

November 11, 1940

Mr. Horace Mason
Sports Publicity Director
Kansan Office
University of Kansas

Dear Horace:

I notice where Bob Busby quoted you and Harold Keith as saying it was a cinch for Kansas to put over a winner this year in basketball. I am sure that you understand that Mr. Harold Keith is a very wise and non-gullible person.

I am wondering if you know that Bruce Drake has made confidential statements to some of his friends that he has the best possibilities for a championship team this year that he has ever had since he has been there. He states that he has a better outfit than McNatt, Mesh, Scheffler, et al. Doubtless you know that he has Ford, the big six-foot-seven Acrobat; Corbin, who was ineligible last year but who was his hot-shot the year before; Ramsey, the all-state Illinois star, and another all-state man from Illinois. These last two boys roomed at Bruce Drake's home during their sophomore year. I am getting the dope, but from all appearances Oklahoma thinks they have it this year but are playing the dark horse idea. So please do not be gullible enough to come out with such a wild statement as Mr. Busby attributes to you.

We have lost Ebling, one of the most valuable men and clutch shooters; Dick Harp and Bruce Voran. All three of these men were seniors and top performers in the pinches. We also lost Miller, of course, who got hurt, and who put games on the ice like Loyola and Nebraska. You see we have lost all of our scoring punch, so to speak. Kline, who is a good defense man but who cannot score, Bobby Allen, who is a good ball handler but who cannot score, and Engleman, are the ones left out of the seven. In other words, most of our scorers, both on the offense and defense, have been lost.

We have a good defensive team, but we have lost the seniors and you cannot replace seniors with sophomores and have a great deal of luck. We will still be small; smaller than last year. Even so, do not make the foolish statement which is quoted as coming from you. Maybe you did not make it; I hope not.

Iowa State is expecting definitely to do things because Louis Menze told me he could not understand the debacle that took place in his team, and he is expecting them to come through this year because he has the size and the age. We have neither the size nor the age for an offensive team, but it