

March 12, 1941

Mr. John Bentley
The Journal
Lincoln, Nebraska

Dear John:

In Bob Busby's Sports Buzz in the Daily Journal World, as of Tuesday, March 11, he quotes you in part as follows: "Remember the time he (Allen) has his players change jerseys at the half in the Tournament game in Kansas City! I'll bet that was the first time in all the basketball experience of the Coach at Utah State that he has ever heard of anything like that."

Like most accurate sports writers' comments this statement was substantially correct. This story recalls to my mind an incident of a fellow who rather boastfully said, "I have a friend in Baltimore who made \$100,000 in six months manufacturing the new sanforized shirt." This fellow said to his friend, "Isn't that right, Bill?" "Well," he said, "It is substantially correct. Instead of Baltimore it was Kansas City, and instead of manufacturing shirts it was overalls, and instead of making \$100,000 he lost \$100,000."

Frankly, I believe that the coaches should share some of the odium of the inaccuracies that appear in the sports columns because the coaches hardly ever inform the sport writers of the correct version of the thing.

In order to cooperate with you John, old pal, I feel it my pleasant duty to inform you regarding the changing-shirt episode when we played Utah State. This is the first time that this story has been released from captivity, and as far as I know I have never seen the incident correctly described.

In 1936, our Big-Six schools, in their endeavor to help the Olympic Fund, each paid their own expenses to Kansas City for a basketball play-off tournament. The amount expended or contributed by each school toward the expense was \$200.00. Nebraska and Missouri of Big-Six schools, together with the Oklahoma Aggies, entered the Tournament. You will recall this incident. I was selected to manage the Tournament. Kansas won the play-off, defeating the Oklahoma Aggies in the Final. We were then matched with Utah State to determine the team that would play in the Finals in New York.

It happened that I was in the identical position that I found myself in last year. I had a team in the Tournament and yet I was managing the affair. All the teams competing in the first and second Tournament were supposed to carry their traveling set of uniforms as well as their home team uniforms. Kansas and Utah State were supposed to play a series of games, the best two out of three to determine the winner.