



Whew! Yes, Phog, Huskers DID Make It Warm for K. U.

"Boy oh boy, what makes it so warm here . . . gimme a drink of water" says Kansas Coach Phog Allen. That's right, Phog,

it was rather warm in Nebraska's basket ball play house Saturday night, and the Huskers almost made it too hot for K. U.

After drinking quantities of water, Phog saw his boys pull through with a 55-53 victory.-- World-Herald Photo.

Kansas a Cinch

Cyclones, Sooners Only Foes

Big Six Standings

| | W. | L. | Pts. | O.P. |
|--------------|----|----|------|------|
| Kansas | 7 | 1 | 353 | 325 |
| Iowa State | 6 | 3 | 366 | 326 |
| Nebraska | 6 | 4 | 385 | 375 |
| Oklahoma | 4 | 5 | 360 | 354 |
| Kansas State | 3 | 7 | 359 | 383 |
| Missouri | 2 | 8 | 343 | 403 |

Results Last Week

| | |
|----------------------------|-----------------|
| Kansas 55 | Nebraska 53 |
| Missouri 61 | Oklahoma 42 |
| Iowa State 36 | Kansas State 33 |
| Kansas 50... (overtime)... | Kansas State 45 |
| Iowa State 49 | Missouri 29 |

Games This Week

Monday

| Home Team. | Visitor. |
|------------|----------|
| Iowa State | Kansas |

Friday

| | |
|--------|----------|
| Kansas | Oklahoma |
|--------|----------|

By Gregg McBride

It's all over but the shouting in the Big Six basket ball race.

When Kansas outshot Nebraska in a 55-53 thriller at Lincoln Saturday night, the Jayhawkers assured themselves af a share of the championship.

Phog Allen's boys now need to win over Iowa State or Oklahoma and unless the Cyclones and Sooners improve K. U. will take 'em both.

Iowa State had to break a 31-31 tie in the closing minutes to get past Kansas State, 36-33. Oklahoma, only conference team to trim the Jayhawkers, floundered at Missouri, 42-61.

Held Matches K. U. Ace

With 24 points against Nebraska, Howard Engleman, Kansas, boosted his total to 153 points for eight games. Sid Held, who matched the Kansan's performance, shot into second with 97 for 10 games.

Leaders:

| | G. | F.G. | F.T. | P. F. | Pts. |
|---------------------|----|------|------|-------|------|
| Engleman, Kansas | 8 | 60 | 33 | 13 | 153 |
| Held, Nebraska | 10 | 35 | 27 | 17 | 97 |
| Nicholson, Iowa St. | 9 | 29 | 34 | 26 | 92 |
| Allen, Kansas | 8 | 28 | 31 | 10 | 87 |
| Fitz, Nebraska | 10 | 32 | 22 | 22 | 86 |
| Budolphson, Ia. St. | 9 | 37 | 10 | 18 | 84 |
| Horacek, Kans. | 10 | 32 | 15 | 8 | 79 |
| Ford, Oklahoma | 9 | 25 | 26 | 24 | 76 |
| Schneider, Iowa St. | 9 | 29 | 12 | 12 | 70 |
| Roberts, Oklahoma | 9 | 27 | 16 | 16 | 70 |
| DeKoster, Iowa St. | 9 | 25 | 19 | 26 | 69 |
| Mills, Missouri | 10 | 29 | 10 | 21 | 68 |
| Randall, Nebraska | 10 | 24 | 17 | 27 | 65 |
| Paine, Oklahoma | 9 | 28 | 9 | 19 | 65 |
| Howe, Kansas St. | 10 | 24 | 12 | 14 | 60 |

Held Tops Huskers

Held's scoring also put him ahead of Don Fitz in Nebraska scoring. Finish:

| | G. | F.G. | F.T. | P. F. | Pts. |
|-----------------|----|------|------|-------|------|
| Sid Held | 18 | 64 | 38 | 22 | 168 |
| Don Fitz | 18 | 59 | 39 | 37 | 157 |
| Al Randall | 17 | 31 | 24 | 43 | 86 |
| John Fitzgibbon | 18 | 27 | 12 | 33 | 66 |
| John Thompson | 18 | 22 | 13 | 32 | 57 |
| Les Livingston | 17 | 20 | 15 | 28 | 55 |
| Max Young | 16 | 14 | 6 | 11 | 34 |
| Hartman Goetze | 18 | 11 | 11 | 16 | 33 |
| Charles Vacanti | 5 | 1 | 4 | 0 | 6 |
| John Hay | 7 | 3 | 0 | 2 | 6 |
| Lyle King | 8 | 2 | 2 | 1 | 6 |
| Ted Greene | 2 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 2 |

Les' Lunch cagers beat the Council Bluffs C. Y. O. team at St. Francis, 40-23. Rosenbaum led the Omahans.

February 1, 1941

Mr. M. R. Eichler
Publicity Director
Friday, Inc.
114 East 32 Street
New York, N. Y.

Dear Mr. Eichler:

I acknowledge with thanks the tear sheet from your magazine, Friday, which was directed to the Athletic Association, Kansas University, Lawrence, Kansas.

Your article, "Mankiller" by Howard Cann is excellent.

Certainly the high emotional strain and the exhaustive physical strain on a growing boy at the age of puberty is too much for him when we allow him to play the game of basketball as it is now written. There should be some restraint or a slowing up of the game periodically so this undeveloped boy can recuperate during these necessary times.

With no thought of replacing this present day game of basketball, but rather as a lead-up game to basketball, we have originated a game that has all the benefits without any of its detriments for youth.

Goal shooting, ball handling, offensive and defensive play all have their freest development in this new game--Goal-Hi.

I am sending you a set of rules, together with some snapshots that will give you a very comprehensive idea of the possibilities of this game. After you have looked them over, I will be glad to have you or your experts pass judgment on the same and write me.

Very cordially yours,

FCA:lg:mln
Encl.

Director of Physical Education and Recreation
Varsity Basketball Coach

February 12, 1941

Mr. M.S. Stewart
Esquire
919 N. Michigan Avenue
Chicago, Illinois

Dear Mr. Stewart:

I have read your article, "Mayhew at the Box Office", and I think it is an excellent article, bringing out the very potent dangers of this fire engine, pell-mell, fundamental destroying, hurricane shuttling back and forth, up and down the floor game. Not only fundamental destroying but energy and health destroying.

In your article you tell of the research of Paul J. Fay and Lloyd L. Messerschmidt of De Pauw University, Greencastle, Indiana, who put the pedometer on the boys to determine the distance traveled during a game. Yes, they do travel quite a bit further under the present rules of the game, but the big point has not been brought out; namely, that when a smaller team in stature and in weight meets a larger team, as is most usually the case, the boys are worn to a frazzle endeavoring to get the ball off of one or the other backboards from one of those mezzanine-peeping goons.

You will remember that the advocates of the elimination of the center jump: Sam Barry, Pinky Lambert, John Bunn, Harold Olsen, L.W. St. John, and a host of others, said, "Eliminate the center jump and you will eliminate tall fellow who can do nothing but go to the center and tip the ball over the shorter fellows' heads.

In my text, Better Basketball, I have a chart showing the tall players in the United States. These players have been increasing in height consistently for over a period of twenty-five years. It would be well for some physicists to figure out how many pounds of energy it takes for a 6' man to out-jump a 6'5" man, and it is not the jumping in the air that hurts a fellow.

Basketball is a game of contact under each basket. Theoretically, they say basketball is a non-contact game, but when players are jumping for the ball there is contact. However, the saving grace of this game is that the players play the ball, but everytime they jump, even though they play the ball, they are cautioned to protect themselves. Even this skill, so highly developed, has a wearing down process on the shorter fellow.

No team is beaten in the center of the court at the tip-off. The teams are beaten on the rebounds under the offensive or the defensive basket. Any team that wins consistently must have at least two tall men.

If the team does not have extra-sized men, combined with speedy floor covering fellows, then the players are forced to fight their hearts out in this fast, break-neck, speedy game.

Pardon the personal reference, but in our own Conference a fellow can use the best example. The University of Nebraska has two guards, Don Fitz, 6'4", Sidney Held, 6'4", their center, Al Randall is 6'7", and then they have a great group of sizable fellows, practically all of them 6' or more in height. Nebraska uses a few short fellows for speed occasionally, but when the power is turned on these big boys do their stuff. You can easily see that a Kansas team with Howard Engleman, 6' $\frac{1}{2}$ " tall, 157 pounds; Bob Allen, 6' tall, 157 pounds; John Kline, 6'2" tall, 190 pounds; Marvin Sollenberger, 6' tall, 175 pounds; and Vance Hall, 6' tall, 170 pounds; or T.P. Hunter, 6'3" tall, 155 pounds (this is our regular line-up) is easily outweighed by Nebraska by fifteen pounds to the man. Now height plus weight kills the opponent when the boys run their hearts out in the break-neck game, and then they are forced to obtain the rebounds off the backboard. This is the point that the advocates of the madcap, pell mell, hell bent for election jousts fail to take into account.

I am only talking about college athletics. Should you go down into a high school, or a junior high school, then more disastrous results are shown because the emotional instability of these youngsters is much more pronounced.

Back to our Big-Six Conference: Oklahoma has Hugh Ford, 6'6", 185 pounds; guards, Paul Heap, 6'4" and Allie Paine, 6'; the other Oklahoma boys are 6'2", 6'1", etc. Now to Iowa State, Iowa State has a big fellow transferred from Purdue, Gordon Nicholas, 6'3", 185 pounds and Carol Schneider, 6'6", 195 pounds. Kansas State at Manhattan has Danny Howe, 6'1"; Larry Beaumont, 6'3"; and Tom Guy, 6'3". All the boys range about 6'3" and weigh from 190 to 195 pounds. Beaumont is 26 years of age and the Aggie team averages about 23 $\frac{1}{2}$ years.

When a team in a conference is forced to play against those types of fellows when you have no men of height and power to match them, then the heart strain is double. I believe the best illustration I can give is regarding the automobile in its speed differential. Any physicist can tell you that the car will burn nearly twice as much gasoline running at 70 miles an hour than it will burn at 40 miles an hour. And so, overcoming this jumping height against taller and more powerful opposition, the heart strain is double.

It is not merely running on the floor as indicated by the pedometer that kills the boys, it is not merely being in action, but it is being in action against this powerful height. If the basket were raised twelve feet than the arch of dispersement would be greater, the ball would bound further away from the basket and this tall, mezzanine-peeping good could not block out the other fellows and with his fingers a few inches from the hoop, push the ball into the basket, or hold it above his head, or barely dunk it into the hoop.

If the basket were 12 feet high the player would have to shoot the ball two feet higher than he is forced to do at present, and this would cause the big husky defensive man to play further back away from the basket in order to get the arch of rebound from a shot. This would remove a few feet from his present blocking-out position. By the same token, if a high arch shot would miss the basket and fall short, then this big fellow being removed from the basket a short distance, would give an opportunity for the speedier, shorter man to cut in and retrieve this falling shot that would light inside the playing field, before the powerful yet slower man could get to a vantage point.

The fact that the end line is four feet back of the basket would further give the shorter man an opportunity to retireve and to place the ball quickly back into scoring territory. All of this would be an advantage for the shorter man and an equalizer for the exceptionally tall fellow who can reach over and dunk the ball into the basket.

You accommodate the muscles of your eyes to height the same as you accommodate your eyes to distance. When a player shoots the ball for the basket when he is fifteen feet out he naturally guages the distance and shoots with a certain arching of the ball. When he is twenty-five feet out he arches higher and takes into account the distance he is to shoot. The fact that he would shoot at a twelve-foot basket instead of a ten-foot he would naturally accommodate his eyes to height the same as he does to distance and arch the ball higher. The shorter man than would be handicapped the less by this change.

Again, 80% of the fouls are called on men driving in, endeavoring to shoot for a lay-up or a close shot. By having the basket higher you would do away with these lay-ups and rive in and it would be more advantageous not to be under the basket, but out a piece so the bank shots and the arch shots would hit more accurately. Therefore, it would clear up the congestion that now exists under the basket. By reducing the number of fouls it necessarily would improve the ball handling and therefore improve the game.

A field goal could count three points, and one point could be given for a free throw, which is about the proper ratio. The fact that two free throws are given for so many shots that are attempted near the basket when the player is fouled is hardly the right balance. Many clever players "draw" fouls from their opponents merely to get the two unguarded shots from the free throw line.

Back to the Big-Six Conference: The University of Missouri for the first time in a great many years, does not have a player taller than 6'2" and she has not won a single game in the Conference. She has lost five and won none. Last year she had Blain Currence, a great end in football and a fine basketball player, who was 6'5" tall. She also had Haskell Tison, a center, 6'7 $\frac{1}{2}$ " tall and Missouri finished in a tie with Oklahoma and Kansas for the Big-Six Championship. This year without these two players Missouri is in the cellar position. I am giving you the present standing of the Big-Six Conference:

| | Won | Lost |
|--------------|----------|----------|
| Kansas | <u>4</u> | <u>1</u> |
| Oklahoma | 4 | 2 |
| Nebraska | 4 | 3 |
| Iowa State | 3 | 3 |
| Kansas State | 3 | 4 |
| Missouri | 0 | 5 |

Our boys are badly outweighed at the present time playing against these terrific odds. We did not practice much Monday and Tuesday, today, we will not practice at all. In the waning months of a strenuous season the coach must conserve the strength of the boys and if he practices them hard they will not have the strength to go through. Therefore, we use our men very sparingly, and further than that we give them vitamins and glycogen, and betulin regularly, and for an energy producer we give them dextrin. So you see we would not be able to exist unless we very carefully watched the intake of energy as well as the output, and even then it is not possible to balance the two because we are putting out more energy by the tear-down method than we have been able to conserve by the special feeding process.

Perhaps this will serve of some interest to you. Last year we played the University of Oklahoma at Norman to finish our Big-Six season on March 8. Then on March 11 we had a three-way tie play-off between Missouri, Oklahoma and Kansas. In the drawing we drew a bye. Oklahoma with big, powerful, ranging men and Missouri with excessively tall men in the line-up played the first game and Oklahoma won. Then on March 12 we played Oklahoma at Wichita and defeated them by 39 to 45. Since our N.C.A.A. Fifth District has two conferences, and since Oklahoma A. and M. won their Conference championship and we were declared the winner of ours, the play-off to determine the Fifth District Representative was played between Oklahoma A. and M. and Kansas at Oklahoma City. Kansas won by a 45 to 43 score.

On the 22nd and 23rd of March the Western District N.C.A.A. Championship was played in the Kansas City Municipal Auditorium between Southern California, representing the Eighth District; the University of Colorado, representing the Seventh District; Rice Institute, representing the Sixth District; and Kansas, representing the Fifth District. Kansas defeated Rice by a score of 50 to 44 and Southern California defeated Colorado by a score of 38 to 32. The next night Kansas defeated Southern California 43 to 42 and Rice defeated Colorado 60 to 56. Then on March 30 Indiana and Kansas played, Indiana winning by 60 to 42.

This is the pay-off: To conserve our player's strength who were short and immature, Kansas did not appear on the floor for practice but twice from the time of the last University of Oklahoma game until the Indiana game.

We continued to give the boys vitamins and told them to go to school and forget basketball. We figured that they had learned fundamentals during the regular playing season and we could better afford to give them a rest and take a chance on their knowing the play situations rather than to slowly fatigue them in a short work-out for a post-season game. The fact that we only practiced twice in that nearly three-weeks time, shows we realized our boys were worn to shreds and we desired to conserve their health rather than to even win a championship at their expense.

I was a member of the Rules Committee when the elimination of the center jump was made a rule. I opposed it but when the majority of the Rules Committee were for it I was not militant and said that perhaps basketball without the center jump would retain enough of its attractions to make it a fine and interesting game.

Running, jumping, leaping, vaulting and climbing are the fundamental activities of man. We still jump for the ball on held balls, and there is no possible way of equalizing the height when two men come in contact with a held ball. By rotating the jumping process, as in the batting order in baseball, each coach would have a chance to list his jumping order just the same as you list your batting order, for strength and strategy. It would be a very simple matter in the administration of the game to handle the jumping order from the scorer's bench. If any player jumped out of order he would suffer the same type of penalty as the batter who bats out of order in baseball. We would have no trouble there.

I maintain that when they eliminated the center jump all they did was to add another out-of-bounds play without giving the players an opportunity to gain their physical breath and also they do not allow the spectators to gain their mental or emotional equilibrium or breath. The game is entirely too exciting for the spectators at the present time. We could still retain all the fine qualities of the game and not injure our players merely on the pretext that it is a box-office attraction and the public likes it. The public has liked it with the center jump, and with any modification of the center jump it still would be a fine game.

Certainly a better rule than the one now in force would be to give the ball at the division line to the side scored upon. But I have never been much in favor of giving the ball out-of-bounds to the team scored upon. I am still one of those rugged individualists who believe that when a team scores by cleverness or by its power that the opponent should never have the ball, but both teams should have a fair and equal chance to gain possession of the ball. Dr. Naismith was exactly of the same opinion.

I am not going to push the twelve-foot goal to any embarrassment to anyone because I know someday it is going to be accepted. Simply because Dr. Naismith tacked a basket on a running track that happened to be ten feet high should be no reason why intelligent legislators should continue to refuse to elevate the basket two feet. We have done everything else to the

Feb. 12, 1941

rules by way of reducing the size of the ball for better ball handling to improving the backboard and yet at the present time we refuse to take into account the great evil that this ten-foot basket is doing to the game.

If there are other questions that you wish to ask me, I will be very ahppy to give you my opinion on them.

I congratulate you and Mr. Leo Fischer on your excellent article.

Sincerely yours,

Director of Pyysical Education and Recreation
Varsity Basketball Coach

FCA:lg

Esquire

THE MAGAZINE FOR MEN

919 NORTH MICHIGAN AVENUE

CHICAGO

February 7, 1941

Mr. Forrest A. Allen
Kansas University
Lawrence, Kansas

Dear Mr. Allen:

Is basketball -- as you coach it today -- heading your boys for heart disease in later life? There's been a lot of discussion about this modern race-horse basketball, a lot of pro and con. Certainly it's a question worth thinking about.

Leo Fischer had done a lot of thinking about it, and in the March issue of Esquire, out February 14th, there will appear an article written by him, called "Mayhem at the Box Office". We're enclosing an advance proof of the article, because we thought that you might be particularly interested in reading this comprehensive discussion of the problem facing basketball today.

We'd like very much to have your opinion of this Esquire article, and to hear your stand on the subject -- not only for our own curiosity, but for possible publication in Esquire's "Sound and Fury" reader department. Won't you read over this advance proof, then drop us a line about your reaction to "Mayhem at the Box Office"?

Incidentally, since the March Esquire will not be published for another week, would you please regard this advance proof as confidential? Although, of course, we don't mind your mentioning the article to your friends, we'd prefer that no one but you read this proof. Thanks.

We hope that you'll enjoy reading "Mayhem at the Box Office". May we look forward to hearing from you soon?

Cordially yours,
ESQUIRE . The Magazine for Men



M. S. Stewart

mss/gu

February 10, 1941

Mr. M.S. Stewart
Esquire
919 North Michigan Avenue
Chicago, Illinois

Dear Mr. Stewart:

I beg to acknowledge receipt of your letter together with your very interesting article on basketball, "Mayhem at the Box Office."

I will review this at once and write you in detail. I think you have something here.

Sincerely yours,

Director of Physical Education and Recreation
Varsity Basketball Coach

FCA:lg