

February 23, 1942.

Mr. J. E. Kissell,
Portis, Kansas.

Dear Mr. Kissell:

I am sending you a copy of a letter in confidence that I have written to Max. He is staying up very late at night in these bull sessions at the Phi Psi house. He does not wear a hat, and catches cold easily. He is not taking as good care of himself as he should.

In other words, he is not putting all of himself in the two main things that should occupy most of his time -- his school work and if he has any time left, his basketball. The fact that he must work also takes some time away from his studies. Therefore, it behooves him to not dissipate his time or energy in bull sessions, which are needless. I say they are needless at this stage of the game because he needs the time for other more important things.

Please do not reveal to him the fact that I have sent you this letter. He is not improving as rapidly in basketball because he is spending his time and energy doing other things. Maybe he is a little bit discouraged because he hasn't gotten into some of the games more, but if he would bend every energy that he has toward the vital and necessary things he would break into a game more often.

Jack Ballard was highly discouraged and really very unhappy because he was not getting to play. I held out no more promise to him even with his exceptional height than I have to Max. Yet he was one of the deciding factors in our Oklahoma Aggie game, and his getting into the game was as much a surprise to him as it was to any of the spectators or his teammates there at the game. But he was in a position to accept the responsibility when he got the call. That is the position that I want Max to be in.