

c
February 2, 1940.

Mrs. Jennie M. Floyd,
825 N. 3rd Street,
Arkansas City, Kansas.

My dear Mrs. Floyd:

I have read your letter very carefully and I am deeply touched. After finishing your letter I immediately destroyed it, so your wish is granted. I am so happy you wrote me because I can now do so much more for Jack and I will just double my energies and effort to make Jack the boy that you want him to be.

Upon his return to school I will call Jack in and I will tell him that I have a renewed interest in seeing him accomplish the things that his own mother and his own dad would want him to accomplish. Of course, I will couch my conversation in terms that will be a general interest in Jack and he at no time will realize that I am conversant with things that he has no knowledge of.

Won't you feel free to write me from time to time as to your general suggestions for the welfare of your son? You know, Mrs. Floyd, I have wanted to sit down and talk with Jack a number of times because I see in him an unsatisfied feeling. He is a sweet boy, but he puts on the rather braggadocio air that is not natural for Jack. In my opinion, Jack Floyd will be one of the really great basketball players of Kansas. His defense is not good, but his offense, his ball handling and his cleverness are most pleasing.

Apparently the boys at Arkansas City have never been taught much defense. I detected this in Bruce Reid, in Paul Rogers, in Howard Engleman, in fact, all of the Arkansas City boys with the exception of Ray Noble. Ray was so quick and agile that it was easy to teach him defense. But apparently Coach Nicholson, who is a great high school basketball offensive coach, worked on the theory that a good offense was better than a good defense. In college, however, the college coaches stress both offense and defense, and when a player has only offensive ability they are quick to detect that and throw their forces into this weakness. Therefore, a player who has both offensive and defensive ability is much the more valuable man. For that reason we will develop Jack's defensive ability, and when we get this done he will make a name for himself.