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Received at 122 E. Huron St., Ann Arbor, Mich. Telephone 4221

1934 OCT 17 AM 7 12

Z 9 60 NL 3 EXTRA=JEFFERSONCITY MO 16

PRESIDENT ALEXANDER G RUTHVEN=

UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN ANNARBOR MICH=

MINUTES IN TRANSIT

FULL-RATE	DAY LETTER
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LOCAL PAPERS REPORT COACH KIPKE HAS BENCHED WILLIS WARD
NEGRO STAR FOR GEORGIA TECH GAME AS ALUMNI OF MICHIGAN WE
BOW IN SHAME AT THIS UNSPORTSMANLIKE ACTION NORTHERN
INSTITUTIONS LIKE WASHINGTON AND JEFFERSON SOUTHERN
CALIFORNIA AND HARVARD HAVE IN SIMILAR INSTANCES REFUSED TO
SACRIFICE THEIR OWN TRADITIONS TO SOUTHERN PREJUDICE HAS
MICHIGAN ANY TRADITION OTHER THAN EXPEDIENCY=

B T MCGRAW C A BLUE.

BOARD IN CONTROL OF PHYSICAL EDUCATION
UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN
DEPARTMENT OF INTERCOLLEGIATE ATHLETICS
FERRY FIELD ~ ANN ARBOR

320 Hutchins Hall
October 19, 1934

Mr. B. T. McGraw
Jefferson City, Missouri

Dear Sir:

Your telegram signed by you and Mr. C. A. Blue addressed to President Ruthven has been handed by him to the writer for reply. The control of all phases of intercollegiate athletics is vested in the Board in Control of Physical Education.

For the first time, at least within the memory of those now actively engaged in administering Michigan athletics, there was occasion in making a football schedule to consider the probable personnel of the Michigan team. This fact explains, though it does not justify, the failure to remember this point. It was not until some time after the contracts were made that the point was realized and it was not necessary, as so many seem to assume, to have word from Georgia Tech.

The treatment of such men as Hubbard and Tolan here at Michigan, to say nothing of Willis Ward, should be ample proof that this University has not conducted its athletics in such way as to make an unfair discrimination. Other universities have had to deal with exactly this same problem, one of the more recent cases being that of Ohio State which omitted Bell, a very powerful colored tackle, from the games played with Vanderbilt and the Navy. Our own sister institution in the state, Michigan State College, when it plays the University of Texas

#2 - Mr. B. T. McGraw

this fall will have to face the same question with reference to two of the members of its team.

Needless to say, you and some of the others who have been interested in this situation, have been actuated by a sincere desire to be helpful to Mr. Ward and the cause of racial equality generally. The pathetic thing about the whole matter is that the agitation will almost certainly in the long run have the diametrically opposite effect from that desired.

Yours very truly,

RWA/hh

Ralph W. Aigler
RALPH W. AIGLER