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J. FULLER GROOM, REPRESENTATIVE
313-14 ORPHEUM BUILDING
WICHITA, KANSAS
DIAL 2-2155

January 3, 1941.

Mr. Phog Allen,
University of Kansas,
Lawrence, Kansas.

Dear Mr. Allen;

I am writing this letter to you, hoping that it may reach the officials who are responsible for ruling against the eligibility of Gerald Tucker of O.U. to play in the Big Six games this season. I, of course, know nothing of your personal attitude in the matter, and am expressing what I believe to be what the average Kansan is thinking who is interested in College Basketball.

To me the whole objection seems very technical. While there may be some grounds for ruling against Tucker, isn't this rule there to protect the schools against professionalism and the raiding of athletes from another school? Any one who knows Gerald Tucker knows that as a student he makes top grades, is trying to equip himself to play his part in this world, and lacks any taint of professionalism at all. To take advantage of what we in the ranks think is a trivial technicality, to keep a good man from playing in the regular games is going to make the championship of the Big Six a pretty hollow sort of thing. Most of us will be saying, whenever a team beats O.U., "Yes, but you had to kick Tucker out to do it".

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Another thing, this young man will be playing with Uncle Sam, No doubt, a year from now, and may never again have the privilege of playing for any University. While this may be 'sob stuff', yet let us be fair to these young bucks who must go into the front lines for us, and give them a break for the next few months.

I am a Kansan, have always been so, and in any game between O.U. and either Kansas State or K.U. would always be found rooting for our teams, but I am afraid my enthusiasm would't be very keen, if I must see our teams play O.U. without Tucker in the lineup.

Will you be so kind as to forward this letter to those responsible for deciding against the eligibility of Tucker, as I believe the sentiments, herein, represents the cross section of Kansans who are interested in Kansas Collegiate sports.

Sincerely yours,

J. Fuller Groom
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