

WELDA RURAL HIGH SCHOOL

CLASS A

EDUCATION FOR CITIZENSHIP

LEE CORDER, PRINCIPAL

WELDA, KANSAS

1-7-46

Dr. F. C. Allen,
Varsity Basketball Coach,
University of Kansas,
Lawrence, Kansas.

Dear Dr. Allen:

Thank you for your kind and frank letter of January 2. It has been good to have had the grand and splendid consideration from you that has been shown in the past three years. Dean has had a rich and enduring experience that he will cherish the rest of his life.

Of course it is a great disappointment for Dean to close his basketball career in quite this manner. But Dean is a considerate boy. He will understand and always will be mindful of your great friendship and helpfulness. Basketball has been Dean's great and abiding interest. To him there never has been but one university and one coach. Ever since he has been a child he has had your "My Basketball Bible" in his possession. He used to sit for hours looking at the pictures and listening to the stories in the book being read to him. Later when your book "Better Basketball" came out he has always kept it close at hand and often referred to it.

Dean has sacrificed much for basketball and has gained all that he has accomplished entirely on his own merits. He has played lots of basketball. He was a regular on the grade and high school team ever since he was in the fifth grade. During those eight years he averaged over twenty games each year. He always succeeded in helping to produce a winning and successful team. The records show that his teams have won over 90% of their games. The four years he was in high school Welda won twenty four consecutive games in the league and tournament. Welda gained a high standing in this section, winning in that time over twenty trophies. During his senior year, besides winning the Regional Tournament and going to the finals in the State Semi-finals, Welda held victories over all the schools in this part of the state, defeating A and double A teams as well as the smaller schools. This was accomplished with a limited number of reserves which placed an exceptionally heavy responsibility on him.

Dean always sparked his team from the quarterback position and carried the major part of the scoring. He scored 315 points his senior year against the best of high school teams. But it was Dean's defensive play and his ability to analyze the opponents play that was worth more to his team than his scoring.

I have felt that it would be only justice to him and to what he has given basketball if he could finish his basketball career in a little more successful manner. But he will take whatever comes in due stride. He carries much deep thought and emotions that only he will ever know.