

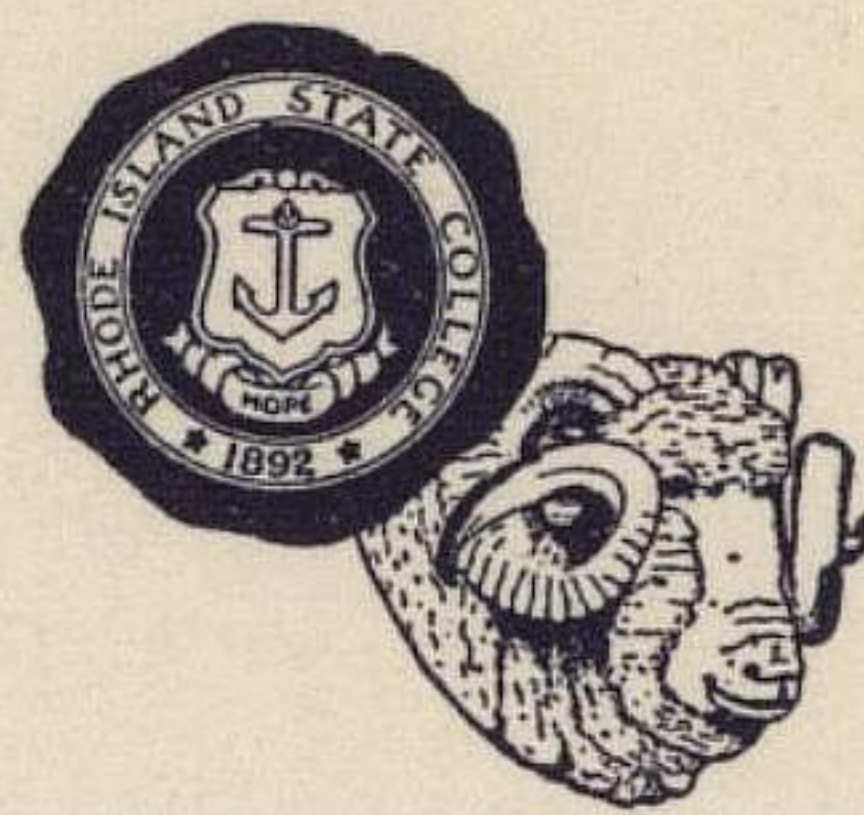
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March 14, 1939

Mr. Oswald Tower, Editor
"Basketball Guide"
Andover, Mass.

My dear Mr. Tower:

Enclosed please find a resume of the 1938-1939 New England Conference basketball race, which you might find interesting for next winter's basketball guide. No doubt, you will have to cut the long list of insignificant scorers, as you did for the current Guide.

While writing this letter, I thought I might impose upon your time and ruminant upon scoring in hopes of convincing you that some action ought to be taken at the forthcoming basketball convention so that basketball box scores could be standardized and made to mean something.

If you would permit, I'll digress and bring up baseball. Almost everywhere in the United States the box score is the same, there being a regular procedure in listing the players according to their batting positions and pursuing the AB, R, H, PO, A, and E in a uniform fashion, with the possible exception of the errors, which, because of lack of space, especially when the column is divided into halves, are listed directly beneath.

As a contrast, basketball offers a less complete and, certainly, a more diversified appearing box score. The current box score is decidedly "offensive," in that it lists largely the statistics on those who scored or failed to score. Then, a variety of forms of box scores are located throughout the nation. While the majority use the tabulated type, there are ever so many that only list the names, then, presumably with the idea of saving space, list ^{beneath} the fouls and goals, which tends to make the entire thing ambiguous or cumbersome to read.

Some newspapers list a player's name as often as he changes from one position to another, so, if a man plays guard, center and forward, or, even changes from one guard position to another, his name appears more than once.