

April 12, 1943.

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

Dear Hal:

Someone from Stillwater mailed me a clipping of your sport page written quite some time ago, I imagine, entitled "Back Stage Slap Floors Cowboys". I want to assure you that I had no part in any negotiations made by the N.C.A.A. committee when they picked Oklahoma to represent the Fifth District.

You might know from what I have said of the N.C.A.A. committee that I did not contact them nor did they contact me. However, had I had anything to do with it, in my opinion the worst that the Aggies should have had was full consideration of a play-off with Oklahoma for the right to represent the district. Further, I might say that at all times have I been very friendly to the Missouri Valley Conference.

When I was chairman of the Rules Committee of the Fifth District I asked the Missouri Valley Conference to nominate their representative when they wished to serve on the Big Six selection committee. The first man named was Jack Truesdale of Grinnell, and later they nominated Bill Williams to serve.

The fact that Kansas has consistently played the Oklahoma Aggies on a home and home basis, and this year played Creighton on a home and home basis, showed this friendly spirit. I believe Kansas was the only Big Six school to play both Creighton and the Oklahoma Aggies. Surely this would convince anyone that there is no enmity against the Missouri Valley Conference and her members by any representative of the University of Kansas.

I have a high personal regard for both Coach Henry Iba and Eddie Hickey. If there are any differences between Coach Iba and me we settle them in direct personal conference.

Again, I want to renounce any connection directly or indirectly with the N.C.A.A. selection committee.

Sincerely yours,

Director of Physical Education,
Varsity Basketball Coach.

FCA:AH