

Princeville, Illinois  
March 16, 1940

Dr. F. C. Allen  
Lawrence, Kas.

Dear Sir:-

As one who much enjoys watching basketball, I have been interested in the stories in the press regarding possible rule changes. So pardon me if I submit a few ideas on the subject.

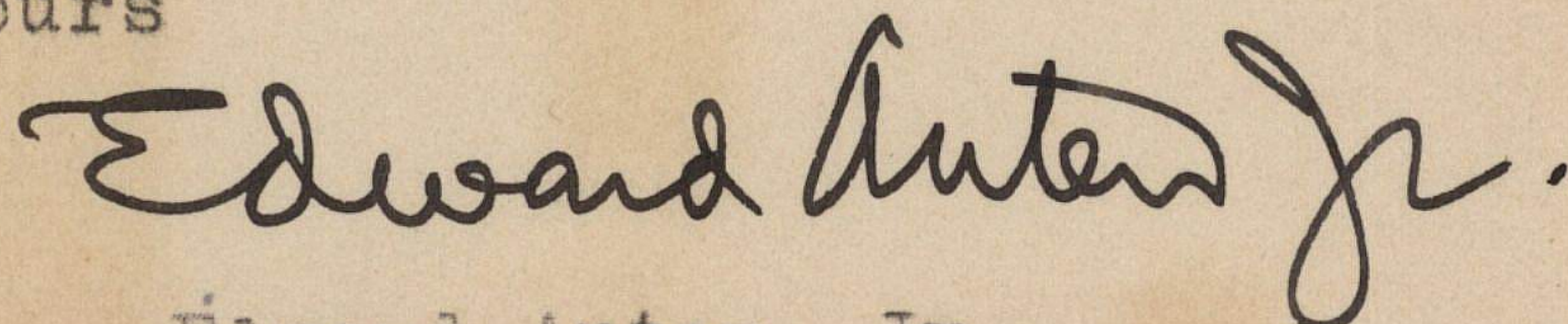
First. To avoid the crush in rebounding, I would suggest a rule that when the ball is taken off the bankboard or the hoop it has to be either passed to another player, or bounced on the floor before another shot could be taken at the basket. Under this rule it would be advantageous to spread the men out a bit, and some very pretty plays could be developed.

Second. There is too much intentional fouling. I would suggest that when a player gets two shots, he be given two points if he makes the first shot, and the second shot be cancelled. If he misses the first shot but makes the second, give him two points for that. A more stringent penalty on intentional fouling will make for better clean guarding. If this suggestion is too severe, Give him two points if he makes the first basket, one point if he misses the first but makes the second.

Third. If it is advisable to slow up the game, it is not necessary to restore the center jump. Simply rule that after a basket the ball has to be held a certain number of seconds, say 3 to 6, before being put into play from end of floor.

Fourth. The rules committee should take what action is necessary to clarify the call on baskets. When teams A and B are playing, some radio announcers call A's basket the one A defends, others call A's basket the one they shoot at. I believe A's basket should be the one they defend, just as the goal line in football. In listening to games over the radio one has to guess quite a bit of the time where the ball is.

Very truly yours



Edward Auten, Jr