

February 3, 1940.

Mr. Harold Claassen,
Regional Sports Editor,
The Associated Press,
Star Building,
Kansas City, Missouri.

Dear "Spike":

Kenny Postlewaite called this morning and asked that he make an appointment for you at my office for Tuesday morning at 10:30 a.m. I said, "Well, this must be mental telepathy, because when I got up this morning I made up my mind that I would dictate a letter to you explaining my quotation regarding the Oklahoma Boy Seats."

I called Horace Mason and asked for a copy of the article that he had mailed out. I asked him if he had quoted me as saying that Oklahoma would defeat Oklahoma A. & M. in the Fifth District play-off. He said, "No, indeed." He had not, and the only allusion to Oklahoma and Oklahoma A. & M. was regarding the game last year at Oklahoma City when the Sooners, the Big Six entry, emerged victorious after a thrilling combat. I asked Horace for a news release and he brought it over to the office, so I am mailing it to you.

Today I have written Henry Iba denying that I made such a statement, and I wish that you might correct it in some of your write-ups so that Iba would not think that I was that sort of a cad. The fact is, I am to direct the tournament at Kansas City this year for the Fifth, Sixth, Seventh and Eighth District semi-finals, and for the finals, and in addition to that will direct the play-off between the Missouri Valley and the Big Six for the Fifth District winner unless Kansas should miraculously nudge in another battle, which I think is impossible. In that case, I would disqualify myself and appoint someone else. But I mean what I say when I am convinced that it will be an all-Oklahoma institution, meaning that Oklahoma University and Oklahoma A. & M. will play for the winner. In that case, undoubtedly the play-off will be in Oklahoma City, where it should be.

I was making a statement which is a conviction, and I was not trying to lead Bruce Drake's canaries into the feline's cage. The statement that I made was to the effect that Oklahoma has a beautifully synchronized team with seniority, versatility, speed and power in their make-up. Only Missouri can match them in age. With this advantage for Oklahoma, and with the Sooners playing on their home court, in my opinion, it is too much of a task for any of the challengers to the Sooners. With Missouri and Kansas playing four games away from home, and one of those four games for each