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