

December 19, 1940

Mr. Frank "Phog" Allen
Phi Epsilon Kappa
State Teachers College
Trenton, N. J.

Dear Mr. Allen:

I am very happy to have your letter of December 6 and I assure you that the moniker is an unusual one.

Years ago I refereed football and basketball games, and umpired baseball games. In the early 1900's an umpire in a baseball game called the balls in a very loud and forceful manner, the same as he did strikes some twenty years later. As the umpire would baw-l-l a ball they called him "Foghorn" Allen. When I was playing here at the University of Kansas, one of the sports writers spelled it Phog. I remember the chap who wrote the moniker in that fashion. I said to him, "Ward, how in the world did you come to spell my name that way?" "Well, Fog," he said, "that name is too plain." And he added, "I just had to doll it up a little." So the name gradually hung on and gathered momentum, and I still get letters addressed Fog, Pfog, Pffog, Poag, Ffog, and actually got one addressed silent p Hog. So you see they come in all shapes and sizes.

I will be glad to see you in Madison Square when we play Fordham on the 28th. Just come up after the game and make yourself acquainted.

No, I don't think you are forward at all. We are both in the same type of work and it will be a pleasure to see you.

With all good wishes, I am,

Sincerely yours,

Director of Physical Education and Recreation
Varsity Basketball Coach

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