

May 29, 1943.

Miss Joy Miller,  
2122 Arkansas St.,  
Wichita, Kansas.

Dear Miss Miller:

I have delayed writing you in the hope that we could have a basketball schedule for you. But the Big Six Conference in their meeting had other matters that preceded the basketball schedule; namely, the faculty members were endeavoring to determine whether they were going to have competitive athletics for this year. They have determined that they will have a football team if the ODT o.k.'s it and I have pretty definite information that the ODT is insisting that we continue our competitive athletics. They will not promise too much transportation, but there is a feeling that the soldiers, sailors and marines - the men in service, want it badly.

It is reported that the first inquiry that comes from these men in foreign countries is regarding the standing of their schools in athletics. So as a morale builder they are asking the people here to carry on, not so much for the morale of the people on the home front, but for the boys in foreign service.

Personally, I believe this is true because I have heard from many of the boys like Fen Durand in the Solomons, John Burge who is a naval flier in the Pacific, Frank Harwi in Australia, who never missed a basketball game, Bob Haggart who is shuttling back and forth between the Pacific Coast and Hawaii, Clint Kanaga, a marine in the Solomons, and a great group of other athletes who have written me wanting to know how we came out in the basketball season. The reason, Miss Miller, I am giving you this information is in the hope that you can write your own story with this background of morale-building, so that our students here can see that when they compete for their school here they are raising the morale of the boys in foreign service. Do you not think that would be a good angle to present?

We perhaps will have a basketball schedule, but it will not be prepared in time to print in the K book.

Our intramural program will go forward under this guidance. Uncle Sam's crying need is to have more men physically fit who are vital for the Army and Navy. Thirty-three and one-third per cent of our young men are being rejected on physical unfitness. There are two things that we will stress in intramurals -- aquatics and combatives.