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Lawrence, Kansas  
June 1, 1940

Mr. Jim Reed,  
Sports Desk,  
Topeka Daily Capital,  
Topeka, Kansas.

Dear Jim:

When returning from one of my commencement addresses last weekend, I picked up the Topeka Capital while I was eating breakfast and noticed your comments on post-season football games and basketball games as considered by the Big Six faculty representatives.

I desire to take no chips in the discussion, only to give you some information which I think doubtless you failed to receive. If I can be helpful in giving information that will clear up any points of controversy, then I am happy.

The N.C.A.A. district play-off, the semi-finals, and the finals are not considered post-season games by the National Collegiate Athletic Association. Its officers, at a meeting in New York, decided that they would have a basketball championship the same as the N.C.A.A. has a track championship at the end of the summer. There are eight collegiate districts in the United States, as you know, we being in the fifth. There are four east of the Mississippi River and four west. Professor William Owens, of Stanford University, is president of the N.C.A.A. The officers control the national activities of this organization the same as the national officers of any organization.

Two years ago when the officers of the N.C.A.A. decided to have a national championship in basketball under their auspices they took the matter up with the various districts, and both the Missouri Valley Conference and the Big Six Conference, with their faculty representatives, approved the suggestion of the national body, and by that approval they gave permission to these schools to play in this N.C.A.A. play-off. This is a document that does not require annual action, but as long as the order remains unchanged we will have a national basketball championship and these play-offs will not be considered