

December 17, 1943.

Mr. Karl Klooz,
Director of Athletics,
University of Kansas.

Dear Karl:

I am writing you concerning the possible cancellation of the January 24th game with the Hutchinson Naval Air Station at Hutchinson.

I am always happy to schedule games with service teams if we are doing the service a kindness or a courtesy. Personally, I have never had a team subjected to the roughness and the general unsavory attitude by an opponent as was shown by the Hutchinson team here on our court on December 4th. I characterize such tactics as the Naval Air Station team showed as "muckerism". Taunts, jibes, thrusts and downright unnecessary roughness which sometimes bordered on intent to injure, were in my opinion shown by the representatives of this team.

The coach, Lt. Bill Hennigh, professed a desire to clear up things, but when two of his accompanying men who were rooters, ran out on the court he remonstrated with them, at my insistence, but then turned, smiled, and winked at them after he had reprimanded them. The two men attached to his outfit, who were in uniform, ran repeatedly out on the court and made violent and unsportsmanlike gestures at the referee each time he called a foul. They would hold their noses and while in a standing position would wave their two hands in apparent utter disgust and despair at the supposedly unfairness of the officials. So far as these two rooters were concerned, they were unmanageable, apparently, and unsportsmanlike. They were seated on the visitors' bench which made them a part of the official party. Personally, I would never schedule another game with a team such as this under the present management.

I think some offer should be made to pay their expenses since each outfit was to pay their own, but since we do not go down there it might appear to them unfair to pay their own expenses up here. This is only mentioned for the sake of consideration and fair play for the visitors.