

May 20, 1968

The Athletic Council  
Iowa State University  
Ames, Iowa 50010

Gentlemen:

Because of apathetic attitudes and complete insensitivity on the part of the Athletic Council with respect to the Black Athletes on campus, conditions within the athletic framework have been allowed to worsen. As a result, the Black Athletes of Iowa State University, fully supported by the Black student Organization of Iowa State University, present the following grievances to the Athletic Council and respectfully request that they be acted upon immediately:

1. There should be a Black coach in each major sport at Iowa State.
2. There should be Black personnel in the athletic administration at Iowa State.
3. Prejudice and despotism of the coaches between Black and White athletes should be stopped immediately. Performance, attitude and desire to play should be prevailing factors. Specifically:
  - a. L.C. Timm should be removed from his immediate position as head baseball coach for failure to recruit and/or play Black Athletes, or forced to change his present attitude, beginning with the 1969 baseball season.
  - b. Head basketball coach Glenn Anderson should be forced to change his despotism and prejudices toward Black Athletes, including allowing Don McLaughlin to prove his ability or inability to play college basketball.
4. Robert C. Billings should be removed from his position as athletic trainer or forced to change his general attitude, especially with reference to his treatment of injured Black Athletes.
5. Instructors of athletes (White as well as Black) should be informed of the physical demands on athletes and hence, become more lenient in terms of class attendance and class work especially in cases of injury and out-of-town trips. This should apply only during the season of the sport in which the athlete plays.

6. Athletes should have a preference as to where they wish to live, whether on campus or off campus.
7. Due to the poor financial background of many Black Athletes as compared to White Athletes, the Black Athlete should be allowed to work while on full scholarship. If necessary, this should be presented to the NCAA.
8. We should be addressed as Black Students or Afro-Americans. The term Negro no longer applies.

We are fully prepared to boycott all athletics in which we participate and/or forfeit scholarships if our requests are not granted, IN FULL.

Respectfully submitted,

THE BLACK ATHLETES