

Smith Center Public Schools

VAUGHN E. McCOLEY, Superintendent



SMITH CENTER, KANSAS

January 26, 1943

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

Dear Doctor Allen:

Basketball season at K. U. is always an occasion for rejoicing with me after three months of razzing about the football team. Some of the men here thought they had me this year before Christmas. Now I'm laughing for I told them not to pass judgment on early season results.

Frank Pattee, a freshman at K. U. from Smith Center, says you are using a different type of offense this year. I certainly hope I can get down for a game.

I am coach of all athletics this year at Smith Center and like coaching more as I go along. I don't care so much for teaching science, however. I believe I'd like teaching physical education and coaching much better. My football team this year was undefeated and we placed one man on the All-State Team, and one an honorable mention.

This year's basketball season is going very poorly. We've lost five out of six ball games and may lose more. Last year's outfit that went to the State, after winning the Class A Regional, is gone. The entire starting line-up graduated and I have one boy who has had first team experience. The team is coming along, and the last two games have been outstanding defensively, but the boys cannot hit. Game averages from the field run about 15% or less. I am almost at wits end to know what to do about it. I have tried various drill without a great deal of success--yet, some improvement may be forthcoming. If you could suggest any particular drills for such weaknesses, I would appreciate them.

One of the chief reasons for writing you at this time is to ask another recommendation from you. You have give me such splendid ones in the past-- I was hired here on the strength of your letter, and I want you to know how deeply I appreciate it.

I have made application to enlist in the Air Corps Army Reserve Corps as a Meteorological Aviation Cadet. My appearance before the examining board is imminent and I need three letters of recommendation, concerning my ability to instruct and handle men. I would again be deeply indebted to you if you could oblige me with such a letter.