

March 12, 1941

Mr. Bob Busby
Sports Editor
Lawrence Journal World
Lawrence, Kansas

Dear Bob:

I am sending you a copy of a letter that I have written John Bentley which is self-explanatory.

Regarding Gregg McBride's comment saying that the Big-Six coaches are tiring of my charging into the court everytime a K.U. player goes down, I might say that I never go on the court until I get permission from the officials.

This is the right of every coach in the Conference, to seek permission to go on the floor when one of his players is injured. I never go on the floor unless a player is injured and I might add that I will continue to seek permission to go on the floor everytime one of my boys is injured.

Mr. McBride's word "charging" makes it imply that there is a militancy in the movement of my going onto the court. Personally, I would say that the word is illy chosen because the attitude is not one of militancy but rather one of concern for my players. Do not football coaches seek permission to go on the field when one of their players is badly injured? They want to know whether the player is in a position to continue in the game. My purpose is first, to see whether the boy is badly hurt, and second, to see whether he is able to continue in the game.

I might add that maybe the fact the conference coaches are tiring of my going on the court had more to do with the Nebraska situation than any other one, and I only went on the court once and got permission to do so when I did go on the court.

I am reminded of a story that may not have any application here, but I still like the story. A negro appeared as a plaintiff against another negro in a case of assault and battery. The plaintiff in describing the assault said, "Jedge, that nigger knocked me down, then he trampled on me in an alley that was covered with cinders, then he got his fingers in my kinky hair and he pounded my head back and forth in those cinders--well, Jedge, I never got so tired of one nigger in all my life."

Maybe they are getting tired of me, Bob.

Sincerely yours,

Director of Physical Education and Recreation
Varsity Basketball Coach