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March 27, 1945.

Mr. C. E. McBride,  
Sports Editor,  
The Kansas City Star,  
Kansas City, Mo.

Dear Mac:

In Hugh Fullerton's column out of New York, March 26, AP, he says: "Ohio State's Ole Olson stirred up a good argument last month when he picked the best five basketball coaches between Pittsburgh and the Rockies (Adolph Rupp, Doc Carlson, Tony Hinkle, Ward Lambert and Dutch Lonberg). . . Somewhere in Europe Lt. Max E. R. Keiffer, a staunch upholder of 'small college' basketball, spotted the list and V-mailed the names of ten he considers better. . . Keiffer picks Lt. (USNR) Wilbur Stalcup, Maryville, Mo., State; John Lance, Pittsburg, Kan., State; Joe Hutten, Hamline; John Miller, Murray, Ky., State; Ed Diddle, Western Kentucky; Loren Ellis, Valparaiso; Russell J. Beichly, Akron; Bill Monypeny, Southwestern (Winfield, Kan.); Lt. (USNR) C. P. Harris, Cape Girardeau, Mo., State, and Henry Iba, Oklahoma A. and M. . . . The guys with reputations to protect fight shy of scheduling these ten, Keiffer maintains."

I would like to go along with Ole Olson, but I would like to pick the best seven basketball coaches, instead of five, between Pittsburgh and the Rockies. I would take his five as listed, but for the two additional names I would like to nominate three men and pick two of the three.

The three men would all be from agricultural colleges: the Ohio Aggies (Ohio State), the Iowa Aggies (Iowa State), and Oklahoma Aggies (Oklahoma State). Figuring that no one could leave Oklahoma's Henry Iba out of the list, I would place him the sixth of the seven-man group. And the fact that Louie Menze won the championship outright this year and tied with Oklahoma last year, I would pick him in an eyelash finish over Harold Olson of Ohio Aggies, because Olson won last year outright but was a runner-up this year. That would be reward enough for me because out of those seven, I would have three of my own boys in the group.

Mac, don't you think this is worthy of a print?

Sincerely,

Director of Physical Education,  
Varsity Basketball Coach.

PCA:AH