Dr. F. C. Allen
University of Kansas
Lawrence, Kansas

Dear Dr. Allen:

Please accept our congratulations at this late date on another of your marvelous basketball seasons. We had heard that you did not have the best of material to work with yet you produce regardless of material and opposition. The well known "wolves" must have died a hard death.

Your letters of congratulation have been greatly appreciated. The past indoor season has been a fairly easy one. I only hope I can be in the same condition for the outdoor season.

Right now I am hard at work on my thesis. It looks as though it will keep me going from now until June. With my office work and the running I'm trying to do I think I'll have to borrow some time from someplace.

To-night I'm leaving for the west. I'll compete in Cleveland and Chicago this Friday and Saturday then Portland, Oregon the following Friday. This trip affords me the chance to visit my folks who are now living in Idaho.

Sorry that I will not get to you at the Kansas Relays.

I had looked forward to seeing you then. You're a part of
the institution and it won't be quite complete without you.

Best wishes for a successful coaches meeting.

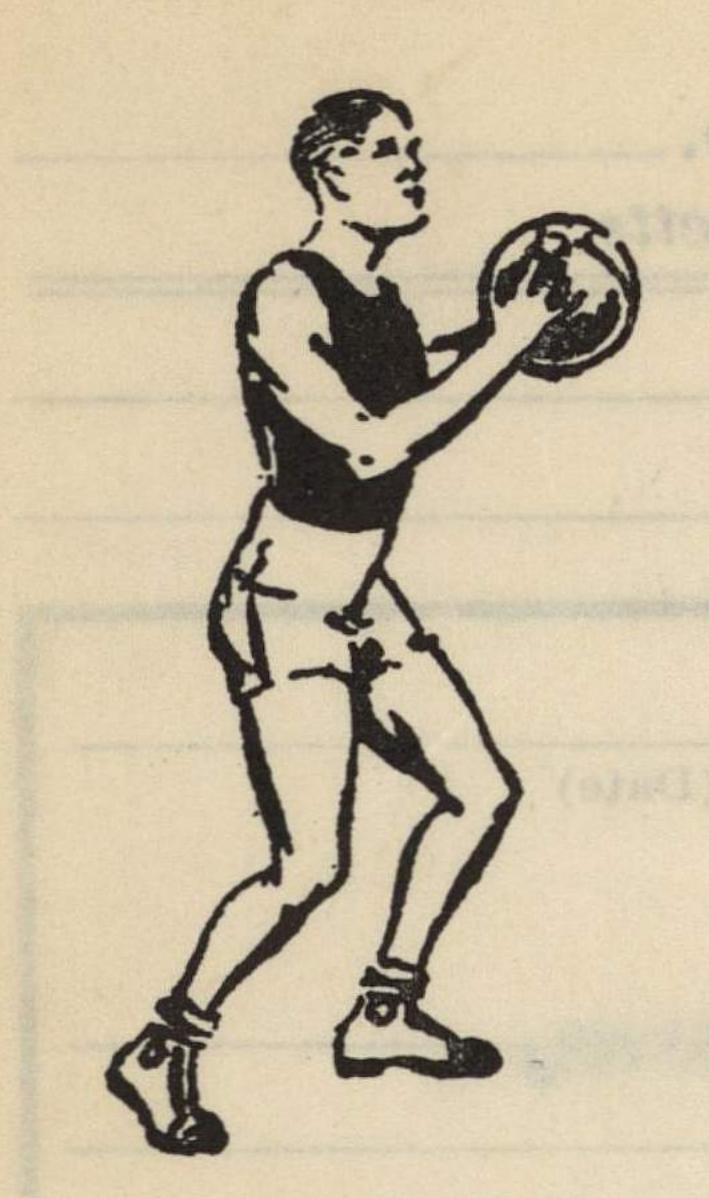
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CONVERSE BASKETBALL YEAR BOOK

for 1937-1938 Season

DATA SHEET

Read Instructions Printed Below to Assure Your Team a Place in the 1938 Edition



Malden, Mass.

Dear Coach:

We are reserving space for your team's photograph and playing record of the 1937-1938 season in the Converse Basketball Year Book. The space doesn't cost you a penny--you are not placed under the slightest obligation--and the publicity you get should prove of real help to you.

It is possible to include in the Year Book the records and pictures of only a limited number of teams. In fairness to every basketball coach, representation in the Year Book is governed by the following conditions:

- 1. Playing data and team picture must be sent in <u>immediately</u> after the close of the playing season.
- 2. Pictures submitted must show majority of players wearing Converse shoes.

Let's have your co-operation--fill out the Data Sheet NOW and return it to us AT ONCE with your team's best photograph. Please send gloss finish photograph if possible.

All Data Sheets and pictures are numbered <u>as received.</u>
Assure yourself the best possible position in the 1938 Year Book by sending <u>your</u> Data Sheet and photograph right after the close of the season.

Cordially,
CONVERSE RUBBER COMPANY
Wallace R. Lord
Editor

READ CAREFULLY

How to Get Your Team Listed in the New Year Book

- 1. Fill out Data Sheet (see reverse side). Please return AT ONCE
- 2. Send GROUP PHOTOGRAPH of team. Glossy-finish photo preferred
- 3. Do not send reproductions from program or newspaper
- 4. Send photos FLAT adequately protected by cardboard

Mr. Wallace R. Lord, Editor, Converse Basketball Year Book, Converse Rubber Company, Malden, Mass.

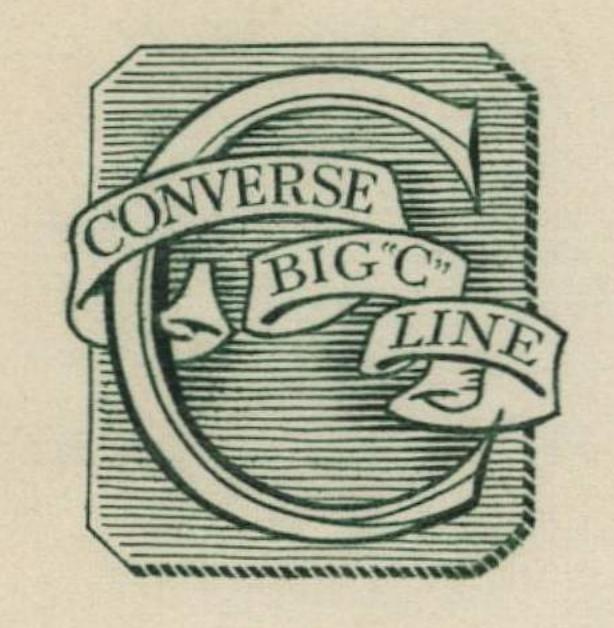
Dear Mr. Lords

I am enclosing herewith photograph and data sheet for the University of Kansas Basketball Team for the 1937-38 season.

I am also sending you some additional sheets regarding the Kanses Offense Ratio which I thought might prove interesting to you. If you find it desirable to use any or all of this data you may feel perfectly free to do so.

Sincerely yours,

Director of Physical Education, Varsity Basketball Coach.



Converse Rubber Company

Manufacturers of Rubber Products

MALDEN, MASSACHUSETTS, U.S.A.

May 4, 1938.

Coach Forrest C. Allen, University of Kansas, Lawrence, Kansas.

Dear Coach:

A few weeks ago we sent you a data sheet with the request that you have this filled out and returned together with a picture of your 1937-38 Basketball Team so that we might include it in this year's edition of the Converse Basketball Year Book. Not having heard from you we are again taking this opportunity to find out if you will be represented this season.

In case the original data sheet was misplaced we are enclosing another one together with a reply card, which we would like to have you send by return mail.

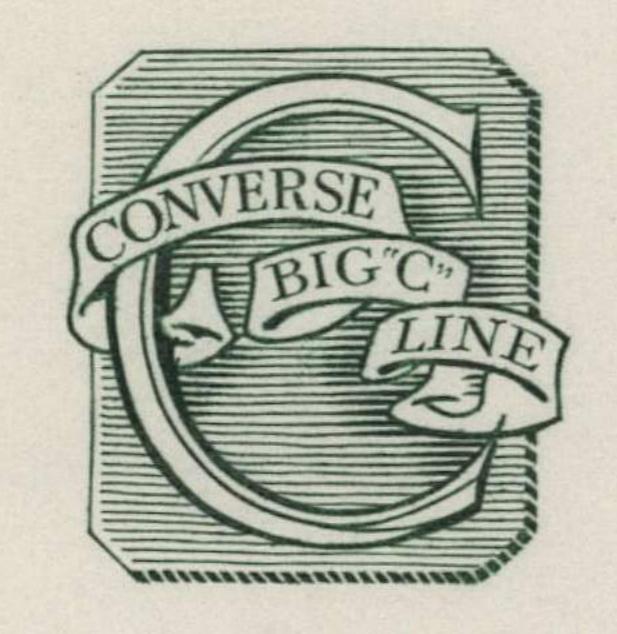
Trusting that you will be represented this year, we are

Very truly yours,

CONVERSE RUBBER COMPANY

Year Book Editor.

WRL:HP Encls.



CONVERSE RUBBER COMPANY

Manufacturers of Rubber Products MALDEN, MASSACHUSETTS, U.S.A.

March 29, 1938

Dear Coach:

Preparation of the 1937-38 edition of the Converse Baskethall Yearbock is now under way, and we would like to include the picture and record of your team.

This year marks the seventeenth season the company has published the Yearbook, and it will contain the most complete information on nation-wide basketball we have ever printed.

Being represented in the Yearbook incurs absolutely no obligation on your part, as the entire expense and free distribution is assumed by us.

We sincerely hope you are able to cooperate with us, and for your convenience are enclosing a Data Sheet to fill out and send to us with the team photograph.

Will you please sign the enclosed post card so we may plan our space reservations accordingly. It requires no postage.

Sincerely yours, CONVERSE RUBBER COMPANY

Walkare R. Lord

Yearbook Editor

WRL:MAD

Encs.

P.S. - If you didn't receive last year's Yearbook, we will be glad to send one immediately.

W. R. L.

At the University of Kansas we have been using a method of comparing effectiveness of basketball teams. We use the term, "Kansas Offense Ratio", which is the number of points a team scores to each point made by opponents.

Mr. W. A. Dill, Associate Professor of Journalism and Director of the News
Bureau, at the University of Kansas, has devised this system of rating basketball teams.

The "Kansas Offense Ratio" is in effect a combining of offense and defense effectiveness of a team. For example, in the Big Six season just closed the best offense was shown by Oklahoma, with a total of 456 scores in ten conference games. Kansas had only 408 points, and Nebraska, last year's co-champion, had 388. While Oklahoma was running up its score totals by rapid-fire play, opponents likewise were scoring, amassing a total of 401. In the meantime, Kansas was holding its opponents, including the fiery Oklahomans, to a total of 329 points. Kansas' moderate offense coupled with strong defense gave the Jayhawkers the championship (their 20th in 31 years of conference competition), and Oklahoma took second place.

When the "Kansas Offense Ratio" is applied to these figures it appears that Kansas scored 1.240 points for each one an opponent scored, while Oklahoma was making a ratio of 1.112. These ratios, substantially unchanged, had prevailed throughout the season - at least after several games had been played, sufficient to "give an average". The relationship between the offense ratio and conference standing is shown in the following summary of the 1938 season in the Big Six:

In general, the offense ratio is a pretty fair index of how a team is going to figure in the team standings (on basis of games won). However, the relationship is not certain, as in 1934, Oklahoma had a splendid offense ratio - next highest to Kansas' ratio of 1936 - but the Sooners lost some narrow margin games, and then won by wide margins, as Oklahoma 68-Kansas State 21, and Oklahoma 53-Nebraska 23. These fattened the offense ratio out of proportion to the number of games won.

In the main, however, the offense ratio drops much in the same rate as the drop in team standing, and therefore the offense ratio can be taken fairly early in the season, as a basis for predicting team strength.

One or two games, of course, are not enough to indicate a trend.

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			G.Pts.					
Ia. St.		14-588	10-552	12-529	13-628	10-5	98 59-2	2895
Kan.	4-444		2-543	9-499	5-492	6-5	65 26-2	2543
KSC	8-544	18-710		9-657	11-641	15-7	17 61-3	3269
Mo.	6-487	11-556	11-610		8-558	11-6	$30 \ 47 - 2$	2841
Neb.	5-516	13-595	7-603	10-543		10-6	28 45-2	2885
Okla.	8-568	14-691	5-592	9-607	8-623		44-3	3085
Gs wn		70-	35-	49-	45-	52-	282-	
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17								
		Summai	·y				Offense	9
	W.	L. Pc	t. Pts.	Op.Pts	. Gm.	Ave.	Ratio	Ch
Kan.	70	26 .72		-	32.70-		1.235	6*
Ok.		44 .54		3085	32.7 -	-32.2	1.017	1
Mo.		47 .51			29.5 -	29.6	.998	1
Neb.	45	45 .45			32.69-	-32.1	1.019	1*
KSC			4 2900		30.2 -	-34.1	.887	0

Four conference teams played 17 practice or exhibition games, which add to points and games, but do not greatly affect percentages or averages. With the added games:

*—Inc. 1 tie for championship. |-Points to 1 for oppt.

59 .344 2559 2895 28.2 -32.2 .883

Kan.	80	30	.728	3554	2883	32.3-26-2	1.23	6*
Okla.	52	48	.520	3236		32.3-31.9	1.01	1
Mo.		50	.509	2996	3024	29.3-29.6	.99	1
KSC		67	.368	3161	3565	29.8-33.6	.884	0

Team Rankings

- On offense—Kansas, Oklahoma, Nebraska, Kansas State, Missouri, Iowa State.
- On defense—Kansas, Missouri Nebraska, Oklahoma, Iowa State, Kansas State.
- On offense ratio—(Points to opponents' 1) Kansas, Nebraska, Oklahoma, Missouri, Kansas State, Iowa State.

May 6, 1938.

Major John Griffith, The Athletic Journal, Chicago, Ill.

Dear Mr. Griffith.

An article on the rating of basketball teams by Mr. Robert D. Wright, Mt. Union College, in the current issue of the Athletic Journal is of particular interest at the University of Kansas, for we have been using for several years, five or six, a method of comparing effectiveness of basketball teams. We use the term "offense ratio," which is the number of points a team scores to each point made by opponents

The "offense ratio" is in effect a combining of offense and defense effectiveness of a team. For example, in the Big Six season just closed, the best offense was shown by Oklahoma, with a total of 456 scores in ten conference games. Kansas had only 408 points, and Mebraska, last year's co-champions, had 388. While Oklahoma was running up its score totals by rapid-fire play, opponents likewise were scoring, amassing a total of 401. In the meantime, Kansas was holding its opponents, including the fiery Oklahomans, to a total of 329 points. Kansas' moderate offense coupled with strong defense gave the Jayhawkers the championship (their 20th in 31 years of conference competition) and Oklahoma took second place.

When the "offense ratio" is applied to these figures, it appears that Kansas scored 1.240 points for each one an opponent scored, while Oglahoma was making a ratio of 1.112. These ratios substantially unchanged, had prevailed throughout the season—at least after several games had been played, sufficient to "give an average." The relationship between "offense ratio" and conference standing is shown in the following summary of the 1938 season in the Big Six:

Kansas Oklahoma	0 0	1,	Pot. .900	Pts.	00.755.	Offense Ratio
Missouri	4	8	.800	456 389	401 384	1.013
Nebraska	4	6	.400	388	383	1.013
Kansas State Towa State	5 2	8	.300	348	398	.874

A variation of the Kansas "offense ratio" was used in a story or two from the University of Oklahoma the past winter when Harold Keith prepared stories showing the average score of games played by each member of the conference and comparing the plus or minus advantage of each team over its opponents. Thus, one team averaged four points to the game more than its opponents, while another team averaged only 3.5 points advantage per game.

is substantially accurate, but if scores are dissimilar, the "ratio" is more accurate. Obviously a team that has a two-point advantage by average scores of 20 to 18 is superior to a team that has a two-point advantage in scores 40 to 38 (to use extreme examples.)

Still a third method of rating teams by keeping a detailed record of the performance of each player, from which a composite of the team could be made, was worked out by the department of physical education at the University of Kansas last winter, and report upon results was presented at the recent meeting of the National Association of Basketball Coaches by Dr. Forrest C. Allen, chairman of the physical education department, un basketball coach at Kansas, and member of the research committee of the national association. For example, each player was credited with 10 points for each score. 5 points for a free throw. 4 points for an "assist" -- a good pass to the player who forthwith scored; I point for a good pass or catch; minus 2 for fumbling the ball; minus 4 for a pass out of bounds; minus 8 for a personal foul; the net total giving an evaluation of the player; thus serving as a means of comparison with his fellow-players, and team totals serving as a means of comparing teams.

putation of percentages of attempts at goal that are good, both on throws from the playing floor, and from free throws. For example, Dr. Allen reported to the coaches a study of ecoring in three final home conference games. Here are some of the comparisons:

Kansas made 35.9 per cent of its attempts at goals; the visiting teams, 21.2 per cent. 'Kansas made 64.5 per cent of her attempted free throws; opponents, 54.5. Seventy times, Kansas recovered the ball on rebound from its own back board; opponents recovered 51 times: Kansas recovered rebound from opponents back board 78 times; opponents recovered from Kansas' back board 34 times. Kansas made 1023 good passes of the ball; opponents, 607. Fumbles and held balls were about even, but the percentage of scoring and recovery of balls was reflected in the scoring: Kansas 139 points (and all three games); opponents 102 points.

Yours very truly,

Assoc. Prof. Journalism and director, K. U. News Bureau.

WAT)

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In General——The offense ratio is a pretty fair index of how a team is going to figure in the team standings (on basis of games won) However, the relationship is not certain, as in 1934, Oklahoma had a splendid offense ratio——next highest to Kansas' ratio of 1936—— but the Sooners lost some natro margin games, and then won by wide margin as the Oklahoma 68, Kansas State 21, or the 53-23 over Nebraska. These fattened the offense ratio out of proportion to the nymber of games won.

In the main, however, the offense ratio drops much in the same rate as the drop in team standing, and therefore the offense ratio can be taken fairly early in the season, as a basis for predicting team strength.

One or two games, of course, are not enough to indicate a trend, but

Jan 14, 19.38

Stillwater

Crutchfield Dorm.

Kansas, University

Lawrence

Lawrence

Dr. Mr. Allew

Upon the advise and uncourage-ment of mr. I ba, il decided to remain from competition this year, 1937-38, and use my eligiblity as a player during the year of 1938-39. I his bargain was consumated by a promise of a very remunerative job upon gaming my degree. My financial condition is such that of need only a job, of any sort, for room and board. Your system of basketbell, although of am not familiar with it, calls for an ability to follow exactly the assignments given them, before a ball game.

I ean carry assignments. I he cause for my wishing to make a change is simple enough. I wish to become a lawyer. If I were to graduate from Okla. a. o. m., ol would be forced to go to a one year law sehool in Jenn. I am a good shot, so people have said. Here, a boy shoots at certain times, places, and under certain circumstances. So el have no idra what I would be able to do if I were allowed to play a strictly passing game. I played against Kansas Uni. in Kansas City. J.his probably tells more about me than cleam, Age-21 Height-6'2"
Could cleuroll this semester? Yours Sincerely R.C. Fitch Cort

Mr. W. R. Lord, Converse Rubber Co., Malden, Mass.

Dear Mr. Lord:

I find that it is absolutely impossible to cover the basketball rule changes and do it justice with five hund-red words. If you wish to re-edit this and cut it down to fit your space it will be entirely satisfactory with me.

I have not made this as colofful as an ordinary article should be in the introduction of basketball. Perhaps I should lead off with this thought:

"Enjoying the largest attendance and the greatest spread of enthusiasm that basketball heretofore has experienced, the king of indoor games is now played by eighteen million people throughout the world. Fifty two countries are playing basketball at the present time. The vision of Dr. James Naismith in 1891 has far exceeded his fondest dreams. And the interest in basketball in the United States has only begun. The west coast and the southland have just begun to take basketball seriously. The educators of America are saying that basketball is the one game that fits every requirement in developing the physical, mental and emotional educable child."

If you want to tack this on the front of the other, and delete some of the rest, go shead. Or if you want to wire me and have me re-write it, do that.

Very cordially yours.

Director of Physical Education, Varsity Pasketball Coach,

Extension of End Line:

The National Basketball Committee at its annual rules session in Chicago on April 5 and 6, 1938, extended the end lines 4 feet behind the basket instead of 2 feet as the rules were last year. This is an optional change for those who desire to adopt it if their courts will permit. Some schools will move the basket 2 feet further in the court rather than to extend the lines 2 Feet beyond the end of the present end line. This rule should result in there being fewer out of bound balls and it will also give the driving basketball player an opportunity to play the ball without going out of bounds.

There was much discussion regarding the oversize of a 4 by 6 back-board. It was felt by many that corners should be cut off the 4 by 6 back-board thereby permitting many good shots at the basket by a player who might be in a position back of the backboard. The National Rules Committee was asked to encourage some teams in playing the smaller backboard to see what effect it might have on the future game.

Three-Second Rule:

"The rules which forbids a player to be in his free throw lane for more than three seconds is not to apply to a player who is in the half of his free throw circle mearer the center provided he does not have possession of the ball. In other words, a player without the ball may stand in the outer half of his free throw circle indefinitely, but as soon as he gets the ball he is subject to the three-seconds rule. If he is touching the free throw line he is not in the outer half of the circle." The adoption of this rule has caused and is causing much comment. However, the fact that if an offensive player is touching the free throw line he is considered not to be in the cuter half of the circle. The nudging and pushing by the pivot post player under the old rules of four years ago will not be permitted here

because the offensive player is restrained from locating in the free throw line. By keeping the offensive player out in front of the free throw line. much of the fouling which heretofore existed will be eliminated. Many of the rule members voted for the rule as it is this year not because they believed in it, but because there was a demand by certain coaches for it. Many of the coaches feel that in the future it will be necessary to have a 12 foot free throw line instead of a 6 foot free throw line. The double post players are locating themselves just off of the 6 foot free throw line and many of the rule makers fear that the pushing and jamming under the old rule will bring back many of the griefs that endured at that time. Time Out: All' college teams may take five charged time out periods without a penalty. There is also permission granted if mutual agreement obtains between the college teams to play the games in quarters. Coaches who desire more than the five charged time out periods may use the between quarter periods to obtain two additional time outs without penalty. "Substitutions are not to be permitted in the interval following Substitutions a goal and putting the ball into play from out of bounds unless a charged time out or time out for injury has been declared. It is still legal, however, for either team to take a charged time out after a goal." This rule was to

for either team to take a charged time out after a goal." This rule was to thwart the team making the goal from substituting when the team that had just been scored upon rightfully had possession of the ball, and a substitution would stop their fast break.

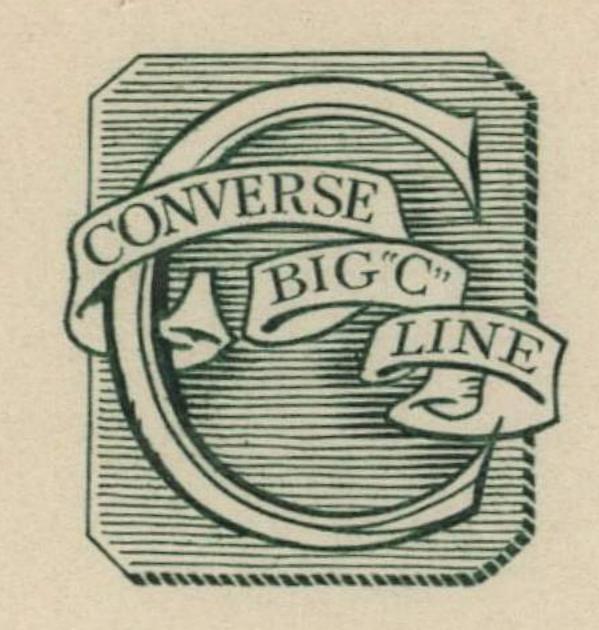
Jump Ball: "All jump balls must take place at least six feet from the nearest

Jump Ball: "All jump balls must take place at least six feet from the nearest boundary line; that is, the jump ball rule applied to the side-lines last year now applies also to the end-lines." This rule equalizes all held balls near the boundary line being brought in 6 feet from either the end line or the side.

Division Line Rule: "If a player in possession of the ball is touching or straddling the division line he is to be considered in the back court regardless of the direction from which the ball comes to him. If he dribbles the ball from the back court, the tem-seconds count continues as long as he is touching the floor on or behind the line. If he dribbles the ball from the front court, he is considered to be in the back court as soon as he touches or straddles the line, just as last year. If he receives a pass while touching or straddling the line, the foregoing applies in the same way. Under this new ruling there is one fact to bear in mind: On the line is in the back court." This new ruling definitely settles all past controversies regarding the direction of the player and the ball.

Touching Ball: "If the ball is in the air on a try for goal when the signal sounds to end a period, subsequent touching of the ball by a teammate of the thrower nullifies the goal; but if such touching is done by a defensive player, the goal counts if made." This rule clarifies the rules regarding ball touched by a defensive player. Heretofore this was not clear.

Size of Ball: For players below senior high school age the minimum circumference of the ball is to be 29 inches. For older players the minimum circumference continues to be 29% inches. The maximum circumference for all balls is to be 30 inches instead of 30% inches." It was felt that a smaller ball for youngsters would encourage better ball handling.



Converse Rubber Company

Manufacturers of Rubber Products

MALDEN, MASSACHUSETTS, U.S.A.

May 25, 1938

Dr. Forrest C. Allen Director of Physical Education University of Kansas Lawrence, Kansas

Dear Dr. Allen:

Thanks very much for sending along the picture of the 1937-38 basketball team, and also your very interesting story on the Kansas Offense Ratio. We know that this will prove very interesting to students of the game, and you may count on it receiving good position in the Yearbook.

Just had a letter from Chuck Taylor today, and he wanted me to write and see if we could impose upon you for an article regarding changes in the game, caused by the new rules, the article to be about five hundred words in length.

Would like to know if it would be possible for you to supply this, and if we could expect to receive it by June 10th. You have been very cooperative in the past, and it has been greatly appreciated.

If you will let me know the sizes on two or three types of either basketball or other kinds of athletic footwear which you could use to good advantage, we would be mighty pleased to send them along at once.

Very truly yours, CONVERSE RUBBER COMPANY

Yearbook Editor

WRL: MAD

POSTAL TELEGRAPH

Malden, Mass. June 10, 1938.

Dr. F. C. Allen, Lawrence, Kansas.

With reference to Mr. Lord's letter May 25, would appreciate wiring collect if possible to supply article requested. Thanks.

Chuck Taylor, Converse Rubber Company.

REPLY -- Day Letter Collect

Regret that commoncement and summer enrollment duties have prevented me from replying Mr. Lord's letter. Express to him my sincere apology and inform him that I will be very happy to mail article air mail Saturday noon. Letter follows. Kindest regards.

Forrest C. Allen.

Mr. James C. Campbell, Jr., 1504 Parrich Avenue. Owensboro, Keutucky.

My dear Mr. Campbell:

Your very generous letter of the 19th ultime has come to my desk. I em very happy that you enjoyed the book, and I trust that you will comtimue to enjoy some angles of the yerns under the heading, "Tales of Testeryear". I have written those for a purpose.

I have always endeavored to show the high school boy who thinks that he has a tough lot that the boys up higher have a tougher one. This is a good every-day homespun lesson in living. The fellow with the small job thinks that he has the biggest and the toughest job of all, but we know that the boys in the big places are the boys that walk alone. Many fellows think being President of the United States is a grand job, but that is the most lonesome job in the world.

That estimate scales down or scales up, either way we went to apply it, in our daily existence.

Thanking you for your generous words, and wishing you contimued success, I am

Sincerely yours,

Director of Physical Education, Varsity Basketball Coach.

FCARABI

1504 Parrish Avenue, Owensboro, Kentucky June 19th, 1938.

Mr. Forrest C. Allen, University of Kansas, Lawrence, Kansas.

Dear Mr. Allen:

Comment of

For almost one month the writer has been wondering why the great "Phog"Allen should send an autographed copy of "Better Basketball" to a humble student of the game. My father returned recently from an extended road trip and told me the complete story. While he was with Mr. and Mrs. Lee Hamilton, basketball turned up in the conversation and Dad said I had played some and had been helped immeasurably by a book written by "some man out in Kansas". You can imagine his suprise, and mine too, when he found out Mrs. Hamilton was your daughter.

Yes Sir, it will be exactly ten years this coming Christmas since receiving My Basketball Bible, and if you ever have cause for signed testimonials let me state I have never read any book on sports which deals more thoroughly with the subject than yours.

I sincerely thank you for your gift and remain,

Most sincerely yours,