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Subject: Response to Racist Incident/Goal for Moving Forward

Good Afternoon,

I am Jonathan Malueg, quarterback and captain of the football team. I wanted to reach out to all the coaches to have a discussion on the incident that took place within our team last November and to tell you all what the university has done about this issue since then. It has been a long process and a very frustrating one for our team and coaches.

The universities response to the racist incident that occurred last fall was one our team does not agree with. After a judicial process, the five guys were able to appeal the decision in hopes of rejoining our team. This appeal did not involve the department of athletics, leaving it up to the university to respond to it. This left our athletic director and coaches unable to make a decision, which goes against what is written in the Student-Athlete Handbook. This appeal went to the UW System who ended up ruling them to be able to rejoin our team. Let me be very clear and tell you that our team does NOT want these five individuals back on our team.

Vice Chancellor Anderson stated in an online meeting to Drew Shrader, Coach Beschorner, Mr. Schumacher, and I, that it should have been handled by the athletic department, not the university, which he admitted was an error in the process. Also, in this meeting, Dr. Anderson said it is the teams right to regulate itself.

The administration is trying to make it seem like this is our teams decision to let these five individuals back on our team, which I can tell you is not the case. We have discussed this as a team and we came to the conclusion that what the five individuals did is wrong. We have tried to tell administration numerous times that we do not want them back on our team, but we are being ignored.

Therefore, I am writing to you all. I am looking for other athletes/teams who can back our decision in not wanting them to rejoin our team. We are standing for what is right, while the university is allowing racism to exist within our teams. Dr. Anderson said in the meeting that we need to get to the root of these issues, and as a football team we know that to get to the root we cannot allow these five individuals back onto our team.

It is our teams' goal that as an athletic department, we stand for what's right and let other students, faculty, and the community know that not only does the football team stand agaisnt racism, but our whole athletic department does as well.

Jonathan Malueg
Economics/Finance
Football Captain