

c

January 28, 1941

Mr. A.J. "Dad" Elliott
19 S. LaSalle Street
Chicago, Illinois

Dear "Dad":

I want you to know how very much we appreciated your presence at Rotary and at our Iowa State-Kansas basketball game, as well as your dominant personality on the campus of the University of Kansas. We always enjoy meeting you and hearing you.

Also, I want to thank you very much for the things that you had to say regarding professionalizing amateur athletics. When I spoke to 14 high school all-stars in Kansas City, Kansas, I was warning them of the dangers that beset them when they seek a college education. I told them not to sell their academic birthright for a mess of pottage.

I meant, of course, the fact that there was danger of their selecting some school that did not offer them the thing that would fit them most for college and later life, but that they were apt to choose a school where the best job went for athletic ability.

I was pleased beyond measure for the fact that you support my contention, and the fact that you did so, and in such an emphatic way, caused young men to ponder more seriously the question than they would have had you not made your remark.

My attitude is not in inviting the professionalism, but in advising youth before they get into difficulty. You and I have seen so much of it that if we can call attention to the young fellows of this danger, then they meditate many times more than we suspect.

Again good wishes and good health is my wish for you and yours.

Sincerely yours,

Director of Physical Education and Recreation
Varsity Basketball Coach

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