

THE GREAT BEND JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL

RALPH W. HOGAN, PRINCIPAL

GREAT BEND, KANSAS

O. E. McFERRIN, VICE-PRINCIPAL

November 8, 1940

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

Dear Dr. Allen:

I have planned for some time to write you telling something about how things are going along here in Great Bend.

I imagine that you have already started to work with your basketball boys and I hope to get going next week. We have a rather peculiar situation here in the respect that we open our regular basketball season on December 6 with Hutchinson here and I don't need to tell you that "Chop" Cairns always has a good ball team. Everyone of last year's lettermen here are on the football squad and the football season isn't over until Thanksgiving, November 28. That day falls on Thursday and I plan to have two workouts on Friday and Saturday even though they are holidays. I also plan two workouts per day the following week up until Friday when we play. That doesn't give me much time and I don't expect too much for awhile anyway.

This town is really a football town, "Doc", and I hope that I will be able to do a little converting. We have fine facilities and the administration is ultra cooperative in anything I have wanted to do. Money doesn't seem to be much of a factor and the purchasing of equipment is entirely up to me. I have already purchased new playing suits with two sets of contrasting jerseys and twenty pairs of red leather Riddell playing shoes. Of course, I bought long socks and knee pads too. I may have to convert the boys on the socks and knee guards, but after they have used them a game or two the persuasion will be over.

We plan to go out to the Dodge City clinic with which you are familiar. We have two games before that however, so maybe I will be able to get a line on some of the boys by that time. I wish that you could see my boys play some time for I am sure that I could use your advice and comments to a definite advantage. The whole town is not basketball minded and I've heard that this is a "graveyard" for basketball coaches, but I'm quite too young to be buried and to avoid that end I'm going to try to give them some kind of a basketball team. It may take some time and a lot of hard work but I think I can take care of that without much trouble.

Our physical education program which is new here in Great Bend is taking form. I discovered a case of "athletes' foot" a few days ago and I immediately made a thorough investigation. We are very much crowded here for physical education space and I found that about twenty-five percent of the boys had a touch of the stuff. I sent the bad cases to their own physician and then I started to work painting all the rest with tincture of benzoin. I painted