

November 3, 1941

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

Dear Mr. Cannon,

Thank you for your kind words of the 30th ultimo concerning our contribution of the basketball article. I've always enjoyed working with newsmen because they're perfectly frank and tell you what they want or what they do not want. In that way, it is easy to work with them.

Regarding the center jump. I expected that your poll would show the ratio indicated because the center jump has been out quite some time; and too, it's very difficult to advocate any change in the rules that people are not doubtful about at first. Change is always something the human race is never ready for and becomes accustomed to only slowly.

There was a great build-up against the center jump by a great many people who objected to the domination of the game by the tall fellow at center. As I stated in my article, the real damage was done by the tall man under the basket. But the prejudice persisted in so many minds and still exists among the opponents of the center jump for the reason just stated.

I wrote Marshall Diebold and told him that I had ~~been~~ asked by you for an article, therefore, I thought it ~~would~~ be wise for me to reserve what arguments I had for my article, rather than for me to pass them on to him.

Again, thank you for your kindness. I assure you that it was a pleasure to do this assignment for you and for Esquire.

Sincerely yours,

Director of Physical Education and Recreation  
Varsity Basketball and Baseball Coach

FCA/pg