearing except for newspaper and Ned Irish's promotion.

This year the Oklahoma Aggies won the Western play-off by defeating Arkansas. They had previously defeated Utah by a top heavy score in the first round. Then Oklahoma Aggies went east to defeat New York University in Madison Square Garden for the N.C.A.A. finals. And night before last Oklahoma Aggies defeated DePaul of Chicago for this mythical championship promoted by Irish and his newspaper coterie, \$46,000 gate receipts going to the Red Cross.

The National Collegiate A. A. Tournament first started when Oregon won the Western N.C.A.A. play-off at Treasure Island in San Francisco. John Bunn and I, the N.C.A.A. representatives, conducted the tournament. The University of Oklahoma from the Fifth District, the University of Texas from the Sixth District, Utah State from the Seventh District, and Oregon played for the Western championship title. Oregon, the Western winner, then went to Chicago and played Ohio State, the Eastern N.C.A.A. champion, and Oregon defeated Ohio State, thereby making Oregon the first National Collegiate champion.

So the Pacific Coast has won two championships, with Oregon and Stanford. The Big Ten has won one N.C.A.A. championship with Indiana in 1940. The Rocky Mountain Conference has won two with Utah and Wyoming as their representatives, and the Missouri Valley has won one with Oklahoma Aggies. Not an eastern team has won a championship, although Dartmouth, New York University and others have gotten to the finals.

I know Coach Joe Lapchick of St. Johns very well and he is a fine fellow. He is an old professional basketball player and a good coach, but St. Johns has never gone into the N.C.A.A. play-off. They have always gone into the Invitation, and they have been picked by the newspaper writers, but no college authorities.

You will pardon me in not laying claim to any titular honors, but I will send you our record in our conference. In 1942 we went east and met St. Bonaventure's in Buffalo, one of Ned Irish's promotions, and defeated them 53 to 22. We played Fordham in the Garden and defeated them 31 to 30; and then we played St. Joseph's at Philadelphia, another Garden promotion, and defeated them 63 to 38.

If you would ask my personal opinion, I would tell you definitely that western teams have repeatedly gone east and made clean sweeps of the