

September 9, 1937.

Mr. Merle Dean Bridges,
Bartlesville, Oklahoma.

My dear Dean:

Coach Harold Schmidt stopped by our home last week to pass on to me your high school transcript.

I took the transcript to Mr. George O. Foster, Registrar at the University. Mr. Foster stated that it would be necessary for him to send you a letter of warning, emphasizing the fact that your first semester is apt to end in failure if you do not apply yourself better than you did in high school. A copy of this letter, of course, will go to the dean of the school in which you register, and your instructors will be notified to the same degree. Reduced to plain English, this means that you are rather on probation, and if you should do failing work generally a fellow in this fix is not given the benefit of the breaks.

Mr. Foster will admit you on the recommendation of your high school principal. It might be a good idea for you to see your principal and tell him that you expect to make a good record at Kansas. Of course, if your principal would fail to give you a clearance from Bartlesville the University could not accept you.

From looking over your grades it looks as if you are rather an ordinary student in English, chemistry and history. I am surprised that any boy would not get a better grade in World History than a pair of D's. I am sure if you were as much interested in your academic subjects as you are in athletics that you would not make as poor grades as you have made.

You will also realize that a coach is very desirous of having fine students on his team. You will pardon me for talking to you like a Dutch uncle, but I am told by a great many men who seem to know that you are a fine basketball player. I want you to be a winner like Paul Endicott, the vice-president of the Phillips Petroleum Company, who was my captain in 1923. He not only was one of the greatest athletes, but he was the finest student in the University at the time he was in college. Won't you make a resolve to do as well in your school work as you desire to do in your athletics.