

THE OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY

GEORGE W. RIGHTMIRE, *President*

COLUMBUS

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

February 26, 1940

Mr. Philip O. Badger  
New York University  
Washington Square  
New York, N. Y.

Dear Phil:

I am hastening to answer your letter of February 23, because I feel that its contents are most important to our National Tournament.

I have been watching with a good deal of interest the fine record which New York University has been making in basketball this season and have been hoping all along that for the sake of the Tournament New York University would continue to stay out in front. And now that you mention the possibility, which you discussed with Irish the other day, of playing the first round of the Tournament in the Garden on March 22 and then taking the final game for the Eastern play-off Championships to some other site on Saturday night, I think we have the ideal answer to a location for the Eastern play-off. In other words, New York University, representing District 2, with the Garden as a place to play the games, even for one night, makes a perfect set-up. I am sure there would be a satisfactory court available for the Saturday night game and if the Garden management is at all reasonable, and I am sure they would be, we would have an assured financial success for the Eastern play-off with this sort of a program.

As I see it, New York University can't miss receiving the selection as the N.C.A.A. team to represent District 2. That fact makes me very happy because I know of your interest and prominence in all N.C.A.A. affairs and I know how you have helped to forward the interest of this National Tournament. And so with New York University selected to represent District 2, I would hope that you would exert your influence to assure the participation of New York University in the Eastern play-off, especially would I feel you could urge this because with the Eastern play-offs being held in New York, as indicated above, that would mean no loss of time from classes, and assuming New York would go through to win the Eastern play-off, the one game at Kansas City would not involve much loss of time, it being a Saturday night game. There is also the possibility that the New York University team could fly to Kansas City for such a game and such a procedure would mean little, if any, loss of time from school.

I am certainly hopeful that you would feel as I do about the worthwhileness of New York's participation in the Eastern play-off. Your letter has made me very enthusiastic for the success of the whole Tournament for this season. I feel certain we have a very satisfactory set-up at Kansas City and that it will carry its part of the program in a fine manner, and now if we could have this Garden set-up, with the New York University as one of the teams, I am sure we can wipe out completely the