

January 4, 1941

Mr. Stanley G. Waltz
General Manager
University of Michigan Union
Ann Arbor, Michigan

Dear Mr. Waltz:

Our University of Kansas Basketball Team returned last night from their trip to the east. This morning when I came to my desk I received a very pleasant sensation from reading a carbon copy of your letter sent to our Chancellor Deane W. Malott. Prior to my reading this letter I received a call from our Director of Public Relations, Mr. K.W. Davidson, telling me that the Chancellor had called his attention to this letter, and he was in turn informing others. This made me very happy.

The fact that you wrote this letter entirely unsolicited and without my knowledge deeply gratifies me.

The morning that our team left, your very affable man in charge of the cafeteria called me over and said, "May I say something to you?" I said, "Yes, indeed Sir." At the same time I feared that something had gone wrong and that maybe one of our boys had gotten out of line over something, but much to my surprise and elation this young man said, "I want you to know that this is the finest group of boys that has ever visited the Michigan Union, and we see a lot of them here." I said to this young man, "This makes me very happy."

When the boys got on the train I called them together and called attention to the fact that teams from all over the United States stop at the Michigan Union, and apparently there was no motive other than to tell us that by contrast we were a group of fellows just merely behaving ourselves. To me it is a sad commentary on sports when a group of fellows representing colleges of America think themselves so privileged that they can destroy property and act like rowdies.

The mere fact that we were ordinary gentlemen called forth unusual praise for just being decent; therefore, I told the boys that I wanted them to know that I was very proud of them, but the great benefit from such a compliment went to the University of Kansas.

And so, Mr. Waltz, it is very generous of you to write the letter to our Chancellor. Such acts as yours are constructive because this afternoon when I meet the boys in a conference I shall read them your letter, and I am sure that you will make them feel that it is very worthwhile to be gentlemen.

With deep appreciation and wishing you a Very Prosperous and Happy New Year,
I am,

Sincerely yours,

Director of Physical Education and Recreation
Varsity Basketball Coach

FCA:lg
cc: K.W. Davidson