

October 21, 1942  
Kansas City, Kansas.

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

Dear "Doc":

To ask favors of a busy man is as much of an unpardonable sin as you used to say stepping over a restricting boundry marking was. Since I have committed the latter, then I would become no less purer by not being guilty of the first.

I know you will agree that there is always a need for better athletic officiating. I do not propose to offer myself as the answer to this prayer, but I do have an excellent understanding of what is expected of a good officiating job, as I have had opportunity for forming such a background while in college in dealing with intermural officiating and since then in high school officiating. So I have all the confidence that I can possibly use. Now all I need is something at which to blow my whistle!

My present desire is to crack this closely-knit circle of Kansas City High Schools and see if they can't make use of some new blood around here. Already, I have found that it is a mighty tough nut to crack, because the officials that are already on the inside are doing everything possible to stay there. They cannot be blamed for that, for they would be rather dumb to cut their own throats. Now what I want to get from you is some advise on what you believe would be the best manner to go about gaining access into this unaccessable.

In case the 'Doubting Thomas' element should arise too often, would you be too opposed to my saying that you have heard of me in the long ago? In a case of this kind, a man needs a lot of help. So if you can offer any assistance, I will tell you now that I will be further indebted to you than I already am, and that I will appreciate it very greatly.

Sincerely yours,

*Red Thompson*  
Red Thompson  
3164 North Allis  
Kansas City, Kansas.