

6

February 8, 1939.

Mr. Art Lynn,
1221 N. Independence,
Oklahoma City, Okla.

Dear Mr. Lynn:

I feel that I have been misquoted in my remark that a good college basketball team could beat any good AAU team in the country. I did say this - that the best pick of the college basketball personnel formed into a team would stand at least an even chance with any AAU team under organization.

You can see why that would not be possible for a good college team, wherein the boys are forced to make their grades and are there for other things than basketball, while about the only consideration for an AAU independent or semi-professional outfit is that they be good basketball players, and if they don't attend to their workaday job, very well. It makes little difference with most independent managers supporting AAU teams. You can see that the AAU, "Amateur Athletic Union", is a misnomer, as there are no strictly amateurs on the AAU teams. They are professionals or semi-professionals.

But the reason why I contend that the best pick of the college group could whip the best pick of the AAU group is on account of condition, morale, and esprit de corps, or spirit to win, on the part of the college group. I have seen so much independent basketball that there is very little of the altruistic side protruding. They are like a bunch of professional baseball players who want their base hits, batting averages and field averages, because that determines whether they will stick or not.

My statement was in regard to assembling the best pick of the college teams and playing them against the best pick of the AAU. You can see from this angle what I meant.

Thank you for your kind words regarding my son's playing in Oklahoma City the other night.

I generally endeavor to discourage a boy from playing too much independent basketball after he has finished college. After a boy goes to college four years and obtains a fine background of educational knowledge, then my notion is that