

April 14, 1941

Mr. John Bunn  
Dean of Men  
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Dear Johnnie:

I have been at my desk today endeavoring to clean up on some of my correspondence before the Easter vacation is ended. I ran across your good letter of February 25 and I desire to say hello to you and Bonnie.

I was sorry to hear that Stanford lost out in their playoff. However, Washington State did mighty well against Arkansas here, and I frankly believe that if Coach Buck Friel had moved his boys out of Kansas City after they played Arkansas, and had taken them to a neighborhood campus, like the University of Kansas or Kansas State, and allowed them to go to school and make their grades, then I believe the boys would have played a different game against Wisconsin.

I was not too favorable impressed with Wisconsin's playing. They reminded me of a Meanwell team of the old Missouri days when you played on Kansas, John. The Wisconsin team got away with murder; they held, they roughed, they pushed and made innumerable fouls, but when Washington State came back at them in the same way the Wisconsin boys cried like Meanwell's boys used to cry.

You remember when the Missouri outfit would push and shove and then when they were fouled, oh my, what an uproar! They looked like big cry-baby players to me. Of course, John, you can charge some of this failure of mine, to see the best qualities in these boys, to the fact that I had seen repetition of this thing in early days. Bud Foster is a Meanwell man and a fine fellow. It might be just the style of play and not the fellow that we used to suspect Meanwell of being. I like Dr. Meanwell off the court, but on the court he could cry higher to high heaven than any man I have ever seen.

I understand that Buck Friel worked his boys every night in the interim between the Western and the Final playoffs. The Washington State boys looked dead on their feet and Wisconsin clearly outfought them. I did not think that Wisconsin was so great, but rather I thought that Washington State was "poohed" out. They were not the same team in any way in any manner of play. But Wisconsin won and they are the National Champions.

Personally, I am very glad that we did not get in the playoff. The Big-Six decided that in case of a tie the team that had the best offensive and defensive record should represent the Conference in their playoff, and Iowa State had a better record than we had so they played Creighton and Creighton beat them. I was happy that we got out of the thing because we