

DON EBLING  
303 BRUSH CREEK BOULEVARD  
KANSAS CITY, MISSOURI

November 19, 1940

Dear "Doc":

In behalf of Ray and myself I wish to thank you for the honor of being one of your "Champions of Yesteryears" in the forthcoming battle between the Varsity and Alumni. I assure you we are most happy to accept the invitation.

Ray has been on the road again so I am taking the pleasure of writing you and accepting. As to our personal condition, I can assure that Ray has not had a ball in his hands since the last A.A. U. tournament, but although he has a "beginners" middle age spread he is not anybody's fool on the court, and he said something about he would be ready to go at least for ten minutes. As for myself I have been in very poor shape all fall, but with our season getting under way Dec. 4, I have been trying to work pretty hard three times per week. Since I heard we were scheduled to play the present Varsity on the 26th, I have been doing road work along with practice, and the last three evenings I have been in bed before ten. Anyway, by the 26th, I should be ready to go at near top speed.

I rather look forward to this contest with eager, as it seems as though as far back as I can remember, at least in the basketball language, Ray has been my idol, and one of my main ambitions was to someday play alongside him on a ball club. I have been in competition for 7 years, and Ray about ten or twelve, and not once have we played together. On Tuesday, maybe one of my ambitions will have been achieved. I pray so.

Doc, I don't know how this league ball is going to be, but the other evening I said to Ray, "I don't believe I will go very well, because everything is so different." He merely looked at me, and said you just do the things that Doc taught you, and I assure you there won't be any trouble for you to go. After a moment's thought, I immediately understood what he meant. Doc, you would be surprised how much more basketball I know than several of the boys I play with. I may not be good, but I still have the knowledge of the tutoring of the best coach in the game, and with that I should manage to hold my own. Every little trick, every little fundamental, every "do and don't" gives me a head start, over most of the boys although my natural ability is not much. I only wish we had you to coach us, as such things as don't pass across the court <sup>are dribbles between two men</sup> are certainly rules that are disobeyed, and as you teach, to pass out and not in would ~~make~~ <sup>would</sup> us a good ball team. I am sort of anxious to play now. I am getting along a lot better in the city, and like my work very much. You know as well as I that this ball is secondary