

THE OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY

HOWARD L. BEVIS, *President*

COLUMBUS

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

NCAA

Dr. Forrest C. Allen
University of Kansas
Lawrence, Kansas

Dear "Phog":

After the National Collegiate Basketball Tournament last season, there was some comment to the effect that we would be following a better procedure if we had one tournament of eight teams, representing the eight districts of the N.C.A.A., play off at some good spot like Kansas City, for example, rather than to conduct the tournament as we have been doing heretofore through a Eastern play-off and a Western play-off, followed by the final game between the winners of these two tournaments.

I am wondering if you have any definite reaction as to the relative merits of the two plans. The objection to the present plan, as offered by a few coaches, was that it meant too much time away from classes. I am not sure that this is a valid objection, because the time away from classes would probably be greater, on the whole, if we were to have the single eight team tournament. The only teams that would be forced to be away from classes under the present plan would be the two teams who play in the final game. There is no question but what a single eight team tournament would be a big tournament, but I am pretty definitely of the opinion that such a tournament would have less chance of succeeding financially (unfortunately, we do have to look at this side of the picture) than the plan we have had in effect.

There is to be a meeting very shortly of the Executive Committee of the National Collegiate Athletic Association and the matter of the basketball tournament will come up for discussion. I wonder if you wouldn't be kind enough to forward to me immediately any reaction you might have concerning the tournament. It is our hope that we can announce definite plans for the coming N.C.A.A. Tournament much earlier than we have been able to do in the past. I am sure you will agree the earlier we can make definite plans the better satisfied all coaches will be. So won't you please write to me at once, if you care to register an opinion in regard to this matter?

Very sincerely yours,

H.G. Olson

H.G. Olson
Chairman, N.C.A.A. Basketball
Tournament Committee

HGO:M