

A
January 26, 1940.

Mr. Theodore O'Leary,
The Kansas City Star,
Kansas City, Missouri.

Dear Ted:

I very much enjoyed your newsy epistle which I received yesterday. Mrs. Allen and I read the Tom Graves article and we both agreed that you had done it. It is rather interesting for us to read the paper and try to pick out your work. You have a style that sets you out somehow from many of the articles that are written.

I took your letter home last night and read it to Mrs. Allen and Bob and Eleanor and the rest of the family circle, and we all enjoyed what you had to say about Bob.

You know, Ted, I have often said to Mrs. Allen about Bob and you that you two were perhaps the most sensitive boys that I have ever coached. When I have worked with either one of you on a special shot or fundamental pivot or play, as it appeared to me it seemed as if it always embarrassed you or Bob to be taught before the group. Some way both of you, as it appeared to me, considered it rather a reflection for you to be a little off, and when I would spend much time with either one of you, you would show rather a sensitive resentment that might be inherent, but I could detect it. The day that I was teaching you you would not show up so well. But the next day you came back with the stuff. I have often mentioned to Mrs. Allen that you two boys were the only two I could clearly stamp as a certain nervous mental type that rather resented too much teaching. There was a certain pride that you had that you were sufficient and that you could think it out if left alone. And the fact that you did come back the next day with it justified the confidence that you boys had in your own ability.

That would have been fine had it been that your high school coaches had taught you the correct fundamentals. Many of those that they did teach you were correct, but many that should have been taught were not touched. It was only my desire and my anxiety to see you a great ball player that you were that caused me to suggest things to you when I saw great possibility for development.

No, I do not think you are immodest, Ted. I have always admired your courage and your faith in yourself to do a job when you set out to do it. I will never forget the great games that you played under very trying circumstances. I only hope that Bob, in his