

January 30, 1941

E.F.

Mr. H.P. Johnson
6680 Ohio Street
Omaha, Nebraska

Dear Mr. Johnson:

Thank you for your good letter of the 27th instant. I was happy to hear from you and I will be happy to have you as my guest when you come to Lawrence. The schedule for next year has been tentatively arranged as follows:

- Sept. 26 - Temple University at Philadelphia (night game)
- Oct. 4 - Washington University (St. Louis) at Lawrence
- Oct. 11 - Nebraska at Lincoln
- Oct. 25 - Iowa State at Lawrence
- Nov. 1 - Oklahoma at Norman
- Nov. 8 - West Virginia at Morgantown
- Nov. 15 - Kansas State at Lawrence
- Nov. 22 or 27 - Missouri at Lawrence

Personally, I am not so well acquainted with the activities of the Century Club, only having heard of its organization and many of the contributors.

The Relay Club has had Glenn Charlton, Lawrence Business man; Burt Ober, Lawrence clothing man; and Dr. H.L. Kirkpatrick, Physician, Topeka; as past presidents. I believe that this Relay Club membership of \$10.00 entitles the bearer to two football games and the Relays, the rest of the money, I understand, goes to the benefit of football.

I want to thank you for your very nice letter and assure you it would be a pleasure to see you when you come to Lawrence. Will you please write me ahead of time so that I may be sure to be available to entertain you.

Very cordially yours,

Director of Physical Education and Recreation
Varsity Basketball Coach

FVA:lg

6680 Ohio Street,
Omaha, Nebraska,
January 27, 1941.

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

My Dear Mr. Allen:

I was very pleased to receive your long and most interesting letter of sometime ago. In replying to same, I will endeavor to make it clear that it was newspaper accounts of your statement that led me to write to you, and that your fine letter has caused me to have an entirely different opinion of you and your athletic connections at Kansas University. Really Mr. Allen, I wish to make some kind of an apology for some of my statements and to thank you for your great efforts to gain fame for the University of Kansas.

Your kind suggestion that I visit you on my next trip to Lawrence, is an event that I will be looking forward to, with great pleasure during the coming year. I am planning to attend either the Iowa State or preferably the Missouri game, providing that game is held Saturday the 22 of November. Inasmuch as your letter has outlined in detail, your long and active career in K.U. athletics, I will enjoy very much to have a talk with you about the old days when the Jayhawker was "tops" in Midwest football circles. I have never known that you formerly were so active in football, and I will be very anxious to see that picture of Tommy Johnson, that you spoke of. I was just a boy on a farm up in Washington County at the time when he and the great Jayhawker team were making football history, but I was a keen reader of the Sports Department of the K.C. Star even in those days. I think Kennedy and Mosse were the coaches.

Well so much for the past, I have read about your recent tour of the east and you and your fine basketball team is giving Kansas a lot of publicity to offset the football failures. I hope that they can get football in the limelight in the same manner that basketball is. With Engleman and another Allen besides yourself, I predict another Big Six title.

Whats the football outlook down there for this fall, heard that they had an unusual fine Band of freshman, but later reports are that some of the most promising did not return from their holiday vacations. That Century Club ought to get some results. How long has it been organized. Any information received will be kept in utmost secrecy. I regret to say that I will have to forego membership in that club for the present, but the Relays Club is a different matter. On the ten dollar membership, are the two tickets for \$4.50 for the Relays Races or are they for football games. Tickets for the Relays would be of no value for Football games are the only athletic events that I would attend at Lawrence. However I would be pleased to assist some young football player with the \$5.50.

I am submitting a plan that I am sure will get results in regard to better football. 1 An intensive campaign among all former K.U. men who are financially able to join the Century Club. 2 Have all former K.U. men in contact with the University and act as scouts for all promising football players in all high schools in the surrounding states, such as they do here in Nebraska. 3 Endeavor to place such a man in every town that has a fair sized high school in Kansas. 4 Stop at nothing to get these players and lastly keep Kansas boys in Kansas colleges.

In closing I wish you a very successful season and I hope to see this fall,

Yours sincerely,

H. P. Johnson
over

Lastly: Have all former K.U. football players and other athletes serve as sub-scouts for all promising young high school football players. Go right and buy them out.

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

My Dear Mr. Allen:

I was very pleased to receive your long and most interesting letter of some time ago. In replying to same, I will endeavor to make it clear that it was newspaper accounts of your statement that led me to write to you, and that your fine letter has caused me to have an entirely different opinion of you and your athletic connections at Kansas University. Really Mr. Allen, I wish to make some kind of an apology for some of my statements and to thank you for your great efforts to gain fame for the University of Kansas. Your kind suggestion that I visit you on my next trip to Lawrence, is an event that I will be looking forward to, with great pleasure during the coming year. I am planning to attend either the Iowa State or preferably the Missouri game, providing that game is held Saturday the 22 of November. Inasmuch as your letter has outlined in detail, your long and active career in K.U. athletics, I will enjoy very much to have a talk with you about the old days when the Jayhawk was "top" in Midwest football circles. I have never known that you formerly were so active in football, and I will be very anxious to see that picture of Tommy Johnson, that you spoke of. I was just a boy on a farm up in Washington County at the time when he and the great Jayhawk team were making football history, but I was a keen reader of the Sports Department of the K.C. Star even in those days. I think Kennedy and Mose were the coaches.

Well so much for the past, I have read about your recent tour of the east and your fine basketball team is giving Kansas a lot of publicity to offset the football failures. I hope that they can get football in the limelight in the same manner that basketball is. With Engleman and another Allen besides yourself, I predict another Big Six title.

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I am submitting a plan that I am sure will get results in regard to better football. I am intensive campaign among all former K.U. men who are financially able to join the Century Club. I have all former K.U. men in contact with the University and act as scouts for all promising football players in all high schools in the surrounding states, such as they do here in Nebraska. I endeavor to place such a man in every town that has a fair sized high school in Kansas. I stop at nothing to get these players and lastly keep Kansas boys in Kansas colleges.

In closing I wish you a very successful season and I hope to see this fall,

Yours sincerely,
A. P. Johnson

17
January 13, 1941

Mr. T.P. Hunter
Mr. Bob Johnson ✓

Dear T.P. and Bob:

All day Saturday Miss Stapleton endeavored to get me over the phone and last Sunday night she finally got hold of me to tell me that you two boys were supposed to make a trip to Kansas City for your practice teaching tour.

Dean informs me that both of you somehow missed your assignments, thereby missing the boat. This looks very bad for you and by the reverse ratio it looks bad for me. It looks as if perhaps someone might have encouraged you two not to go to Kansas City on account of the game tonight; of course, such is not the case.

Therefore, we are not expecting you to go to the hotel for rest. You may rest at home and if you desire to dress it will be entirely satisfactory with me.

Very cordially yours,

Director of Physical Education and Recreation
Varsity Basketball Coach

FCA:lg
cc: Miss Stapleton

January 28, 1941

Mr. Bob Johnson
1001 West Hills
Lawrence, Kansas

Dear Bob:

I want to finish up a job I have not completed.

I want you to understand that when you told me that you were not in class and T.P. Hunter did not tell you about the time of leaving for Kansas City, I said to you, "Then you were not in class to hear the announcements?" And you said, "No sir."

In reviewing the case with T.P. Hunter he stated that you were in class.

You also stated to people that I would not speak to you. Bob, quit passing the buck and get down to earth. I have always spoken to you. It is the fact that you have passed the buck, as you did in this Hunter case, that gets you into difficulty.

Very cordially yours,

Director of Physical Education and Recreation
Varsity Basketball Coach

FCA:lg

February 7, 1941

Mr. Bob Johnson
1001 West Hills
Lawrence, Kansas

Dear Bob:

I was happy to have your undated letter which came to me this morning.

Bob, I would like for you to make an appointment with Miss Gerstenberger so that I can talk with you. I much prefer the direct method. Come in when it is convenient.

I assure you that I am not unfriendly to you in any way whatsoever, and will help you in any way possible. You wrote a very frank and honest letter and I want to be frank, honest and helpful with you.

Sincerely yours,

Director of Physical Education and Recreation
Varsity Basketball Coach

FCA:lg

Dear Dr:

I received your letter just a few days ago, and I decided to answer it, so that you would understand the case of my missing class. It is entirely a misunderstanding that you have concerning my missing class the morning that I was to go to Kansas City. I will explain. I told you that T. P. and I were in Oklahoma on Jan. 8, (Wednesday) when Miss Stapleton and the class discussed the trip in detail. The next Friday Miss Stapleton told the class what time we would leave and some other things that I missed because I was a few minutes late that morning. Ralph Dugan told me that we were having the trip and that we were to leave at 8:30 Monday morning. Later he found out from Ramie Beims that we were to leave at 7:45 and he told me later that he had tried to call me the morning that we were to leave but couldn't get in touch with me. I was here at the house that morning and I don't know why he couldn't reach me. I was at Miss Stapletons' office at 8:20 the morning that we were to leave. Finding that I had missed the boat I thought that perhaps I could catch up with them but the office girl didn't know where they were going to meet in the city, so I didn't try. I took Ralph Dugan in with me and explained this to her and she seemed to understand. I told her that it had caused you to be peeved at me.

The letter that you wrote telling me that you were not expecting me to go to the hotel for rest, because of missing this class, was not given to me the day of the game, but the next day at noon. This letter cleared things up for me but it was just a little late. I guess Dean had forgotten to give it to me.

This whole affair has cut pretty deeply. I have been dreaming and living for the day when I could be on the K. U. squad ever since I was a little boy. And I was trying with all my heart and ability to make the team, but leaving me off of the list because of this class affair made me feel so badly that I didn't suit up for the game. Combining this with your finding fault with everything that I did in practice seemed to me as a cue that you didn't need me anymore. My coach at home has called me a quitter, but I'm not. I felt as if you thought that it was best for me to quit, that I was possibly causing the team trouble. My Dad has been hurt more than myself probably because he has lived the game ever since he started to play. I am not crying for what has happened, but I do think that it could have been prevented.

In regard to your statement of my passing the buck I would like to say that I did not state to people that you would not speak to me. I told Paul Turner that I had been standing at the corner of your office and you had come through the front door of Robinson gym and had looked straight at me, not speaking, truning into your office at the time. I am not stating that you saw me, but it seemed to me that you were looking straight at me. I told no one of this but Paul Turner. I questioned Paul of this as soon as I received your letter and ask him if he had told anybody. He told me that he had told Marvin Sollenberger in a little conversation with him. I did not tell this to Paul to be sarcastic but tell of possibly how you felt towards me. I was not passing the buck and I never will, it is not my policy.

I do not like the idea of settling misunderstandings by letters, especially between friends who could talk to each other personally. But you seemed to want to do it the business way so I have written in return.

Yours Respectfully,

Bob Johnson

April 5, 1941

Mr. Bob Johnson
1001 West Hills
Lawrence, Kansas

Dear Bob:

Thank you for coming in to pay the \$1.68 that
I wrote you about.

However, I checked up with Earl Falkenstien and
found that according to his records you had paid him last
year, but my bookkeeping was bad.

I apologize and am sorry that I bothered you.

Thank you very much.

Sincerely yours,

Director of Physical Education and Recreation
Varsity Basketball and Baseball Coach

FCA:lg

C

February 6, 1941

Mr. Johnny Jones
Sports Editor
The Saratogian
Saratoga Springs, New York

Dear Johnny:

We use the liquid belt dressing which is supplied by any supply company that furnishes belt dressing. This belt dressing is a heavy, gelatinous liquid that is used on the surface of wide belts that run over rollers; of course, the purpose of it is to adhere to the roller.

I used this some twenty years ago on dance floors. We had a paint brush and we daubed this stuff on the soles of the shoes. It marks up the floor terribly bad. The floor looked as if a group of tar-healed giants had ferociously dug and skidded around on the floor, but it does the job.

If your Glen Falls boys are playing on a wax surface and if you or the host care much for the looks of the floor afterward, you had better try it out on some other floor to see what you will do to a surface after 40 minutes of play. It will look like Mephistopheles came up from Hades and tossed some pitch around before he did his dirty work.

Thanking you for your kind wishes regarding our basketball team and trusting that nobody will shoot you after using the belt dressing, I am,

Sincerely yours,

Director of Physical Education and Recreation
Varsity Basketball Coach

FCA:lg



THIS SIDE OF CARD IS FOR ADDRESS

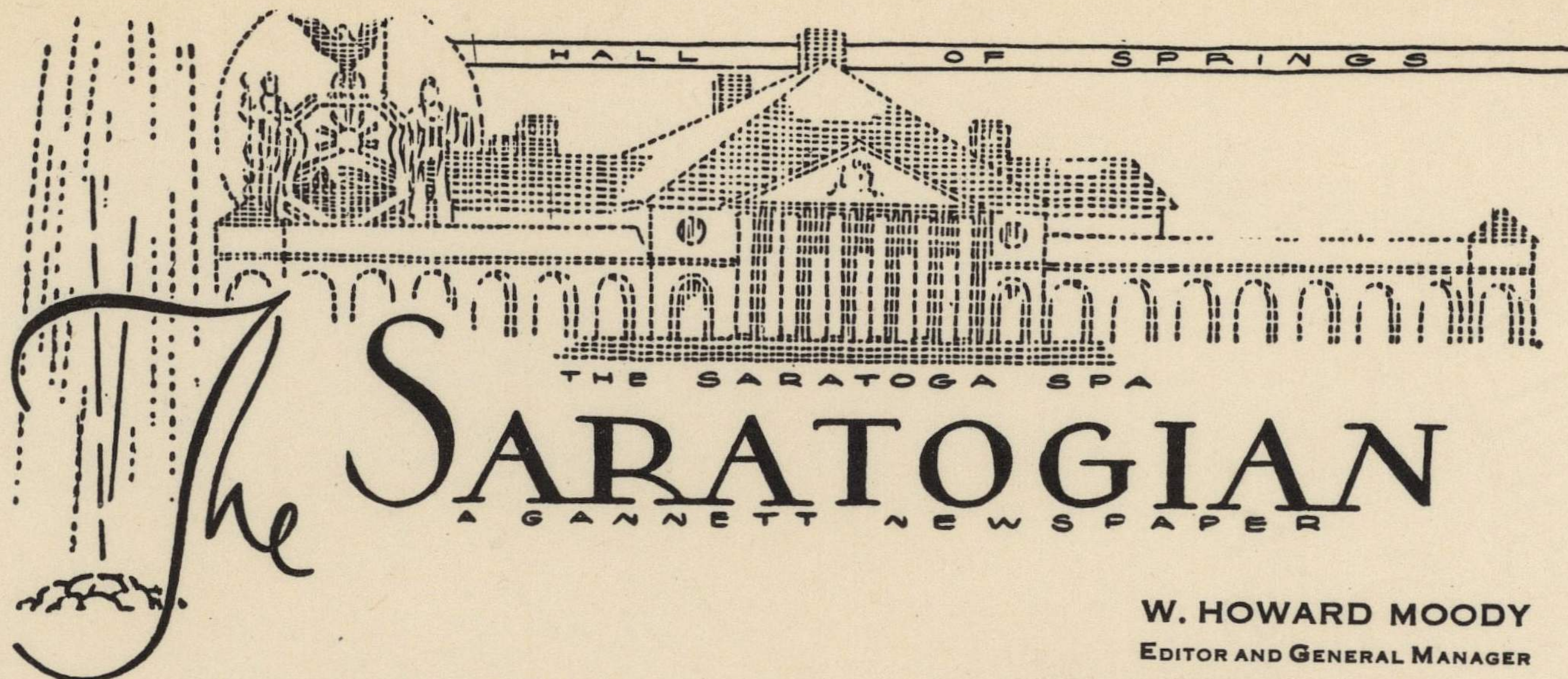
Mr. Forest C. Allen
Uni. of Kansas
Lawrence, Kans.

Dear Mr:

Cannot be there
Wed. morn as I
will be out of town.

Believe I can
come over early
next week. Will
let you know. Feel
very good yesterday
& today. Thanks to
you.

Earl Jones



W. HOWARD MOODY
EDITOR AND GENERAL MANAGER

Feb. 2, 1941.
Saratoga Springs, NY.

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

Dear Dr. Allen:

I recently read in the Intercollegiate Basketball Guide where you solved a slippery Wichita Forum floor by painting the soles of your players' shoes with liquid belt dressing.

Could you explain this a little more for me, telling exactly what to buy and how and when to apply it?

Our New York State League team plays from time to time at Glens Falls where the waxed surface is very slippery and we don't seem able to do anything about it, as they won't wash the floor.

Thanks very much for your courtesy to a former student at the University of Kansas and an admirer of your basketball teams for many years.

Sincerely,

Johnny Jones
Johnny Jones,
sports editor.

August 30, 1941.

Mrs. W. C. Jesson,
Peabody, Kansas.

Dear Mrs. Jesson:

Your very good special delivery letter of August 29th came to me early this morning. I immediately got in touch with the dean's office in the School of Business, but the dean had left for the morning.

However, I talked to his secretary, then checked up with the College office and find that Martha Jean has more than ample hours of credit and grade points to be admitted to the business and secretarial training course at the University of Kansas. Only 50 hours and 60 grade points are needed, and it is not necessary for the deans to affix their signatures in a transfer of this nature because of the large abundance of credit hours and grade points in favor of Martha Jean.

I have asked that the dean's office write you giving you double assurance, but you can take this as authentic because I went to headquarters and checked and double checked so as to be definitely certain of my ground.

I do hope that Martha Jean will be with us this fall. I have every reason to believe that the University will go very strongly into this new secretarial training course, and I believe that larger opportunities will offer for a graduate of this school than the other places. For that reason we will welcome Martha Jean back, and by having her back we know that we will have you and Dr. Jesson with us many more times than if she enrolled in Wichita.

It was a great pleasure for me to do this little favor for you in reciprocity for the many kindnesses extended to me by you and Dr. Jesson. Please give my regards to the boss, if he is boss in that household, and remember me kindly to Martha Jean.

Anticipating the pleasure of seeing you real soon,

I am

Sincerely yours,

Director of Physical Education and Recreation,
Varsity Basketball and Baseball Coach.

FCA:AH

Do not need 50 hrs Peabody Notes.
The Deans say 60 Grade point

Dr. F. J. Allen,
Lawrence.

Aug 29 - 41

Dear Dr. Allen: I'm going to ask
a favor of you and trust you
are not too busy for it to
interfere too much with your work
at this time - Last week on Tues.
Aug. 19. I saw an article in the
N.C. Star & Times stating that
N. U. is this year adding a new
course in the way of business &
secretarial training. Martha Jean
is considering going into a
business school in Wichita but we
feel if she can get a secretarial
training in the university and get
credit for it toward a degree
we would prefer she do it that
way. She wrote to Dean Stockton
and asked for information but she
probably did not stress the fact

that the business schools begin
on Sept. 2 and she wanted to
know something definite
on it before that date. And
too I know this is a busy
time for all connected with
the University. I shall
appreciate anything you
might do for us in this
matter. With kindest regards
from Dr. and me

Sincerely
Mrs. W. P. Jessen.

October 3, 1940

Mr. Earl Jones, Manager
A.G. Spalding & Bros. Div.
Spalding Sales Corporation
1012 Grand Avenue
Kansas City, Missouri

Dear Mr. Jones:

This is to confirm Miss Gerstenberger's
telephone conversation with you yesterday afternoon
concerning your coming to the University next
Monday.

I shall be happy to see you on Monday,
October 7, at 9:30 A.M.

Sincerely yours,

Director of Physical Education and Recreation
Varsity Basketball Coach

FCA:lg

Dr. Allen:

Mr. Jones stated he has to be
in Denver on Friday, but he
would be glad to come next
Monday at 9:30. I told him I
thought that would allright
with you.

lg

Confidential
conversations



A. G. Spalding & Bros.

DIVISION OF SPALDING SALES CORPORATION

ATHLETIC OUTFITTERS

1012 GRAND AVENUE, KANSAS CITY, MO.

September 20, 1940.

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

Dear Dr. Allen:

I enjoyed my visit with you very much the other evening, and really I have been contemplating coming over to see you on my hip ailment. I have done practically everything which has been suggested to me, besides following carefully the instruction of several good doctors. The only embarrassing thing about my coming to you is that I would have such a limited way in acknowledging any help you might be able to give to me, but I would consider it a personal favor if, at your convenience, you would call me collect.

I could come next week during Monday, Tuesday, or Wednesday, but after that, I would have to delay for approximately one week.

Assuring you of my sincere appreciation, and with best wishes, I am

Yours very truly,

A. G. SPALDING & BROS. DIV.
SPALDING SALES CORPORATION

Earl Jones
m
Manager

EJ:mw
Dict. 9/19/40

P.S. My phone number is Victor 7470.

well for
EJ
Sportsmen
Say **SPALDING** Quality
Ever Since 1876

A

December 12, 1940

Mr. H.P. Johnson
6680 Ohio Street
Omaha, Nebraska

Dear Mr. Johnson:

I beg to acknowledge receipt of your favor of the 10th instant and I am glad to hear from you. You are mistaken if you are of the opinion that I attack football because I do not.

I was asked down by the High-Twelve Club of the Masonic Order in Kansas City, Kansas. They had as their guests 16 of the all-star high school football boys from Ward High, Wyandotte, Rosedale and Argentine. I made some remarks to these boys such as this: You have won splendid honors on the football field and I congratulate you for the success. You played these games for the sheer fun of playing. Now I would not want you to take the thing that you have used for sheer fun and endeavor to make it a marketable commodity.

I stated further to the boys that they should pick out their own University with an idea toward getting an education and use the sport not as a business but as a recreative thing. I said that somebody had done something to football; they had not protected it and nurtured it because teams like Yale, Harvard and Princeton, some of the oldest and largest colleges in the United States, are departing from this thing, and that people now consider it a business instead of a sport. I voiced a fear that if certain individuals succeeded in their endeavor to big-time basketball they would kill basketball the same as they are killing football.

I coached football for a good many years; in fact I coached the Jayhawkers in 1920 when we tied Nebraska 20 to 20. We were outweighed exactly 27 pounds to the man, and Nebraska had run over us 20 to 0. This little band of Kansans came back and tied the score 20 to 20 and missed their kick for an extra point. The following Monday morning, here in the University Gymnasium, the students of the University met and pledged \$160,000 as their part toward building this beautiful stadium that we have. I promoted the building of the stadium and the completion thereof. I founded the Kansas Relays here in 1923.

I am not mentioning these things to you to boast, but to show you that I had hoped that we would earn enough money from football that we could have play facilities for students for the entire University from these earnings.

As head of the Department of Physical Education here at the University, I have been in a position to see a great many things that affect the young life of students, and I want to assure you that a man who comes to college to get an education is benefited by playing football, but a boy who comes to college to play football is certainly not benefited thereby. This boy is putting the emphasis on the wrong activity.

I have been pretty well acquainted with Kansas athletics because my brother, Col. H.B. Allen, who is now Commandant of R.O.T.C. at Stanford University, was a tackle back here in the early 1900's. He played with Hicks, Pooler, Brummage, Donald Jenkinson, Bruner, Michaelson, and so forth. I entered the University of Kansas in 1905 and played all three sports; in fact, I played with Tommy Johnson. I coached basketball here in 1908 and 1909 and we won the Missouri Valley Championship both years.

I assure you, Mr. Johnson, that no one is endeavoring to promote basketball here at the University over football. There is no competition between the two. Personally, I very much desire an athlete who is a student who plays on the football team to play basketball than I do one who does not play football. Football has become so basketballized and basketball has become so footballized that they are first cousins to each other. Generally the aggressive, versatile football player is a great basketball player, and vice versa.

Yes, I am well acquainted with the traditions back of the famous Rock Chalk yell. I am sending you a brochure of the origin of the most famous college yell in America. Years ago, when I was Director of Athletics, I had these printed to keep alive this fine tradition.

Mr. Johnson, I want you to know that there is not a single member of the basketball team receiving any subsidy whatsoever; no soft jobs, no board, room or tuition. The most that anyone of them gets for work is 35¢ an hour and they are paid only when they work. But we do ^{have} men in very responsible positions: Paul Endacott and Waldo Bowman of 1923 are two such people. Endacott is Executive Vice-President of the Phillips Petroleum Company, and Bowman is Editor of the Engineering News Record of McGraw-Hill and Company, New York City. Charles Black, who was Kansas greatest living athlete, is an executive of the Ohio Glass Company of Toledo. Tuston Ackerman is one of the executives of the Equitable Life in Chicago. John Bunn of the 1920 team, is Dean of Men at Stanford University, and was their basketball coach. He made three letters each in football, basketball and baseball at the University of Kansas. Arthur "Dutch" Lonborg is Varsity Basketball Coach at Northwestern University and is assistant to Linn Waldorf, and so it goes. I could mention nearly 100 boys that have graduated under me. None of them have been fed subsidies and have been made to feel that because they competed in athletics the world owes them a living.

I have six children of my own and four grandchildren, and none of them were adopted, so you can see that I know something about raising children, and I do not believe that you can take any athlete today and make as good a man out of him as when he is forced to work and pay for what he gets.

I am very glad that you are interested in Kansas football. In fact, I learn that there is a Century Club organized here in Lawrence among the businessmen in and out of the State who desire to help with the fortunes of the Varsity Football Team. This Century Club derives its name from the fact that each man who wants to see Kansas have a better football team contributes \$100.00. Mr. Armond Woestemeyer of the People's State Bank of Lawrence is their treasurer, I understand. I know that they would be very happy, if you feel like it, if you would

send them a check for \$100.00 so that they might have a better football team and I feel that since you want a better football team and are loyal to the State and the University that you would like to make a contribution. You will understand that I am not asking you for a contribution; in fact, I have only heard about this Century Club. None of this money of the Century Club goes to basketball.

There is also a Kansas Relays Club here in Lawrence in which a man can contribute \$10.00 and receives two tickets per man for the year. The tickets are \$4.50, and the other \$5.50 goes to help the football player. So if you do not want to join the Century Club I know that they would be glad to have you join the Relays Club.

I have a feeling that you would get a much greater wallop out of coming to Lawrence if you would feel that you were making a definite contribution to the up-building of the football team.

When you come to Lawrence I would be very happy to have you as my guest at any one of the games that you desire to attend. It would be a pleasure to meet you and tell you of my struggles and desires to build up a great athletic plant here at the University.

I coached football ten years and I want to tell you that I would much rather coach football than basketball. It is much easier coached, but I would not want my players to be played unless the University and the people connected with it would openly give a certain stipend or scholarship, the same as they give a scholarship for dramatics or voice. This would not be detrimental to our promotional life as it now is where there is so much hypocrisy and up-and-up professionalism. It is the professionalism that is killing the game.

My notion is that you can look at the roster of the professional teams of America and trace them back to their Alma Mater, and you will see where the most professionalism exists and where proselyting is done. These boys who are proselyted make more money than they can earn when they graduate, with the exception of their playing professional football. That is why they turn to pro-football because they have not mastered their academic subjects sufficiently to give them courage to face a cold world where increases come slowly and only when the worker has proved himself. After a few years of pro-football they may get into business, but too many of them are disillusioned and lack the courage to begin at the bottom and work up.

In my office, as I dictate this letter to you, I am looking into a life-sized photograph of Tom W. "Tommy" Johnson, Kansas' Greatest Athlete. We were very close friends and I thought he was one of the grandest characters that I have ever known. He died two years from the day he was injured in the Missouri-Kansas game at the Bell Memorial Hospital in Kansas City, Kansas. Right up to the last he stated that he had had a swell time all of his life and that he was not whining when fate turned against him.

Mr. H.P. Johnson

Page 4

Dec. 12, 1940

I think you misunderstand the statement that I made, Mr. Johnson. All of my three sons played football at Lawrence Memorial High School and when they came to the University they studied law and medicine and had less time. I would much rather that they pursue a course that will assure them some durable satisfactions and pleasures than a temporary one that is not always so reassuring.

Very cordially yours,

Director of Physical Education and Recreation
Varsity Basketball Coach

FCA:lg
Enc.

6680 Ohio Street,
Omaha, Nebraska,
December 10, 1940.

Mr. F. C. Allen,
Lawrence, Kansas.

My Dear Sir:

Your recent attack against college football has been of great interest to me because it has given me the long awaited opportunity to write to you personally and to state some of my reasons for the poor showing of K.U. football teams for the past seasons.

The writer, a former resident of the state of Kansas is an ardent football enthusiast, especially for all of the teams in the Big Six. However being now a resident of the great football-minded state of Nebraska, I must confess that I am somewhat of a booster for the Cornhuskers now that they are riding the crest of a great wave of popularity on account of what will go down in history as one of their greatest seasons. However, normally I always root for the Jayhawker's against Nebraska because I still have a lot of loyalty for my native state and that K.U. is the under dog.

I wish to protest vigorously against your recent statement in regard to college football and I am sure that you will find many football fans in accord with me, including the vast majority of the leading sports writers. The past season has been a very humiliating one for Kansas football enthusiasts, especially for those K.U. supporters that have immigrated to the surrounding states whose team have so consistently walloped the Jayhawkers every Saturday.

Kansas with a half million more population than Nebraska, should be able to do much better than during the past few years. Lets go back to the turn of the century and we will see great Jayhawker football teams that were on a par with any team in the middle west. And then a few years later in 1907-8 with the great Tommy Johnson. Then the total of wins and losses with the Huskers were even. And in the past thirty years, K.U. has won one game. The largest stadium in the Big Six there at Lawrence is practically empty at your games, and only a few miles from a metropolitan area with a population of over a half million and twice that of Lincoln where they have an attendance at one of their lesser games of more than the total for all games at K.U.

And here Mr. Allen, you have a complete picture of how the "soft sissy Sunday school game", of basket-ball is killing the once much respected and feared Jayhawker gridster of yesterday. The term "Jayhawker" is an old tradition in the Midlands football circles and the numerous football fans in the great state of Kansas and elsewhere have a right to ask for a new deal for their game at K.U. ; one that will put football before the "sissy" basket ball. Under the present set-up, K.U. is becoming nationally known as a haven for the parlor and Sunday school boys who play basket ball, while the football players go to other schools outside the state. The writer loves to journey down to Lawrence at least once every fall and see the delightful surroundings and see a good game but I would'nt go across the street to see the "sissy game of basket-ball. Mr. Allen, I hope your blast will prove a boomerang that will create a state-wide interest in K.U. football so that the Jayhawker will again come to life as in the days of the great Tommy Johnson.

Yours sincerely

H. P. Johnson

Oct. 24, 1940

Journalism Press
University of Kansas

Dear Sirs:

Please make up 200 checking stubs for us, as per the enclosed sample, numbered from 1 through 199.

The cost should be charged to the Department of Physical Education.

We should like to have these by Friday, October 25, if at all possible.

Thank you.

Sincerely yours,

Director of Physical Education and Recreation
Varsity Basketball Coach

Enc.

October 25, 1940

Mr. Earl Jones, Manager
A.G. Spalding & Bros. Div.
Spalding Sales Corporation
1012 Grand Avenue
Kansas City, Missouri

Dear Mr. Jones:

I am wondering how the cripple is coming along. I have been watching the obituary notices in the Kansas City papers but have failed to read your name.

In fact, I do not know whether you ever received that letter I wrote you telling you that I am a golf player and golf players use golf balls.

The weather has been perfect and if your disposition is as genercus as my desire to receive those balls, I should have them on my desk within a week's time.

Very sincerely yours,

Director of Physical Education and Recreation
Varsity Basketball Coach

FCA:lg

October 25, 1940

Mr. Lawrence Johnson
1329 Vermont
Lawrence, Kansas

Dear Larry:

I would like to suggest that you apply to Miss Velma Wilson, Executive Secretary, N.Y.A. office, 4 Frank Strong Hall for N.Y.A. work for the second semester.

During the winter months the work at the stadium runs a little low, and if you could secure N.Y.A. employment, that would help you take care of your expenses. Of course, we will be glad to keep you on at the stadium, but it may not be enough.

Sincerely yours,

Director of Physical Education and Recreation
Varsity Basketball Coach

FCA:lg

October 31, 1940

Mr. Earl Jones
Manager
A. G. Spalding & Bros. Div.
Spalding Sales Corporation
1012 Grand Avenue
Kansas City, Mo.

Dear Earl:

I acknowledge receipt of your good letter of the 26st instant and I am also acknowledging receipt of those golf balls guaranteed to go straight, not to cut, rip, ravel, or run down at the heels. That is, if we hit them properly. Well, you know I have got a lot of nerve to hit some of my friends for some things, so why shouldn't I hit a golf ball for a run or a hole in one or whatever should be done with a golf ball.

I can't guarantee my treatment to make you tell better yarns to the sports writers than what you have been telling, but I guarantee to fix up that hip if you drop around here.

Thanking you for your contribution, I am,

Sincerely yours,

Director of Physical Education and Recreation
Varsity Basketball Coach

FCA:lg:mln



A. G. Spalding & Bros.

DIVISION OF SPALDING SALES CORPORATION

ATHLETIC OUTFITTERS

1012 GRAND AVENUE, KANSAS CITY, MO.

October 26, 1940.

Dr. Forrest C. Allen
Dir. Phys. Education
University of Kansas
Lawrence, Kansas

Dear Dr. Allen:

Was glad to receive your letter of October 25th, and I have been intending to come back to see you but have been gone so much that it was just impossible.

Your treatment unquestionably did me a lot of good, but I believe regular treatment would have me really on my feet in a short time if it were possible for me to take them from you.

I had not forgotten the golf balls, but was going to bring them with me on my next trip. However, even now I have no idea when it will be possible to return, so I am sending you a dozen of our very best under separate cover. These balls are guaranteed to go straight, not to cut, rip, ravel, or run down at the heels -- that is, if you hit them properly.

I did enjoy my visit as well as the treatment, and I will come back at the earliest convenience.

Until then, thanks a lot and best wishes.

Yours very truly,

A. G. SPALDING & BROS. DIV.
SPALDING SALES CORPORATION

Earl Jones, Mgr.

EJ/m

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