

April 16, 1943.

Mr. Hal Middlesworth,  
Sports Editor,  
The Daily Oklahoman,  
Oklahoma City, Okla.

Dear Hal:

I acknowledge with thanks your good letter of April 14th. May I say this, off the record, that Clyde McBride was much more incensed over what the Oklahoma Aggies did here at Lawrence than I was. Frankly, I didn't feel as deeply as some of the others until some of the spectators came up to me after the game and said that for the past two years both of the Oklahoma Aggie exhibitions have been beyond reproach. I am speaking of their intensely close and aggressive guarding by doubleback up and whacking down on the man with the ball long before he got to the goal. I am telling you this off the record because I would not want it printed as it might cause misunderstanding.

Mike Getto, the All-American tackle of Pittsburgh, and a two-fisted fellow who is an advocate of the 'go-get-'em type, said to me, "If I had known that it would be this kind of a game, I wouldn't have come up. I wouldn't walk across the street to see games like the Oklahoma Aggies have played the last two years here." And there were scores of other virile, aggressive people who disliked the exhibition. They seemed to think it was too flagrant to be called a game.

The Chancellor called me Monday morning and said, "We do not want to play those fellows any more." I laughed and said, "Well, Chancellor, we have a game at Stillwater on the 17th." He said, "Don't play them. Cancel it." I explained to him, of course, that that was impossible. The Chancellor is not the old fogey type, but he is a young, keen business man who was assistant dean of business at Harvard University. He is the type of man that President Brandt of Oklahoma is - cultured, keen, genteel and aggressive. So you see, I had mounting opposition.

Clyde McBride had come down to the game with Ab Hinshaw, and frankly I think that McBride's attitude was more on account of the way they treated the officials than any other thing. By leaving Kurland on the bench there was an attitude upon Hank's part to infer that there was no use to put anybody else in there, you couldn't win the game anyhow. So don't you see, the resentment was against the officials, and Mac and Hinshaw being very close friends, I think Mac took up the cudgel for Ab. I do not believe that it was resentment of McBride against the Oklahoma Aggies for what some people thought was roughing of the Kansas players. I believe that I am wright in this conclusion.