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KANSAS CITY, KANSAS

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DREXEL 3838

January 31, 1942

Personal

Dr. F. C. Allen,
University of Kansas,
Lawrence, Kansas.

Dear "Phog":

I have yours of the 29th written from Iowa City. As exciting as the game with Iowa was, I am somewhat surprised that you could settle down so soon after the game and write. And your hand seemed to be quite steady, too. I picked up the last part of the Iowa game on the radio. There was a lot of other station interference, but I listened as best I could until the game ended. I was afraid they were going to tie the game just before it ended, but apparently you have been living right. But how come so many missed free throws and fouls?

On Monday I was about to get tickets for the Great Lakes game when Tom, Jr. told me you had laid aside some tickets for us. With you having so many other things to do this thoughtfulness on your part is especially appreciated.

As always I wish you the best of luck.

Sincerely,

Paul Van Cleave

TMV:SS

February 4, 1942.

Mr. Tom Van Cleave, Jr.,
County Attorney's Office,
Court House,
Kansas City, Kansas.

Dear Tommy:

I am sending herewith the seven tickets for the game tomorrow night. Will you please deliver two of them to Maurice?

Two were taken out of the box before they were delivered to us. However, it is a fine location, and I know you will enjoy the game. There is no tax or charge on these. Tell Maurice and the rest of the folks they are with our compliments.

Looking forward to seeing you, I am

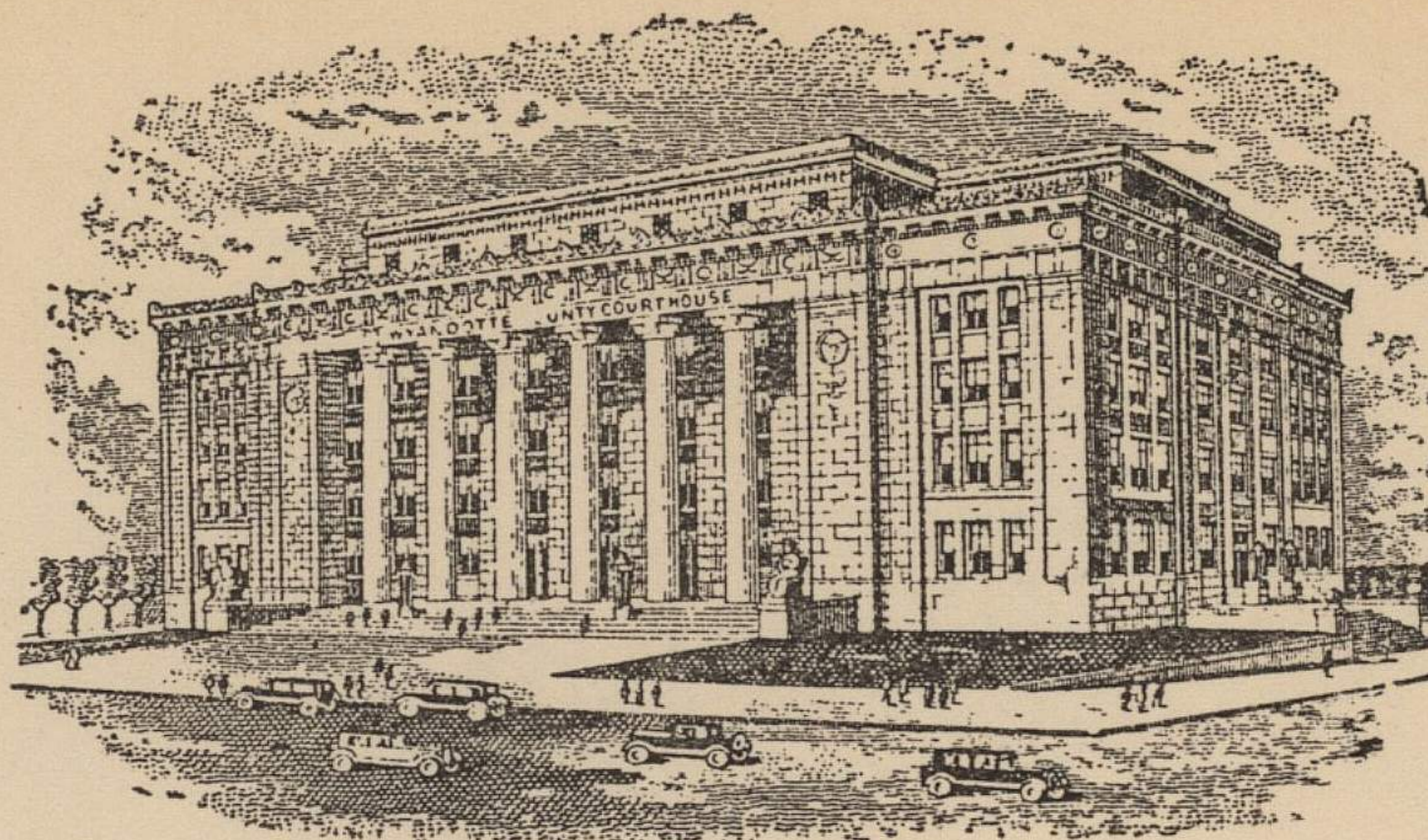
Very sincerely yours,

FCA:AH
Enc.

Director of Physical Education and Recreation,
Varsity Basketball and Baseball Coach.

ASSISTANTS

HAROLD H. HARDING
THOMAS E. JOYCE
HARRY S. DEUTCH
JOHN J. BUKATY
ULYSSES G. PLUMMER



DREXEL 1600

OFFICE OF
JOSEPH H. MCDOWELL
COUNTY ATTORNEY
WYANDOTTE COUNTY COURT HOUSE
KANSAS CITY, KANSAS

January 20, 1942.

Dr. Forrest C. Allen,
University of Kansas,
Lawrence, Kansas.

Dear Doctor Allen:

I want to express to you my appreciation for the many favors you have extended to me and particularly those last Wednesday, January 15th, at Columbia, Missouri.

If I can at any time be of service to you, please do not hesitate to call upon me.

Yours very truly,

Thomas M. Van Cleave, Jr.

THOMAS M. VAN CLEAVE, Jr.

TMV:RL

C O P Y

IOWA STATE COLLEGE
AMES

January 21, 1942

Dr. F. C. Allen
Kansas University
Lawrence, Kansas

Dear Phog:

I want to take this time to let you know that the rude display of sportsmanship as perpetrated by some one of our students has been duly recognized in our student paper and public apology made to you and the Kansas University team. It seems that in 5000 students, you will always have one or two of the type that cannot come along with the advancement of a department. I did not take the matter too seriously, for I know that these things happen, and that you have been through the battles enough to know they will happen.

We have tried diligently to maintain a high standard of sportsmanship here, particularly toward our visitors, and I believe are getting along in fairly decent shape. I know of no team or coach that comes here that is held in as high regard as you and your team. Therefore, let me extend personally to you my apology for this little incident which is one of those things that just happens.

With all best wishes, I remain

Sincerely yours,

(Signed) Geo. F. Veenker
Director of Athletics

gfv/mw

January 23, 1942.

Mr. George F. Veenker,
Director of Athletics,
Iowa State College,
Ames, Iowa.

Dear George:

Thank you for your very nice letter of the 21st instant extending apologies to us for the unthinking action of some of your students. I accept it in the best grace, and I assure you that we must recognize that the young people in their hearts mean not to be vicious at any time. They are so suffused with the spirit of enthusiasm that they lose their equipoise at times.

I would not have mentioned it myself, but since you brought it up I think this is a good time to set forth some of the incivilities that we have experienced at your college. For the past three or four years, and maybe longer, there seems to be a grand rush as soon as the doors are open on the part of the students to filter in the seats that are directly behind the visitors' bench in basketball.

We were on the floor practicing when the doors were opened and a certain definitely intentioned group fought their way to this location directly behind where we were to sit. Some of these goat-getting hecklers were vicious and loud in their remarks directed to the visiting players and to the coach. It did not pertain to the game, but became so personal that at times it was revolting.

I do not recall at any time that I have given these people an excuse to use such invectives. I believe I have conducted myself as a gentleman at all times that I have appeared at Iowa State College, but I can say frankly to you, George, that the reverse has been true as regards your student body sitting behind us. They have thrown missiles and have struck the players and me a number of times, and I am sure that since you have coached you can imagine the inhibitions that are necessary to keep from turning around and saying something or resorting to stronger measures. At no time have I done such a thing at Iowa State.

Last year just as the boys were going out a large object was dropped from the top of the rafters above the playing floor and barely missed one of the players. I do not recall whether it was a dead fowl or just what it was, but to my mind it was an object that would weigh at least ten pounds.

I believe at all times the boys of the University of Kansas have departed themselves in a fine, genteel manner. Their playing has

been hard but it has never been rough or on the unsportsmanlike order. This year you will recall that some student had a wooden platform built at least ten feet square on the girders above the playing field. A large paper ladder was lowered with words something to this effect; "Creak Phog -- K.U. -- O O P U". This sign was dropped so that it utterly obscured the passing of the ball on the playing floor. The officials called time-out and the students had a Roman holiday during the playing time at the expense of the Kansas players. Louie Menze rushed over to my bench and said, "Doc, some damn fool has done that." It was not discovered at that time that the "damn fool" was a student - doubtless an Iowa State student sitting on the platform above the playing floor.

The rules clearly specify that the home team is responsible for the behavior of the spectators. The officials or no one else in charge did anything about the matter. Our players were disconcerted - they were embarrassed and chagrined, yet nobody in authority at Iowa State did one thing except cheer and jeer.

I am reminded of the story of the colored fellow who stole a ham from his neighbor. When he came up before the police judge the defendant said, "Judge, it was just a joke. I just took it from my neighbor for a joke." And the judge said, "Yes, Sambo, but the bad part about it is that you have carried the joke too far."

And that is the way I feel about the celebration at Iowa State. Visitors at a basketball game have a tough enough time without the crowd using an unfair advantage in giving their own players advantages that a sportman should not desire.

Someone has said that there are three stages in American life -- the passing of the Indian, the passing of the buffalo, and the passing of the buck. Surely someone should be in authority, such as you, that when such incidents and demonstrations as those that took place in your gymnasium the other night, they could order such unfortunate demonstrations to cease immediately. They could also embarrass participants of such intrusions. As it was, this student was lionized by the crowd and made to feel that he had really pulled off a student activity that was great. Had the official penalized the Iowa State team and given Kansas a free throw it would have been the least that they should have done under the rules. But as it was, we suffered irreparably in a game that we were trying to win.

Now for another incident that took place in our baseball games last spring at Iowa State. I do not know whether you were there or not, but Louie Menze was in the bleachers. It was the ninth inning. We were leading by one run. Two were out. The Kansas Univ. catcher dropped the third strike and a squeeze play was on, and the player from third slid home. But the catcher threw to first base in time to retire the side. The umpire called the player out. Then the Iowa State players and Coach Tim charged the umpire. Two or three hundred of the baseball rooters followed the coach and the players on

the field. As I recall, the umpire was a minister of some small church nearby to Ames. If the preacher changed his religion as often as he changed his decision he could have preached in any congregation in the country.

Frank Bukaty, our student assistant, said to me, "Doc, you had better not leave." I grabbed our bat bag and other equipment and started for the club house with the umpire calling the Iowa State man safe. I said to Bukaty, "If he does he will find us in the club house," and I had a difficult time getting our team into the dressing room. Coach Timm followed me into the dressing quarters and said, "Phog, that run counted and the score is a tie. We've got to play it off." I said, "Not today, brother, maybe tomorrow, because that ball game is over."

Half an hour after things were over the umpire again changed back his decision, saying that we had won the game.

Personally, I am saying to you, George, that we need somebody to run the show occasionally when the students take it in their own hands.

I should like for you to ask Louie Menge if at any time he or his team have received any discourteous treatment during all the years that he has been coming to Lawrence. We just won't have it here.

Sincerely yours,

Director of Physical Education and Recreation,
Varsity Basketball and Baseball Coach.

FCA:AH

January 27, 1942.

Chancellor Deane W. Malott
Prof. W. W. Davis
Dean F. T. Stockton
Prof. Lawrence Woodruff
Prof. J. B. Smith
Gwinn Henry
Karl Klooz

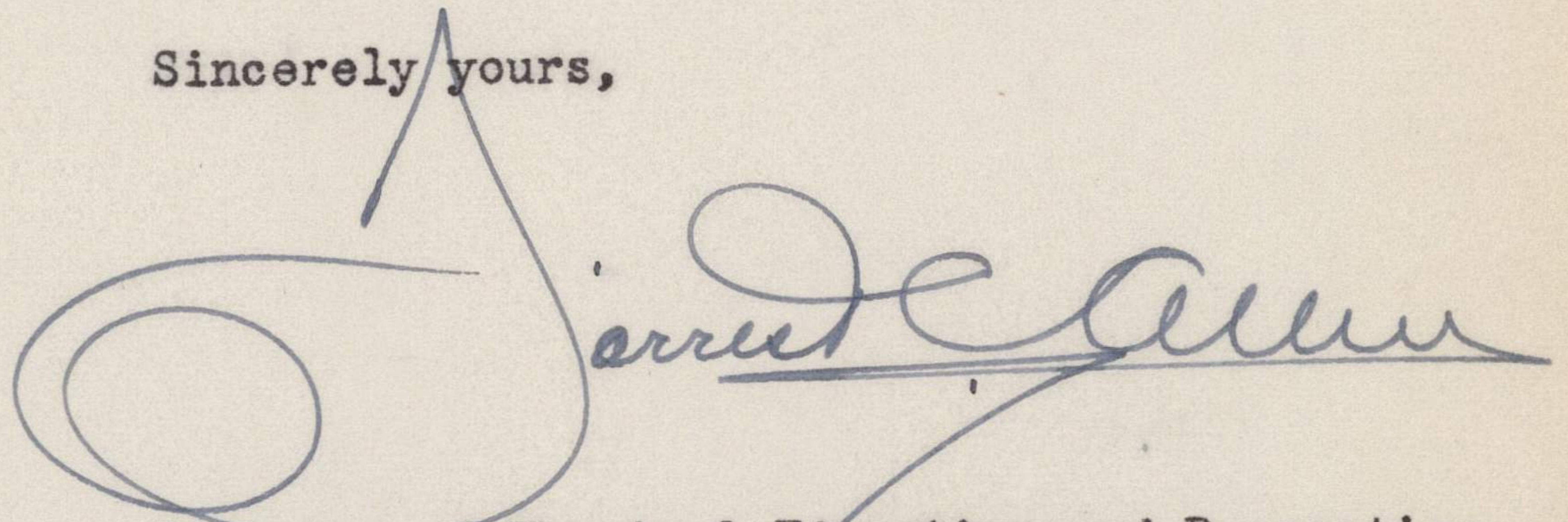
Prof. Guy Smith
Prof. Bert Nash
Tom Van Cleave
Tom Veatch, Jr.
Hugo T. Wedell
Donald Hoag

Members of the Athletic Board:

Gentlemen:

I am sending you herewith copies of correspondence with George Veenker regarding our game at Iowa State. This is for your confidential information.

Sincerely yours,

A large, stylized handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "David Allen". The signature is written over a horizontal line and has a large, decorative flourish on the left side.

Director of Physical Education and Recreation.
Varsity Basketball and Baseball Coach.