September 11, 1939.

To the Kansas Varsity Basketball Men Who Have Passed Their Academic Work Satisfactorily and Are Eligible to Play for Kansas Under the Big Six Conference Requirements for the 1939-'40 Basketball Season:*

Robert E. Allen James Arnold Bill Ambhur Bob Bond Miller Cameron Don Ebling Howard Engleman Jack Floyd Richard Harp Herbert Hartman Van Hartman Wm. Hogben T. P. Hunter Maurice Jackson Bob Johnson Clinton Kanaga John Kline John Krum

Wm. McKinley
Kenneth Messner
Ralph Miller
Robert Minor
Donn Mosser
Robert O'Neil
Dewitt Petter
Bruce Reid
Jack Sands
Louis Thompson
Jack Trice
Bruce Voran
Robert Woodward

The following are taking Correspondence
Study courses to make up their eligibility:
Robert Cooper
Chain Healy
Ralph Schaake

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So you can see that Kansas has a great opportunity to play right in the front yard of the nation's biggest basketball extravaganza. If you don't like that big word, then I will give you another. It will be terrific, stupendous, colossol, gigantic and emotionally devastating. You will remember that the University of Oregon defeated Ohio State last year in Chicago, and at the present time Oregon is the National Collegiate champion in basketball. All of these play-offs are timed so that Kansas will lose little time away from school, and yet play in America's national championship. This is the greatest opportunity that has ever come to a group that has ever represented Kansas in basketball.

I have been staying on the job here pretty steadily in Lawrence with the exception of the trip I took to Atlanta, Georgia, to coach the North Georgia all-star high school boys. They used a new scheme down in Georgia in a pedagogical way. The Georgia Coaches Association picked ten all-star high school seniors from the north half of Georgia and they selected me to coach that team. Then ten senior high stars were picked from the south half of Georgia, and they selected Roy Mundorff of Georgia Tech to coach that team. The visiting coaches. 186 of them, sat in the bleachers in Tech's new gymnasium and watched Mundorff and me put the boys through the paces that we would execute in drilling our varsity. We had never seen these boys before, and you can imagine that when you only have five days to do a job like that you have to organize your work pretty carefully. The two teams met for a game in Tech's new gymnasium, and strange as it may seem, eighteen hundred people turned out for the high school basketball game. I might add that I was darn lucky to have our North Georgia boys win the ball game. We won by about seven points and it was the surprise of my life because we did not draw the rangy boys from our North Georgia group. They had Augusta and the larger schools in their section and they play better basketball and poorer football in southern Georgia and better football and poorer basketball in northern Georgia, so the ones who seemed to know say.

Well, anyhow, we outfought them and won the game 35-28. The same scheme was tried in football, and Bobby Dodd of Tennessee coached the South Georgia boys and Jack Meagher of Auburn, Alabama, Polytechnic, coached the North Georgia boys. The South Georgia boys won the football game 13-12, and eight thousand people turned out to see the game under the arc lights in Georgia Tech's football field.

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But I do not want you to take basketball too seriously. Your school work comes first, and always in my conversation with every boy I have stressed the importance of doing the job well in an academic way. But of course a fellow should take a justifiable pride in his own physique and in the knowledge of being physically fit, so it is not amiss to remind you of the necessity of doing the push-up and dip on your fingers and toes each morning and night. Start this exercise three times, both morning and night, and then the second week execute it six times each morning and night. And then the third week build up to nine times twice a day, and the fourth week spring up on your fingers and toes twelve times, touching the chin and barely touching the abdomen to the floor but not resting on the abdomen. Now push up and touch the right ear, then push up and touch the left ear. Do this on the fingers and not on the palms of the hands.

Some of you fellows, I imagine, are like the individual who went

was to drink a gallon of water a day - a glass every hour, and so forth. He started out and said, "Much obliged, doctor." The doctor called him back and said, "Haven't you forgotten something." He looked all around, found that he had his hat in his hand and none of his belongings were missing, and said, "No, I think not." The doctor said, "Wall, you forgot to pay me. You came in here and wanted some advice about your health and I gave it to you." "Yes," but the chiseling, escaping patient replied, "but I'm not going to take it."

Many of you will expect to do this push-up, but on the first day
of practice i am going to ask each one of you fellows how many have done the
push-up morning and night, and to all that have i will give a double-rich,
creamy, luscious malted milk. This offer starts from the time you receive
this letter until I ask you this question on your first day of practice.

won't
You may think this exercise a little tough, but a fellow who marks to do this
much to improve his wrists and fingers, as well as his whole body physically
the
will never be a valuable member of a versity team that he should be. You
know the purpose of this -- to strengthen the tissues of the wrists and
fingers so that you do not sprain your thumbs and fingers during the basketball season. A sprained thumb is a "dead horse" in basketball. And snappy
execute unerring shots with more power and poise than do "dish-rag" fingers
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I can hear you say that you certainly want to win the championship in the big Six this year and maybe a national championship. Well, let's
see you begin now, and when the first day of basketball practice rolls
around you should report in tip-top physical condition.

Now, you want to know when we are going to start. Well, it will be before the first of October, and the first day of school is on September 21. So you can see how many days we are going to loaf before we start, ====

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For one year, at least, I feel better when I say that we are not champions of the big Six. We have been defending champions too long. A defensive army never won a war in its life. It is the offensive army that wins. You boys who played on the team last year and went through the debacle at Missouri have not forgotten that, nor will you ever forget it. But you can satisfy yourselves by coming back and showing those Missourians at Columbia on January 18, 1940, that mansas men don't put on exhibitions the like of which were shown at Columbia on Man. Wasn't that a head-ache All right, let's see what we are going to do about it.

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I told you I had a small bunch of fighting Georgia lads down there and those North Georgia boys just out-fought those South Georgia boys and won the ball game. Well, I am expecting that of you kansas boys because in every game you play in the Big Six conference, or most every game, you are going to be out-reached, out-weighed, and everything but out-fought.

Well, here's your only chance -- better ball handling, more finesse and more fight. We won a lot of ball games last year in the last two minutes of play. Those games could have gone either way, but most of them went out way. The law of averages would cause us to feel that we might fall short on some of those scores this year unless you make it happen the way that you will it. I still remember Alexander Dumas' Three Musketeers -- All for one and one for all. This bunch of Frenchmen for many years were the toughest, roughest men that have ever been portrayed in history. If you will pardon me, I might add that I still have a little of that old fight left, and you are going to find it out. And if you don't train and don't fight you are not going to have a berth on this year's varsity.

I trust you have had a fine summer and that you have been working and not loafing. The rellow that can't find anything to do has fallen short. This thing of waiting around and loafing because things don't break your way shows a state of mind of an individual being unable to cope with difficult situations. Some fellows have said that luck has been against them. Listen you -- you make your own luck. And we made it at Columbia, but we also made it in lawrence against Oklahoma and Missouri and Nebraska and Kansas aggies and Oklahoma Aggies and IOWA State and Carleton and Texas, the second game, and yes, we even made it the first game but we made it the wrong way. And then against Smuthern Methodist we came through a couple of times. So, I want to say that a team that won't be beaten can't be beaten. If you think you are beaten, you are. If you think you dare not, you don't, for out in the world you will find success begins with a fellow will. It is all in the state of mind.

Let's go, gang!

Sincerely yours,

V LIJERIN GULTIE I I OK I I LIG OK Don Ebling -1/301. W. Carry 200 Ox Miller Cameron X Howard Engleman - 1045 W. / Fills X Bob Cooper Loren Morell 4/001 W. Hills Hack Floyd 27 of Van Hartman OK Dick Harp - 8301 W. Cempus Bob Johnson OK 30 - Herbert Hertman - 1540 La, X 24) Chain Healy Con Very Pon 1111 Hosban - +200-12 OKT. P. Hunter - 1200 La. Bob O'Meil Ox Maurice Jackson - 901 Much. Dewitt Potter Lester Kappelman 9/130 Ku Blaine Riley John Kline -1100 Lond.

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"For out in the world you'll find Success begins with a fellow's will ---It's all in the state of mind,"

Let's go, gang!

Sincerely yours,

Director of Physical Education and Recreation, Varsity Basketball Coach.

FCA: AH

UNIVERSITY OF KANSAS BASKETBALL SCHEDULE

1939-1940

BIG SIX CONFERENCE SCHEDULE

January 5	Oklahoma at Lawrence
January 12	Kansas State at Lawrence
January 18	Missouri at Columbia
January 23	Nebraska at Lawrence
February 12	Iowa State at Lawrence
February 20	Kansas State at Manhattan
February 24	Nebraska at Lincoln
February 26	Iowa State at Ames
March 1	Missouri at Lawrence
March 8	Oklahoma at Norman

NON-CONFERENCE SCHEDULE

December	5	Oklahoma A. & M. at Lawrence
December	8	Central Mo. St. Tch., at Warrensburg
December	18 &	
	19	Southern Methodist U. at Lawrence
February	15	Oklahoma A. & M. at Stillwater
March 4		Creighton University at Omaha, Nebr

Mr. Ed Holl.

1245 Host Campus.
Lewrence, Famous.

Dear Bas

I am enclosing a letter that I have written to the varsity baskstball term, and trust that it will be of interest to you.

I hope you have a good football year, and that you don't break a leg or an ankle this year, ld.

Sincerely yours.

Director of Physical Education and Recreation, Versity Basbethall Coach, Mr. Steve Realso, 9000; Hass. St., Laurence, Kamaas.

Dear Steves

I am enclosing a letter that I have written to the varsity basketball team, and trust that it will be of interest to you.

Hope you will stay eligible through both the football and basketball seasons, Steve.

Cordially yours.

Director of Physical Biocation and Recreation, Versity Deskethell Coach,

Bob Allen James Arnold Bill Arthur Bob Bond Roger Brice Miller Cameron Bob Cooper Don Ebling Jack Engel Howard Engleman Jack Floyd Ed Hall Dick Harp Herbert Hartman Van Hartman Chain Healy Bill Hogben T. P. Hunter Maurice Jackson

Bob Johnson Clinton Kanage John Kline John Krum Bill McKinley Kenneth Messner Ralph Miller Bob Minor Donn Mosser Bob O'Neil Dewitt Potter Bruce Reid Steve Renko Jack Sands Louis Thompson Jack Trice Bruce Voran Bob Woodward

Dear Varsity Men:

I want to make a statement regarding varsity basketball practice. We will hold our practices on Monday, Tuesday and Thursday at 3:30. The locker room will be open at 2:30 for those who do not have classes and have caught up on their studies, but the regular practice will start at 3:30.

During October we will practice on three days a week. In November we will step it up to include Wednesdays and Fridays, and in late November we will practice Saturday because we play the Oklahoma Aggies here on December 5th.

Last year we permitted the varsity men to play touch football. So many of the men were injured and there were so many absences on account of practices and games that we did not fare very well. Consequently, I am making a ruling now that none of the varsity men who come out will be permitted to miss basketball practice nor will they be permitted to compete in intramurals during the basketball season.

Our first practice is Monday afternoon, October 2. I trust that we will see you Monday afternoon, with the exception of the varsity football men.

Very sincerely yours,

Varsity Basketball Coach.

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Clinton Kanaga John Kline John Krum Bill McKinley Kenneth Messner Ralph Miller Roger Brice Bob Minor Donn Mosser Bob O'Neil Dewitt Potter Bruce Reid Steve Renko Jack Sands Ralph Schaake Louis Thompson James Trice Bruce Voran Bob Woodward

Dear Varsity Team Members:

On September 11th I wrote you a very lengthy and informative epistle regarding our aims and desires for a successful season, 1939-40.

Already I have observed a break-down in training among some of the members of the squad. This is the final warning. When any of you men come on the floor and I plainly detect that you have been smoking I will immediately ask you to check in your suit. This will be for the season and there will be no begging back on the squad.

I have always told every team that I have coached that I do not want players on the squad who dissipate. I only want those who are willing to pay a price. Remember, I do not dismiss you from the squad — you dismiss yourself from the squad by not obeying training rules. There are rules that you are supposed to follow and when you break those you would dismiss yourself if you had the courage to do what you are supposed to do.

No one on the team or outside of the team has given me information on your failure to keep training rules. I detect those myself and take nobody else's word for it. This is final.

Very cordially yours,

Warsity Basketball Coach,

Director of Physical Education and Recreation.

FCA: AH