

January 10, 1939.

Mr. Bruce Drake,
Basketball Coach,
University of Oklahoma,
Norman, Oklahoma.

Dear Bruce:

Congratulations on your splendid victory over us! I thought your boys played marvelously fine ball, and so far as we were concerned you were, of course, unbeatable. We never gave you a challenge a single time in the game. Only once did we give you a near-challenge, and then you put on a scoring burst to stay ten points ahead of us. And when you are that far ahead in a basketball game neither coach breathes heavily.

The winning coach never worries because he is far enough ahead, and the losing coach is not close enough to cause the l. c. any sharp pangs of excitement.

I think you will find that my guess is right, with three championships for Oklahoma this year - one for Tom Stidham, one for Bruce Drake, and one for Jap Haskell. You not only have what it takes, but you have plenty of what it takes, - rebound power, speed, finesse, and goal shooting, and that is about all the ingredients needed in a winning basketball team.

There is just one suggestion that I thought might help your program at the start of the game, and that is the flag raising stunt. If you could have the flag hauled up by pulleys from the floor with the band plays the national anthem I think it would add a lot of dramatic effect to your opening session. We have the R.O.T.C. people or the Boy Scouts do this service act and it is much more impressive when the flag is raised than when it is already flying and the band plays under those conditions.

I thought this suggestion might help you, as I assure you that I am happy to cooperate in any endeavor for the betterment of the game in which you and I are enabled to earn some of our bread and butter.

With all good wishes, and again congratulating you on the splendid victory, I am

Very sincerely yours,

Director of Physical Education,
University Basketball C