

December 6, 1938.

Mr. Ed Thelen,
Southeast High School,
Kansas City, Missouri.

Dear Eddie:

Acting upon your request of last Saturday morning, I am sending you a description of the construction of our cinder track.

I discussed it with Tom Jones, of the University of Wisconsin, and they used big rocks at the bottom, and then other coaches have used bricks for a base. But we have found that water stands underneath the track when heavy rocks or bricks are used, while it trickles through the cinders. You will note that we have used clay mixed with the cinders rather than top loam.

Now, Eddie, the way to get this mixed for the top dressing is to take a flat wooden box, say 2 inches deep, or 3 inches, and about 18 inches wide. Just make some little boxes. This will simulate the top dressing of the track. Mix your clay and cinders together, then wet it down and set it out in the sun to dry. You can then get the adhesive qualities that you desire by adding more clay or less, according to what you as a track man think you need as a binder.

This Fordson tractor we hooked up with a belt to a grinding machine and ground the cinders and put the clay in so that they would mix properly. You can get these mixers for grinding up small rocks or brick. We just set it fine and ground up the cinders like a coffee grinder grinds up the coffee bean. I think you get enough of the idea to help you somewhat.

I was in on the building of our track and I know all about it. I believe we have a good one.

With all good wishes, I am

Very sincerely yours,

Director of Physical Education,
Varsity Basketball Coach.

FCA:AH