

April 25, 1941

Mr. Howard W. Turtle
The Kansas City Star
Kansas City, Missouri

Dear Mr. Turtle:

Your letter of April 23 has been received.

At the present time Dr. Allen is out of town on a baseball trip, but your letter will be brought to his immediate attention as soon as he returns.

Sincerely yours,

Secretary to Dr. Allen

April 23, 1941

Mr. [Name] [Address]
[City] [State]

Dear Mr. [Name]:

Very [adjective] of [verb] [noun] [adjective] [noun].

[Text block containing several lines of faint, illegible text]

12.

3:00 - 7:00

W. J. [Name]

Sincerely yours,

[Name]

THE KANSAS CITY STAR.

DAILY
COMBINED CIRCULATION
MORNING AND EVENING
600,000

SUNDAY
CIRCULATION
320,000

WEEKLY
CIRCULATION 450,000
PAID-IN-ADVANCE
SUBSCRIBERS

April 23, 1941

File

Dear Dr. Allen:

I am working on a piece for The Post on football at the University of Nebraska, and am afraid that while on the subject will have to mention the record against our favorite school.

But I have an idea that in basketball, Nebraska has about as much trouble with Kansas as Kansas has with Nebraska in football. I'd like to use the basketball record for the two schools, and if you have it close at hand would be interested in seeing it.

Can you tell me --- off the record, if you like --- why it is that Nebraska, with its tremendous reservoir of material, can't win more Big Six basketball championships? Is it because Nebraska just can't beat Kansas? Or is it because those corn-fed boys just can't play basketball?

Sir, I am

With best personal regards,

Yours sincerely,

Howard W. Turtle

Howard W. Turtle

Dr. Forrest C. Allen
University of Kansas

D
S T S

April 28th, 1941

Mr. Howard Turtle
Kansas City Star
Kansas City, Missouri

Dear Mr. Turtle:

I am sorry that I was out of town and unable to answer your letter sooner, but I assure you it is always a pleasure to comply with your requests. I trust that you will land The Post for your Nebraska Football Article. I am very happy to say this to you.

I coached Kansas basketball in 1908 and 1909. At that time, the schools were divided into a Northern and a Southern division, and we, here at Kansas, won the Northern division. The schools of the North were Nebraska, Drake, Iowa State, etc. It was the Old Missouri Valley Conference; then Kansas and Nebraska played for the title and Kansas won the championship. It was much on the same plane as they now use on the Pacific Coast.

Now I shall try to answer your question, "Why is it that Nebraska, with its tremendous reservoir of material, can't win more Big Six basketball championships", and, with that big field house to fill. Every year that Nebraska has had a near winning team, they have packed the field house. The Big Six attendance record is held by Nebraska, and it was made during the time when Nebraska was playing Kansas for the Big Six championship.

No, I would not say it is because Nebraska cannot play basketball. They have had some wonderful stars there. I can remember the time when Nebraska could not win anything at track. They never did well until Henry Schulte went there.

Nebraska, in the early days, was known primarily as a football school. Their big games then were with Minnesota and once in awhile, an Eastern school. Nebraska won the championship in basketball along in '15 and '16 when Rutherford, Chamberlain, and those boys were playing with Nebraska. In fact, up until about 1918, Nebraska and Kansas had quite a few basketball jousts that were tough. Our record against Nebraska is: 39 won, and 11 lost.

Of course you remember that I coached football in 1920 at Kansas and tied Nebraska, 20 to 20; the Kansas team being out-weighted 27 pounds to the man. I have never feared Nebraska, and we go after them just as if they had no football reputation. Henry Schulte was football coach when I was coaching football here at Kansas, in 1920. Schulte was re-placed at the end of the 1920 football season although he had made a fine record, and he was made head track coach. Missouri was the "big gun" in track all during Schulte's regime; then the power shifted to Nebraska. Schulte was a ceaseless worker, covering the states and giving awards of little bronze buttons for track performances. He set up standards of track competition, and, as a highschool boy performed up to those particular standards, he got one of the buttons. He really built track up in a splendid fashion.

page two
Mr. Howard Turtle

Nebraska is a great highschool basketball state. They have no strong secondary colleges in Nebraska, and the University monopolizes the field. In my opinion, there is no more reason why Nebraska should not be preeminate in basketball as well as in football and track because they have the environment, the field house and the material. That Nebraska team last year should have gone to great heights.

But, I am speaking off the record, Howard. If, after you read my letter, you care to pick out certain points, and ask me questions that I can answer without embarrassing any opponent or myself, I would be happy to do so. Kansas has developed esprit de corps against Nebraska and they can go right up on Nebraska bailiwick and spot them a couple of goals and still lick them. Kansas boys are no more afraid of Nebraska than they are of any other team in the Big Six. They just take them in stride, and they realize too, that all these schools in the Big Six are gunning for us in basketball just as the other Big Six schools are gunning for Nebraska in football.

Answering your question, "or is it because those 'corn-fed' boys just can't play basketball", I want to say no, because Iowa State had never won anything until Louie Menze went there for basketball. He has had two championships during his ten years there and they never came close before he joined them. I will bet a pretty dollar that Louie Menze will turn out a championship team at Nebraska in three years.

Sure, football is emphasized in Nebraska, but I know a lot of good schools who emphasize football and they can still play basketball. I have in mind the Missouri Tigers; they win football and basketball championships. In fact, I am going to have a much better basketball team next year and the year following and then the year following that than I have had for several years. Three of my regular players doubtless will be from the football squad.

I like to have football players on my basketball squad. I will cite you an incident: Ed Hall, the fullback on our football team, was drafted by me late in this past year's basketball season. After Marvin Sollenberger, our regular guard, took ill with glandular fever, at Ames, and was sent to the hospital just before our Oklahoma game, I used Charlie Walker and some of my substitutes who had little game experience, and we lost the Oklahoma game. Three days later, we played the Oklahoma Aggies, and I tried Walker again. He was not doing so well and we were losing, so I called Eddie Hall from the bench and sent him in as guard. He was rugged, aggressive, and his weight and speed off-set the advantage the Oklahoma Aggies had. He scored a goal about a minute and a half after he went in as guard, and his rugged playing stimulated the A. & M. team and we won the game by four points. I have always liked to have football players in my lineup. They give the "tang" and "zest" to this game of basketball that is needed. Charles Black, Bob Mosby, "Zeoh" Burton; I could name numerous basketball players that I have who have been football players.

This year coming up, we will have Ray Evans, Charles Black, Don Ettinger, and a couple of other boys from the football squad on our basketball team. I would say that rugged, aggressive, 'corn-fed' boys like the Nebraskans, can play basketball.

page three
Mr. Howard Turtle

Nebraska has about nine thousand enrolled in their University and Agricultural College; the Agricultural College is about four miles from Lincoln, but that is where Nebraska gets her giant linemen and many of her best weight men.

No, Howard, I would not want to embarrass myself by mentioning the real reason, but I can tell you this--when Charlie Black was up there, he would have done a great job because he knew basketball from "A to Z". He was end coach in football and head coach in basketball.

Dana Bible did not play golf during football season but during basketball season, Dana and Charles would go out each morning or early afternoon and play golf. Charles was a great golfer and Dana was a swell golfer; then, Charlie would come in and coach his basketball team, but Charlie did things with such ridiculous ease, he lacked the patience to teach the fundamentals, when the fine edge was off of him, physically. Then, when Harold Brown came in, he was the end coach, the basketball and athletic director, and the same procedure was followed there.

Nebraska has the material and if they would get esprit de corps, they would win the Big Six title because they have the power, material, and environment besides the place to play.

The point that I cite is that Nebraska was not a great track school until Henry Schulte came, and then Ed Wier, one of Henry's students, has carried on Henry's scheme and fundamental coaching.

I trust this gives you the information you desired.

With kindest personal regards, I am,

Sincerely yours,

Director of Physical Education and
Recreation Varsity Basketball Coach

FCA:lg:rc

A

October 15, 1940

Mr. E.A. Thomas, Commissioner
Kansas State High School Activities Assn.
Room 204, National Reserve Building
Topeka, Kansas

Dear Mr. Thomas:

I desire to write you concerning Mr. John Pfitsch from Pflugerville, Texas.

Pfitsch graduated from the University of Texas with a major in physical education. I was teaching at Austin last summer prior to my teaching in your school, and I met Mr. Pfitsch there and learned to appreciate his worthwhileness very much.

Pfitsch followed me here this fall to take my course in Basketball and Theory and Practice of Athletic Training. He tells me that he has officiated a great deal in the Texas High School Association, and I am writing you to commend him to you.

I understand he is applying to you for a certificate to officiate. You doubtless have already heard from him; if not, you will hear shortly. He is in great demand here for our intramural games and for football. Ed. Elbel, Director of Intramurals, thinks he is one of the best that he has had. Pfitsch is also assisting me in basketball in compilation, statistical work, and so forth.

I think he has a very thorough knowledge of basketball and in my opinion he would make a fine official. His integrity is the best and he has a very happy faculty of getting along with the boys with whom he works. He is as clean as a hound's tooth and I recommend him to you without evasion or reservation.

Sincerely yours,

Director of Physical Education and Recreation
Varsity Basketball Coach

FCA:lg

B

October 25, 1940

Mr. Howard W. Turtle
The Kansas City Star
Kansas City, Missouri

Dear Howard:

Thank you for your good letter of the 17th instant.

I hardly know what to say regarding Ralph Miller. The real story has been put out that Miller would not play this year. There are others that feel that his knee is in such bad shape that it will never stand the cuffing of a football season. The grapevine has it among some people that they bet Miller will be playing basketball before the winter is over. But from all information I have, none of that has come to me.

I really think that Miller is expecting to stay out this year and play next year. But in view of the war situation, he is apt to be packing a gun rather than attending the University.

Miller can graduate at the end of this coming summer's term, counting his two semesters this year. He talked to me a month or so ago about dropping out at the end of this semester and going to work, as he has no financial income beyond his income from his own labor.

Could you straddle the fence and mention that Miller was one of the regulars in the starting line-up, and if his trick knee does not mend better than it is at present he may not participate. However, he is in school and is eligible, but he desires to play football as well as basketball and having stayed out of football so far he may not want to compete in basketball. That would end his athletic eligibility; he having competed two years previously.

I realize that you cannot give him much space, but if he should return he would add to our scoring possibilities. The fact that we lost Ebling, Voran and Harp plus Miller really took all of our scores away except Engleman. We would be hard put to pick a team that looked pretty strong for this year from the material left at the end of last season.

Miller is an experienced campaigner and a money player. He is a type of competitor that loves to win so much that he comes through in the clutches. His fundamentals are not as good as some of the others, but he has a competitive spirit that would help this young crew a great deal this year.

Mr. Turtle

Page Two

Oct. 25, 1940

I agree with you that if they want a color picture they had better start doing something about it real quick.

Sincerely yours,

Director of Physical Education and Recreation
Varsity Basketball Coach

FCA:lg

THE KANSAS CITY STAR.

DAILY
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SUNDAY
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WEEKLY
CIRCULATION 450,000
PAID-IN-ADVANCE
SUBSCRIBERS

October 17, 1940

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

Dear Dr. Allen:

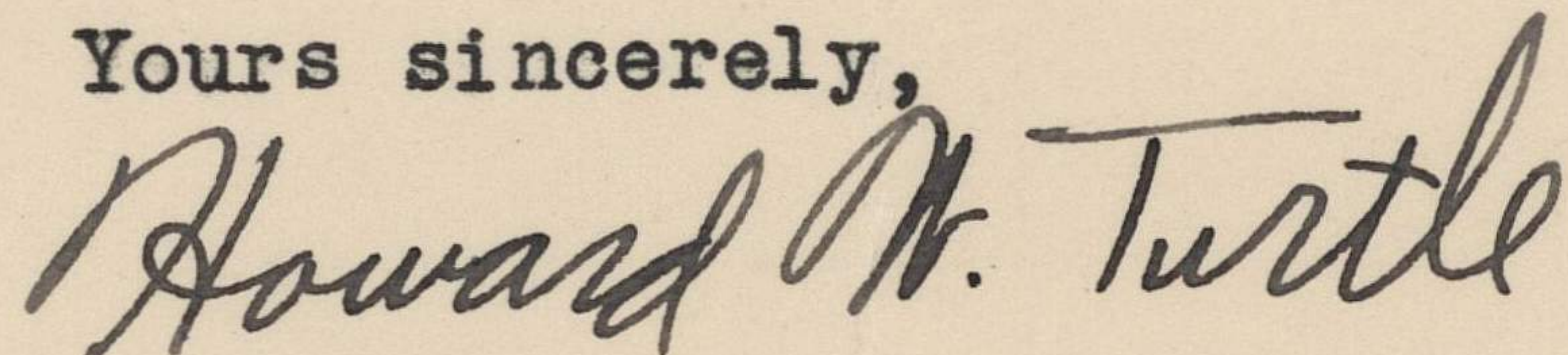
In the article for the Post I have listed the names of all the boys on your team, including the ones who were graduated last spring. Included in the returning group is Mr. Ralph Miller.

In view of the trick knee business, would you suggest that I ask the editors to delete Miller's name, make his participation doubtful, or let it ride as is?

I expect the article to be run at the very start of basketball season. If they're going to want a color picture of you, I figure they'd better start doing something about it quick, eh?

With best wishes I am

Yours sincerely,



Howard W. Turtle

C

December 20, 1940

Mr. James L. Toomey
Sports Department
St. Louis Star-Times
Star-Times Building
St. Louis, Missouri

Dear Mr. Toomey:

I do not know where the United Press got the story regarding the "prayed-for outfit".

This story must be a blighter because we have no old colored woman cooking for any of our boys. Can you give me a lead? It might be Emporia or Kansas State at Manhattan. I assure you I will respond with the information if you will give me the dope on the "Ole Colored Mammy" that I know nothing about.

Sincerely yours,

Director of Physical Education and Recreation
Varsity Basketball Coach

FCA:lg

Elzey Roberts, Publisher

Arthur E. Kaye, Business Manager

Frank W. Taylor, Managing Editor

ST. LOUIS STAR-TIMES



Star-Times Building

12th and Delmar

December 17, 1940

Dr. F. C. Alben,
Athletic Department
University of Kansas
Lawrence, Kansas.

Dear Sir:

In a news story by the United Press which has been called to my attention, it was pointed out that the Kansas team "has the only known prayed-for outfit in the nation."

The story says that an old Negro woman who cooks for three of your players prays for the success of the team before each game.

If possible, we would like to have sent to us a picture of this Negro woman as she does her praying with the boys she cooks for nearby.

Please let me know if it will be possible to get this photo.

Sincerely,
James L. Toomey
James L. Toomey,
Sports Department

September 5, 1940

Mr. Charles A. Thayer
The Thayer Chemical Company
P.O. Box 1924
Fresno, California

Dear Mr. Thayer:

In the absence of Dr. Allen I got in touch with Dean Nesmith regarding an order of Phen-Io-Men, and your letter of August 27.

Mr. Nesmith tells me that our supply of Phen-Io-Men will be adequate for our fall needs, but later on, when needed, we will be glad to send a requisition.

Sincerely yours,

Secretary to Dr. F. C. Allen

PRODUCTS

CALA-TAR-LOTION

(REG. U. S. PAT. OFF.)

TAN-O-PHENE

Phen-IO-Men

(REG. U. S. PAT. OFF.)

CALCI-REX

THE THAYER CHEMICAL COMPANY

MANUFACTURING CHEMISTS

P. O. Box 21341924

FRESNO, CALIFORNIA

August 27, 1940.

Dr. Forest C. Allen
Dept. of Physical Education
University of Kansas
Lawrence, Kansas.

Dear Doctor Allen:

Thank you very much for your letter of July 23 and for your testimonial of our PHEN-IO-MEN. I greatly appreciate both.

I mailed your pint of PHEN-IO-MEN some time ago so I trust you have received it.

In your letter of July 23 you spoke of having Dean Nesmith requisition several pints of PHEN-IO-MEN when he returned from his vacation. To date we have not received the requisition and I was wondering if Mr. Nesmith has returned?

If you will please give this matter your attention and get the requisition to us as soon as possible I will greatly appreciate the favor.

Thanking you for your interest in PHEN-IO-MEN and wishing you the best of success for the coming school year I remain,

Very truly yours

Charles A. Thayer

CAT/MEG.

September 18, 1940

Mr. Lawrence J. Tidrick
Assistant Supt. of Public Instruction
Lansing, Michigan

Dear Mr. Tidrick:

I have just consulted with Miss Ruth Hoover, the head of our department of physical education for women, and she gives me the following information that Miss Ruth Baker had four hours of practice teaching for the two semesters during the year 1937-38. In addition to that she assisted Miss Ruth Hoover during the time that Miss Hoover underwent a major operation and was incapacitated for six weeks; Miss Baker conducted Miss Hoover's classes in the University in basketball, swimming, lifesaving and tennis. She carried on Miss Hoover's tennis class through the semester.

We consider Miss Baker a very superior teacher and one destined to go far in her chosen field. We have great confidence in her.

Very cordially yours,

Director of Physical Education and Recreation
Varsity Basketball Coach

FCA:lg

cc: Miss Baker

September 18, 1940

Mr. E. A. Thomas, Commissioner
Kansas State High School Activities Assn.
National Reserve Building
Topeka, Kansas

Dear E.A.:

I thank you for your kindness and courtesy
in extending to me the football and basketball certifi-
cation on card No. 242.

Again thanking you and wishing you a successful
season, I am,

Sincerely yours,

Director of Physical Education and Recreation
Varsity Basketball Coach

FCA:lg

September 19, 1940

Mr. Taft Talbot
R. S. Elliott Arms Co.
Kansas City, Missouri

Dear Taft:

I have just asked Mr. Falkenstien to order
a dozen basketball practice pants from your firm.

This order will not keep the wolf from
the garage door but it will buy the gasoline to
choke the wolf with.

Sincerely yours,

Director of Physical Education and Recreation
Varsity Basketball Coach

FCA:lg

✓

R.S. Elliott ARMS -CO-

SPORTING GOODS EXCLUSIVELY

1508-10 GRAND AVENUE

PHONE GRAND 1911

KANSAS CITY, MO. Sept. 20, 1940

Mr. Forrest C. Allen,
University of Kansas,
Lawrence, Kans.

Dear Phog:

Just received your letter in reference to the three dozen practice basketball pants. We are wondering just what color you want on these pants as it was not given on Mr. Falkenstien's order.

The wolf has already et me up. The garage doors are already closed and the seat of my pants are out but anyhow I certainly thank you for this order.

Yours sincerely,
R. S. ELLIOTT ARMS CO.

By *A E Talbot.*

AET.a

"It Pays to Play"

September 25, 1940

Mr. Howard W. Turtle
The Kansas City Star
Kansas City, Missouri

Dear Howard:

Thank you very much for the return of Better Basketball. It arrived in ship shape.

I am wondering if the S.E.P. is going to desire that color picture? Did you not say that they have accepted your story? If they have, will they not have already put it to bed, as the editors say, and already have it finished? Please let me know your angle on this.

I wish to thank you very much for sending the pictures. Bob, Mrs. Allen and I enjoyed them very much. Your boy Cochrane is an expert.

I have a good joke to tell you. Mrs. Allen does not like that tweed suit of mine at all. She says it is hideous. But I told her that you specified that I wear the tweed suit, and then I had the laugh.

With kindest regards and best wishes, I am,

Sincerely yours,

Director of Physical Education and Recreation
Varsity Basketball Coach

FCA:lg

THE KANSAS CITY STAR.

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September 19, 1940

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

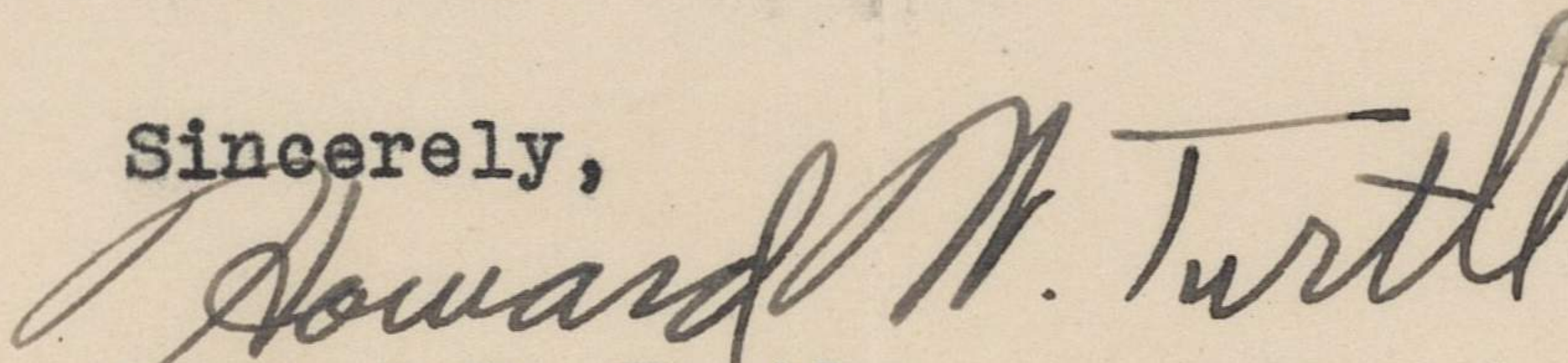
Dear Dr. Allen:

The book "Better Basketball" is securely wrapped and in the mail, and I am ashamed for not having returned it at least before the start of school. The plan to bring it when we came after a color picture seemed okay, but I have not yet received word from the S. E. P. to go ahead on another photograph.

In a separate envelope I am sending some pictures I thought you might like to have. They are not as good as the ones we sent to Philadelphia, but for family album purposes they might be fine.

The knockout picture of you bearing down on that basketball pump will be in the magazine this winter, I think.

Sincerely,



Howard W. Turtle

THE KANSAS CITY STAR. ✓

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October 2, 1940

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

Dear Dr. Allen:

Glad to hear you are pleased with the pictures. I'm proud to take the "blame" from Mrs. Allen for the tweed suit --- I think it was a swell idea.

You ask me about the color picture, and I don't know what to think about that. When the editors saw the black and white photographs they apparently realized you would make a very fine picture in color. So they wrote me suggesting the possibility, but warned me not to go ahead until they let me know of a decision for sure. I was surprised that they even brought the subject up, because they've never used color in sport.

You are right in thinking that by now they probably have just about put the story to bed. It is to be run "sometime this winter," probably early in the basketball season. However, I still think there is a chance that they would decide on the color picture, and I have let them know that Cochran would be able to handle it. If they don't go for the color, they still have an exceptionally good layout of black and white.

Anything I hear from them I'll let you know right away.

With best regards I am

Yours sincerely,

Howard W. Turtle

Howard W. Turtle

October 3, 1940

Mr. E.A. Thomas, Commissioner
Kansas State High School Activities Assn.
Room 204, National Reserve Building
Topeka, Kansas

Dear Mr. Thomas:

Thank you very much for your good letter of the 1st instant enclosing the additional check for my services in the coaching school. I assure you that the amount I received was highly satisfactory and I had a very happy time working with all concerned, and also with the boys who enrolled in the school.

I want to congratulate you on the efficiency and smooth manner in which things were handled. Everybody seemed to have a good time. There were no gripes and I believe that the boys who enrolled felt they got at least their money's worth.

I will admit there is a sense of individual pride in knowing that I have been asked as an instructor in the school three times in the short life of this healthy and rugged ten-year-old youngster.

Thank you for your nice words regarding my contribution this year, and I assure you that my words of commendation are reciprocal.

Sincerely yours,

Director of Physical Education and Recreation
Varsity Basketball Coach

FCA:18

KANSAS STATE HIGH SCHOOL ACTIVITIES ASSOCIATION

MEMBER OF NATIONAL FEDERATION OF ATHLETIC ASSOCIATIONS

ROOM 204 NATIONAL RESERVE BUILDING

TOPEKA

October 1, 1940

E. A. THOMAS
COMMISSIONER



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

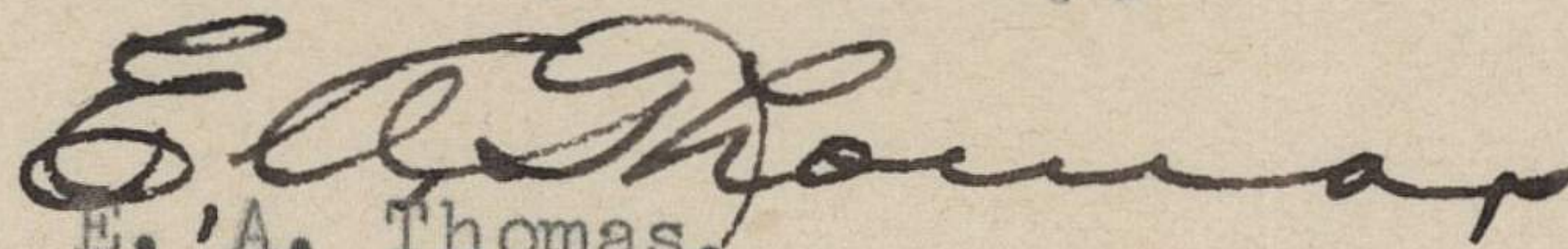
Dear Doc:-

I am a little late but here is an additional check for your services here in the coaching school. I believe this makes a total of \$200 and I hope this is satisfactory. We have been delayed in getting all the bills in connection with the school paid and it was only recently that we learned definitely whether or not there would be any surplus to divide. We ran pretty close to the line this year.

I want you to know that we are highly pleased with your services. You worked hard and I know the student coaches appreciate it. Needless to say, you always contribute what is very much worth while and the fact that you have appeared as an instructor in the school oftener than any other man, indicates pretty well that we think your courses are all right. In fact, I believe you gave the boys the best course this time you have ever given them.

With best wishes, I am

Yours very cordially,


E. A. Thomas,
Commissioner.

E. R. STEVENS, PRESIDENT
INDEPENDENCE

J. R. JONES, VICE-PRESIDENT
SUBLETTE

E. A. FUNK, TREASURER
ARKANSAS CITY

D. E. WOLGAST
MARYSVILLE

J. E. BOWERS
SENECA

HUGH W. SPEER
HAYS

October 4, 1940

Mr. E.A. Thomas, Commissioner
Kansas State High School Activities Assn.
Room 204, National Reserve Building
Topeka, Kansas

Dear Mr. Thomas:

Enclosed is a copy of a letter received from Mr. Charles A. Thayer, Thayer Chemical Company, Fresno, California, requesting a copy of the membership list of the Kansas State High School Coaches Association.

I have written Mr. Thayer suggesting that he get in touch with you regarding the list.

Sincerely yours,

Director of Physical Education and Recreation
Varsity Basketball Coach

FCA:lg
Enc.

October 4, 1940

Mr. Charles A. Thayer
The Thayer Chemical Company
P.O. Box 1924
Fresno, California

Dear Mr. Thayer:

Acknowledging receipt of your favor of October 1, I beg to state that we have no membership list of the Kansas State High School Coaches Association.

However, if you will write to Mr. E.A. Thomas, Commissioner, Kansas State High School Activities Association, Room 204, National Reserve Building, Topeka, Kansas, and tell him that you are a former Emporian, I believe you may wrangle it out of him without spending much money.

Sincerely yours,

Director of Physical Education and Recreation
Varsity Basketball Coach

FCA:lg

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TAN-O-PHENE

Phen-Lo-Men

(REG. U. S. PAT. OFF.)

CALCI-REX

THE THAYER CHEMICAL COMPANY
MANUFACTURING CHEMISTS

P. O. Box 1924

FRESNO, CALIFORNIA

October 1, 1940.

Dr. Forrest C. Allen;
Director of Physical Education
University of Kansas
Lawrence, Kansas.

Dear Doctor Allen:

I just received from a friend of mine who is associated with a Missouri College a copy of the MEMBERSHIP LIST of the Missouri State High School Coaches Association.

I immediately conceived the idea that there must be a similar list of Kansas Coaches and thought perhaps you would have a copy of such a list.

If you have such a list available I would greatly appreciate receiving a copy to use as a mailing list for my PHEN-IO-MEN.

Very truly yours

Charles A. Thayer

CAT/meg.