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January 20, 1943.

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

Dear Mac:

I am passing on some material to you for what I think is a pretty good yarn, if and when you care to use it. Harold Keith, the clever newspaper man that he is, had quite a bit of sport regarding the Bruce Drake jinx on the Oklahoma floor the past five years at the expense of Kansas.

As a matter of fact, it was a four-year jinx because we beat them this year and we beat a fine sophomore team of Hugh McDermott's at Norman. This defeat knocked Oklahoma out of the championship. This was McDermott's famous "Boy Seat" team that burned up the boards in the conference. McNatt, Mesch, Snodgrass, Roop, et al. were the boys picked to win the Big Six championship in 1938. We beat them in a sizzler at Norman.

Then Bruce inherited the Boy Seats for 1939-40, and trying to beat that outfit at Norman was like endeavoring to put out a huge conflagration with a garden hose. However, we did beat Bruce Drake's Boy Seat seniors at Wichita, Kansas, in the Big Six N.C.A.A. play-off by a score of 45 to 39, after they had beaten us five days previously at Norman by 11 points.

The 1941 team was really Bruce Drake's first team and it was a dandy, with Ford, Heap, Paine, Rousey, Roberts, et al., and those boys played a valiant part.

I am sending you the personnel of these teams with this letter so that you can see what I mean. In 1942 he had Tucker. So really we were beaten by Drake's own team two years at Norman, and we beat Drake's team at Norman this year with "Manacles" McCurdy, Tucker, Roberts, Heap and the rest of the team. So while it looked like a five-year drouth, it was only four years, and when it looked like a four-year record it was only two so far as Bruce's coaching of his own teams is concerned.