

January 5, 1942.

Mr. J. Fuller Groom,
Northwestern National Life Insurance Co.,
313-14 Orpheum Building,
Wichita, Kansas.

Dear Mr. Groom:

I beg to acknowledge receipt of your letter of January 3rd relating to Gerald Tucker's eligibility for competition in the Big Six Conference. This is a matter for the faculty eligibility committee to decide, and this committee of Dr. King, chairman, Professor Davis and Dr. Bergman, have all the facts in the case. There is nothing for the athletic directors or the basketball coaches to do in a case of this kind, and the ruling will be made by the faculty eligibility committee. If their ruling is adverse to Oklahoma, Oklahoma has the right to appeal to the faculty representatives of the Big Six Conference, which they have done.

I believe that you will quite agree with me that since this is a legally constituted authority, and it is perhaps best to leave it to them for their decision. Just as you have constituted authority in your Northwestern National, we have authority vested in our faculty representatives. These men are all friends of the students as each of them has been connected with student life for over thirty years. For that reason I am very sure that whatever enthusiasm we have it should be directed in the line of fair play and enthusiasm for people who follow the rule.

At no time in the history of the world have rules and laws meant so little to people as now. If a rule is broken someone tries to throw on some extraneous situation and smoke screen the issue as the Japs did while they were infamously talking peace and preparing for war. I think it is high time that some of us began to recognize the authority of the printed documents and to learn to obey them, at least in letter if not in spirit. They have not been lived up to, either in letter or spirit, and I believe if you were on the jury if you had laws before you that were supposed to be recognized and you were charged to vote according to the law that you perhaps would want to do that.

These Big Six faculty representatives are on their respective athletic boards and they perhaps have had a great many cases of this kind to consider before.