

February 6, 1940.

Mr. C. O. Burnside,
Carpenter Paper Company,
Oklahoma City, Oklahoma.

Dear Cob:

Boy, you hit me when I am weak! You've got me crying and your letter just naturally broke my spinous morale. You know, I've always been afraid that I couldn't win a championship or even a single ball game, and your lashing words of criticism was the proverbial straw that "done break me down". You remember that is what the colored gentleman said when Joe Louis whipped Maxie Baer; he said, "Boy, Joe done break old Maxie down", and that is what you have done for me, old pardner.

Barring mathematical equasions, I am intelligent enough to know that when Oklahoma has four games at home and only one game away and that is against Iowa State, and we have four games away and two at home, then it is not difficult for me to say that the odds are in favor of O.U. Would you want me to go out in the wide world, throw my chest out, and say "We are just going to beat Oklahoma to a pulp and all the other boys as well"? Maybe that is what you would want me to do.

You know, there is something to the home court advantage as shown by Oklahoma Aggies winning 40 consecutive games at home. And yet they lost up here at Lawrence. How would you explain that?

Cob, I'll be happy to see you at Stillwater. I believe we saw you twice there last year and we got licked both games there, and if we get licked again we will still be in there with our chins up, but before that licking comes we will be playing basketball -- the game that I am trying to teach.

You have the background of proselyting at Oklahoma A. & M., and Oklahoma, and Kansas, and you might find a difference of arrangements when it comes to getting material in the three schools. You know, basketball has always had a big break here at Kansas. We play in the auditorium and practice in the gymnasium. There isn't a boy on the Kansas team that is making \$20.00 a month or near that much for work at 35¢ an hour. So we are still academic, Cob, and we are athletic as far as that sort of program will permit us to go.

Our next game is here with Iowa State on February 12, and we are going to play them for the honor of seeing which one will drop out of the Big Six. The one that wins will stay in, we hope.