

August 7, 1939.

Mr. Freddy Mandell,
Sports Editor,
News-Herald,
Hutchinson, Kansas.

Dear Freddy:

Some one from Hutchinson mailed me the clipping from your sports column regarding Marvin Sollenberger. I want to assure you that there has been no effort by the University of Kansas to take Marvin Sollenberger from Hutchinson Junior College so far as I know, and I believe that I would know because I coach both the varsity and freshman basketball teams, and I have asked no one to do such a dastardly trick as you suggest has been done. Neither by accident nor by design has Sollenberger been given to understand that he would not have a chance to make the University of Kansas team should he wait another year.

We have a great many boys who have come to the University after two years of junior college work, and several of those boys have made their varsity letter. The fact that he will have one year as a freshman is the conference rule that he must be in residence one year before he is eligible to compete in varsity athletics. It is thinkable that he might not go out for freshman athletics should he enter the University.

If Sollenberger wishes to attend the University to get his engineering course it is doubtless of his own choosing. I am very sure that the athletic angle has not been promoted by any of the athletic coaches here on Mount Oread.

What I am endeavoring to say is that the fact you state "Hutchinson Junior College and local fans would gladly relinquish Sollenberger to K. U. after another year" makes it appear that there has been some insidious action by University coaches desiring to inveigle him away from Hutchinson. You state further that "the idea of robbing a state junior college conference championship team of its star performer just to put him on a freshman squad where he wouldn't learn more basketball than he would here, sticks in the throat." Then in your conclusion you state "from now on, if we get any tips on good athletes, we're going to send them to Fort Hays or Kansas State."