

September 20, 1940

Mr. Harold "Spike" Claassen
Sports Editor, Associated Press
Kansas City Star Building
Kansas City, Missouri

Dear Spike:

Sorry indeed to have missed greeting you yesterday.

Answering your query regarding the daily Oklahoman's pseudo-scoop anent my possible retirement, about all that I can say is that this early yarn is possibly like Mark Twain's death--greatly exaggerated.

When a farmer's crop fails repeatedly he sometimes quits farming, and then again he might try it another time. Doubtless those "Saging" Sooner Sooth Sayers have information that I do not possess. They might think that after this year the Kansas crop of basketball players will fail, and then they may have other ideas. However, after thinking on the subject for not too extended a period of time I faintly recall a willingness on their part at times through the past twenty-two years, to send me on a pleasant one-way ride. Maybe the Sooners' pencil pushers thought that the twice-tied Oklahoma Aggie-Kansas Fifty District N.C.A.A. Playoff game gave me heart trouble (Note: Well, it nearly did that thing at that).

But the old ticker still ticks perfectly.

My kindest regards to you, Spike.

Sincerely yours,

FCA:lg

Director of Physical Education and Recreation
Varsity Basketball Coach