

The University of Oklahoma
Norman, Oklahoma

PHYSICAL EDUCATION FOR MEN

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Dr. Forrest C. Allen
Manager N.C.A.A.
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Lawrence, Kansas

Dear Dr. Allen:

Congratulations. I tried to worm my way through the mob after the game to press the flesh but saw the presentation and then gave it up. It was swell to see the Conference come through. You know you would have had Edwards and Drake to whip had you let us down this late in the season. I will be glad to contribute a fresh roll of $1\frac{1}{2}$ " tape to hold that game crew of yours together for just one more game. I certainly did not want another Coast team in the finals again this year. I still contend that if a team goes ahead and gets good ~~shots~~ ^{two-handed} shots and fights for that ball under the backboard, that in the long run they will whip the socks off those one handed shooters that take 'em just to be shooting. My hat is off to you BIRDS and just hang tough for this one more game.

In spite of the fact that I have Hugh Ford for another year I do, in all sincerity, think that the raising of the goal would do what the elimination of the center jump was supposed to do, namely, take the premium off the big man. Granted that the big man in basketball is always going to be in demand, nevertheless a team is entitled to the shots that they take at the basket and have earned them without having a six foot ten boy jump and steal the ball before it even hits. Whether the elevation of the basket will take effect next year or not, I feel confident that for the good of basketball this step is going to be necessary if we intend to make the progress that we have made in the last five years. The present height of ten feet was no doubt set arbitrarily because the running tracks in the old gymnasiums happened to be this elevation. You know more than I about our inventor and what would be Neismith's attitude on this question, but I am positive that he would frown on the goal tending tactics that all of us have employed at some time or other.

Whether this height should be eleven or twelve feet I do not know but believe that an eleven foot basket would be easier to sell than the twelve foot. There is no doubt in my mind that the arc of disbursement on rebounds would clear up the congested area under the basket which would of course eliminate a lot of personal fouls.

This is not for publication but I sincerely believe that the helter-skelter one handed shots that are directed at the basket on the swing shots with little or no arch would certainly lose their effectiveness. I understand that Hobby Hobson has two sophomores at this time both measuring six foot seven and another measuring six four. So the elimination of the center jump has