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January 15, 1945

Mr. Asa S. Bushnell  
Central Office for Eastern  
Intercollegiate Athletics  
Madison Avenue and 43rd Street  
New York 17, New York

Dear Mr. Bushnell:

Day Edgar has handed me your pleasant letter about our recent editorial on basketball gambling.

You are right in assuming that we were in touch with Phog Allen before publication of the editorial but, frankly, I do not feel at liberty to retail the information that Allen gave me in confidence. I feel sure, however, that Phog himself would be only too glad to tell you anything and everything that he told me. As evidence of my sincerity in this statement, I am forwarding a copy of this letter to Doctor Allen.

I should point out, however, that our editorial was not based exclusively on Allen's information. I personally talked to more than a dozen top-flight coaches before publication of the Post editorial and, if anything, our statement was on the mild side.

I do not wish to bore you with my personal opinions, but I do believe emphatically that you officials of collegiate athletics are asking for a poke on the jaw by your something-less-than forthright handling of a nasty mess. As you doubtless recall, we had a potential national scandal here in Philadelphia last winter. While Interman was eventually found "innocent," the status of college basketball was certainly not improved by the ugly whispers that went unchallenged for weeks. As a matter of fact, there are a lot of people, including some sportswriters, who still think young Albie would never be mistaken for Snow White.

For last-minute evidence that you are still far from over the hump on the gambling matter, I refer you to the attached clipping about Nat Holman's dramatic gesture in the Garden Wednesday night. Now I ask you! Should a college coach consult the gambling odds before deciding on his strategy?

The reason I am writing you at such length is that I want to make my own and the Post's position completely clear. In common with millions of other people, we have a deep interest in, and respect for, college sports.