

copy

February 10, 1940.

Mr. C. S. Edmondson,  
Basketball and Track Coach,  
University of Washington,  
Seattle, Washington.

Dear "Hee":

Pardon the delay in answering your good letter of the 24th ultimo. Our examination period came on just at the time your letter was received. I am teaching several classes and it was necessary for me to give and grade examinations for quite some time. I am sorry for my delay.

I think it would be unfair to you to ask that you take charge of the officiating for the final championship. I stated to John last year that his supervision of the officials was so good that I wanted him to assume that duty in the final championship game. However, since he is unable to serve and since it would be unfair to ask you to do that, I believe that it would be a better plan to treat this in an expectant manner and have our committee act as a whole in this regard. Harold Olsen and I have been corresponding quite a bit, and it was in the huddle of Olsen, Bunn and Allen that we discussed many of these angles of personal responsibility.

If the play-off is necessary on the Pacific Coast then I think it would be certainly logical and proper that you take charge of the whole thing out there and determine what is to be done. I might answer some of your questions by explaining our set-up here in the Fifth District. We have two conferences - the Big Six Conference, which is comprised of the Universities of Missouri, Oklahoma, Kansas, Nebraska, and Kansas State College and Iowa State College; - and the Missouri Valley Conference, which is comprised of Oklahoma A. & M. College, Grinnell College, Washington University (St. Louis), Creighton University, Drake University, Tulsa University, and Washburn College. It looks as if Oklahoma will win the Big Six title and the Oklahoma Aggies practically have the Missouri Valley title cinched with no defeats and about seven or eight wins. So it is necessary for us to have a play-off.

If it is an all-Oklahoma play-off between the University and A. & M. College, it will doubtless be played in Oklahoma City. Last year Olsen, Bunn and I agreed that 20% of the proceeds of this game would go to the N.C.A.A. championship committee and that 80% be split between the competing teams, whether they be two or more. This could only result where there is a case of a double tie in each individual conference.

The National Association of Basketball Coaches asked for 5% cut and if they got this then of course it would doubtless be taken out of the 80%.

We have a committee here the same as your committee on the Coast. Our committee will determine the place and time of the play-off, if one is necessary, and if one is not necessary they would make the same decision and select the team. But we will always have a play-off on account of the two conferences in our district.