

I am not sure that Ralph could have obtained greater glory any place else because he has made a wonderful name for himself in this state. The fact that he had the bad luck with his knee and played on bare nerve won for him many friends. Of course, he has knockers, as you and I have. Any man out before the public pays that price as a penalty. And I am glad you kept your son in Kansas. I would have done the same with mine, and I think in the long run you will be very happy because Ralph will make a fine success of all he undertakes. He has the intelligence and the ability to make friends. Don't worry about any of your fair-weather friends that condemned you for letting him go to K.U.

I want to assure you that I will not discuss this phase of our correspondence with Ralph. But I am glad that you did write me because I feel closer to you than if you had not written me. There is something akin with fathers with parental problems who can discuss their sons as father and father, and I assure you that all I would want to do for my own son I will do for yours - as much as it is humanly possible for me to do.

So I want to thank you for your letter, Harold, and I am very sure that in a year or two you will see that you did exactly the best thing for Ralph in sending him to the University. Sometime I want to have a good long visit with you and talk the thing over from all angles. We never had an opportunity to sit down two hours unmolested and as father to father discuss the things that are big in our hearts for our own boys.

Harold, believe me when I say that many of those passes to some fellow who is covered, and not to the open man, take place every day in practice and I am convinced that the boys are just not up to the versatility that they should be when they make those bad passes. These other fellows have not had the competitive experience of Ralph. Therefore, charge most of these up to errors or omission, their failure to see Ralph at the proper time, rather than any dislike for him. If I thought for a minute any fellow would fail to pass to a teammate - Ralph or anyone else - on account of selfish reasons, I would yank them out of the line up so quick their heads would swim. And they know this. And not only do they know it, but I have talked to them about it. I get pretty close with my boys and I watch every move for any selfish act on their part.

Teamwork is an unselfish activity, and it is not intended for a group of pouters.

Thank you for your good letter, and I do hope that we can have that visit at some near future date. Please remember me to your good wife. I think she has been a wonderful mother.

Sincerely yours,

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

FCA:AH  
(Signed in Dr. Allen's absence.)