

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, ~~an~~ 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; 1 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.

Further comparison of teams is possible by computation 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 scoring 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 64.3 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,

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