

NEW YORK  
**Herald Tribune**

A European Edition  
*Published Daily and Sunday in Paris*

230 West 41st Street  
New York

Sports Department,  
February 17, 1938.

Dear Phog:

By this time, I suppose, you are quite familiar with the plans of the Metropolitan Basketball Writers Association for an invitation intercollegiate basketball tournament in Madison Square Garden in March. It has no pretensions to national championship rating--we realize its limitations--but we hope to get into it the very best obtainable teams. We hope through the tourney to emphasize our policy that basketball is a national, not provincial game, and give our enormous clientele here an opportunity for further comparison of the styles of play and officiating prevalent in other sections of the domain.

I don't know what your schedule limitations are, or what clamps the university athletic authorities put on your activities, but would you be interested in an invitation to compete if one were extended on the basis of your 1937-38 record? Perhaps you are already committed for obvious reasons to the Kansas City tournament. However, I'll outline our plans.

On March 9, we will match two metropolitan teams with two other outstanding Eastern clubs in an elimination series. The winners of these games will qualify for the semi-final round scheduled for March 14 and the play-off for first place will be on March 16. Besides the two Eastern survivors, the teams in the semi-finals will be two invited from the Middle West or Far West. We will pay full expenses for 12 men (10 players, coach and manager) and give competing teams an opportunity to share on a per centage basis in the gate receipts. I'd like your reaction to this proposition.

If Kansas U. cannot or would not be interested, perhaps you could suggest some worthwhile team out in your territory. I already have been approached by Oklahoma, Oklahoma A. & M. and Southwestern College. They all appear to have pretty good records and competent personnel, but I should like to have your unbiased judgment as to their worth. A. & M., I understood, is a slow-breaking, possessive type of club whereas Oklahoma is strictly a race-horse brigade. Southwestern, I'm told, mixes its game well and is an interesting club. Anything you can do to help me pick the team that will make the best showing and put on the most interesting game, certainly will be appreciated. As head of the association and its tournament committee, you can see what a job I have on my hands and how anxious I am to make this venture at least an artistic success.

Some time ago I wrote to Dr. Naismith and asked the old