

THE OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY

COLUMBUS

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

November 26, 1938

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

Dear "Phog":

Thanks for your letter enclosing the placard which advertises the "National Intercollegiate Basketball Tournament" at Kansas City. They are evidently making rather elaborate plans. I noted that a number of the members listed on their "Board of Management" are people whose allegiance belongs with us. I have already written to "Dutch" Lonborg suggesting that he should cut loose from this Kansas City tournament and throw his lot with us and I am writing to President Owens of the N.C.A.A. suggesting that he circularize each member of the N.C.A.A. immediately asking for the active support of every member school in the N.C.A.A. for our basketball tournament. I have no doubt that when it comes to a final showdown these coaches, who are at present tied up in a general sort of way with this Kansas City tournament, will see that they belong with us rather than with them. I believe such a letter from President Owens is an important step at this time.

As to McBride, I can appreciate that he may have some pretty definite tie-up. I still am in hopes, however, that he can see that the interests of Kansas City might be equally well served, or better served, by getting behind the N.C.A.A. project, especially if the tournament of the teams West of the Mississippi were to be held in Kansas City. I very much hope you can get him to see things in that light. It might even be not only that play-off but the final game for the N.C.A.A. championship, plus the National Association of Basketball Coaches convention might be brought to Kansas City if there were proper support given to our plans.

Please see McBride at the earliest possible opportunity and then let me know, because we are holding things up waiting for word from you. If McBride isn't interested and can't be sold on our tournament, I would suggest we think perhaps in terms of Denver as a place for the semi-final play-off. In any event please get to me just as soon as possible the names of two other men - if you can't get McBride perhaps somebody like "Sec" Taylor from Des Moines would fill the bill from the newspaper standpoint; then perhaps some other man like George Edwards of Missouri would complete your committee. I am sure you see the need for rather quick action on our part and I hope you can get some definite word to me very soon.

By the way, as I indicated in another letter to you, we are planning selection committees in each of the N.C.A.A. districts and in addition to that we are having a general tournament committee on which I want you to serve. This general committee will be composed of John Bunn,