

March 5, 1942.

Mr. Charles Chamberlain,  
The Associated Press,  
Kansas City Star Building,  
Kansas City, Missouri.

Dear Chuck:

I assure you that I did not mean to hurt you, but I wanted to be careful in any quotations I make regarding Tucker. He conducted himself in a most unsportsmanlike fashion in our game at Oklahoma. He ran his hand through Miller's hair, tousled it up and down, than in a kid-like fashion put his finger in Miller's face and whittled it in a most derisive manner. He was a grandstander from beginning to end.

Mere mechanics does not make a great player, in my opinion. Therefore, I was hypersensitive on the statement. We did not scout Oklahoma nor did we have anyone else do so. Personally, I did not want to give Oklahoma or Tucker the satisfaction of thinking that he was important.

Oklahoma played a great game that night and if the individual actions of the players had been as fine as their mechanics it would have been a game of games for people to remember. But Tucker's actions, above all others, cheapened the affair no end.

Getting back to our correspondence, I want to assure you that I meant no offense and certainly I am not in the least angry with you. It is my habit to speak very plainly and I want you to know that it was just an expression honestly made with no malice whatsoever. When you mentioned that you did not want to make enemies, I had not looked at it in that light at all. You certainly are not an enemy of mine, but a friend, and I appreciate your fine letter. You will always have my full cooperation in every possible way, as well as my personal friendship.

Thanking you for your generous letter, and wishing you every success, I am

Sincerely yours,

FCA:AH

Director of Physical Education and Recreation,  
Varsity Basketball and Baseball Coach.



THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

STAR BUILDING

KANSAS CITY, MO.

DEAR PHOG,

THANKS A LOT FOR YOUR DOPE.

I AM SORRY ABOUT THE ERRONEOUS STATEMENTS. YOU SEE, SOMETIMES I GET MATERIAL FROM SPORTS COLUMNS IN THE REGION AND FROM NOW ON WILL NOT RELY ON THEM. ONE COLUMNIST, WHOM I REGARDED AS "IN THE KNOW," ONCE SAID THAT YOU TACKED A CLIPPING ON THE BULLETIN BOARD AFTER THE OKLAHOMA GAME AT LAWRENCE IN WHICH DRAKE SAID TUCKER WAS A GREATER PLAYER THAN BLACK. I THOUGHT IF THIS WERE TRUE, THE CLIPPING APPARENTLY WAS PUT THERE FOR A PURPOSE, A PSYCHOLOGICAL PURPOSE.

I AGREE WITH YOU THAT ANY ATHLETE WHO ACTED LIKE TUCKER DID IN YOUR NORMAN GAME IS NOT "GREAT." BUT, PHOG, I DID NOT SAY YOU SAID HE WAS GREAT. DON'T YOU THINK HE'S A "GOOD" PLAYER? THAT'S WHAT I SAID, ACTUALLY.

HOWEVER, THOSE QUOTES, WHICH I THOUGHT HARMLESS, WERE MINE, AND I'M SORRY. I ALSO CAN SEE HOW THE STORY COULD BE MISCONSTRUED TO IMPLY THAT YOU THOUGHT TUCKER GREAT. ~~XX~~ I'M SORRY IT WAS NOT CLEARER.

I HOPE THAT THE "ERRONEOUS STATEMENTS" ARE NOT AS CONSISTENTLY MADE AS YOUR LETTER INFERRED.

MOR E



THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

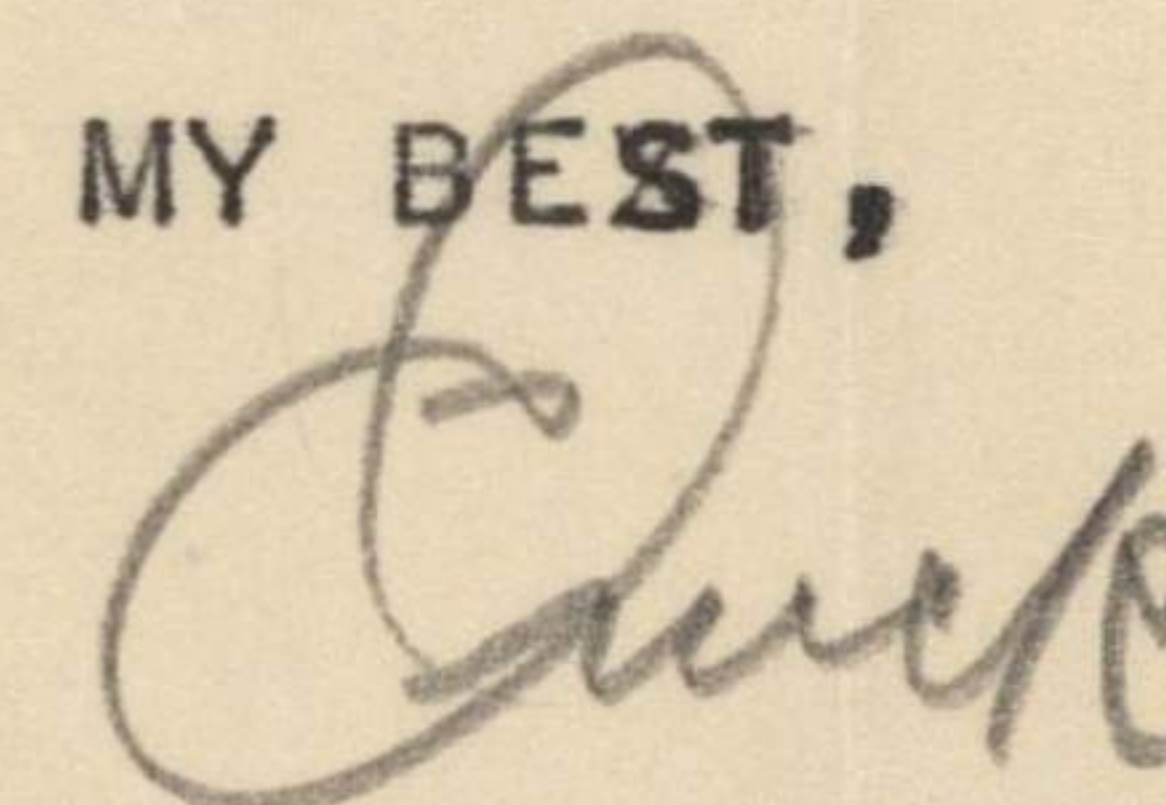
STAR BUILDING  
KANSAS CITY, MO.

I CONSIDER YOUR LETTER A GOOD BRACER. I NEEDED IT.  
THE TROUBLE WITH SPORTS WRITERS IS THAT THEY CAN SLAP TOGETHER  
STUFF WHICH TO THEM APPEARS HARMLESS AT THE TIME OF WRITING, BUT  
REALLY IS A KICK-IN-THE-FACE OR MISREPRESENTED. I LIKE TO GET  
LETTERS LIKE THE ONE FROM YOU (IT IS THE FIRST) BECAUSE IT SNAPS  
ME BACK INTO REALITY AND I CAN GUIDE THE STRAIGHT AND NARROW.

JUST STARTING OUT IN THE BIG SIX, I DON'T WANT TO MAKE  
ENEMIES, ESPECIALLY ~~WITH~~ YOU. I ADMIRE YOU TOO MUCH. ALL I CAN  
SAY IS THAT I WILL TRY TO BE MORE CAREFUL.

THIS LETTER IS CONFIDENTIAL.

MY BEST,



CHARLES CHAMBERLAIN



May 19, 1942.

Mr. S. R. Clodfelter,  
Jayhawk Barber Shop,  
727 Massachusetts St.,  
Lawrence, Kansas.

Dear "Hap":

My letter was written in a jocular vein and intended in no way to injure your feelings. I was just sort of kidding you regarding the short haircut that I got. It is just now growing out so that I can keep most of the bristles down. In another week I think it is going to be O.K., and I will come in and see you.

With all good wishes, I am

Sincerely yours,

FCA:AH

Director of Physical Education and Recreation,  
Varsity Basketball and Baseball Coach.



Lawrence, Kansas.  
May 15, 1942

Dr. Forrest C. Allen  
University of Kansas.

Dear friend Doc.:

Received your letter this A.M.  
and I gather from reading it, that I surely did  
scalp you instead of giving you a hair cut. So  
feel I should write you and offer an apology.

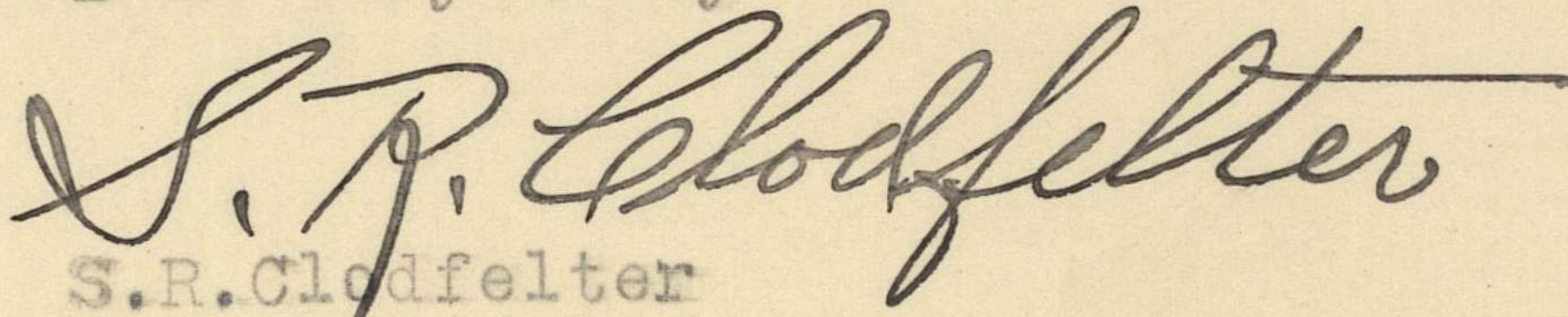
I am more sorry about the mistake  
than you may think. I do appreciate your saying you  
will come back to the shop and give me a chance to  
redeem myself.

Having the privilege and pleasure  
of doing a lot of Barber work for the Allen family,  
I really feel bad to know my last service proved so  
unsatisfactory. I hope I will be able to do my next  
job, in a more satisfactory fashion.

Your letter is a nice one, but I  
have felt bad to know I have caused you the humiliation  
and that you were so dissatisfied with my last service.

I do appreciate all the business  
you and your family have given me in the years past,  
and I hope this one mistake can be forgotten, and that  
our business relation and friendship can continue in  
the future.

I am very truly

  
S.R. Clodfelter



May 13, 1942.

Mr. Hap Clodfelter,  
Barber Shop,  
729 Massachusetts St.,  
Lawrence, Kansas.

Dear Hap:

I have survived sufficiently from the scalping party to endow you with the rank and title of "Chief Tomahawk" in your war-like profession. When I escaped from your wigwam Saturday night I arrived home breathlessly and got the inmates of my home to recognize me as the old man with long, shaggy locks.

Mary personally examined me for a wound on the right side of my cranium, but there proved to be no wound whatsoever, only a deep hiatus caused by your aggressive weapon.

When I recover sufficiently in hair follicles, with the exception of one baseball team, one basketball team and one football team represented by the same hair follicles, I will present myself as Exhibit A and see what you can do the next time.

But, old Chief Tomahawk, when I tell you that there are Drums Along the Mohawk be careful that old Chief Tomahawk doesn't wield those weapons of scalping.

With hopes of recovering sufficiently to visit you within the next month, I am

Sincerely yours,

FCA:AH

Director of Physical Education and Recreation,  
Varsity Basketball and Baseball Coach.



March 3, 1942.

Mr. Charles Chamberlin,  
The Associated Press,  
Kansas City Star Building,  
Kansas City, Mo.

Dear Charlie:

I am sending you the data that you asked for.  
I hope it is satisfactory.

You will pardon me if I call your attention to some erroneous statements that you seem consistently to make. Some of these are as follows: You state that bulletins had been posted on the Kansas dressing room bulletin board heralding the greatness of Tucker. Also you said that I would admit that he was a great player, and so forth. There have been many other statements that you have made which are equally untrue.

No clipping or statement has ever been put on the bulletin board at Kansas regarding Tucker. We consider him an ordinary migrant athlete. We did not scout him in any of our games nor did we scout Oklahoma, nor do we think that he is a great athlete. I consider a great athlete a man who plays great ball and conducts himself on the court as a high grade gentleman. I have two players on my team that I would not trade for Tucker - Charlie Black and Ralph Miller.

They asked me at Oklahoma if I had a statement to make. I said, "None whatever". The reason I do not think that Tucker is a great athlete is because in that game when things were supposed to be athletically at the highest peak from a sportsmanship standpoint Tucker ran his hands through Miller's hair in derision, pointed a cheap finger at his face, and said unsportsmanlike things to him to egg on the crowd which had a distinctly home and partisan flavor. He acted the part of a grand stander throughout the game. We did not prepare for Tucker and we took care of him in a fine, clean way. We preferred to play the ball and not foul the man. But it was the hitting of McCurdy and Roberts on long shots that broke the Kansas defense.

And even then we scored 51 points on Oklahoma at Norman. And we scored but 54 in our crushing defeat of Oklahoma here. It was the unprecedented hot shooting of Oklahoma hitting 39.6% of their shots that defeated Kansas. For your information,



63 points is not considered a devastating number since we ran up 51 against them. We defeated Oklahoma here 54 to 32, a difference of 22 points. I see nothing exceptional to cheer about. Last year they beat us 11 points at Norman. It looks like they are just running true to form with Tucker.

This is a personal letter and it is not intended for publication, but it is my effort to tell you that I would not like to be quoted unless I make statements. This letter is not for quotation.

Sincerely yours,

FCA:AH  
Encl.

Director of Physical Education and Recreation,  
Varsity Basketball and Baseball Coach.



Sept. 24, 1941

Mr. Harold C. Classen  
Associated Press  
Rockefeller Center  
New York, N. Y.

Dear Spike,

Thank you for your very kind letter of the 22 instant remembering me in your busy moments of tearing yourself loose from the mid-states and leaving for "Jews York".

Spike, its been a great pleasure to know you and your fine family and I'm pulling for you to go to the top.

Give my kindest regards to Whitney Martin and Charles Grumich.

With all good wishes from the Allen's to the Classen's I am

Sincerely yours,

FCA/pg

Director of Physical Education and Recreation  
Varsity Basketball Coach



January 9, 1941

Judge Julius Cohn  
Municipal Court  
Portland, Oregon

Dear Dutz:

Bless your heart, you old scamp, and congratulations to you on your honor.

I feel very much ashamed of myself that I did not answer your letter; in fact, I thought that I had. My former secretary resigned and in between the change of secretaries I imagine that your letter got into the delayed file so long that we failed to give it the necessary attention that we should. Dutz, I am truly sorry and ashamed of myself.

I am not administrator of Dr. Naismith's estate, but I have always helped out wherever I could regarding any financial angle that I could aid then with. I organized and stimulated the Naismith Night wherein each individual gave a penny a head to the Naismith fund. The purpose was to send Dr. and Mrs. Naismith over seas to Berlin to the Olympic games. Mrs. Naismith took ill and did not go, but we raised better than \$7,000 for Dr. Naismith and gave it to him in cash. Besides his European tour he bought Chancellor Frank Strong's home. He was very comfortable until his death.

O.B. Hartley is a good friend of mine and had there been any way of my getting this film for you I would straightway have gone and gotten it for you. However, Dr. Naismith's second wife is housemother at a fraternity at the University of Nebraska and Dr. Naismith's children are scattered over the country and I do not know how I can procure that photograph for you as much as I would like to. I will put a reminder of this on my memo pad and will see what I can do about it, but I am afraid with the way that Dr. Naismith kept track of these details I fear the film may be lost.

I met "Junebug" Moore's son when he was playing on the Stanford team. We called him "Dinty." He is a fine looking chap and I know that he will go a long way.

I did hear of Stan's death. It was sad. I had heard of his domestic and financial difficulties as well as his ill health. Stan was a great old boy and I was sorry to read of his passing.

You will remember it was "Pin" Coble who gave me my name of "Phog" instead of Fog. When it came out in the paper I said, "How in the dickens did you come to spell my name "Phog" Pinhead?" "Well", he said, "I wanted to doll it up a little; "Fog" was too plain." So that is the how of it. I saw Pin about ten years ago and he was looking fine. He had lost one pot of gold and was after another.



Jan. 9, 1941

Julius, everything is fine with me and I trust that it is with you. Bob, our youngest boy who is now playing on the team, is doing fine in studies and during our trip east he called on Dean Pepper of the Medical School at the University of Pennsylvania and has been accepted there. We are pretty proud of him and he is doing a good job. I trust that he will make an excellent physician as he seems much interested in attaining the best there is in medicine. I believe he has the real idea of service and if you have the real idea of service you are apt to be a success.

Give my kindest regards to O.B. Hartley, will you Dutz, and tell him that I am just one of those guys who do not answer letters as promptly as I should and I sometimes lay it on to administrative overwork. But you know, Dutz, that I am very fond of you and I would do anything for you that I possibly could.

With all good wishes, I am,

Sincerely yours,

Director of Physical Education and Recreation  
Varsity Basketball Coach

FCA:lg



CITY OF PORTLAND, OREGON

D. B. PALMER  
CLERK OF COURT  
H. K. PIERCE  
COURT DEPUTY  
B. McCLERNAN  
OFFICE DEPUTY

MUNICIPAL COURT

JULIUS COHN  
JUDGE

January 6, 1941

Mr. Forrest C. Allen  
University of Kansas  
Lawrence, Kansas

Dear "Phog":

Quite a nice write-up of you in the last issue of the Saturday Evening Post. Atta boy! That son of yours is certainly exemplifying his dad. I am sure you derive much joy from his sterling performances. Had a letter from "Junebug" Moore recently. His son, Brian, who has now finished his law course, is engaged to be married and has become associated with an excellent law firm in L.A. Suppose you long since heard the sad news of poor old Stan Meyers' death. He certainly experienced rough sledding during the past few years -- family troubles, financial difficulties and ill health.

Some months ago O. B. Hartley (K.U.'08), now living in Olympia, Washington, was in Portland. We wrote you a letter at the time requesting, if possible, your finding a football picture he had taken of me in 1907 kicking a field goal in a Colorado-K.U. game. Dr. Naismith had asked for it and he had given him the film. O. B. said that you were administrator of Naismith's estate, and we were in hopes that you could locate the film or picture and forward it to me. Will you please try?

Haven't seen "Pin" Coble for some time, but understand that he is getting along in good fashion.

Hope 1941 is brimful of vigorous health and contentment for you and yours. As Ever

  
DUTZ

JC:EB



December 16, 1940

Mr. Harold Claassen  
The Associated Press  
Star Building  
Kansas City, Missouri

Dear "Spike":

I am sending the bulletins that you asked for, together with some others on the subject and I trust they are sufficient for you to send on to Richmond, Virginia for the feature. Would you please tell the fellow writing this that I would appreciate very much seeing it after it is in print, or at least his giving me information as to where the feature will appear. Thank you very much, Spike.

Now, for a word on the new-styled backboards. I call them the "lady's fan" because the new board is exactly the shape of a lady's folding fan. These modified backboards are a benefit to spectators in that more than 50% of the dead wood has been cut away; thereby greatly increasing visibility of the spectators for the goal.

This new stream-lined affect presents a more neat appearance so far as the playing apparatus of the basketball court is concerned, and yet it retains all of the fertile spots on the board. Every bank shot that was possible for a goal on the old board is still possible on this one.

The Research Committee charted hundreds and thousands of shots on various sized boards. They used small ones and large ones and registered every hit on a board, whether it was good or bad. Then the next step was to chart hits on the board that were good for a goal and from every angle and height. The people best fitted to do this work were members of our Research Committee in the high schools; namely, Mr. Floyd Rowe, Chairman of the Basketball Rules Committee, and Mr. H.V. Porter, Secretary of the National High School Federation.

Smaller boards than the present one and even larger ones than the one we now have were tried out. I had a set of them here in the gymnasium and we used them for a year. We found on the smaller one that some shots would hit on the edge of the board; therefore, we increased the size for experimental purposes and continued our study. We tried the convex board, but the Rules Committee turned it down because it was patented. We are using the board with the flat, planed surface which can be made by everyone without much expense; it can be made in the manual training shops of the high schools.

The manufacturers conceived upon a plan of using a pressed-steel backboard and making it uniform for everyone. Of course, a wooden or a steel board is satisfactory as well as a glass board, if the glass is painted white. The white paint is for the purpose of setting off the black ring. Many glass banks have rather a bluish cast and they do not set off the black steel ring.



Therefore, if you paint a glass bank then you spoil the affect that is hoped for; namely, of allowing the spectators to see through them from the rear.

The manufacturers make this pressed-steel backboard for \$36.00 a pair. The old backboard, 6' x 4' on the steel bank, cost \$100.00 a pair. It was very difficult to make a large steel surface, 6' x 4', without having it warp, but this bank is much cheaper, presents much more visibility both from underneath and the sides than the old board, and the players, after shooting at it for a little while, declare it just as easy to hit as a larger one. In fact, there are many coaches who say that if a player, shooting for a basket, cannot come close to making a basket on the new board then you do not have much of a basketball player on the floor.

The new boards, you will notice, have a cut-in arch which permits spectators to sit fifteen feet back underneath the board and still see the ball go through the basket. This is a great improvement to buildings which have many seats on the floor back and underneath the basket.

I would say that the players adjust themselves quickly to the new board, and there should be no great handicap through using the two types of boards interchangeably.

Both the new board and the old 6' x 4' are still legal. The Rules Committee did not make a rule requiring the new board because of the fact that many school systems in big cities do not have a sufficient budget to change all the banks at once. It is for that reason the Committee has made both boards legal, but I feel pretty certain that in time the new board, being much more efficient, will replace the big, old, cumbersome board that was placed on a running track to keep the spectators from knocking or batting the ball away from the basket. That was the original intention of the people who put the first boards back there, and then the players got to banking.

I trust that this gives you enough information from which to write a yarn.

Sincerely yours,

Director of Physical Education and Recreation  
Varsity Basketball Coach

FCA:lg



THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

STAR BUILDING  
KANSAS CITY, MO.

DEC. 10, 1940

DR. FORREST C. ALLEN  
BASKETBALL COACH  
UNIVERSITY OF KANSAS  
LAWRENCE, KANSAS

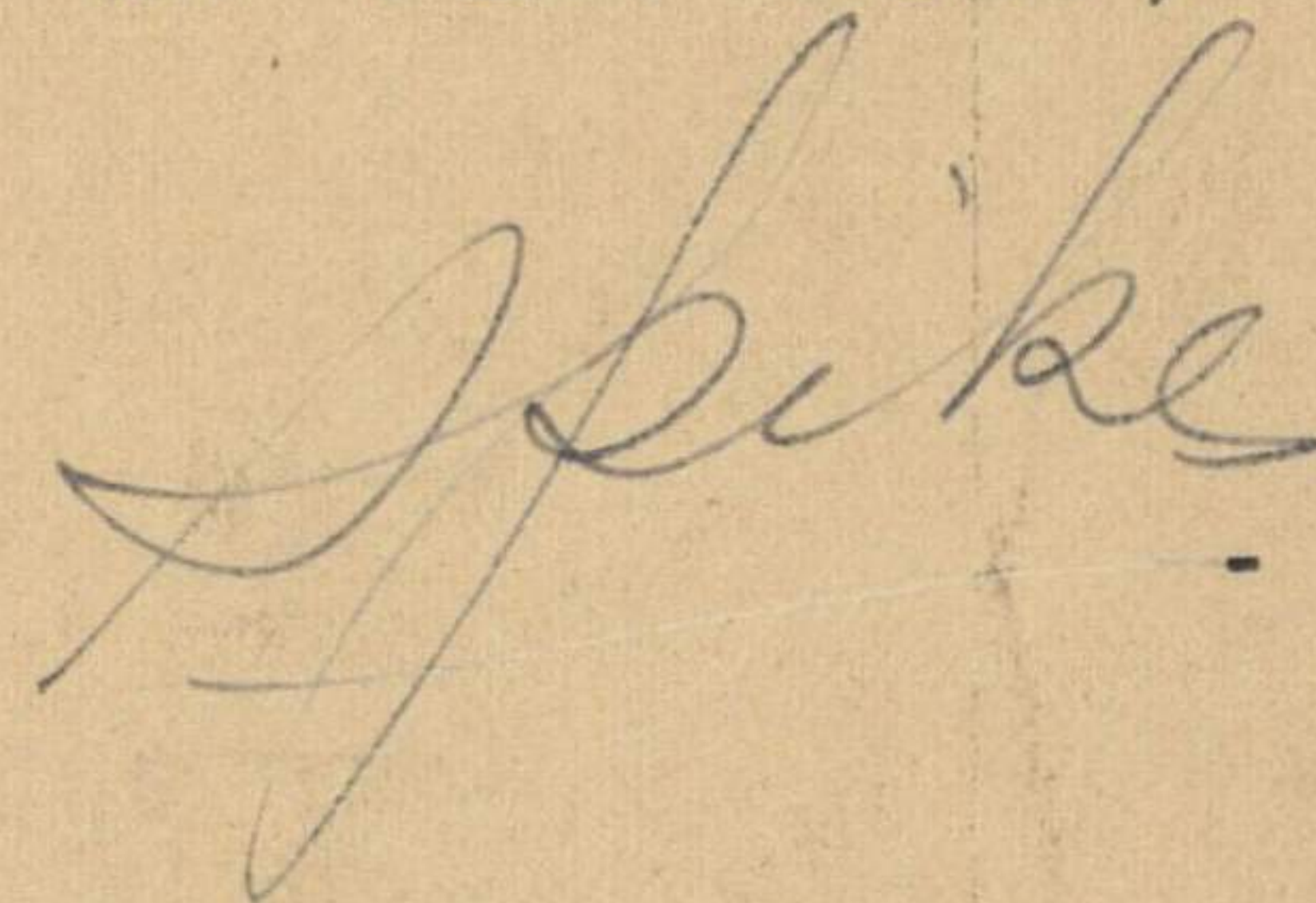
DEAR PHOG:

DO YOU HAVE ANOTHER OF THOSE BOOKLETS ON "GOAL-HI?" I PICKED UP A  
COUPLE ABOUT A YEAR AGO BUT APPARENTLY HAVE LOST THEM. NOW I HAVE A  
REQUEST FROM RICHMOND, VA., FOR A FEATURE ON IT.

WHILE YOU ARE IN A WRITING MOOD, WHY NOT ADD A PARAGRAPH TO YOUR LETTER  
AND TELL ME WHAT YOU THINK OF THE NEW-STYLED BANKBOARDS, NOW THAT THEY  
HAVE BEEN TRIED IN A GAME.

HAROLD CLAASSEN

MY VERY BEST,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Spike", written in dark ink.



December 18, 1940

Mr. Harold Claassen  
The Associated Press  
Star Building  
Kansas City, Missouri

Dear "Spike":

I am tickled that you are going to write the article on Goal-Hi.

Now, regarding the rumors about changing the finals. The finals are definitely set for Kansas City, and the contract has been signed for the date of March 29. The Western N.C.A.A. Playoffs will be held on March 21 and 22.

Doubtless the boys in New York thought that since Mr. Holman was President, we would move the earth, but there are other geographical centers in the United States which are just as important as Noo Yawk!

Of course, this is off the record, Spike, and I would not want anything said, but the dates are set and the contract is signed, and the games will be played in our country.

Sincerely yours,

Director of Physical Education and Recreation  
Varsity Basketball Coach

FCA:lg



THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

STAR BUILDING  
KANSAS CITY, MO.

DEC. 17, 1940

DR. FORREST C. ALLEN  
BASKETBALL COACH  
UNIVERSITY OF KANSAS  
LAWRENCE, KANSAS

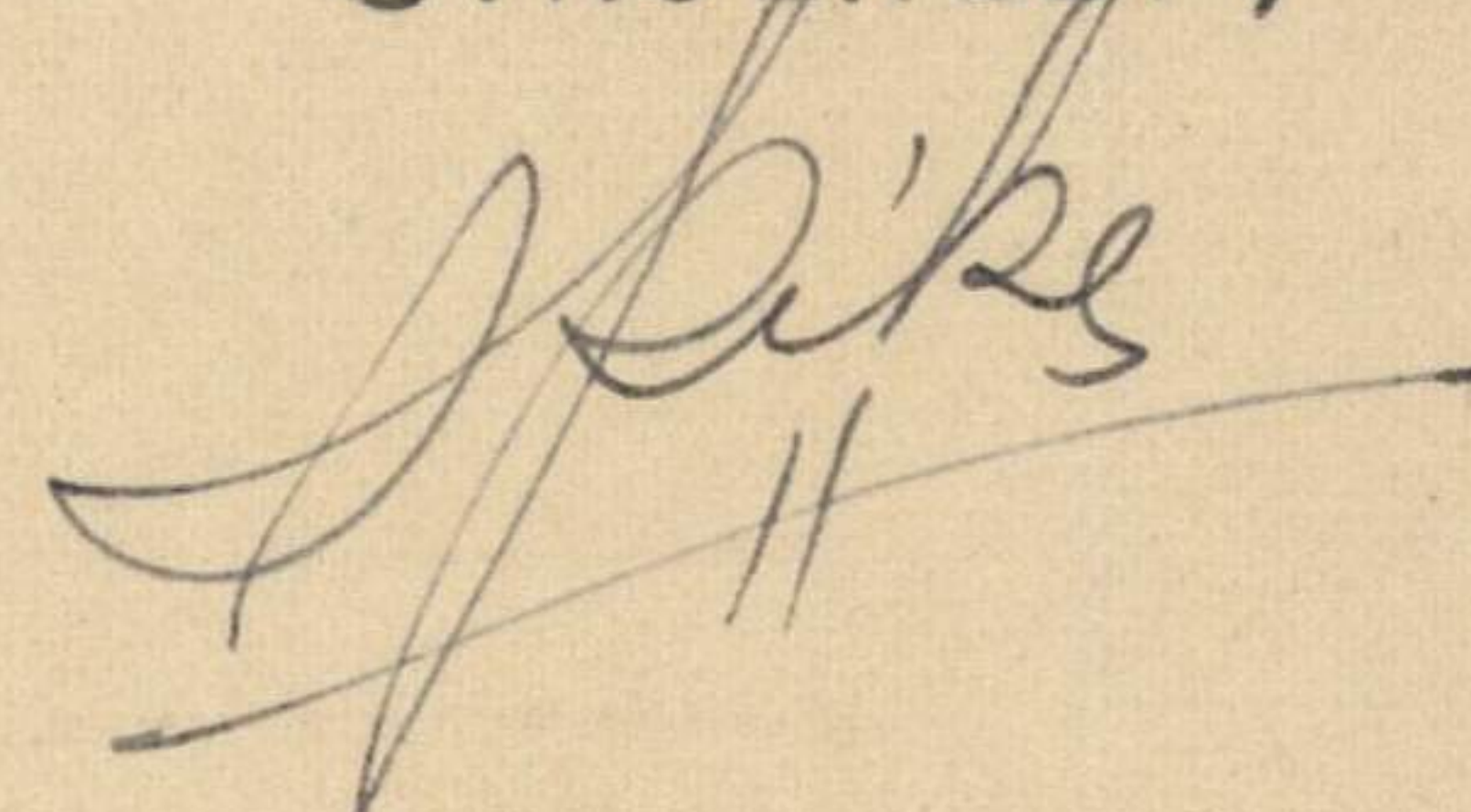
DEAR PHOG:

THAT NOBLE NORDIC AND FORMER SLEDDING ENTHUSIAST, HAROLD CLAASSEN, WILL  
DO THE PIECE ON "GOAL-HI." I AM SURE YOU'LL GET A COPY.

ANY TRUTH TO THE RUMORS I HAVE BOTH READ AND HEARD THE PAST FEW DAYS  
THAT THE NCAA WILL TRANSFER THE NATIONAL FINALS TO NEW YORK FOR THE  
EDIFICATION OF THE COACHES WHO WILL ATTENDING THEIR CONVENTION THERE?

HAROLD CLAASSEN

SINCERELY,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "H. Claassen", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.





THIS SIDE OF CARD IS FOR ADDRESS



Mr. Forest C. Allen  
Physical Education Director  
Kansas University  
Lawrence Kansas



Dear Mr. Allen:

I expect to  
arrive in Lawrence  
by Sunday - I will  
probably be driving  
and will look you  
up or soon as I get there.

It's possible that I  
can make it Saturday.

Your letter giving me  
your address arrived  
all right - I'll see you  
soon -

Sincerely,  
John Cress



October 11, 1940

Mr. John Cress  
2710 N. Mildred  
Chicago, Illinois

Dear Mr. Cress:

Your special delivery letter dated October 9 arrived this morning and I am writing you to tell you that we will expect you here in Lawrence on October 20, to be ready for work on Monday, October 21.

My street address is 801 Louisiana and my phone number is 300, so when you get to town if you will call me I will be glad to have a conference with you. This will enable us to iron out some of the normal difficulties that always present themselves when a new man comes in.

I also want to talk with you about work for your Master's Degree. I have made arrangements which will enable you to take work toward your degree, and I will try to smooth out these difficulties so you can start in at once on your work. I have also made arrangements for us to pay you \$550.00 for the year; that is, for the remaining time of this year. There are still eight months left and we expect to pay you \$550.00 for those eight months.

I am quite anxious to talk with you regarding the possibilities that will present themselves to you here. I am very anxious that we do everything possible to make your work both pleasant and profitable to you. I would like for you to build up the gymnastics and tumbling angle here, and I would like to see you put on a circus before the winter closes, or in early spring. I am also anxious that you make a survey of the things that you need to work with and we will endeavor to do everything possible so that you will get a favorable introduction and a favorable reception during your tenure.

I might tell you that in 1916 I signed a contract with Mr. George Huff with the University of Illinois that I was to be assistant coach with Bob Zuppke. Rumors of war were in the air, as they are at present, and Mr. Zuppke and I agreed that we would wait to see what happened. War broke out in 1917 so we just postponed the situation. Then in 1919 I came here and Major Griffith went to Illinois and Elmer Bearg, I believe, later filled in the assistant coaching job with Zuppke. I have been on the Illinois campus a good many times to treat some of Zuppke's crippled athletes, so I am sure you will have a very happy relationship here.



Mr. Cross

Page 2

Oct. 11, 1940

Miss Ruth Hoover, who is head of our physical education department for women, is a graduate of the Illinois Physical Education Department. Later she took her Master's work at Columbia.

Will you not write me at once, letting me know what time you plan to arrive so that I may make arrangements to have a conference with you.

Very cordially yours,

Director of Physical Education and Recreation  
Varsity Basketball Coach

FCA:lg



Harper Theatre  
Detroit Michigan  
Oct 9, 1940

Dear Mr. Allen:

Your letter of Oct 5th was forwarded from Chicago and reached me today.

I can arrange to be there the 20th of this month if you can wait that long. However, I cannot accept for less than \$550 for the year; that is the time remaining. I have no other income than that I earn myself, and having worked most of my way through at Illinois University, I'll be short on clothing and other articles. Hoping for a favorable reply and thanking you for the interest you have shown in me, I remain  
respectfully Yours  
John Cress



October 5, 1940

Mr. John M. Cress  
2710 N. Mildred Avenue  
Chicago, Illinois

Dear Mr. Cress:

I am very much interested in your letter and your application. We have practically decided on another candidate, but your record in gymnastics and your membership on the national championship team of the University of Illinois for the past two years has greatly attracted me. If you are definitely certain that you will be available by the 20th of October, I would undergo additional difficulties in my program here to have you in our Department.

Our school gives an M.S. in Education with emphasis on the teaching of physical education. We call it, of course, a Masters in Physical Education. There are fifteen hours of the required thirty in our field, ten hours in education, and so forth. It is practically like all schools of physical education; that is, our Department is located in the School of Education and we have wide latitude in our selection.

I have arranged with the professors in the Graduate School for you to do work this semester in physical education in that school. Of course, you will not be permitted to carry a full load because, first, you are doing teaching work here, and secondly, school will have been in session over a month before you could report.

The second semester you will, of course, have time for graduate work, carrying as much as any fellowship would permit. This stipend of \$450 to \$500 is for the two semesters. We have about 120 students in our school of physical education. Our graduate work in physical education has been in progress for two years.

Will you kindly wire me or write me a special delivery letter upon receipt of this communication?

Sincerely yours,

FCA:lg

Director of Physical Education and Recreation  
Varsity Basketball Coach



*45 - in  
Master Education  
with emphy on teaching Phys Ed  
15 of required 30  
10 Education*

2710 N. Mildred Ave.  
Chicago, Ill.  
Oct. 1, 1940

Mr. Forrest C. Allen,  
Athletic Director,  
Kansas University,  
Lawrence, Kansas

Dear Mr. Allen;

Your telegram reached me all right and I wired saying, that I would be interested. While down in Champaign, Illinois Sunday, Mr. Ray Duncan told me you were planning to use a part time man for gymnastics and physical education.

My experience in gymnastics has extended over seven years and I have won championships and places on every piece of apparatus as well as in tumbling and ropeclimbing. I have been a member of the National Championship team of the University of Illinois for the past two years and worked all-around.

I attended the American College of Physical Education of Chicago for three years and the University of Illinois for an additional three years, earning my B. S. degree from the latter school. I have a wide range of experience in athletics.

At the present time I am working "middle" in a three man balancing act and "bottom" on a perch-pole act and cannot leave my partners on short notice. It is for that reason that I will not be available until the 20th. of October.

I'm planning to take my Master's Degree in Physical Education. Let me know if your school gives such a degree. I would also like to have details regarding the position such as; type of classes to be taught; the number of class; etc. Will I be able to do grade work this semester? Is a second



semester arrangement possible?

Hoping to hear from you soon I remain,

Sincerely Yours,

John M. Cress



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1940 SEP 30 PM 1 00

FORREST C ALLEN,

AN ANSWER PHYSICAL EDUCATION DEPT=KANSAS UNIVERSITY

INTERESTED AFTER OCTOBER TWENTIETH=

JOHN M CRESS.

*SAIP*

*photo  
128.1*

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# WESTERN UNION

1201

## SYMBOLS

DL=Day Letter

NL=Night Letter

LC=Deferred Cable

NLT=Cable Night Letter

Ship Radiogram

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PRESIDENT

NEWCOMB CARLTON  
CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD

J. C. WILLEVER  
FIRST VICE-PRESIDENT

(56)

The filing time shown in the date line on telegrams and day letters is STANDARD TIME at point of origin. Time of receipt is STANDARD TIME at point of destination  
Received at 646 Massachusetts St., Lawrence, Kansas. Phone 2764

KAD40 25 COLLECT=CHAMPAIGN ILL 26 1026A

FORREST C ALLEN, DIRECTOR OF PHYSICAL EDUCATION=

UNI OF KANS

OUR BEST AVAILABLE GYMNAST JOHN CRESS 2710 NORTH MILDRED

CHICAGO ILLINOIS. HE IS TRAVELING IN VAUDEVILLE MAY

TAKE A FEW DAYS TO FIND HIM=

RAY DUNCAN U OF I.

*adse*  
*R-1059A*

2710.



WESTERN UNION TELEGRAM

September 30, 1940

Mr. John Cress  
2710 N. Mildred  
Chicago, Illinois

Mr. Fred Wagner  
50 Maple Street  
Crystal Lake, Illinois

WOULD YOU BE INTERESTED IN PART TIME POSITION HERE  
PHYSICAL EDUCATION GYMNASTICS WHICH WOULD PERMIT  
GRADUATE STUDY SALARY FOUR TO FIVE HUNDRED DOLLARS.  
UNEXPECTED DEVELOPMENTS MAKE SLIGHT DEPARTMENTAL  
ADJUSTMENT NECESSARY HERE. WIRE COLLECT WESTERN  
UNION.

Forrest C. Allen



October 11, 1940

Mr. James Cox  
Head Trainer  
Harvard University  
Cambridge, Massachusetts

Dear Jimmy:

I have just received a letter from Mr. Frederick W. Lang, 533 East 68th Street, New York City, stating that he had met the Physician in charge of the West Point football team, and the same man had also met him in Washington at the Walter Reed Hospital, in connection with his foot and arch normalizer. Mr. Lang states that they are now using the normalizer at West Point everyday, as they have a great many foot injuries at this time, and he says they are delighted with it.

I want you to know that I taught a special course at the University of Texas this summer where I demonstrated the foot and arch normalizer as one of the things in foot correction. I also showed them foot manipulation. Milton Kelly, the Trainer there, told me that he would not take \$50.00 for the one that he had if he could not get another one.

We have one here in our football dressing room as well as our basketball quarters, and we have one rigged up with foot baths and towels and so forth, in both the women's and the men's gymnasium. Mr. Lang thought that if I wrote you and called your attention to this, that it might stimulate you into using it more than you have been.

Last fall a year ago, Eddie Hall, our plunging fullback, came down into Dean Nesmith's room with a bad foot. Dean was busy and while Ed had to wait Dean instructed him to go into the basketball dressing room and use the normalizer. About fifteen minutes later Ed came back with his eyes bulging and said, "Listen, my foot doesn't hurt any more. Something happened; at least I don't have any pain in it." He was limping before he used the normalizer, so he felt that the device had done the job.

Well, enough of this, Jimmy. I hope things are going well with you and they apparently are because I see where Harvard rolled over her opponent. Kansas did not fare so well at Ames last Saturday, but we are expecting better luck with Drake this Saturday in Lawrence.



Oct. 11, 1940

I trust that Mrs. Cox and the children are well. Eleanor, our youngest, is a sophomore this year and Bobby is a senior pre-medic. He is taking his A.B. Degree and has fond hopes of passing the Harvard Competitive Test for a scholarship. If he does not get it, he wants to enroll at Harvard, so Bob may see you next year there in Cambridge.

With all good wishes, I am,

Sincerely yours,

Director of Physical Education and Recreation  
Varsity Basketball Coach

FCA:lg



October 4, 1940

Mr. Harold Claassen  
The Associated Press  
Star Building  
Kansas City, Missouri

Dear Spike:

I think you put your finger on the situation when you found that at one time I made a speech in which I stated, "I hope to coach at Kansas at least until Bob has finished his course." Well, maybe my wish will be partially fulfilled, but I do not see in that anything that says I may die of heart failure this year. Yes, you are quite right that "Great oaks from little acorns grow."

When I made the speech, the thought that I conveyed to the group was that when your child expressed a wish, and that wish was complimentary to the father in that the son desired to be under him, any father who would give bread instead of a stone to a child would naturally want to do the thing that the child wanted. Especially is this so if the desire is pleasing in the father's sight and is honorable. So, doubtless you found the correct answer.

With all good wishes, I am,

Sincerely yours,

Director of Physical Education and Recreation  
Varsity Basketball Coach

FCA:lg



THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

STAR BUILDING  
KANSAS CITY, MO.

SEPTEMBER 21, 1940

DR. F. C. ALLEN  
BASKETBALL COACH  
UNIVERSITY OF KANSAS  
LAWRENCE, KANSAS

DEAR DOCTOR:

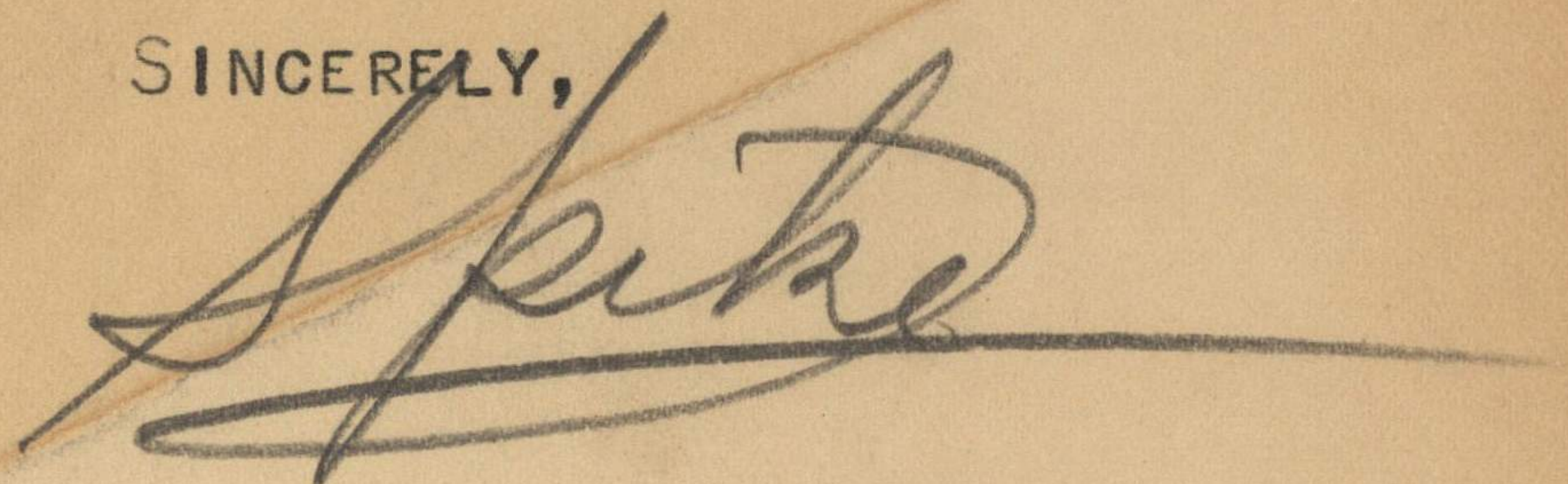
AS SOON AS I READ OF YOUR RETIREMENT (?) I WENT TO WORK ON TWO TANGENTS. ONE, OF COURSE, WAS TO CONTACT YOU AND DISCOVER THE TRUTH OR FALSITY OF THE STATEMENT, THE SECOND WAS TO ASCERTAIN THE RUMOR'S SOURCE. I HAVE BEEN STYMIED ON THE LATTER BUT HAVE DISCOVERED WHAT STARTED THE THING MOVING.

IT SEEMS YOU ONCE MADE A SPEECH (AT LEAST YOU ARE BEING QUOTED AS HAVING DONE SO) IN WHICH YOU SAID "I HOPE TO COACH AT KANSAS AT LEAST UNTIL BOB HAS FINISHED HIS COURSE." AND BOB IS A SENIOR THIS YEAR.

DOESN'T THAT ANCIENT VERSE GO SOMETHING LIKE THIS "GREAT OAKS FROM LITTLE ACORNS GROW?"

HAROLD CLAASSEN

SINCERELY,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "H. Claassen", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.