

January 29, 1948.

Mrs. Alice K. Griffith,
The Athletic Journal,
6858 Glenwood Avenue,
Chicago, Illinois.

Dear Mrs. Griffith:

I am leaving this morning for Kansas City where we play tonight and Saturday night. I will return Sunday and will write the article for you the first of next week.

Sincerely yours,

Director of Physical Education,
Varsity Basketball Coach.

FCA:AH

THE ATHLETIC JOURNAL

6858 GLENWOOD AVENUE
CHICAGO, ILL.

January 25, 1943

Dr. F. C. Allen
Director of Basketball
University of Kansas
Lawrence, Kansas

Dear Dr. Allen:

Thanks for your willingness to write the article. As to length, I'll leave that up to you. I would say, just as long as you want to make it. It seems to me since so many of the high school coaches are in the service, that instructors of academic subjects must be taking over. In that case, offense and plenty of it will be most acceptable.

The Rice coach, Byron Brannon, is in the navy, so I'm not sure I will get his article, but am hoping to get the others, whose teams were top-notch teams.

As to the deadline, I dislike setting one when I'm so late with the request, but would appreciate it this week, if possible, as I have an artist working part time and he can make the sketches the latter part of this week.

Again, many thanks.

Yours very truly,

Alice K. Griffith
Alice K. Griffith

AKG:MA

December 19, 1942.

Mr. Ralph E. Graber,
Liberty Memorial High School,
Lawrence, Kansas.

Dear Mr. Graber:

Thank you for your thoughtfulness in sending me two complimentary passes to your basketball games. I appreciate this very much, and shall avail myself of the opportunity to see the games whenever possible.

With best wishes for a successful season, I am

Sincerely yours,

FCA:AH

Director of Physical Education,
Varsity Basketball Coach.

LIBERTY MEMORIAL HIGH SCHOOL

LAWRENCE, KANSAS

Neal M. Wherry, Principal
(Capt., AUS; on leave)

Ralph E. Graber, Acting Principal

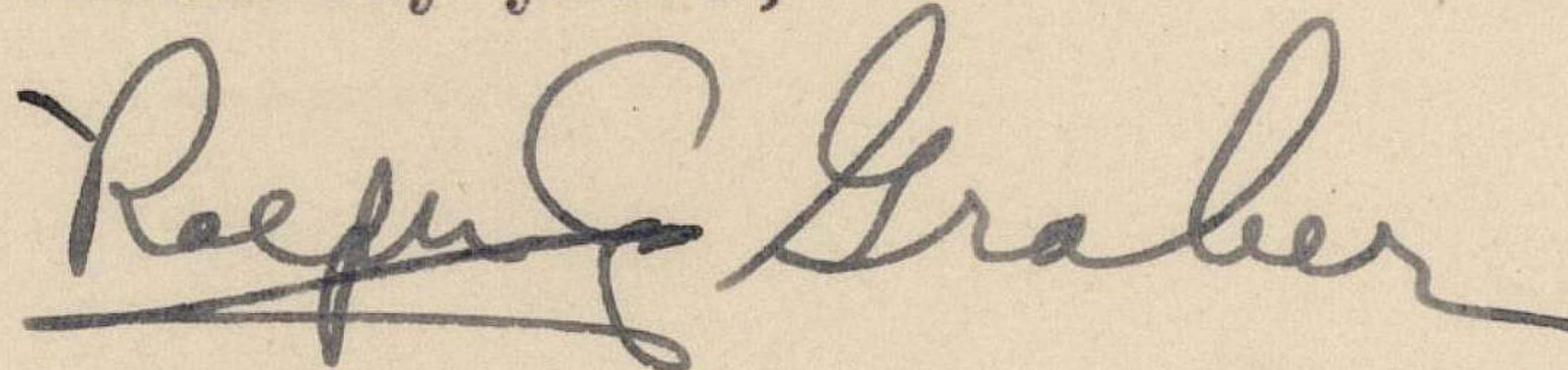
December 16, 1942

Dr. F.C. Allen
105 R.
University of Kansas
Lawrence, Kansas

Dear Dr. Allen:

Please find enclosed complimentary season tickets for our basketball games. We hope you will be able to attend at least part of the games.

Sincerely yours,



Ralph E. Graber

16928-mle

Enc.

December 4, 1942.

Mr. Dick Godlove,
Ottawa University,
Ottawa, Kansas.

Dear Dick:

I am very sorry that I have neglected answering your correspondence, but our physical conditioning course has been too much to attempt any dictation whatsoever in the rush.

I trust this is not too late for you.

With all good wishes, I am

Sincerely yours,

FCA:AH

Director of Physical Education,
Varsity Basketball Coach.

December 4, 1942.

To Whom It May Concern:

I am very happy to recommend to you Mr. Richard Godlove, athletic director at Ottawa University. Mr. Godlove is a graduate of the University of Iowa with a major in physical education. I have known him for nine or ten years, during which time he has coached at Leavenworth High School and at Ottawa University. At both places he has had outstanding success.

Godlove has taught his men to be particularly aggressive and at the same time they have been fine competitors, always keeping within the realm of clean sportsmanship.

He is clean, courageous, loyal and dynamically positive when dealing with young men, yet he has at all times their respect and admiration. His character is of the best, and he is imbued with a pleasant and forceful personality. He is well-versed in the technique and the pedagogy of all team games and has the fine fundamental knowledge of all gymnastic and contact games. At the present time he is instituting a toughening program at his college which is outlined by the Army and Navy commands.

I feel safe in saying that in my opinion he will make a fine leader and a fine officer. I am glad to recommend him without reservation.

Very sincerely yours,

Director of Physical Education,
Varsity Basketball Coach.

FCA:AH



OTTAWA UNIVERSITY

OTTAWA, KANSAS

November 24 1942

Doctor J. C. Allen
Director of Physical Education
Kansas University.
Lawrence Kansas.

Dear Doctor Allen,

For several weeks I have been in contact with the Office of Officer Procurement in Kansas City. They tell me there that they need Officers for Physical Training in the Army Air Corps. and that I would qualify by experience as a Senior Administrative Officer in an Air Base.

Although I am not yet certain that I should leave my college work here, the Procurement officials want me to get all my papers on file. In particular they want one recommendation from a Professor of Physical Education. May I impose on you to write a letter for me — "to whom it may concern" — on the subject of my qualifications for Physical Education work in the armed forces — based of course — on your knowledge of my work — character etc. — ?

This year we have instituted a Physical program which requires all of our men students to take daily classes. It follows rigidly the Army and Navy toughening program - involving as you know Calisthenics, Soccer, Touch Football, Wrestling, Boxing, Obstacle Course work and Swimming - as far as the Fall program was concerned. We are getting such good results that I hope we will have the courage to continue the 5 a week program after the war. Don't you feel the same way about it?

It's difficult to know what a man's duty is these days - but in any case I want to get all my papers on file.

Sincerely

Dick Godlove

December 7, 1942.

Mr. Jack Griffin, Jr.,
476 New Customhouse,
Denver, Colorado.

Dear Jack:

It is a pleasure to do this small job for you and I sincerely trust that this enclosed letter will get the job done. I was happy to know that you are well acquainted with Dick Wells. Give him my regards. I see where President Roosevelt is going to discontinue the WPA, so I imagine Dick will get in something else. He would make a swell officer candidate for the Marines. He is a tough guy and a fine leader.

The Allens are all well. Thank you, Jack. Mit is here and is attorney for the Hercules Powder Company. He graduated in law this summer. He came back from the oil fields three years ago and went winter and summer until he got his degree. Three days after he graduated this summer he was hired as investigator, and then the assistant investigator got into a jam and Mit was promoted to that position. He lives at 2022 Vermont Street. I know that he would be happy to hear from you.

With all good wishes, I am

Sincerely yours,

Director of Physical Education,
Varsity Basketball Coach.

FCA:AH

December 8, 1942.

Mr. Melvin Griffith,
Athletic Director,
Long Beach Junior College,
Long Beach, California.

My dear Mel:

I was pleased indeed to have your letter of the 15th ultimo, and I am sincerely hoping that you get what you deserve, and that it will be the best.

I will not write you a long letter, but I want you to be conscious of the fact that we will always be pulling for you one hundred per cent, and I know that you will deliver the goods.

Wishing you and yours the Yuletide greetings, I
am

Sincerely yours,

FCA:AH

Director of Physical Education,
Varsity Basketball Coach.

LONG BEACH PUBLIC SCHOOLS
LONG BEACH JUNIOR COLLEGE
LONG BEACH, CALIFORNIA

November 15, 1942

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

Dear Dr. Allen:

You don't know how much I appreciated your writing me such a humdinger of a letter. I am making application to the Marine Corps for a commission in the physical fitness program. The Lieutenant that looked over my papers and letters picked out your letter and put it on top of all of them and said, "We will put this one first, as it is worth more than all the others put together". He said, "That is a very fine letter and is the king pin of them all". So thank you again for your cooperation in this commission application. I will let you know as soon as I find out anything definite. It will be about two months before I know whether it goes through. The Colonel was very nice and said he would like to have me as he had a spot for me. Many things can happen on a deal like that, so all I can do is hope for the best and wait.

In your letter you wrote Milton had had a good raise and was doing very well. I am glad for him and I know it means a lot to you to have him settled and working for something lasting. I noticed in the graduate magazine Bob was one of the honor students last year. That must be a thrill to have a son make such a fine record in your own school. Bob is a good boy and will do all right wherever he is located.

The 18 year old boys are dropping out of our school every day and enlisting in some branch of the service they want. We have many who are in the reserve, so it will not seriously hurt our school this year. I can't predict what the effects will be a year from now.

So far, we haven't curtailed our athletic program, but I fear the gas rationing will do that for us before the year is over. We are planning to go ahead with our basketball season. I start practice tomorrow. We have 8 miles to go to a gym, so that may have some influence on the number that will turn out this season. Since the quake we ^{have} had but one gym in Long Beach and all of us use it. That complicates things since the gas rationing will necessitate using bus service and that will be difficult for many boys.

Again, thank you for the fine letter. If I can be of any assistance to you at any time, please let me know.

I'm wishing a very happy Thanksgiving to you and Mrs. Allen.

Most sincerely,

Griff

December 12, 1942.

Mr. Melvin F. Griffin,
55 Roycroft Avenue,
Long Beach, California.

Dear Mel:

I am very happy to respond to your letter which arrived this morning. I am enclosing the four copies, and hope this gets the job done for you. Lots of good luck, Mel.

Very cordially yours,

FCA:AH
Enc.

Director of Physical Education,
Varsity Basketball Coach.

December 12, 1942.

Chief of Naval Personnel,
Navy Department,
Washington, D. C.

Dear Sir:

I am very happy to commend to you Melvin F. Griffin, athletic director and coach at Long Beach Junior College, Long Beach, California. Melvin Griffin is a graduate of the University of Kansas and was a star athlete in football, basketball and track during his undergraduate days. He was clean, personable, intelligent and cooperative.

Griffin came to the University from Burlington, Kansas. He was a boy who had to work his way through college. He did not depend on his athletic prowess to obtain an easy job. This was not for him. Rather, he preferred the way to success through struggle and through his own initiative and versatility.

When Melvin Griffin was a freshman I came in very close contact with him, and had a close association through his four years in college. As Director of Athletics at that time I had many opportunities to witness his leadership, and I might say at no time during those four years did he fail.

After graduating from the University he coached high schools with fine success at McPherson and Lawrence, Kansas. I followed his coaching success here in Lawrence with unusual interest because one of my sons played under him. He led his men by the power of his personality and clean and forceful influence. From Lawrence High he went to Long Beach where he has made a most outstanding record.

Griffin has the ability to inspire his men to unusual heights. I am glad to write this testimonial to his character, standing and efficiency. I recommend him without reservation or evasion.

Very sincerely yours,

Director of Physical Education,
Varsity Basketball Coach.

FCA:AH

LONG BEACH PUBLIC SCHOOLS
LONG BEACH JUNIOR COLLEGE
LONG BEACH, CALIFORNIA

December 10, 1942

Dr. Forrest C. Allen
Director of Physical Education
University of Kansas
Lawrence, Kansas

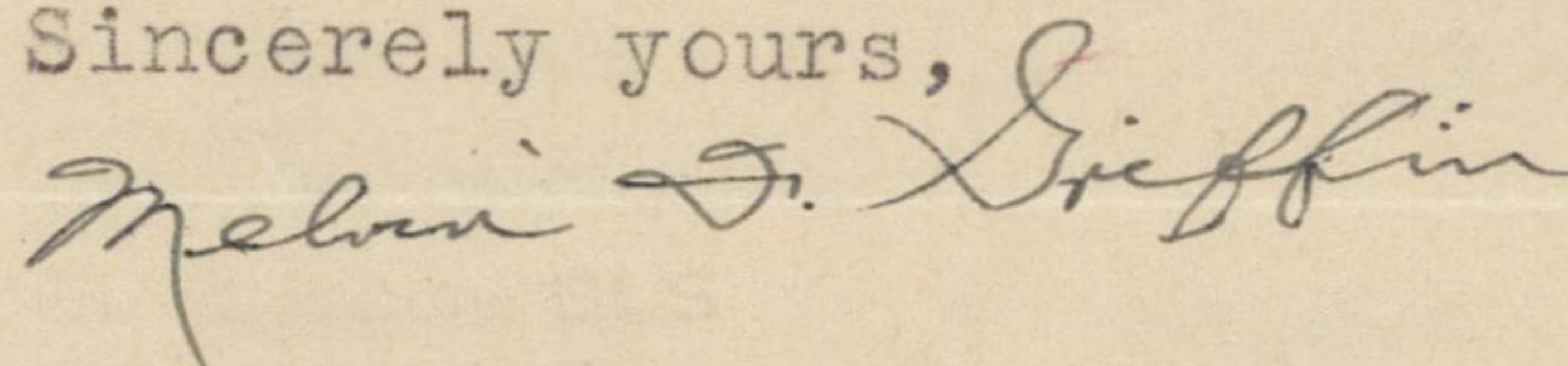
Dear Dr. Allen:

I am going to ask another favor of you, if you don't mind. It is necessary for me to have another letter of recommendation. I am wondering if you would mind just making a copy of your last letter addressing it to Chief of Naval Personnel, Navy Department, Washington, D. C. I need a total of four copies, each written on letterhead stationery and each copy signed.

I am enclosing a copy of your last letter and a stamped self-addressed envelope.

I really appreciate the time and energy you have spent in helping me with these applications. Yours in haste, and I will write you a newsier letter later.

Sincerely yours,



MELVIN F. GRIFFIN

MG:BJ

UNIVERSITY OF KANSAS
LAWRENCE

DEPARTMENT OF PHYSICAL EDUCATION

November 7, 1942.

Chief of Naval Personnel,
Navy Department,
Washington, D. C.

The Commandant,
U. S. Marine Corps,
Washington, D. C.

Dear Sir:

I am very happy to commend to you Melvin F. Griffin, athletic director and coach at Long Beach Junior College, Long Beach, California. Melvin Griffin is a graduate of the University of Kansas and was a star athlete in football, basketball and track during his undergraduate days. He was clean, personable, intelligent and cooperative.

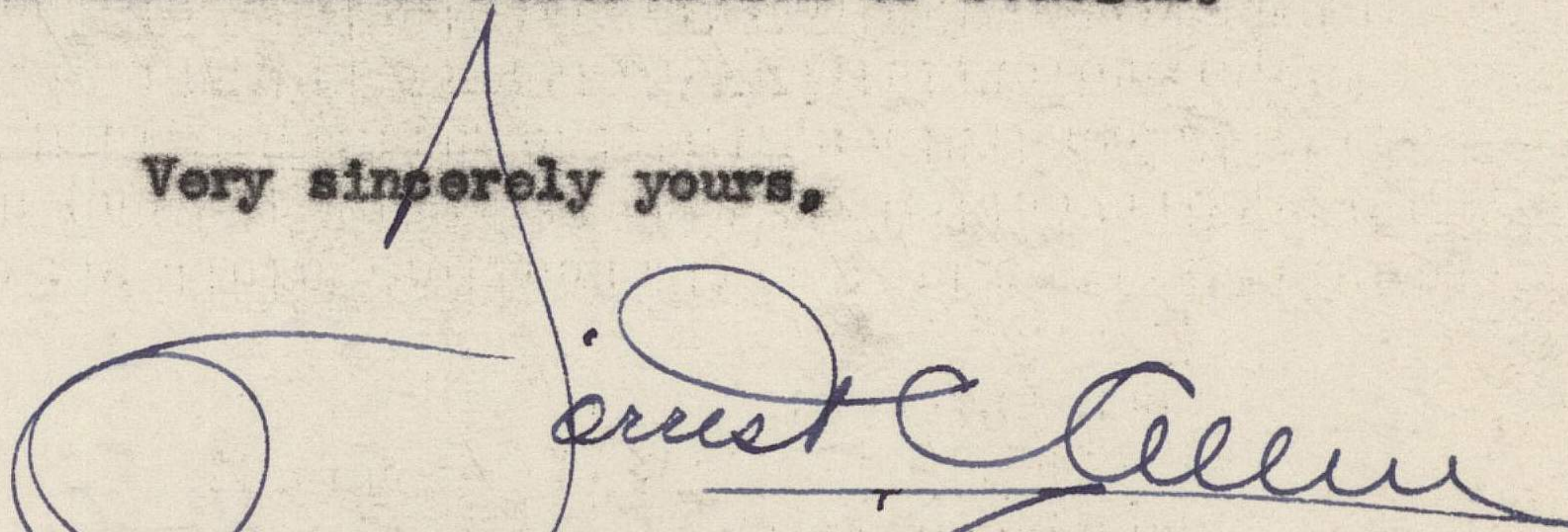
Griffin came to the University from Burlington, Kansas. He was a boy who had to work his way through college. He did not depend on his athletic prowess to obtain an easy job. This was not for him. Rather, he preferred the way to success through struggle and through his own initiative and versatility.

When Melvin Griffin was a freshman I came in very close contact with him, and had a close association through his four years in college. As Director of Athletics at that time I had many opportunities to witness his leadership, and I might say at no time during these four years did he fail.

After graduating from the University he coached high schools with fine success at McPherson and Lawrence, Kansas. I followed his coaching success here in Lawrence with unusual interest because one of my sons played under him. He led his men by the power of his personality and clean and forceful influence. From Lawrence High he went to Long Beach where he has made a most outstanding record.

Griffin has the ability to inspire his men to unusual heights. I am glad to write this testimonial to his character, standing and efficiency. I recommend him without reservation or evasion.

Very sincerely yours,



Director of Physical Education,
Varsity Basketball Coach.

FCA:AH

Dec. 10 1942
a total of 4 copies
each on letter
head and each
copy signed

November 20, 1942.

Mr. Thomas A. Gruver,
Coach,
Shallow Water High School,
Shallow Water, Kansas.

Dear Coach Gruver:

I have received your letter of the 17th instant, and believe you are referring to my text "Better Basketball". The other book, "My Basketball Bible", has been out of print several years.

I wrote "Better Basketball" especially for the high school coach, and I believe you will find much in it that would be helpful to you in coaching your high school team. I am sending you some descriptive material which will give you an idea of the contents of the book.

"Better Basketball" is published by McGraw-Hill Book Company of New York, and is sold by most leading athletic goods firms for \$4.00. If you desire an autographed copy I will be very happy to send it to you postpaid upon receipt of your check or money order for \$4.00.

I am glad to know you were interested in our demonstration at Dodge City last year.

With best wishes for your success, I am

Sincerely yours,

Director of Physical Education,
Varsity Basketball Coach.

FCA:AH

Shallow Water Consolidated Schools

Shallow Water, Kansas

November 17, 1942

Dr. Forrest C. Allen
Kansas University
Lawrence, Kansas

Dear Dr. Allen:

If you have one available, I would appreciate having one of the books you call your "Basketball Bible".

I was certainly interested in your demonstration at Dodge City last year and believe you are doing a fine piece of work as a basketball coach. I would like to brush up on your plays and valuable suggestions, so if you will please send me the little book I will gladly send you the price of it and postage.

Very truly yours,

Thomas A. Gruver
Thomas A. Gruver, Coach
Shallow Water High School

October 13, 1942
Tulsa, Okla.

Hello Dr. Allen:

Just a note of thanks for the fine letter of recommendation you sent me. Such a letter and coming from you Dr. Allen, really makes me feel as though I might be doing some good in the business world.

Doc, I have been accepted as a Chief Petty Officer in the Physical Education program. The program has to do with the training and hardening of new recruits.

I am to report to Norfolk Virginia on November 4. I will be in training there for eight weeks and will be assigned to active duty from that base.

We have not made definite plans but expect that Mrs. Graves will remain in Tulsa or go with me if I am assigned to shore duty.

Again I want to thank you Doctor Allen. I really appreciated it. Best wishes,

Theno J. Graves

October 26, 1942.

Mr. Kyle Givens,
Hotel Eldridge,
Lawrence, Kansas.

Dear Mr. Givens:

Congratulations on the excellent food served to the
Rotary Club today.

I am calling a meeting of our "menu and eats committee"
early this week when all of the members can be present. Mr.
Hovey Hanna is in Manhattan today, and when he returns I will
get in touch with Corlett Cotton and Mr. R. W. McClure, and
advise you of the time of the meeting. I shall try to arrange
it for Wednesday right after lunch, possibly 1:30 or 2 o'clock.

We will then try to go over the details of the menu so
that we can have it prepared ahead of schedule.

Again thanking you for your fine cooperation, I am

Very sincerely yours,

FCA:AH

Director of Physical Education,
Varsity Basketball Coach.

November 7, 1942.

Mr. Melvin F. Griffin,
55 Roycroft Avenue,
Long Beach, California.

Dear Mel:

Just received your wire and I am immediately
complying with your request. Nothing gives me more
pleasure than to do something for fellows like you.

Lots of good luck! Love to you and the wife.

Sincerely yours,

Director of Physical Education,
Varsity Basketball Coach.

FCA:AH

CLASS OF SERVICE

This is a full-rate Telegram or Cablegram unless its deferred character is indicated by a suitable symbol above or preceding the address.

WESTERN UNION

1201

SYMBOLS

- DL=Day Letter
- NT=Overnight Telegram
- LC=Deferred Cable
- NLT=Cable Night Letter
- Ship Radiogram

A. N. WILLIAMS
PRESIDENT

NEWCOMB CARLTON
CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD

J. C. WILLEVER
FIRST VICE-PRESIDENT

The filing time shown in the date line on telegrams and day letters is STANDARD TIME at point of origin. Time of receipt is STANDARD TIME at point of destination

KBB42 23 NL=LONGBEACH CALIF NOV 6

1942 NOV 7 AM 9 14

DR F C ALLEN=

:UNIVERSITY OF KANSAS LAWRENCE KANS=

:PLEASE SEND TO ME LETTER OF RECOMMENDATION ADDRESSED TO
THE COMMANDANT U S MARINE CORP WASHINGTON DC ALSO THREE
COPIES SIGNED THANK YOU=

MELVIN F GRIFFIN.

U S 1

9/16/42
As BY *6*

WESTERN UNION

November 7, 1942
Long Beach, Calif.

Dr. F. C. Allen,
Lawrence, Kansas.

Please send to me letter of recommendation
addressed to the Commandant, U. S. Marine Corps, Washington,
D. C. Also three copies signed. Thank you.

Melvin F. Griffin.

November 7, 1962.

The Commandant,
U. S. Marine Corps,
Washington, D. C.

Dear Sir:

I am very happy to commend to you Melvin F. Griffin, athletic director and coach at Long Beach Junior College, Long Beach, California. Melvin Griffin is a graduate of the University of Kansas and was a star athlete in football, basketball and track during his undergraduate days. He was clean, personable, intelligent and cooperative.

Griffin came to the University from Burlington, Kansas. He was a boy who had to work his way through college. He did not depend on his athletic prowess to obtain an easy job. This was not for him. Rather, he preferred the way to success through struggle and through his own initiative and versatility.

When Melvin Griffin was a freshman I came in very close contact with him, and had a close association through his four years in college. As Director of Athletics at that time I had many opportunities to witness his leadership, and I might say at no time during those four years did he fail.

After graduating from the University he coached high schools with fine success at McPherson and Lawrence, Kansas. I followed his coaching success here in Lawrence with unusual interest because one of my sons played under him. He led his men by the power of his personality and clean and forceful influence. From Lawrence High he went to Long Beach where he has made a most outstanding record.

Griffin has the ability to inspire his men to unusual heights. I am glad to write this testimonial to his character, standing and efficiency. I recommend him without reservation or omission.

Very sincerely yours,

Director of Physical Education,
Varsity Basketball Coach.

FCA:AM

October 14, 1942.

Mr. Melvin F. Griffin,
55 Roycroft Avenue,
Long Beach, California.

Dear Mel:

You bet your life, Mel, I'll be more than delighted to give you an A Number One recommendation. Your work has been most deserving of such a recommendation and I know of no one that I would rather do this service of pleasure for.

I can appreciate how swamped you must be in your work. We are covered up, but still kicking.

Congratulations on your winning the state championship last year in basketball. Championships do take a toll because I see you have but one sub-letter man to build your team around. Good luck to you, Mel.

I know that you are happy that Virginia is not teaching. I certainly will not fail to convey your good wishes to Mrs. Allen. Bobby and Eleanor are both at the University of Pennsylvania and are getting along splendidly. Milton is assistant investigator for the Hercules Powder Company. Only last month he got a swell raise of \$50.00 a month, so he has bought a new home and really is on the way to build some durable satisfactions in the way of a home and a family.

Jane is married and was living in Chicago, but her husband enlisted and is now a flier at Pensacola. She is down there with him. Mary, with her three children, is living at Pale Alto, and my brother, Col. H. B. "Pete" Allen, is commandant at Pale Alto. If you ever get around Pale Alto look them up. They would be delighted to see you.

Give our love to Virginia, and best wishes to you. Also give my sincerest regards to Bert Smith and tell him that I would like to shake his friendly paw.

With all good wishes, I am

Sincerely yours,

Director of Physical Education,
Varsity Basketball Coach.

FCA:AH

LONG BEACH PUBLIC SCHOOLS
LONG BEACH JUNIOR COLLEGE
LONG BEACH, CALIFORNIA

55 Roycroft Avenue
Long Beach, California
October 7, 1942

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

Dear Dr. Allen :

I had to send in an application blank in a hurry last week and didn't get a chance to ask you if I could use your name as a reference. I took the liberty of sending it in without asking you. I hope this is satisfactory with you. If it is and they should ask you for a letter of recommendation I hope it will not be too much inconvenience to you. They wanted some one in a position to judge my work at Lawrence High School. Since Supt. W. W. Curfman is deceased I would like to have you vouch for me. I thought since you were in Lawrence when I was coaching there and you knew of my record at K. U. and have had a son under my supervision you would be one to give a good account of my training and work. Besides I know of no one whose letter would carry more weight.

You have had much more experience than I have and I find most of my correspondence just now is writing letters of recommendation for boys I have had in school at one time or another, so I know you must be swamped with letters asking for recommendations. I will be very grateful to you if they should call on you if you will send in a note for me.

My status just now is #3-A but don't know just how long that will last. The Navy asked me to fill out and return an application blank last week so I did and it may bring something. I Hope so any way. Last evening I received one from the Army so I hope one of them will make up my mind for me.

We are quite busy here with new emphasis on a physical fitness program in the L. B. school system. Our enrollment is down some but since we are requiring boys to take physical education four days per week our gym classes are very large.

We won the State championship in basket ball last year but we will be on the short end of many scores this season I fear. I have one sub letter man to build my team around, so you see that isn't much to tie to.

Give my regards to Mrs. Allen. Va. is not teaching this year for which I am pleased.

Sincerely yours, Melvin J. Griffin

P.S.
Bert Smith
sends his
regards.
M. J. G.

October 20, 1942.

Mr. Frank Gilleece,
Executive Secretary,
Athletic Commission,
Topeka, Kansas.

Dear Mr. Gilleece:

Thank you very much for your kindness in sending
me one of your cards designating me as "inspector at
large" for the year 1942-43.

Sincerely yours,

Director of Physical Education,
Varsity Basketball Coach.

FCA:AH

M. F. AHEARN, CHAIRMAN
KANSAS STATE COLLEGE
F. G. WELCH, SECRETARY
K. S. T. C. OF EMPORIA
GWINN HENRY,
UNIVERSITY OF KANSAS

FRANK GILLEECE,
EXECUTIVE SECRETARY

STATE OF KANSAS

ATHLETIC COMMISSION
TOPEKA

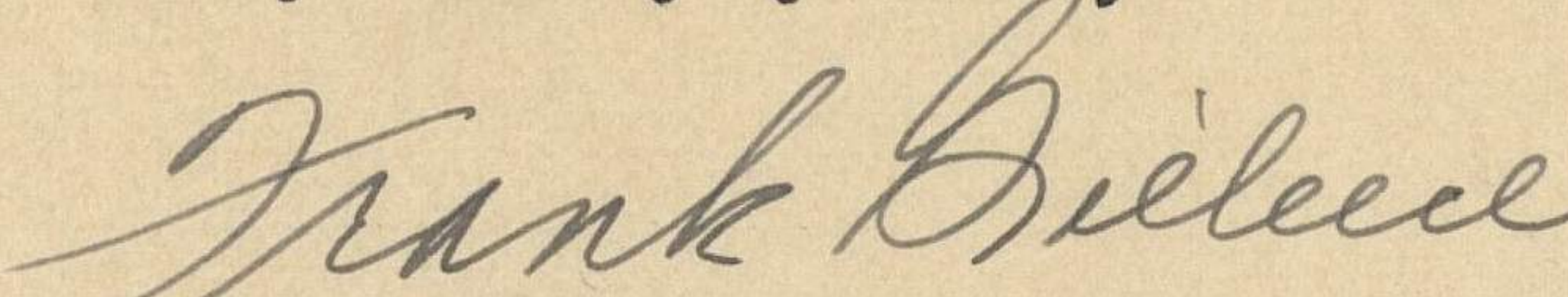
October 15, 1942

Dr. Forrest C. Allen
Kansas University
Lawrence, Kansas

Dear Doctor Allen:

Enclosed is one of our official representa-
tive cards designating you as inspector at
large for the year 1942-43.

Very truly yours,



Frank Gilleece
Executive Secretary

FG:EG
encl-1