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Sept. 24, 1940

Dr. Forrest C. Allen  
Varsity Basketball Coach  
University of Kansas

Dear Phog:

Once again I am about to impose upon your good graces for a basketball yarn. As you probably know, this year marks the 50th anniversary of the game, and with that in mind I have an idea for what I think will be a really swell story.

You might not agree with the angle I shall present to you, but there are three big reasons why you would figure so prominently in the story. (1) Because of your association with Dr. Naismith, inventor of the game. (2) Because of your long and most successful career in coaching ranks. (3) Because you also are a medical doctor.

The last reason is important because I would like to do a story which would state that basketball in the final analysis is the ROUGHEST, FASTEST, AND MOST EXACTING UPON ITS PARTICIPANTS of any sport in the book.

In the first place, I'm convinced it is, myself, and I've heard a lot of competent critics say the same. However, it would carry a lot more weight if you, one of the game's outstanding coaches, and at the same time a physician, would advance these theories.

Of course, you may not agree with me. But if you agree I am sure you can give us a few ideas which could be incorporated into a perfectly swell yarn, and one which would attract a lot of comment. We could trace the development of the game, showing how it gradually became faster and faster, more exacting upon the players, until it reached the point where today it's the fastest, toughest thing afloat.

I'd appreciate a line or two indicating your feelings on the matter.

Best regards,

*Jerry Brondfield*  
Jerry Brondfield