

THE OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY  
COLUMBUS

A \*  
4c.

DEPARTMENT OF PHYSICAL EDUCATION  
L. W. ST. JOHN, Director

November 7, 1938

Dr. Forrest C. Allen  
Director of Physical Education  
University of Kansas  
Lawrence, Kansas

Dear "Phog":

I am enclosing a brief outline of tournament plans. Would you please give me the benefit of your observation regarding the same?

I should like to have you act as chairman of the selection committee of N.C.A.A. district #5 and would like to have you select two other members to serve with you. Your committee, of course, would be charged with the selection of the team to represent district #5 in the play-offs and, as I indicated in the sheet which I am enclosing, it seems to me that wherever possible we ought to make the selection arbitrarily on the basis of record and, perhaps, personal observation.

If it should come down to the point where some member of your committee, like yourself, is vitally concerned in this selection, then it would seem that he should step aside and ask somebody to serve in his place. Suppose, for example, that Kansas was the best team in district #5. It would not look so good to have "Phog Allen and Company" selecting the Kansas team to represent the district. I am sure you get what I mean. But, seriously, we need your help in district #5. You did a swell job - I should say the finest job - in the Olympic set-up of 1936 and everybody that I have talked to have agreed that you are the one that should head up this committee in your district.

If I may make a suggestion regarding the other two men - first of all, select somebody whom you know will work at the job, someone who is vitally interested in basketball and who has some standing in the basketball world so that when your selection is made it will have a really fine chance of meeting with general approval. I know that in some of the other districts the chairmen are going to put on their committee one outstanding newspaper man. I see no objection to this procedure and I see a good many things in favor of using this means of getting favorable reaction by the press toward this basketball tournament. If you do select a newspaper man, then it would seem to me that the other man surely should be an N.C.A.A. man, not necessarily a coach. Perhaps you ought to take into account too the geography of district #5.

Just as soon as you have selected the other two men to serve with you on the committee, will you please wire me their names and addresses? I would prefer to release the publicity as to our committees from here when we get all the selections in. I will certainly be looking forward to hearing that you will agree to serve as chairman and I very much hope that you can