

Lawrence, Kansas  
January 26, 1940.

Mr. Ned Nordness,  
Sports Editor,  
International News Service,  
Kansas City, Missouri.

Dear Mr. Nordness:

Your good letter of the 16th instant has remained unanswered due to the fact that I have been away from my desk quite a bit. I am hastening to reply to explain to you that the N.C.A.A. is controlled by faculty representatives and it took special action by these faculty representatives of our conference to permit us to enter the tournament.

The so-called Intercollegiate tournament is an organization of athletic directors and has no faculty authority back of it. Please do not misunderstand me. I do not mean that the faculty of a school do not permit the athletic directors of schools to enter the tournament, but one is in the hands of coaches and athletic directors of small schools, and the other is in the hands of faculty representatives other than athletic directors and coaches. There is quite a difference.

The purpose of the N.C.A.A. is not to determine which outfit is superior, but it is the purpose to have a National Collegiate Championship of America to determine the champions in its own organization. This is exactly the same as the National Collegiate Track Meet which is held each summer, and it is the purpose of the N.C.A.A. to determine championships.

I am very sure that our organization would not be interested in playing any other organization to see which was the superior. That is altogether beside the point so far as the N.C.A.A. is concerned. Listening to the faculty members speak, they would say that this interfered with academic ideals.

While I am especially sympathetic with the Finns and would do anything that I could for them, I know that this is an impossible situation to even approach. I have heard these faculty members often speak about this sort of thing and I know that it would receive no sympathetic response.