

August 26, 1940

Mr. Ralph Miller
c/o Cross-Section Department
Kansas State Highway
Masonic Building
Topeka, Kansas

My dear Ralph:

I have just returned to Lawrence from my week in Topeka at the Coaching School and I have been learning some very disquieting things regarding your attitude and the things that you have been saying concerning Kansas basketball. These statements are not mrrer heresy, but are things that you have said to University of Kansas people.

For nearly a year I have noticed you seem to be fighting yourself not only in athletics but in social and other contacts. The things that I say to you are said with the full knowledge of all of our previous relationships. You will remember our conversation to Chanute when you were making up your mind regarding Kansas and Stanford. I told you that if you would come to the University and make an outstanding scholastic record and be the example on the campus that you should be, that I would recommend you as freshman coash in the University, and I had hoped that your football play would be of such high caliber that the football coach would want you as, at least, a freshman assistant, if not freshman coach. When you wanted certain favors in the way of a position for your girl friend, I did this not because she was incapable but she was a fine outstanding girl and could earn every penny that she worked for. At the same time I did it to show you that I would cooperate with you one hundred percent. Then when your brother came to college, you asked me for a job for him and I did it willingly and happily.

At no time have there been any reservations in my mind regarding my desire to help you as a man, but I did not do it on account of your athletic ability. I have never believed that anybody's athletic ability could carry him very far unless they had the other things that it takes. It is needless for me to go into a long resume of the things that I have innately and conscientiously desired to do for you. I am afraid I have reached the limit of my helpfulness to you. In fact, I am certain of it when you make the statements that you do. It is for that reason that I am writing you this letter before school opens, to appraise you of the fact that it would be impossible for you to play on the Kansas Varsity Baketball Team this year with the attitude that you now possess.