

Dec. 14, 1942

To Basketball Coaches
Big Six Conference

Gentlemen:

As you know the Faculty Representatives and Athletic Directors voted to continue their athletic program thru this year and in to the next year, unless asked by the war department to give up all athletics.

This decision was reached after much discussion of the difficulties that arise from travel, finances, and man power. There is no secret about the fact that all athletics for the duration of the war were hanging in the balance for some time, and there is no assurance that we can continue unless there is drastic curtailment all along the line.

We are going to use only three officials in football next fall and they will not travel the great distances that we have travelled them in the past; when possible they will go in groups, that expenses may be saved. I believe we can do something like that in basketball even at this late date.

I know your first concern is that we have basketball as long as possible, and with as complete a schedule as possible. We may not be able to do this if we attempt to carry on an usual in regards to expenses. I am thinking about officials here.

Most of the assignments are made for the conference game and a few for the non-conference games. For the games not yet assigned we will attempt to get officials for these games as near the game site as possible. We can still switch some of the officials assigned if we can get your approval and complete cooperation. I have no doubts about your desire to cooperate if you approve of the idea.

I believe that some of our more experienced officials are capable of working a good game alone, and I am recommending that we adopt this idea for the duration- for all games where possible. In the event that there may be some games where you would want two officials, that one of the officials must live close to the game site.

There must not be any thought about certain games being of greater importance, or more difficult to handle. If we are to use only one official in certain games, those games will be determined by; whether or not the officials are already assigned and we can't make a change, our inability to get two men near the game site, and whether or not there is an experienced official available- any other consideration would be very unfair.

Will you give me your reaction to this at once.

Very sincerely yours,


R. E. Peters

REP/cn