

Lawrence, Kansas  
March 10, 1939

Mr. Ed C. Lytton, Business Manager,  
Drake University,  
Des Moines, Iowa.

Dear Ed:

I am very happy to have your good letter of the 9th instant.

I think I can appreciate your concern when you voiced your anxiety to me over the telephone Wednesday afternoon when I was in Oklahoma City. I assure you that I tried by every fair means to give everybody a square deal from beginning to end.

It was unfortunate that Missouri withdrew from the tournament. Our committee was faced with a very embarrassing situation, and when George Edwards, John Truesdale and C. E. McBride and myself met I felt that the disposition would be utterly unbiased and fair from every standpoint.

The committee acted upon the matter of the court being neutral, they passed upon game officials, admission prices, game ball, playing rules, and any other administrative affair not covered during the discussion at the time. Finally the drawings were made. Mr. Edwards suggested that since Mr. McBride was not a member of either conference that McBride draw. Mr. Edwards, the secretary, prepared the slips, placed them in the hat, and the chairman held the hat high above the table. Mr. McBride drew. On his first draw he drew a bye. On the second draw it was the University of Oklahoma. It was just the chance of the draw and it might have gone any other way, but I can understand how people not being at a meeting might wonder.

When I was asked to take the chairmanship of this Fifth District N.C.A.A. play-off I asked the basketball coaches and athletic directors of the Missouri Valley to nominate a man