

P

November 20, 1937.

Mr. W. L. Poynter,
Denmark Academy High School,
Denmark, Iowa.

Dear Mr. Poynter:

I am very sorry to tell you that the Service Rubber Company, of Rock Island, Illinois, failed a couple of years ago and in the reorganization they decided to discontinue the making of certain lines of stock and one of those things they discontinued was the making of the Phog Allen basketball shoe.

If you will write me what size you wear I will endeavor to see if I can locate a pair for you on the market. The shoe sells for \$3.75, and if you care to send me a check for that amount I will get you a pair and mail them to you.

I feel very much disappointed about this, as I have used the shoe in coaching and I have also used the shoe on my boy. It was the best shoe to prevent fallen arches and stone bruises of any shoe that I have ever used.

I may when I have a little time work on an improved shoe and submit it to another manufacturer, but I have just finished a new basketball book which is published by McGraw-Hill Book Company of New York, and which they are getting out the first of December. I am sending you a short synopsis of the material at hand. I thought you might perhaps be interested in learning about the new book.

Very sincerely yours,

FCA:AH

Director of Physical Education.

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Denmark Academy
High School

DENMARK, IOWA

Nov. 15, 1937

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HAROLD SMALLEY, TREASURER
ADAM MILLER, SUPERINTENDENT

Mr. "Phog" Allen
U. of Kansas
Lawrence, Kans.

Dear Mr. Allen:-

I have been using your
basketball shoe for the last
6-8 years and find it very
satisfactory for my needs. I
don't seem to be able to get
a pair anywhere this year
& I would like your help.
Are they being made? If
so, where?

Yours sincerely,
W. L. Poynter.

c

October 26, 1938.

Mrs. Don Carlos Peete,
4140 Cambridge,
Kansas City, Kansas.

Dear Mrs. Peete:

Yes, you are right, we did play the Haskell Indians in the University of Kansas stadium. We played them on October 3, 1931.

We borrowed the lights from Haskell, and we had the Kansas Electric Power Company put up the poles. The cost to us was something like \$500. This was during the regime of Coach Hargiss, and incidentally I might add that the Indians were coached by Lone Star Dietz and won the game 6 to 0.

There was great demand at that time for a night game. It was too warm for an early season game to be played in the afternoon, and feeling that many professional people and others who could not get off during the day would come for a night game we scheduled this game. One idea, of course, was to have it as cool as possible for the players.

And then, too, many thought that a night game would draw better, and especially since the Indians had so few alumni they had to depend upon the general patronage. Many of the small colleges were playing night games then, and there was a desire on the part of many followers that we might want to play our larger conference games at night. So this was just a trial and error method.

Lone Star Dietz used a six-man line which is now much in vogue, but then was considered quite a strategic move. Kansas was much more powerful and was supposed to win easily, and Lone Star got great credit for his strategy in forming an adequate defense for the much heavier and more powerful University of Kansas team.

Very sincerely yours,

Director of Physical Education,
Varsity Basketball Coach.

FCA:AH

4140 Cambridge
Kansas City, Kans.

October 20, 1938

My dear Dr. Allen,

Will you kindly
settle an argument for a
group here:

The question:

Did K. U. - play Haskell Indians
in a night game in the K. U.
Stadium - & if so - did they
borrow the lights?

This seems silly - but
has caused a great deal of argu-
ment. The time in mind is
about six or seven years ago.

I shall appreciate the
courtesy of your reply -

Sincerely,

Mrs Dow Carlos Pette

D

December 7, 1938.

Mr. Art Powell,
Basketball Coach,
University of Buffalo,
699 Main Street,
Buffalo, New York.

Dear Art:

I am glad to have your letter of December 3. First, I want to say, Art, that I use the man for man defense with the zone principle, a strata of man to man and a strata of zone. We play man to man most of the time but when we can float into the principle of the zone we do it.

I had a big boy, Al Wellhausen, who was 6 feet 7 inches tall and I used him under the basket. By using only one man like this makes a strata of the zone and a strata of the man to man very difficult because we are forced to play a zone defense with only this one man, and a man to man with the others.

This is the way we did it. It happened that Wellhausen was a high jumper, and I always shifted him out about two feet in front of the basket, always in the direction of where the ball was being passed. If the ball was over on the left hand side of the court Wellhausen shifted left about two feet in front of the basket, and then when the fellow shot he jumped high above the basket and captured it. The other four men we played man to man with a sliding, trading, switching proposition on, but never bothering Wellhausen. In other words, we always took the men as they came in and they were never the same men.

Now that makes a tough job for any coach. It is a teamwork defensive proposition rather than an individual proposition. I did not put that in the book because it was not the orthodox way of playing it and I was not sure that I was doing it correctly. However, we won the conference championship, and only about one in ten shots got into the basket while Wellhausen was around it. Long shots were no good, nor were ten to fifteen feet shots. The strategy of the opponents was to drive in, pivot, pass back and snap it over on the side before Wellhausen could shift around. By low driving and pivoting the men can get within ten or fifteen feet of the basket and this was the best way to upset this type of defense. We lost one game during the season on this style.

I only had Wellhausen two years. He competed in track two years and he was only 20 when he graduated. When he was 18 he was so crude that we could not accomplish much with him. Then during his junior year he did not take enough correspondence work during the summer to get eligible for basketball, and I did not let him come out because any fellow that was not any more enthused than that about a sport, I wasn't very enthusiastic about him. He got eligible for the second semester and went out for track, threw the javelin, the discus and did some high jumping. Then of course he came back in his senior year and was ready to work and it took a lot of work to make a player out of that type of fellow, but he was really great. Like all coaches, I should have enjoyed having him another year, but of course he was graduating and that was impossible. In another year I think he would have been one of the nation's outstanding players.

The McPherson Oilers used him, but they had big Joe Fortenberry, 6 feet $9\frac{1}{2}$ inches, and he played down in Texas at the North Texas State Teachers College and had a lot of experience under his belt. Wellhausen played with Wichita last year and is playing with the Oklahoma City Park this year. He is getting enough age and experience now that if some coach could know how to use him he would be wonderful, but we college men of course are not interested in that sort of set up. We have a very difficult problem of teaching young boys who develop very slowly.

Answering your question specifically, I would use the other four men man-to-man trading and switching near the basket with a semi-retreating defense. And then your tall man will soon get into the scheme of teamwork and you will be surprised how they can play with him. But he is playing zone. If they spread out we play man-to-man using this fifth man to take a man. But when they come near the basket or in a position to shoot that tall man never pulls far enough away from the basket but what he can get into position to pick it out of the air.

Art, I don't know whether I have helped you or not. If I could sit down with you I could get your thoughts and you could get mine. If you care to have any sort of a diagram explained you could send it to me with questions. I will be glad to do my best to answer them.

Sincerely yours,

Director of Physical Education,
Varsity Basketball Coach.

February 3, 1940.

Mr. Dan Partner,
Sports Desk,
Kansas City Star,
Kansas City, Mo.

Dear Dan:

There are a few angles that are not understood by readers of your column. Such a thought never occurred to me, but many of the people in town and over the state are sure that when you wrote about one of the boys on the Kansas team slowing up the possibilities of the Jayhawkers by a bad knee that you were alluding to Ralph Miller. A great number of letters have come in and people have spoken about it and they have never once thought of Engleman.

Miller played with a knee that made me feel like a criminal to even put him in the ball game, but he was so insistent that he wanted to play that it was difficult to deny him. Would it be possible some way to mention the fact that the bad knee that was discussed heretofore did not belong to Ralph Miller? Last year he did injure the knee and he would writhe in agony, and when I would take him out he would insist that he wanted to play. I told him that I did not want to injure him and that was why I would not play him more. He said, "Gee whiz, I came up here to play basketball and I want to play." So that is the difference between some people.

On the other hand, I do not want to embarrass a boy who has had no father for a great many years and who has been raised largely by women-folks and an old maid school teacher. I want to protect this boy against an emotional background that might cause a mental complex to develop. Therefore, if you can do justice to Miller without embarrassing the other fellow I would appreciate it.

Then there is one more thing, Dan. The populace is not understanding the withdrawal of Bruce Reid from school. It was purely a matter of finances, but many of the wise ones who feel that they understood the situation, are sure that he quit because I kicked him off the team for insubordination or breaking training rules. Nothing is further from the truth. Bruce has been doing a fine job and his work has been very satisfactory, both in the class room and on the basketball court. The father has been out of employment most of the time and the mother has been working, and it has been a very difficult financial situation with him. I wish, however, that you would not mention this side of it, only you could say that the reason that Reid withdrew from school was purely financial. He has been in all

but one of the games that we have played to date, and has played a potent part in winning some of them.

In your Sports-Eye of January 28, I think, there is a bit of misunderstanding about the fact that I said there is no rule against Trainer Nesmith shouting advice to the K. U. team. There is such a rule. No one from the bench may shout to men on the floor. What I did say about the remarks was that there is no rule against any of the players immediately communicating with their teammates when they report. Therefore, I said, it would be unnecessary for Trainer Nesmith when he took the water bottle out on the floor to tell the boys what to do because the substitute can immediately communicate with one and all of his players.

In football one play must ensue, but in basketball this is not the rule. As I recall, you had a statement in there that Trainer Nesmith carried loads of information to the team when he carried the water bottle and smelling salts to them, or to that effect. And then I made the statement that if you knew the basketball rules thoroughly enough that you would know it would not be necessary for Dean Nesmith to carry instructions out there because I could tell the players and they could openly tell all their teammates immediately upon reporting.

I was responsible for this being in the rule book - the matter of permitting the substitute to communicate immediately. There had been so many charges that the coach was signalling information by taking three gulps of water, or four, or one, that I thought it so ridiculous that we should remove as much suspicion from the coach's acts as possible. And I raised the question of doing away with all the gossip and talk and unfair communication by permitting the players to immediately communicate. We give a coach too much credit for master-minding. He isn't that intelligent. Therefore, I said, what is wrong with letting all the boys talk to each other. Then the scandal-mongers could not say that the coach was communicating before one play. I also wrote Dana Bible, who was a member of the Football Rules Committee, at Nebraska, and asked him why it could not be put in football. And I might say to my own mind it should even now be put in the rules book in football. But that is none of my affair. I was only endeavoring to remove undue criticism from a good game.

If I have not made myself clear in this matter I will be happy to talk to you at some convenient time, as I am sure that you will understand that the only cause for my comment was not to bear the odium of sending Nesmith out with signals when it was unnecessary and unsportsmanlike.

With all good wishes, I am

Very sincerely yours,

Director of Physical Education and Recreation,
Varsity Basketball Coach.

F.

Lawrence, Kansas
March 18, 1940

Mr. Dan Partner,
Sport Desk,
The Kansas City Star,
Kansas City, Mo.

Dear Dan:

I read your Sports-Eye with a good deal of interest, and there is only one thing that I regret - the osteopathic publicity dope. I imagine that you read Art Edson's Daily Oklahoman rabble. The medicos here and over the country are so sensitive about an osteopath that I believe Edson wrote that as bait.

Personally, I am not a bit ashamed of it. In fact, I believe I have been able to do a lot of things for suffering humanity that some of the other fellows perhaps might not be able to do. But the fact remains that we have a medical school here in the University, and some of them take it that I am trying to boost something against the fair practice of medicine. So I will appreciate it if you will not mention those things on account of my good medical friends who take the wrong slant on this procedure.

Understand, Dan, I am not quarreling or kicking on anything. You have been so nice to us in so many ways that I thought I could take down my hair to you and explain some of the things that cause embarrassment to my friends here in the medical school. I will thank you if you will keep this in mind if it is consistent with your policy.

Here's the truth of the whole incident at Oklahoma City. I sent Bobby in to the bench - Lee K. Anderson, the secretary of the Oklahoma High School Athletic Association, was the scorekeeper, and Earl Jones, manager of A. G. Spalding Brothers of Oklahoma City, was time keeper. Bobby stood at the bench nearly two minutes, and because the scorers bench was on the same level as some of the seats in the auditorium, Bobby stepped back and got on his knee in front of the scorers table so that he would

page 2.

not obstruct the view of the spectators sitting behind the scorers table. Time was out on held ball. The timer and scorer had nothing but a small whistle to blow time out with. There was no gong or horn, and Anderson blew his whistle.

Bobby did not run out on the court at all. He stood there, but pandemonium reigned and the officials did not hear the whistle. Then Parke Carroll faced the bench and Bobby was sure that he nodded for him to come on. Bobby jogged out on the court ready to report, and then the Aggies started after the ball and a scramble ensued something similar to the situation in a football game where a player picks up a fumbled ball and starts to run with it. The ball, of course, is dead, and no play ensued.

But the spectators and players were so excited, and when Parke Carroll recovered from his embarrassment due to this faux pas between the players he saw Bob on the court, and in his excitement he turned around and said, "A technical foul".

I clearly heard the whistle blow two or three times, but instead of Lee Anderson stepping up to Parke Carroll and saying, "I blew the whistle to allow the player to go in there because I could not get your attention", he sat perfectly mute. After Carroll had said "A technical Foul", then I said, "No", because Anderson had blown his whistle and because the whistle was not sufficient to attract the attention of the officials, I deemed it absolutely unfair that such an injustice should be inflicted upon us.

No one may dispute an official's judgment in calling fouls, but when there is a mistake made in the rules, then you have a perfect right to discuss that point. Such a thing as this always happens when there is no gong or horn and when there is a game played in a municipal auditorium there is generally a very definite lack of cooperation or of possessing good liaison.

Lee Anderson was asked to keep score, and Jones was asked to be the official timer. There must be the same team-work between officials as there is between players. I can fully appreciate how Lee Anderson felt. He did not want to jump out on the floor after Parke

page 3.

Carroll called a foul and embarrass Parke.

The ruming on the court idea was, of course, written by a partisan writer who is supposed to write impartially. All you have to read is Art Edson's stuff or Bus Han's stuff and see how partisan a clan can get down there in the Smith and Wesson district.

I thought Parke Carroll's equilibrium and emotional stability was upset, and I didn't propose that a situation like that would defeat a group of boys who had fought their hearts out. I can personally take the blame for it in not having a gong or horn, but always when you play in a hall like this something of this sort happens. It was a magnificent place to play and the crowd was one of the greatest that I have seen considering the fact that the majority of them were naturally for Oklahoma A. and M., but no one possessed a horn or gong - and it was just one of those things.

I have seen situations where the timer blew his whistle and where the referee did not hear it. And I have seen the referee call fouls when time was out. Then I have seen these timers go up and tell the official that he called time out, and I have seen the official retract that foul because the ball was dead. This thing should have been done in this case. There was a lack of cooperation, but I do not want you to publish this in a critical way. I am just explaining it to you. However, if you do want to explain the fact that Bobby did stand by the scorers bench until he was sure that the official recognized him and then stepped on the court, that is all right. But apparently in the excitement Parke did not hear the whistle, because Parke penalized him. But Lee will tell you he blew the whistle and so will Jones, and they thought Carroll heard it. But I am sure if Carroll says he didn't hear it, he didn't, but everybody else thought he did.

Very cordially yours,

FCA:AH

Manager, N.C.A.A. Basketball Tournament.

October 17, 1940

Mr. Dan Partner
Sports Desk
The Kansas City Star
Kansas City, Missouri

Dear Dan:

I notice in your Big-Six sports chatter that I am speaking at several places; namely, Kirksville, Toledo and Milwaukee on basketball. It happens that at Kirksville I am speaking at their Homecoming Banquet on October 26. They play Iowa Wesleyan in the afternoon and are dedicating the John R. Kirk Memorial in the morning and are having their Homecoming Banquet at night.

It happens that I was at Warrensburg from 1912 to 1919 and we used to have many torrid battles with Don Farrout's guinea pigs. I remember along about 1915 we played the Kirksville Teachers College, when Curley McWilliams, the Missouri U. quarterback was coaching there, and we had a tough game, 76 to 0. I believe C.E. McB. worked that ball game.

I just wanted you to know that I spoke on football occasionally--by remote control.

Good luck!

Sincerely yours,

Director of Physical Education and Recreation
Varsity Basketball Coach

FCA:lg

SECURITY NATIONAL BANK

MINNESOTA AT 7TH

KANSAS CITY, KANSAS



A

December 22, 1936.

Mr. Earl Potter
c/o Journal World
Lawrence, Kansas

Dear Earl:

I was interested in the comments in your column - "The Sports Eye" in last night's issue of the Journal World. I was particularly interested in the part in which you quoted Dunbar of the Salina Journal, and want to give you my personal reaction to these comments. I realize that your comments are based upon your desire to give your readers every angle of an interesting situation, and I also appreciate the fact that you are personally deeply interested in the welfare of the University, and most particularly, in the Athletic Department.

Earl, as you know, I served for eight consecutive years on the Athletic Board and I think I am familiar with everything that has happened in this Department during that period. Because of my activity in civic work and in the Bankers' Association, I have found it necessary to travel over the State extensively. By reason of this fact I have been able to get a fairly accurate cross section of the viewpoints of people throughout the State. I have been astounded at statements that otherwise sane businessmen make to me on matters pertaining to athletics at the University of Kansas. In almost every instance, after cross-examination, I find that their statement is based upon what someone else has said, and in most cases these statements are without foundation of fact. Yet, these men go serenely on their way repeating these statements as first hand information. So it is with the comment last night in your column. While you are very careful to quote Mr. Dunbar of the Salina Journal, yet by the time this column is read and re-read your readers will be quoting you as having made this statement. This is unfortunate.

You know, Earl, I am convinced that all of us are interested in just one thing, and that is the promotion of athletics at the University of Kansas. It is my opinion that the best way to accomplish this is for all of us to start boosting, and for those of us who are in position to contact others, either through the press or in person, should always present the favorable viewpoint rather than the unfavorable. I believe that it is detrimental

SECURITY NATIONAL BANK

MINNESOTA AT 7TH

KANSAS CITY, KANSAS

Mr. Earl Potter
c/o Journal World
Lawrence, Kansas
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to reprint for ^{the} public, statements made by others when we know that they are incorrect. If we could all agree that for twelve months we were going to present the favorable news and put the best foot forward I think we would be astounded at the results that would accrue. Personally, I feel that the appointment of a committee of the Board of Regents to investigate the Athletic Department was a grave error. It provided the scandal mongers with fuel for the fire. It indicated that there was something seriously wrong. It has about the same effect upon the situation at the University as it would to notify the public that the Banking Department had taken charge of a Bank.

Why don't the business men and leaders of Lawrence start a movement to support and promote the interest of the Athletic Department, and when I say "support and promote" I mean just that? I think the time has come when an aggressive attitude must be taken by the friends of the Athletic Department and I think the only place such a movement can start is in the city of Lawrence.

We all know that there are fundamental corrections that need to be made in order to make it possible for the University of Kansas to compete on an equal basis with other Big Six schools. These are not corrections in personnel but corrections in policy.

Earl, just remember that when they see it in your column, regardless of whom you may quote, you are the one who is credited with having made the statement.

With best wishes, I am

Sincerely yours,

MLB:LM


 The logo features the word "SPORTS" in a large, bold, serif font. The letter "O" is replaced by a stylized sun with rays emanating from it. Above the "O" is the word "The" in a smaller, cursive font. Below "SPORTS" is the word "EYE" in a bold, serif font. The entire logo is enclosed in a rectangular border.

BY EARL POTTER

The early season non-conference games of the Big Six basketball forces point plainly to a grand and merry scramble when the championship race starts early in January. The conference rivals of Kansas have for years been at the pastime of trying to knock the Jayhawkers of Dr. F. C. Allen out of the championship picture, and once in awhile they succeed. This year may be one of those times. The performance of K. U. in winning two and losing one game thus far to Kansas colleges does not on the face of it make the Jayhawkers look any too strong, but when it is explained that Baker has a veteran and classy team, and Southwestern was beaten on the second try after Kansas had previously fallen to Southwestern, the K. U. squad appears to have possibilities.

It's the way Oklahoma has been going to town against Southern Methodist and Rice, and the 53 to 29 victory Nebraska put on over Montana, that gives some warning that K. U. may have trouble ahead in the Big Six this season. Coach Harold Browne piloted the Cornhuskers to second place in the Big Six last year, losing two games to Kansas and one to Iowa State. He has a veteran crew this season and a rangy one, so Kansas can look for a stiff argument from the Nebraska team. Missouri also has been putting up good early season play, and Iowa State always has a team apt to upset the leaders. Kansas can attest to Coach Louis Menze's ability to horn in on championship hopes, for it was the Iowa State boys who took K. U.'s accustomed chair at the championship table two years ago.

The Kansas Aggies did not fare so well on their road trip thru the east and north, but wound up with a 37 to 36 victory over Minnesota, to show improvement. The Gophers are far from as potent in basketball as they are in football, but for the Aggies to beat a Big Ten entry shows Frank Root has material that may get in shape to go to town against the home conference talent later on. The Aggies have Frank Groves, all-Big Six center the past two seasons, and he has been pouring 'em into the basket against certain defenses on this road trip. Just how Kansas State and Nebraska compare will be shown after the Cornhuskers game with Minnesota tonight at Lincoln.

The Kansas athletic situation has ceased to be much discussed hereabouts now that the University is on vacation, business men are up to their necks trying to take care of the Christmas trade and persons in general here are more concerned with their shopping lists than with their "chopping" lists. But everybody here still knows that no official action has been taken by the athletic board and that the special committee of the board of regents which sat in at the athletic powwow here still has to make its report to the regents at a Manhattan meeting on December 28.

Out in the state, however, the athletic troubles of K. U. have just gotten well under discussion, it would seem. Sports pages almost daily now are appearing with squibbs of comment upon the K. U. outlook. The concensus seems to be that the main harm done by the long drawn out battle of the University Daily Kansan and the athletic administration, with the post-season start on the solution of the K. U. "problem," has been the turning of high school football talent away from yearnings toward K. U. Sports writers in the state have taken the most significant thing in the Kansan's questionnaire vote to be the overwhelming way in which students said they would not recommend K. U. to their high school friends who play football.

And Stuart Dunbar of the Salina Journal gets the grapevine that the athletic situation is not yet settled. He writes as follows:

From one who got his knowledge close to the throne we learn that the recent "whitewash" of the University of Kansas athletic situation has not officially closed the matter; that the jobs of each and every member of the whole athletic set-up are in actual danger.

Be not surprised if some fair day there comes the announcement that a clean sweep and everyone from Dr. Allen to the lowest collector of soiled towels, goes on his merry way.

Powerful forces are at work, moving on the theory that there never was a better time to "clean up," that many and radical changes must be made; that there never can be unity of coaches, student body and alumni support under the existing conditions.

These powerful forces are said to be convinced that to fail to make a clean sweep now would be only to delay the return of Kansas to the glory road in football.

November 15, 1937.

Mr. H. V. Porter,
11 So. LaSalle St.,
Chicago, Illinois.

Dear H. V.:

I acknowledge with thanks the National Basketball Committee letterheads. We can very nicely use our University envelopes, but I do think the Committee stationery is an asset.

From some of our university coaches I have been getting a criticism on the new seamless basketball. They state that on hard 40-foot passes, the ball develops floaters, sinkers, drops, curves and twisters. These are the terms applied to the tricks done by passing the ball hard. This is from an eastern coach who has a national reputation. His players discarded the ball in the presence of the salesman, somewhat to the embarrassment of the coaches.

I understand that the sponsors of the ball now say the new seamless ball has been corrected and this objectionable thing eliminated.

St. Clair, you will remember, said at our meeting last year that his boys all threw the balls up in the balcony after they had shot a few goals.

The eastern coach had this to say: "On the basis of our actual experiments with the ball we can have no confidence in it. We would like to know the actual facts, with no sales talk".

I am passing along these piquant comments so that you may have the specific criticism and work out certain trials according to these comments. Personally, I do not like the new molded type of ball at all, because we do not want anything too perfect. We do not have a perfect baseball or a perfect football.

and the roughness or unevenness of the ball really adds in shooting and handling. The corrugations in our skin, shown under a microscope, are proof arguments against having anything too smooth and perfect.

In my opinion, the price is out of all proportion to a vulcanized ball. Instead of raising the price, it should be lowered because any vulcanized ball should not exceed the price of this old time highly selected leather ball.

Personally, I think it is a splendid idea for you and Rowe to work along the line of determining hand size and wrist strength. It is logical, too, that many boys of grade school age or even high school, are not as skilful with a larger ball as they would be with a smaller ball that would fit in their hands more perfectly. I will certainly be interested to know what you and Rowe have done on this last mentioned problem.

With every good wish, I am

Sincerely yours,

FCA:AH

Director of Physical Education.

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November 8, 1937

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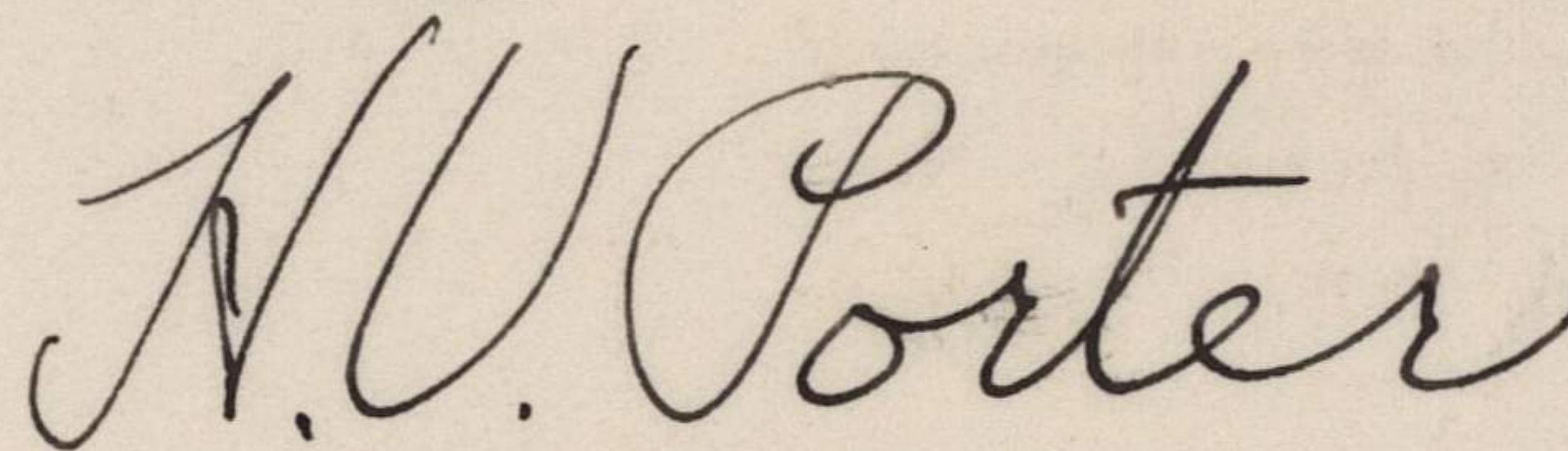
Dear Mr. Allen:

Under separate cover I am sending a new supply of the National Basketball Committee letterheads. No envelopes to match were authorized.

We have been doing considerable work along the line of experimentation with the new molded type of ball and shall continue this work as the season progresses. As a matter of fact, our Illinois Committee at a meeting last Thursday recommended the use of this type ball in games throughout the season and the state board of control has sanctioned its use for any state sponsored tournament.

Rowe and I have also been working along the line of determining hand sizes and wrist strength with the idea of determining scientifically what the exact size of ball should be and also what would be the most desirable resilience. Needless to say it is difficult to work out some of these problems but they are interesting and it may be possible to reach some reasonable conclusions.

Yours truly,



Secretary

HVp/j

c

November 19, 1937.

Mr. H. V. Porter, Secretary,
National Basketball Committee,
11 So. LaSalle Street,
Chicago, Illinois.

Dear H. V.:

Thank you for your good letter of the 17th instant. I think you have some very logical arguments which you have presented in your letter.

I am glad to know about the Cord-Bilt ball. I had not learned of the situation as you present it. Frankly, I do not like the Lastbilt ball at all. My opinion would be that the National Federation would make far more progress toward a ball that would not only be fool proof but would be more scientifically constructed than the first mentioned ball. This is due to the fact that the high schools have people who really find the answers, while the commercial people perhaps have linked themselves with one or two coaches who do not have a research turn of mind.

I quite agree with you that these ribs may build up a sort of air-cushion that will keep the ball from floating or doing didoes that amoy a player. If the individual does send me a ball for experimental purposes, I assure you I will give it a very thorough trial.

I entirely agree with you that from a high school standpoint a ball could be developed at a reasonable cost under this patent that should mean a great saving to the high school. The college people, while they are not blessed with too much wealth, really desire a new ball occasionally.

There is not one logical argument in my mind but what the molded ball should be manufactured at a much lower cost than the other ball. Of course, I mean when they are used in such numbers as are consistent with the consumption of the other old type ball.

I just received a letter from another coach in our part of the country who made this statement: "Would you kindly advise me by return mail as to the type of ball you expect to use for our game? They are undecided in this area as to what will be used. Personally, I like the new ball very much but feel that we should all accept or reject it, inasmuch as there is considerable difference between the two types."

This game is one of our early season games, and of course I am telling him that we are using the old type lace ball. I have had no trouble with these balls getting out of shape, as we deflate them each night and blow them up the next day. However, I did have some difficulty with some of them rugging, and I immediately sent them in and received proper adjustment. Since that time I have detected no faulty marks of any sort on the balls that I am using.

I will keep you informed as to the opinion of the coaches in our section, as our Fifth District Rules meeting is December 4th in Kansas City.

Very cordially yours,

FCA:AH

Director of Physical Education.

NATIONAL BASKETBALL COMMITTEE

of the UNITED STATES and CANADA

Editor, OSWALD TOWER
Andover, Massachusetts

Chairman, L. W. ST. JOHN
Ohio State University, Columbus, Ohio

Vice-Chairman, H. H. SALMON, JR.
40 Wall St., New York, N. Y.

CHAIRMEN OF SUB-COMMITTEES

<i>Executive</i>	<i>Publication</i>
L. W. St. John	H. H. Salmon, Jr.
<i>Research</i>	<i>Questionnaire</i>
Forrest C. Allen	H. V. Porter

Treasurer, FLOYD A. ROWE
Board of Education, Cleveland, Ohio

Secretary, H. V. PORTER
11 So. LaSalle St., Chicago, Illinois

November 17, 1937

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Lawrence, Kansas

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New York, New York

John Bunn
Stanford Univ.
Palo Alto, California

H. G. Crisp
Univ. of Alabama
Tuscaloosa, Alabama

J. H. Crocker
Univ. of Western Ontario
London, Ont., Canada

M. C. Cunningham
High School
Desloge, Missouri

Sumner A. Dole
Connecticut State College
Storrs, Connecticut

H. D. Edgren
George Williams College
Chicago, Illinois

E. J. Hickox
Springfield College
Springfield, Massachusetts

Frank P. Maguire
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Shorewood Hills
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Dallas, Texas

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H. H. Salmon, Jr.
40 Wall St.
New York, New York

Oswald Tower
Andover, Massachusetts

Willard A. Witte
Univ. of Wyoming
Laramie, Wyoming

Mr. Forrest C. Allen
Univ. of Kansas
Lawrence, Kansas

Dear Mr. Allen:

I appreciate having your letter of November 15th with comments relative to the molded ball. I have a great deal of respect for your opinion in any matter of this kind and naturally I have given these opinions considerable thought.

I hope you will continue to study the new type ball because these balls are constantly being improved. It may be that the defects you mention can be eliminated. As a matter of fact, I wish you could try one of the Cord-Bilt balls which has ribs of a contrasting color and of a different material between the leather panels. As you probably know there are two types of balls. One is the ball made under the "Last Bilt" patent and marketed by Spalding, Reach, Goldsmith and Wilson. This ball is entirely smooth and is supposed to be blown to a seven pound pressure in order to react properly. This ball is entirely smooth and is quite a bit livelier than the sewed ball.

The other type ball is the Cord-Bilt ball which has been developed through the efforts of the National Federation. This ball is usually blown to a pressure of about ten pounds and at this pressure reacts almost the same as the sewed type ball at thirteen pounds. This ball is made either entirely smooth or with ribs to give the appearance of the old ball and to give a slight gripping surface. It may be that these ribs will build up the same sort of air cushion on a long pass as that of the sewed type ball where the air is caught by the depression at the seams. At any rate, I hope you will be able to give some study to both types before reaching a definite conclusion that these balls will not be satisfactory. In the next day or two I hope to be able to see one of the men who is interested in the ribbed type ball and I shall recommend that he send you one of these for experimental purposes. As you probably know the Cord-Bilt ball is being marketed by the Dubow Manufacturing Company and by the Rawlings Manufacturing Company.

We are especially interested in the new type ball because if it can be satisfactorily developed it will mean a great saving to schools and also it will insure their playing with a ball which is a perfect sphere. At the present time they use a spherical ball only while the ball is new. The sewed ball soon stretches out of shape and consequently most high school teams are forced to practice with a pumpkin or egg shaped ball. The molded ball is being used quite extensively in this territory and at a recent meeting of our state basketball committee they

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voted 23 to 2 in favor of the use of the new type ball even in the tournaments. These men have had a chance to try the ball and consequently the vote seems to me to be quite significant. Also the ^{state} association of Alabama has already adopted the molded type ball for their state finals. It appears to me that many of these are certain to be used during the next few months. We will then be in a better position to tell whether the defects mentioned in your letter are serious and whether they can be corrected through improvements in the ball.

We are in sympathy with your statement relative to the price of the new ball. We had hoped that these balls could be produced for a considerably lower price and we have some assurance that at least one of them can be produced at a considerable reduction after the initial cost of development has been met. Such a reduction should be possible since seconds and thirds will be almost eliminated.

I hope you will keep me posted relative to any further observations on the new ball and particularly after you have had a chance to use both types.

Yours truly,



Secretary

HVP/j

E

December 30, 1937.

Mr. J. B. Pearman, Editor,
The Winged Foot,
New York Athletic Club,
180 Central Park South,
New York, N.Y.

Dear Mr. Pearman:

You will pardon me for not answering your good letter of the 14th instant sooner. We have had a very heavy pre-season basketball schedule which has kept me out of the office much of the time.

I am happy to know that our publishers, Whittlesey House, gave you permission to use considerable material from "Better Basketball" in your magazine in your special basketball number. I am sorry that it is not possible for us to procure a picture of the Buffalo German Y.M.C.A. team.

I do not remember them playing in 1895, but the writer did play against them in a series of three games in March, 1905. They defeated us the first game 40 to 36. We beat them the next game 30 to 28, and the last game we beat them 45 to 14.

Might I suggest that you see John T. Doyle, of the American Sports Publishing Company. The Buffalo Germans picture appeared in several of the rules guides in the early days. The Germans great record was made from the early 1900's on. They won the Pan-American at Buffalo and the World's Fair at St. Louis in 1904. That was the same as the Olympic Games at St. Louis.

I was manager of the Kansas City Athletic Club at the time, and it was after the record made during these years that we challenged them the series of three games, which gave us the world championship. The world championship then, you know, was something like the world championship in baseball is now, just a national championship.


I am sure that Mr. Doyle can get you some very interesting photographs, or at least you can take them off of his rules books. Dr. James Naismith, the originator of the game of basketball, has been with the University of Kansas since 1889. He is retired from active duty, but is very active in his basketball interests. Had we the time, I am sure that we could get some photographs for you from Dr. Naismith, but the time is short and I believe you will have to do the best you can by contacting Mr. Doyle.

I will be very appreciative of a copy of your Winged
Foot basketball number.

Sincerely yours,

FGA:AH

Varsity Basketball Coach,
Director of Physical Education.



The
WINGED FOOT

PUBLISHED MONTHLY

under the direction of the Publications Committee of the

NEW YORK ATHLETIC CLUB

180 CENTRAL PARK SOUTH

NEW YORK, N.Y.

December 14, 1937

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

Dear Mr. Allen:

We have already been in touch with your publishers, Whittlesey House, New York, for permission to use a considerable amount of the material in chapter I of your book, "Better Basketball," in the January issue of our magazine which will be our special Basketball Number.

Could we secure a picture of the great basketball team of the Buffalo Y. M. C. A. that started to playⁱⁿ 1895? We have already asked for a picture of the first organized team of the Y. M. C. A. College, and we will use an electro of your picture which appears in the book.

We are pleased to have this opportunity to give basketball the prominence in our magazine that it so justly deserves.

Cordially yours,

J.B. Pearman
Editor

J.B. Pearman/ld

P.S. Sample copy sent separate

F
December 13, 1937.

Rev. Edwin F. Price,
1209 Tennessee St.,
Lawrence, Kansas.

Dear Reverend Edwin:

I understood from you yesterday at the church that the group would not get together now until after the New Year. This is entirely agreeable with me.

I have already been asked by Mr. Anderson to conduct the Men's Class on the 26th of December at Funk's Mortuary.

And by the way, Ed, since Sunday, January 2nd, is just before the students arrive, my next meeting I consider will be on January 9th. I trust this is agreeable and satisfactory.

Sincerely yours,

FCA:AH

Director of Physical Education.

G.

January 28, 1938.

Mr. O. H. Palmquist,
806 Western Avenue,
Trinidad, Colorado.

Dear Mr. Palmquist:

Thank you very much for your very good letter of the 15th instant. I beg pardon for my delay, but we were out on a trip and after returning our examinations came on, and I have been so extremely busy that my correspondence has been neglected.

In your #1 illustration I would spread my triangle zone as follows: I would have X4 cover A0; I would move X4 out to within 7 or 10 feet of A0. I would move X3 over and between B0 and the basket, say 3 to 7 feet, and I would move X5 spreading him out within 10 or 12 feet of C0. Then I would loosen up X2 and X1 far enough back so that you would be sure they could not cut around you.

You will remember that I said in my text that some times it was necessary to play a man for man defense, but I would play the principle of the zone. In other words, I would spread the apex triangle defense and make it so elastic that it covers the situation, but when the opponents try to pick off one of your men by screening I would spread back into the principle of the zone.

In other words, you cannot always play it, but you generally can play the principle and most times you will be able to play the set up as you have given it.

Now, on your #2 illustration, if the ball is passed to the left I would shift X4 over close enough to A0 to discourage a pass in there, and yet not too close that he could cut around toward the basket. I would move X3 over between B0 and the basket but far enough to assure X4 a helpful defense. If the ball is passed to the left I would leave X5 where he is because the ball is over to the left. If the ball is to the right I would shift lopsidedly in the other direction. I would also loosen up X1 and X2 because when the offense spreads the defense drops back some and loosens up.

I think if you will study the pictures on this set up in the book you will find the possible 5 men or 3, these pictures will very definitely answer your question.

I assure you it is a pleasure to give you this information, and I trust it will be satisfactory. After reading the book please inform me if I have answered your question.

With all good wishes, I am

Sincerely yours,

Director of Physical Education,
Varsity Basketball Coach.

FCA:AH

Trinidad, Colorado,
January 15, 1938.

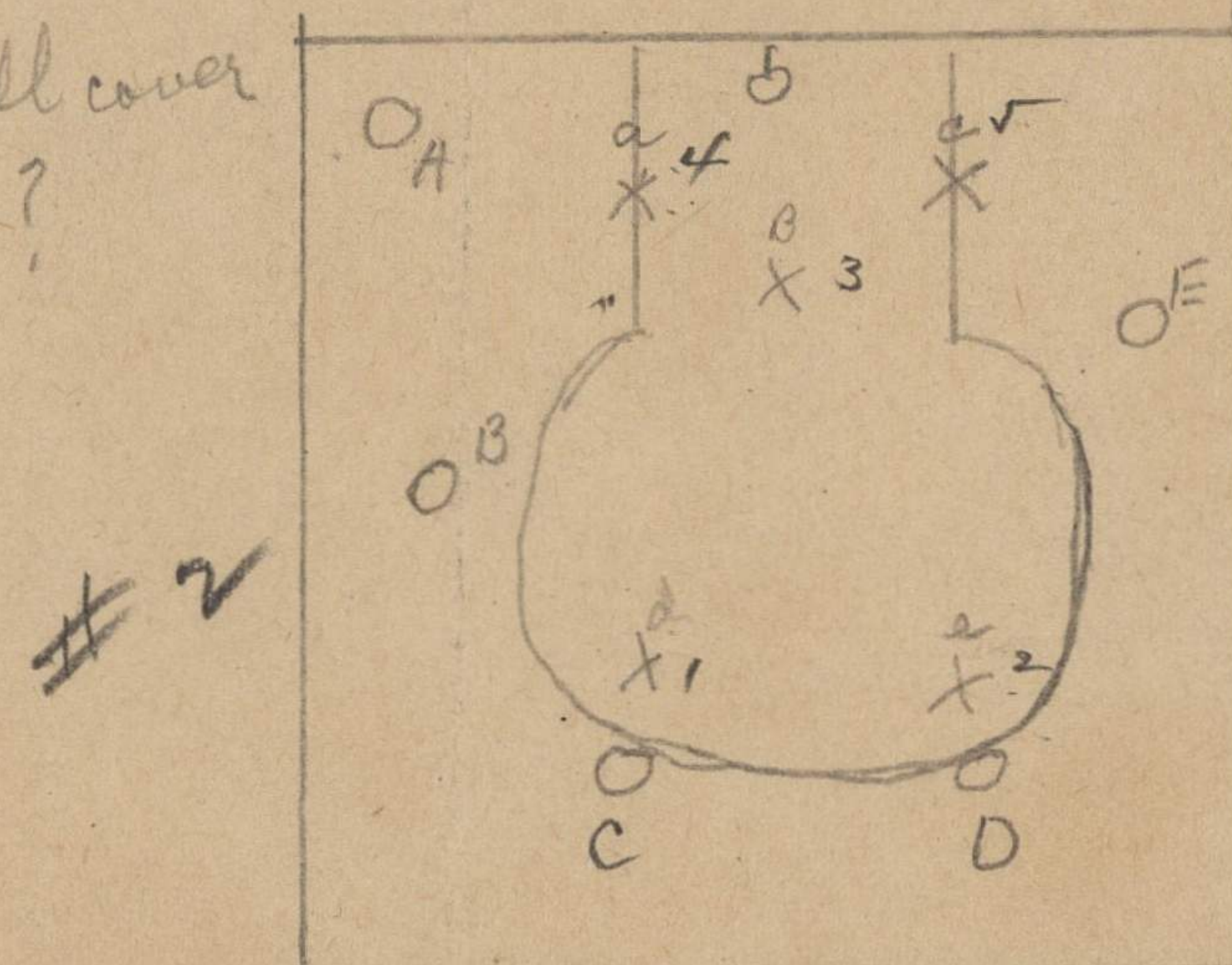
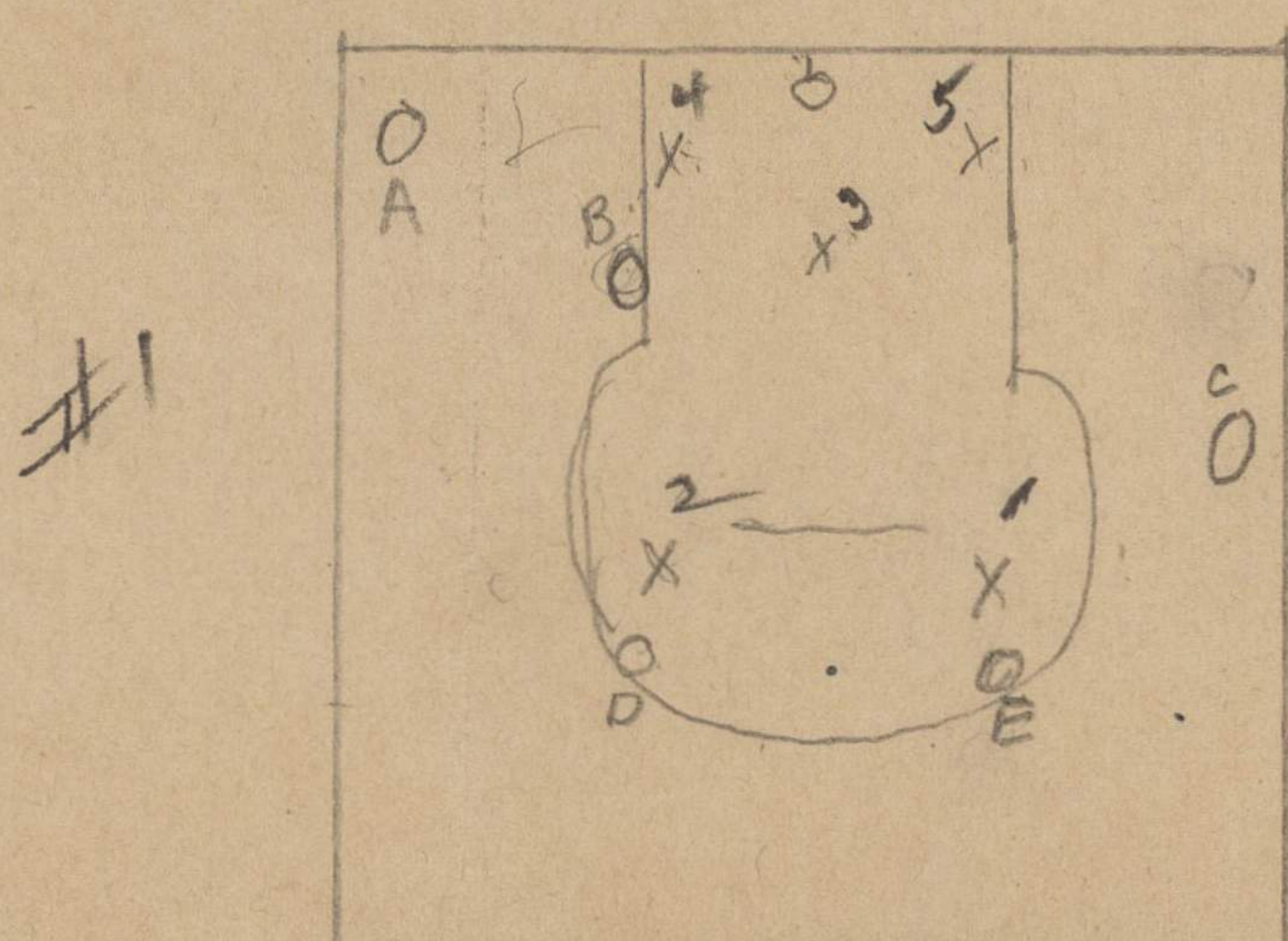
Dr. Forrest Allen,
University of Kansas,
Lawrence, Kansas.

Dear Dr. Allen:

For many years I have been an admirer of your fine basketball teams. I have witnessed them play for the past 8 years, and have always enjoyed their easy, aggressive manner of play. To me they are one of the best coached teams in the country, and they show it when on the court.

I have been coaching basketball for a number of years. During this time I have used both of your books. I have attended coaching school at Washburn College, Topeka three times in which you have had charge of the basketball and injuries. I have also taken your course in Basketball Theory, by extension and received a "B" in it. At present I am assistant coach in Trinidad High School, Trinidad, Colorado. We play such schools at Colorado Springs, Pueblo Canon City, etc. The competition is rather tough. Only one other team in our conference uses the zone defense. I am very anxious to use this defense, because our team will average 6ft 1 inch in height. They are of average ability in aggressiveness and I believe that this will be the ideal type of defense for us under present conditions.

In your last book, I note with much pleasure and interest your zone defense. I believe that I understand how it works, at least most of the time but am just a little doubtful as to how it should work under one or two conditions. Therefore, I am asking you what you would do, or rather how your zone defense functions under the present conditions. In the following illustrations, x represents the defense and o the offense.



I hope that you will find time to give me some explanation for the above situations as to how your defense would meet that particular style of offense. I thank you for any consideration given me in this matter and shall appreciate an early reply.

Yours very truly
O. H. Palmquist. 806 Western Ave.
Trinidad, Colo

A
/

March 9, 1938.

Mr. Dewitt Potter,
2000 New Hampshire St.,
Lawrence, Kansas.

Dear Dewitt:

My congratulations to you and to your teammates have been delayed due to my going to Columbia with the Kansas track team for the Big Six meet.

Permit me to congratulate you and the boys on the very strenuous up hill battle that you fought to win the championship. Your conquest of Manhattan High in such an emphatic manner last Friday night at Manhattan leaves no doubt as to your rightful place at the top of the Eastern Kansas standing. And the fact that Emporia beat Topeka 35-25 is emphatic notice that a champ belongs.

I have watched the box score through the season and I have found that you consistently made the fewest number of fouls of most any of the other members. I believe the only other fellow on the team that made few fouls consistently was Krum. The fact that you make few fouls means that you make few mistakes defensively.

I am hoping that you can improve your scoring possibilities from your guard position, and I am sure that you can.

You remember long years ago when a boy named Heckert was your hero. During that time you did not eat vegetables, like potatoes, beans and spinach. Mrs. Allen and I were out at your home and I, knowing of your aversion to these vegetables which were so beneficial to your well-being, ventured the fact that Charlie Black and Heckert were very fond of these vegetables. I was told by your mother later that you could not eat enough of them. Doubtless this enthusiasm to excel caused you to build a fine body and eventually to fill the job as one of the guards on the Eastern Kansas championship quintet.

Congratulations to you, Dewitt!

Very sincerely yours,

Director of Physical Education,
Varsity Basketball Coach.

FCA:AH

I

March 16, 1938.

Mr. Fred Pralle,
Hotel Shirley-Savoy,
Denver, Colorado.

Dear Freddie:

I was certainly pleased to have your very fine letter of the 14th instant. You must have had a fine occasion during your sojourn through the mountains. Denver is a lovely city and I know that you are going to enjoy your stay there.

I am watching the Healeys and pulling for you to go to the top.

It would have been a delightful occasion for me to have been with the Rays - Sbling and Noble, Dick, Paul, Al, and yourself. Gee, we would have spun some tall yarns, would we not?

I will pass the word along to your contemporaries here that you are happy, healthy and in a battling mood when it comes to placing the St. Louis Dutchman in basketball combat, - and may I add, even at the apple-throwing Nebraskans!

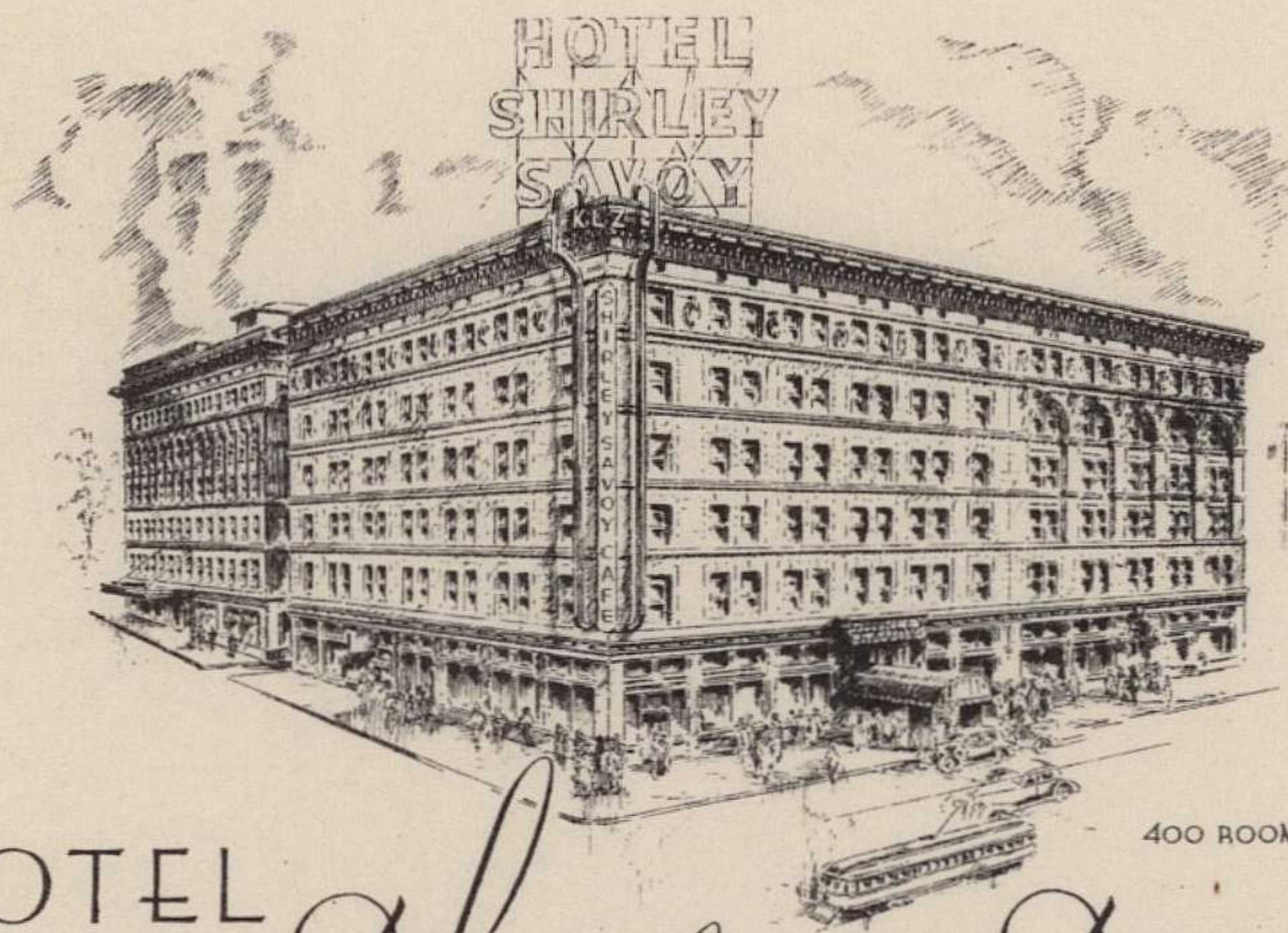
Good luck to you, Freddie, and may you carry on in the same fine fashion that I am convinced is planned for you.

With every good wish, I am

Sincerely yours,

Director of Physical Education,
Varsity Basketball Coach.

FCA:AH



HOTEL

Shirley-Savoy

DENVER COLORADO

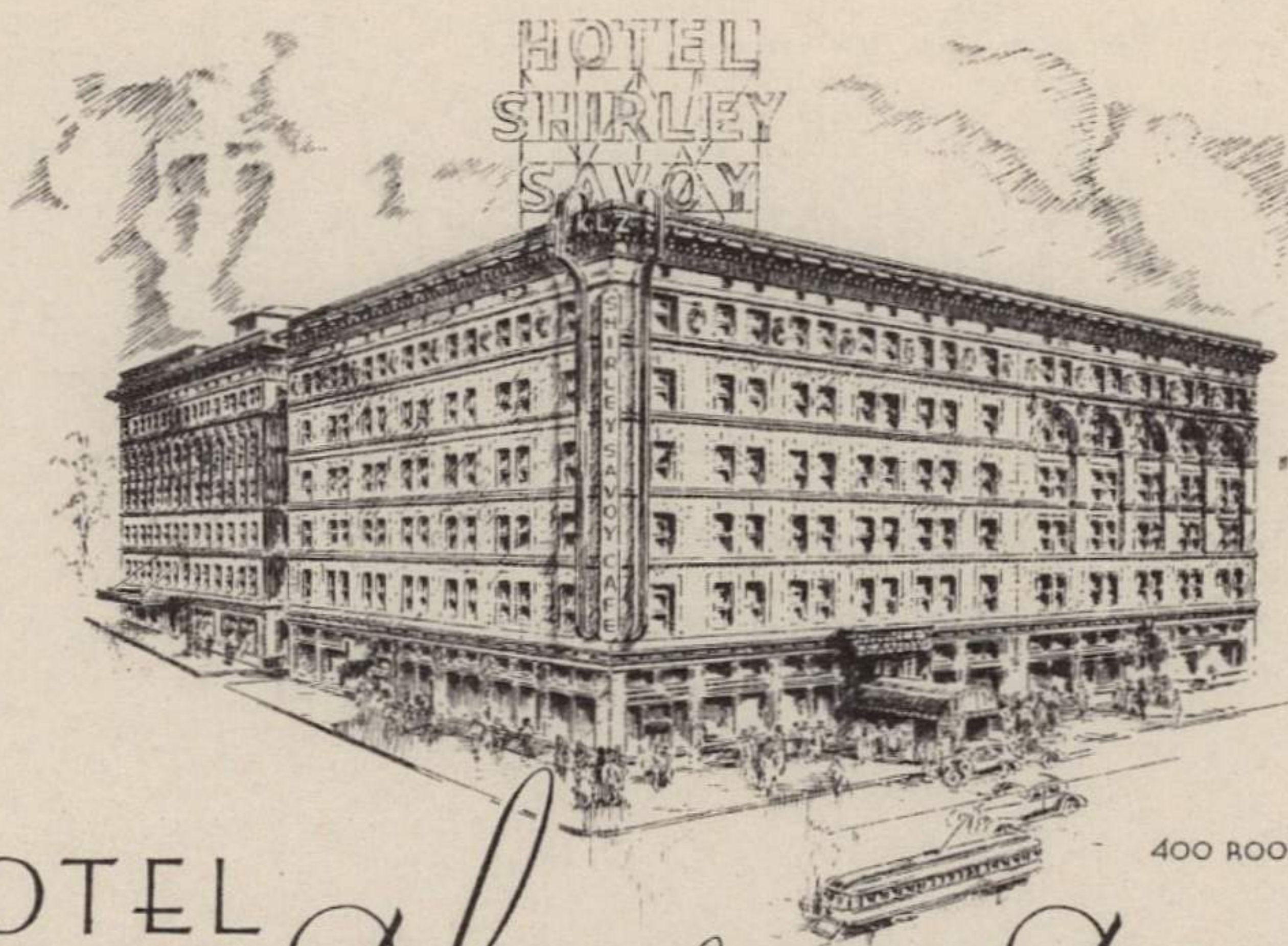
Mar 14, 1938

Monday

Dear Doctor Allen —

The trip out here so far has been perfect. I met the team in Colorado Springs on Friday morning and we spent Friday and Saturday in the mountains and then came to Denver late Saturday evening.

The tournament began yesterday with 56 teams entered. We drew a bye so probably won't play until tomorrow. There are some pretty good teams out here but so far the ones I have



HOTEL

Shirley-Savoy

DENVER COLORADO

- 2 -

seen usually lack good fundamentals and the spirit to win of a good college club.

Today the boys from K. U. —

Ray Ebling, Dick Wells, Paul Harrington, Ray Noble, Al Wellhausen, and myself had a planned luncheon together. It really was swell Doc, and to me, all we needed was you here to make the picture complete.

In closing please give my best regards to Mrs. Allen and the family —

"The St. Louis Dutchman"

Fred Tralle