

November 4, 1938.

Mr. R. W. Cates,  
Independence, Kansas.

Dear Mr. Cates:

I humbly beg your pardon for not answering your kind letter of the 18th ultimo sooner. It seems as if my administrative work in the Department of Physical Education is keeping me extremely busy. We are endeavoring to make our major in physical education outstanding, and this is always a tough job when you are blazing a new trail. But I am happy over the success that we have attained thus far, and feel rather optimistic regarding our future in this field.

Richard Overfield is one of our physical education majors, and I think he is a fine boy. I am very fond of him.

Now, Mr. Cates, what I say to you is my own opinion, and no one else's, and I never try to foist it upon anybody. In our family we have had three boys and three girls, and we now have four grandchildren, and I am more convinced of the attitude that I would maintain in regard to my own children than I am about anybody else's children. So what I say applies to my own and to me.

Before going into this, I want to state that I know nothing of what the boy was led to expect that he would get or what he would expect at the University. I merely want to tell you what my attitude is in dealing with all boys who expect to get an education at the University of Kansas. Since I am not now athletic director I can say these things with a better grace than I could when I was supposed to head up the department for all coaches. Now my job is to develop physical education, and I have but one competitive sport, and that is the teaching of varsity basketball and freshman basketball.

Regarding fraternities -- fraternities make their own rules and they are not supervised by the University so far as they are concerned with their own members. I do not know this authentically, but it is my understanding that the various fraternities and sororities are each feeding a football player throughout the year. I do not know that it applies to other sports, but I am sure that it does not apply to the sport that I have anything to do with. I would not want it.

Now, back to the main thought. If I had a boy and I as his father was unable to pay his expenses, I would be happy for a realization of the necessity of the boy to work for his own living. College life is the only existence that I know of. When a boy happens to be an athlete some organizations will feed him, clothe him, and provide some spending money for him. This is, of course,