

days, and not only did we pay out but we made money. And then you know we played Dr. Carlson's University of Pittsburgh team a series when Ted O'Leary was playing with me, in Convention Hall. When we got to thriving unduly the Big Six stepped in and said, "Nay, nay, Phog Allen. Too much big time stuff." Yet they permitted the University of Oklahoma and the University of Texas to play their annual game at Dallas each year, the other exception being Nebraska playing at Portland, and many other so-called infractions of the Big Six rule of prohibiting conference teams from playing off the campus gridiron, or court, or track. They did finally break up the Kansas-Missouri dual track meet in Convention Hall.

Just another gentle reminder of big time basketball in the Hall was back in March, 1905, when I was manager of the Kansas City Athletic Club, and we played the Buffalo Germans in Convention Hall three games, and made a lot of money and a lot of noise. That was the first time, you remember, that basketball had been put on on a big time basis, but of course that was between two athletic clubs, or athletic organizations which were not connected with colleges.

So you see basketball has been promoted in a big time way before Ned Irish came on with his double headers. However, in March, 1905, we arranged a series of three games to be played as curtain raisers between Central and Manual High School. Also, when we played the Pittsburgh-California series we always had high school teams play the game as the other half of the double header. However, Ned Irish would pick four college teams and use them as double-headers, while we used only main attractions until a few years ago when the University of Southern California and Kansas played, and the University of Missouri and Kansas State played the first game. Then the winner, Kansas, played the winner, Kansas State, in Convention Hall the second round. However, the first round was played over in Memorial Hall in Kansas City, Kansas.

This is not intended to be a "do you remember way back when-", but just a line or two of reminiscences which were stimulated when we read your sport pages and it reminded us of earlier days.

I noticed in your column where Jack Grover will be at Lincoln. We certainly will be happy to see him. I am glad that he is able to travel. I saw him at Columbia at the Schulte affair, but just like I saw you - it was a wave of the hand, a handshake, and everybody milled on. Tonight I am going to Onaga, Kansas, to make a commencement address, and then will go on to Lincoln for the Big Six meet. I hope to see you and have a little visit with you if you are still playing golf, and if you are not maybe it might be a ball game, or just a little quiet thirty-minute spaghetti luncheon chat.