

November 11, 1940

Mr. Horace Mason  
Sports Publicity Director  
Kansan Office  
University of Kansas

Dear Horace:

I notice where Bob Busby quoted you and Harold Keith as saying it was a cinch for Kansas to put over a winner this year in basketball. I am sure that you understand that Mr. Harold Keith is a very wise and non-gullible person.

I am wondering if you know that Bruce Drake has made confidential statements to some of his friends that he has the best possibilities for a championship team this year that he has ever had since he has been there. He states that he has a better outfit than McNatt, Mesh, Scheffler, et al. Doubtless you know that he has Ford, the big six-foot-seven Acrobat; Corbin, who was ineligible last year but who was his hot-shot the year before; Ramsey, the all-state Illinois star, and another all-state man from Illinois. These last two boys roomed at Bruce Drake's home during their sophomore year. I am getting the dope, but from all appearances Oklahoma thinks they have it this year but are playing the dark horse idea. So please do not be gullible enough to come out with such a wild statement as Mr. Busby attributes to you.

We have lost Ebling, one of the most valuable men and clutch shooters; Dick Harp and Bruce Voran. All three of these men were seniors and top performers in the pinches. We also lost Miller, of course, who got hurt, and who put games on the ice like Loyola and Nebraska. You see we have lost all of our scoring punch, so to speak. Kline, who is a good defense man but who cannot score, Bobby Allen, who is a good ball handler but who cannot score, and Engleman, are the ones left out of the seven. In other words, most of our scorers, both on the offense and defense, have been lost.

We have a good defensive team, but we have lost the seniors and you cannot replace seniors with sophomores and have a great deal of luck. We will still be small; smaller than last year. Even so, do not make the foolish statement which is quoted as coming from you. Maybe you did not make it; I hope not.

Iowa State is expecting definitely to do things because Louis Menze told me he could not understand the debacle that took place in his team, and he is expecting them to come through this year because he has the size and the age. We have neither the size nor the age for an offensive team, but it



Mr. Mason

Page Two

Nov. 11, 1940

will be just like it was last year; we will have to fight our hearts out to get anywhere, and we will have to have luck and a phenomenal increase in efficiency to score enough points on teams, all of who will outweigh and out-reach us.

Very cordially yours,

Director of Physical Education and Recreation  
Varsity Basketball Coach

FCA:lg



November 13, 1940

Mr. Condra H. Miller, Principal  
Richmond Grade School  
Richmond, Kansas

Dear Mr. Miller:

We are sending you a schedule for our home basketball season. I will turn your letter over to Mr. Earl Falkenstien, the Financial Secretary of the Athletic Association, who will make you a price on the tickets.

We are planning to play a game with our 1936 ever-victorious team members, consisting of Ray Ebling, Francis Kappleman, Gordon Gray, Mit Allen, Paul Rogers, Ray Nobel, etc., sometime before the opening of the regular season. We will also include Don Ebling and Dick Harp, members of last year's team.

No date has been set for this game, as well as our regular varsity-freshman game, which will be played before the two games with the University of Texas on the 9th and 10th of December. I will endeavor to notify you of the dates when we have them set, so if you prefer one of these games to the regular season games, you will have your choice.

We would be happy to see you and the boys.

Sincerely yours,

Director of Physical Education and Recreation  
Varsity Basketball Coach

FCA:lg

cc: Mr. Falkenstien



BOARD OF EDUCATION  
MR. A. O. SIGLER  
MR. FLOID LAWTON  
MRS. GRACE S. DIETRICH

# RICHMOND GRADE SCHOOL

CONDRA H. MILLER, PRINCIPAL

FACULTY  
ANNETTE NEW  
ETTA BLANCHE SMITH  
FAITH LOVETT

Richmond, Kansas,  
Nov. 11, 1940.

Dr. Forrest Allen,  
Basket Ball Coach,  
Lawrence, Kansas.

Dear Dr. Allen:

I would like to purchase six basket-ball tickets for my grade school basket-ball team for the first game.

Would you please send a schedule of the games?

He will send by return mail, money for the six tickets and, also, an adult ticket for me.

Sincerely yours,  
Condra Miller.



December 6, 1940

Mr. Charles L. Mitchell  
Crane & Company  
Topeka, Kansas

Dear Charlie:

Thank you very much for your thoughtfulness  
in sending me the page from the New York Herald Tribune  
as of November 29.

It was nice of you to think of me and I  
appreciate your sending it on.

With all good wishes, I am,

Sincerely yours,

Director of Physical Education and Recreation  
Varsity Basketball Coach

FCA:lg



FROM  
THE DESK OF  
CHARLES L. MITCHELL  
TOPEKA, KANSAS

Dear "Phog"

That you might  
be interested,

Chas



December 7, 1940

The Rev. Leslie Miller  
Washington Avenue Methodist Church  
Kansas City, Kansas

Dear Rev. Miller:

I find that January 22 comes just two days after our last game with Kansas State in Manhattan, which is prior to our examination date; therefore, I find myself open on January 22 and if you desire me to keep that date for you I would be glad to be with you.

The State makes no provision for travel expenses so it would be necessary for me to have 6¢ a mile each way. I happen to drive a Buick Roadmaster, and while I realize this is extravagance on my part, I use it as a family and as a personal car, and since I cannot afford two I make one fill the bill.

If this arrangement is agreeable with you I will be happy to hear from you confirming the date.

Thanking you for your kind wishes regarding my talk to the Hi-Twelve Group, I am,

Sincerely yours,

Director of Physical Education and Recreation  
Varsity Basketball Coach

FCA:lg



Washington Avenue Methodist Church

LESLIE MILLER, PASTOR



Kansas City, Kansas

December 6, 1940

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

Dear Dr. Allen:

First, may I take this added opportunity to express again my deep appreciation of your splendid talk to our Hi-Twelve group and "Champions" last Wednesday noon.

I spoke to you at that time about the possibility of your coming to us sometime in January. I know you have a full schedule, but I am wondering if you could speak to our Church family night dinner either January 22nd or January 29th, or even the first Wednesday night in February. If it is possible, will you please check your date list at once so that we can have your reply at your earliest convenience.

With kindest regards and best wishes, I am

Cordially yours,

Leslie Miller

*Dr. Allen  
any of these  
dates are open -  
ly*

*Feb. 5*



December 12, 1940

Mr. Horace Mason  
Sports Publicity Director  
News Bureau  
University of Kansas

Dear Horace:

Our game with the University of Wichita at  
Wichita has been changed from February 4 to February 3.

I thought that you would want this for our  
permanent Kansas schedule on the new program.

Will you kindly notify Bob Busby?

Thanking you, I am,

Sincerely yours,

Director of Physical Education and Recreation  
Varsity Basketball Coach

FCA:lg



December 12, 1940

The Rev. Leslie Miller  
Washington Avenue Methodist Church  
Kansas City, Kansas

Dear Rev. Miller:

I acknowledge receipt of your letter of the 5th instant giving me the time and place of your church family dinner.

I shall be glad to meet with you and I am hoping that I can bring Mrs. Allen along.

With all good wishes, I am,

Sincerely yours,

Director of Physical Education and Recreation  
Varsity Basketball Coach

FCA:lg



LESLIE MILLER

PASTOR

Washington Avenue Methodist Church

KANSAS CITY, KANSAS

December 10, 1940

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

Dear Dr. Allen:

Thank you very much for your acceptance  
of the date, January 22, to be with us  
to speak to our church family dinner. (6:30 P.M.)

This will be a mixed group made up of  
young people and older people. May I  
suggest that if it fits in with your  
plans you might give us a message built  
around the value of religion in every  
day living. We will very glad to  
arrange for your expenses as you stip-  
ulate.

Looking forward to having you with us  
at this time, I am, with kindest regards  
and best wishes,

Cordially yours,

Leslie Miller



A

June 25th, 1941

Mr. Ralph Miller  
State Highway Department  
Topeka, Kansas

Dear Ralph:

Thank you very much for your good letter of the 21st instant giving me a very fulsome report on Mr. Strait. I appreciate it very much. However, I am rather easy now, having learned that Henry Shenk will be with us next year. I had talked with Strait as a possible candidate here if Shenk were elected to the Principalship, which he was not.

Shenk is a grand fellow and I'm very sure that all the boys in the Department of Physical Education will be happy to work with him. He will take over DeGroot's work. We have not decided on Raport's successor as yet, but the budget will be smaller for us and we're endeavoring to get a young man that will grow along with us. It will not be necessary to check further when you go home but I do appreciate it.

I'm glad that you're successful in getting some insurance prospects on the dotted line. I will be very happy to cooperate with you next year with the view of lining up some of the on-coming fellows for a policy. I would advise every young man to take out insurance. I took out a thousand dollar endowment policy when I was fifteen years of age, and a twenty five hundred dollar twenty year pay when I was nineteen. In my opinion it is the best protection that a young man can get and in addition it places a definite responsibility upon that young man to meet payments. So you can count on my being a Life Insurance booster, and it will be a pleasure to help you.

Bob is taking things rather easy; playing some golf and doing a little relaxing for his year at Pennsylvania University. Eleanor is also going to enter the University of Pennsylvania next year, desiring, I imagine, to be near Bob. And too, you know youngsters in a college town always want to get away from home. So we're agreeable to her having this experience. She's in Summer School now doing some work so that she will have additional credits.

I shall be glad to convey your greetings to the family and the good wishes which Jean sends is reciprocal. Say "hello" to your folks in your good home.

With all good wishes, I am,

Fraternally yours,

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

FCA:rc



AGENCY OF

THE UNION CENTRAL LIFE INSURANCE COMPANY

W. VERNE WILKIN, MANAGER

KANSAS CITY, MO.

CECIL N. PETERSON

SPECIAL AGENT

925 KANSAS AVENUE

TELEPHONE 2-6680

TOPEKA, KANSAS

6-21-41.

Mr. J. C. Allen  
Robinson Gym.  
Lawrence, Kans.

Dear Doc,

Have been making a few inquiries about Strait during the last week and I haven't found out so very much. At least here is the findings of my questions.

He seemingly is fairly well liked down home. He hasn't done any wonders but he done fairly well. He is director of physical education in Chanute, but he does most of his work with the grade school kids. He goes to every room in the school system once a week or once every two weeks and gives them one-half hour of play.

He doesn't have any classes in the high school or junior high programs. They have other men for that. As I understand it, he is supposed to be the supervisor, but he lets the individual men conduct their classes as



they wish.

He gets along fairly well with the boys, but is much more popular with the younger group of children.

He is very interested in physical education, and is taking his doctor's degree at Iowa U. I don't know how near it is completed.

Mad said he was a pretty good egg and that he would probably do much better in class work like our regular subject matter, than he would at handling boys in regular gym work. He also said that there were plenty of men worse in the field than Strait. He was under the impression that he was no prize, but he would get by satisfactorily.

That just about sums up my knowledge of the man. I was home just for a few hours the other day and didn't see many people. I will be going home the 4<sup>th</sup> of July for 3 or 4 days and will investigate him some more. Perhaps then I can give you some more dope if that is not too late for you.

Every thing is moving along very nicely this summer for me. I hope it is with you. I saw the other day where you were playing in the State Golf Tournament.



AGENCY OF

THE UNION CENTRAL LIFE INSURANCE COMPANY

W. VERNE WILKIN, MANAGER

KANSAS CITY, MO.

CECIL N. PETERSON

SPECIAL AGENT

925 KANSAS AVENUE

TELEPHONE 2-6680

TOPEKA, KANSAS

However, I didn't see the results, how did you come out?

Incidentally Doc, I am selling life insurance for Verne this summer + next year at school. If by chance you should hear or know of anyone interested in buying some I would appreciate your letting me know. I have sold about \$6,000 worth so far this month so I am quite satisfied with myself. It was mostly luck, but it means a few extra dollars regardless.

Better close now and be on my way. I hope you can use the information I have given you. I will send you some more by July 10.

Fraternally

Ralph "Cappy" Miller

Jean sends her regards.

Please give my regards to the rest of your family.



B

July 12, 1941.

Professor U. G. Mitchell,  
1313 Massachusetts St.,  
Lawrence, Kansas.

Dear Professor Mitchell:

Thank you very much for your thoughtfulness in sending me the clipping from the San Francisco News. I see almost as great a danger in basketball as in football. The coaches of the nation are traversing the country calling on these youngsters, making them believe that college life is a joyride - not the hard work that it entails to be a superior student and a success when you get out in the world.

We were glad to see you and Mrs. Mitchell at the playground the other evening. I hope you will come often.

Sincerely yours,

FCA:AH

Director of Physical Education and Recreation,  
Varsity Basketball Coach.



Dear "Phog";

It is surprising how school ties hold for years.

The enclosed clipping was sent to me recently by a business man of San Francisco who was a student in high school at Lyons 40 years ago when I was Supt. of schools there.

I would not be inclined to disagree with you about the football situation.

~~W.G. Mitchell~~

Lawrence, Ks.  
July 1, 1941

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Thursday, January 23, 1941

*PURGE IS ONLY HOPE  
FOR GRID: PHOG ALLEN*



# Sport Dying Of Rottenness, Holds Coach

## Kansas Mentor Hits Rise of Proselyting In Basketball

LAWRENCE, Kas., Jan. 23.—  
Dr. Forrest (Phog) Allen, Uni-  
versity of Kansas basketball  
coach who loves an argument,  
has a characteristic reply to critics  
who disagree with his statement that  
college football will die a natural  
death in 10 more  
years.

"If the post-  
man stopped to  
kick at every dog  
that barked at  
his heels he  
never would get  
his mail deliver-  
ed," he said.

Allen, at the  
same time, re-  
affirmed his  
charge that com-  
mercialism and  
over-emphasis is  
causing college  
football to "die

of its own rottenness." He also  
complained that there is a "rising  
professional tendency in college bas-  
ketball."



PHOG ALLEN

### \* \* \* COLLEGE HEADS BLAMED

"The college presidents are at fault  
in the beginning," he said. "Why  
should we sugar coat and lie to high  
school athletes when in the long  
run supplying them with an educa-  
tion is the basic purpose of college?"

"Swayed by his inexperience and  
glowing promises of 'gold,' the high  
school athlete is at the mercy of  
profit-seeking coaches who see in  
him only the means to build a foot-  
ball team," he added.

Allen indicated that the fans  
themselves are growing tired of the  
"hypocrisy" with which colleges  
proselyte prospective stars, and  
added that "out and out profes-  
sionalism would be an improvement  
over the present system."

### \* \* \* NO PROMISES, HE SAYS

The Kansas coach, whose basket-  
ball teams have won 16 champion-  
ships in the 23 years he has been at  
the university, said that never had  
he been guilty of luring "unsuspect-  
ing young rabbits into the fold with  
glowing promises of board, room,  
laundry and other chattels.

"To me, the respect of my athletes  
is much more valuable than a  
basketball championship," he said.  
"It has always been my policy to  
rank school work ahead of basket-  
ball. My present policy of not play-  
ing the boys who have lower than  
average backs up this statement.



c

July 12, 1941

Judge Hugh Means,  
Lawrence, Kansas.

Dear Judge Hugh:

Thank you very much for your lovely letter regarding the playground. I always appreciate a letter many, many times more than I do a greeting. While the greeting has the personal effect which cannot be substituted, the letter entails a lot more effort. And the fact that you sat down and wrote me this letter makes me know you not only definitely felt what you said but you took the time to write it. It was good of you to do this.

I get a great deal of pleasure from seeing the children playing and I do know too that they are developing their physical bodies as well as their emotional selves. If a youngster can have a proper balance with a good body he has a fine heritage, and certainly I know of no place in the world where inspirations can be developed to a higher degree than on top of Mount Oread where it is cool, lovely and restful.

The tiny ones may not appreciate all the men who have gone before, but the teen-age youngsters know of such men as you and others who have derived their finest inspirations on Mount Oread, and it is a good place for all of us to assemble.

Won't you come up some evening with Mrs. Means and enjoy this with the children?

Sincerely yours,

Director of Physical Education and Recreation,  
Varsity Basketball Coach.

FCA:AH



HUGH MEANS  
JUDGE OF THE FOURTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT  
STATE OF KANSAS  
DOUGLAS, FRANKLIN AND ANDERSON COUNTIES

LAWRENCE, KANSAS

My Dear Forrest! -

July 8<sup>th</sup> 1941

I am envious the late Will Rogers in more ways than one and I learn more than what I may read in the newspapers. During that last few weeks I have heard many many people comment on the evening playground on the Hill. Your ears must have burned for credit was given where credit was due and the appreciation of the efforts you have made in that connection were discussed and highly praised - You know what happens to the good one



does according ~~the~~ to Shakespeare's  
dictum but it will not hold good  
in your case because the good  
will survive in future generations

Best wishes to you

Wright



HUGH MEANS  
JUDGE OF THE FOURTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT  
STATE OF KANSAS  
DOUGLAS, FRANKLIN AND ANDERSON COUNTIES

LAWRENCE, KANSAS



August 15, 1951.

Mr. I. J. Meade,  
Lawrence National Bank,  
Lawrence, Kansas.

Dear I. J.:

I regret exceedingly that I will be out of town next Monday. I am working in the school of coaching with the Iowa High School Athletic Association where a group of us basketball and football coaches are teaching the youth of Iowa theoretically, at least, how to do the job.

I am very anxious to hear your portrayal of some of the incidents back in Davies County when my grandfather and you worked together. I have often wanted to sit down and have you tell me some of those anecdotes and some of the high lights of your early boyhood, and to learn more regarding my grandfather. He was always a hale fellow well-met when he came down to visit us, and of course it is human nature to learn more of those that have gone before, especially if they happen to be our forebears.

I am asking you to kindly save your manuscript so that I can read it upon my return home. After you have finished with it if you will kindly mail it to my office in Robinson Gymnasium here at the University I will appreciate it. Or I could stop by the bank and pick it up when I return to Lawrence.

With appreciation and best wishes, I am

Sincerely yours,

Director of Physical Education and Recreation,  
Varsity Basketball Coach.

FCA:AH



August 25, 1941.

Mr. I. J. Meade,  
Vice President,  
Lawrence National Bank,  
Lawrence, Kansas.

Dear I.J.:

I have just returned to my desk after my trip to Iowa and I find your fine article which you read to the Lawrence Rotary Club.

It was full of good humor and was greatly enjoyed. Especially did I enjoy the remarks you made concerning my grandfather. He was a grand old gentleman although I was very young when I had the pleasure of being with him. The compensations that we mortals have in learning about our relatives from some of our other friends is highly gratifying.

With all good wishes, I am

Sincerely yours,

FCA:AH

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



December 13, 1940

Mr. Horace Mason  
Sports Publicity Director  
News Bureau  
University of Kansas

Dear Horace:

Mr. Louis Walker, 2103 Harriet South,  
Minneapolis, Minnesota has asked for a roster  
of the basketball team.

I told Mr. Walker I would ask you to  
send him a copy. I would appreciate your taking  
care of this matter.

Thanking you, I am,

Sincerely yours,

Director of Physical Education and Recreation  
Varsity Basketball Coach

FCA:lg



December 14, 1940

Mr. Clarence Moody  
Editor  
Chanute Tribune  
Chanute, Kansas

Dear Mr. Moody:

Enclosed is a copy of a letter that I  
have just written to Mr. Bill Gray.

This is for your information.

Sincerely yours,

Director of Physical Education and Recreation  
Varsity Basketball Coach

FCA:lg  
Enc.



December 14, 1940

Mr. James Malone  
306 Pond Street  
DeKalb, Illinois

Dear Mr. Malone:

I have just received your post card dated December 11 in which you ask for material on the individual defense of a player.

You doubtless are acquainted with my new book which was published by the McGraw-Hill Book Company, New York, entitled Better Basketball. I put everything into this book that a coach or a teacher or player or even an official would desire. I have included in it the individual defense, the individual offense, the team offense, the team defense, the tactics and strategy, etc.

Better Basketball contains 163 action photographs and 86 diagrams of plays, together with information on training and conditioning, treatment of athletic injuries, bandaging, emergencies, and so forth. The cost of the text is \$4.00 parcel post prepaid.

I will be glad to autograph a copy for you if you will mail me a money order for \$4.00.

Very cordially yours,

Director of Physical Education and Recreation  
Varsity Basketball Coach

FCA:lg





THIS SIDE OF CARD IS FOR ADDRESS

Dr. "Phog" Allen  
Basketball Coach  
University of Kansas  
Lawrence, Kansas



Dear Mr. Allen:

Due to a course in "Basketball  
Coaching," I need material on the subject, the  
individual defense of a player.

Will greatly appreciate any material  
you can send me on this, as soon as  
possible.

Thank you

James Malone  
306 Bond Street  
De Kalb, Illinois  
"Good luck this season"



December 23, 1940

Mr. Arthur Morse  
Intercollegiate Basketball Assn.  
10 S. LaSalle St.  
Chicago, Illinois

Dear Mr. Morse:

I promised you a basketball play quite  
sometime ago, and I find that I failed to send  
it to you.

It is herewith enclosed and you may use  
the same at your convenience.

I trust this is not too late.

Sincerely yours,

Director of Physical Education and Recreation  
Varsity Basketball Coach

FCA:lg  
Enc.



October 16, 1940

Mr. Arthur Morse  
Intercollegiate Basketball Association  
10 S. LaSalle Street  
Chicago, Illinois

Dear Mr. Morse:

I am glad to have your letter of the 5th instant.

I am diagraming two plays and sending them along with this letter.

Very cordially yours,

Director of Physical Education and Recreation  
Varsity Basketball Coach

FCA:lg



DE PAUL - LOYOLA  
INTERCOLLEGIATE  
**BASKETBALL**  
DOUBLE-HEADERS



October 5, 1940.

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

Dear Dr. Allen:

We are planning a publicity campaign on basketball in Chicago and it has been suggested by two of the leading newspapers that we run a series of "Pet Plays of Coaches Visiting Chicago". I would appreciate it, therefore, if you would cooperate by diagramming two plays and sending them in to us so that we may furnish them to the newspapers who have requested them.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive that reads 'Arthur Morse'.

AM/lcw

A D V I S O R Y

HON. JUDGE JOHN A. SBARBARO  
Chairman

THOMAS HAGGERTY.....DePaul

LEONARD SACHS.....Loyola

ARTHUR MORSE.....Bus. Mgr.