

"I'll be extremely happy and I know all the others will be when this horrible mess is ended and we can return home. Kansas is and always has been the grandest place in all the world to me. The weather here has been a bit unusual. There have been a few mornings of liquid sunshine. The others have been foggy. What I wouldn't give to see a Kansas sunrise."

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Lt. (j.g.) Clifford M. Shenk, USNR, Armed Guard, S. S. Sam Jackson, c/o Fleet Post Office, San Francisco, California, a brother of our head man of football, Mr. Henry Shenk, states, "It has been better than fifteen years since I graduated from good old Lawrence High and enrolled "on the Hill". However, it seems only a few years since I was playing football on that school's team, first under Severt Higgins and then under Melvin Griffin, two of the finest men and coaches I ever know. I was indeed fortunate to have had them for coaches. They stood as powerful examples of the success of the athletic department of Kansas University."

Note: Severt Higgins was one of the Kansas football immortals who played in the 1920 Nebraska game, but who died while coaching the Lawrence High School.

"I was interested to hear about my former coach, Mel Griffin. I had talked to Mrs. Griffin over the phone last Fall while in Long Beach, so knew he was an officer in the Marine Corps. There is no question but that he is doing a lot to make that the splendid fighting outfit that it is."

"I am getting to see a great deal of the Pacific. Have visited a great many ports both in New Guinea and the Philippines. As a commanding officer I have the good fortune to be allowed ashore in many places where it would be impossible otherwise. I have not run across many of the fellows I knew at K.U. but hope to do so. I went through indoctrination at the University of Arizona with Carney Smith and Bus Burcham. Ralph Graham of K. State was one of my buddies there also. I was surprised and pleased the other day to bump into him on the street in a port in the Philippines. Ralph is doing an All-American job as recreational officer at the Navy Base there. I need not tell you, I guess, that he is a splendid athlete, a fine sportsman, and an all-round swell guy. We had a good visit and I hope to see him again while out this way."

"Apparently you think that the prospects for football for this Fall are pretty good. Naturally I am vitally interested in the success of Henry's teams. I know that with a fairly even break his teams will come out on top. (Maybe I'm prejudiced). By the way, you might do me a favor and cast a hint to him that his kid brother in the Pacific would like to hear from him a little more often."

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Mrs. Allen and I were happy to hear from R. T. Fairchild, Mich/2c, USS Wharton, Fleet Post Office, San Francisco, California, on August 4. Bob wrote at sea, saying "It would be nice if your son Bob were stationed on my ship. Don't be surprised when this mess is over to see me come bursting in, HA!"

Bob Fairchild was stationed at the University of Kansas with the first contingent of Machinists Mates. Mrs. Allen and I met him and several others at church service, and asked Bob home to dinner with us. We are glad, Bob, that you plan to come back and visit us "for old time's sake."

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