

Department of Physical Education  
University of Kansas

February 21, 1941

Dear Varsity Baseball Aspirant:

Only three veteran lettermen of last year's team returned for this year's wars; namely, "Knute" Kresie, John Burge and "Rudy" Beims.

Kansas has never in its long history of baseball competition faced such a poverty of seasonal veterans returning. For years Kansas had won the Missouri Valley and the Big-Six Championships in Baseball.

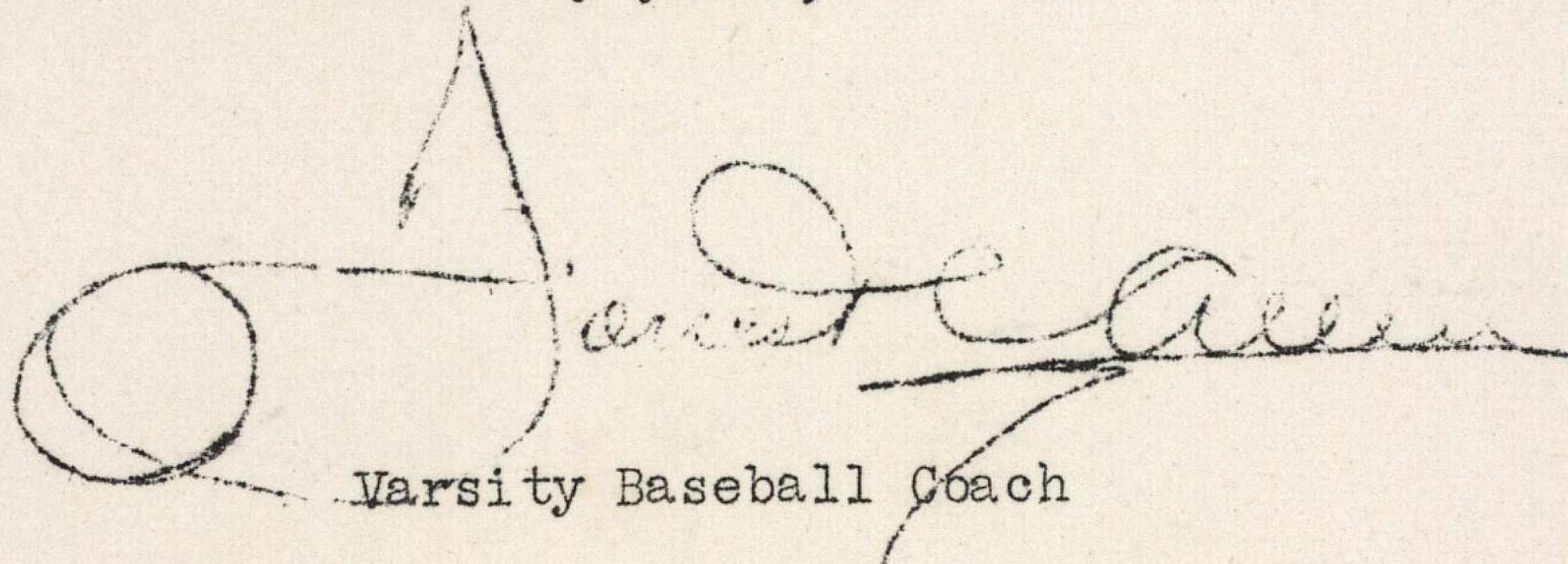
Baseball's greats of yesteryears included such luminaries as Dale Gear, Walter Frantz, Adrian Sherman, Archie Hoag, Wade Moore, Bennie Owens, Pete Allen, Tommy Johnson, Lefty Sproul, Lloyd Bishop, George Stukey, John "Sweede" Carlson, John DeLongey, Pete Wandell, John Smee, Adrian Lindsay, Stem Foster, Joe Boyd, Dutch Uhrlaub, Merle Price, Dutch Lonborg, Kelly Swenson, <sup>George</sup> Leo Rody, Eddie Halpin, Joe Bloomer, Lefty "Hook" Fisher, T.C. Bishop, Charles "Slick" Black.

Now, this is your chance to earn a Varsity Baseball K. Report to Ralph "Red" Dugan in the Freshman Basketball Dressing Quarters and he will check out to you a pair of old basketball shoes and some other paraphernalia so that you can work out in here in the gymnasium and get in tip-top physical condition. Jim Raport tells me that he will teach you to punch the bag. We will have handball so you can work out in the handball court, either indoors or out. These various exercises should toughen you up enough so that your muscles will not go lame on you when you start to throw a baseball. Physical fitness is one of the first losses of a game competitor and we want you in shape.

Starting Monday afternoon Red Dugan will be down in the dressing quarters to check out equipment for you. There will be no baseballs checked out, but there will be a record kept of the days that you fellows report and Red Dugan, Frank Bukaty and I will do all in our power to get you in shape. There will be a list of exercises on the bulletin board in the freshman dressing room for you to follow.

We could go into longer detail but this is a start. Start early and be regular and be one of those baseball battlers who will put the outdoor game back on its feet with a decided bang. Be a competitor and start training now. As Churchill said, we promise you nothing but sweat, blood and drill. We will leave out the blood but we will emphasize the other two.

Sincerely yours,

  
Varsity Baseball Coach