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ST. LOUIS, MO.

March 24, 1939

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

Dear Dr. Allen:

As representative of the National Collegiate Athletic Associations of the National Basketball Committee, we are taking the liberty of submitting, for your comments and criticisms, a new type of basketball bank which we have just lately developed. We understand there has been some agitation toward altering the present type of bank and, as manufacturers of basketball and gymnasium equipment for the past 66 years, we have followed the development of this game very closely.

Since the latest change in the rules permits the extension of the end zone for an additional two feet, we find that practically all new schools for which we have occasion to lay out the basketball court and equipment, are taking advantage of this new ruling. It has been our observation that this allowable increase in the end zone increases the blind spots or "coffin" corners which, though allowing greater freedom of movement or play, in so far as the offense is concerned, does not materially change or alter the defense, owing to the fact that the possible scoring threat has not been increased.

Taking this fact into consideration, we have developed and built a convex type of bank which is illustrated on the blueprint enclosed and which we believe will revolutionize the offensive play in the end zone. By increasing the scoring zone, it must necessarily follow that the defense must spread out, resulting in more open and much faster play in the end zone.

If you will refer to the blueprint, on the enlarged view of the bank you will note that we have retained the six-foot width dimension of playing surface and, likewise, the four-foot height dimension. We have assumed a 14-foot radius of curvature to be ideal as the angle of incident and reflection on this arc does not vary greatly from the conventional flat plane. This radius, however, can be altered to meet conditions that may develop.

We would like to cite the following points which we consider to be decidedly in favor of this type of bank.