

South Bend. Notre Dame has one of the top teams of the country in basketball. I mean by that that they are always up there with a cracking good team. They rate with the best in the Big Ten. You ask about Kansas and her position in basketball. We finished second. Iowa State and Kansas were in the play-off with Iowa State licking us. Before the season started I would have sold out for fourth place and would have been happy. I was especially proud of the boys because I believe they gave everything they had. Iowa State was just a better ball club that night.

I just received a letter from Louie Menze this morning, in which he says: "We had the best night of the season against you. It wasn't that Kansas was playing poorly, we simply were hitting for once in the season. We made 35% of our attempts, against a season's play of 24%. We would have been tough for anybody that night." You will remember that Louie Menze was one of my stars in early days, and if we couldn't win I was tickled pink that Louie could do the job.

I am happy to receive a communication from Capt. Mel Griffin written from the Mayflower Hotel in Washington, D. C. Captain Griffin, Mel to me, has been on a tour of duty at Edenton, N. C., for fourteen months. The highlight of his course was a letter of commendation from the Commandant of the Marine Corps Aviation on the Recreation department, which was Mel's department. Congratulations, Mel! You have always been a winner, whether playing, coaching, teaching or fighting.

Mel states that he is he hoping his next orders read west, and he hopes it is further west than California. Much to the contrary of what we hear about Washington, I quote what Mel says: "Washington, D. C. is a very nice city. Even with all the big business and politics represented here it has a very calm, friendly and unhurried attitude that is felt as one goes about this business of war. The trees are at the height of their beauty and the well-kept lawns and parkways have an inviting look." When a man lives in Washington and can give such a beautiful description, my verdict is that he is at peace with the world - with everyone except the Japanazis.

I had the extreme pleasure of speaking in Burlington, Kansas, the old home town of Mel Griffin and Clarence Douglas, at their football and basketball banquet. Ray Pierson, an outstanding barrister of the law (but in Burlington he calls himself a lawyer) called me up and said that I was dated up for this banquet. Ray and the men cooked the meal and they did a swell job. The banquet was held at the Methodist Church and a group of 150 men turned out to honor these boys who had done themselves proud in a football and basketball way. It was a pleasure for me to recall the wonderful record that Mel Griffin made upon the fields of friendly strife and in the class room, as well as out among the affairs of men.

When I have experiences with some pampered athlete I like to go back to the days when Mel came up here without any money and a lot of ambition, and finished with a great athletic record as well as a fine scholastic record. He made a great reputation here at Lawrence High School where he had championship teams in several sports, and since he has been at Long Beach, California, with Bert Smith, another Kansas stellar athlete of other days, he has done a wonderful job in the Junior College out there on the coast. Mel's name is associated with winning teams and fine morale among his boys. I am always proud of such men.

Ens. Michael Gubar, APA 163, San Francisco, writing from somewhere in the East China Sea, gives a newsy account of the UAA Eastland in the Okinawa invasion. Mike reports something of the suicide tactics used by the fanatical