

We lost to Nebraska at Lincoln in one of the hottest games that I have ever seen the Cornhuskers play. Iowa State got a further break in the fact that Kansas played Oklahoma at Norman, and Iowa State played them at Oklahoma City preparatory to the Sooners going to New York. Oklahoma Aggies and Texas Christian played the other end of a double-header in Oklahoma City, and Iowa State won by 2 points. If it is true that the home court is worth from 2 to 6 points, we could say that Iowa State got a slight break in the schedule. But no one is belittling the efforts of that fine Iowa State team. They had the stuff and showed their merit all the way through, so we take off our hats to Louie Menze and the boys in Iowa. They are the real champions.

The three games we lost were to Iowa State, Oklahoma (one point in an overtime) and to Nebraska. In recalling the hot teams of years back, I remember Bruce Drake, Tom Churchill and Vic Holtz, and the fine 1929 team at Norman. We had a pretty good team and they ran over us roughshod something like 47 to 29. I thought that was the hottest team I had seen until 1939 when we met the Missouri Tigers at Columbia. We had a good team and thought that we were in the championship hunt, which proved later we were to tie and then win the play-off, but Missouri poured it on us from every angle, and every shot they took seemed to whiz through the netting in this game at Columbia. Then in 1940 we met Indiana for the NCAA finals in Kansas City and held them to 4 points in the first 8 minutes of play, and then they started shooting. And what a barrage! They couldn't miss from any angle. They hit impossible shots, one after the other. And yet we scored 42 points against them, but it wasn't nearly enough.

Nebraska scored 59 points on us while we got 45, and Iowa State scored 61 while we got 39. Those two games compared with Oklahoma, Missouri and Indiana, and these are the games from 1929 to 1945, so you can see running into two outfits in the same year was just too much for a very willing, aggressive and hard fighting Kansas team. With every kind word to a dogged and determined Kansas team, we did not have the material that some of our opponents possessed this year. But we gave them everything we had, and I am mighty proud of these boys to be able to take second place, with none of the other four lower teams near the Kansas 7 won and 3 lost margin.

Early in the season I picked Iowa State first, Oklahoma second, Missouri, Kansas and Kansas State fighting it out for ties, and I thought Nebraska would finish last. The only game that Nebraska won was that 59 to 45 shellacking they gave us, so I rather look at their effort in that game as something out of this world. That is the first time that a Nebraska team, coached by "Lew" Lewandowski has defeated a Kansas team, but there must always be a first time for everything, and it happened. It has been six years since Kansas dipped her colors to the Cornhuskers in basketball. But you will remember in the last Rebounds I said, "We are looking for trouble when we go to Lincoln on February 10."

Now for a short resume of Kansas efforts in the Big Six. We lost a heart-breaker at Oklahoma in an overtime game. Kansas had the game sewed up three different times, but our lack of experience caused the boys to shoot long shots when they should have nursed the ball. In the Iowa State game at Lawrence on January 27, we defeated Louie Menze's team 50 to 35, although Firebock, one of their stars, was on the sideline. Then the Kansas-Kansas State game at Lawrence was a typical Kansas-Kansas State game, on January 30. It was a thriller, and it looked as if Kansas was doomed to defeat, but Kansas won one of the wildest and most exciting games that a packed Hoch Auditorium has seen in years. The massacre at Lincoln on February 10th has been recounted. On February 13 Oklahoma came to Lawrence and Kansas