

Confidentially, Ralph Miller is in no condition to go over five minutes, and I have a few boys who have not seen fit to train properly, but they are traveling a rocky road. There is no dissension because I will not permit it, but there are some of the boys who did not train in the fall season and have not the philosophy and the will power so far to see the needs of doing a full training job. However, these fellows won't play long, I assure you, if they play at all.

Before the year is over we will have a scrapping outfit, but when you consider that perhaps Sollenberger of last year's team will be the only fellow who will play in the regular starting line-up, you can see what a Herculean task I have. Buescher played very little last year and Vance Hall played but a short while. It looks to me as if Charlie Black, Ray Evans, Marvin Sollenberger, Vance Hall, Jack Ballard, T. P. Hunter and Bob Johnson will form the nucleus of the outfit. Bob Johnson is called for January 2nd in the draft but he is trying to get into P. 7 Naval Reserve. We will know later today about that. Charlie Walker is a boy who played in only a few games, together with Max Kissell, another sophomore - these are about all that I have together with Don Ettinger (?).

We will play some very good games and then at other times we will be like we were in the Denver game - just one jump ahead of a good coordinated team - not enough poise and a lack of a leader as quarterback to handle the boys. But as it appears to me none of the Big Six teams are powerfully strong outside of Iowa State, and perhaps Kansas State - they should come along. Missouri will surprise. They will win more ball games than a lot of the wise ones think.

With all good wishes to you and Mrs. Partner for a very happy and prosperous New Year, I am

Sincerely yours,

Director of Physical Education and Recreation,  
Varsity Basketball and Baseball Coach.

FCA:AH