

October 19, 1942.

Mr. Frank Cramer,  
Gardner, Kansas.

Dear Frank:

Concerning our conversation at the football game last Saturday, I am sending the following information about our toughening program. Our obstacle course is not spectacular enough as yet, and we want to work up something highly pleasing to the eye from a photographic viewpoint.

The outstanding part of our program is the fine correlation between the R.O.T.C. and the Physical Education Department. Col. J.S. Dusenbury and I worked out a plan whereby students in R.O.T.C. would drill two times a week and then take physical conditioning once a week to satisfy the University requirement for physical exercise three times a week.

We are using advanced R.O.T.C. students who are enrolled in physical conditioning classes to give the basic military commands and tactics of the United States Army. This enables every student enrolled in either the Army, Navy or Air Corps reserve to become acquainted with these vitally necessary requirements before they get into the service. This contribution alone is noteworthy. Ten minutes of each hour is devoted to the disciplinary command and drill practice.

Then the toughening program, under the direction of Henry Shenk, Reginald Strait, Wayne Replogle and myself, augmented by a dozen of our athletic leaders and physical education majors: Ray Evans, Hubert Ulrich, Bill Brill, Otto Schnellbacher, Charlie Black, Warren Hodges, George Dick, Armand Dixon, Max Kissell, Ralph Schaake, Marvin Vandaveer, and Paul Hardman.

Captain E. E. Baker, of the R.O.T.C., cooperated with us in teaching these leaders military drill so that they would be conversant with those necessary things, but we leave to the R.O.T.C. boys in our classes much of this drill. In our toughener program we strive to bring out these activities of man: running, jumping, leaping, vaulting, crawling and climbing. The obstacle course gets some of these activities, but mass soccer, touch football, basketball, boxing and other contact games toughen the man and make them alert for combat service.

Then, when we get far enough along, we expect to use Major W. E. Fairbairn's manual, "Get Tough", to teach them the rougher side of overcoming a man by skill.

Very sincerely yours,

Director of Physical Education,  
Varsity Basketball Coach.

FCA:AH