

Lawrence, Kansas  
March 21, 1940

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

Dear Bob:

Some one called my attention to your article under "Sports-Buzz" regarding the prolonged basketball season, alleging that it has drawn fire from several sources including the Big Six circle.

For your own information I am stating that this basketball season and tournament have the direct approbation of the Big Six faculty members. The tournament is a National Collegiate activity identically like the National Collegiate Track Meet, which has the blessing of the N.C.A.A. each year.

Several individual promoters, like the Madison Square Garden promotion, use the college boys basketball teams for their own selfish interests. They paid expenses to Madison Square Garden and a small percentage, but they kept the largest amount of money for themselves.

The National Collegiate executive body, of which the president is Mr. Wm. Owens, of Stanford University, - Mr. L. W. St. John, of Ohio State University, Major John L. Griffith, and other leaders consulted and decided that they would declare a basketball championship in the National Collegiate the same as they do for swimming and track and wrestling and so forth. Therefore, the national officers set this tournament up and they passed it down to the various conferences and the faculty members in each case approved the set-up, else we never would have been permitted to play. I am sure if this is drawing fire from Big Six sources it is from people who do not know the academic approval of the Big Six, Big Ten, Pacific Coast, Eastern Intercollegiate, Southwest, Rocky Mountain, and all eight collegiate districts.