JOHN L. GRIFFITH. EDITOR

TELEPHONE ROGERS PARK 5074

THE ATHLETIC JOURNAL

6858 GLENWOOD AVENUE
CHICAGO, ILL.

June 9th, 1938.

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

Dear Dr. Allen:

Thank you for your basketball review from your district.

We included this in our general Review of the Year in Athletics which appeared in the June issue.

Yours very truly,

A. K. Griffith

A. K. Griffith.

AKG-MC

May 23, 1938.

Mr. J. C. Grover,
Attorney-at-Law,
Dierks Building,
Kansas City, Mo.

Dear Jack:

About a year ago you wrote me saying that you had some basketball rule books that you would be kind enough to give me if I would drop by your office to pick them up, and of course say "hello".

You know, Jack, it is an actual fact that I have not been in Kansas City for more than two or three times at the outset for a year. And those times were either to speak at the Health and Physical Education Association banquet, or on my way to Minneapolis or Chicago. I have not been there in the day time during your office hours so that I could drop in and say "hello" without an interruption to you.

I am coming in Wednesday to see Clyde McBride for about 20 minutes, and I am going to drop by and see you even thought you might have disposed of those books. Of course, I couldn't blame you if you had thrown them away a long time ago because the way I have acted it wouldn't impress a fellow that I was much interested, but I assure you that I do appreciate your thoughtfulness and kindness in asking me if I wanted them.

The only two times that I have seen you, and those were very pleasant but short occasions, were at the Kansas-Missouri football game in Lawrence last fall, and at the Big Six indoor track meet at Columbia. Both were short but pleasant meetings, and I am hoping to see you this Wednesday.

With every good wish, I am

Sincerely yours,

Director of Physical Education,
Varsity Basketball Coach.

FCA:AH

May 27, 1938.

Mr. F. G. Welch,
Director of Athletics,
Kansas State Teachers College,
Emporia, Kansas.

Dear Fran:

Thank you for your kind letter of the 18th instant regarding the possibility of your using Joe Giammangelo next year. I believe Joe has made arrangements to go to Emporia to see you on Saturday.

I know Joe will make you a fine hustling assistant and trainer. He is a loyal chap. I trust that you will be able to make arrangements that will be of benefit to you both.

With thanks, and best wishes for your continued success, I am

Very sincerely yours,

Director of Physical Education,
Varsity Basketball Coach.

FCA:AH

THE KANSAS STATE TEACHERS COLLEGE
OF EMPORIA

FOUNDED 1863 AS THE KANSAS STATE NORMAL SCHOOL
THOMAS W. BUTCHER, PRESIDENT
EMPORIA

May 18, 1938

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

Dear Phog:

I am happy to have your letter of May 4 concerning Joe Giannangelo and I would like very much to meet Joe some time.

We might have a place where we could use Joe in our training room and as an assistant in the department for the coming year. The past few years we have used some of our senior boys to help us in such a capacity. These boys get a lot of valuable experience but the remuneration is limited to twenty-five cents a hour with a maximum or one hundred hours per month. Of course that amount goes a long way in helping pay expenses for a boy who attends school here. If Joe would be interested in work along that basis, I would be very happy to have him come down and see me some time.

Thanking you for your kind letter, I am,

Sincerely yours,

F. G. Welch

F. G. Welch,
Director of Athletics

FGW:OB

Niagara University Athletic Association

Niagara Falls, N. Y.

OFFICE OF
DIRECTOR OF ATHLETICS

May 10, 1938

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

Dear Mr. Allen:

Thank you very kindly for the two autographed pictures of Dr. Naismith. They arrived this morning. I intend to place one in a conspicuous place in our Athletic Office.

With kindest regards, I am

Sincerely,

John J. Gallagher

John J. Gallagher,
Director of Athletics.

JJG:JD

May 14, 1938.

Mrs. Alice K. Griffith,
The Athletic Journal,
6858 Glenwood Avenue,
Chicago, Illinois.

Dear Mrs. Griffith:

This is in reply to your letter of May 5th asking for a report on basketball in our district this last year.

Basketball struck a new high in the Big Six Conference for the year 1938. The attendance was the best since the depression year. During the 1929-'30 years, of course, attendances and gate receipts were 20% greater than they were this year. However, all the Big Six schools played to capacity audiences, and the race for the championship this year heightened the interest and attendance.

I do not believe that the basketball rules had any effect on the increased attendance. There was quite a discussion as to the effect of the rules in the early part of the season, but a review of the scores of previous years will show that for the proportionate time played in a contest the scores were not any higher.

The new rules add from 5 to 7 minutes on the actual playing time of the game, so taking that into consideration the scores were not any higher. The total elapsed playing time was greater due to the fact that after a goal the ball was tossed back into the court, whereas heretofore the referee brought it from the basket to the center line for a toss-up. This act consumed from 7 to 10 seconds after each field goal. So actually the teams played more minutes but did not score any more points in the proportionate playing time than they had done heretofore.

The Oklahoma team, popularly dubbed the "Boy Scats" by Harold Keith, the University of Oklahoma versatile sports publicity man, created quite a furor in the conference. They played the fire engine, razzle dazzle game, and with the popularity of the new game they stole the show for most of the season. Oklahoma has always been known as a great team of sportsmen. Every game they played the sports writers seemed to adopt them and send out reams of favorable publicity concerning their spectacular and frenzied play. The pseudonym of Boy Scats seemdd to convey that they were tiny little youngsters and they were

winning their games by such top heavy scores that many people considered than phenomena who sprang up from nowhere. With three sophomores in the line up, one senior and one junior, the Oklahomans stole the Big Six show most of the season.

Nebraska had a team of four seniors and one junior that was supposed to run away with the race. In her early season games, although beaten by Indiana, Ohio State, Minnesota, and other Big Ten schools by close scores, Nebraska still looked like she had some latent power which she was not showing. However, her season's play in the Big Six was disappointing.

Kansas State had lost her Big Six scoring champion, Groves, and was not expected to figure in the championship running. This was true of Iowa State where Coach Menze had lost heavily of his regulars, but he had inherited the Ames, Iowa, state high school champion team which enrolled intact at Iowa State College. However, the boys were small for Big Six competition, and with their inexperience and small stature they did not attain the hopes of the Iowa State followers.

Missouri proved to be the giant-killer, whipping Nebraska in an early season game at Lincoln that caused real speculation. However, she proved to be an insand out team, winning some games in a spectacular fashion then lapsing and dropping back to near-mediocrity in others.

Kansas lost four of her five regulars and had one senior returning, Fred Pralle, who was the Big Six high scoring champion. It was necessary for him to score 22 points from a guard position against Missouri in the final game to achieve this result. After the Big Six season Pralle joined the Kansas City, Kansas, Healeys in the National A.A.U. championship at Denver, where he almost single-handedly won the national championship for the Kansas entry.

Pralle was picked on a great many of the All-American college and A.A.U. teams. At the A.A.U. tournament at Denver he was chosen as the most valuable player.

Pralle was elected co-captain along with Sylvester Schmidt, of the Jayhawkers. Kansas lost her first game to Oklahoma at Lawrence by 49-46 score. With an unconvincing team comprised largely of sophomores, together with Pralle, Kansas continued to win her games by small scores until the latter part of the season shen she developed a powerful attack, burying the Missouri Tigers in a final game at Lawrence 56 to 36. Kansas won the Big Six championship by winning her last nine straight games and finishing with a percentage of .900.

I am enclosing some additional information regarding the team standings over a period of ten basketball seasons. We have used the "Kansas Offense Ratio" in comparing the effectiveness of the teams in the Big Six.

Trusting I have given you the desired information, I am

Sincerely yours,

Director of Physical Education,
Varsity Basketball Coach.

PCA:AH

JOHN L. GRIFFITH. EDITOR

TELEPHONE ROGERS PARK 5074

THE ATHLETIC JOURNAL

6858 GLENWOOD AVENUE
CHICAGO, ILL.

May 5th, 1938.

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

Dear Dr. Allen:

Would you send me a brief report of Basketball as played in your district this last year? Was there increased attendance; what accounted for it; what was the effect of the rule; any comments on outstanding teams, etc.? We should like to incorporate this in a general report on the "Year in Athletics" which will appear in the June issue of the Athletic Journal.

see attached newsletter

We should appreciate having your comments by May 15th.

Thank you for your co-operation.

Yours very truly,

Alice K. Griffith

Alice K. Griffith.

AKG-MC

UNIVERSITY OF KANSAS -- LAWRENCE-KANSAS

K. U. NEWS BUREAU

W. A. DILL, *Director* HORACE MASON, *Sports Editor*

Sports News

For Immediate Release

LAWRENCE, Kan., March .---Eleven University of Kansas track men will go to Chicago this weekend to compete in the Armour Tech Relays. They will be accompanied by Coach H.W. "Bill" Hargiss.

The men will compete in three relays, the 70 yard dash and the 70 yard low hurdles. Paul Masoner, quarterback on the football team, and Lyle Foy will compete in the dash and low hurdles.

A mile relay team will be composed of Gordon Clucas, Maurice Williams, Captain Harry Wiles and Marvin Cox. In trials last week Clucas, a broad jumper, was first in the 440 in 52.6. Cox finished fourth in the open quarter at the Big Six indoor meet.

The two mile relay team will include Max Replogle of football fame, Dale Heckendorn, junior letterman from Newton, Charles Toberen and Joe Ryan.

The third relay team will be a sprint medley team which will be made up of Cox, 440, Masoner, 220, Foy, 220, and Ernie Klann, 880. Klann was second in the 880 at the Big Six meet and ran the distance in 1:58.8, fast indoor time.

Four large heating units have been installed in the indoor track under the east stadium wing and training facilities are now far superior to anything the Jayhawk track men have had before.

-30-

LAWRENCE, Kan., March .---Basketball records at the University of Kansas reveal $9,678.70 as the Kansas share of receipts in games the Jayhawks played this year. Last year the amount was $10,402.03.

This was despite the fact that Kansas played 21 games this season as compared to 19 last season. The smaller receipts are attributed partially to sleet and snow during the three days, Dec. 13, 14 and 15, when the Jayhawks were playing three successive home games.

Attendance increased this season over last, 46,904 to 43,647. Three home games this year drew larger crowds than any home game last season, the Missouri, Nebraska and Iowa State contests.

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November 17, 1937.

Major John L. Griffith,
The Athletic Journal,
6858 Glenwood Avenue,
Chicago, Illinois.

Dear Major Griffith:

In response to your good letter of the 12th instant asking for impressions regarding the no tip-off rule, I beg to state that I am enclosing an excerpt from my new book, Better Basketball, Incorporating Technique, Tactics and Tales. This book is published by the McGraw-Hill Book Company of New York. It will be on the book shelves the first week in December.

The subject of the article that I have written is "Probable Effects of Eliminating the Center Jump". This may be entirely too long and exhaustive for you to run, as you will doubtless desire to run many coaches' opinions, but I thought you might want to look it over and as I have presented both sides of the situation for the readers you might find it interesting enough to run.

I have written to Mr. Curtis W. McGraw, the vice president of the McGraw-Hill Company, telling him that I had sent you an excerpt from the book on this subject. I have asked that he write you, giving you permission to use the article as you so desire. Of course, it goes without saying that I would appreciate it if you could mention the fact that I am the author of this new text, together with the fact that I was the author also of "My Basketball Bible", which goes out of circulation with the incoming of this new book.

I am sending you a mimeographed sheet that I arranged here to answer inquiries concerning the new book. I have so many letters that I figured it would be much better to mimeograph it, and especially so since the book is not out until December first. The Techniques are the fundamentals, the Tactics are the execution of the fundamentals, and the Tales are stories of games that my teams have participated in.

I am sending you a copy of Lowe and Campbell's trade magazine, The Coach. You can see how they handled the story on The Dream Touch Down. If it is consistent with your policy I would like to have you mention the publisher. I see that Lowe and Campbell failed to mention that in the Dream Touch Down story.

With every good wish to you and Mrs. Griffith, I am

Very cordially yours,

Director of Physical Education.

FCA:AH
Enc.

JOHN L. GRIFFITH, EDITOR

TELEPHONE ROGERS PARK 5074

THE ATHLETIC JOURNAL

6858 GLENWOOD AVENUE

CHICAGO, ILL.

November 12th, 1937.

Dr. Forrest Allen

Basketball Coach

University of Kansas

Lawrence, Kansas.

Dear Phog:

I would like to run an article in the Athletic Journal giving the impressions of some of the outstanding coaches regarding the no tip-off rule. Would you be good enough to send me your candid opinion of the effect of the rule on the game - its advantages and disadvantages.

Yours very cordially,

John L. Griffith

John L. Griffith.

JLG-MC

PROBABLE EFFECTS OF ELIMINATING THE CENTER JUMP

Even with the center jump virtually eliminated for the 1938 season, doubtless basketball will still possess enough thrills to enthrall her followers. The advocates of the elimination of the center jump contend that the game will be further speeded up, that about 6 or 8 min. will be added to its actual playing time, and that, with sleepers laying back for long surprise shots after goals by opponents, the fast break will be enhanced. They further contend that only a few teams ever possessed tall centers so that the game will now be more equalized; that scores will be higher; and that the center, who heretofore did most of the jumping, can now reserve his strength for better team and floor play. Fouls will be decreased, they say, and the officials will be rid of much of that troublesome bugaboo of throwing the ball up high enough and straight enough to allow both centers a fair jump and tap for the ball.

The proponents of the retention of the center jump contend that the tip-off added many additional thrills to the game. Dr. James Naismith, the originator of the game, in attendance at a meeting of the National Association of Basketball Coaches, asked a group which of the following situations gave them the greater thrill: (1) When the ball was in the air about 2 ft. above the basket; (2) when the ball went through.

Most of them said, "When the ball went through the basket." "You are wrong," quoth Dr. Naismith, "Your highest pitch of expectancy or interest was when the ball was just above the cylinder of the basket and you wondered, 'Will it go through or not?'"

"And so with the tip-off," says Dr. Naismith. "When the ball is tossed up at center there is the same intense interest and the same parallel question is asked, 'Will it go to the team controlling the tip-off or will the opponents get the tip-off from the controlling team?'"

On the other hand, under the new rules, when a field goal or free throw is scored one knows just where the ball is going in so far as possession is concerned. It will go to the opposite team. Heretofore, many have contended that under the eliminated rule the tall player won the game, not at the center tip-off but rather under the offensive or defensive basket, and that the elimination of the tip-off will have no bearing on the tall player's

potency.

But the proponents of the center jump contend that the rule makers have placed a premium on mediocrity rather than upon excellence. Now the team scored upon automatically secures possession of the ball out of bounds, whereas heretofore both teams had to fight for possession at center after each goal and free throw. The weaker team will now have a better chance to hold the score down, for with the ball in its possession it will have the option of either driving down rapidly or delaying the offensive to suit its play situation.

As a result of this new ruling, scores should be higher, not necessarily on account of faster play, but because 6 or 8 min. of action will be added to the actual playing time. Previously, there were letups in action on the center tip-off plays. These additional minutes of playing time in this already strenuous game may prove too great a physical strain on the heart and the kidneys of the players. Heretofore, the spectators had an opportunity to relax for a few seconds while the ball was being brought back to center for the tip-off after an exciting field goal. Now, only strong hearts that can stand long-sustained excitement should venture out to the games.

There will still be held balls during the game because research has shown that, in games played with the tip-off in use, there were held-ball plays for every three tip-off plays. In the future, the jumpers will be players of unequal heights, whereas the center jump invariably brought together the tallest men and the best jumpers of each team.

The proponents of the elimination of the center jump contend also that the team having the shorter center fought harder for possession and control of the ball, and thereby added fight to the whole team, while the team controlling the tip-off usually, because of a tall center, counted too much on its height advantage and unconsciously loafed on the job.

"Just a lot more of out-of-bounds plays at the end line added to what you had before," is the analysis of one coach. The defense will soon learn to drop back fast enough to thwart any so-called quick break. And as for that rapid-fire offense allowing sleepers to work against them, there still will be a premium on good ball handling and on all-around fundamentals. Any time that a sleeper, awaiting a pass from his teammates, tries to drop out of the defensive picture, he will discover to his sorrow that the added man on offense

will be too strong for the weakened defensive team to cope with.

Gone perhaps is the thrilling last-minute finish of the game-winning goal-rush, for the defense will now have possession of the ball as soon as the offense scores. The elimination of the center jump has denied this old thriller to the crowds of the future. Formerly with two or three minutes remaining to be played, a team behind in the score would capture the ball after each tip-off and sometimes shoot two or three field goals to win and to send its follows away hysterical. This cannot happen now, because possession automatically resides with the team scored upon. And, too, there is now a rules provision which prohibits a team behind in the score from fouling intentionally after a successful free throw, in order to gain possession of the ball.