

going. Thanks goodness it was so close to the end of school. She got a letter from Pete and his wife. When I was down at camp I made 4 merit badges thus advancing from 1st class to star rank. Two more ranks till eagle. I am taking gym and swimming at the Y. M. C. A. in Kansas City to make myself a better swimmer. Life saving is required for eagle and next year I am sure I can make it (at camp this year I got swimming merit badge (required) bird study (required hardest) camping (required) and leathercraft (not required). In camping I had to build a lean-to and sleep in it overnight using various lashes and hitches on it. We could use no nails or notch any trees so it was rather difficult. Also we had to build a raft using no nails big enough for two people. He had a unique way of testing them. Our examiner would pick them up and throw them with all his force against a tree. If they held together they passed. We built fires by flint and steel and many other things too like making a list of provisions and menu for a three day camp. Now is Bobby getting along. Please excuse my penmanship as I have not written lately. Good luck to your basketball team in 1943.

yours sincerely,

Dick Allen