B

November, 21, 1941.

Mr. N. H. Norgren,
Office of Physical Education,
The University of Chicago,
Chicago, Illinois.

Dear Nels:

Thank you for your good letter of the 19th instant.

I do not want you to think that I am obstinate in this matter, but I do not desire to serve as chairman of the Basketball Rules Committee of the Coaches Association. Please do not feel that I am picayunish or fault-finding. I am not criticizing your policy in moving up members of the committee each year so that each in his turn heads the committee. That might be all right from an honorary viewpoint, or to give each individual an opportunity to serve, but certainly I do not believe it is good from an efficiency standpoint. That is merely passing the thing around to anybody who happens to be on the group without the merit of the thing being considered.

While I do not expect to be hypercritical, I feel that I am much better off in making any criticism that I care to make by not being a member of this committee.

I, perhaps like you, make a decision for definite reasons and I assure you that had I not made this decision already I would have been glad to have served under your administration. I trust that you will not feel it is a personal matter because it is far from that. I have not been very strong for certain elements in the Basketball Coaches Association for a few years past. Before your tenure it was my opinion that there was a lot of personal glorification and self-advertising by certain individuals that I cared not to be identified with.

Without going further, I trust that you will excuse me from this assignment.

With kindest personal regards, I am

Very sincerely yours,

Director of Physical Education and Recreation,
Varsity Basketball and Baseball Coach.

FCA:AH

THE UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO

Office of Physical Education

November 19, 1941

Mr. Forrest C. Allen
Director of Physical Education
and Recreation
University of Kansas
Lawrence, Kansas

Dear "Phog":

I am asking your indulgence on two counts. First that I have neglected to answer your letter to Diebold explaining your circumstances which make it inadvisable for you to act as chairman of the rules committee. Secondly, that I named you as chairman of the committee. Regarding the first count I have to plead the pressure of other duties for my neglect. Secondly, it has been our custom in recent years to move up the members of the committees each year until each, in his turn, heads the committee. On that basis you were in line for the chairmanship and I assumed that the appointment should be made accordingly. I am sorry that I did not notify you immediately of the situation.

With your permission I would like to let the appointment stand because the rules committee will not have much to do this year. The reason for this is that Blair Gullion and his research committee are working on a comprehensive plan to give our Association a more authoritative representation before the National Rules body. This research will necessarily incorporate most of the work normally done by our rules committee, and there is no reason, therefore, to duplicate the work. It will be an off year for our rules committee excepting for what individual advice Gullion may request from the members of the rules committee.

I hope this request will meet with your approval.

Sincerely yours,

N. H. Norgren
PRESIDENT, BASKETBALL COACHES

NHN:GRR

WESTERN N.C.A.A. BASKETBALL TOURNAMENT

March 10, 1942

TO COACHES OF COMPETING TEAMS:

I. The play-offs will be held at the Municipal Auditorium in Kansas City, Mo., on Friday and Saturday March 20 and 21. There will be two games each night the first starting at 8 o'clock with a suitable warm-up period between games.

II. Drawings for opponents will be held WEDNESDAY, March 18, under supervision of the tournament manager. The pairings and order of play will be announced early that afternoon.

III. Tournament headquarters will be at Hotel President, corner 14th and Baltimore. This hotel is two short blocks from the Auditorium and served the teams in the tournament last year. The President management has quoted the following prices for competitors: $1.75 per person for two to a room with twin beds and bath; $1.50 per person for two to a room with double bed and bath. Teams are not obligated to stay at this headquarters, but coaches will find it difficult to equal these prices and facilities. Make reservations and arrangements direct with the hotel management of your choice.

IV. Game admission prices for each night will be:

$1.65 for boxes and lodges,
1.10 for arena balcony,
.60 for upper balcony.

Prices quoted include all taxes.

V. Members of each official party will each receive a competitor's pass and two arena balcony seats for each session.

VI. FINANCIAL DETAILS:

1. The manager of each team should provide himself with enough money to meet all of his squad's expenses to and from the play-offs,- total trip costs.

2. Schools are limited to a traveling party of fourteen.

3. The N.C.A.A. will refund expenses immediately upon receipt of statement from authorized school authorities. Payment will be made for (a) rail fare, sleeper charge, and meals enroute; and (b) and allowance of $5.00 per day per person for local expenses while in Kansas City starting Thursday, March19 and ending Sunday, March 22. From this per diem allowance teams are to meet their own costs of lodging, meals, taxi fares and incidentals.

4. The net profits of the Eastern, Western, and Championship games will be divided between the N.C.A.A. and the eight teams upon the same basis as last year. Details of the 1941 settlement are published in the annual N.C.A.A. report, pps 154-157. Roughly, 50% is split among the schools with each receiving 1/18 for each game played.

VII. PRACTICE SESSIONS:

It is requested by the General Committee that teams not arrive in Kansas City earlier than Thursday, March 19. Charges for local expense allowance before Thursday will not be recognized.

Unless the hall is leased to others on that day the court will be available for practice on Thursday afternoon and evening. As nearly as possible teams will be assigned to practice alone, but if time conflicts occur the manager may limit the length of the session or assign two teams to the court for the same period. Make reservations as soon as possible.

VIII. OFFICIALS. (Game)

The Selection Committee in each district will name the officialx from that district. All game officials will operate under the supervision of R.E.Peters, commissioner of the Missouri Valley Intercollegiate Conference. The supervisor will arrange a pre-tournament ~~xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx~~ conference between coaches and officials for discussion of rules and details of game administration.

Officials will be assigned to work in games in which the school from their district is NOT participating.

IX. BACKSTOPS

The court is equipped with 6 x 4 clear glass backstops.

X. GAME UNIFORMS

Each team should bring two sets of uniforms one of which is white. Opponents will draw before each game to assure contrasts between playing outfits.

XI. GAME BALLS

One type and make of ball will be used in all games. The coaches are requested to decide this question. Immediately upon receipt of this notice wire to the manager your FIRST and SECOND choice of type of ball; and FIRST and SECOND choice of manufacturer. Be explicit. The ball receiving the majority votes will be used throughout the play-off. You will be notified as soon as all votes are cast.

George R. Edwards, tournament manager
Rothwell Gymnasium,
University of Missouri,
Columbia, Mo.

(after March 17 address communication to Hotel President,
14th and Baltimore, Kansas City, Mo.)

UNIVERSITY OF MISSOURI
COLUMBIA

INTERCOLLEGIATE ATHLETICS

March 10, 1942.

Dr. F. C. Allen,
Lawrence, Kan.

Mr. Henry Iba,
Stillwater, Okla.

Gentlemen:

The manager of Municipal Auditorium was contacted this morning as soon as I received notice of the results of yesterday's negotiations. He was told to deal direct with you two men.

I'll be in Kansas City on the day of your game and will be glad to assist you in any way your desire. I don't know just what I can do but am at your service. The same is true of Mark Cox, Missouri's athletic publicity director who also will handle press and radio relations for the N.C.A.A.

One of you will be in the Western N.C.A.A. games, and I am attaching some information sheets which cover most of the questions you might ask.

The court may be equipped with either 6 x 4 wood backstops or with clear plate glass. The N.C.A.A. will make use of the glass backstops. You should inform the management which kind you want for without instructions they probably will install the wooden ones.

Here is wishing that both of your teams are in top form.

Yours truly,

George

George R. Edwards.

March 14, 1942.

Mr. George Edwards,
University of Missouri,
Columbia, Missouri.

Dear George:

I am sending you a copy of my letter to John Bunn as of April 25, 1940, also his reply to me dated April 30, and also Prof. W. B. Owens letter to him as of April 29 and H. G. Olsen's letter as of April 26. There is a large file of this correspondence, so I will not burden you with a lot of it. However, I believe this correspondence shows evidence enough that Olsen, Bunn and I met, with Olsen as chairman, and worked out a rate of distribution for the teams and for the N.C.A.A. And it was wholly Olsen's failure to transmit the action of our committee to the Executive Committee of the N.C.A.A. for action. He had a year to do this, and had he done it we would not now be in the predicament that we are in.

Olsen had represented to Bunn and to me that we could have this money earmarked not only for the Olympic fund but earmarked for basketball.

I do not want to have you feel that I am vindictive in regard to Olsen's failure to carry through, but I do believe than when an individual is given a responsibility he should be held accountable especially when our committee of Olsen, Bunn and I had spent a great many hours getting together on this proposition.

And what makes it even more striking is that St. John, his boss who is one of the high pitests in the N.C.A.A. Council, and Major Griffith and the president have the fate of the N.C.A.A. in the hollow of their hands. Therefore, I see no reason why he shouldn't bear the burden of this failure.

You will notice in John Bunn's letter that he was under the impression that only the Big Ten and the Big Six had the idea that playing in Madison Square Garden was contrary to the spirit of things. The N.C.A.A., as Bunn says, had no objection to it.

Armed with the findings of our basketball committee I went to Oklahoma City and met with Henry Iba, Tom Stidham and Bruce Drake and sold them the idea of sticking with the N.C.A.A. even though Madison Square Garden made more lucrative offers. And Iba is still sticking in the face of all that has gone before.

It was necessary for me to met in Chicago with the Executive Committee of the N.C.A.A. in September, and both Olsen and St. Clair prior to the meeting had been told by St. John and Griffith that there was no chance to get the division that we are now sharing in. I told Olsen and St. Clair that I was going to tell the Executive Committee exactly the true status of things and that we had represented to our N.C.A.A. group that they would share in part of this money, and if I had misrepresented the thing there was only one thing for me to do, and that was to get out; and therefore, I was tendering my resignation.

Neither Olsen nor St. Clair put up any sort of a scrap. The Executive Committee group then said, "Would you people be willing to wait outside until we can have a meeting, and call you in?" The plan that we are now operating on was a compromise plan precipitated by the very strenuous objection that I made. I made the charge that it was unfair and not in keeping with what our committee had been led to believe was something the N.C.A.A. would go along with. Although I did not say it then, I felt as if I should say to the committee that had Olsen done his job we would have had some workable plan and it would not have been necessary to cause this unpleasant situation.

I am giving you this for what it is worth to you. Any statement that I make can be backed up by correspondence with John Bunn.

Sincerely yours,

Director of Physical Education and Recreation,
Varsity Basketball and Baseball Coach.

FCA:AH
Enc.

COPY

STANFORD UNIVERSITY

April 30, 1940

Dr. Forrest C. Allen
University of Kansas
Lawrence, Kansas

Dear "Doc":

This will acknowledge your letter of April 25. The recommendation of our Tournament Committee with respect to the division of receipts from our NCAA tournament and the disposition of the money which would go to the NCAA is still very clear in my mind. The letter which Olsen sent to each of the district chairmen this season contained a part of this recommendation.

Since receiving your letter I have taken occasion to discuss in detail this whole matter with Bill Owens and also to go over carefully the executive regulations of the NCAA. I find that the regulations of our Committee are in conflict with the regulations of the Executive Committee of the NCAA in these particulars: 1. Funds may not be earmarked for any specific sport. Boxing, in the past, has requested the same arrangement as contained in our recommendation to the Executive Committee. 2. No sume from the income of tournaments or meets may be allocated to the Olympic fund, except as the Olympic Fund Committee with the approval of the Executive Committee may direct. 3. Funds may not be pro-rated to competing teams except for actual expenses. 4. All funds are supposed to be deposited in the general fund of the NCAA without any restrictions or reservations placed on them.

In view of the above, I can see how the Executive Committee did oppose our recommendation. It is my guess that our recommendation, unfortunately, has never been submitted to the Executive Committee. This, of course, is a weakness on our part and leaves us open for criticism. It was my impression that our Basketball Rules Committee was given a full report by the Tournament Committee and that they approved the report. However, I have been unable to find any minutes substantiating this recollection.

Since we have sent out information to the schools in the NCAA, and particularly to those which have competed in the tournaments, I feel that we will be placed in an embarrassing position if the NCAA Executive Committee does not permit us to keep faith with these schools, in spite of our negligence. It would be my opinion that unless the schools concerned would recognize our error and agree to abide by the regular NCAA rules, we should make a disposition of our funds for this year in accordance with the recommendations which were drawn up by our Tournament Committee, and that hereafter the whole matter should be clared through the NCAA Executive Committee.

Bill Owens, while pointoug out the NCAA regulations, maintains an open mind with respect to the whole matter and is eager to have representatives from the Basketball Committee present their case at the next meeting of the Executive Committee. It seems to me that this is a very fair procedure, and I suggest that it be carried through in accordance with Bill Owens' recommendation.

You may recall that I was not in favor of the pro-rating of moneys to the competing schools over and above their expenses, but that I agreed to the recommendation in view of the fact that we were attempting to offset the influence of the Madison Square Garden and the Liston tournaments. It was our feeling that when we had defeated these two projects, then we could make other adjustments of our finances. I still hold this opinion.

Dr. Allen: #2

Now with reference to Kansas' competing in Madison Square Garden. You know, of course, that I have never concurred with your views or those of the Big Six Conference on the matter of competition off of the campus of one of the competing universities. Madison Square Garden represents the only place that many of the schools in New York can play. Regardless of the money angle, so long as expenses can be paid and so long as the games are conducted on a high plane, then I can't see howanyone could object to such competition. My Stanford team received much better treatment in Madison Square Garden than it did in several other places where we competed. The NCAA has no objection to this type of competition. As a matter of fact, Bill Owens told me recently that, in view of the fact that Madison Square Garden represents the home court of those New York teams, he could see no objection to playing there. I know that the members of the Eastern Intercollegiate frown upon this competition and that they refuse to take their own teams into the Garden. This is because they have their own courts and also because they look askance at the personnel of some of the teams in New York City. It is rather interesting to note, however, that some of the Eastern Intercollegiate teams have played in public halls. I have a feeling, therefore, that there is a bit of jealousy and aloofness behind their reasoning.

Cordially yours,

(Signed) JOHNBUNN

Dean of Men.

COPY

Stanford University,
California.
April 29, 1940.

Dr. Forrest C. Allen, Chairman
Research Committee, National Basketball Committee,
University of Kansas,
Lawrence, Kansas

Dear Dr. Allen:

I was very much interested in your letter of April 24 and the report enclosed. I think the more such studies that can be made the better, and I believe that one of the finest things the NCAA can do, as soon as it is financially in a position to do so, is to encourage and support research of this sort. Such studies should be given as wide circulation as possible, and perhaps the chief function of the NCAA in connection with such matters, would be to serve as a clearing house for the dissemination of such studies and to give financial support to them where possible. In other words, we do not wish to supplant the work already being effectively done by other organizations, such as the Basketball Rules Committee is conducting, or as the Coaches Associations may want to undertake. There might be, for example, something in a study made by the Football Coaches, which would contribute a good deal to the basketball situation. Properly coordinated the work of the various groups could be made available to all the others.

These are simply ideas for discussion and consideration. The suggestion that representatives of the Basketball Committee meet with the Executive Committee for discussion of some of our problems has met a fine response from the Executive Committee. I do not know as yet when our nest meeting will be, but I will keep this matter in mind and see that the suggestion is carried out in the near future.

I appreciate your letter very much and am fully aware that the coaches, through their associations, are doing excellent work in solving the problems connected with their games.

Sincerely yours,

(Signed) W. B. OWENS

President.

COPY

April 26, 1940

Dr. Forrest C. Allen
University of Kansas
Lawrence, Kansas

Dear Phog:

Sorry I failed to answer your query as to how the Eastern play-off came out. I just recently received a report from Paul Hinkle. This shows that the Eastern play-off will net about $1200, after taking out, of course, all expenses for rental, etc. I settled with Butler on the basis of 10% of the gross.

Very sincerely yours,

(Signed) "OLE"

H. G. Olsen,
Chairman, N.C.A.A. Basketball
Toutnament Committee.

COPY

April 25, 1940

Mr. John Bunn,
Dean of Men,
Stanford University,
California.

Dear John:

We are still paying bills and settling up loose ends of accounts in connection with the Kansas City tournament, and I have been so crowded for time that I have been unable to write you sooner.

A couple of weeks ago I sent Ole a check for $5,000, and while he was here I gave him a check for $250. So that makes a total of $5,250 to Olsen. My idea was that we should give the N.C.A.A. perhaps $7,500. You will recall, Johnny, that Ole told you that this money could be earmarked for basketball. When President Bill Owens came to Kansas City, together with Mr. May of Washington, we were told that this money could not be earmarked for basketball. Ole said, "Well, that is news to me."

You remember right after the Olympics the N.C.A.A. committee had an agreement with the A.A.U. wherein they agreed that if the A.A.U. would permit them to have the college coaches for track and field, crew, swimming and wrestling, the A.A.U. would have the coaches of the other sports. That means that they sold basketball down the river just after we got in the Olympic Games, and of course this was done to benefit the N.C.A.A. in these four above-mentioned sports. Now, when basketball comes along and makes some money, and plenty of it, the officers state that this money cannot be earmarked for basketball.

President Owens let it be known that the N.C.A.A. expected to take all the profit and that it was rather an unusual request to think that the colleges would get any of the money. I stood up and battled it up one side and down the other. Naturally Ole in his position, could not do much. Edmundson, St. Clair, Olsen, May, Owens and I were in the conference. Of course, I drew some fire.

Now we are in a bad spot because the N.C.A.A. wants all of the money. President Owens especially said that we have Ned Irish whipped, and I said, "You just think you have got him whipped, because most of the college coaches in the country would resent the N.C.A.A. taking the money and letting the boys and the athletic associations of the schools interested play for expenses alone." When we agreed that the N.C.A.A. get 20% of these tournaments we were just giving the N.C.A.A. something to start on. In my mind, the competing teams should certainly get a part of it.

Confidentially, I told President Owens that I would go to Madison Square Garden where we could get the most money. And that is exactly why I am going to the Garden. I wanted you to know about this, and I would like for you to write me in confidence what your reactions are.

I thought that in the eastern division play-off they should take their money and cut it four ways for the four competing teams, and in our western play-off we should divide the profits four ways among the competing teams, after deducting a sizeable sum for the N.C.A.A, and then for the final play-off we could still have a larger cut for the two competing teams, with the N.C.A.A. getting their cut. What Ole proposed was to take the ten teams, the four eastern and the four western, and the two finalists, and give the N.C.A.A. quite a sum and then cut the remainder ten ways. Frankly, I

don't think they made much money at Indianapolis, and it looks to me as if we again are the angels.

This whole matter hasn't been decided yet, and at our conference with President Owens, Mr. May and the rest of the group, we didn't get anywhere.

I shall be glad to have your confidential reactions to the whole situation.

Very cordially yours,

FCA:AH

Director of Physical Education and Recreation,
Varsity Basketball Coach.

March 14, 1942.

Mr. George Edwards,
University of Missouri,
Columbia, Mo.

Dear George:

I notice in your letter of March 10th that the N.C.A.A. will make use of glass back stops. I am rather surprised at that because the glass back stops are illegal, even though they do give greater visibility.

When they are used in a tournament I think the Rules Committee should either legalize them, or not permit them in N.C.A.A. play.

As far as Kansas is concerned, we will use the wooden ones, and I am sure that Hank Iba will want to do likewise.

I wish also to acknowledge receipt of your wire of the 12th stating that the Wilson laceless ball will be used as voted by a majority of the coaches.

Very sincerely yours,

FCA:AH

Director of Physical Education and Recreation,
Varsity Basketball and Baseball Coach.

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PRESIDENT

NEWCOMB CARLTON
CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD

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KAW51 10=COLUMBIA MO 12 1212P

FORREST C ALLEN=

COACH OF BASKETBALL UNIVERSITY OF KANSAS KR=

WILL USE WILSON LACELESS AS VOTED BY MAJORITY OF COACHES=

GEORGE R EDWARDS.

adse
R-1242p

THE COMPANY WILL APPRECIATE SUGGESTIONS FROM ITS PATRONS CONCERNING ITS SERVICE

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1942 MAR 11 PM 4 33

DR F C ALLEN=

COACH OF BASKETBALL=UNIVERSITY OF KANSAS

:HOLDING POLL FOR PREFERENCE OF BALL FOR N.C.A.A. GAMES.
WIRE IMMEDIATELY YOUR FIRST AND SECOND CHOICES GIVING TYPE
AND MAKER. MAJORITY VOTE WILL DETERMINE SELECTION. WILL
WIRE YOU RESULT AS SOON AS KNOWN=

GEORGE R EDWARDS.

N.C.A.A.

pho Hulteen 1134P

THE COMPANY WILL APPRECIATE SUGGESTIONS FROM ITS PATRONS CONCERNING ITS SERVICE

Mr. George Edwards --

Dear George:

I am belatedly replying to you in regard to the carbon copy of your letter addressed to Mr. Gwinn Henry which you sent me. First, I want to assure you, George, that I bear no animosity toward you whatsoever.

But this does give me an opportunity, first, to pointedly set forth some historical data regarding basketball in the N.C.A.A., and also to make some observations.

You and I had no unpleasantries over the ticket situation. However, had you been as generous regarding the ticket situation when you first spoke to me as you apparently were on Saturday evening after Kansas had been put out of first place running and the basketball interest in Kansas had subsided perceptibly, then I assure you I could have accepted more graciously the statements contained in your letter.

Mr. George Edwards --

Dear George:

I am writing you concerning your letter addressed to Mr. Gwinn Henry, Director of Athletics at the University of Kansas, as of April 5, 1942. I had had no conversation with Mr. Henry regarding the N.C.A.A. Western play-offs in Kansas City, and any letter that he wrote you could not have been tinctured or influenced by anything I had to say to him because of this situation.

I think what Mr. Henry referred to in his letter, which is marked in quotations in your letter, were tickets for the Athletic Board, the Chancellor, and officers of the Athletic Association here at the University. I am merely interpreting Mr. Henry's letter, not having discussed it with him at this date. I believe Mr. Henry refers to the officers of the Athletic Association and to those directly connected with the administration. If you imply that the manager of the games was discourteous to Kansas, that is your own interpretation.

We had twenty men in our party, eighteen players, the trainer (Dean Nesmith), and myself. I remember distinctly the statement that you made to the effect that you were giving 28 tickets, two a piece for 14 people, which you included as your maximum expense allowance party. You said that of course you would be glad to give us additional tickets, but the management was trying to keep complimentaries to the minimum. If you could not see the need for more than 28 tickets when we had twenty in our party, then it certainly would not be my part to ask you for extra tickets. The fact of the matter is that Ray Evans, Bob Johnson, Paul Turner, Jack Ballard and Charlie Black are Greater Kansas City high school boys, and the other boys on the squad, with one exception, are boys living in this state with parents who naturally would desire to go to the games. The University of Kansas has a freshman team that naturally would desire to see the varsity in action, and being in such close proximity to the game it takes no stretch of the imagination to see that either the Athletic Association would be forced to purchase tickets for them at full price or they would be denied the right to see the games.

We had no unpleasantries over the ticket situation. It was the glass backstop which caused the altercation. This was clearly a violation against the rules of the N.C.A.A. handbook, and when the coaches voted two for and two against you cast the majority vote, which I think was irregular. If you had asked the coaches to determine the type of backstop it was up to them to decide, especially when Commissioner Peters had stated that all rules would be decided with no interpretation, but would follow strictly to the letter the rules of the book.

You will remember, George, you called my room at the Muehlebach Friday morning and wanted to know when I could be down at the President. I was taking a shower and told Dean Nesmith, my trainer, to tell you I would be there in a half hour, thinking that was ample time. You called back and stated that one of the coaches was anxious to get started and you would phone the result. I immediately finished my bath, caught a taxi, and reported at the President in ten minutes. I waited in your room for ten or fifteen minutes awaiting Coach Cox and Coach Dean, who were at the coffee shop. Upon their return to your room you stated that the coaches' vote was two to two, and you were casting the deciding ballot. I said, "There has been no vote, because I have just arrived, and these coaches have just arrived." But then you stated that I had expressed myself previously and Coach Dean wanted the regular backstop, but Coaches Cox and Brannon had voted for the glass.

I thought this was entirely nonconventional, and I stated so. I said, "If you are handling things in that manner there is nothing more to discuss", and left the place. I would not have asked you for one extra ticket under any conditions. I did resent it and I resent it now. I haven't changed one iota.

Many of these boys wanted four or five tickets for their families and I figured they were entitled to them, but I would not have asked you for tickets for them because in my opinion you were failing to see the very obvious point that you made, - that the Kansas team was drawing quite a crowd, but you failed to be generous enough to give these boys the tickets for their efforts in drawing this crowd. They were not asking for tickets to sell or to make money from as so many of the star athletes do when they get extra tickets. But they were asking for them for their folks, and I was bent upon getting them because they were entitled to them. If you wanted to send me any tickets you could have sent them by messenger to the Hotel Muehlebach where we were registered.

I do not recall ever having received word that arrangements had been made with the Auditorium Ticket Office for as many complimentaries as were needed for K.U. authorities.

A

COPY

August 30, 1941.

Mr. Val Lentz,
Asst. Graduate Manager of Athletics,
U. S. Military Academy,
West Point, N.Y.

Dear Val:

I am returning the questionnaire on the Eastern College Basketball Coaches Association concerning backboards.

We in the Middle West are strong for the lima-bean or fan-shaped backboard. You never see a glass backboard around our part of the country, nor will you. Gymnasia and field houses are constructed with no thought of using glass backboards. It is not in the rules, and it is my opinion that the National Basketball Coaches Association leadership at the present time are going to be the means of splitting up the joint basketball rules committee. I think we are having some very poor leadership at present, and I do not foresee much good coming out of things they are trying to put across.

With all good wishes, I am

Very sincerely yours,

Director of Physical Education and Recreation
Varsity Basketball and Baseball Coach.

FCA:AH
Enc.

C O P Y

Army Athletic Association
United States Military Academy
West Point, New York

August 7, 1941

Dr. Forrest C. Allen,
Director of Physical Education and Recreation,
University of Kansas,
Lawrence, Kansas.

Dear Phog:

I am returning herewith Questionnaire on Training and Conditioning of College Basketball of which I know nothing about; also, my Questionnaire on Standardization of Equipment. I would appreciate your filling it out and returning it to me at your convenience.

All your friends as U.S.M.A. join me in sending our most sincere regards and best wishes.

Sincerely yours,

(Signed) VAL

Valentine Lentz,
Asst. Graduate Manager of Athletics

VL:MMR
Enclosures: 2 Questionnaires

C

April 5, 1942

(copy to Dr. F. C. Allen)

Mr. Gwinn Henry
Director of Athletics
University of Kansas
Lawrence, Kansas

Dear Gwinn:

Inasmuch as your letter of April 1 contains some statements which imply that the Manager of the N.C.A.A. Western Playoffs in Kansas City was discourteous to Kansas authorities, and believing that such was not the case, I will reply at some length.

Copies of this letter are being sent to those persons who, I feel, ought to know the details in this controversy. The list will include Dr. Allen, H. O. Olsen, and John L. Griffith, Secretary of the N.C.A.A. For the information of those not familiar with our previous correspondence, I will review the situation.

Following the Final Game on March 28, the Auditor of the Municipal Auditorium handed me a memorandum on a piece of railroad stationary, which said "To Kansas" and listed an expense report of $32.50 for sale of tickets to N.C.A.A. games. The auditor wished to subtract that amount from game receipts and handle payment of the bill himself. However, as the account was not properly submitted with the name of any Kansas authority on it I told him that I would be responsible.

Accordingly, I wrote to you on March 31, a letter in which I explained why I had not let the Auditor settle the bill and asked for more information. Also, I expressed the opinion that ticket sale charges usually are not made when a school acts as agent for its patrons in a game in which its team is involved. Because of the unusual procedure, I also wrote, should you feel that Kansas was entitled to make such charges I believed it best to refer the account to N.C.A.A. officials for payment.

This review brings the matter up to date.

In your letter which arrived yesterday, Gwinn, you wrote as follows:

> "This account was turned in by Mr. Falkenstien for the Athletic Office when it was discovered that no complimentary tickets would be allowed the University of Kansas coaches, Athletic board, etc. Having the tickets here we were necessarily subjected to some pressure by the above named persons and tickets were furnished them at the expense of the Athletic Department."

C

May 6, 1942.

Mr. George Edwards,
Basketball Coach,
University of Missouri,
Columbia, Missouri.

Dear George:

I am belatedly replying to you in regard to the carbon copy of your letter addressed to Mr. Gwinn Henry regarding the Western N.C.A.A. play-off, which you sent me.

First, I want to assure you, George, that I bear no animosity toward you. But I am conscious of the fact that someone has said that there are three sides to every question - your side, my side, and the right side. Your letter gives me an opportunity first to pointedly set forth some historical data regarding basketball in the N.C.A.A., and also an opportunity to make some observations.

May I say that I had no conversation with Mr. Gwinn Henry regarding the Western play-offs, and any letter that he wrote you could not have been tinctured or influenced by anything I had to say to him or anyone else here in authority because of this situation. Evidently what Mr. Henry referred to in his letter was in regard to tickets for the Athletic Board, the Chancellor, and the officers of the Athletic Association here at the University. I am merely interpreting Mr. Henry's letter for you, not having discussed it with him at this date. I am sure that Chancellor Mallott has so many larger things to consider that he has given it practically no thought. If you imply that the manager of the games was discourteous to Kansas, that is entirely your own interpretation, I am sure.

I would like to call your attention, George, to the fact that you met the Kansas team, along with Dan Partner of the Kansas City Star. There were 20 people in our party, although your tournament committee limited us to 14 so far as expenses were concerned. While you were standing there Dan Partner said, "Allen, why don't you catch a taxi? They are cheaper than the street cars." I said, "Yes, I know it, but the boys have just eaten a big meal on the train and I desire them to have some exercise." Since the street cars were more expensive than the taxis, I am wondering why you "came to think of it that you saw the boys board the street cars." Or did you think that perhaps we could ride free on the street cars? In submitting my taxi fare it was a part of the team's transportation to the hotel from our college town. Only expenses for taxi were included from the depot to the hotel, and from the hotel to the depot returning. I still consider it a very just and reasonable charge, and I am making no apology whatsoever for it. We paid all of the expenses of the six extra boys out of our own athletic pocket while in

Kansas City, which was our own right, was it not?

I remember distinctly the statement that you made to the effect that you were giving 28 tickets, two a piece for 14 boys in our party. I also remember your saying that you would be glad to give us additional tickets but the management was trying to keep complimentaries to the minimum. At the time you made that statement I endeavored to detect the gleam of human kindness in your administrative glass eye, but I failed. I was sure that you could see that we had 20 men in our party, and the fact that Ray Evans, Bob Johnson, Paul Turner, Jack Ballard and Charlie Black were boys who had played in the greater Kansas City high school area, consequently the demand for tickets for these boys alone would amount to more than 28 tickets. To be perfectly frank with you, I gave those boys 32 tickets for them and their own large families, and in my opinion they deserved them. The other boys on the squad, with one exception, were boys living in this state with parents who naturally would desire to go to the games. The University of Kansas has a freshman team that also desired to see the varsity in action, and being in such close proximity to the game it took no stretch of the imagination to see that either the Athletic Association would be forced to purchase tickets for them at full price or else they would have to pay for them themselves or be denied the right to see the game.

We had no unpleasantries over the ticket situation, but your whole attitude in all of these administrative matters caused me to feel embarrassed in asking you for any relaxation of the rules. You will note that I went to the Auditorium and got the tickets, preferring to have them charged to us rather than to ask you to give them to us. There was nothing to keep you from sending an allotment of tickets to the hotel if you desired us to have them. I would not have asked you for a large number of additional tickets because in my opinion you were failing to see the very obvious point that you made - that the Kansas team was drawing quite a crowd, which meant success for the N.C.A.A. tournament. But you failed to be generous enough to volunteer to give these boys the additional tickets for their efforts in drawing this crowd. The boys were not asking for tickets to sell or to make money from as so many of the star athletes do when they get extra tickets. But they were asking for them for their folks, and I was bent upon getting them because they were entitled to them. Our boys came from areas close to Kansas City. The boys of the other teams came from great distances, hence 28 tickets might be sufficient for some of them.

I think you are utterly unfair in including 31 tickets for the Jay Janes in the Kansas complimentaries. I had no connection whatsoever in arranging the Jay Janes' admission. That was between the Auditorium people and the office here. There were no complimentaries given, although the Jay Janes were admitted to the arena floor with no seats for which an admission was charged. This makes it appear as if we got over a hundred tickets, but we only got 73 the first night, and 68 the second night. Some of those tickets included the freshman, of course, and the relatives of the boys. I think it was a very reasonable amount. We did not endeavor to get a single ticket for anyone in Lawrence, preferring

to take care of our own team and leaving to the administrative officers in Lawrence the course they desired to pursue. We had no contact with them.

Certainly I was not asking for any tickets for the administration here at Lawrence. What I told you when you mentioned this was that they would take care of their own tickets, meaning that I would have no tickets for them in this exceptionally small allowance which you made, and naturally they would have to make their own arrangements. If you intended to make me feel that I was asking an especial favor of you personally for these tickets, you did so. There doubtless was some unpleasant background of my criticizing your N.C.A.A. tournament, and the feeling perhaps was on the part of both of us not to ask favors of each other.

Henry Iba told me that he heard on very good authority that if Oklahoma Aggies won the play-off they were to be matched against Stanford, and if we won the play-off we were to be matched against Colorado. Iba also told me further that if he won the tournament he expected to be consulted regarding the official who was to represent this district. The drawings for games were made, but they were not made in public, so far as we learned. Certainly there was no public notice of the drawings. I am frank to say to you that I had no great confidence in the quality of officiating from this district, and I believe that it did prove rather disappointing.

You had asked the coaches to determine the type of ball, but in your circular letter of March 10 you sent out a notice that the court would be equipped with 6 x 4 glass backstops, which was a violation of the rules as printed in the N.C.A.A. Guide. In our meeting at the President Hotel, Commissioner Peters had stated that all rules would be decided with no interpretation, but would follow strictly to the letter the rules as printed in the book. These and other acts of yours caused me to feel very uncomfortable when I was dealing with you.

I had stated that I was not interested in playing in the tournament, and it was only because the boys desired to play that I acquiesced. I can assure you now that it will take more than that to ever get me into another tournament where the University loses a large sum of money and the N.C.A.A. takes 55% of it. The 55% "lug" of the N.C.A.A. is an outrageous discrimination against the sport of basketball. In no other sport that the N.C.A.A. supervises do they take more than 10% - swimming, wrestling, boxing, track and field.

In order that the average layman can see the unfairness of this "lug", let us divide a $5.00 bill the same as the N.C.A.A. divides the basketball receipts from the N.C.A.A. tournament. First, the N.C.A.A. takes 10% of the $5.00, which is 50¢. Then they divide the remaining amount, $4.50, the N.C.A.A. taking 50% of that, which is $2.25. The N.C.A.A. therefore gets 50¢ plus $2.25, making a total of $2.75. The other $2.25 is divided eighteen ways, 2/18 going to each of the eight teams which play two games in the Western and the Eastern N.C.A.A. play-offs. That leaves the remaining 2/18 for the two teams in the finals, such as Stanford and Dartmouth. One-eighteenth of $2.25 is 12½¢.

Therefore, Stanford and Dartmouth get three times 12½¢, or 37½¢ for playing in the final N.C.A.A. tournament and the two previous games. Rice, Colorado, Penn State, Kentucky State, Illinois and Kansas would therefore receive 2/15, or 25¢ for playing two games. The most any school would get would be 37½¢, and the least any school would get would be 25¢, and the N.C.A.A. would get $2.75. If that is not a "lug", what is it?

The Rose Bowl, the Sugar Bowl, the Orange Bowl, the World Series in baseball, or in any other supervised activity the participating teams get the major portion, but in basketball the N.C.A.A. organization has seen fit to gut the earnings of the N.C.A.A. basketball tournament.

Basketball in the Olympics was obtained after much effort. Ronsyn Berry, L. W. St. John and the writer were on the committee to obtain basketball in the Olympics, but only the writer did any of the work in obtaining that result. After basketball was placed on the Olympic calendar, basketball was sold down the river by the N.C.A.A. to the A.A.U. The N.C.A.A. desired to name the coaches in four of the sports, track and field, wrestling, swimming and crew, and the officers of the N.C.A.A. made an agreement with the A.A.U. that if the A.A.U. would permit the N.C.A.A. to name the Olympic coaches in those four sports they would relinquish any claim they might have and permit the A.A.U. to name the coach of basketball in the Olympics. This was done.

In the organization of the N.C.A.A. championship in basketball, Harold Olsen as chairman, John Bunn and the writer submitted to the Executive Committee of the N.C.A.A. a plan whereby 80% of the money taken in the tournaments would be given to the competing teams, and 20% to the N.C.A.A. Olsen's failure to submit the committee's report to the Executive Committee of the N.C.A.A., of course, caused this not to be put into effect. And after the Western tournament in Kansas City in 1940, where a large sum of money was realized, it was then that the N.C.A.A. took all of the money, and only after the personal fight by one member of the basketball committee was a compromise effected whereby the schools got any of the money whatsoever.

Undoubtedly the N.C.A.A. Executive Committee has killed the N.C.A.A. tournament by grabbing everything within sight. The N.C.A.A. basketball committee has also done irreparable harm by their administrative supinity and rules-connecting at the meeting in New Orleans. There are more politicians on the committee than there are men of vision. One year they put the high school federation in power to meet the ends of their own purposes, and the next year they make them the goat endeavoring to please a few eastern coaches.

Very sincerely yours,

Director of Physical Education and Recreation,
Varsity Basketball and Baseball Coach.

FCA:AH