

Don Blair's diary of Eastern Trip 1942-1943.



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BUFFALO ATHLETIC CLUB
BUFFALO

Kansas University's Eastern Tour

December 22, 1942

1942-1943.

The University of Kansas Jayhawks under
Doctor F. C. Allen left the Santa Fe RR station
at Lawrence at 2:00 P.M. on December 22, 1942. The

squad of 13 men, trainer, sport writer
and publicity man, and coach were
to play four games, meeting some of
the finest and strongest team in the
East.

The squad of fighting Jayhawks arrived
at the station slightly before the
scheduled train departure date of 1:00 P.M.

The squad included eight lettermen and
five sophomores. The squad was accompanied to Chicago by
Mrs. Allen who was on her way to see her son & daughter at Penn. Pa.
one hour late due largely to the Christ-

mas rush especially [&] soldiers and sailors
going home on leaves.
Christmas

The scheduled streamliner did not arrive
but in its place was a steam train.
The train was not as crowded as it
was first thought to be and all
members succeeded in obtaining seats.

On the same car as the team were several sailors were are under training on the hill (machinists' mate school) who turned in good all around performances on the entertainment side.

The prize was taken by a sailor whom the boys all addressed as "admiral" when he called half the length of the car at Jesse Paul Turner, Kansas city, "Hey, Turner, let's go down to Johnny's" "A come, women and song 'jaint' with Kansas wine in Lawrence.) Needless to say, my old room-mate for the trip (Turner) got plenty red in the face as he was sitting just across the aisle from Coach Allen.

As supper time approached it was learned that our train was not equipped with a diner and so a few sandwiches were purchased and distributed among the boys to hold them over. I say few because the concession manager ran out of them before we had



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a chance to make out our meal. In fact some of the boys had to be satisfied with a candy bar and a bottle of Fred Harvey's Root Bar which could hardly be called the proper diet for a hungry basketball player and who ever ~~saw~~^{saw} one who was not hungry.

As the conductor informed us that we would not arrive in Chicago until about midnight, some of the boys decided to catch a few "winks of shut eye". The first victim of the hot-foot was Bill Forsyth who was ^{from slumber} stirred, very soundly by a burning sensation on his foot. After Bill the victims were too numerous to mention and it soon got to the place where nobody wish to

sleep anymore.

John Buescher, who would undoubtedly be voted the best dressed man on the squad if a vote was to be taken, was one of the most popular men on the train due to the fact that John was carrying his portable radio.

The train arrived at the Dearborn Street Station at 11:55, about two hours behind and the squad left immediately for Hotel Morrison where they were met later by Coach Allen who stayed at the station to place Mrs Allen on her train for the East.

The rooms were assigned and roommates were delegated for the trip. Max Kessell; Bill Forsyth with Chuck Elliott (publicity man); John Short with Harold Dean (better known as Sparky) McSpadden; Charley Black with John Buescher; Ray Evans with Bob Fitzpatrick, Otto Schnellbacher with Armand Dixon, Don Blair with Paul Turner; and Dean Nesmith with ^{trainer} Doctor Allen.



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The squad soon learned that the Hotel Morrison was the tallest hotel in the world (46 stories) The squad ate at the Triangle Restaurant where the boys ate up the bread and butter while they waited on their meals. The one waitress asked " where did you boys eat last night for most of the boys had been in Lawrence some twelve hours before.

The rooms in the Morrison each had two beds and were about the most welcome sight the boys had seen all day. To bed at 1:30 AM. ended this first but long day of the trip.
Don Blair.

on December 23rd
^ At least half of the boys on the squad were awoken by "the greeting" 7:00 o'clock, Temperature 32° " ~~on December 23rd~~ by the operator of the switch board at the

Morrison. Breakfast ~~again~~ ^{was served} at the Luangle
Restaurant across the street from the Hotel.
after Breakfast some of the boys went up
to the observation tower ^{on top} of the Morrison
for a view of the city, but the early
morning fog prevented seeing more than
a half-mile or so.

(~~Bill~~ Bill Forsyth
had a date to breakfast
with an old feminine
school chum

After walking several blocks
with full pack as the army would
say, we took the bus for Michigan
Central Station and boarded the New York
Central Railroad's "Mercury" which left
Chicago exactly on time at 9:16 A.M.

As we traveled out thru the suburbs
of South Chicago, an Illinois Central Elevated
Car zoomed by ~~us~~ as if we
were standing still. The porter said
we were probably hitting about 55 to
60 miles per hour at the time.

As the ^{squad} relaxed in their seats for
the trip to Detroit it was soon
learned that we were on one of the
finest trains in the country. Each car



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was a work of art and a home of comfort.

Hat-foots continued to awaken any member who tried to indulge in sleep. At Niles, Michigan we set our watches up an hour as we crossed into Eastern War Time Zone.

Kalamazoo, Michigan interested most of us because of the recent popular song of that name. We all looked for the "freckled-face kid in Kalamazoo" and some of us saw some "kids" who weren't freckled-faced but would have been O.K.

Just outside of Detroit we saw Greenwold village and two of Henry Ford's plants, River Rouge and Willow Run. ~~we~~ ~~met~~ ~~at~~ ~~the~~ ~~station~~ ~~to~~ ~~meet~~ ~~the~~ ~~squad~~ ~~two~~ ~~KU~~ ~~alumni~~, Bob Fisher + ~~two~~ ~~more~~

Duke Kennedy. From the station we
took a bus to the ^{Detroit Leland} Hotel ~~and~~ where
we were given an allowance for
dinner and sent on our way.

We all reported by at 5:15 and
got dressed for ~~our~~ ^{the} alumni dinner.
There were six boys in each of
two rooms and the other four stayed
in the ~~other~~ ^{another} room.

We took the street car for the
Engineering Society Building which was
completed last February at a cost of
one and a half million dollars. The
building was ultra-modern in every
respect and was truly an engineer's
dream.

The dinner was ^{acute} to be a steak dinner
but due to the shortage of steaks we
had a fine roast beef dinner with
all the trimmings.

Immediately after dinner each
person whether he was squad member
or alumna introduced himself. ~~and~~ after
Doctor Allen's speech there was an informal



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meeting of the alumni and the squad members. As the stories of old have it, Charley Black of around 1929 was the life of the party and entertained the boys with numerous tales of his school days.

The alumni took the squad to the Fisher Building and we were shown the types of motors and other military equipment that General Motors are now making for the war effort.

We took the street car back to the hotel and went to our rooms to end the second day of our trip.

On Thursday morning we slept late and immediately went to the downtown Y.M.C.A. Snelly who had contracted the lines on the Wednesday night was fully recovered. ~~we~~ ^{later it was learned they were} ~~lost~~ ^{by} a new shirt. After practice we were unable to take a shower until we got

back to the hotel because of the water pump broke at the Y.M.C.A. and there was ~~not~~ water in the building.

We had our steak dinner in the hotel coffee shop and then a chalk talk in "Doc's" room.

~~The~~ "Sparky", John Short and I left the hotel and went over to town to see a few of the sights. We got back in about 30 minutes to find that we had missed an invitation to dinner. Inelly, Armond, and Paul went in our place.

The three of us were joined by Jack Ballard and Max Kessell in the coffee shop where the five of us had our Christmas Eve dinner. After dinner we went over to Windsor, Canada on the bus. Things seemed to move much slower in Canada and the streets were crowded with soldiers of the Canadian army. There were more good looking girls in Windsor than in Chicago + Detroit sat together



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Sparky and I mailed ~~the~~ cards
from Mansor and we ~~all~~ came
back to Detroit thru the tunnel
^{under the Detroit Stiver.}
~~As we had gone over.~~ Some of the
boys laughed at us for going over but
it was one of the most interesting experiences
that I have had.

Back in Detroit we headed for the
show "Black Swan". When we arrived
at the show the "Black Swan" was
not to show until the next day which
made all of us very mad as we had
been counting on seeing this show very
much.

After we cooled off we went to
"Palm Beach Story" which we had to
leave in the middle of, so we could
get back to the hotel by ^{the} closing hour
of ten o'clock. When we got back to
the hotel none of the boys were there

and this made ~~us~~ us very "bitter"
because we had left a good show
only to come in before the other squad
members. John Short was especially "bitter"

The other boys showed up about
10:30 P.M. and we all went to bed.

This ended Christmas eve with the
Kansas squad.

Merry Christmas, who could say
that at 6:00 A.M. when staying away
from home. ~~Silly~~ ~~sent it~~. He packed
~~our~~ ^{our} stuff and had breakfast.

Street cars seemed to be our speciality
and so we took one for the
Station where we boarded the
"Empire State Express" at 8:30. It was
a very nice train but did not
come up to the "Mercury" from Chicago.

Hot-foot's continued as usual with
nobody serious hurt. ~~etc.~~

We arrived in Buffalo at 1:00 P.M. and
walked to the Buffalo Athletic Club
where we took our rooms and washed
up. We went to the cafeteria and had



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Christmas dinner of turkey.

Most of the afternoon was spent writing our ~~diaries~~ ^{diaries} and then we had a work out in the gym at the club. We had dinner at the Cafeteria and then took in a show downtown. ^{The show was} ~~called~~ "Thunderbird" which was all right but did not have any plot to it. After talking to some of the other boys, Paul and I found that we were very lucky to have the room we got as we had a big living room ~~suite~~ ~~next~~ ^{next} to our room which made ~~we~~ ^{we} had a two-room apartment. We ~~to~~ ^{went} to bed after having a hot chocolate around the corner from the club.

Saturday morning we got up about 9 o'clock and had breakfast. I spent the morning writing our ~~diaries~~ ^{diaries} and also wrote ~~club~~ postcards and two letters.

We had dinner and then a chalk talk in Doc's room. Doc read a letter from Ralph Miller ~~who~~ who scouted one of the games of St. Joseph whom we play in ~~Philadelphia~~ ^{Philadelphia}. "Doc" told Gus all he could about the St. Bonaventure players and then we went to our rooms to rest for the game.

We had a light lunch and went to the Municipal Auditorium in Buffalo to play the first game of a doubleheader. St. Bonaventure was a big disappointment and did not have a thing. We had seen the team downtown and had picked out one of them who we thought was the trainer. Because he did not look like a ball player. He turned out to be their captain and I've guess right because he was no ball player. The half score was 29-9 and we won easily 53-22. All of the squad played in the game and none of the boys scored in the game. He ~~must~~ saw Southern California beat Conisus 42-25. When we got back to the club we found that



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Kansas was the first team to stay at the Buffalo Athletic Club ~~and~~ to win their game ~~at~~ while in Buffalo. Southern California also stayed here and they became the second team to break the "first"

We also found that we were very lucky to stay at the Buffalo Athletic Club and we enjoyed our stay very much. So we ended our fifth day on our trip.

Sunday December 27

Days seem to be all that matters now. The ~~titles~~ names of the days seems lost and only the days come one by one. There is no difference between Tuesday and Sunday, etc.

We had breakfast and went to the Union station in Buffalo where we had about 45 minutes to wait. Some of the boys got ~~shined~~ ^{shines}, others bought post cards and sent them. Paul and I had our pictures taken for 15¢ and they turned out

very poor. My future may be found
some where between Albany and New York
along the tracks as I threw it out
the train during the day.

The train was ^{the} older style coaches
and the engineer from Buffalo and
Albany must have been an amateur
because he would practically throw
us on the floor when we would
start up from ^a ~~any~~ stop.

Pitch and bridge were the favorite
~~fast~~ fast times. John Short got the
first real hot-hot-foot when the
boys practically started a ~~hand~~ fire
with his shoe.

Later in the day Charley Black
was playing cards and somebody
gave him a hot foot which burned
thru a new pair of \$10 shoes. This
made Charley very unhappy to say
the least. ~~This may be seen in the~~
~~the picture which will tell you somebody~~
~~always had to get hurt before anything~~



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~~city~~
We passed West Point and also numerous boat houses of different schools who have rowing squad on the ~~river~~ spring on the Hudson. The train runs along side the Hudson from Albany to New York.

As we came into the outskirts of New York we saw Columbia Stadium, The Polo Grounds, and also Yankee Stadium. The train pulled in almost exactly on time and we got off at Grand Central Station. We went out on 42nd Street and caught the street car which went down 42nd Street to Broadway. Up Broadway past Times Square to 50th Street where we got off and walked to the Hotel Belvedere about three or four blocks.

We all washed up and had dinner in the coffee shop of the hotel. Mrs Allen and ~~Betty~~ ^{Bob Allen} joined us at dinner.

~~and~~ Later we all went to the
hockey game between the New York Rangers
and the Toronto Maple Leafs.

This was the first real hockey game
that I had ever seen and it was
really a fine game. The Rangers won
3-1. We went back to the hotel
and went to bed about midnight.

This ended our first day in
New York.

Monday - Dec. 28

We got up about 9:30 and it was a dark rainy day in New York. We had breakfast in the hotel dining room and we sent back to our rooms to write letters and work on our diaries. ^{We had a short chalk talk in Dean's room about 11 o'clock.} About 2 o'clock we went down and had a big steak dinner in the dining room.

It was still raining and because it was ^{afternoon} game day we went to our rooms for our map. Dean called us about 5 o'clock for tea and toast after which we returned to our rooms to dress for the game.

We walked across the street to Madison Square Garden which was to be scene of our clash with Fordham. It was really a dream come true to trot out on the court of the "Border"

The game started with a bang and we soon had a small lead. This lead was held until about the middle of the fourth quarter when Charley Black and Armond Dean fouled out. At this point Fordham hit a couple of wild shots to take the lead. Bob Fitzpatrick hit a free throw to put us one point behind and a few moments later the Phi Delta Kids

Stygart and Evans, took the ball down the court on a fast break with Ray dumping in a set-up which proved to be the winning basket. The last few seconds were very exciting for the crowd and also the players. Fordham nearly scored but the ball was a little short and the game ended in a scramble for the ball with the score 31-30, Kansas.

Buecher found Ned Irish, basketball manager of the "Garden" to see if he got the ball for being game captain. Mr. Irish furnished John a ball and Bush relaxed a little.

After seeing Southern California beat NYU we went back to the hotel and got cleaned up. After this the group split with the boys going out to see the night life of New York. I was the guest of some friends, Mr. + Mrs. R. E. Brannan, and their son, Dilbert, who took me to Billy Ross' Diamond Horseshoe to eat and see the floor show. It was a very fine, high-class floor show and there were many very entertaining acts much as you would have expected to see in the old time vaudeville. One group of boys went out to see the Statue of Liberty and other points around New York.

The returning time of some of the boys was a little later than that which is the best for a player but after all you don't get to New York every night. (Don Blair) ⁽¹²⁾

Tues. Dec. 29

We were called about 8:30 a.m. and had breakfast after breakfast Bob Allen and Dean took us over to Radio City to see "Random Harvest" but the line was about two blocks long so we did not wait. We crossed the street to see a Progress Exhibition. There were many interesting exhibits in the buildings which included many things which are being used by our armed forces on the battle front.

at eleven o'clock we split up and planned to meet again at the hotel again at 2 P.M. for dinner. Sparky McGadden, Max Kessel and I decided to go to the Empire State Building after we found that we could not get into Jimmy Dorsey or Artie Shaw, where were playing at different theaters along Broadway. When we got to the Empire State Building we found that it was so foggy and rainy that the girl advised against us going up to the top. Sparky and I decided to go anyway. We took one

escalator up to the 80th floor and another up
six more floors to the 86th. From here to the
top is about system floors to the 102nd floor
and the observation tower. It was so foggy
that you could not see ten feet.

We went back to the 86th floor and had
a milk shake and then went out on the deck
around the building. I think the wind
was blowing about 60 miles per hr. up there
and you felt as though the wind was
going to blow you off the building.

We went into Macey's Department Store on
the way back to the hotel. The crowds in
this store could be described best by
the word "mobs."

We ate at the hotel and immediately packed
our bags and took the bus for Penn. Central
station to take the train for Philadelphia.

We arrived in Philadelphia and took a taxi
for the Hotel Philadelphia where we were to
stay. Charley Black got off at the wrong
railroad station and was delayed in
getting to the hotel. Charley said that he
saw the town or trying to find the hotel.

We were given money to eat on and eight
of us, all but the "iron men" (Evans, Black,
Bushman, Snelly, + Dixon) went downtown and ate
and then went to the picture show "Black Swan".

It was a good show and we took a bus ⁽²⁾
back to the hotel and went to bed about
10 P.M. The rooms in the Philadelphia all had
radios which made them much more popular
with all of the boys.

(Don Blair)

Wednesday Dec. 30

We slept late and then had our breakfast.
The weather was still a little rainy and
so we had to stay at the hotel. The morning
was a good chance to catch up on writing
letters, cards, etc, and also sleep. There were
four of us in our room John Short, Sparky
McGadden, Paul Turner, and I. He had
our usual dinner and then a short
chalk talk in "Doc" room.

bed for our nap.

We got up about 5 o'clock and had our
tea and toast at the coffee shop in the
hotel. Bob Allen took some of the boys
over to Convention Hall and the rest of us
took a taxi over to the hall.

Convention Hall had a very nice place to play
but the score board was hard to see because
the were so many seats in front of it. The
game was fairly close the first half and we held

a small lead the first half. The "iron men" got started the second half and ran the legs of St Joseph. Doc ~~played~~^{used} only one substitute until the last two minutes when he took out the starting five, who received a great hand from the crowd of about 9,500.

The funniest thing at the game was St. Joseph's cheer leaders. He had a little guy about like "Mr Five by Five" who lead the cheer of "Let's go, St Joe!! Let's go, St Joe!! Let's go, St Joe!! Let's go!!!" It was really funny to watch him lead it. He won the game 63-38. Southern

California beat Temple easily.

Most of us walked back to the hotel and went down to the cafe where the "sky was the limit" on the cats because of the victory over St Joseph who had been undefeated before the ^{our} game. Snelly, McSpadden, Short, Elliott, Fitzpatrick and I took a bus and went downtown. We walked over to Independence Hall and were looking in the window when the night watchman came out to investigate us. He then took us in and opened up the rooms to us. He saw the Liberty Bell, the first supreme court chamber, the room where the Declaration of Independence was signed, etc. The watchman was really swell and showed us all around the building. He then told us how to reach Betsy Ross's home.

He took this in and then went down to the pier⁽¹³⁾
He took a sub-way back to the hotel
and went to bed about 2:00 AM.
Don Blair.

Thurs. Dec. 31

We got up and had our breakfast and took a
taxi to the station. We left Philadelphia about
9:30 AM. on the Pennsylvania Railroad. We
saw a long train of tanks leaving Philadelphia.
The morning was spent mostly in sleeping
as there was a treaty against hot feet until
6 o'clock that evening.

We had our first meal in the diner. While
we were eating we were passing thru some of
the flood country (it had been raining for about a
week) The water was within several feet of
the tracks. Potholes and bridges were the popular
card games as we passed thru the heart
of the mountains. We fast thru several
tunnels and had three engines on our train
while going thru most of the mountains.

We arrived in Pittsburg about a quarter to
six in the evening. We got a quick bite to
eat and caught the Pullman for St. Louis.
The porter name was Cy Smith and he wanted
us to know for sure that it was not George, as

Doc had addressed him when we got on the train.
Cy fixed us up some tables and we played
cards for about two hours. Ours was the
only first class car on the train. It was
the last car on the train and the door to
the rest of the train was locked and so
we were stuck in this car for New Years
Eve.

Doc had quite a time with a drunk in
the lounge who wanted to give us boys
a lecture. Doc finally talked him out of it.
He went to bed about 10 o'clock.
Thus ended New Years Eve 1942 - 1943.
(Don Blair)

Friday January 1, 1943

I got up early and started the new year
off right. I had forgotten to set my watch
back an hour and so it was earlier than I
had first thought. The train was due at
8:30 in St. Louis but was about an hour
and a half late.

We ate our breakfast in the Harney
House in St. Louis and took a bus out to
the hotel. We got to our rooms and took
a bath and cleaned up. There was evidence
of quite a party, the night before at the hotel

a lady on our floor informed us that they was ⁽¹⁴⁾
quite a party on that floor several hours previous
He learned later that they were a couple of
soldiers.

He had dinner in the dining room of the
hotel and listened to the football games while we
ate. He went to "Doc's" room for our talk
and met ^{John's Mother and Father} Mr. & Mrs. Buscher and their son,
Wilbur and also Mr. ^{Bill} Johnson who played at
Kansas about 1930. He had our talk and
then went to bed.

He got up about 5 P.M. and had our tea
and toast in the dining room and then
dressed for the game. He went downstairs and
were greeted by Capt. Elbel and Lt. Kappelman
a couple of Kansas men, well known by the squad.
He went to the arena and watched a couple
of independent teams play a little. The floor
was a brand new one and they had glass-
fan shaped backboards, the only set in the country,
St. Louis did not have much of a team and
there was never much question about the winner.
He won the game 60-25 and again Doc
played the non men all but about two
minutes. He watched Southern California beat
Washington University. He went back to the
hotel and then to a small eating place and had

our midnight lunch. We went back to the hotel and went to bed. as we were supposed to get up about seven o'clock in the morning and be at the train at eight o'clock.
(Dan Blair)

Saturday. January 2, 1943

The phone rang and it turned out that we were about 45 minutes late as the desk clerk had forgotten to call us at the right time.

We rushed downstairs and grabbed a taxi for the station. We arrived to find that we were in plenty of time to catch the train so we got a chance to eat a bite of breakfast.

There were a number of soldiers on the train and it was ^{very} crowded but we managed to get seats. He played bridge much of the way to Kansas City where we arrived about 2:30 in the afternoon.

We had dinner in the Harvey House at Union Station. It sure seemed to get back we Americans live and eat some mid-western cooked food. They even had ordinary bread on the tables instead of hard rolls which had been a constant bread diet since we had gotten to Detroit about ten days before.

Several of the Kansas City boys called their folks or went out to see them as we had about an hour

and a half until train time.

John Buescher and Dean Nemeth had to buy their wins boxes of candy. The boys hide Dean's box while he was waiting for the train and he had quite a time finding it.

The train loaded the service men on just and then we got on. There were no seats left but we managed to sit on our bags or on the arms of the chairs for our short trip to Lawrence. We arrived in Lawrence about 6:15 and were greeted by a few students. John Buescher's one and only, and Charlip's wife were there to greet those returning heroes. He took a cab to our homes to end a long but enjoyabable trip to the East Coast and back. We had be very lucky in getting transportation and had won all four of our games and none of the boys suffered any injuries and so I believe that the trip could be called a very huge success.

(Dan Plain)

Basketball Trip to
New York -

December, 1942

①

Bill Forsyth

Basketball Trip East in During Christmas
Vacation of 1942-3

Games played, ^{and won} were:
: St. Bonaventure in Buffalo 53-22
: Fordham in Madison Square Garden 31-32
: St. Joseph in Philadelphia 63-38
: St. Louis U. in St. Louis 60-25

Those on the trip were:

Coach Allen		Lawrence
Dean Mesmith	Trainers	"
Chuck Elliot	Publicity managers	Walsted, Kans.
Players		
Charley Black	Forward, highscorer	Lawrence
Otto Schnellbacher	" " "	Sublet, Kans.
Armond Dixon	Guard	Hermosa Beach, Cal.
Ray Evans	"	Kansas City, Kans.
John Bueshos	Center	Beardstown, Ill.
Max Kessel	"	Portis, Kans.
Jack Ballard	Forward	Kansas City, Miss.
Sparky McSpaden	Guard	Lawrence, Kans.
Paul Turner	Forward	K. C., Kans.
John Short	"	Salina, Kans.
Bob Fitzpatrick	"	" "
Don Blair	Guard	Ottawa, Kans.
Yours Truly	Forward	Medicine Lodge

Hotel Philadelphian

DANIEL CRAWFORD, JR., PRES. & GEN'L. MGR.



NEAREST TO
CONVENTION HALL
FRANKLIN FIELD
UNIV. OF PENNSYLVANIA

CHESTNUT AT THIRTY-NINTH ST.

NEAR NEW MAIN STATIONS OF
PENNA. AND B. & O. RAILROADS
ALSO PHILADELPHIA AIRPORT

PHILADELPHIA, PA.

Basketball Trip East in 1942-43
EVERGREEN 9000

RADIO IN EVERY ROOM

SELECT FOR YOUR NEXT CONVENTION A HOTEL COMPLETELY EQUIPPED FOR CONVENTIONS IN A CONVENTION CITY
SEE AMERICA FIRST — START IN PHILADELPHIA

Bill Forsyth



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Kansas University Basketball Trip East in 1942
Dec. 22, 1942

After packing our bags and buying a few Christmas presents we, the boys basketball players of Kansas University, met at the Santa Fe station in Lawrence at 12:45 to catch the train that would take us on our first leg of our much discussed and much publicized journey to New York City, Buffalo, Philadelphia, etc.

Of course, as trains were running late, we had to wait for an hour till 2:15 to catch the train. Besides us there were approsimmently 150 other students waiting for the same train. Everybody ^{was} yelling and laughing and having a wonderful time thinking about what they would do during Christmas vacation.

Finally the train pulled in, but it wasn't the streamliner. It was a steam engined train that had been

put on at Wichita. The reason being
because the stream ~~line~~ was running
approximately 4 hours late. Rather than
waiting for the better train to arrive,
everybody rushed to up to the train
to try to get on. Mens hats were
smashed, ladies lost there pride, etc.,
but everybody managed to get on,
~~with or without seats~~. A few of the
fortunate found seats. Chuck Elliot, the
publicity publicity manager, and my-
self were one of the fortunate. Most of
the team stood up till we reached
Kansas City. There, most of the students
got off and then we had plenty of
room.

During the afternoon Elliot, Chuck
Elliot, Max Kissel, Otto Schnellbacher,
and myself played bridge. As usual,
ha. ha, Chuck and I won. After the
bridge Don Blair, Paul Furner and
I had a hot ^{game} ~~time~~ of pitch.

By this time th we were getting

Bill Forsyth



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a little honor. with using matches we would not give a sleeping teammate the hot foot. Of course this went over big with everybody. Unfortunately I was one of ~~the unfortunates~~ ^{those} that was asleep sleeping.

~~The only other~~ Much of my time was spent with Martha Woodward, a Theta at K. U., who was going home to Cincinnati for Christmas via Chicago. Martha is a very nice girl and I enjoyed myself with her very much.

One of the funniest experiences on the train was when a sailor, ^{who had been} stationed at K. U., told Dr.

Allen that he had seen Paul Furnes down at "Johnnie's", a beer joint. Of course this ~~made us~~ laugh was a big laugh.

Paul's face turned red and so did Doc's, but the sailor said that that was last summer, so everything turned

out better. Paul didn't have much to say the rest of the evening.

Finally at 11:55 we arrived in Chicago, two and $\frac{1}{2}$ hours late and proceeded in a taxi to the Hotel Morrison where Dean Mesmith, our trainer, assigned us to rooms.

Chuck and I drew a room together. After taking our bags up to the room and washing our hands ourselves, we went over to eat our first meal since noon. The train had no dinner and we had to piece on sandwiches that we bought from the conductor.

After eating we all went to bed at about 1:30 after a very hard, exciting day.

This co

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Bill Forsyth



BUFFALO ATHLETIC CLUB
BUFFALO

Wed. 23

Wednesday morning a cheerful operator called us up, ^{at 7:30} and told us, telling us it was 32 degrees. Most of us shivered, Dean over and went back to sleep until ^{Dean} came to our room and neatly tossed us out of bed. After eating breakfast with Phyllis and putting her on the bus, I proceeded with the rest of the boys to walk from the Hotel to Michigan avenue with which was about two five blocks. Each boy was carrying at least two and many of us were carrying three ^{bags}, basketball equipment, personal equipment, etc. All and all we looked like a traveling von with legs. Don't laugh, not funny.

When we reached Michigan avenue, everybody piled on a double decker bus. Of course Jack Balard and Max Missel, two good boys had to ~~tell~~ show us how a person should ride on the top part. On arriving at the ~~New~~ Michigan Central Station we

pushed our way through the crowded station and ~~boarded~~ ^{boarded} the Mercury Limited at 9:15 ~~and~~ ^{climbed} in our car.

Most of us went to sleep as soon as we had started while others read the morning paper.

After a much needed rest I awoke to find the scenery beautiful, small lakes covered with ice, trees that ~~to~~ blended beautiful with the snow, and many other wonderful sights. It seemed to me the closer we got to ^{Detroit} ~~New York~~ the prettier the scenery became.

A few of the towns we stopped at were Kalamazoo, Ann Arbor, ^{and} Battle Creek. At Kalamazoo everybody started singing the popular song Kalamazoo. Some fun! At Ann Arbor everybody ~~so~~ looked for the University of Michigan but it could not be found. At Miles everybody changed their watches to different time.

On the way into Detroit we went by the great Willow Run bomb plant. It is really immense. There are three great assembly lines that are each fifty yards wide and every so long. When they get

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BUFFALO ATHLETIC CLUB
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it to producing planes at one every
four hours, which is their plan, it will ^{make} ~~may~~
a big difference in our war effort. Farther
on we went by Ford's River Rouge plant
and Greenwich village. Many other
manufacturing enterprises were passed also.

On arriving in Detroit proper we were
met by Duke Kennedy and Bob Fisher,
two good ^{men} boys that were H. W. alumni.
They immediately took us up to the Hotel
Detroit Glenon after the ~~former~~ hand-
shaking, etc.

After washing ourselves cleaning up we
went up to the Engineer's Memorial Building
to eat with ^{some of} the other Alumni. Some of
the alumni that were there were Doctor
and Mrs. Sharp; Charley Black, who came
from Toledo, Walter and Mrs. Shannon plus
two boys, Pete Jones, Mr. Norton ^{and} Ken Cleaverman.
During the evening everybody got up and said
of a few words about himself. It was
really very enjoyable to me to hear the
men talk that were at one time no better

off than me, but who had fought their way
up pretty up so that most of them were very
well set at the present time. During the
evening Mrs. Sharp picked me from among all
the rest of the ^{boys} as the one to go out, with
her husband and herself on Christmas eve.
This was a thrill to me.

After the dinner we went out to the
Fisher General Motors Fisher building
which cost \$29,000,000. It is really a wonderful
building. In it the architecture was super.
Here we saw army guns, airplane engines, etc.
So get back to the Hotel we took the
street car. ~~The conductor~~ After doing a
bit of talking John Short, Sparky McSpadden,
Harmon Dixon, Paul Turners, Don Blair, and
myself went to bed, talked a while, then
went to sleep.

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Bill Forayth

BUFFALO ATHLETIC CLUB
BUFFALO

Thurs. 24

Dr. Allen let us sleep late this morning because we had had no sleep and were really exhausted. At 10:00 the ~~fan~~^{phone} rang and again the same process of getting up was repeated. Since we were supposed to get up at 8:00 and practice basketball at the Y. M. C. A. gym and we didn't arise till later, we went directly to the gym and started practicing. I don't know what ~~it~~^{was} that I ate but near the end of the scrimmage I was very sick. Otto was also ~~that~~^{the same} way.

However, after walking back to the Hotel and eating in the coffee shop, I felt much better. After our meal we went up to Doc's room where he explained to us some of the facts of life. Very interesting. After which most of us went up to our rooms and wrote letters, etc.

At six o'clock Doctor Sharp called for me and we went over to the Detroit Athletic Club where we met his wife and

ate a delicious steak dinner. In talking with Doctor Sharp I found him to be one of the most interesting men I have ever talked with. We enjoyed talking about the present and past at K. U. ^{and other things} Mrs. Sharp, a very pretty lady with beautiful ^{white} blond hair, was very nice.

Doctor Sharp is head of Parks Caldwell Research laboratory. Parks Caldwell is one of the biggest drug companies in the U. S. A. Dr. Sharp has been honored many times for his services in research.

The Detroit Athletic Club was very nice. There was the mens bar where all the men were celebrating Christmas eve, the lobby with all its beautiful paintings, the pool tables, the grand, enormous dining room with a dance band, and many other conveniences. It was really a nice place. Doctor Sharp is a member of ^{the} club.

Doctor Sharp and his wife took me to my ~~to~~ Hotel at 10:30 after I had spent a wonderful evening with them. I was very sorry it was over.

After everybody was in bed again Sparky and Short began raising hell with their bed. It was funny. After they had quieted down, Dixon, Turnes, and myself began telling our experiences. This lasted for a long time. Turnes's jokes stunk. The funniest thing was that our beds

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BUFFALO ATHLETIC CLUB
BUFFALO

beds squeaked and every time anybody would turn over it would make ^a such a horrible racket to a sleeping man. About the middle of the night Dison and I turned ab over about the same time, of course this woke the rest of the boys up and you should have heard them bitching. I bet the people in the next room got there cars full.

Friday, 25th, Christmas

We got up at 6:00, ate in the coffee shop and caught the train for Buffalo at 8:15, taking the street car to the station. The train went under the Detroit river and we found ourselves in Canada where the officials went through the train.

Again everybody slept for a long time. After sleeping John Bueshor and myself tried to get his portable radio to work but it refused. During the ride somebody hid Turner's shoe and he was bothering everybody for it. Somebody gave it to him before we arrived in Buffalo. We had much fun talking like Texans

~~Among~~^{among} the other people on the train. They would stare at us as if we were nuts, which we were.

Getting off at the station in Buffalo we walked over to the Buffalo Athletic club where we were staying while in Buffalo. After taking our bags to our rooms we went out to eat, then to our rooms for some letter writing. About four we practiced in the gym down stairs after Southern California had practiced. They will be traveling with us most of the times, playing the same nights we do.

after eating dinner everybody went to a show. Most of us went to "Hundred-bird Field" with Vivian Lea and others. After the show I tried to call my Grandmother in ^{Toronto} Canada but found out that she was out of town for the week end. Being very tired, I then went to bed along with the others. There was no horseplay tonight

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Bill Forsyth

BUFFALO ATHLETIC CLUB
BUFFALO

Saturday, 26

We were called at 8:30 and went over to the Waldorf Restaurant Cafe to eat. After eating everybody went back over to the Hotel to write this summary of the trip. At 1:30 we again returned to the Waldorf to eat lunch. Afterward we went up to Doc's room to hear hear his view points on the game. After which we went to our rooms to sleep awhile.

After sleeping I called my Aunt in Toronto and my other friends in Buffalo. At 7:00 we walked over to the beautiful ~~Manion~~ Municipal Building. The basketball court sits on the hockey rink. It was a beautiful building but the floor was terrible and the out of bounds was only two feet behind the goal instead of four.

~~Southern California played~~

The game was not close at all. The final score being 53 to 22 with us holding the honors. Otto was hot with 16 points. The first five - Dixon, Otto, Black, Buescher, Evans - played very smooth ball. The best of the season. We were put in near the end of the game.

After the game we watched Southern California beat Canisious 45 to 29. It was a sloppy game. Then we went to the Waldorf to eat again and then to bed.



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Bill Forsyth

HOTEL BELVEDERE

319 WEST 48th STREET • NEW YORK CITY

TELEPHONE CIRCLE 6-9100

Dec. 27, Sunday.

Were called at 7:00. Ate at the Waldorf and took bus to station. The bus was so crowded after we got on that it made no stop till we arrived at the station. You should have seen us piled in with all the luggage.

After waiting for about a half hour, the in which time we wrote post cards, the train came in and we climbed aboard. It was a slow moving train as we later learned. Dean and Turner stood Blair and myself in a game of pitch. They really took us for a role. For the rest of the day Charley Black was giving everybody else the hot foot until somebody gave him one and it burnt a hole in his shoe. He was really enjoying himself till this happened.

Today we gave John Short his pants

that I had had since Detroit. He thought he had left them in Detroit. He was really worried about them until this morning.

After reaching Albany we started to follow the Hudson down to New York. That country is really beautiful. The steep hills starting up from the river with the ~~great~~^{gray} sky overhead, with the ice in the river floating around with such ease and the brown trees on the bank. It was really super in color, etc.

We passed West Point with its old and historic buildings. Sing Sing with its dark and old walls. Just ~~at~~ then I thought of the two ~~extremes~~^{extremes} of these two establishments. One full of honor and tradition and the other full of hatred and lawlessness. Also we passed New York University, situated on a big hill, Polo Field, and Yankee stadium. Then we proceeded into the subway and found ourselves at a sub-basement station on 42nd street.



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HOTEL BELVEDERE

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The station was very crowded. We shoved and pushed with all our bags and finally managed to get up to the street where we all took a street car, ~~we~~ ^{taking} ~~took~~ it over just as we did the bus. We went up 42nd street to Times square turned into it and went on down near the Madison Square Garden and ~~the~~ then walked over to the Hotel Belvedere which is directly south of the Garden where we are staying.

All the street lights are blacked out. The stop and go signs have only a little light ~~sticking~~ ^{shinning} out of them. It is often hard to see it. The cars have their lights dimmed way down low. Instead of the New York City with all its lights, it seems as if it was Medicine Lodge at 3:00 in the morning with ex-

cept the people are running around, pushing
and shoving, just like aunts. I couldn't
believe that I was actually in Times
square tonight when I actually was. It
was so different from the last time
I had seen it. Darkness makes a large
difference.

After eating in the cafe here in the
Hotel, we journeyed over to the Garden
to watch the Toronto Maple ~~Leaf~~^{Leaves} and
the New York Rangers battle in an
ice hockey exhibition. It was really
suggested the way those boys pounded
around that ice. It's a wonder they
don't get killed. The rangers won 3 to
1. They possessed the best goalie. He
was a wonder. Mrs. Allen and Bob
also met us here and went with
us to the game.

After the game we struggled through the
crowd and went to our rooms, washed up
and went to bed.

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Bill Forsyth

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Monday - Dec. 28

Slept very well and was called at 9:00. When looking out the window a person could see rain coming down which continued to do so all day. After going down to the lobby where we met, we proceeded into the cafe where we ate a breakfast of eggs, ham, and toast with milk. It was very delicious.

After breakfast we walked around a little while, then went back to our rooms. For myself I went to sleep. Still very tired from the long trip Sunday. At 1:30 we went down to eat our dinner that was very delicious, also. Again after fooling around some more down in the lobby lobby we went to our rooms where I spent most of my time writing letters, cards, etc.

We ate a light dinner at 6:00, then proceeded to suit up after which we went over to

the Garden to warm up for the game at 8:15. As we usually do we won the game by a small sam. The score being 31 to 30. Jordan was good but we just out fought them. Southern Cal. was playing Long Island University after our game so we watched them, Southern Cal. won.

Paul Turner, Sparky McSpadden, and myself decided to go out after the game. We first walked over to Times square where everybody was walking around in the dark. No lights were on except the necessary ones and those were very few. Since the dark out start dim out started, ^{auto} accidents have increased 20% in N.Y. city.

The first place we stopped was the Hotel Astor. It was really a beautiful place. It was the prettiest Hotel that I have ever seen. While walking around on Times square, we got much enjoyment out of watching the people, the way they talked and bumped along the street. We asked two people information about where certain places were and we couldn't understand either one of them. They were foreigners to us.