ROTATE THE CENTER JUMP

In a world monopolized by jeep drivers, machine gunners, parachute sq and bomb throwers one might seem a bit picayunish in opening a provocative discussion of a rule change in the competitive sport of basketball were it not that the permanent health of our great army of young basketball players is at stake.
being endangered. Recent research studies made in various parts of the United ornder the present center jumpless game of basketball, States indicate that there is serious physical injury being done to adolescents. the present center-jumpless game of basketball. In view of the fact that there are millions of participants in this same these findings are alarming. More youth are playing basket ball today they saily other game 18,000,000 people all over the world were playing the Sgame of basketball before the somnanbulistic New Yorkers were awakened to the fact by Ned Irish's Madison Square Garden giant double-headers. Multitudes of physicians and health officers are protesting against killer-12

Multitudes of physicians and health officers are protesting against killer
basketball. By eliminating the center jump the game has been speeded up from

20 to 30%. These able men contend that the game was already fast enough for the

physical welfare of the participants; and further, that no matter how carefully

checked these boys are there will be some whose hearts will not stand the

present strain. They go further and say that the untoward effects of present-

day basketball will far surpass any benefits which might otherwise be gained.

Restore the center jump and rotate the jumpers at center after each goal

just as the batting order of the baseball players is administered. Then

you will contribute to this present dizzy game its much needed remedy for the

present over-fatigue of the players. The elimination of the center jump was

climinated primarily to speed up the game. Other arguments for its elimination

offered by its proponents were (1) it put the officials in the background;

(2) it was difficult to control; (3) there were variations in toss-ups by

the referee; (4) players collided with officials; (5) there would be from

six to eight minutes of actual playing time added to the game -- therefore,

higher scores; (6) the tempo of the entire contest would be accelerated

and thus would add to spectator appeal of gate receipts.

In justice to the minority, there were a few coaches at this meeting who suggested that the elimination of the tip-off might add to the over-fatigue of the players, but this was merely a subjective conjecture and was dismissed In making this rule change, without serious consideration. The officiating, the speckators, the gate receipts, and higher scores were all considered in making this rule change.

18

The present game is from 6 to 8 minutes
The present game is from 6 to 8 minutes
long or than the center jump game.

long or than the center jump game.

a simple rule of taking time out
after every goal and starting the clock with the referee's toss of mould and the same start the same Everything was considered except the welfare of the players themselves it plems.

As a member of the National Basketball Rules Body, I vehemently protested
the elimination of the center jump on the grounds that the 10 to 13 second
pause of the official when putting the ball into play at center gave the
players a temporary breathing spell. It also gave the spectators a mental
breath. Under the old rule, this brief rest period permitted expendition
of the players' fatigued body cells and reestablished their proper physiological balances. X 2ncent II

Mortaflity records of insurance companies show that low blood pressure means longevity. Hypertension and strain injures the blood vascular system. Certainly in these times of crises when we are having revealed unto us the high accordance of physical unfitness of our American youth we should be more cautious than ever bear about the necessary lulls in their strenuous games.

Health balance should be the first consideration.

Basketball was primarily originated for youth. "It is a game easy to play but difficult to master", said its founder, Dr. James Naismith, fifty years

ago. He was speaking of the game's desirpable goal -- play for the fun of it.

He originated this game so that eighteen boys could play for the sheer fun of it.

It is a far cry from then to now. Basketball now is a highly organized team

game and an excellent one. It is a useful and desirable interescholastic and interescholastic specific But menacing symptoms are showing which may eat out its heart. In many

places it appears too commercialized. In others, it looks like a racket.

The first considerations in any amateur game, and basketball is no exception, should be the physical, mental, and social welfare of the participants. But the basketball rule-makers evidently considered other elements paramount, by 9 eliminating the center jump they created a speed game in which frenzy, hysteria, hyper-tension, heart strain, poor passing, and fumbling predominate. also added another out-of-bounds play for every goal made by either team. 12 Prior to the elimination of the center jump, the Rules Body and various coaches 13 had complained that there were too many stoppages to the game from out-of-14 bounds plays, whistle-tooting and so forth. Their chief dissatisfaction with 15 the status quo, however, was the tall mezzanine-peeping goon center who 16 they claimed, dominated the game by controlling the tip-off or tap. They declared that this jumpless center change would drive the tall player who was 18 In this prediction they were badly used only for the tap out of the game.

* 2 ment 1

The Eurse 2 extremely tall players playing, against short and average height players could be easily the a height of 12 theet. Then the tall players could not dunk them in and the little fellow as well as the tall me Could deftly auch his shot the feet higher. Il goal shooter accommonadates his eyes to height as readily as he does to varying the this higher backet is another story and mass

stratospheric

9

10

13

14

15

16

18

mistaken. Instead, there has been a progressive increase in the altitude of the altitudinous players. As a matter of fact, the tall players did not win any games at the tip-off circle. They were and are more potent under both the defensive and offensive baskets where their height stands them in good stead for ball dunking and ball recovery. These tall players are still winning their

games under the basket. . IF and Insert ! here

some of Running, jumping, leaping, color aulting, are the fundamental activities of These are also the fundamental activities of basketball. By reestablishing the fundamental activity of jumping to basketball and by equalizing this center jumping privilege among all the players through an ordered rotation, it is my honest conviction that we would restore to both the game and to the players much of the enrichment that the game has lost. We have 30% as much jumping from help balls, now, between odd-sized opponents as we had during Under the old rules, opposing coaches always the days of the center jump. The centers of course did all the jumping: placed their best jumpers at center. Years and yours ago, when I was a player, specialists on each team threw the free throws for their respective teams. At present, the player fouled throws them. This is the newer method of distributing skills.

Naturally, many mell grustion the Horkability fraking administration of such a rule. Limitar objections Law been made of many suggested changes which are today Extegral parts of the present backet ball rules. The various cooch will drill this charges on Hessel changes as he forther Here on all mecessary fundamentale of the game. With the trafferer, the scare keeper and the coaches coaperation of thempers doubter the suggested and in the pasting

10

12

15

Doubtless the center jump did entail too much strain upon the two jumping centers. The rotation of the center jump after each goal would entirely eliminate this problem. Too, these pauses in the game would afford breathing spells for both the spectators and players. The administration of the rotation of the center jump should be as efficient as is the enforcement of the batting order in baseball. Before the game began, the respective coaches would give to the score-keeper the order in which their players were to jump -- just as the batting order is handled in baseball. Substitutes coming in would follow the jumping order of their predecessors.

"Leave the rules alone" cry coaches. Baseball would still be "One

Old Cat" if intelligent rule-makers, through numerous wise revisions, had

not developed it into its present magnificent game. Baseball is 100 years

old. Basketball is but one-half of that. Whether or not basketball as a

sport lives to see the century mark depends largely upon intelligent rules

revisions which will at every turn protect the permanent well-being of its

participants.

Many of the outstanding coaches of the nation opposed the elimination of the center jump. Now, after four years, we find them still wanting the center jump

- returned to the game. Lou Andreas, Varsity Basketball Coach of Syracuse
- 2 University, degires the horse race effects of the present game by saying, "It
- 3 is like watching a table tennis match. The ball is always going back and forth
- 4 with no stops. It puts a severe strain on the youngsters."
- 5 Lon Jourdet, Varsity Basketball Coach at the University of Pennsylvania, believes
- 6 that basketball is taking too great toll, "Basketball rule makers must return the
- 7 center jump to the game before secondary school authorities legislate against
- 8 the sport", he says, "College boys, too, are finding the going a lot rougher than
- 9 it was a few years back when the center tep-off was the vogue."
- 10 George Koegan, Varsity Basketball Coach of Notre Dame, has been a bitter critic of
- TIV 11 the elimination of the center jump. He says, "The theory that even a great
 - 12 center could dominate the game was never anything but nonsense."
 - 13 Henry "Hank" Tha, the brilliant young mentor of Oklahoma A. and M. College at
 - 14 Stillwater, Oklahoma; Dave McMillan, Coach of the Minnesota Gophers; and a host
 - 15 of other outstanding coaches of the nation have consistently plead for the return
 - 16 of the center jump.

In the words of H. B. Porter, Secretary of the National Federation of State High School Athletic Associations, "Basketball is not static. It is capable of continued growth and improvement." On this premise I offer my solution for a return to the sanity of the game by restoring the center jump and rotating every man on the team to jump center.

shuttle 6 (# The out-of-bounds play, presents nothing but a/retreating defense, and an

anxious, pell-mell, haphazard effort by the offense. On the other hand, the center jump gives variety to the game and offers boundless opportunity for the development of set plays which when smoothly executed are pretty to watch. And

the batting order idea would eliminate all previous objections to the exorbitantly 10

tall center controlling the tip-off.

16

12 -In five years basketball has swung from death dirge to ding-dong, and today this slap-happy, slam-bang game has everybody holding to the ropes and panting for breath. We've swung from Scylla to Charybdis -- from tangent to tangent. This killer speed-devil in uniform has struck at the players. Where is the Golden 15 Mean? Perhaps the restoration and the rotation of the center jump is the answer.

Mr. Ralph Cannon, ESQUIRE, 919 North Michigan Ave., Chicago, Illinois.

Dear Ralph:

I acknowledge receipt of your letter of May 26th concerning the material on the N.C.A.A. tournament.

I will work on this during the summer and fall, but would like to know just what issue you want to use it in.

I shall be happy to hear from you again.

Sincerely yours,

Director of Physical Education and Recreation, Varsity Basketball and Baseball Coach.

FCASAH

EAGUETE
THE MAG AZINE FOR MEN
919 NORTH MICHIGAN AVENUE
CHICAGO

May 26, 1942.

Dr. Forrest C. Allen
Director of Physical Education
University of Kansas
Lawrence
Kansas.

Dear Dr. Allen:

I spoke to Mr. Smart about this, and he said by all means to go ahead and hit it hard. Of course you have plenty of time; so get it ready to suit yourself, and then send it along. Thanks a lot for referring it to us.

Cordially,

Rogh Cannon

Yes. Hun would be red hat for hem do it as

May 11, 1942.

Mr. Ralph Cannon, Esquire Magazine, 919 No. Michigan Ave., Chicago, Illinois.

Dear Ralph:

I am sending you in confidence a letter that I received from George Edwards, who managed the N.C.A.A. Basketball Tournament in Kansas City this past year. Some of this is quite personal and I do not care to mention that.

However, the historical part of basketball being sold down the river by the N.C.A.A. to the A.A.U. and the disposition they made of the tournament by grabbing all the money seems to me something that the public should know more about from a fair play standpoint. I do not desire to be too cryptic, but I am not afraid of pulling a punch when a punch is necessary.

I was wondering if you would be interested in such an article for next year's Esquire. Of course, I would expect you to censor and delete any part of it that would not be compatible with your editorial policy, but I do believe that we have something that should be called to the attention of the public with a view of righting some wrongs.

I will be happy to hear from you after you have perused my letter.

Sincerely yours

Director of Physical Education and Recreation, Varsity Basketball and Baseball Coach.

FCA:AH

(copy to Dr. F. C. Allen)

Mr. Gwinn Henry Director of Athletics University of Kansas Lawrence, Kansas

Dear Gwinn:

Inasmuch as your letter of April 1 contains some statements which imply that the Manager of the N.C.A.A. Western Playoffs in Kansas City was discourteous to Kansas authorities, and believing that such was not the case, I will reply at some length.

Copies of this letter are being sent to those persons who, I feel, ought to know the details in this controversy. The list will include Dr. Allen, H. G. Olsen, and John L. Griffith, Secretary of the N.C.A.A. For the information of those not familiar with our previous correspondence, I will review the situation.

Following the Final Game on March 28, the Auditor of the Municipal Auditorium handed me a memorandum on a piece of railroad stationery, which said "To Kansas" and listed an expense report of \$32.50 for sale of tickets to N.C.A.A. games. The auditor wished to subtract that amount from game receipts and handle payment of the bill himself. However, as the account was not properly submitted with the name of any Kansas authority on it I told him that I would be responsible.

Accordingly, I wrote to you on March 31, a letter in which I explained why I had not let the Auditor settle the bill and asked for more information. Also, I expressed the opinion that ticket sale charges usually are not made when a school acts as agent for its patrons in a game in which its team is involved. Because of the unusual procedure, I also wrote, should you feel that Kansas was entitled to make such charges I believed it best to refer the account to N.C.A.A. officials for payment.

This review brings the matter up to date.

In your letter which arrived yesterday, Gwinn, you wrote as follows:

"This account was turned in by Mr. Falkenstien for the Athletic Office when it was discovered that no complimentary tickets would be allowed the University of Kansas coaches, Athletic Board, etc. Having the tickets here we were necessarily subjected to some pressure by the above named persons and tickets were furnished them at the expense of the Athletic Department."

"Had any tickets been allowed, he would not have submitted the expense report. - - - - it is also unusual that a school's team competing receives such a small amount of the receipts and is not allowed any complimentary tickets for those who ordinarily receive them to events in which their teams are competing."

As stated earlier, the implication is plain that the Manager of the games was discourteous to Kansas. He certainly was not only discourteous, but very foolish, if your statements were true. But, Gwinn, someone "discovered" something that I did everything in my power to avoid.

I met the Kansas coach and team at the station when the party arrived in Kansas City on Thursday. One of my first remarks covered the complimentary situation and I told Dr. Allen, that while we wished to keep complimentaries to a minimum, I expected him to let me know just how many he would need. He said that there was a movement on foot when he left Lawrence to have all Kansas officials buy their own tickets. I insisted that such an act would be very embarrassing to me; requested that it not be handled in that way; and again asked his assistance in distribution of passes to proper Kansas people.

That night I called a meeting of coaches and referees. The Stanford and Rice coaches were delayed by rail connections. Present were coaches Allen and Cox; four referees; and Reaves Peters. There I outlined details of the pass regulations which included two arena balcony seats for each member of the school's traveling squad; and extra tickets to a coach who meeded them for official representatives of his school. Cooperation was asked for the protection of all, but I made it emphatic that since Kansas was so close to Kansas City, that school probably would require more passes than any of the others. This was justified, I explained also, by the fact that Kansas patrons unquestionably would be liberal in their support of the tournament.

Another meeting was held on Friday morning, with only the four coaches in attendance. It was expected that game arrangements would be discussed, and I had tickets on hand for distribution.

The opening topic concerned the type of backboards to be used. Over Dr. Allen's vigorous protest, the majority voted for gass backstops—the vote of the Managersmaking a 3 to 2 result. Immediately, Dr. Allen left the meeting, although much other business was not touched. I pleaded for him to stay and suggested again that I wanted to discuss the complimentary situation with him. I was informed, curtly, that there was nothing more to discuss.

From 1:30 P. M. to 4:00 P. M., I tried to reach him by 'phone--he elected to stay at another hotel than headquarters-- but couldn't catch

him until about 4:00 o'clock when I told him that arrangements had been made with Auditorium ticket office for as many complimentaries as he needed for K. U. authorities and anyone else whom he felt indebted. He thanked me for this arrangement, and I supposed, from his manner, that he would see the N.C.A.A. would not be accused of niggardliness by those whose interests I wished to serve.

That he did appreciate this plan is indicated by the complimentary tickets report certified to by the Auditor of the Auditorium. Here are the figures covering complimentary tickets issued to Kansas:

Friday - March 20

* This rooters group entered just before the games started. I had no knowledge of such plans and asked on whose authority they came. The cheer leader informed me that Mr. Falkenstien had made the arrangements. I told them that I was somewhat embarrassed since no one had informed me of their coming. My plans for the next night included a section in the arena balcony for them, but when I spoke about this to Dr. Allen the next day, he said that he had already 'phoned to Mr. Falkenstien and told him to keep the group at home.

Saturday - March 21

Maximum received by any other team for any one night . . 38

Gwinn, this has been a long letter, but I felt that detailed explanations are necessary to counteract the word of someone who "discovered that no complimentary tickets would be allowed the University of Kansas."

As I look over the happenings now, I realize that one sad mistake was made, in that I never contacted you or your chancellor and informed both of you personally just what I, as Manager of the games, wishes to

do. At the time, such procedure never occurred to me, inasmuch as I have always handled all such matters through the coach of a school's team. For that negligence, I am very sorry.

The statement of ticket expense now officially in my hands, will be taken up with Mr. Olson immediately, and his decision will be communicated to you as soon as it comes.

Attached, you will find a check for \$331.76, which covers the statement of traveling expenses and living costs in Kansas City, as submitted by your business manager.

Here, again, I would like to call attention to two items of \$1.80 each, for taxi fares to and from the station. Instructions sent to coaches before they left home, notified them that they were allowed \$5.00 a day expenses for each member of their traveling squad while in Kansas City, and that such allowance was expected to cover all local expense. I have allowed this \$3.60, although none of the others asked for it. Come to think of it, I saw your team board street cars upon its arrival in Kansas City.

Yours truly,

GEORGE R. EDWARDS Manager N.C.A. A. Games

Enclosure GRE: COE

to the for

Mr. George Edwards, Basketball Coach, University of Missouri, Columbia, Missouri.

Dear George:

"Constitution of the

I am belatedly replying to you in regard to the carbon copy of your letter addressed to Mr. Owinn Henry regarding the Mestern N.C.A.A. play-off, which you sent me.

First, I want to assure you, George, that I bear no animosity toward you. But I am conscious of the fact that someone has said that there are three sides to every question - your side, my side, and the right side. Your letter gives me am opportunity first to pointedly set forth some historical data regarding basketball in the N.C.A.A., and also an opportunity to make some observations.

liay I say that I had no conversation with Mr. Gwinn Henry regarding the Western play-offs, and any letter that he wrote you could not have been tinctured or influenced by anything I had to say to him or anyone else here in authority because of this situation. Evidently what Mr. Henry referred to in his letter was in regard to tickets for the Athletic Board, the Chancellor, and the officers of the Athletic Association here at the University. I am merely interpreting Mr. Henry's letter for you, not having discussed it with him at this date. I am sure that Chancellor Malott has so many larger things to consider that he has given it practically no thought. If you imply that the manager of the games was discourteous to Mansas, that is entirely your own interpretation, I am sure.

I would like to call your attention, George, to the fact that you mot the Kenses teem, along with Dan Partner of the Kenses City Star. There were 20 people in our party, although your tournament committee limited us to 14 so far as expenses were concerned. While you were standing there Dan Partner said, "Allen, why don't you eateh a texi? They are cheaper than the street cars." I said, "Yes, I know it, but the boys have just eaten a big meal on the train and I desire them to have some exercise." Since the street cars were more expensive than the taxis, I am wondering why you "come to think of it that you saw the boys board the street cars." Or did you think that perhaps we could ride free on the street care? In submitting my taxi fere it was a part of the team's transportation to the hotel from our college town. Only expenses for taxi were included from the depot to the hotel, and from the hotel to the depot returning. I still consider it a very just and reasonable charge, and I am making no apology whatsoever for it. We paid all of the expenses of the six extra boys out of our own athletic pocket while in

Eansas City, which was our own right, was it not?

I remember distinctly the statement that you rade to the effect that you were giving 28 tickets, two a piece for 14 boys in our party. I also remember your saying that you would be glad to give us additional tickets but the management was trying to keep complimentaries to the minimum. At the time you made that statement I endeavored to detect the glean of human kindness in your administrative glass eye, but I failed. I was sure that you could see that we had 20 men in our party, and the fact that Ray Evans, Bob Johnson, Paul Turner, Jack Ballard and Charlie Black were boys who had played in the greater Kansas City high school area, consequently the demand for tickets for these boys alone would amount to more than 28 tickets. To be perfectly frank with you, I gave those boys 32 tickets for them and their own large families, and in my opinion they deserved them. The other boys on the squad, with one exception, were boys living in this state with parents who naturally would desire to go to the games. The University of Kansas has a freshman toom that also desired to see the varsity in action, and being in such close proximity to the game it took no stretch of the imagination to see that elther the Athletic Association would be forced to purchase tickets for them at full price or else they would have to pay for them themselves or be denied the right to see the game.

We had no unpleasantries over the ticket situation, but your whole attitude in all of these administrative matters caused me to fool ombarrassed in asking you for any relexation of the rules. You will note that I went to the Auditorium and got the tickets, preferring to have them charged to us rather than to ask you to give them to us. There was nothing to keep you from sending an allotment of tickets to the hotel if you desired us to have them. I would not have asked you for a large number of additional tickets because in my opinion you were failing to see the very obvious point that you made - that the Kannas team was drawing quite a crowd, which meant success for the N.C.A.A. tournament. But you failed to be generous enough to volunteer to give these boys the additional tickets for their efforts in drawing this crowd. The boys were not asking for tickets to sell or to make money from as so many of the ster athletes do when they get extra tickets. But they were asking for them for their folks, and I was bent upon getting them because they were entitled to them. Our boys came from areas close to Kansas City. The boys of the other teams came from great distances, hence 28 tickets might be sufficient for some of them.

I think you are utterly unfair in including 31 tickets for the Jay Jenes in the Kansas complimentaries. I had no connection whatsoever in arranging the Jay Jenes' admission. That was between the Auditorium people and the office here. There were no complimentaries given, although the Jay Jenes were admitted to the arena floor with no seats for which an admission was charged. This makes it appear as if we got over a hundred tickets, but we only get 73 the first night, and 68 the second night. Some of those tickets included the freshmen, of course, and the relatives of the boys. I think it was a very reasonable amount. We did not endeaver to get a single ticket for enyone in Lawrence, preferring to take care of our own team and leaving to the administrative officers in Leavence the course they desired to pursue. We had no contact with them.

certainly I was not asking for any tickets for the administration here at Lawrence. What I told you when you mentioned this was
that they would take care of their own tickets, meaning that I would have
no tickets for them in this exceptionally small allowance which you made,
and naturally they would have to make their own arrangements. If you
intended to make me feel that I was asking an especial favor of you personally for these tickets, you did so. There doubtless was some unpleasant background of my criticizing your N.C.A.A. tournament, and the feeling
perhaps was on the part of both of us not to ask favors of each other.

Henry Iba told me that he heard on very good authority that if Oklahoma Aggies won the play-off they were to be matched against Stanford, and if we won the play-off we were to be matched against Colorado. Iba also told me further that if he won the tournament he expected to be consulted regarding the official who was to represent this district. The drawings for games were made, but they were not made in public, so far as we learned. Certainly there was no public notice of the drawings. I am frank to say to you that I had no great confidence in the quality of officiating from this district, and I believe that it did prove rather disappointing.

You had asked the coaches to determine the type of ball, but in your circular letter of March 10 you sent out a notice that the court would be equipped with 6 x 4 glass backstops, which was a violation of the rules as printed in the N.C.A.A. Guide. In our meeting at the President Hotel, Commissioner Peters had stated that all rules would be decided with no interpretation, but would follow strictly to the letter the rules as printed in the book. These and other acts of yours caused me to feel very uncomfortable when I was dealing with you.

I had stated that I was not interested in playing in the tournament, and it was only because the boys desired to play that I acquaesced. I can assure you now that it will take more than that to ever get me into another tournament where the University loses a large sum of money and the N.C.A.A. takes 55% of it. The 55% "lug" of the N.C.A.A. is an outrageous discrimination against the sport of basketball. In no other sport that the N.C.A.A. supervises do they take more than 10% - swiming, wrestligg, boxing, track and field.

In order that the average layman can see the unfairness of this "lug", let us divide a \$5.00 bill the same as the N.C.A.A. divides the basketball receipts from the N.C.A.A. tournament. First, the N.C.A.A. takes 10% of the \$5.00, which is 50%. Then they divide the remaining amount, \$4.50, the N.C.A.A. taking 50% of that, which is \$2.25. The N.C.A.A. therefore gets 50% plus \$2.25, making a total of \$2.75. The other \$2.25 is divided eighteen ways, 2/18 going to each of the eight teams which play two genes in the Western and the Eastern N.C.A.A. playoffs. That leaves the remaining 2/18 for the two teams in the finals, such as Stanford and Dartmouth. One-eighteenth of \$2.25 is 12%.

Therefore, Stanford and Dartmouth get three times 12%, or 37% for playing in the final N.C.A.A. tournament and the two previous games. Rice, Colorado, Penn State, Rentucky State, Illinois and Ransas would therefore receive 2/18, or 25% for playing two games. The most any school would get would be 37%, and the least my school would get would be 25%, and the N.C.A.A. would get \$2.75. If that is not a "lug", what is it?

The Rose Bowl, the Sugar Bowl, the Orange Bowl, the World Series in baseball, or in any other supervised activity the participating teams get the major portion, but in basketball the N.C.A.A. organization has seen fit to gut the earnings of the N.C.A.A. basketball tournament.

Romeyn Berry, L. W. St. John and the writer were on the committee to obtain basketball in the Olympics, but only the writer did any of the work in obtaining that result. After basketball was placed on the Olympic calendar, basketball was sold down the river by the N.C.A.A. to the A.A.U. The N.C.A.A. desired to name the ceaches in four of the sports, track and field, wrestligg, swimming and crow, and the officers of the N.C.A.A. made an agreement with the A.A.U. that if the A.A.U. would permit the N.C.A.A. to name the Olympic ceaches in those four sports they would relinquish any claim they might have and permit the A.A.U. to name the ceach of basketball in the Olympics. This was done.

In the organization of the N.C.A.A. championship in basket-ball, Harold Olsen as chairman, John Bunn and the writer submitted to the Executive Committee of the N.C.A.A. a plan whereby 80% of the money taken in the tournaments would be given to the competing teams, and 20% to the N.C.A.A. Olsen's failure to submit the committee's report to the Executive Committee of the N.C.A.A., of course, caused this not to be put into effect. And after the Western tournament in Kansas City in 1940, where a large sum of money was realized, it was then that the N.C.A.A. took all of the money, and only after the personal fight by one member of the basketball committee was a compromise effected whereby the schools got any of the money whatsoever.

Undoubtedly the N.C.A.A. Executive Committee has killed the N.C.A.A. tournament by grabbing everything within sight. The N.C.A.A. basketball committee has also done irreparable harm by their administrative supinity and rules-concooting at the meeting in New Orleans. There are more politicians on the committee than there are men of vision. One year they put the high school federation in power to meet the ends of their own purposes, and the next year they make them the goat endeavoring to please a few eastern coaches.

Very sincerely yours.

Director of Physical Education and Recreation, Varsity Dasketball and Baseball Coach.

罗CA LAM

Mr. M. S. Stowart, ESQUIRE, 910 No. Michigan Ave., Chicago, Illinois.

Dear Mr. Stewarts

Your kind letter of December 17th came to my desk during the Christmas season. I was particularly occupied at that time with basketball practice, and the mail on my desk was not handled as promptly as it should have been. For that reason your letter has been unanswered.

I presume that it is rather late now to send a list of names to you. I do not have a special list and it would take quite some time to prepare a mailing list for you. Since it is so late I believe we better let it go.

I am very sorry for my failure to cooperate with you earlier on this, but it was unintentional, I assure you.

Very sincerely yours,

Director of Physical Education and Recreation, Varsity Basketball and Baseball Coach.

FCA: AH



ROTATE THE CENTER-JUMP by Forrest C. Allen, scheduled for the February Esquire.

December 17, 1941

Dear Author ...

Editor Gingrich's advance memo on the contents for the next issue of Esquire has just come through, and already we in the promotion department are mapping out our publicity plans for that month. Your piece, as indicated at the top of this letter, is included in the line-up ... and since it's one that we think lends itself particularly well to extra promotion on our part, we'd like to ask for your suggestions in publicizing it.

If you have any ideas about large-scale publicity, -- mailings or tie-ups with special groups who would be particularly interested in your piece because of its subject matter -- we'd like to have your suggestions.

But more particularly, we think you can help us to "spread the word" about your writing among those in your own field by furnishing us with a list of your personal publicity contacts. For instance, if you have any special contacts on newspapers, radio stations, house-organs or trade papers, we'll be glad to send them advance tear sheets of your piece, seeking general publicity for you and your writing.

In addition to this list of publicity contacts, we'd like to have a selected list of your friends or former associates (not necessarily connected with publicity media) who would appreciate advance information about your piece.

We'd like to give your piece as widespread a play as possible. To that end we'll appreciate any cooperation you can give us.

May we hear from you soon? Thanks!

Cordially yours,

M. S. Stewart

mss/gu