December 14, 1939.

Mr. Jerry Brondfield,
Sports Department,
NEA Service,
1200 West 3rd St.,
Cleveland, Ohio.

Dear Mr. Brondfield:

I am sorry for the delay in responding to your kind letter of the 2nd instant requesting publicity material on our basketball team this year.

I am enclosing some material which has been prepared by our sports publicity director, and am also asking him to forward pictures to you of some of our outstanding players. One reason for the delay in sending this material to you is the fact that we have not had pictures available. However, they will reach you within a very short time.

With best wishes, I am

Sincerely yours,

Director of Physical Education and Recreation,
Varsity Basketball Coach.

MAIN OFFICE
NEA SERVICE
INC.
1200 WEST THIRD ST., CLEVELAND, OHIO
(NEWSPAPER ENTERPRISE ASSOCIATION)

NEA

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32 RUE LE PELETIER . . . . . PARIS

Dec. 2, 1939

Phog Allen
Varsity Basketball Coach
University of Kansas

Dear Mr. Allen:

Well, here it is another basketball season again, and if you aren't too busy I wonder if you couldn't give us another lift with a little information.

We're merely roundup up some notes on how the teams shape up in every section of the country, and in conjunction therewith, we'd appreciate it very much if you'd give us a few choice sentences on the situation in the Big Six and Missouri Valley in general. It would help, too, if you could list a few of the boys who are most likely to star.

I realize you won't be able to go into detail....be as brief as you want....but of course, the more dope you have for us, the better. Thanx much.

Sincerely,

Jerry Brondfield

Jerry Brondfield
Sports Department.

P.S.

You might have the Kansas publicity man send us some pictures of your outstanding Kansas players if you have them available.

Kansas' regulars back in action are Howard Engleman and Ralph Miller, forwards; Bob Allen, center; and Dick Harp, guard. What the Jayhawks lack this year is height. Although they are not midgets, the Kansas players are just of average height, with no giants to compare with these on other conference teams.

John Kline, junior guard, is the tallest man on the squad at 6 feet 3. Kline is a rugged rebound man and usually is inserted into the Kansas lineups when the Jayhawks are up against a man 6 feet 5 inches tall or taller.

Ordinarily, however, Bruce Voran, another junior, will ~~xxxxx~~ be Dick Harp's running mate at guard. Voran is a much smoother player than Kline and is a better scorer. He is an even 6 feet tall.

Engleman, a brilliant scorer, should rank high in the conference scoring race. He is a sensational one hand shot and is poison around the basket. Last year, against Oklahoma, he set a new K.U. individual scoring record of 27 points.

Allen plays the "quarterback" position as it is known on his father's teams. He calls the plays on offense and starts each play. He is a beautiful ball handler and a fine"feeder".

Miller was handicapped by a "football knee" last year and will be held down by the same affliction this year. Don Ebling, senior letterman, probably will alternate with Miller at forward.

The first team probably will line up with Miller and Engleman, forwards; Allen, center; Harp and Voran, guards. The second team will be Ebling and Bruce Reid, forwards; Jack Sands, center; Kline and Bill Hogben, guards.

Nebraska will be strong, basing its hopes for a good season on height and some fine sophomores. Back from last year's team are Al Randall, 6 foot 7 inch center; and Don Fitz, 6 foot 4 inch guard. A brilliant sophomore prospect is Sid Held, 6 foot 4 inch guard. Sophomores also probably will man the forward posts, as a number of good new men are available here. These include Goetz, Radtke and Grote.

Iowa State which won five conference games last year and lost five, expects to be tougher this winter. Bill Bliss, big guard, was the only regular lost and sophomore additions are very promising.

Bob Harris, racehorse forward; Don Beresford, forward; Al Nicholas, burly center; and Bob Menze, little guard, are the Cyclones' returning regulars. Beresford has lost his first team post to Al Budolphson, a sophomore sensation, but the other three are starters again.

Kansas State has some of the poorest material in cage history there. The Wildcats' new coach, Jack Gardner, is starting from rock bottom.

Ervin Reid, center, is the only regular returning from last year's cellar team and the new sophomores include no exceptional prospects. Three reserves from last year, Robertson, Graham and Miller, appear likely to win starting berths. The other starter at present is Horacek, a sophomore forward.

An unusual feature of the Big Six season should be the number of tall players in action. Every team in the league, except Kansas, will have a player at least 6 feet 6 inches tall.

Missouri has a 6'7" man, Tison, and a 6'5" center, Currence. Nebraska boasts a 6'7" center, Randall, and a 6'5" sophomore, Dunker, Oklahoma has a 6 foot 6 inch center, Ford. Iowa State's sophomore center, Schneider, is 6'6" tall and Kansas State has a 6'6" sophomore.

Kansas has its smallest team in history. The tallest men on the squad are two reserves who are 6'3½" tall. Neither of these men is expected to get to play any this season. The tallest of the men playing much at all is John Kline, 6 foot 2½ inch guard.

Oklahoma A. & M. should have things all its own way in the Missouri Valley conference. The Cowboys have won or shared in the conference championship the past four years.

This year Coach Henry Iba expects to have one of his best teams. Graduation took only one regular and the sophomore crop is the best in the school's history.

Regulars back are Harvey Slade and Gene Smelser, forwards; Jess Renick, center; and Howard Doyle, guard. Renick has been moved to guard where his rebounding ability pays big dividends. Taking his place at center is Vern Schwertfeger, a 6'5" junior college transfer.

Best of the flashy sophomores are L.G. Eggleston and Charles Scheffel, forwards; and Leroy Floyd and Bud Millikan, guards. Eggleston was a high school sensation at Walters, Okla.

Basketball teams from the Missouri Valley sector will invade Madison Square Garden for the first time this year. The present season is expected to find basketball in this section on a par with any in the country.

In the Big Six conference five strong teams will battle for the league pennant. Only Kansas State appears to be devoid of title hopes. Oklahoma and Missouri, co-champions of the Big Six last year, suffered few losses by graduation and both have fine sophomore reinforcements.

Consequently, the Sooners and Tigers stand a good chance of being even stronger than they were last year. Oklahoma has Jimmy McNatt, all-Big Six forward; Herb Scheffler, rugged center; and Marvin Mesch and Marvin Snodgrass, guards, back from last year's starting five.

McNatt and Mesch can be counted on to roll in the points and Scheffler is the best rebound man in the conference. A good scorer in his own right, Scheffler is most valuable for his ability at taking the ball off the backboard. Oliver Curtis, a 6 foot 4 inch lad, is rated the best of the Sooner Sophomores. Scheffler also is 6-4.

Missouri has three regulars back to build its team around. Foremost is John Lobsiger, captain for the second year. Lobsiger was all-Big Six guard last year and should repeat. He is 6 feet 3 inches tall, a crack scorer and a good man on defense.

Bill Harvey, agile forward, and Blaine Currence, 6 foot 5 inch center, are the other two regulars back. Currence developed tremendously as the season progressed las t year. The tall boy is an end on the Tiger football team and he will miss basketball practice until some time in January if Missouri is invited to the Orange Bowl, as expected.

However Missouri has a capable alternate for Currence in Haskell Tison, who is 6 feet 7 inches tall. Tison was the first string center at the start of the season last year. He is weak on defense, but is a fine scorer, especially good on free throws. To fill the vacant spot at forward, Coach Edwards has Clay Cooper, a strong scorer. However, Cooper also is a member of the football team.

Kansas will boast an all-veteran team this year, partly because the Jayhawk sophomore crop is one of the poorest in history. However, Coach F.C. Allen has four regulars returning, which gives him the nucleus for a fine team.

Kansas' regulars back in action are Howard Engleman and Ralph Miller, forwards; Bob Allen, center; and Dick Harp, guard. What the Jayhawks lack this year is height. Although they are not midgets, the Kansas players are just of average height, with no giants to compare with those on other conference teams.

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December 6, 1939.

Mr. Parke Carroll,
Kansas City Journal,
Kansas City, Missouri.

Mr. Ted O'Sullivan,
916 Walnut Street Bldg.,
Kansas City, Missouri.

Dear Parke and Ted:

I endeavor to make it a practice never to talk to officials before the game except in the presence of the other coach, and I try never to say anything between halves. After the game I make it a point not to discuss the game with the officials because that is a poor time to do it. That leaves only two alternatives -- either to write a letter or to see them personally at a convenient time.

It seems that letter-writing is the only thing open to me before our next games or before our interpretation meeting on Sunday. Therefore, I will endeavor to bring up a point that I think needs more clarification and discussion than anything else in the book. We did not discuss it last night in the presence of Coach Iba because it is always a touchy subject. For some reason or other, however, I have heard very little discussion on it, and yet I believe it is the thing needing more attention than any other single item in basketball.

I refer to screening and blocking. Certainly there is a wide divergence of opinion among coaches and officials on this moot point. I particularly refer to last night's game.

I fear, or at least it is my opinion, that the officials are looking upon the act of screening as something very unfair or clandestine in nature. Screening is a legitimate thing, just the same as riding on the streetcar eating your meals. "Screening" is interfering with progress of the opponent without making bodily contact. "Blocking" is interfering with the progress of the opponent by making bodily contact. Until bodily contact ensues there is no block or no foul.

It appears to me that we should spend quite some time on this thing Sunday with those two teams in Municipal Auditorium.

I imagine every conference has a different interpretation, or none at all, on screening and blocking. John Bunn told me that when he brought Stanford east and played the Big Ten that the rule was interpreted in the Big Ten much after the manner in which you gentlemen interpreted it last night. John said all that was necessary for him to have a foul called on the Big Ten opponents was when the Big Ten players started to screen, instead of getting out of the way or standing still, he instructed his Stanford men to deliberately charge into one of the Big Ten men. He said invariably the officials in the Big Ten ruled this as "blocking", and he got many a penalty for the Stanford team by telling his men to charge into the opponents while they were cutting across to screen. He made this statement in an open rules committee meeting and an open coaches' association meeting.

This is the way the play appeared to me last night. Maybe I am incorrect, but both Harp and Kline came to me between halves and after the game and stated that the Oklahoma Aggie men charged into them deliberately, and they thought there must have been some discussion between Coach Ima and the officials because the charging was so deliberate on the part of the Oklahoma Aggie men. I am very sure that our men did not execute the play as they were instructed. They were instructed to go across at a diagonal and stop with feet spread and trunk erect a yard and a half in front of their opponents, either on the inside or outside, always facing the men so that they could see clearly they were not charging after them. Kline stated to me that he tried to stop and dodge his man, but the Oklahoma Aggie man charged deliberately into him.

I only make these recitations so that they may be food for discussion and comment when this comes up Sunday. There are so many screens - anterior-posterior, lateral, and diagonal, and it so happens that most any time a man move in any direction he is apt to screen an opponent. We use screens and we teach screens. We discourage blocks. The artfulness of the play is to be able to screen, but we always screen facing our men so that we should be stationary.

I thought both of you gentlemen worked a splendid game. You did the unpopular thing of calling a lot of fouls, and this courageousness on your part should be complimented. It is the only way that we can save the game from being a rough and tumble affair. I was well pleased with the work of both of you men and have stated to others very definitely that I thought this to be the case. So I am not criticizing your work. I only hope that you continue to have

that courage and that the other officials will follow your lead. In that way they will bring basketball out of a rough and tumble, pell-mell, helter-skelter game, and into the clever, finessing game that it should be.

Very sincerely yours,

Director of Physical Education and Recreation,
Varsity Basketball Coach.

FCA:AH

SPORTS NEWS SERVICE
UNIVERSITY OF MISSOURI
MARK COX, director

Release Wednesday p.m.

Probable Starting Lineups

MISSOURI	POSITION	KANSAS
Cooper	f	Miller
W. Harvey	f	Ebling
Currence	c	Allen
Lobsiger	g	Harp
Nash	g	Voran

Time----8:00 Thursday, Jan. 18.

Place---Brewer Field House, Columbia, Mo.

Officials---Parke Carroll (Kansas City) referee; Moe Pressley (Omaha).

Columbia, Mo., Jan. 15----A premature denouement in the Big Six title race finds the University of Missouri's dauntless basketball team pitted against the Kansas "Pony Express", here Thursday night.

As the title race evolves into heated battle, the saga of another Kansas rush to the forefront becomes a reality.

With Oklahoma already having been sidetracked by the precision-like attack of the Kansas team, successful defense of the Missouri-Oklahoma co-championship laurels falls to Coach George Edwards' Tigers

The Fates have been kind to the Missourians and the impending encounter finds the Jayhawks meeting the titleholders on the Brewer Field House court where the Tigers have won 10 consecutive games. In their last appearance before a Missouri crowd, the Kansans were decisively trounced.

Big guns of the Kansas attack are Dick Harp, Bob Allen, Ralph Miller, and Howard Engleman. Their cooly executed floor play, calculated shots, and driving finishes have earned them the title given to the historic figures who once raced across the broad sweep of Kansas

(more)

plains--in the face of danger and inclement weather--astride fleet-footed horses on mail-carrying missions. Dr. Allen's team has met and conquered the pick of the Southwest, a good Loyola team, and played havoc with the Big Six setup.

On the other hand, the Tigers showed their strength by discouraging the title plans of the rangy Nebraska team with a 46-33 triumph in last week's opener.

Never relinquishing the lead, the Tigers stymied the scoring thrusts of the touted Huskers early in the game and went on to completely demoralize the invaders with a dazzling display of defensive tactics. For ten minutes, starting seven minutes before the second quarter ended, the Cornhuskers were held scoreless by the air-tight play of the Missourians.

Meanwhile, the Tigers sharpened their basket eyes and feasted on uncanny scoring sprees throughout the game. Employing chicanery and carefully planned plays, they mercilessly faked the Nebraskans out of position time and time again.

Bill Harvey, as per usual against the Huskers, stole the show. The pink-cheeked lad led the individual scoring column with 14 points, six of them coming on successive free throws. Clay Cooper conspired with Harvey, in the basket-twins act, and rang up 11 points.

The Tigers connected with 17 shots out of 58 attempts for a 34 per cent average in the Husker triumph.

* * * * * *

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With the Tigers

University of Missouri athletic officials kept abreast with the growing interest in Tiger athletics by celebrating the 10th anniversary of Brewer Field House with the installation of 3,100 new bleachers for the Missouri-Nebraska basketball game.....This increased the seating capacity of the field house to 6,100 and only the ice and snow on the highways kept the crowd from reaching this height.....Approximately 5,000 were on hand on that occasion and stands will undoubtedly be filled for the Missouri-Kansas meeting here Thursday night.

Reigning "peoples' choice" on the Tiger squad is none other than diminutive Herbie Gregg.....The mighty atom of 5 feet 8 inches never fails to bring the house down in tumultuous applause when he trots on or off the floor.....It's the Kansas City mite's fireball "give-em-fits" style of play that accounts for his popularity as he "ball-hawks" all over the floor and has a deadly left-handed hook shot that brought him points in each of the seven non-conference tilts.

A few weeks ago Haskell Tison, 6 feet 7½ inch pivotman of the Bengals, startled local fans by warming up along the side of the court before going into the fray.....Says the stringbean Haskell: "I get so darned excited the blood freezes in my toes and I have to shake it loose."

Missouri track activities have been pretty much in a lull of late as the installing of the new bleachers hindered preparations for several days and now semester examinations are of more importance to the cindermen than are workouts.

A total of 91 games were played last week in the opening six-day span of intramural basketball at the Tiger school according to Director of Intramural Athletics, Anton J. Stankowski.....21 contests were played on Saturday, alone.....23 fraternities and 52 independent organizations contribute 75 teams to this year's schedule.

made equally high grades and worked his way through college managing a confectionery.

"Charlie Black, an executive of the Illinois-Owen Glass company of Chicago, who is called by many, Kansas's greatest athlete; John Wulf, of Chicago, the great center; Bob Mosby, another guard, now with the Cook Paint company in Detroit; Tusten Ackerman, now of the Equitable Life Assurance company, Chicago; Armin Woestemeyer, cashier at the Peoples State bank here, and Andy McDonald, now varsity basketball coach at Springfield (Mo.) Teachers college."

"Don't expect too much of this year's team," the doctor concluded; "they are good but they're only human."

Kansas City Golden Gloves Champions.

OPEN DIVISION.

112 pounds—Steve Lipari, Police Boys club.
118 pounds—Dick Montavon, Municipal Boxing club.
126 pounds—Pete Monslow, Municipal Boxing club
135 pounds—Tony Rivera, M. B. C.
147 pounds—Carl Davis, M. B. C.
160 pounds—Anthony Lipari, P. B. C.
175 pounds—William Biggerstaff, M. B. C.
Heavyweight — James Davenport, M. B. C.

NOVICE DIVISION.

112 pounds—Virgil Baird, Eagles club, Independence, Mo.
118 pounds—Mike DiCapo, M. B. C.
126 pounds—Lee Mills, M. B. C.
135 pounds—Eddie Duncan, U. A. W. A. No. 93 A. C.
147 pounds—John Grotzinger, M. B. C.
160 pounds—Clyde Baker, M. B. C.
175 pounds—Leon Vaughn, M. B. C.
Heavyweight—Louis Shelton, M. B. C.

Negro Golden Gloves Champions.

OPEN DIVISION.

112 pounds—Charles Bush, G. A. C.
118 pounds—Alvin James, G. A. C.
126 pounds—Edward Miller, G. A. C.
135 pounds — George Suttington, G. A. C.
147 pounds—Thomas Hamilton, G. A. C
160 pounds—Paul Fobbs, G. A. C.
175 pounds—Albert Jordon, G. A. C.
Heavyweight—Omar Brown, G. A. C.

NOVICE DIVISION.

112 pounds—Levi Southall, G. A. C.
118 pounds—Walter Riles, G. A. C.
126 pounds—Jewell Colbert, J. C. H.
135 pounds—Gilman Vital, G. A. C.
147 pounds—Edward Johnson, J. C. H.
160 pounds—Charles Moore, G. A. C.
175 pounds—L. V. Vandervilt, G. A. C.

NOW LISTEN, SON, GO IN THERE AND—

Court strategy of the father-to-son variety is in vogue when the K. U. cagers take the floor, because "Bob" Allen is the team's quarterback-center-forward and his father, Dr. Forrest C. (Phog) Allen, is the university's widely-known basketball mentor. Above Bob is shown receiving a bit of instruction which he probably will use against Kansas State in the Big Six game at Lawrence tonight.

(*By the Associated Press.*)

CLEVELAND, Jan. 12.—Sonja Henie, figure skating star, termed ridiculous last night an assertion made in New York Supreme court by Dennis R. Scanlon, promoter and agent, that he saw to it judges favorable to her were appointed for the 1936 Olympic championships.

"It's the most ridiculous thing I ever heard," declared Miss Henie, who is appearing in an ice show here.

"As a matter of fact I skated in the 1936 Olympics without even a single Norwegian judge, although there were judges from almost every other country in the event.

"Scanlon is going to be in for a lot of trouble, because I'm going to New York next week to testify, and tell plenty.

"I'm not worried, because this is just another suit," she laughed. "I was sued for a million once, and didn't worry."

SWIGART TO BUCS AGAIN.

PITTSBURGH, Jan. 12.—(A. P.)—The number of Pirates in line for 1940's baseball reached to eighteen today with the signing of 24-year-old Oadis Swigart, Archie, Mo., pitcher. Swigart was optioned to Knoxville last year, and recalled by Pittsburgh in the fall.

one of the finest hitters in National league annals.

Dizzy Dean, the popoff guy with the buggywhip arm, who won more than twenty games a year for four straight seasons. Lefty Grove, who led the American league in earned-run pitching average for nine years, won 108 games in four seasons.

DiMaggio Into the Picture.

Carl Hubbell, 20-plus winner for five successive years, probably the National league's best of the '30s. DiMaggio, who came with a rush late in the stretch, and may go down as No. 1 among baseball's all-time aces. Bob Feller, Mel Ott, Red Ruffing.

They were great. But, in our book, Gehrig was the man.

Three times in the decade he led his league in runs batted in, and set a record at 184 in 1931. Once, in 1934, he was batting champion. Three years ago he was voted the most valuable player.

For thirteen straight years he scored 100 or more runs. Thirteen years he hit for 300 or more total bases. Thirteen seasons he batted in 100 or more runs. He hit four home runs in one game and blasted twenty-three homers with the bases loaded. These were all records.

He played in seven world series, thirty-four games, with a batting average of .361, and held the rec-

January 15, 1940.

Mr. W. T. Bowen, Manager,
Tiger Hotel,
Columbia, Missouri.

Dear Mr. Bowen:

Our basketball team will leave Lawrence Wednesday night, the 17th, and will arrive in Columbia at 5:15 Thursday morning. There will be twelve of us, and we will want rooms for the day.

We will be going out Thursday night after the game, leaving Columbia at 10:00 p.m. because the boys do not want to miss their Friday classes.

It was good to see you Saturday and to have a short visit with you.

With best wishes, I am

Very sincerely yours,

Director of Physical Education and Recreation,
Varsity Basketball Coach.

FCA:AH

January 16, 1940.

Mr. Elmer Holm,
Director of Athletics,
Washburn College,
Topeka, Kansas.

Dear Elmer:

Mr. Falkenstien was asking about the money from the Washburn Tournament, and I told him that I would write you. I wonder if you have had time to check up on the financial aspect of the tournament. If you have, we would appreciate your sending our share.

Very sincerely yours,

Director of Physical Education and Recreation,
Varsity Basketball Coach.

FCA:AH

January 16, 1940.

Mr. W. G. Holt,
Holt's Cafe,
Boonville, Mo.

Dear Mr. Holt:

Thanks very much for your wire which I received this afternoon. I am sorry that we will not see you on this trip to Columbia as we are going and returning by train. The weather has been so bad that we felt it best to make the trip this way.

With best wishes, I am

Very sincerely yours,

Director of Physical Education and Recreation,
Varsity Basketball Coach.

CLASS OF SERVICE

This is a full-rate Telegram or Cablegram unless its deferred character is indicated by a suitable symbol above or preceding the address.

WESTERN UNION

1201

(48)

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DL = Day Letter
NL = Night Letter
LC = Deferred Cable
NLT = Cable Night Letter
Ship Radiogram

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NEWCOMB CARLTON
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J. C. WILLEVER
FIRST VICE-PRESIDENT

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KAD46 46 DL XC=BOONVILLE MO 16 217P 1940 JAN 16 PM 3 00

COACH F C ALLEN=

UNIVERSITY OF KANSAS

COACH PHOG- WE WOULD BE HAPPY TO SERVE YOU AND YOUR BOYS ENROUTE TO COLUMBIA FOR YOUR GAME WITH MISSOURI WE WOULD APPRECIATE ADVICE AS TO APPROXIMATE ARRIVAL TIME IF POSSIBLE BUT IN ANY CASE CAN PROMISE THE USUAL PROMPT SERVICE AND GOOD FOOD BEST REGARDS=

=W G HOLT HOLTS CAFE.

Pho Ode 302P

THE COMPANY WILL APPRECIATE SUGGESTIONS FROM ITS PATRONS CONCERNING ITS SERVICE

WESTERN UNION

Booneville, Mo.
January 16, 1940.

Dr. Forrest C. Allen.

Coach Phog: We would be happy to serve you and your boys enroute to Columbia for your game with Missouri. We would appreciate advice as to the approximate arrival time, if possible, but in any case can promise the usual prompt service and good food. Best regards.

W. G. Holt

Holt's Cafe.

KANSAS CITY
DEC 4
8 PM
1939
8 MO.

THIS SIDE OF CARD IS FOR ADDRESS

Dr. F.C.Allen

University of Kansas

Lawrence, Kansas

Dear Coach

A note to assure you that I will be present for the basketball game Tuesday night.

Sincerely,

Parke Carroll

January 11, 1940.

Mr. H. Cardenas Barrios, Manager,
The Basketball Team,
Universidad Nacional,
De Mexico.

Dear Sir:

Mr. Gwinn Henry, our Director of Athletics, has referred to me your letter of January 2nd regarding your proposed tour in January and February, 1941.

Our basketball schedule for next season is tentatively filled, and I do not believe we could make arrangements to meet your team.

Thanking you for your interest, and with best wishes, I am

Very sincerely yours,

Director of Physical Education and Recreation
Varsity Basketball Coach.

FCA:AH

Dr. Allen

UNIVERSIDAD NACIONAL
DE MÉXICO

January 2nd, 1940

Athletic Director
Kansas University
Lawrence, Kansas

Dear Sir:

The Basketball Team of The University of Mexico has in proyecto of making a goodwill tour through the East and Middle West of the United States during January and February, 1941.

We would like to know if a game could be arranged with your college at the time stated above.

Sincerely

H Cardenas Barrios

H. Cardenas Barrios, Mgr.