

Dear _____:

I am very glad to know of your interest in the University of Kansas, but as you know, we do not have any special scholarships of any kind for athletes here at the University. As a consequence we do not make any special offers to athletes on account of their athletic ability.

I tell all the boys that a good athlete can get propositions from many schools, but if I were you I would pick out a school that you really want to attend, and then go to that school regardless of whether you make \$15.00 or \$30.00 a month. I know that you do not want to sell your academic birthright for a mess of pottage.

If you have saved enough money to pay for your books, tuition and incidental expenses, then I am sure that you will have no difficulty in making the grade here at the University of Kansas. I do not want to appear to preach, because no one is converted after very much preaching. I tell the boys that the first thing they must get is their academic work. That is the thing you go to school for, and you will find that your degree from the University of Kansas will amount to just as much as you think it is worth, or as much as you put into it.

It is necessary for you to make definite progress toward graduation to establish yourself as a student in the University. There are three other things besides academics which a student may indulge in here on Mount Oread - athletics, politics and social life. A boy who works his way through, either partially or wholly, can only choose one of those three and still make a go of his academic work and his chosen avocation or hobby. About 15% of the students at the University participate in athletics; about 15% take part in politics as their hobby; and about 15% are active in the social life. To endeavor to do more than one of these three prime non-necessities of student existence is a sure debacle as far as your academic work is concerned.

You will find that I am not trying to entice you here as a student because you played basketball. I have never contacted basketball players, because I think that any coach who offers a boy a job on account of his athletic ability is doing the boy a real injury. I tell each athlete that he cannot help the University on account of his athletic skill. The University helps him. When I think of the great scientists here, - such as Dr. Cady who discovered helium gas - and other great men of science, then I am reminded of the insignificance of the contribution of an athlete to his university. Of course, people come to see the game in which you or I are playing, but if you or I had never been born they would still go to see the games where other boys play.

So, when you consider the University of Kansas please do not think that I am endeavoring primarily to entice you to the University on account of your basketball ability. If you should decide to attend the University I would be glad to help you help yourself, but I cannot promise anyone assistance until he has definitely made up his mind to enroll at the University of Kansas.

Very sincerely yours,

Director of Physical Education,
Varsity Basketball Coach.