

18
November 19, 1940

Mr. Harold G. Olsen
Ohio State University
Columbus, Ohio

Dear Ole:

I beg to acknowledge receipt of your confidential letter which was sent to Saint at Southern Methodist University. This is very nice of you to do this thing for me and I deeply appreciate it. I trust that I may be worthy of your recommendation.

I am wondering if you have written Floyd Rowe. Floyd sent me a copy of a letter that he wrote Chester L. Brewer on May 14, 1940. The fact that Floyd is chairman of the Joint Basketball Rules Committee doubtless would have an added weight, even though he is not a member of the N.C.A.A. body. If Floyd would write Professor French, this undoubtedly would help matters.

Of course, since you and Saint have talked this over together, I know that if anybody can do the job that you and Saint can do it. I will leave this matter entirely in your's and Saint's hands and know you will do what is best for the N.C.A.A. and the Tournament Committee.

Why would it not be a good thing, Ole, for you to write Floyd Rowe stating that you had written St. Clair and had sent a carbon copy of Saint's letter to me, and ask Floyd to send you a copy of his letter as of May 14, 1940 to you. This would enable Saint and you to see what Floyd Rowe has said to Chet Brewer, and also what assurances that Chet gave Floyd. If you and Saint think well of it, perhaps Floyd may care to write another letter to Chet Brewer, since the time of the meeting of the N.C.A.A. is so near at hand.

A few years Artie Eilers told me that they were to put in the nomination of George Edwards, and that Professor French was chairman of the Nominating Committee, but when the matter was discussed Artie Eilers told the chairman that he had letters from the coaches of the Missouri Valley and the Big-Six Conferences and they were all unanimously for me with the exception of the University of Missouri. I am very sure that the majority of the coaches have not changed either in the Missouri Valley or the Big-Six. If you feel that that might be a good move, I am very sure that Henry Iba and the Missouri Valley group would be glad to do the same thing again, as did Louis Menze, Harold Browne, and the Big-Six majority group. What do you think about this?

As I said before, I think you and Saint have it well in hand and will know what is best.

With all good wishes, I am,

Sincerely yours,

Director of Physical Education and Recreation
Varsity Basketball Coach

FCA:lg

BOARD OF EDUCATION

CLEVELAND, OHIO

Rules Com.

DEPARTMENT
OF
INSTRUCTION

December 4, 1940

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

Dear Phog:

Replying to your letter of November 30, wish to say that I am writing John L. Griffith today and sending him copies of the correspondence I have had with Chet Brewer. I am just a little hesitant to go beyond that point because, being a public school representative rather than a collegiate representative, I feel that it would be entirely out of place for me to give the appearance of in any way attempting to influence the selection of the collegiate personnel.

I feel quite certain that Saint and Ole will go the limit and am inclined to think the Major will take his cue from Saint and do all he can.

With personal regards and trusting that this works out as we hope it will, I am,

Yours very truly,

Flayo
Directing Supervisor
Bureau of Physical Welfare

FAR-IE

I

November 19, 1940

Mr. J.W. St. Clair
Director of Physical Education
Southern Methodist University
Dallas, Texas

Dear Saint:

Ole sent me a copy of his letter that he wrote to you, in confidence, of course. I know how fine and loyal you have been, and I know that you will do everything that you can to help the cause along. I am pretty sure that we will need something pretty emphatic because the Missouri boys just aren't fond of anybody that comes from the University of Kansas, and there has been a definite effort to have me succeeded with George Edwards of Missouri.

Since Mr. Brewer is Chairman of the Nominating Committee of the 5th District, and a former athletic director at the University of Missouri, and in addition, Brewer is doubly fond of Mr. Edwards, you can use your own good judgment that Mr. Brewer will do all he can to put his Missouri man in. Especially is this true since four years ago the University of Missouri endeavored to do this thing almost single-handedly by getting the cooperation of Professor Thomas E. French of Ohio State. But Mr. A.E. Eilers of Washington University, St. Louis, who happened to be Chairman of the Nominating Committee of the Fifth District, stopped it because he had letters from the coaches of the Missouri Valley and the Big-Six declaring their desire to see me continued in the position. That was just a little too much for them to overcome and I was appointed again in this position.

I wanted you to know that it will take some aggressive action on the part of the officers of the National Collegiate and the Joint Basketball Rules Committee.

Personally, it would be a very much better thing for me if I were out of it, but you know a fellow never likes to get out when somebody endeavors to turn a trick. For that reason, Saint, I will appreciate your continued loyalty and any advice that you might pass on.

With all good wishes to you and your lovely family, I am,

Sincerely yours,

Director of Physical Education and Recreation
Varsity Basketball Coach

J.

November 19, 1940

Mr. Floyd E. Rowe
Chairman, National Basketball Committee
of the United States and Canada
Board of Education
Cleveland, Ohio

Dear Floyd:

I have just had a letter from Ole in which he sent me, in confidence, a carbon copy of a letter that he wrote Jim St. Clair at Southern Methodist University. This was in regard to St. Clair writing C.L. Brewer of Missouri, who is Chairman of the Nominating Committee of the Fifth District, and suggesting that Jim send a carbon copy of the letter he writes Brewer to Professor Thomas E. French of Ohio State University, who is Chairman of the Nominating Committee for the N.C.A.A. I wrote Ole that you had written me on May 14, and had sent me a carbon copy of a letter that you wrote Chet Brewer, in which you strongly endorsed me for continuance as Chairman of the Fifth District appointment.

I suggested to Ole that he write you. Doubtless he has already done so. I further suggested that if he would write you it might be a good idea if you would send a carbon copy of the letter to Professor French that you wrote Brewer.

I would not bother you with this, Floyd, only I know the very keen and competitive nature of the two Universities, Missouri and Kansas. Both staffs at these two institutions feel the results of the old Civil War spirit that existed during the border war days. It is too bad that the Civil War is not ended all over the country, since we have had two World Wars since, but in this area its existence still crops out.

I am very sure that you have already done a tremendous lot in impressing Mr. Brewer with your ideas and I sincerely appreciate all that you have done. Maybe nothing else needs be done, but as I iterated, strange things do happen and if it had not been for Artie Eilers four years ago the thing was already cooked up to put George Edwards on the Committee in my place. Artie Eilers spoke up and told Professor French that he had letters from all the coaches in the Missouri Valley and all the coaches save one in the Big-Six as well as the Athletic Directors, saying they wanted me continued. Artie was then chairman of the Nominating Committee, but other factors were at work and I was to be replaced by George Edwards. There is a lot of competition between Kansas and Missouri, Floyd. I am sure that you can understand.

I am trying to clear my desk tonight so I can answer the Dr. Keene communication at once. I should have done this before but I have had charge of the Lawrence Community Chest Drive for the entire University and it has been a whale of a job, and then the YMCA Drive and other details, besides my regular work, has kept me jumping. You will hear from me very shortly on the matter that should have had attention a long time ago.

Mr. Rowe

Page Two

Nov. 19, 1940

Two weeks ago I attended the Northwest Ohio State Teachers Meeting in Toledo and then I went to Chicago and then to Wisconsin for a Teachers Meeting in Milwaukee. I have had plenty to do; too much in fact, Floyd.

Here's hoping things are breaking well with you.

Sincerely yours,

Director of Physical Education and Recreation
Varsity Basketball Coach

FCA:lg

THE OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY

GEORGE W. RIGHTMIRE, *President*

COLUMBUS

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

November 14, 1940

Mr. James W. St. Clair
Southern Methodist University
Dallas, Texas

Dear Jim:

I understand there is something brewing along the line of replacing "Phog" as the member of the Rules Committee from District 5. I, personally, would feel that it would be a mistake to replace "Phog" at this time. I think you will agree he is a valuable member of the Rules Committee and more than that he has done a whale of a fine job in connection with our N.C.A.A. Basketball Tournament, the conduct of which is in the lap of the N.C.A.A. Basketball Rules Committee.

I have talked this matter over with Saint at some length and he tells me that the Chairman of the N.C.A.A. Rules Committee has a voice which is listened to by the Appointments Committee. In other words, if you, as Chairman of our Basketball Rules Committee, feel that the reappointment of "Phog" Allen is indicated, and if you feel he should be retained, it is entirely within your province, and perhaps I might say it is your duty, to say so to the men who are charged with the nominations for committees. In this case, C. L. Brewer at Missouri is the Chairman of the Nominating Committee in District 5.

I hope you won't feel I am being presumptuous if I suggest to you that I think it would be very much in order for you to write Brewer, telling him why you feel "Phog" should continue on the committee. As I see it, there are two good reasons for him continuing - one is the fine job he does as a rules legislator and, secondly, because of the key position which he holds in this business of conducting a successful N.C.A.A. Tournament, and you, as Chairman of the committee charged with the conduct of that Tournament, surely have a right to speak up for the retention of a man whom you feel is important in that connection.

Saint has suggested that if you do feel this way you would be doing the right thing to write Brewer and to send a copy of the letter to Professor Thomas E. French of Ohio State University, who, as you know, is the Chairman of the Nominating Committee for the N.C.A.A.

Kindest regards, I am

Very sincerely yours,

H. G. Olsen

(This in confidence, of course)

HGO:M

CC-Dr. Forrest C. Allen

CLASS OF SERVICE

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WESTERN UNION

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SYMBOLS

DL = Day Letter

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KAY23 15 NT=SARONA WIS 26

1940 AUG 26 PM 9 17

DR FOREST ALLEN=

BASKET BALL COACH UNIV OF KANSAS KR=

HAVE WIRED STCLAIR TO BE PRESENT WILL TAKE CARE OF
HIS EXPENSES TOURNAMENT FUNDS REGARDS=

OLE..

October 30, 1940

Mr. J. W. St. Clair
Southern Methodist University
Dallas, Texas

Dear Jim:

I was out of town and upon my return am answering your letter. We certainly don't want to meet in New York when Mr. Nat Holman's gang is putting on the Promotional Basketball Tournament, do we?

I don't know what to say. Doubtless the rules members do not want to meet when we are holding our tournament in Kansas City so I would only have one choice. That is to meet in New York when Nat Holman's outfit is there and when the National Association of Basketball Coaches meeting is being held. I would vote for anyplace but Nat Holman's den of vice.

I have not heard from Floyd as yet, so imagine he knows how I feel.

Thank you for writing me, Saint. I appreciate your kindness, but I am not in a position to have any definite opinion. Do what you like. You are always honest and swell.

Our kindest regards to your lovely family.

Sincerely yours,

Director of Physical Education and Recreation
Varsity Basketball Coach

FCA:lg:mln

SOUTHWEST ATHLETIC CONFERENCE

J. W. ST. CLAIR
Executive Secretary

OFFICE
S. M. U.
DALLAS, TEXAS.

1 onion skin copy

October 23, 1940

Mr. F. C. Allen,
Head Basketball Coach,
Kansas University,
Lawrence, Kansas.

Dear Mr. Allen,

I received a letter a few days ago from Mr. Floyd Rowe in regard to our meeting place for another year. What is your opinion at present in regard to the time and place.

Yours very truly,

J. W. St. Clair
J. W. St. Clair.

JWS/dr

*kindest personal regards to you
and family. May I hear from you
by return mail.
JWS*

October 30, 1940

Mr. Floyd Rowe
Chairman, National Basketball Committee
Board of Education
Cleveland, Ohio

Dear Floyd:

I am sending you a copy of a letter I have received from Saint, together with a copy of my letter to him.

My letter is self-explanatory as he realized perhaps how I felt and did not think it necessary to contact me.

Whatever you do, Floyd, is agreeable to me, but I think we would make a mistake if we met at the same time as the outfit meets in New York.

With all good wishes, I am,

Sincerely yours,

Director of Physical Education and Recreation
Varsity Basketball Coach

FCA:lg:mln

October 28, 1940

To Members,
National Basketball Committee:

Enclosed is set of basketball interpretation bulletins. Believe it or not, a considerable amount of work has gone into the preparation of this material. It is sent to you with the thought that if you are called upon to assist with any interpretation meetings, these comments will save you considerable time and enable you to easily organize the program.

Yours truly,

N. U. Porter

Secretary

H
V
P
J