

February 21, 1939.

Mr. Louis E. Menze,
Basketball Coach,
Iowa State College,
Ames, Iowa.

Dear Louie:

I am sorry that I didn't get a chance to visit with you a few minutes after the game, but hectic struggles like these send people away in a dither. It was a great ball game and you gave us the fight of our lives.

The last four minutes you could have tossed a coin and guessed the winner just as easily by the way the coin fell as compared to an expert's judgment on the outcome. It wouldn't have been worth a nickel to have guessed either way.

Louie, I expected to talk to you Sunday night about the picking of officials for next year. I am writing you confidentially, and I am wondering if you don't agree that it is better for the basketball coaches to pick the officials like they do in conference, and then if there are any changes to be made let the two coaches agree on the selection. As it is now, you know that George Veenker isn't picking them at all and it really puts too much responsibility on one coach picking the officials for the rest of the gang. I know that I would not be happy to endeavor to pick officials for the other five coaches. In fact, when I was secretary of the Big Six I refused to assign officials. When I was coaching basketball I would not even pick my own officials because I felt it was unfair to me and unfair to everybody else, and I feel the same way about the set up now.

Until we have a commissioner on officials I am in favor of the coaches going back to their own selections and working them out. Every one of us are mature enough to do the job without any hickering or complaint. Don't you think so?

There is one other thing that I would like to write you about, namely, that Roscoe Brown of Rosedale High School desires to officiate in the Big Six. He came in to see me the other Saturday and wanted to know how it happened that the coaches on the