

October 25, 1944.

Mr. Jack Carberry,
Sports Editor,
The Denver Post,
Denver, Colorado.

Dear Jack:

I am enclosing a copy of a wire that I sent Lawton Carver after he had written his facetious story on Mayor LaGuardia and "Phog" Allen.

I do not want you to use my personal letter to you in the press, but you are welcome to use the wire that I have sent him and the statement that I made about the gambling fraternity's anastomoses in the college life from other than a direct athletic angle. I will say more on this in a minute.

In 1940 we played St. Bonaventure's in Buffalo, Fordham in Madison Square Garden, and St. Joseph's in Philadelphia. All of these schools, of course, were under the direction of the Garden management. Ned Irish gave the many sport writers a complimentary luncheon at Ted Shore's restaurant. Of course we were there among a great number of other coaches. I said in public to the writers that we came for the cash and the trip. I was baldly frank about the thing because that was the only reason we came, and we made a tidy sum. We found Ned Irish one of the finest hosts and one of the best business men with whom we have ever come in contact. Although I have often wondered why college men could not run their own tournaments, it certainly is a reflection on the college management to think that we have to have a professional promoter to run our tournaments. But the professionals have done it in so much better manner than any of the college people, that it is a reflection on college personnel.

I read your paper quoting what Ned Irish had to say about the investigation of these men. After they investigated these men they did not play any more games with the school that they had previously participated with. That doesn't look as if their skirts were clean. And furthermore, the coach had to go out and get several high school stars to reinforce his team for his other games. This school happened to be one of the schools that played in the N.C.A.A. tournament. So it is queer that they did not permit the boys to play after they investigated them.

I, like you, have no desire to expose the names, but it doesn't seem as if Mr. Irish's explanation is complete. And my statement has consistently been that I do not want to punish any of the boys but I am trying to call attention to certain irregularities that would be corrected very definitely if we had a czar of intercollegiate athletics. He would work with college and university authorities to see that the sinister head of the gambler was not raised in college athletic activities.

Now, a little explanation in regard to this sports writer or writers on college papers. I am sure that you are well acquainted with the fact that these parlays are sold in twenty or thirty different places in every college town. Drugstores, barber shops, pool halls, grills, are the places where the bets could be laid. The gambler contacts these boys who work for the college paper. The boys then naturally get in contact with their fraternity brothers or other associates who have the inside contact with the football or basketball team. Then the grapevine goes back to the sports writer and the sports writer furnishes the gambler with the lowdown and these boys are paid according to the accuracy of their information and the success of their prediction.

This is another angle and there are more that have not been exposed as yet on the activities of the gambler in college athletics. I am conveying this to you exclusively to use as you see fit. I mean, of course, the statement regarding the ramification of the influence of the professional gambler. I do not want my letter to you printed, but you are privileged to print the statements and dateline them as you see fit and give them to the press regardless of whether it is the AP, UP or INS.

These gamblers cannot go to reputable newspaper offices because the editors would not permit any of their employees to give this information, but they clandestinely work with the students, and the university authorities, the professors of journalism, and so forth, have no way of cracking down because they would have to prove some of their beliefs, while the editor of a town paper is the boss of his establishment and can issue orders and the employees must of necessity follow them. But you can see how a student can act without any of the university authorities cracking down on him.

If there is anything you do not understand about this angle before you use it, please wire me or call me and I will elaborate upon it. There is one instance here in Lawrence, Kansas, where last year the gamblers were taken for a heavy ride by the parlay players and the gamblers folded their tent and left town without paying any of their gambling debts, and it ran way up into the thousands.

I am amazed to see how gullible are the boys who place their wagers. They walk in and leave five hundred or a thousand dollars in the establishment and feel that they will get their money back. In this case the gamblers walked out and the boys who received the bets said, I am sorry. They were broke and couldn't pay their bets, and what could the men do who bet on the games?

Then there was an instance this year of where a six thousand dollar bet was placed and a one thousand dollar bet was made, and the gamblers refused to pay the money. They sent a detective to investigate, thinking that somebody was pulling some crooked stuff. When they found that there had been no chicanery practiced, the gamblers came in with a big bag of money and paid off.

I am sure that the same thing is going on in Denver that is going on in Lawrence, Kansas, and in every college town. Unless the gamblers were making a lot of money they wouldn't fool with this. Generally there are several local syndicates, and the outside boys muscle in when the gravy is good.

I was talking to the vice president of a large corporation last night. He is a very astute businessman, and when we talked about a parlay card he had no idea that they were used for gambling purposes but just dope sheets passed out for the information of the public. I believe that you and your good sheet by putting this on the wire in the proper way can enlighten the public as to another added danger to college athletics from the professional gambler. Please make it plain that I am not talking about the fellow who bets as a thrill or as a choice on his alma mater. I am talking about the sinister influence of the gambler who will get to some of these boys and if he can fix a bet and make it worth while to toss a game where he can get a sure thing, which may run up into hundreds of thousands of dollars, rather than the so-called harmless bet on his alma mater.

A national commissioner like Judge Landis would keep a lot of these players and coaches honest in a lot of ways, the same as a bank examiner keeps a lot of cashiers honest, if you get the idea.

Very sincerely yours,

Director of Physical Education,
Varsity Basketball Coach.

FCA:AH
Enc.

CENTRAL OFFICE FOR EASTERN INTERCOLLEGIATE ATHLETICS

Biltmore Hotel, Madison Avenue and 43rd Street, New York 17, N. Y.

MURRAY HILL 6-7580

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ASA S. BUSHNELL, *Executive Director*

6

Eastern
Association of
Rowing Colleges

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Eastern
Intercollegiate
Baseball League

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Eastern
Intercollegiate
Basketball League

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Eastern
Intercollegiate
Football Association

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Eastern
Intercollegiate
150-Lb. Football League

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Eastern
Intercollegiate
Golf Association

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Eastern
Intercollegiate
Gymnastic League

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Eastern
Intercollegiate
Swimming League

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Eastern
Intercollegiate
Tennis Association

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Eastern
Intercollegiate
Wrestling Association

•
Heptagonal Games
Association

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I. C. A. A. A. A.

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Intercollegiate
Fencing Association

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Intercollegiate
Ice Hockey
Association

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Intercollegiate
Rowing Association

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International
Intercollegiate
Ice Hockey League

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Pentagonal
Hockey League

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Collegiate Basketball
Officials Bureau

October 25, 1944

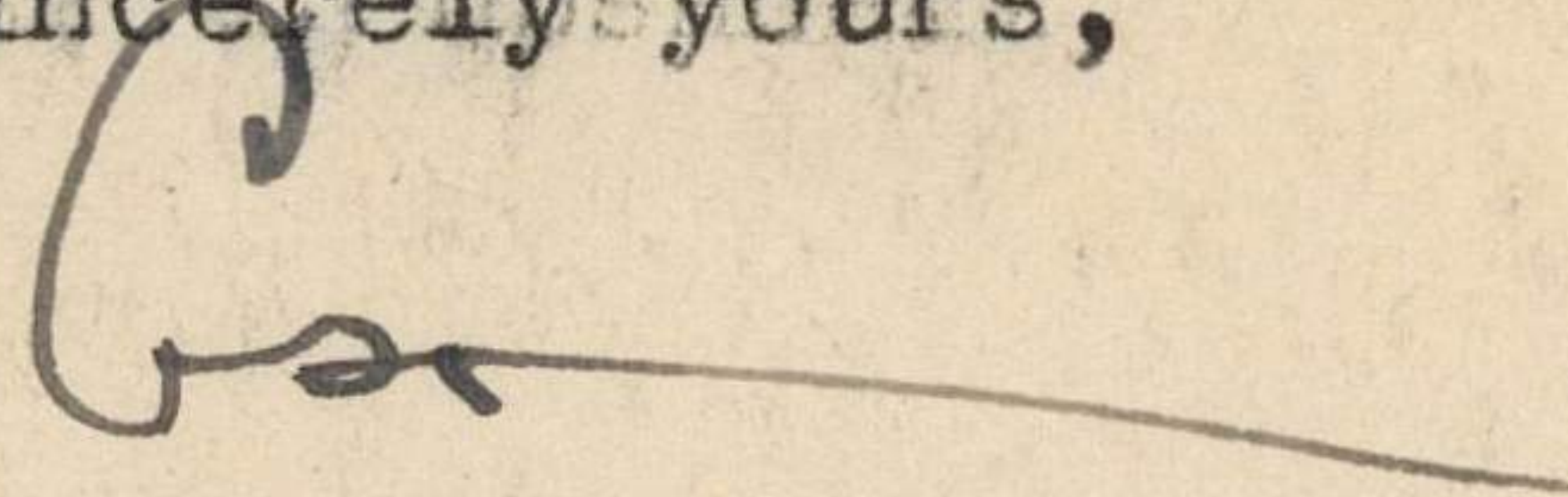
Dr. Forrest C. Allen
University of Kansas
Lawrence, Kansas

Dear Phog:

This will merely serve as an appreciative acknowledgment of the receipt of your interesting letter of October 23, together with its several enclosures.

I am planning, at very first opportunity, to forward to you the very full reply which this communication deserves.

Sincerely yours,


Asa S. Bushnell

ASB:hw

COPY

October 24, 1944

Dear Mr. Allen:

I am behind your recent charges pertaining to college basketball 100%. Unfortunately I cannot reveal my identity but what I have to say substantiates the accusations you made.

During last basketball season two members of Temple University's team were approached by a Mr. Jack Lynch, who operates a night club at the Walton Roof of this city. The two players were Albie Ingerman and Dick Koecher, both freshmen. They were offered \$500.00 each to throw a game that was being played at Convention Hall and presented by Ned Irish.

Dick Koecher, a trustworthy and conscientious lad, went home to tell his father about the offer whereupon the latter notified Josh Cody, coach of Temple. The night of the game Albie Ingerman was closely watched and it was apparent that he was not playing his best. After the game Ingerman was suspended.

I believe, but am not sure, that the game was against Muhlenberg College.

This Mr. Lynch is a noted racketeer who has been kicked out of all our eastern horse racing parks. He operates a basketball pool and quotes certain odds on different games.

This matter was kept from publicity although one local reporter from the Philadelphia Daily news threw some hint on it.

Yours for clean sports.

(Postmarked Philadelphia, Pa., Oct. 24, 1944, 7:30 p.m.)

The Umpire

By H.G. Salsinger

ALTHOUGH the voice of Dr. Forrest C. (Phog) Allen of Kansas University, is frequently raised in warning, his is a voice crying in the wilderness. Dr. Phog keeps reminding the country of the dangers besetting college athletics and while no one denies the existence of the dangers, no one seems inclined to take the needed steps to guard against them.

Unless something is done about it, Dr. Phog is much afraid that the college athletic structure will be toppled by scandal. The two sports he is concerned about are foot ball and basket ball. Heavy gambling on these games is bound, sooner or later, to develop crooked competition, he thinks. The professional gamblers have already caused two boys to throw basket ball games in eastern collegiate tournaments, according to Dr. Phog.

* * *

Coaches Fear

WHILE Dr. Allen is a basket ball coach, and one of the best, he has a considerable knowledge of foot ball as well. The danger to foot ball is more pronounced than the danger to basket ball for the reason that much more money is wagered on foot ball.

The gambling angle has worried many foot ball coaches. They are not concerned with the loyal alumni bets, that are prompted by sentiment, but the wagering of professionals.

Sentiment never enters into the calculations of the professional gambler. He feasts on the sentimental alumni. He cashes in on their loyalty.

The professional gambler safeguards his bets as far as he can. He is a sure-thing operator to the limit of his ability and his ability knows no moral limits. He would not hesitate a second if he had a chance to "buy" a college foot ball player who might be in position to lose a close game and win a heavy wager for the gambler.

* * *

Root of Evil

IT HAS LONG ceased to be a secret that more than a few of our leading colleges and universities pay their foot ball players stipulated weekly or monthly sums of money. Others, while not paying them straight salaries, reward them in a more subtle way that, in the end, amounts to the same thing.

This condition is known to practically all the people who attend foot ball games. It has not shocked them. It has not driven them away from the foot ball stadia. The general attitude is one of what-of-it?

The public demands winning teams. It doesn't care a rap whether the players are salaried athletes or simon pure amateurs. The only thing the public is concerned about (and by public we mean the alumni, student body, and non-alumni among the customers) is whether the boys can play foot ball.

* * *

The Problem

TWENTY YEARS AGO the foot ball stadia craze swept the country. Bigger and better stadia were being built everywhere. Millions were spent on foot ball ampitheatres, most of them bonded. To pay off the bonds coaches had to produce winning teams and to produce winning teams they had to have the necessary material and to get the necessary material they, or the athletic associations, or the alumni, had to provide inducements that would lure the best prospects.

It developed into a bidding contest. As many as 20 scouts for major schools would be bidding for the same player, one "who couldn't miss in big-time foot ball." The player, or his parents, or both, considering all the bids, cast his lot with the school that either offered the most money or the best advantages and, why not? It was being done all over the country, wasn't it?

* * *

Strictly Business

COLLEGE foot ball has, for the last 20 years, been strictly a commercial proposition. Coaches, regardless of their personal inclinations and training, had to subscribe to the general procedure to survive. They either became active in proselyting or pretended to know nothing about it.

They have received no help from the public. What the public keeps demanding is winning teams. It does not concern itself with the manner or method by which they are secured. It is neither startled nor annoyed by the intermittent revelations of proselyting and commercialism. It doesn't give a rap whether the players are semi-professionals, out-and-out professionals, or simon pure students.

That is what worries the coaches.

October 24, 1944

Lawton Carver,
Sports Editor,
International News Service,
New York, N.Y.

Your statement that I have ~~backed~~ down is untrue. I stated that certain eastern writers have minimized the gambling hazard, and your story prompts me to believe that you are one of them. As far as my getting out of the game I am in is concerned, I suggest you apply the same yardstick to yourself in your profession. What could you know of how much basketball has given me?

Forrest C. Allen

D. F. 26, 1944.

Dr. Forrest Allen,
Kansas Univ.,
Lawrence, Kansas.

Dear Sir,

I hope you'll forgive my intrusion into the controversy aroused by your claims as to "thrown" games at Madison Square Garden.

Geo. M. Varnell's blast at you in the Wed. Oct. 25, 1944 "Seattle Times" aroused me and led to this letter. In his column he suggests quite emphatically that you either prove your statement or be banned from basketball.

Formerly a resident of N. Y. and familiar with most of the basketball players five and six years ago I may be able to shed some light on the situation. I, too, have no actual proof of "thrown" games but I can offer suggestions which may lead you to actual proof of the gambling activities by New York's gambling fraternity.

The principle incident I have in mind is an N. Y. U. - C. C. N. Y. game about 6 years ago which a highly favored N. Y. U. team lost. It was common neighborhood knowledge and gossip that the game had been thrown and members of the families of the N. Y. U. players had wagered heavily on C. C. N. Y. to win.

Bobby Lewis participated for N. Y. U. and was so incensed by his teammates' obvious tactics that he tried single handedly to win the game. I'm sure he could aid you in any trouble you might have because of your charges on the gambling

activities.

Coach Howard Cannon of N. Y. U. might also tell you why Resnick was dropped from school shortly thereafter. Proper investigation of Auerbach another N. Y. U. player might reveal more information.

All the above concerns N. Y. U. activity. I have no personal axe to grind since I have been away from N. Y. for 4 seasons now.

I know there are many others in N. Y. who like I want to see fair play and may aid you in your fight.

Red Irish has monopolized Garden basketball since its inception & is naturally anxious to protect his livelihood. But there are many honest coaches and officials who should aid you. Some may have their hands tied by secret assignments as Garden officials but once you set one to talk the others will follow.

Having been away from the N. Y. scene for so long I hesitate to mention names now. The commercial aspects of Garden basketball also prevents me from naming N. Y. officials and coaches who haven't been touched by the lure of dishonest finances.

I feel free in mentioning Dr. Carlson of Pitt. as lending a hand if there is any more favor aroused. Pitt has played very little at the Garden. I use I believe & Dr. Carlson typifies the spirit of fair play.

I hope I haven't bored or annoyed you with this lengthy letter but when I know there have been thrown James, Vannell's unjust attack was uncalled for.

Sincerely yours,
Leo Ades

October 30, 1944.

Mr. Jack Carberry,
Sports Editor,
Denver Post,
Denver, Colorado.

Dear Jack:

I was glad to get your two-page letter of the 25th instant. I will answer your letter and give you some additional data at my first opportunity. As newly elected president of the Lawrence Country Club, I am initiating a number of improvements out there which has taken a lot of my immediate time. However, I will have this under control in a day or so and will write you a rather lengthy and informative letter.

I think I can say without fear that John Q. Public's eye has been opened no end, and these boys who are sure that everything is hotsy-totsy will awaken to find that the better periodicals and newspapers will not soon forget some of the cautioning that has gone out toward the gambling abuse of basketball in large arenas.

There is some information that I cannot pass on to you at present, but it is really good.

I have never doubted Bill Greim's honesty. Certainly anything that he has to do is bound to be on the up and up, but I have no confidence in the national administration of the AAU.

Sincerely yours,

Director of Physical Education,
Varsity Basketball Coach.

FCA:AH

P. S. In my next letter which will go to you very shortly I will give you some further light on the N.C.A.A. Asa Bushnell, Executive Director of the Central Office for Eastern Intercollegiate Athletics, wrote me a pretty pointed letter and then I sent him a copy of the letter that I had written Sam Smith with only one amplification, and that was an explanation that when I said the commissioners were no good I meant without power to do anything about the vital things that are endangering athletics.

Will write you in a few days.

F.C.A.



So the People may Know

THE DENVER POST

PUBLISHED EVERY DAY IN THE YEAR.
THE OFFICIAL PAPER OF THE PEOPLE.
THE WANT AD MEDIUM OF THE WEST.

THE
DENVER POST
Including Sunday
25¢ A WEEK

Denver, Colo., Oct. 25, 1944

Dr. Forrest C. Allen,
Lawrence, Kan.

Dear "Phog":

I don't know when I have had so much fun. The fact that you are so right makes the fun worthwhile. I doubt if you know how right you are, in some of the things that have come out, in part.

Two years ago George Knorr, a resident of our Globeville--that's over the tracks, in the Polish section--took a fighter to New York, one Reuben Shank. He came home to tell us how The Garden told him how much he had to pay to each of the sports writers. He named names. I sent that information on to sources in New York where I hoped it would get some action.

But George Knorr was just a lone individual--a Globevillite, to be exact--and all I got was "pish" and "tush", and "he is dreaming". You can kiss off the George Knorrs and nothing can do done about it. Now the blow comes from where it hurts.

What I would like to know is this? The sports writers, almost without exception, speak of "reports" and "suspicions" relative to the Garden situation. They say they "mentioned" this, from time to time. The newspaper profession has fallen to low estate when, with "reports" and "hints" running that wild that a newspaperman does not go out and track it down.

Let me say this: The A. A. U. here is free from that sort of thing. I would like to hear a report of that kind in connection with the National that I--and our entire staff, including all the investigators we possess, both in and out of the sports department--would not investigate to its every foundation. The A. A. U. here is kept clean---it is because if it got an eighth of an inch out of line everybody knows THE DENVER POST would blast whoever was responsible out of existance. Those things don't happen if there is a vigilant press.

**It Is Imperative that you address
all communications to The Denver
Post, and Not to individuals.**

What I would like to see now is as many as possible in the N.C.A.A. group, named in the enclosed **proof** sheet of a recent column, express themselves on the matters mentioned there

I do not believe the fathers and mothers of this land want their kids exposed to the temptations surrounding --admittedly surrounding--college clubs that go into The Garden.

I do not know what Harry Carlson is going to say but it should be good. Harry gets pretty academic in his writings, but he has a darn good punch if he will throw it.

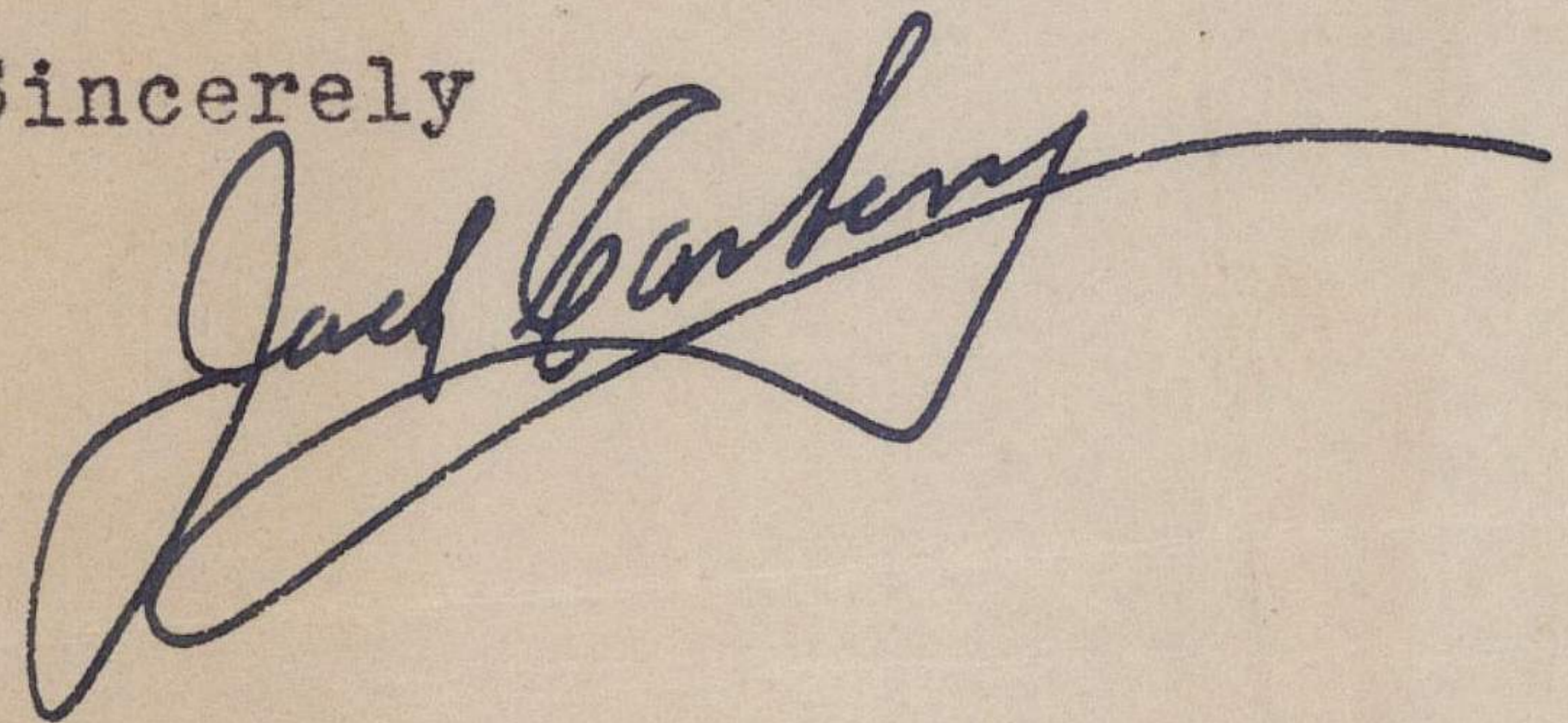
I wish you could be here for the opening of our Victory League basketball season, Monday Dec. 11. We will have a very fine loop this year with five army instalations-- Buckley and Lowry Fields, Fort Logan, Fitzsimons hospital and Fort Warren (Wyoming) plus Ambrose & Co., boasting Jack McCracken and Ace Gruenig. This loop plays a mighty fine brand of ball--once a week in town and once on post, the latter games free for service men. It is strictly non-profit, civic minded citizens doing the work and anything that is made going into simple awards for the players and a whale of a nice party at the end.

It does wonders for the game here.

We will also have a Junior Victory League this year with not less than 3,000 boys and 1,000 girls playing in a regular schedule--fully uniformed and all that. Your old friend Bill Greim sets this up and his assistant Jack Evans runs it, and turns in a whale of a job. We take some money out of the A.A.U. to help. We see eye-toeye on the A.A.U. nationally, but for the last three years the Rocky Mountain section has been turning in a great job, spending money to foster sports.

Can you strike up some of the "NAMES" within the N.C.A.A.?

Sincerely

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Jack Carlson", written in dark ink. The signature is fluid and somewhat stylized, with a long horizontal stroke at the end.



THAT'S a beautiful brannigan "Phog" Allen has started. Like everybody else, standing along the sidelines of Pier Six, I am enjoying the brawl, no end. Whether or not the good doctor of physical education at Kansas U. proves his charges of "thrown games" in Madison Square Garden—and Allen, according to news association reports, has telegraphed names to Madison Square's Ned Irish—he has, from all evidence in so far, put his finger on something mighty sericus.

Suppose we just leave "Phog" out of this entirely.

Let us take the experience of Vadal Peterson, coach of Utah university's N. C. A. A. Invitational champion while in New York. Let us add to that the experiences of Ev Shelton and Elton Davis of Wyoming when they took the Cowboys back to the Garden.

These experiences have been set out in detail in these columns in past days. You know how both clubs lived in an atmosphere in which it was necessary to have the rooms occupied by the players guarded by minions of the law at all times; how Peterson had to have the telephones cut off from his team's quarters; how, according to Buddy Hassett of Georgetown U.—Wyoming's opponent—(as quoted by Shelton) a proposition was made to two Georgetown players, Kraus and Mahnken.

Then read Lawton Carver, International News Service sports editor, in this issue of THE POST—A witness against Allen, by the way—who nevertheless tells how Madison Square is infested by gamblers, cluttering the aisles "bickering and dickering" over sports events.

THERE is a body called the National Collegiate Athletic association—the N. C. A. A. It is headed by Prof. Philip O. Badger, assistant to the chancellor of New York university. Its secretary-treasurer is Maj. John L. Griffith, conference commissioner of the Big Ten. Its vice presidents are John M. Harmson, Boston U.; William A. Read, Colgate; Dean A. W. Hobbs, University of North Carolina; Prof. George L. Rider, Miami U.; H. H. King, Kansas State; Prof. J. S. McIntosh, Southern Methodist;

Watch for This; It Will Be Good!

Mr. Jack Carberry, Sports Editor
DENVER POST.

Dear Jack: This is to follow up my press wire sent you Friday night. I am very much interested in the many different questions raised by Dr. Forrest Allen's letter and am planning to write at some length in an attempt to cover most of them. I am leaving for the east and will not be back until Oct. 30, which means that I cannot send you my full opinions until about that time. Meanwhile, suffice it to say that Dr. Allen has hit at some of the basic difficulties of intercollegiate athletics, and I want to congratulate you on airing these ideas thru the offices of your paper.

Sincerely yours,

HARRY CARLSON,
Dean of Men and Athletic Director
of the University of Colorado.

Prof. John W. Olmsted, U. C. L. A., and Prof O. L. Troxel of our own Colorado Aggies.

The members at large are Col. L. McC. Jones of the U. S. Military academy, Norton Prichett of the University of Virginia, Dean L. K. Neidlinger of Dartmouth, Prof. H. C. Willett of U. S. C., Prof. L. W. St. John of Ohio State, Dr. Harry A. Scott of Rice and Capt. John E. Whelchel of the U. S. Naval academy.

Its executive committee is composed of our own President T. J. Davies of Colorado College, Prof. William B. Owens of Stanford, Ogden D. Miller of Yale, Prof. Karl E. Leib of Iowa U., Wilbur C. Smith of Tulane and Clarence P. Houston of Tufts.

Asa S. Bushnell of Princeton is its acting director.

Mighty men—mighty names, these!

This association has a creed—a code to which every basketball coach in every one of its schools subscribes.

I quote from that creed:

“I believe that the proper administration of this sport (basketball) offers an effective laboratory method to develop in its adherents high ideals of sportsmanship; qualities of co-operation, courage, unselfishness and self-control; **DESIRES FOR CLEAN, HEALTHFUL LIVING**, and respect for wise discipline and authority.

“I believe that basketball has an important place in the general educational scheme and pledge myself to co-operate with others in the field of education to so administer it that its value will never be questioned.”

SURELY none of the gentlemen named above, or anyone else, will be so bold as to say that the experiences—remember, we are leaving “Phog” Allen completely out of this picture—of the Rocky Mountain participants in N. C. A. A. activities in New York, tended to, as the creed puts it, “develop—a desire (on the part of college boys) **FOR CLEAN, HEALTHFUL LIVING.**”

What, may I ask, were the “dicks” doing guarding their doors?

Why were the telephones cut off?

Here’s one the N. C. A. A. can’t walk away from.

IT MAKES not one iota of difference, the way we see it, what may or may not have occurred in the past, relative to the “throwing” of games. If, under the setup, as described, not by Allen, but by the sympathetic Carver in his article of this date—his picture of the scene at Madison Square, with the Broadway mob dominating that scene—games have not already been “thrown” the greater the surprise.

Who are these kids who have to be guarded, by detectives, in their hotel rooms; whose telephones have to be served; who, despite this, receive calls offering them money? Go back to the colleges from which they came. Many—the great majority, I would say—are what can best be called “poor men’s sons.” “Rich men’s sons,” for the most part, do not attend the colleges whose teams, over the years, have played in Madison Square, and the big money tournaments. Many—a great, great many—are boys working their way thru school. We’ve been into that before, out here. We can name names, for anybody who wants them, of boys, playing on college teams, within our own Big Seven conference, who have gone into contests actually hungry. We know kids who have lived, thru athletic seasons, when they could not devote time to jobs and still keep their places on the athletic units, who lived on hamburgers—and there were times when they didn’t have the price of even these.

It stands as a monument, indeed, to American youth—to American college youth—that boys so situated have had the qualities which have given them the courage to face the temptations which admittedly surround them in the atmosphere as described—not by Allen, remember, but by Carver.

* * *

EVERYBODY is praiseful of Ned Irish and for all he has done for basketball. This New York sports writer did, without doubt, put the cage game on “the big time” as it has been stated. It is very “big time” now—a regular circuit in which college boys are used as performers in a series of stands, exactly as are touring professionals, theatrical companies and such. This circuit extends outward from the Garden to Buffalo and Philadelphia—towns in which the visitors to the Garden are built up for their Broadway appearance.

But that isn't college athletics.

If Madison Square and its branches want to run this kind of a show then let Madison Square set up a pro league, just as football has set up its pro league.

Then let basketball, as does football and baseball, have its czar, capable of handling the New York situation.

Personally this department is not concerned in the slightest with Allen's charge that “**GAMES ALREADY HAVE BEEN THROWN.**” The past, in that respect, is the past. I hope and trust that Ned Irish will not release the names demanded by him, and according to the news associations, supplied by Allen. This would do no good whatever.

What is needed is for the gentlemen named above to sit down in council right now, as the 1944-45 season approaches, and do the only honest, decent thing basketball—college basketball—can do.

Give the game back to the colleges—and the college kids.

Let Madison Square, if it wants to, set up its pro league as did football, and before it baseball.

I, for one, wouldn't want a kid of mine being kissed by a New York gambler who just won \$15,000 on his basket—nor would I want that kid living thru his pregame hours in rooms around which it was necessary to throw cordons of detectives with severed telephone connections, and men coming to doors asking “how much?” to throw the contest.

A little honesty—athletic honesty—by the men at the head of N. C. A. A. and the basketball scandal of 1944 will be forgotten.

Failure to act and the things “Phog” Allen predicts will happen as sure as today is Monday.

5819 MALVERN AVENUE
PHILADELPHIA, PA., NOVEMBER 21, 1944

DR. FORREST C. ALLEN
DIRECTOR OF PHYSICAL EDUCATION
VARSITY BASKETBALL COACH
UNIVERSITY OF KANSAS,
LAWRENCE, KANS.

DEAR DR. ALLEN:

YOUR LETTER OF NOVEMBER 9TH HAS BEEN RECEIVED, TOGETHER WITH THE CARBON COPIES OF MR. SMITH'S LETTER OF SEPTEMBER 6TH, YOUR ANSWER OF SEPTEMBER 22ND AND THE ANSWER OF THE MADISON SQUARE GARDEN CORPORATION DATED OCTOBER 24TH. THESE WERE CERTAINLY VERY INTERESTING AND REST ASSURED THEY ARE RECEIVED BY THE WRITER IN THE SAME CONFIDENCE WITH WHICH YOU SENT THEM.

I HAVE NOTHING FURTHER IN THE WAY OF EVIDENCE IN THE CASE BUT THAT WHICH WE ARE BOTH FAMILIAR WITH, BUT I BELIEVE I MAY BE ABLE TO ACQUIRE SOME CONCRETE FACTS FOR YOU. HOWEVER, AT THIS TIME ALL I WANT TO DO IS TEAR DOWN A BIT THE LETTER OF NED IRISH.

HE STATES THAT THE RUMOR WAS DISCREDITED COMPLETELY IN THE PHILADELPHIA NEWSPAPERS. I AM AN ARDENT READER OF THE SPORTING PAGES OF EVERY PHILADELPHIA NEWSPAPER AND I DO NOT REMEMBER SEEING ANY STATEMENT OF ANY SPORTS WRITER DISCREDITING THIS RUMOR. THE ONLY THING THAT APPEARED AT ALL AFTER THE GAME WAS A STATEMENT THAT ONE OF THE MEN HAD INJURED HIS SHOULDER IN THE GAME AND WOULD BE UNABLE TO PLAY FOR SEVERAL MORE WEEKS AND THE OTHER CHAP IN QUESTION HAD PLAYED WITH A HIGH FEVER AND WOULD BE UNABLE TO PLAY ANY MORE DUE TO BEING DRAFTED IN THE NAVY. I RECALL NO OTHER STATEMENT BEING PUBLISHED IN THE PHILADELPHIA PAPERS ABOUT THE ENTIRE MATTER.

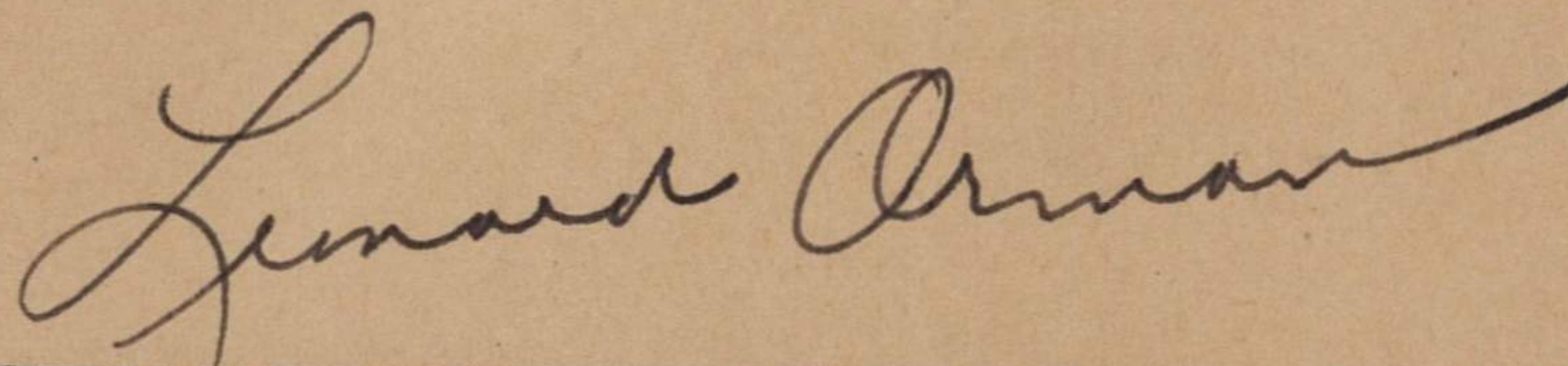
I DO KNOW HOWEVER, THAT IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING THE GAME (WHICH THE WRITER ATTENDED) AMONG MANY OF THE SO CALLED "SPORTING FRATERNITY" THERE WAS TALK ABOUT THE PROTECTION OF BETS OF SEVERAL THOUSAND DOLLARS MADE BY CERTAIN MEN. BEFORE THE MALL WAS CLEARED OF THESE INDIVIDUALS, THE WORDS "PAY OFF" WERE BEING USED QUITE COMMONLY. OF COURSE, ONE CANNOT INDICT A PERSON ON HEARSAY EVIDENCE SUCH AS THIS AND LIKE YOURSELF, I BELIEVE THE FAULT IS WITH THE SYSTEM AND NOTHING ELSE.

I ONLY WROTE YOU AND THE SPORTS WRITERS ABOUT THIS ENTIRE MATTER BECAUSE I DID NOT THINK IT WAS FAIR TO YOU (EVEN THOUGH I HAVE NEVER MET YOU) TO TAKE A BLASTING FROM THESE SPORTS WRITERS CLAIMING THAT YOU ONLY CAUSED ALL THIS DUE TO THE FACT THAT YOU WERE LOOKING FOR THE JOB OF "CZAR" OF BASKETBALL. I DIDN'T EVEN RECEIVE THE COURTESY OF A REPLY FROM ANY OF THE THREE WRITERS, ALTHOUGH TRUTHFULLY, I DID NOT EXPECT ONE.

IF AT ANY TIME THERE IS ANYTHING I CAN DO TO HELP YOU IN YOUR ENDEAVOR ALONG THESE LINES, PLEASE DO NOT HESITATE, BUT FEEL FREE TO CALL UPON ME AT ANY TIME.

ANTICIPATING THE PLEASURE OF SOME DAY MAKING YOUR ACQUAINTANCE, THE WRITER BEGS TO REMAIN,

YOURS VERY TRULY,



LEONARD ORMAN

LO:CP

November 10, 1944.

Mr. Robert Fuoss,
Managing Editor,
The Saturday Evening Post,
Philadelphia 5, Pa.

Dear Mr. Fuoss:

I will endeavor to give you fulsome information regarding my knowledge of the gambling situation in Ned Irish's circuit.

I am enclosing a letter from Sam Smith, United Press sports editor in Kansas City, Mo. Sam, a Missouri man, wrote me for a basketball yarn. I try to accommodate the boys when I can. On September 22 I dictated a letter rather hastily to give him some ammunition.

Mr. Fuoss, my primal purpose in giving Smith this information was to arouse the university and college presidents of the United States to what I considered their duty in preventing a collegiate scandal that might rival or excel the Black Sox scandal. Certainly I did not desire to take a crack at Ned Irish, nor was I that "lone voice crying in the wilderness" endeavoring to purify college athletics by remote control. But rather, I wanted to give not only the college presidents, but the public, some startling facts regarding the gambling racketeering which I thought they did not know.

If the college presidents could get a czar like Judge Landis in intercollegiate athletics, - and it could be done, - then educational institutions would regain the prestige they have lost through the proselyting, subsidizing, recruiting and gambling.

This gambling situation does not pertain to college games alone. The high school games are getting as bad. I am enclosing a clipping from Lt. Jim Reed regarding the high school games at Miami, and I am sending you a confidential copy of the letter he wrote me together with his clipping.

Much of this stuff you necessarily cannot use, but it will give you the background that will enable you to hit the thing the hardest.

I am also sending you a letter from Asa Bushnell, a copy of my letter to him, and his reply. I have not heard from him as yet, but I am sure that he recognizes the vulnerability of his position.

Now, to the meat of the thing. My son, Robert E. Allen, M.D., graduated from the University of Pennsylvania Medical School this past year.

He took his A.B. degree at the University of Kansas. He played three years on the varsity basketball team, and was mentioned by some authorities as All-American for 1940, when Kansas defeated Southern California for the Western N.C.A.A. championship and lost to the University of Indiana for the national title. Your publication carried a story the following winter on "Give The Ball to Junior", which alludes to him. Bob received a good deal of attention from the basketball clientele at the University of Pennsylvania. He and a group of his colleagues won the intramural championship a couple of years back there. He loves the game and played it as a conditioner to offset his long hours of medical study.

In 1942 while Bob was at Penn, Kansas played St. Joseph's College, winning 65 to 38. The play of the Kansas team that night was highly praised by sport writers and as a result of this game Bob got to know many more basketball fans in Philadelphia. He invited some of his medic friends to sit with us on our bench or just behind it. I believe on that night, although it was raining badly, we drew the largest crowd that has ever attended a basketball game in Philadelphia. Ray Evans and Charlie Black, two of our All-American boys, played phenomenal ball.

Stan Novak was a star on the Temple team of the year 1942-'43, and last year, 1943-'44, as a V-12 student he starred at Penn. He and Bob were very close friends. Bob says that Novak was outstanding, as were Musi, Katz and Snyder, on the 1940-'41 team. Stan Novak and Bob were discussing what happened to a boy named Albie Ingerman. Ingerman was the outstanding set shot of the east. Novak told Bob, confidentially, that Albie Ingerman was investigated for accepting a bribe from the gamblers and Josh Cody kicked him and two other boys off the squad. It was just after this affair that Josh had to go out and get some high school boys to finish his playing season.

Bob Allen said that Stan Novak is a man of high character. Stan is going back to Temple after the war and of course does not want his name used in any way, and I did not use his name to Irish. I am sending you a copy of Ned Irish's wire and my reply to him. To substantiate Novak's statement, I received an unsigned letter dated October 24th which I am sending to you. I will ask only that you return the original copies of the correspondence I am enclosing. You may make copies of any of the originals that you desire.

I am also sending you a letter from James A. McFarland, of Long Island, New York. From every place, those in on the know substantiate these statements.

Ned Irish wrote me on October 24th, and I am sending you a copy of his letter together with a copy of my reply. I am not persecuting or prosecuting Irish. He is a businessman handling a hot rock, and one would naturally expect him to try to endeavor to protect his business interests. He is a fine man.

Hy Goldberg, in his "Sports in The News" column of the Newark News, says it is much easier to "fix" the basketball outcome than it is in any other sport. I emphatically agree with him. He writes as follows:

"It wouldn't be a question of throwing the game. Betting on basketball is confined pretty much to a point basis. As long as his team wins, the average player isn't too interested in the score, and if a wily citizen can induce a key performer not to run up the tally, once his team is in the lead, well, it might not sound too bad. . . . but it's probably easier to 'fix' a basketball contest than any other team game that comes to mind. Football pools have been rampant in the country for years, but no single member of a football squad can control a game as can a key scorer on a five-man basketball team. A baseball player is similarly incapable of taking charge of the situation. But in basketball, the high scorer need only narrowly miss the basket on a few shots to hold the score down, and not even his own teammates could detect it. In fact, that sort of thing was a common practice for years in professional court circles. It wasn't necessarily a matter of heavy wagering. The big pro outfits simply avoided humiliating the hometown team. They 'made it close', usually with an eye toward a return engagement."

Bob Considine in writing on the term "cooperation" used by Lou Greenberg, former manager of the Syracuse, N. Y., Reds, professional basketball team, said that pro players had told him of their alleged cooperation in having the point scores in their college games fit the gambling odds. Dan Parker, sports editor of the New York Daily Mirror, and Bob Considine, sports editor and columnist, have often played the gambling interests in their 'in the middle' gambling on basketball games. Considine wrote recently:

"Most of the warnings . . . have centered around the curious way in which so many of the final scores of Garden games have ended 'in the middle'. 'In the middle' is a gambling expression denoting a final score which is just right for the gambler - in that he collects from both wagering sides. For instance, a gambler ordains that one team is '15-13' over another, meaning that if you want to bet on the favorite you must bet not that the favorite will win, but that the favorite will win by at least fifteen points, or if you want the underdog you bet that said underdog will come within thirteen points of winning. A lot of games have been ending in the middle, which, in the hypothetical case outlined above, would mean that the winning team wins by only fourteen points. Thus the bookmaker collects from both bettors. There have been a few too many in-the-middle games to suit the lovers of the law of mathematics. . . ."

I have been quoted as saying that a basketball czar was the thing. I haven't been interested in a basketball czar. I have only been interested in having some outstanding jurist of national reputation and standing, even nominated by the President, head up such an organization as a national collegiate czar. He necessarily would have to be a lawyer because only a man with legal training and experience could set up a workable program with the necessary rules and regulations. He of course would have to be a college-bred man to know the athletic traditions of the colleges of our land. His powers would be absolute.

I am also sending you an article by Lawton Carver, the International News Service sports writer. His first statement that I had "backed down" led me to send him the wire, a copy of which I am enclosing. His INS release of October 25th was printed in the San Francisco paper, but Jack Carberry of the Denver Post says it was withdrawn by his service.

These fellows who get cuts from the game naturally flay someone who comes out in the open and shows the public what is going on. This Invitation Tournament that is handled by Ned Irish first started as a Sport Writers Invitation Tournament. These sport writers naturally got their cut because they promoted the tournament. And then when it was so obvious as to what was being done they changed it to the Invitation Tournament, and Irish handled it. Irish always has the newspaper boys at Toots Shor's restaurant with every income game attraction to mingle with the coaches and to get stories. These stories are, of course, legitimate. The boys write feature stories and get three to five hundred dollars for their article, which is o.k., but the fact that the newspaper men figure in the cut of the gate receipts on these Invitation Tournaments is still questionable because no reform can ever take place when the boys are protecting their own situation.

However, if we had a national czar with the character and power that Judge Landis exercises in professional baseball, he would correct things in a reasonably short while, and at the same time he would lift the odious burden from the college presidents who now have a stinker on their hands. He might even deny college teams playing in the Irish circuit or similar circuits until the difficulty was eradicated. I have been told by reliable authorities that Mr. Irish's most profitable and consistent customers are the boys who make wagering their business. Mr. McFarland re-emphasizes this in his letter. He also states if the Garden management were to rely on lovers and followers of basketball they would average only about eight thousand people a game, whereas now they average close to fifteen thousand.

This letter is entirely too fatiguing for your own benefit, I fear. But there are two additional angles that I think you should have as a background. The gambling interests who print dope sheets or form sheets for football and basketball are now engaging the sports writers of our college papers to furnish them inside information on the condition and strength of the varsity teams. This information is supplied by the sport writers or sport editors and it is a clandestine arrangement. Of course, no publicity is ever given to it, but the sport writer or sport editor is paid by these nationally unlisted publications proportionately on the correctness of the information given.

Confidentially, I have talked to the manager of our University Daily Kansan, and for the past two years the gamblers have had such an arrangement with the sport editor of the Kansan, and this year he is even more of an outstanding sports writer because he is reporting for one of the largest city dailies in the country, and at the same time is enrolled in work in journalism in the University. The head of the department can do nothing about it, although they consider this illegitimate work. The football coach does not know of such activity, and certainly it is not my position to inform him because it will open up a field similar to the expose that was made in regard to gambling in the basketball games in the Garden. Of course, it is difficult to prove because the individual could deny it.

This sinister influence has its matastices in all forms of our collegiate athletics that have the power to attract the public to the games with the consequential gambling on the events. The gamblers' slimy fingers are working in the remotest spots that the college presidents and even the athletic authorities know little of. Personally, I have not said a word to our chancellor or to Ernie Quigley, our director of athletics, because this information was given to me by the faculty member of the Kansan staff, and I figured that if he wanted to transmit that to our authorities it was more his business than mine. However, some time in the near future when I can have a full evening with Mr. Quigley I expect to lay some of these things before him because I do not believe that he dreams of the situation. Although a college man, Mr. Quigley has been identified with professional baseball and knows all the angles of that game, but this administrative angle of intercollegiate athletics is a little new to him. But it will not be long, because he learns fast.

The second situation is where the gamblers are not contacting members of the football squad, asking them to give to these gamblers and their syndicate the confidential information on the physical condition of the squad, the esprit de corps and all possible valuable information that will permit more accurate estimates.

Kansas Played Tulsa University this past fall. Ernie Quigley, our athletic director, was tied up on a radio broadcast and asked that I represent him at Tulsa in an alumni gathering of Kansas alumni and Tulsa alumni prior to the Tulsa-Kansas football game at Tulsa. I spoke at the Quarterback Club meeting at Tulsa where there were about ten millionaires in the group, and in that meeting I spoke of the dangers of gambling, as I have fifty or a hundred times before they broke the story on basketball in the Garden. At each one of these meetings I have stressed the necessity of a czar for all collegiate sports.

Coach Henry Frnka of Tulsa University was present at that meeting, and so was President Pontius of Tulsa University. After I had finished speaking, Coach Frnka got up and said, "Coach Allen is not overstressing this one iota. Only last week one of my boys came to me and told me that he had an easy job which would fix him up for the rest of the year." Coach Frnka stated that a gambler had approached this boy, and turning to me, he said, "Dr. Allen would know the gambler." And in exchange for valuable information that the squadman of Tulsa University was to give this gambler, the gambler was to pay well for this information.

Frnka said to the boy, "Do you know what you are doing to the Tulsa football team?" And the boy said no, he didn't see anything wrong with it, and the Frnka explained to him. "Well," the fellow said, "the same deal is being worked now at S.M.U. and they are not doing anything about it there." Whereupon Coach Frnka said he called Jimmy Stewart, the athletic director and coach at S.M.U., and appraised him of these facts.

I think I should tell you regarding a statement that Mr. Vadal Peterson, coach at the University of Utah, made at the Boone, Iowa, Chamber of Commerce this summer. We were at Boone for the Iowa State High School Athletic Association Coaching Association. There were some 250 coaches in attendance, and the faculty was comprised of Ray Eliot, coach at the University of Illinois, Vadal Peterson and myself, as well as Bud Parmalee, former pitcher for the New York Giants who was representing the American Association, Pie Traynor, formerly of the Pittsburgh Pirates, who was representing the National League, and Lou Fonseca, former Chicago White Sox manager, who was representing the American League. We heard Vadal Peterson in a public address before 150 members of the Boone, Iowa, Chamber of Commerce, make the statement that a gambler knocked on the door of his hotel room at six o'clock in the morning after the Utah team arrived in New York, and he asked Peterson how much it would take for Utah to lose in the N.C.A.A. finals that night against Dartmouth. Peterson knocked him out of the doorway and slammed the door in his face.

Peterson also related that upon his first arrival in New York at the Invitation Tournament in the game between the University of Kentucky and Utah, when the game was practically over the little Japanese boy on the Utah team shot a goal which narrowed the lead between Utah and Kentucky from ten points to eight points in favor of Kentucky. The bookies were favoring Kentucky to win by ten points, and in the waning seconds of the game the little Japanese boy on the Utah team shot a goal. Peterson stated that from his bench he could observe a spectator running excitedly out on the floor toward the Japanese player. Peterson said, "Oh-oh, international trouble." And Peterson started in pursuit of the spectator who was pursuing the Japanese boy. Before Peterson arrived the spectator excitedly grabbed the little Japanese and kissed him. When Peterson got to the scene he said, "What in the world is the matter with that fellow?" And the fellow said, "Boy, your shot just made me fifteen thousand dollars."

Just today I received a copy of an open letter to Red Smith, Ed Pollock and Art Morrow, all of Philadelphia, from Mr. Leonard Orman. I am sending this correspondence also for your perusal.

There is a mass of additional information with which I hesitate to tire you. However, if there is anything further that you wish to ask me I will be very glad to supply you with the best information possible.

Very sincerely yours,

Director of Physical Education,
Varsity Basketball Coach.

FCA:AH
Encl.

November 8, 1944.

Mr. James A. McFarland,
110 - 35 - 72 Road,
Forest Hills,
Long Island, New York.

Dear Mr. McFarland:

Certainly I have not delayed answering your letter from lack of appreciation of the same. On the other hand, I deeply regard your fine statements. It is most unusual to find a man who will write a letter as you did and sign his name. Certainly I will not use it in any public way, but it gives me courage to do a better job when I find we have men like you who follow sport for the love of the game.

I am sending you confidentially a copy of my letter in reply to Ned Irish's letter to me of October 24. I am also sending you a copy of the letter that he wrote me. I want you to know that he has failed to make a case with me. And in confidence you and I can enjoy the faulty camouflage put forth.

I hope some time to have the pleasure of meeting you.

Sincerely yours,

Director of Physical Education,
Varsity Basketball Coach.

FCA:AH

110-35-72 Road
Forest Hills
L. I. N. Y.

Dr. Forest C. Allen
University of Kansas
Lawrence, Kansas.

Dear Sir

I am greatly amused at the attitude assumed by the sports writers, and your fellow Coaches concerning your recent warning of dangerous unethical practices in intercollegiate athletics.

I thought that the "starry eyed dreamers" were all in Washington, working for the New Deal.

Their naivete is most charming, but not very convincing.

Of course there have been games thrown in the Garden.

It was common gossip around New York, a few years back, about the sums of money received by a few of the boys in the annual City College

V.P. New York University game.

If my memory serves me right, Mr. Lamm of N.Y.U. even got rid of one man.

It was also common knowledge that one man on N.Y.U. a red haired boy, knew what was going on, but couldn't do anything about it, except to play his tear out trying to upset the gamblers.

A great many of the boys in the summer, play in what is known as the "Borscht Circuit" (Summer Hotels in Sullivan Co. N.Y.) This is where a good deal of the going on takes out.

But don't expect many Couche to back up your statement.

I'm afraid the threat of being blacklisted by Mr. Irish, and not being invited to the Garden, will act as a salutary deterrent

Also I believe if Mr. Dunt really wanted to clean up the Garden, he could have it done in one or two evenings. But they are his best customers, and get his best seats.

If he were to rely just on loners and followers of basketball he would only average about eight thousand people a game, whereas now he will average close to fifteen thousand.

Did you never strike you as peculiar, that when Creighton U. came East a few years ago for the ^{Champions} invitational tournament, they as contenders were put out in their first game? I never saw so many queer faces called in the last half, as I did in that one, and I see basketball games, in fifteen states every year.

One of these days the game will blow up in their faces, and basketball will be

set back twenty years. But by
then these promoters will have
something else to work to death.

Good luck to you
Dr. Allen, I am glad to see
there is at least one man, who
has the "guts" to speak his mind
regardless of consequences, when
he knows he is right

Yours truly

James A. McFarland