

Back to the Missouri line-up. As I recall it, this whole Missouri group had played at Joplin high school, or at least the whole group came from the Joplin area and entered Missouri at the same time, because Rothwell Gymnasium was built about that time. They were a big outfit and all fine looking fellows like Ristine and Henley. I believe Curly is about six two, was he not, so you can see the type of team they had. The first games by these fellows might have been played in 1906, but Kansas and Missouri did not play until 1907. In 1907 I was coaching Baker and Haskell, so do not know whether these fellows played, but I am quite sure that they did. I know that they played in 1908 because I was the coach at Kansas and we had some hot ball games.

If my memory serves me correctly, we won from Missouri by very close scores, it seems to me one point. My line up was Francis McCune, forward, deceased, from Leavenworth; Billy Miller, Topoka, forward; Ralph Berger, center, Earl Woodward, from Glasco at that time, now advertising manager of the Salina Daily Union, guard and captain. And by the way, his son, Bob Woodward, is a member of our freshman team this year. And Dr. Milton Miller, from Topoka, a surgeon practicing there now. Both Bill and Milt were from Osage City where they graduated from high school, but both of them live in Topoka now. You know Bill is secretary of the Kansas Livestock Association at the present time.

Mills Ebright, the old baseball coach, was the basketball coach at that time at Missouri.

I thought this might prove interesting in some of your angles to know that one of the first players to play against Kansas was attending that game at Columbia. And the fact that Rothwell Gymnasium is adjoined to the Brewer fieldhouse where the game was played makes the stamping ground pretty familiar to old Zeke.

Here's another angle that I do not want you to say anything about at the present time, but I want you to know about it. After we had defeated Oklahoma Saturday night, February 25, I called Mr. Earl Falkenstien, our financial secretary, and asked him to call Missouri and ask for 500 tickets, and if he could not get 500, then to get 250, because I knew all of our people wanted to go. Sunday they swamped me with demands for tickets. Earl could not get Virgil Spurling Sunday, but at 8 o'clock Monday morning he called him, and Virg told him that they were going to reserve all of the seats in the balcony which is in concrete and they number 1200. Heretofore, for any other games Missouri had reserved only 200 of the 1200 seats up there, but this time they were going to reserve all of them. Virgil stated that they were going to put some extra seats in the fieldhouse to take care of the patrons who had patronized basketball all year and he felt that he would not be able to send any tickets over to Lawrence.