

STANFORD UNIVERSITY

OFFICE OF THE DEAN OF MEN

STANFORD UNIVERSITY, CALIFORNIA

December 7, 1939

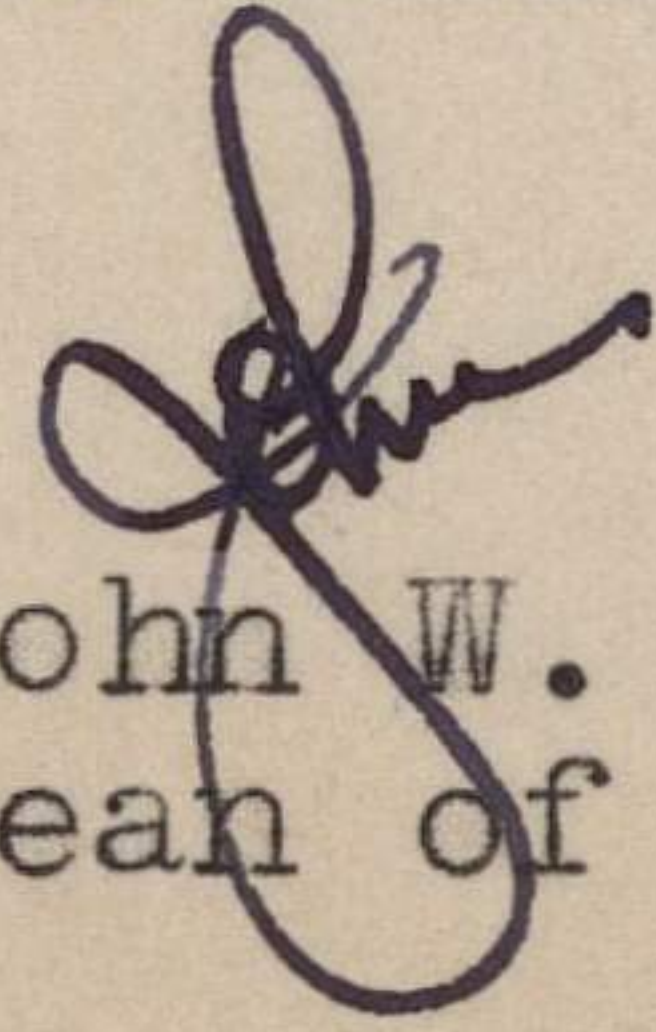
Dr. Forrest C. Allen
University of Kansas
Lawrence, Kansas

Dear Doctor Allen:

This will acknowledge your letter of December 2. Both the newspapers and the radio have carried the accounts of Doctor Naismith's death. I was so glad that he died in such a quick fashion. He was always such a happy, active individual that it would have been too bad for him to have had a lingering illness. I am happy to know that he was able to live to see his brain-child reach such a great stage of popularity and acme of perfection. I know he has derived a great deal of pleasure and satisfaction out of watching the growth of basketball. It just doesn't seem possible that he is no longer with us. It has been most gratifying to me to notice the recognition that he has received here on the coast.

Now with respect to the photostatic copy of the original basketball rules. I have just the one copy which Doctor Naismith very kindly permitted me to make before I left Lawrence. He made me promise that I would not permit another copy to be made until after his death. I have not violated this promise. I think, however, that the negative is in the possession of Mr. Moore, the photographer in Lawrence. I would suggest that you get in touch with him. Also the original copy of the rules is in Doctor Naismith's safety deposit box. It seems to me that some plan should be worked out for preserving this original and for placing it on display somewhere at the University. If you can not find either of these I imagine that it will be possible to make copies from the one I have here at Stanford. I will be glad to hear from you further in this connection.

Cordially yours,


John W. Bunn,
Dean of Men.