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The University of Rochester
College of Arts & Science
Rochester, New York

Jan. 25, 1941

Dr. Forrest C. Allen
Director of Physical Education
The University of Kansas
Lawrence, Kansas

Dear Dr. Allen:

Your two recent letters were deeply appreciated but frankly they hurt my conscience just a bit because I know how desperately busy you are at this time of the year and you have no time to be spending writing letters to fellows like me--much as they may inspire us.

Alice and I were so happy to have had those few minutes with you and Mrs. Allen and the family (two of them, at least) at the time of your New York debut. Alice fell in love with Mrs. Allen, as I knew she would. You were both so kind to find time to talk with us in the midst of your many friendships and precious time.

I don't know when a basketball game has hurt me more than the one your sick kids played that night; certainly I couldn't have felt worse had I been coaching them myself. Coming right on top of that justly deserved article it was a shame that they weren't in shape to show that critical crowd just how an Allen coached team can really play the game of basketball.

But to your great credit, although few realized the situation, no alibies appeared in any columns even mentioning the fact that your kids, including yourself were really quite sick with the flu. What greater tribute can be paid any team and any coach? None, to my mind in this day and age of commercialized, phoney intercollegiate athletics when alibies are the commonest stock in trade of far too many so-called coaches. Your sportsmanship in this instance is one which I shall never forget and one which I am using every time I have the opportunity, in making talks to groups of people in this region.

Thanks so much for your most generous letter to Bushnell. If that doesn't secure me an opportunity to officiate a few games under his direction nothing will, and I only hope I shall be able to live up to the many kind things you said. I'm working many high school games and have one at Colgate in two weeks. Saw Notre Dame play Syracuse Monday in the roughest, dirtiest game I have ever seen two college teams play - and it was all the fault of two lax officials. Three boys seriously hurt and seven expelled before it was over!!!

Thanks again and kindest personal regards to Mrs. Allen and the family from the DeGroots.

Sincerely,

(signed) Dud DeGroot