

Don,

We have another copy of this here in
our office - so you can keep this.

APR 23 1973

April 19, 1973

Dr. Earl H. Swanson, Chairman
Department of Anthropology
Idaho State University
Pocatello, Idaho 83201

Dear Dr. Swanson:

This letter concerns the recommendation of Mr. Jeff Flenniken for the position of Fellow on the Summer Flintworking School.

I have known Jeff for four years, since we were both students at the University of Arkansas. At that time we became interested in flint knapping and came under the instruction of Jim Spears, an accomplished knapper in his own right.

Since Arkansas, Jeff has steadily expanded his involvement with flint knapping to the point where he has something of a reputation in the Midwest. As his vitae will indicate, he has been in a position to systematically work in lithic technology the entire time he has been at Iowa State.

Concerning his present level of skill, I would say he is one of the best in North America now. I can compare him with other members of my own Crabtree class and say that he is well above any of us even at our time of departure. At the 1972 Plains Conference Jeff's expertise was immediately recognized by all present. I am impressed with his problem orientation, his willingness to experimentally replicate and apply this data to anthropological problems.

While I am aware that the Crabtree school is designed to teach archeologists the physical basis of flint knapping, I do not think it ever the case that any student knows too much not to both contribute and benefit from the school's program. In my opinion Jeff's attendance would be of great benefit to both him and his colleagues. Besides his present level of respectable skill, the thing that singles him out among those knappers I have known is his dedication and genuine interest. With the exception of Don himself, I know of no one personally who is as completely given over to knapping as Jeff. After having had the opportunity to attend the field school with Don, knowing what he appreciates in a student, and given the general atmosphere of learning, I could not recommend to you strongly enough a finer candidate than Jeff. His personality is made to order for the camp, and I know that Don and the other students will find him enjoyable. Given his level of expertise and interest, the Crabtree Flintworking School is his next logical step.

Ca. 4.3.37