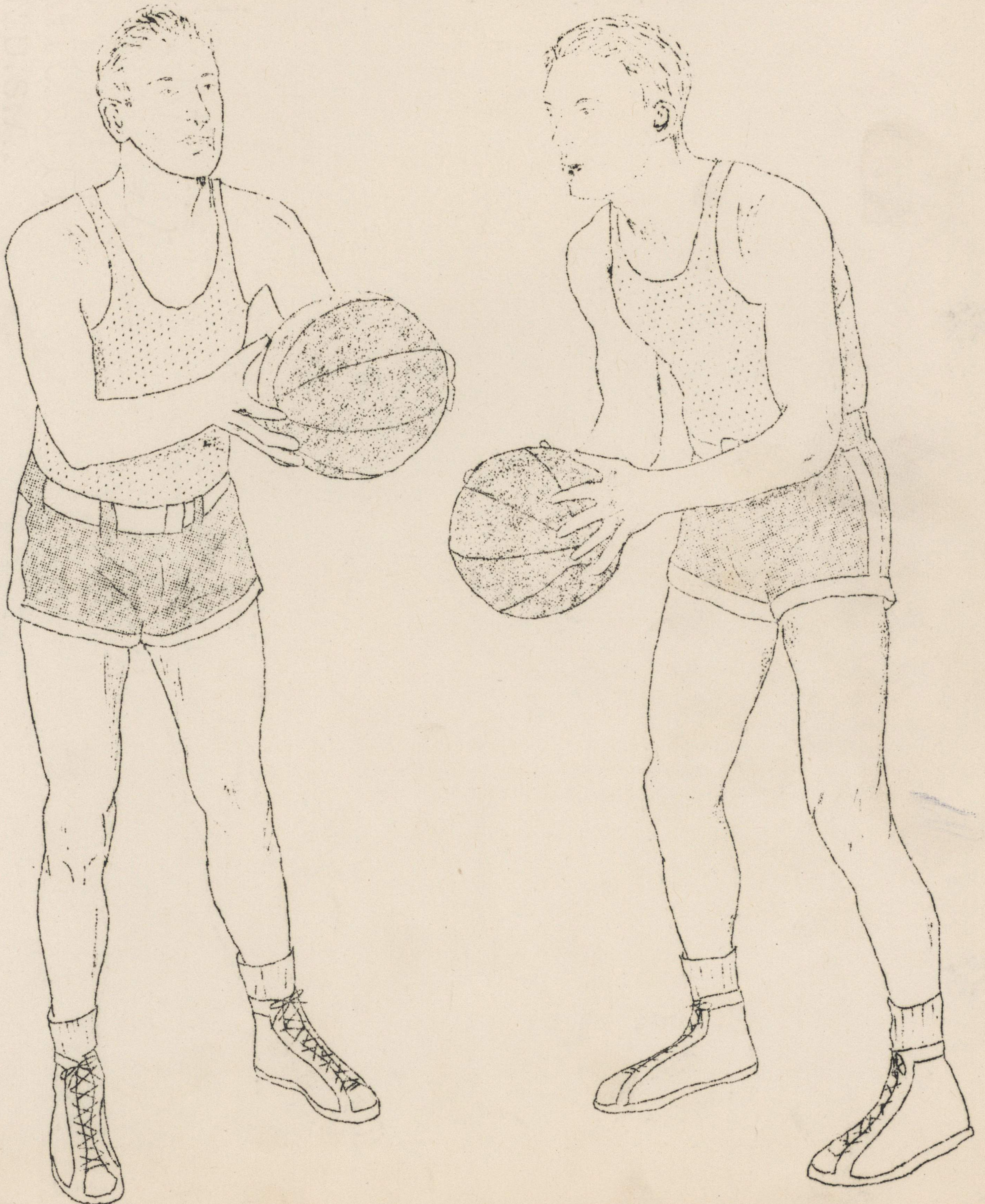


NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF BASKETBALL COACHES

BULLETIN NUMBER 4.

- FEBRUARY 17, 1940.



MADE TO ORDER' BASKETBALL -
WINNERS COME FROM OLD WAREHOUSE.

Brooklyn - It's just an old warehouse buried somewhere in the maze of Brooklyn's helter skelter street system but it's "the campus" for a made-to-order basketball team that's one of the nations best.

The old warehouse is Long Island University.

Consider that the little school's famous Blackbirds, since 1935, have set up two winning streaks of more than 40 games each. Consider that they have played conference winners and the best "independents" from all over the country.

Consider that after practicing on a small floor better suited to junior high school teams, Long Island meets its top-notch opponents on the massive Madison Square Garden court where it's almost a country mile from basket to basket.

How can a team so handicapped set up those amazing victory records? It's a natural question.

The answer is a nervous little man with a mania for thoroughness in his basketball teaching who regularly presents an offense and a defense made to order for the particular style of play his team is facing.

Clair Bee, because most of Long Island's opposition comes from distant points, may not know beforehand what his team's going to be up against.

He didn't know exactly about Oregon last year's N.C.A.A. champs. Oregon swept Bee's comparatively inexperienced 1939-40 crew off the court in the first half. But the six men who carefully watched Bee move brightly colored spools around a miniature court between halves came back and pulled out from behind a 13 point deficit to win by a point in an extra period.

BEE GETS THE MEN:

Clair Bee's teaching and his flair for fashioning an attack to hit the opposition's weakness are the chief reasons for L.I.U.'s great court success. The other reason is his material - but Bee's responsible for getting that material so the answer is still Bee.

Bee and Long Island university (enrollment 850) make no bones about pulling in the best men they can find. It's significant, though, that only two of Bee's varsity performers in the last eight years have lived farther than ten miles - by Bee's estimate - from New York's Times Square.

A Blackbird basketeer spends his freshman year chiefly on mastering fundamentals. As a sophomore he gets seasoning with the reserves. To be a regular in his junior year his has to be a fancy basketball player who is a whiz at every phase of the game.

As an example, he must be a master of both man-for-man and zone defense. Bee uses them both, drilling his team to switch from one to another at irregular intervals during a single game to confuse the enemy offense.

Bee looks for specialists, though. He likes speed but will sacrifice it in one or two men for good set shot artists. He's a firm believer in the set shot and stresses, in a manual he's written called "Basketball," that a cager should shoot any time he has a chance to get set for the shot.

Si Lobello, a six-foot, three-inch forward, is Bee's set-shot artist this year. Dolly King, a husky Negro, plays a hustling aggressive center. Cool Ossie Schectmann, young captain of the Blackbirds, plays a forward, and the bulletpassing pepper-upper. Butch Schwartz and Joe Shelly, are the guards. Lou Simon, a speedy forward, is Bee's "spot-duty" man.

SEES "DISASTROUS SEASON". Clair says he'll be lucky to escape with something short of a "disastrous season." Counting a disastrous season as Bee does at four or five games lost, he's probably right. The accounting teacher's team this year hasn't the reserve power that came from behind to beat Marquette and the New Mexico Aggies last year.

Such strength might have beaten Southern California, the team that ended L.I.U.'s winning string at 42 games.

He'll have it next year, with this year's six best men returning and a bright freshman crop coming up for reserve duty. Bee doesn't think, though, that 42-game winning streaks are going to be frequent from now on. He says:

"It used to be that you had to worry only about every third or fourth opponent. The rest were just ordinary. Now they're all good and even the least excellent, when they're hot, can knock off the best team that's slightly off."

By FRANKLIN ARTHUR

Redlands, Jan. 20 (AP)--One afternoon almost a half century ago a young athlete grabbed a ball and tossed it into a peach basket. He and 17 other young men on two nine-man teams were creating a new sport. It was the first basketball game.

The other night that same individual, now 74, watched a basketball game for the first time as a spectator.

MAYHEM, TOO

It was "swell," he said, with youthful-sounding enthusiasm, but it wasn't like the good old days when, one gathers, basketball and mayhem were all but synonymous.

E. S. Libby, white-haired, slightly built and brisk-stepping, is a real estate man in this Southern California citrus community. But in 1891 he was studying secretarial work in the Springfield (Mass.) T.M.C.A. College when the late Dr. James Naismith "fathered" the idea of tossing a ball into a couple of peach baskets.

His memories of that first contest, in which he captained one squad, are vivid. Technically, he recalls, the peach baskets weren't Naismith's idea at all. The janitor, sent out for something to throw a ball into, came back with the baskets.

FISHED OUT BALL

They were attached to a gallery baseboard in a gymnasium used chiefly for boxing and wrestling.

Two students sat and patiently fished the ball out for a half hour or so before someone hit on the idea of knocking the bottoms out of the baskets.

It's a little amazing that, either by choice or accident, he didn't see a game in all these years. For one thing, they not infrequently go off the deep end hereabouts over University of Redlands cage squads, which have taken a half dozen titles in recent years in a league which includes most of Southern California's smaller colleges.

For another, Libby takes almost daily workouts in the Y.M.C.A. plunge and a game often is going a few doors away.

But now, after breaking the ice at a clash between Redlands and Whittier cagers, he thinks he'll go oftener.

HASN'T CHANGED

"I like it," was his summing up as he pushed his way toward an exit. "It wasn't as rough as it used to be, but it's faster and I'm surprised at the boys' stamina. It hasn't changed a lot. It's less crowded with only five men on a side. The baskets seem about the same height. (Actually they're 10 feet now, were 9 then.) The boys still dribble the ball and can't run with it. We had the center tip, too.

"But my, how easy they make it look, tossing it in with one hand--and not even glancing at the basket."

His reference to roughness recalled Naismith's description of the early day custom of leaving a dressing room window open, in case the after-game unpleasantness became so violent a handy exit was needed.

"Yes, sir," Libby mused, "they used to carry them out the way we played it."

* * * * *

THE BOY FRIEND

My Hooper's practicing the rebound shot,
He rushes up against the wall and jumps,
I don't exactly understand the plot,
But when his manly head he soundly bumps
He sinks upon the concrete floor and groans
And I'm supposed to rub his royal brow
And go into hysterics between moans
And slobber on the blighter like a cow.
I don't believe he's knocked out half the time,
He's playing 'possum just to see if I
Won't think his heroism is sublime
And work myself into a nervous cry;
I notice when I don't cry any more
He picks himself up quickly from the floor.

T.E.B.

* * * * *

AGGIES HAVE UNIQUE DEVICE TO SIGNAL END OF PLAYING TIME

Fort Collins, Jan. 23.--An ordinary brake drum from an automobile wheel has added zest to Colorado Aggies' home basketball games.

Instead of a barking gun echoing thru the gymnasium at the half and at the end of the cage games, a low, musical note fills the air.

The engineering department decided that spectators, especially women, disliked the raucous crack of a gun, so several of the students rigged out a brake drum. They painted it silver and cut slots in it to carry the note.

When the drum is struck, a low, vibrating note is produced which brings nods of approval from feminine fans.

The Fort Collins high school depends upon an automobile horn for its signalling device.

* * * * *

FIRE DEPARTMENT BASKETBALL

Winslow, Ind., Jan. 24 (AP)--The Oakland City-Winslow High School basketball game got hottest in the last minute of play. The gymnasium caught fire. Teams took time out until the blaze was brought under control and then finished the game. Oakland City won, 32 to 27. Overheated stoves were blamed for the fire.

* * * * *

By CLAIRE BIE

The breadlines in New York during the Winter of 1930-31 were longer than an elephant's memory. The dull, glazed pain of defeat showed in men's eyes, and the desperate hunger showed in their waistlines. There were no jobs, and there was no bread.

And then, because of a young sports writer's idea--but wait, we're getting ahead of our story. Dapper Jimmy Walker was then the Mayor of New York town, and he called on his friends, the sports writers, to help relieve the misery that drenched the city.

Ned Irish was a young sports writer on the New York Telegram, making forty dollars a week. During the Winter, he covered basketball, and saw it played in gymnasiums built for the game, but not for the spectators. Each season, the sweaty gyms would be crowded to capacity, then crowds would be turned away because of lack of seating space. A promoter at heart, it hurt Irish to watch people with money in their hands turned away.

Ned knew that none of the colleges would willingly permit their basketball teams to come into Madison Square Garden to play, because there is that aura of professionalism about the place. But in the name of sweet charity, Irish staged a basketball triple-header at the Garden on January 19, 1931, with all New York teams competing. The Garden had 18,210 seats for sale that night, and when 18,210 tickets were sold, Irish knew he had his teeth into something.

That night, basketball graduated to the big league of sports.

It took two more years to bring the colleges around to playing regularly in The House That Tex Rickard Built, but finally Irish arranged a double-header featuring Westminster (Pa.) College vs. St. Johns, and New York University vs. Notre Dame.

Notre Dame is a magic name in sports, and 17,000 fans paid their way into Madison Square Garden that night. When Joe Sophomore marched through the turnstiles with his girl, it was a cinch that Irish had a "hit", because for years, nobody brought girls to basketball games.

Since that night, teams from all over the country have come into New York, and basketball has become a more national game, because the Western coaches took back home with them some ideas they picked up by playing against us, and they, in turn, left some things here for us.

Basketball has come a long way since its invention in Springfield, Mass., by Dr. Weismith in 1891. It has come an especially long way in a very few years if you remember that the first intercollegiate league was not permanently set up until 1911. Its progress was retarded to some degree because of the citizens of one street--Twenty-third Street, in New York. Those citizens were young men who played under the team name of "The Celtics".

They were the best, so it is only natural that whatever little tricks and bits of strategy they developed were adopted by other basketball players. The Celtics were, of course, professionals, but amateur basketball pretty well aped everything the pros did, thus making it natural that the same evils should spring up simultaneously in both branches of the game. The crowds soon tired of the stalling and rough play. The amateurs changed; the pros didn't. That's one reason why today you have in basketball the one, the only, college sport not in any way rivalled by the professionals.

The colleges did away with much of the roughness by having the referee call a lot of fouls. That became almost as bad an evil, for American sports fans hate a whistle.

There is the story Phog Allen, coach of the Kansas team, tells about the referee who called a foul on a player who neither had the ball nor was near anybody else on the court.

"Foul!" screamed the player. "What did I do?"

"Nothing," answered the ref, "but I detected evil in your eye!"

Another thing that made the game unpopular in many corners was the lack of scoring. That was because under ordinary circumstances, only one man shot the ball at the basket. I remember one evening in 1919, when the Parkersburg (W. VA.) High School team was winning on its home court, 18 to 17. The clock in the referee's hand showed 35 seconds to play when a young fellow named Clair Bee, Grafton's running guard, got his hands on the ball. He dribbled half way up the court, and then let fly for the basket. Luckily, the ball swished through, and Grafton won by that point.

I say "luckily," because as I shot the ball I could hear the gasps of amazement and consternation from my team mates, from my coach, and from the substitutes on our bench. If that ball hadn't registered those winning points, I'd have been orally tarred and feathered, because running guards weren't supposed to shoot for the basket in those days. Good Godfrey, No!

That was part of the set plan and you can see how dull and dreary it could become if a team wanted to stall after it had the lead. In fact, stalling reached such proportions that one game, Homer versus Georgetown, in an Illinois district tournament, ended with a score of 1 to 0! Georgetown scored on a foul early in the first period, and stalled for the remainder of the contest. It wasn't much fun.

You know how many people who saw that game cared if they ever saw another basketball game, don't you,

Compare that with the fifty points registered by one player in a regulation game against Duquesne University on New Year's Day, 1938, and you have some indication of how much difference a few years have made. Those fifty points were tallied by the greatest basketball player I ever saw, Hank Luisetti, of Stanford. I never hope to see another as great, but if I do, I pray that he'll be wearing an L.I.U. uniform.

Basketball B.G. (Before the Garden) was a localized sport. The East played according to certain interpretations of the rules, the South another way, and the West still a third way. It wasn't until the teams from various sections got to playing against each other that basketball became a real national sport.

There is still great cleavage between Eastern and Western styles of play, mind you, but that, I am certain, traces back more to a difference in material than in coaching ideas. The Western coaches get big, rawboned kids who have grown up in the "wide, open spaces". The kids have a physical stamina that is the result of generations of hard living. Therefore, the Western coaches base their game on sheer speed, constant running, quick cutting, and long one hand shots.

The Eastern schools play a game based on short fast passes, and the set shot. This game is obviously much more mental than the Western.

We in the East play it because most of the members of our squads are from cities, instead of from open spaces, and are, therefore, smaller, lighter, and possessed of less reserve energy. Because there is no uniform size for a basketball court, the cages in the West, where space is there for the taking, are very large; here in the East, where space is at a premium, the courts are much smaller. Thus both our courts and our players force us to play the style of game we do, whereas the same forces, in antithesis, make John Bunn and the other Western coaches play the "hell and high water" game.

It is my honest conviction that we play better basketball in the East. Before those of you west of the Big Muddy start slinging those rocks at my window, let me insert a word of explanation. It is my opinion that if the Western boys were taught the Eastern style of play, they would be well nigh unbeatable.

The outstanding contribution by Western basketball players to their sleeker, if slower, brethren in the East is the one hand shot. When used by a tall player (and when a Western coach gets a player under 6'3", he farms him out to the chess team), this shot is absolutely unstoppable. The greatest exponent of the shot (merely because he practiced throwing it thousands upon thousands of times) was that dark visaged scourge from Stanford, Hank Luisetti.

Before the invasion of the Palo Alto Indians, I taught my boys never to shoot for the basket with one hand unless they were directly under the hoop. The penalty for heaving the ball wildly was being withdrawn from the game and relegated to the bench. Along came Luisetti and boom! went a Long Island winning streak.

I told my boys after the game that Luisetti had just had a "hot" night, but that the way we were playing the game was the right way.

I might have kept them convinced, except that Stanford came back the next year, and once again an L.I.U. winning streak was just a memory. After that second evening of proof there was no sense in trying to explain away the one hand shot. So we picked it up and used it.

In return, we have seen a few of the Western teams take our set shot method of offense and pack it in their bags along with their sweat shirts, sneakers, and knee guards.

Baseball claims the copyright on the phrase "national pastime", but basketball is the sport that deserves the title. What other pastime can boast (a) that it is the only sport which America originated, and (b) that it has 20,000,000 players and 80,000,000 paid admissions annually?

* * * * *

THE BOY FRIEND

My Hooper doesn't get much out of school,
He thinks Aquinas is some kind of drink,
I really don't believe the poor darschool
Can use his brain machinery to think;
I told him about Socrates one day
And in the middle of my speech he said:
"I never heard of him. Where does he play?"
Some girls were listening, and was I red!

I think his head is one big basketball
With nothing much but air on the inside.
It doesn't seem to register at all.
In fact he does his thinking with his hide;
His parents think that he's a clever kid
But they have never probed beneath his lid.

T.E.B.

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KICKING GOALS, RINGING BASKETS CHIEFLY PRACTICE

By BILL CORUM, International News Service Sports Writer

Basketball has changed with the years.

As the late Dr. Naismith's invention is played today, it's a better game to watch and undoubtedly to play than in any time of what might be called catch-as-catch-could basketball.

Still, there's one new rule that I'm glad come after my time.

In school, they used to let me hang around on the fringe of the team because I could drop those foul shots in with considerable regularity. In those days any player on the team could take the penalty shot. Now, it's the man who's fouled. So I used to get in the games now and then as a foul-shot specialist, much as they have kicking specialists in football today.

THE WHOLE THING

is a matter of practice. The same is true of kicking points after touchdown in football. Every fellow who kicks a football can't be Hype Igoe's man, i.e., Charley Brickley. But nobody will ever convince me that any passing good kicker can't learn through patient practice to kick points after touchdown with almost machine-gun accuracy.

That's how the incomparable Suzanne Lenglen learned to play tennis, you know. By taking a racquet and a couple of tennis balls and banging 'em against wall hour after hour.

Football coaches don't catch their young men quite as young as Suzie was when she began. But I'm convinced they could win many games they lose by singling out four or five youngsters and freshmen who had a little natural aptitude for kicking and making them work at it until at least one developed into a kicker who'd not miss that seventh point.

That may be a fixation with me.

I'VE BEEN HARPING

on it for years, though I never know anybody to do it except the late LeRoy Mills. Mr. Mills did better than bad with his kickers, didn't he?

So many teams lack a topnotch kicker. Which is the one thing I'm dead sure any team can have. Still, my business is writing about football, not coaching it. And, by and large, I've always tried to stick to my last to the last. Which, for today, is now.

BASKETBALL A LA THE ARMORY

Comersville, Ind., Jan 24 -- Professional basketball as exemplified in the double bill at the Butler fieldhouse Wednesday night was something on the verge of a tug-of-war. The passing, of course, was vastly superior to the ordinary run of ball handling but the manner in which the guards kept the offense from taking a shot was strictly a throwback to the Gotch-Hackenschmidt days. Players seemed to object strenuously to the calling of perfectly obvious fouls and the officials didn't seem to mind the stern attitude of reproof. There was one lively setto with the fists but it was rather harmless and the fans didn't mind it. Considering the weather there was a large turnout of customers and no one wanted his money back. It was good competition but it wasn't high school basketball. Well, it wasn't intended to be.

By BOB STEVENS

Cronicle, Jan. 24--In the slowest thing this side of a time out, Lowell marched triumphantly on the road to its sixth successive unlimited basketball championship yesterday in Kezar Pavilion by outfumbling formerly undefeated Balboa, 20-10.

It was so slow, so choppy in performance, such inferior labor that the student bodies either slept, caught up on homework or wandered back and forth across the pavilion to exchange pleasantries with chums from the rival school. The basketball was a side issue to a happy, chattering, noisy crowd.

The score indicates lopsided superiority in the champions' favor. It was definitely that. But it was gained through such lethargic action, so thoroughly unimpressive style that it did anything but make enthusiastic rooters out of Lowell students.

You could count the field goals on the fingers of both hands and still have a couple of scratchers left over. That was due, mainly, to Lowell's unbearable determination to play catch until Balboa dropped its zone defense for the standard man-to-man. Balboa's willingness to oblige saved the game from ending somewhere around 15-10.

The scores came so fast you hardly had time to finish Gene With The Wind between points: Johnny Owens nailing a 20-foot set shot; Paul Harless a free throw, O'Rourke a push shot from under the bucket and Owens a charity toss.

EDITOR'S COMMENT ON THE LOWELL-BALBOA GAME

More games like this 20-10 which Bob Stevens described will put basketball back on its hind legs looking for a drink of water and hoping for some thinking man to get it back to earth. Any team that cannot score 30 points a game against its equals should be thrown in the river and drowned. Can you imagine a team's scoring only 10 points and incidentally just trying to keep the score down. Oh, let us think somewhat of the spectator and of the game itself. A few years ago we played a team and the coach instructed his team to just play defensively and keep the score down. Score first half was 30-2, so the whole second half we went to our office and did some work, instead of watching such a catastrophe of a game. Coaches give us action and then some more action.

There's a great deal of talk about that man, Everett Dean of Stanford. Even the coaches in other sports run around talking about him. They say he started with practically nothing in the way of material.

There have been times when we thought 7000 California students were going to swoop down on Coach "Elevator Sam" Barry in a body as he would r'ar up from the bench and throw a glass of water on the floor in disgust because of an official's decision.

January 20, 1939

Dear Shootin' 'Em --Something must be done about Indiana basketball. It is too fast--much too fast.

I long for the good old days when a fellow could take a good magazine and a sack of apples (or a jug) to a basketball game and really enjoy himself. But now, alas, the poor spectator is left in a complete state of exhaustion after a hard encounter; and he is lucky to be able to stagger home. The mortality rate among basketball fans must be terrific. Any day now I expect Trester to plant doctors outside all gates, refusing admission to all those fortunates possessing weak hearts, fallen arches or other sundry ailments.

The time was when many exceedingly beautiful friendships were formed at these spectacles of sport. Only the other day I was at a game and I turned to gaze at a dimpled doll sitting just three rows and four seats northeast of me. And what happened? I missed three buckets and a free throw! What chance does a fellow have?

As long as ye hardwood gladiators continue to drive pell mell back and forth like shuttled relay marathon dashmen we will never get our sixteen team finals back. The high tension and steam generated from fifteen games in one gym in such a short time would blow the whole state off the map!

Yours for a band at the fieldhouse,
ROBERT MORAN

From a mass of statistical information on individual scoring in Western Conference basketball submitted to Shootin' 'Em by Hugh Gardner we have culled this list of boys who have notched 150 or more points in a season of Big Ten competition. It follows:

	Year	FG	FT	TP
Carney, Illinois	1920	60	69	189
Young, Purdue	1938	69	46	184
Carney, Illinois	1922	48	77	173
Young, Purdue	1937	67	38	172
Hull, Ohio State	1939	66	37	169
Reiff, Northwestern	1939	53	61	167
Andres, Indiana	1938	65	32	162
Kessler, Purdue	1936	61	38	160
Birkhoff, Chicago	1920	34	92	160
White, Purdue	1921	33	90	156
Haarlow, Chicago	1935	51	54	156
Wooden, Purdue	1932	53	48	154
Haarlow, Chicago	1938	53	45	151
Dehner, Illinois	1939	54	43	151
Kessler, Purdue	1935	53	44	150

You see so many free throws opposite the names of Carney, Birkhoff and White because in their day one man shot most of his team's free throws, it not being necessary for the fouled fellow to shoot his own. Andres, White and Wooden, incidentally, are the only guards on the list.

BASKETBALL WITHOUT BOARDS NO FUN -- ARTHUR SAMPSON

They eliminated the boards behind the boards behind the baskets in New York the other night and the resultant reduction in scoring was interesting. It was the consensus, however, that the elimination of the backboards did not accomplish the desired purpose, namely to give the small player more chance and reduce the premium on height.

It seems that the taller players were still the more effective around the basket in that they got what rebounds there were off the rim, and occasionally jumped up and intercepted shots which failed to sail through the hoop.

What is more important, it was discovered that the players had more success with shots from a distance than they did when working the ball under the basket.

The opinion of the majority of the eye-witnesses was that the elimination of the backboards spoiled the game. As one competent observer reported: "A basketball game without backboards is as uninteresting as a baseball game in which the pitcher tries in vain to get the ball over the plate and walks batter after batter."

As a result of this experiment, it is unlikely that any more agitation for the elimination of the backboards will be heard from the Metropolitan district.

IT MUSTA STULK THE JOINT OUT
By DICK FRIENDLICH

OFF THE BACKBOARD ** That 20-18 thing the other night between Oregon State and Idaho is just the sort of stuff to send basketball fans to the movies. In the second half the Leavers scored six points and the Vandals four. You may call it "Ball control," but I call it "box office poison."

The coaches of the southern division conference teams, convinced that the officiating they got from the Leiths, Baileys, Watsons and the rest during 1939 was the highest type obtainable, VOLUNTEERED to raise the ante from \$25 to \$35 a game. The graduate managers refused to O.K. the raise at the conference meeting last month.

Strom's Clothiers, who won the Pacific Association tourney in 1938, play their first game of the season on this side of the water tonight, when they meet the Italian A.C. here in part of a double header. Athons Club and Bank of America complete the bill.

Sure sign that the Stanford-Santa Clara, St. Mary's-U.S.F. double header at Kezar on February 2 will be a sellout is the demand for free ducats. This department is loaded with them right now. (Requests, not tickets.)

EVERY BOY AT CARR HIGH SCHOOL PLAYS ON UNDEFEATED CAGE TEAM

Carr, Colo., Jan. 25--Basketball isn't a required study course at Carr high school, but it might just as well be.

Twenty pupils are enrolled in the school, seven of whom are boys. All seven are on Coach H. H. Schaer's basketball squad. The thirteen girls make up a "pep" organization which appears at every game to give the team "moral support."

But that's not the half of it. Carr is undefeated this season, one of the few teams in the state with a perfect record since the season opened. Carr won the eastern division championship of the North Central league last year and is successfully defending it this year, although one less player is on the roster.

Pacing the school's cage ventures are two brothers -- Jim Morrison, a junior, and Keith, a senior. Jim set what was believed to be an all-time scoring record for northern Colorado last year by making 199 points in ten games. He has collected 66 in five games thus far, while his brother has contributed 35 points.

Carr was defeated by Haxtum in the state "E" semifinals in 1939. The town is so basketball-minded that residents took up a collection at the beginning of the season and raised enough money to renovate the school's gymnasium.

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BILL CHANDLER'S HOOP 'BRAIN CHILD,' OPTIONAL FREE THROW, HAUNTS HIM

Milwaukee, Jan. 26--(AP)--Bill Chandler, distressed because one of his smartly coached Marquette University basketball teams won a game by a deliberate foul, sponsored a change in the free throw rule, but his 1940 squad turned that to its advantage, too.

This is the ruling which permits a team, when fouled, to decline a free throw and instead take the ball out of bounds.

That's the case history:

Two years ago Marquette trailed Columbia College of Dubuque, Ia. with a minute to play. A Marquette cager deliberately fouled an opponent, and when the player missed his free throw, Marquette took the ball and popped in the winning score.

So Bill, as president of the National Association of Basketball Coaches last year, fathered the rule change.

Came the Marquette-University of Iowa game this season. The Hawkeyes, leading five or six points, declined three free throws in the waning minutes, but Bill's aggressive quintet grabbed the ball often enough to tie the score and then win in an overtime period. Had Iowa made any of the three free tosses, it could have won in regulation time.

Now Bill says the new rule, while reducing deliberate fouling, should be modified because it has been abused. He recently saw a team decline most of its free throw chances in an effort to control the ball.

"These tactics slowed up the game," he said, "and if widely adopted, would ruin the sport."

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PHILADELPHIA, IT'S UP TO YOU

Dear Shootin' 'Em--Like the last of the Mohicans, or surpin', the last of the great basketballers are in the pro ranks. Future replacements will be as inferior as Japanese machine fittings!

Who can attempt to fill the shoes of those brilliant court strategists who know defense as well as all the theories of putting the ball through the bucket in the fewest number of tries? Who can match the passing ability of the Renaissance Five, or the old Celtics? Not one guy--not a single one!!

For all-time teams, what moderns have the all-around ability of these fellows named here on my own personal super-colossal wonder five?

All-time All-America
 F McDermott (Celtics)
 F Beckman (Celtics)
 F Hickey (Celtics)
 C Cooper (Rens)
 C Lanchick (Celtics)
 G Holman (Celtics)
 G Husta (Celtics)
 G Birch (Celtics)

All-time Collegian
 Vandivier (Franklin)
 Hyatt (Pittsburgh)
 Luisetti (Stanford)
 Townsend (Michigan)
 Carnoy (Illinois)
 White (Purdue)
 William (Wisconsin)
 Birch (Ducquesne)

By Everett B. Morris

It is unfair, of course, to jump at conclusions on the basis of one experiment, but it would appear from the results of Arcadia Hall's backboardless basketball the other night that the absence of a banking surface behind the basket affects the game in the following ways:

- (1) Reduces scoring.
- (2) Encourages set shooting almost to the exclusion of under-the-basket plays.

On the negative side, it is significant that the taller players still controlled rebounds of missed shots. One of the arguments in favor of eliminating the boards was that it reduced the big fellows' advantage underneath.

The low scores (the Jamaica Heavens beat the Brooklyn Dodgers, 25 to 21) probably can be attributed to the fact that the teams were as conservative in their shooting as they were inaccurate. Undoubtedly, they found it difficult to fix the range without the background.

Since the combatants were professionals, who are traditionally loath to go under in attempts to score lest they be maimed in the process, you may argue with some reason that the disparity between set shots and scoring efforts made on the move was only to be expected. The teams took a total of only eighty shots, sixty-five of them set. They caged only fourteen, and of these twelve were set. In other words, only two goals were made by players in motion toward the goal. If that is basketball, you can have it.

DREW CAPACITY -- The recent Michigan State-Michigan U. basketball game filled Michigan State's new fieldhouse to capacity, slightly more than 9,000.

Santa Clara, Jan. 27--"Magicians of the Menlowood," that's the name the Santa Clara students have given to the sensational basketball team Coach George Barsi has turned out this season at Santa Clara.

The students call them "magicians" instead of mere "players" because of the "now you see it, now you don't" style of handling the ball. They handle the ball with incredible speed, silky smoothness, and toss in a few "behind the back" and split vision passes for good measure.

Sports writers and basketball experts in New York, Philadelphia, Chicago, San Francisco and Stockton have rated the "magicians" the best team to appear in those sports centers this season.

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GARY, IND., PRODUCES GOOD BASKET-BALLERS

East Lansing, Mich., Jan. 27 -- Gary, Ind., is important to both Michigan State College and the University of Michigan in a basket-ball way. Recently when the Spartans and Wolverines collided before 9,212 spectators in the new Jenison fieldhouse here exactly half of the 10 players in the game hailed from the Hoosier city. Michigan had Tom Harmon and Mike Sofiak, while the Spartans banked on Bob Phillips, Chester Aubochon and Mac Hindman.

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TROY CELTICS SET MARK FOR LOW COURT SCORE

Troy, N.Y., Jan. 24 (AP)--The Troy Celtics set a new low-scoring record for the American Professional Basket-Ball League tonight; losing to Washington, 23 to 9.

Scoring but two field baskets in the entire game, Troy scored six points in the first period, one in the second and two in the last.

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NEVER GET FRESH WITH AN OFFICIAL SCORER

East Lansing, Mich., Jan. 27--A certain freshman basket-ball player at Michigan State College may hesitate a moment before he swings on the next scorer who displeases him. In a recent intramural basket-ball game an irate player came over to the sidelines and took issue with the score-keeper. He made a pass at him. Lightning struck pronto. The scorekeeper happened to be Don Rossi, Spartan football quarterback and captain of the boxing team. Rossi ducked the punch and swung once. When the player came to, the fun was over.

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PURDUE IS CONSISTANT

You can say for Purdue's basketball team that it plays its game up to form every time it takes the floor.

Most teams, even good ones, go hot, then cold. From Saturday to Monday their strength may vary 10 to 15 points, or even more.

Not so Purdue.

If the Boilermakers have a strong team it's a strong team every night it plays. Piggy Lambert has a way of pacing his boys along.

He's a true campaigning coach.

Well, Purdue has shown its strength by winning its first four games, That can't mean anything but that Purdue is in the race to stay and has made itself the team to beat.

FIREMEN HOT ON COURT, EXTINGUISH FOE, 144 - 51.

Hot Springs, N. C. Jan. 16 (AP) - The Hot Springs fire department basketball team got hot last night and whipped the Hot Springs CCC team, 144 to 51, in a 48-minute game of 12-minute quarters. Bill Collins, a forward, scored 80 points.

IN WHICH THE AUTHOR MERELY LISTENS
AND THE CUSTOMER IS ALWAYS RIGHT.

Branch McCracken (Indiana Basketball Coach): "I'm for reducing the size of the backboards used in basketball. The ball rarely hits more than 12 or 18 inches from the basket and the whole board could be reduced in size without affecting the scoring. It would give the customers seated behind the board a better view, too".

COLORADO AGGIES HAVE UNIQUE DEVICE
TO SIGNAL END OF PLAYING TIME.

Fort Collins, Jan. 23. - An ordinary brake drum from an automobile wheel has added zest to Colorado Aggie's home basketball games.

Instead of a barking gun echoing thru the gymnasium at the half and at the end of the cage games, a low, musical note fills the air.

The engineering department decided that spectators, especially women, dislike the raucous crack of a gun, so several of the students rigged out a brake drum. They painted it silver and cut slots in it to carry the note.

When the drum is struck, a low, vibrating note is produced which bring nods of approval from feminine fans.

The Fort Collins high school depends upon an automobile horn for its signalling device.

Crawfordsville Ind., Jan. 23 - (Spl.- Coach H.T. McCullough's 1940 Athenians will play the first basketball game in Crawfordsville High School's new \$250,000 gymnasium Wednesday evening against Washington High School of Indianapolis. Crawfordsville claims to be the birthplace of basketball in Indiana, and indeed, in the Midwest, for more than forty-five years ago the first game was played here. The high school has a new, fully equipped gymnasium. The building will be dedicated later in the season.

Basketball was introduced to Crawfordsville in the spring of 1893 by N. C. McKay, a Presbyterian minister, who had just been appointed secretary of the Y.M.C.A. built here about 1890. In preparation for his work as secretary, he attended the Y.M.C.A. training school for secretaries and physical directors at Springfield, Mass. There he saw the new game invented by the late James A. Naismith, played with a round leather ball and a couple of baskets hung up at the end of the gymnasium floor.

Assuming his duties here in March, McKay promptly told the boys about the newly-invented game he had seen at Springfield. The boys rigged up baskets in their new gym, and a round leather ball was made, somehow, with the result that the game was introduced and played here the first time anywhere west of New England.

PLAYED IN FIRST GAME.

Dr. J. B. Griffith, now a practicing physician of Crawfordsville and a Wabash College graduate with the class of 1895, participated in the first basketball game ever played here when he was a sophomore in college. Right from the start both the college and high school boys took to the game which today is the most popular indoor game throughout the state played in every village and hamlet with a school large enough to have a dozen or more boys enrolled. Crawfordsville High School, first playing the game more than forty years ago, won the first state high school championship back in 1911.

THE BOY FRIEND

My Hooper dosen't get much out of school
 He thinks Aquinas is some kind of drink,
 I really don't believe the poor dumphool
 Can use his brain machinery to think;
 I told him about Socrates one day
 And in the middle of my speech he said:
 "I never heard of him. Where does he play?"
 Some girls were listening, and was I red!

I think his head is one big basketball
 With nothing much but air on the inside.
 It doesn't seem to register at all,
 In fact he does his thinking with his hide;
 His parents think that he's a clever kid
 But they have never probed beneath his lid.

T. E. B.

INVITATION TOURNAMENT

By Arthur J. Daley

(Basketball Writer, The New York Times.)

Don't look now but the annual National Invitation Tournament is not far off. This gaudy season has whisked along at so fast a pace that it seems hard to realize that only four more regular Garden double-headers are left.

For the past two years the closing event has been the National Invitation Tournament. The idea was furnished by the Metropolitan Basketball Writers Association which wanted the court game to have something resembling a finale. So the busy scribes turned promoters and produced two gorgeous tournaments.

That proved beyond peradventure the soundness of the scheme. But we press box inmates soon became slightly muscle-bound from patting ourselves on the back. We liked the tournament and wanted it to continue but we felt that our business was writing, not promoting.

So this year the tournament will have a new sponsor. We handed the show over to the Metropolitan colleges, lock, stock and barrel. They appointed a tourney committee with Professor Walter Williamson of City College as the chairman. On the committee with him will be representatives from Manhattan and Brooklyn College along with Asa Bushnell, czar of the Central Office for Eastern Intercollegiate Athletics, and Everett Morris, a very clever young man who will represent the writers.

The thought behind the City-Manhattan-Brooklyn representation was that those schools will have only an academic interest in the tournament this year and would be better fitted to pick local entrants from among L.I.U., N.Y.U., St. John's, Fordham and St. Francis than they would themselves.

So there is the technical set-up at any rate. Now as to dates. The ones that are being held by the Garden for the tournament are Monday, March 11; Wednesday, the 13th and either Friday, the 15th, or Wednesday, the 20th.

As for the teams that will actually participate in the tournament your guess is as good as mine. It is still much too early to venture an opinion as to what quintets will be invited but a sharp watch is being kept all over the country so that the very best combinations can be brought to New York.

About all that can be guaranteed is that the last two shows were excellent, crammed to the full with superb basketball. So there is every reason to believe that the 1940 offering will be able to match the others. Temple won in 1938 and LIU triumphed last year, each of them being acknowledged as the nation's No. 1 team.

So advice is hereby offered, free of charge, to come early and avoid the rush.

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REMEMBER - COMING SOON IS OUR CONVENTION AT KANSAS CITY, MISSOURI.

BE SURE TO LOOK FOR THE DATE - HOTEL ARRANGEMENTS IN OUR NEXT ISSUE

OF THE BULLETIN, WHICH WILL REACH YOU MARCH 16, 1940.

Echoes From a K. U. Basketball Sounding Board in California
Suggesting That the Life of a Famous Basketball Coach's Son Isn't Laden
With Justice....Random Shots By Kansas Star's Sports Editor

Kansas basketball has located a sounding board as far away as Santa Monica, Calif., and here is an echo--

"I've been reading articles on Big Six basketball and am just a little burned up," writes "A Lifetime Jayhawker" from Santa Monica. "I'm a Jayhawker gone California," he adds, "but I know the basketball situation at Kansas pretty well. All the stuff I have been reading has been about Ralph Miller, John Lobsigger, Jimmy McNatt, Jack Horacek and an occasional word about Bob Allen--that's what burns me up. I was fortunate enough to see the Kansas-Kansas State and the Kansas-Oklahoma games and saw Bob Allen do everything but eat the baskets. He was the sparkplug behind a pretty good ball club, and if I know anything about it he is going to be the difference between a pretty good team and a great one before the season ends.

"I wouldn't want anyone to think that I do not admire the other players named, especially McNatt and Miller, but just take young Allen out of the Kansas line-up and see what happens. I'm afraid this is going to be an exact duplication of the 1936 season when Milt Allen was the inspiration and nine-tenths of the backbone of a great ball club and the only Kansas man ignored when the All-Star teams were chosen. That's the sacrifice a kid makes for being the son of the best basketball coach in the country.

"That's enough of that," the correspondent concludes, "but I'd like to say that Missouri, Oklahoma and Kansas can take U.S.C., California and U.C.L.A. into camp, and I say it after having seen those teams under fire.

'BOOING' HURTS HOME TEAM, COACH SAYS

Shelbyville, Ind., January 17 (Spl.) That good old Hoosier hardwood custom of "booing" serves mainly to hurt the chances of the home team.

Take it from J. Wendell (Ike) Ballard, Shelbyville High School coach and president of the Indiana High School Coaches Association, who issued a statement to that effect as an aftermath of Shelbyville's annual setto with the Greensburg Pirates, long an outstanding "grudge battle" in southern Indiana net circles. Shouting uncomplimentary remarks at officials and booing in general has these three effects, Ballard said:

1. It makes the home team feel it is getting a "raw deal" and often results in disintegration of the team's morale.
2. It "peps up" the opposing visiting team members and makes them feel that are going to "get the breaks."
3. It makes officials "lean over backward" in making decisions during the remainder of the game, so they may be sure they do not favor the "booing crowd."

SOLD OUT BEFORE FEBRUARY 1

Bloomington, Ind., January 30 (AP)--The Purdue-Indiana Big Ten basketball game here February 10 is a sellout. I. U. athletic officials said last night the 6,500 seats in the fieldhouse all had been sold. The schools will play another game March 2 at Lafayette.

A "BELIEVE IT OR NOT " IN BASKETBALL

Shubert, Neb., Jan. 28--The Shubert junior high school basketball team has achieved a feat believed without precedent. The club Saturday scored its second successive shutout by blanking the Falls City seventh graders, 39 to 0. The previous Saturday, the Shubert boys shut out Humboldt junior high, 23 to 0.

ANOTHER CUSTER!

Grand Island, Neb., Feb. 10 (AP)--Add to the list of heroes who have made that famous last stand the name of basketball player G. Woods of the Grand Island Gallopers.

His team was setting the pace in a game with Rosedale, when one by one the players began to be disqualified because of personal fouls.

The Gallopers had only five men to start with and at the close Woods was the only man left on the floor.

In a heroic gesture despite the odds Woods scored a basket just before the final gong.

But alas! Rosedale won, 39-35.

'GHOST BASKETBALL' TO BE PRESENTED HERE, FEB. 18

"Ghost basketball" will be presented for the first time in Columbus, Sunday, Feb. 18, as part of the pro basketball program at the K. of C. gymnasium....The competing teams, attired in special uniforms, will play in a darkened gym with an all-white ball....Special floor markings and basket markings will enable the players and spectators to follow the progress of the ball.

BASKETBALL GOES SISSY

By Sport Writer of California-Los Angeles Times

Dear Mr. Hyland: I used to be a rabid basketball fan, but for some years have not attended a game until last week-end at the Shrine. How the rules committee has ruined a good game! The sight of a husky 180-pounder being awarded a free throw because someone tapped him on the wrist brought the salt tears to my eyes. Surely a mild "tut, tut" would be sufficient penalty... I momentarily expected to hear the shriek of the siren and see some poor fellow carried off on a stretcher with a scratched finger---I believe if they did away with the backboard, increased the circumference of the ring by one inch and let the players go to it, you would really have a fine game worth watching.

F.G.T.

The University of Tennessee's basketball schedule is under fire. Perhaps you have heard criticism, ever and anon against the Tennessee football schedules. The bombardment in the latter case was from batteries outside the city of Knoxville. But the criticism against the basketball schedule is from within. J. M. Smith Jr., sports editor of the Orange and White, student publication at the University of Tennessee, is complaining of the "set-ups" on the home schedule. "It seems rather silly," he says, "to meet a lot of set-ups in basketball." He suggests more games with Southeastern Conference teams and says that "unless a better menu is set before the student body they need not expect its support."

Art or Acrobatics?
W. W. Fox, Jr.

There is a hit and run rage in basketball at the moment and it isn't confined to high schools. The college teams are at it and the thrill of seeing a team go through a thinking, passing and running block process in order to get a good shot at the basket is gone with the windy offense that prevails in all precincts today.

In the hit and run game the important thing is to hit. Anybody can run, but to be able to throw that basketball into the hoop with one hand while taking off on a dive into the fourth row of the bleachers is either art or acrobatics. I'm not sure just yet which it is.

If the coaches are deliberately teaching the boys to shoot one-handed it must be art. If the boys are doing it because they need the other hand for ballast and balance, it is acrobatics.

The scores of the games played in Madison Square Garden are interesting because they represent the entire nation. These scores are higher this year than ever before. The shooters are not waiting until they see the slipknots in the net cord around the little iron doughnut. They are firing at will.

The secret of success in this type of offense seems to be divided into two styles. There is the soft shot artist who hopes to make the basket but makes certain that the ball will not rebound much. Then there is the backboard angle artist who can throw the ball as accurately as a good billiard player can play bank shots. These shots are usually made going away.

The most important thing about the one-handed shot is that it can hardly be prevented. The soft one can, but not the one that whistles through the basket as it comes off the glass. Only a body block can stop this one and inasmuch as a defensive man has no more privileges than a wooden Indian, body blocks are costly little diversions.

Basketball certainly isn't right just now and something will have to be done about it. We have gone from famine to feast in the field goal flinging. This flooie flooie joy will eventually flop.

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After the country-wide tours of the Southern California and Oklahoma A. and M. basketball teams in which they won the great majority of their games, Everett B. Morris, the well known basketball authority and critic of New York, says:

"When a college basketball team returns from a country-wide tour with a string of victories over major foes, it is evident that not only is that particular squad exceptionally skilled and well manned, but that playing conditions and rules interpretations are becoming more standardized.

"It requires poise to adjust to strange courts, hostile crowds and different types of officiating.

"It takes manpower to stand up under punishment of frequent games interspersed with long train rides.

"But all of these attributes would avail little if courts and equipment were not pretty much the same in all major hoop centers, and if officiating was not gradually losing some of its provincialism."

'Leave Backboards, Return Center Jump', Cries Swasey -

Durham, N. H. Jan. 15, - "If you're going to change the rules, put back the center jump and forget the backboard controversy". Henry Swasey, for 13 years head basketball coach at the University of New Hampshire, strongly advocated today.

For years champion of the cause for players resulting from the jump, Swasey pointed out that basketball has lost much of its finesse and has become pure "razzle-dazzle."

But despite his longing for the center jump return, the veteran mentor agreed that basketball is a great game as played to day and that it should not be changed very radically at present.

"Taking away the backboards would spoil many a good play under the basket," he said. "Teams would not attempt to work the ball beneath the hoop for close-in plays. Most of the shooting would be set from out around the foul ring, and a lot of the exciting basketball underneath the basket would be gone from the game."

A great argument for the backboard removal is to eliminate the advantage tall boys have in getting rebound shots, but Swasey laughed this off.

"The little fellows wouldn't be able to get set for their shots before the tall lads were in on them. The lanky boys would block out the little fellows' shots. I really don't see how taking away the backboards would help the little fellow."

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THE SPORTING THING

By George Edmond.

Unanimous Approval was not forthcoming for the proposal from a basketball critic, explained here recently, that basketball eliminate its present rule which ejects from the game a player who has accumulated four personal fouls.

Disapproval comes from a well-known St. Paul official, who argues that such a change would result in the very thing basketball fans would like to see eliminated - continued whistle blowing by the officials.

This official maintains, contrary to the first-quoted critic, that most personal fouls are deliberate. Players committing them, he says, know what they are doing 90 per cent of the time and consider it worth the gamble that the official won't see the violation or that it's better to give the opposition a free throw rather than a field goal.

If you take away the threat of ejection from the game players who are inclined to violate the rules will do so more than ever, the official maintains.

That would bring about a situation in which the officials would have to call many more violations than they do now, with the result that the game would be slowed up and much of its spectator appeal lost.

HOOSIER GETS TOUGHEST JOB

Knoxville Tenn., January 22 (AP) Coach John Mauer, of the University of Tennessee basketball team, says he always assigns Gilbert Huffman, of New Castle, Ind., guard and captain, to "the toughest forward on the opposing team."

In nine games, Huffman has given up only 23 points and has held his men without a field goal in eight of the nine, while himself scoring 63 points.

"JUST RAISE THE BACKBOARDS!"

by Bob Hamilton

"No City College team ever lost four in a row under Nat Holman's regime but the current Beaver squad is going to lose many more games unless it learns that the fundamental idea of basketball is to put the ball into the hoop. City executes intricate passing maneuvers with speed and accuracy, but all of this serves merely to get the ball farther away from the goal." This is an excerpt from the column of a well-known basketball writer which appeared recently in a Metropolitan paper.

The almost complete collapse of Eastern basketball teams against "outlanders" today revolves around their failure to recognize the fact that "the fundamental idea of basketball is to put the ball into the hoop." It is the difference between the so-called Eastern and Western styles of basketball.

Eastern methods were probably derived from the system used by the old Celtics with great success years ago. Indiana, or Western basketball, never had the "benefit" of seeing the old world's champions in action and, therefore, they simply continued to throw the ball into the basket without regard to so-called pivot and screen plays. It is being definitely demonstrated today that the score is raised two points after the ball goes through the hoop, with or without benefit of "razzle-dazzle". Since the principal idea is to obtain more points than the opposition, the simple conclusion is that the team which throws the ball through the basket more often wins the game. The sooner that Eastern collegians learn to shoot from any position or spot on the floor, the sooner they will give Western teams better opposition.

It was my lot to have learned the game in the Eastern style of passing and set shooting. Unfortunately I was forced to sit on the bench, watching many games at Notre Dame, until I had learned to throw the ball from any position without getting "set". For years the axiom of Western coaches when playing an Eastern college was "watch their feet - when they start drawing them together step in close and block the throw". Thereafter the Western coaches bothered no further with defensive measures other than to teach their players to "switch" on the defense when the opposition used pivot plays, etc.

After warming the bench for one year and then playing for two with a Notre Dame team which won 60 out of 66 games and the Western championship twice I returned to the East. Through the efforts of Arthur Donovan, the well-known referee, an opportunity was given me to try-out for the N. Y. Athletic Club five. This team ultimately consisted of ten players, nine of whom had been captains of their respective college teams, most of them Easterners. It was at once apparent that those who had learned the game in the West and those who had learned in the East could not coordinate their respective systems, namely a wide-open game and a short-pass, pivot game. However on individual merits this team won the Eastern Athletic Club championship the first year. Eventually, after a lapse of four years and a change of players had taken place, they evolved two separate and distinct teams. One group was comprised of players from Indiana, W. & J., Oregon and Notre Dame; the other of players from N.Y.U., Fordham, Manhattan and Columbia.

These two teams were distinctive units and in my opinion it is no exaggeration to say that primarily the offensive play of the Western team was responsible for winning the Eastern Athletic Club championship and Metropolitan Club championship in 1934 and the Eastern Club Championship again in 1936. There is no denying the fact, however, that the man to man defensive ability of the Eastern group was greatly responsible for keeping the score of the opposition down to a great extent. However, observation during this period of time conclusively proved that the Eastern style of play was already out-moded and it was no surprise to me that shortly after Ned Irish opened up in Madison Square Garden with big-time basketball that Western teams consistently defeated those of the East.

The first Metropolitan big-time team which, in my opinion, has turned to Western methods is N.Y.U., and I believe that their record this year is conclusive proof that the style of play is the winning style. Howard Cann, able N.Y.U. coach has seen the handwriting on the wall and has revised his system accordingly. Fordham, under the capable Ed Kelloher, is turning to this method and their young sophomore team is showing up much better than far more experienced opponents who cling to the old style of conservative play. I don't believe it will be long before almost all Eastern teams will adopt the wide-open game.

A recent article in the Saturday Evening Post by Stanley Frank, has created a great amount of controversy in basketball circles. Frank quotes Coach Mooney, of Columbia, to the effect that the best way to prevent "altitudenous" players from ruining the game is to remove the back-boards and extend the out-of-bounds lines four feet behind the basket. He further stated that this was the system used in the old New State League. He forgot to mention, however, that in the State League, huge "fish nets" surrounded the basketball court so that in effect the ball could never go out of bounds. Unless a similar provision is suggested to supplement Mooney's suggestion, it occurs to me that the spectators will be handling the ball as often as the players. If such a suggestion is made, there are bound to be justifiable objections raised in regard to the effect on the player's health. Loud and long were the squawks raised by many of our foremost coaches when a rule was put through to give the opposition the ball out of bounds after a score had been made. They claimed that this speeded the game up to the point where the player's heart might be affected. Should it be necessary to use "fish nets" it is obvious that there would be absolutely no chance of a player getting a moments rest because there would be no out-of-bounds plays.

The most sensible and logical suggestion for elimination the premium being placed on the use of extremely tall players seems to be to raise the baskets to twelve feet. If the running track at the old Stringfield "Y", where the game originated, had been twelve feet above the floor, that is the point at which the "peach baskets" would have been placed and no controversy would ever have arisen. The architect of the building, however, see fit to put the track only ten feet above the floor, and that is the only reason why the rules today contain a provision that the baskets should be ten feet above the floor. There is no doubt in my mind that the ultimate solution lies in simply raising the basket two feet. Why penalize a player because he happens to be tall- let him enjoy the sport too- just put the basket out of his reach.

MILTON COLLEGE
Milton, Wisconsin

Geo. H. Crandall
Athletic Director

I am proposing a basketball rule change which I believe would serve as a check on the present race-horse style of game and also restore some of the desirable elements of the criss-cross and screen without the defensive disadvantage against the giant pivot man.

This proposal is made on the assumption that the fast-break system is an outgrowth of the present 3-second rule rather than from elimination of the center jump; also that the fast-break system (1) is too much of a strain on the players; (2) leads to more fouls by both teams, particularly those allowing two free throws on basket attempts; (3) makes the game more difficult to officiate satisfactorily; (4) often decreases spectators' interest through too much scoring; (5) discourages valuable training in technical skills of footwork and ball-handling found in the more deliberate type of game; (6) makes the game more difficult to coach with any certainty of method. The proposed rule assumes that return of the center jump would not solve the problem and that handling of the ball by an official after successful goal would be preferable to abrogation of the rule eliminating the center jump. The rule which I am suggesting is as follows:

Omit all of Sec. 12 Rule 14 and substitute in its place:

Sec. 12 - score - a goal after remaining in his own free throw area continuously more than 3-seconds.

Penalty - goal if made not to count, the ball to be awarded to the opponents out of bounds at the end of the court where the goal was illegally made.

I believe such a rule would improve the game for these reasons:

- (1) It would make it possible for the team on offense to center its attack around the area in front of the basket and thus restore better finesse in ball handling, footwork and short shots.
- (2) It should discourage the zone defense, which now has the advantage with a forbidden center area that needs less protection, thus forcing the play towards the side lines.
- (3) Reliance upon the fast-break style of offense would be discouraged through a decrease in use of the zone defense, which itself is fundamentally a set formation for a fast break, and thus eliminate largely the urge upon the offensive team to beat the defense back to the other end of the floor.
- (4) It would foster better ball handling and a better planned attack through the elimination of the need of hurried passing from the free throw area.
- (5) The defense would not be placed at any particular disadvantage, inasmuch as the ball handler in the free throw area could not shoot and thus could be left alone temporarily as defensive players shifted to defend against screen or criss-cross.
- (6) Height would not be essential in the pivot position, thus opening up the spot to any offense player.
- (7) Officials should have no more difficulty in enforcing this rule than the present 3-second rule.

This rule would permit any player on offense to remain in his free throw area without time limit, with or without the ball, and would allow a goal by such player provided he dribbled or moved out after receiving the ball in the area and neither foot was on or above the free throw area while he was in the act of shooting. It would require however that the shooter be entirely outside the free throw area, in the judgement of the official, before starting his throw for goal. This would eliminate the possibilities of a player with the ball in the free throw area starting his motion and finishing the shot as he stepped over the boundary line.

All of us have heard considerable objections to the present trend in basketball offense and many of us have regretted seeing the more deliberate style of attack go largely by the boards. If you think this rule change I have suggested has any value it might be submitted when the Rules Committee next meets.

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EDITORS NOTES:

Dick Harp, senior guard at the University of Kansas, is rated by Coach F.C. Allen as one of his best guards. Harp is a study defense man, who is excellent at guarding the offensive post man. He is good at rebounds. Allen rates this years guard with his greats of past years; viz. Dutch Lonborg, now head coach of Northwestern and Cox, Coach of Colorado University.

* * * * *

All of us are pleased that Coach Edwards of Missouri is right up at the top of "The Big Six".

* * * * *

Coach Van Alstyne of Michigan State thinks the "zone" should be thrown out of every gymnasium or does he mean the coach who has his team use five goal tenders. Van says that it is almost impossible to go through a tight zone defense, so the only thing to do is to let fire at the basket from away out front. If youre hot, you'll win. If not, it is pitiful. Now-a-days says congenial Van the teams start to shoot as soon as they leave the dressing room door. Our answer to Van is to devise a method to penetrate the zone. We just love to see the zone against us. You must be brave, but one better be brave than lose. As to Van's words on shooting, my boys even have a basket and ball in their room and shoot before they start for the gymnasium.

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Everett Morris says in the New York Herald Tribune that Nat Holman went to Pinehurst N.C. to relax in warm weather and was chased home by a snow storm.

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Coach Mundorff's Georgia Tech team of sophomores are coming along swell. The Atlanta sports writer says that "give Mundorff any sort of material and the old master can dish out plenty of poison."

* * * * *

Every coach tries to increase his teams percentage of foul shots. We get discouraged at our players missing these free throws under pressure and with tired bodies. So to cheer you up here are a few statistics from the "Big Ten" for the first half of this season.

EDITORS NOTES - Continued:

	Total foul shots tried:	Total foul shots made:	Total foul shots missed.
Ohio	57	38	19
Purdue	75	46	29

Minnesota, Illinois and Northwestern have missed more that they made in the free throw department. Purdue has the one game record 14 out of 17.

Arebuchon of Michigan State has scored 50 fouls out of a possible 60 tries.

Coach John Davis of Colorado Aggies believes in a "conservative" or "waiting" brand of basketball. He is teaching them to wait for good shots.

In The Big Ten Conference it looks like the teams will finish as follows:

- Purdue
- Indiana
- Minnesota
- Ohio State
- Michigan
- Northwestern
- Wisconsin
- Iowa
- Chicago

At present coach Keogan's team is going swell.

Jackie Robinson, U.C.L.A.'s great negro football star is also an excellent basketball player and voted the best player on his team by the California sports writers. A few nights ago he sank the winning shot to beat U. of California and break U.C.L.A.'s losing streak of 30 in the Pacific Coast Conference. This was U.C.L.A.'s first win in the Conference since February 26, 1937. For 5 minutes, so says sports writer Dick Friendlick both teams fought with neither teams scoring and the officials letting both teams go to it with neither scoring.

What would you like to have added to our National Convention program?

Some coaches have suggested that we do not get all we should out of our Convention.

Secretary-treasurer Ed. Hickox wants these two:

1. Technical discussion of phases of Basketball by coaches recognized as masters in certain areas.
2. Two teams at the convention to be used for demonstration as we had at Atlanta, Ga. Rules suggestions and techniques as directed by some selected coaches.

Ohio State University has won the Big Ten basketball title three times since 1913 Viz. - 1925 and 1939 and shared it with Northwestern in 1932.

EDITORS NOTES, Continued.

The Mexico Y.M.C.A. basketball team touring eastern United States are very small but are pretty good ball handlers and can shoot very well. On the court they are gentlemen and they request a time-out by the hand and finger making a letter "T". We asked the coach and captain about the officiating and teams in different states and their answers was:

<u>State:</u>	<u>Officiating:</u>
Texas	Too rough, except one game.
Illinois	Very good
Ohio	Too rough - football
New York	Too rough
Pennsylvania	Good
Oklahoma	Rough, excepting one place
Rhode Island	Excellent.

They have won about half their games, which is a fair record considering their long rides in automobiles and their small stature.

George Keogan Notre Dame basketball coach says the football rules makers take every possible step to eliminate the element of chance, but the basketball solons seem to be on the watch to advance rules that will permit the mediocre team to defeat better quintets.

Elmer Lampe, coach of Georgia says the teams in the Southeastern Conference are improving. He is impressed by the number of good centers and he says of the idea to eliminate the backboards "Its few advantages offset the disadvantages."

Ben Chapman - Big league ball player is the best basketball official in the south according to most experts. Ben pulled a peculiar ruling in the Georgia Tech - Auburn game when he ejected Roy Mundorff's big center for too much squacking at decessions and pounded the wall on his last one.

Fifteen members of the Indiana basketball team were captains of their high school teams.

Laddie Gale - All American forward last year on the University of Oregon's national collegiate championship basketball team, accepted \$1,100 to play six weeks of pro basketball with the Detroit Eagles.

Oklahoma Aggies has won 19 straight.

It looks now as though New York University will go through its regular season without a defeat.

Captain Bill Hopac of Illinois poured 34 points through the hoop in the Minnesota game the other night to set an all-time scoring record for the Big Ten. 200 fans from Hopac's home town of Cicero almost tore the bleachers apart for souvenirs of the game.

W.F.F. in the Indianapolis paper says Indiana beat Purdue because of the formers work on "rebounds" and "following through" important defensive and offensive basketball measurers.

$$\begin{array}{r} 127 \\ \hline 381 \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{r} 381 \\ \hline 762 \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{r} 42.8 \\ 20.3 \\ \hline 63.1 \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{r} 127 \\ \hline 254 \\ \hline 762 \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{r} 824 \\ 25 \\ \hline 1648 \\ + 20 \\ \hline 1668 \\ 762 \times 2 = 1524 \\ \hline 5360 \\ 762 \times 7 = 5334 \\ \hline 5344 \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{r} 127 \\ 31 \\ \hline 158 \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{r} 127 \\ 24 \\ \hline 151 \\ \hline 468 \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{r} 468 \\ 27 \\ \hline 3276 \\ 936 \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{r} 412 \overline{) 2636} \quad (30.6 \\ \underline{1276} \\ 2760 \\ \underline{2472} \\ 288 \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{r} 762 \overline{) 1550} \quad 2 \\ \underline{1524} \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{r} 6612 \\ 307 \overline{) 2030} \\ \underline{1842} \\ 1880 \\ \underline{1842} \\ 380 \\ 307 \\ \hline 730 \\ 614 \\ \hline 116 \end{array}$$

31

$$\frac{62}{x} = \frac{762}{25}$$

$$\begin{array}{r} 62 \\ 25 \\ \hline 124 \\ 1550 \end{array}$$

Lawrence, Kansas
April 17, 1940.

Mr. W. H. Browne,
Secretary-Treasurer, N.A.B.C.,
University of Nebraska,
Lincoln, Nebraska.

Dear Brownie:

I appreciate very much your kind remarks of the 16th instant, expressing the reactions of your officers and the present Board of Directors. I assure you that anything I did was enthusiastically done for the officers and for the game of basketball.

I am very happy to be able to cooperate with the Rules and the Tournament Olympic Committees. You have my acceptance of these assignments. It will be a pleasure for me to do what little I can for the greater success of the game.

Brownie, you may rest assured that anything I can do to help you as secretary-treasurer will be an added pleasure. I do not know that there is anything that I could say or do that would help you, but we will plan a get-together sometime this spring. I have several commencement addresses in northern Kansas, and if these can be worked out so that I can run on to Lincoln for a little golf and visit and get-together, it will be a pleasure.

However, I imagine that you are about as busy as I am and that you perhaps would have a difficult time getting away unless you were notified ahead of time. Of course, I expect to be up there at the Big Six Meet, and it might be that we could get together at that time. I want to play a little golf, you know, in those shorts, and while I am not expecting three golf balls for playing in shorts the like of which I received at Iowa, I still expect to play in shorts.

page 2.

I regret that the Coaches meeting this next year will conflict with our play-off in the N.C.A.A., but I guess this could not be arranged otherwise. We will discuss this and other matters for the good of the Association at our meeting.

By the way, Brownie, I am sending a bill from Sol Marks & Son, for the Dr. James Naismith Memorial Basketball Trophy which was given by the National Association of Basketball Coaches. President "Butch" Grover authorized me to buy this trophy at wholesale and to present this to the winner of the N.C.A.A. I might say that this trophy was \$150, but we bought it through the firm at wholesale. We buy all of our Relays trophies in this manner, plus 5%, engraving and express. It was a beautiful 40" trophy - the most beautiful one that I have seen. I understand that the mob that met the Indiana team at the station, in their wild exaltation, broke the trophy, but Branch McCracken is getting it mended.

I want to say confidentially that this wholesale purchase is against the jewelers' trust agreement and I would not want you to pass on the information that this trophy was purchased at bare cost plus 5%.

If you desire to send this bill to "Butch" Grover for his o.k. before sending the check to Marks, I will appreciate the same, and I will also appreciate a remittance so that I can get all of these bills cleared away before May 1. I might add parenthetically that I am having a hot time with some of the expense accounts, but this is always as we will expect it to be, isn't it, Brownie?

With kindest regards, I am

Very sincerely yours,

FCA:AH

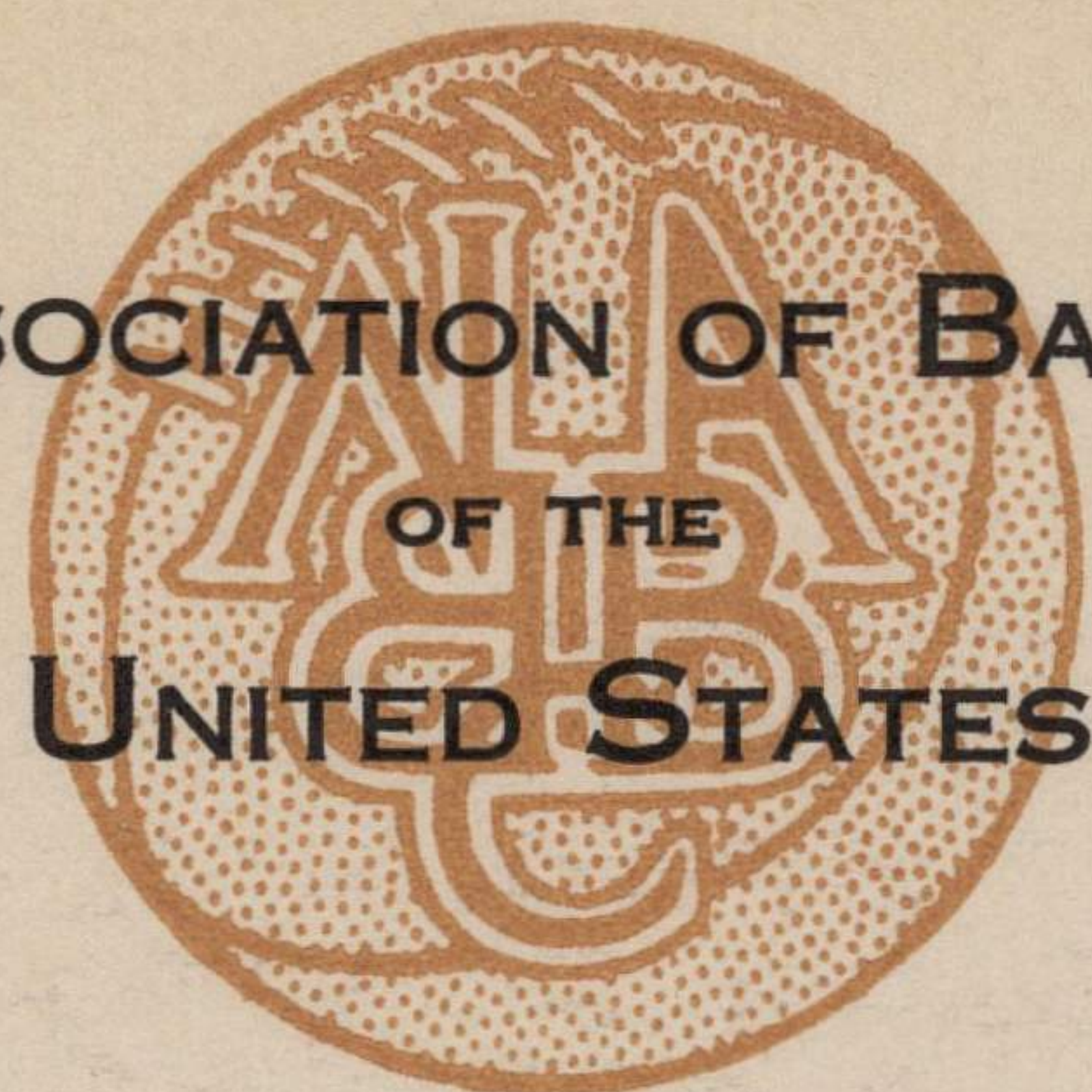
Director of Physical Education
Varsity Basketball Coach.

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THE NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF BASKETBALL COACHES



W. H. Browne - Uni. of Nebr.

EDWARD J. HICKOX, SPRINGFIELD COLLEGE
SECRETARY-TREASURER

April 16, 1940

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Dr. F. C. Allen
Basketball Coach
University of Kansas
Lawrence, Kansas

Dear Dr. Allen:

The President and Board of Directors requested me to write you their expression of thanks for the many fine contributions you have made in the interest of our association and for the way you handled the tournament in Kansas City this year. The tournament program was a success from every angle and your efforts are greatly appreciated.

The Board also requests that you again serve the association on the Rules and the Tournament and Olympic Committees. Ole Olsen and Don White, chairmen of these committees, will contact you in the future. I am anxious to receive your acceptance of these assignments in order that the association stationery may be printed with the names of the committees in full. You will receive an allotment of this paper when it is printed.

Now, Dr. Allen, serving as a secretary-treasurer is a new assignment for me and I welcome your comment and suggestions at any time. I know you must have some ideas regarding the arrangement of the program at the convention as well as many other ideas for the good of the association. Please feel free to make your comment to me so that I can pass on your good suggestion to the board for action.

Cordially yours,

W. H. Browne
Sec.-Treas. NABC

WHB:MKD

May 6, 1940.

Mr. W. Harold Browne,
Basketball Coach,
University of Nebraska,
Lincoln, Nebraska.

Dear Brownie:

This will acknowledge your letter of May 3rd, enclosing check for \$87.26 from the National Basketball Coaches Association which I have turned over to Sol Marks and Son in payment for the trophy. Thank you for sending it.

Don't worry about those shorts - I bought another pair so that I will be sure to have a pair ready for the 17th and 18th of May. I'm looking forward to seeing you at Lincoln at that time.

Very sincerely yours,

Director of Physical Education and Recreation,
Varsity Basketball Coach.

FCA:AH

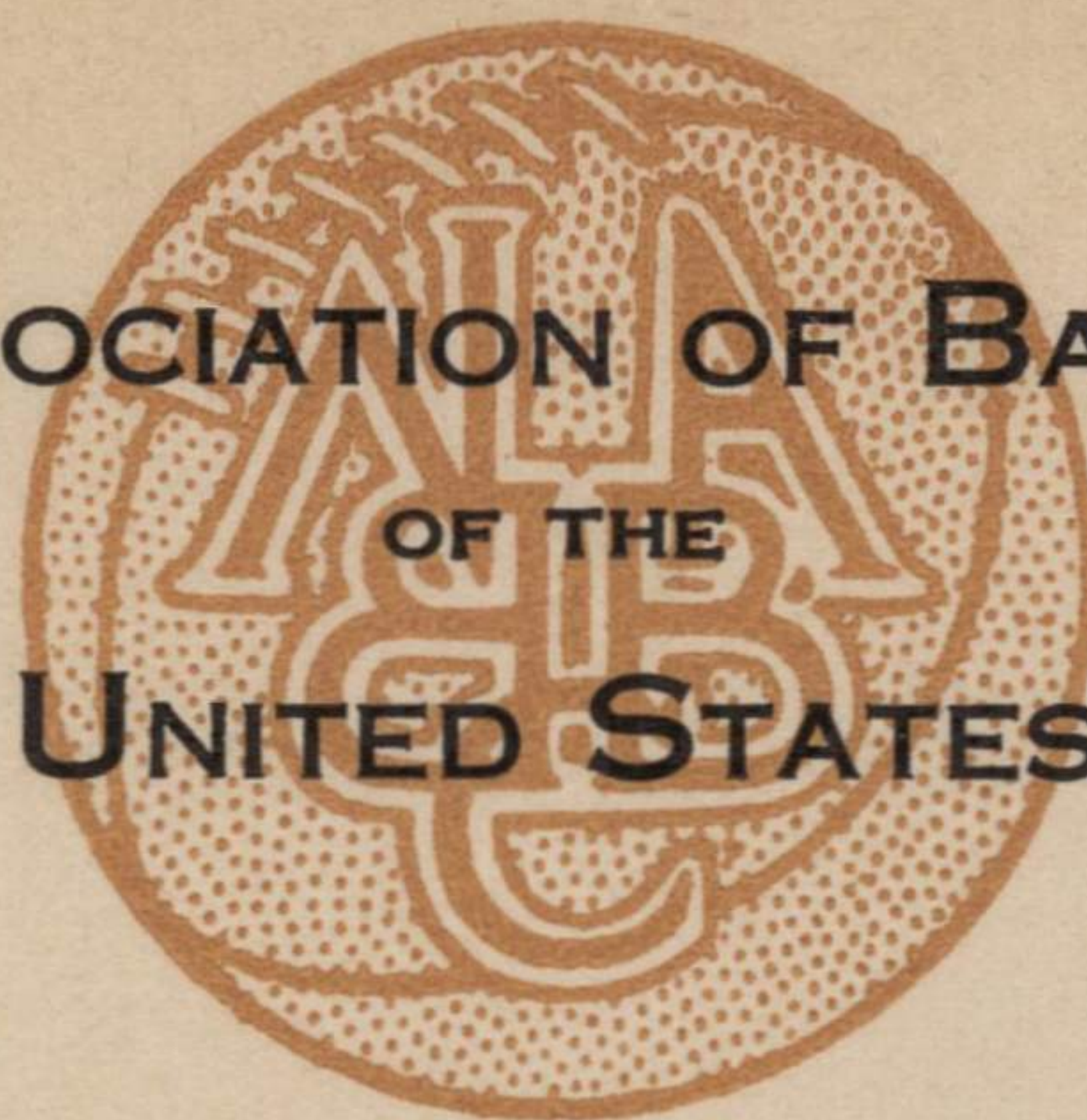
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FIRST VICE PRESIDENT

THE NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF BASKETBALL COACHES

OF THE
UNITED STATES



W. H. Browne - Uni. of Nebr.

EDWARD J. HICKOX, SPRINGFIELD COLLEGE
SECRETARY-TREASURER

May 3, 1940.

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JOHN W. BUNN, Stanford University

PRESS COMMITTEE

PAUL D. HINKLE, Butler University, *Chairman*

Dr. F. C. Allen
Basketball Coach
University of Kansas
Lawrence, Kansas

Dear Dr. Allen:

I am sorry it took so long for our correspondence to make the rounds and get your check to settle in full the bill you have with Sol Marks & Son. Anyway, I am enclosing a check for \$87.26 to cover the cost of the basketball trophy which you purchased for use in the N.C.A.A. Tournament.

I'll be looking forward to having a good visit with you when you come up for the Big Six Track Meet. I'm hoping the weather will warm up considerably in order that you will be able to use those shorts that you have been bragging about.

Cordially yours,

W. H. Browne
Sec.-Treas. NABC

WHB:MKD

Enc.

May 6, 1940.

Mr. Julius Marks,
Lawrence, Kansas.

Dear Julius:

I am enclosing herewith a check for \$87.26
from the National Association of Basketball Coaches
for the cost of the trophy which they purchased from
you.

Very sincerely yours,

Director of Physical Education and Recreation,
Varsity Basketball Coach.

FCA:AH
Enc.

30 → 27 1 1
30 " 9 12 11 1

September 27, 1940

Mr. George Edwards
Basketball Coach
University of Missouri
Columbus, Missouri

Dear Coach Edwards:

Somehow I have misplaced the booklet that you printed on the National Association of Basketball Coaches. You gave the past presidents valuable information in your booklet.

I would appreciate it if you would kindly send me another at your convenience.

With all good wishes, I am,

Sincerely yours,

Director of Physical Education and Recreation
Varsity Basketball Coach

FCA:lg

A

CALL TO CAGE COACHES

MEETING AT CHICAGO MARCH 25-27 IS SCHEDULED.

William S. Chandler, President of National Group, to Urge Rule Change on Intentional Foul.

(By the Associated Press.)

MILWAUKEE, March 7.—William S. Chandler, president, issued a call today for the National Association of Basketball Coaches to meet in annual convention in Chicago March 25 to 27.

Chandler, Marquette university coach, said he would ask for discussion of the intentional foul rule. Although the present rule enabled his 1938-39 team to come from behind in the closing minutes of a hard-fought game and go on to victory, Chandler advocates a change.

Under the rule, he explained, teams which are behind in the closing minutes of play sometimes resort to intentional fouling in the hope of getting the ball after the free throw. Chandler favors a change which would allow the free throw attempt and also give possession of the ball out of bounds to the team fouled.

May 12, 1939.

Mr. Edward J. Hickox,
Springfield College,
Springfield, Mass.

Dear Coach Hickox:

I am very happy to accept a place on the Rules Committee for the National Association of Basketball Coaches for 1939-40. Don White is one of my personal friends and it will be a pleasure to work with him.

It was certainly good to see you in New York. Let me know when you and Mrs. Hickox are coming west because we want you as guests in the Allen household.

With best wishes, I am

Very sincerely yours,

FCA:AH

Director of Physical Education,
Varsity Basketball Coach.

LAURENCE L. DOGETT, PH. D., PRESIDENT
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BENJAMIN A. FRANKLIN, CHAIRMAN EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
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SPRINGFIELD COLLEGE

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MATHEMATICS, EDUCATION, BASKETBALL

NATURAL SCIENCE DIVISION
G. B. AFFLECK, A. M., M. P. E.
DIRECTOR

May 9, 1939

Mr. F. C. Allen,
Kansas University,
Lawrence, Kansas

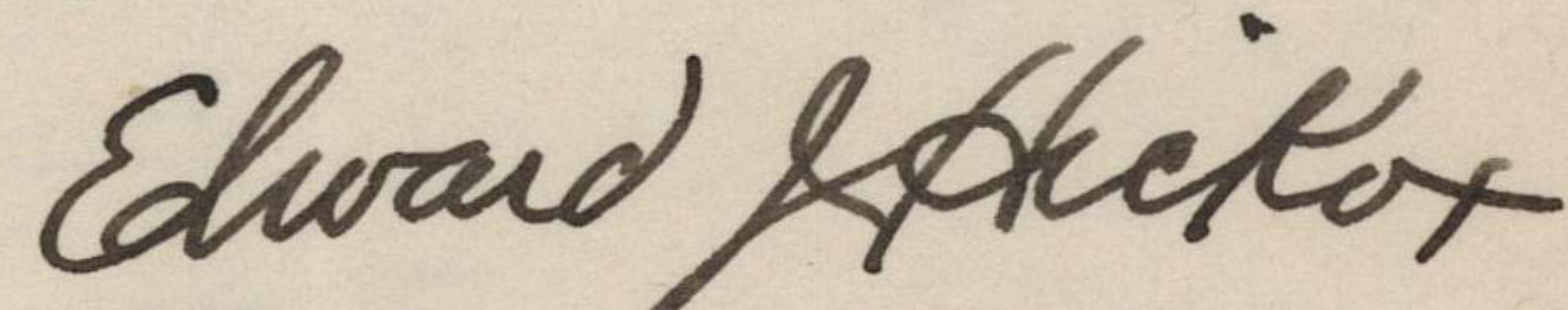
Dear Coach:

Mr. Don White, Chairman of the Rules Committee in the National Association of Basketball Coaches for 1939-40, has asked for your help on that Committee. If you are willing to work with him in this important service, will you please notify me as soon as possible. We are anxious to get out the new stationery with the revised lists of officers and committee members.

Our organization is now the largest it has ever been and is, of course, correspondingly important in its influence on the game.

Best of Luck,

Sincerely,



EDWARD J. HICKOX
Secretary-Treasurer
National Association of
Basketball Coaches

EJH:c

*Was glad to see you in New York -
EJH*

May 23, 1939.

Mr. B. T. Grover, President,
National Basketball Coaches Assoc.,
Ohio University,
Athens, Ohio.

Dear Butch:

Thank you so much for your good letter of the 19th instant. I should have written you immediately after the Rules meeting in New York. I talked with Ole and John Bunn and they felt that if we had the coaches meeting on March 22 and 23 at the time of the western regional play-off that would keep away from the meeting the coaches who were playing at the Palestra in Philadelphia at the same date.

For that reason the aforementioned gentlemen and I agreed that it would be best to meet on the 29th and 30th of March. These dates would keep no one from the meeting who desired to attend. So we agreed on these dates tentatively until we could get in touch with you, and I have failed to do so due to the necessary rush of being away from home so long, having been to San Francisco twice and New York once.

So if you have not written the members of the board do not do so, and if agreeable to you we will just consider the 29th and 30th of March for the National Basketball Coaches Association, and the 30th for the play-off for the regional title.

The National Basketball Rules Committee will meet on the 30th and 31st of March, and the 1st of April, if necessary.

I am also acknowledging your appointment of me as chairman of the Convention Committee in Kansas City. It will be a pleasure to do this and to work with George Edwards of Missouri and Frank Root of Kansas State.

Trusting that we have the best convention ever and that you will enjoy your stay in Kansas City, I am

Very cordially yours,

Director of Physical Education,
Varsity Basketball Coach.

FCA:AH

OHIO UNIVERSITY

ATHENS, OHIO

OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC RELATIONS

May 19, 1939

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

Dear Dr. Allen:

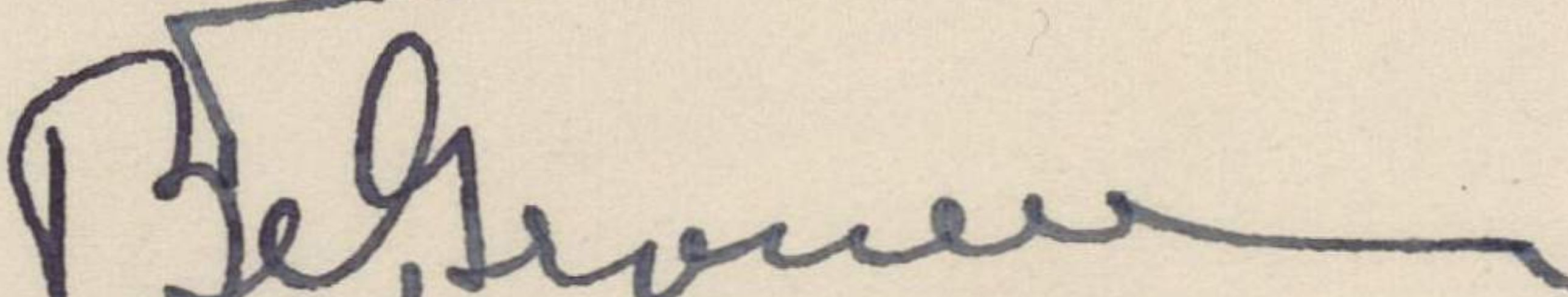
This will acknowledge the receipt of your communication of April 27. I thank you very much for your kind acceptance of the appointment to again serve on the Tournament and Olympic Committee of the Coaches Association for 1939-40.

I am also, Dr. Allen, going to ask you to accept the chairmanship of the Convention Committee in view of the fact that our convention will be held in Kansas City that you are probably in the best position of any one of our members to know the set-up and conditions there and also because of your nearness to the city can do by far the best job for us. I am also asking George Edwards, of Missouri, and Frank Root, of Kansas State, to serve on this committee with you. I have talked with, and also written to, Mr. Edwards, and will write to Frank today concerning his appointment to this committee.

Personally, I am in accord with your desire to have the coaches meeting on March 22 and 23, at the time the regional play-offs are held and feel that our convention would have a much better attendance if these dates are accepted. However, the Board voted in Chicago immediately following our convention there this past year to hold our convention next year on March 29 and 30. It will be necessary, therefore, that I contact each member of the Board and have him vote by proxy on the change of date. I would appreciate it very much if you would take it upon yourself to drop short notes to some members of the Board and then when my letter reaches them concerning the change of date they may be more willing to vote in the affirmative. If you care to do this would you please let me have the results of your information at the earliest possible date?

Thanking you for your many past efforts in the Coaches Association and hoping that I am not asking too much of you in requesting that you serve as chairman of the Convention Committee, I am,

Very sincerely yours,



B. T. Grover, President
National Basketball Coaches Association

May 23, 1939.

Mr. Frank Root,
Basketball Coach,
Kansas State College,
Manhattan, Kansas.

Dear Frank:

President Grover has sent me notification of my appointment as chairman of the Convention Committee in Kansas City, with you and George Edwards as members of the committee. We will get together at some convenient time and discuss our plans.

I regret that I did not get Grover's letter soon enough so that we might have discussed it at Ames, Ia., at our meeting last week end.

Very cordially yours,

Director of Physical Education,
Varsity Basketball Coach.

FCA:AH

May 23, 1939.

Mr. George Edwards,
Basketball Coach,
University of Missouri,
Columbia, Missouri.

Dear George:

President Grover has sent me notification of my appointment as chairman of the Convention Committee in Kansas City, with you and Frank Root as members of the committee. We will get together at some convenient time and discuss our plans.

I regret that I did not get Grover's letter soon enough so that we might have discussed it at Ames, Iowa, at our meeting last week end.

Very cordially yours,

Director of Physical Education,
Varsity Basketball Coach.

FCA:AH