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November 17, 1937.

Mrs. Fanchon Reid,
307 South First St.,
Arkansas City, Kansas.

Dear Mrs. Reid:

I acknowledge receipt of your kind favor of the 16th instant. I am very happy that you are pleased that Bruce is getting good attention. Having had six children myself, I can appreciate what concerns a parent has at times.

Bruce is a wonderful boy and a fine basketball player. However, he has not given up entirely his smoking. I have told him directly, and have alluded to it indirectly but so that he would get my point. I have told him that none of the boys could expect to really make the varsity until they really train. Having had a son in school and on the varsity basketball team for three years, and having that son smoke was one of my problems. He, of course, had to be disciplined perhaps more than some of the other boys, because they were not my sons.

I am telling you this in all frankness, so that you will know that there is still some mileage for him to negotiate. But in my opinion, he is one of the best basketball players, or will be if he quits smoking, that the University has had for quite some time. As a ball player and a cool athlete under fire, I would not want a better boy.

He apparently smoked in high school and got away with it, and he is still trying that, although I think he is finding it unprofitable.

I assure you of my extreme fondness for Bruce, and I will work with him patiently yet rather firmly, and in the end I am very sure that all of us will be very happy. I will also definitely keep interested in his studies, because if a boy is doing failing work we drop him from the squad temporarily until he brings up his work. His desire to play and his gradual unfolding in the knowledge that his studies really count will make him do both things well -- his studies and his play.