

Lawrence, Kansas
March 3, 1939

Mr. H. G. Olsen, Chairman
N.C.A.A. Basketball Tournament,
Ohio State University,
Columbus, Ohio.

Dear Ole:

I have just returned from Columbia, Missouri, where last night the Tigers whipped us for the Big Six championship. Oklahoma may share the bunting. They are to play Nebraska Saturday night at Lincoln, and their last game is with Kansas State on Monday night at Manhattan. We will not know until after the final game, which is March 6th, whether it will be a tied championship between Missouri, with 7 wins and 3 losses, and Oklahoma, who can have a possible 7 wins and 3 losses if they win both their remaining games. Kansas had 6 wins and 4 losses, so it will be necessary to wait until after Monday.

I talked to George Edwards, a member of the committee, last night. We plan to have a meeting in Kansas City on Monday, March 6th.

It happens that the Oklahoma Aggies have the flag cinched in the Missouri Valley Conference, so they must be considered at an early reckoning. It is for that reason that I am using every possible date advantage to have my committee of George Edwards, C. E. McBride and John Truesdale meet in Kansas City, but it will, of course, be impossible to have the meeting any sooner. I am sure you will agree with the necessity of waiting until we have something to discuss with assurance.

You may rest assured of my early eagerness and my kindly cooperation in bringing the Big Six representative participating team to the front at the earliest date.

Possibly it might have been my letter to John Bunn about a week ago that caused him to set the dates March 17 and 18. I complained rather bitterly that I did not think that the general committee had polled their general intelligence and understanding fulsomely enough before the semi-final and final dates were set. I told John Bunn how unfair it was, say to the representative of the Southwest Conference district #6, and the rest of our people here to play in San Francisco on March 20 and 21, and then to go back to Chicago and meet a team that played in Philadelphia on March 17 and 18 with a short haul and a longer rest to meet that longer traveling team which had gone to San Francisco for the 20th and 21st and then traced back across the continent to play the 25th. I told him that I would be unhappy to be on the general committee and to be held up for criticism by a team which might feel that the dates were made by the general committee which would put a burden on this worn-out team. Of course, I