

February 12, 1938.

Mr. H. D. Edgren,
George Williams college,
Chicago, Illinois.

Dear Mr. Edgren:

I am tardy in acknowledging your kind favor of the 31st ultimo, together with your study on Objective Tests on Individual Activities. Thank you very much for this. I am sure I will find it very interesting.

Answering your question regarding the conference attitude toward the elimination of the center jump this year, beg to state that McDermott, of Oklahoma, has outspoken against eliminating the tip, as I believe Root, of Kansas State, did. Menze, at Iowa State, rather has come along accepting it half-heartedly, as has Browne, of Nebraska. Edwards, of Missouri, is hoping to find more profits in the elimination of the center tip than was found in the tap play, although he has not come out very strong either way.

Personally, I have always been for the center tap, although in the 29 years that I have been coaching here we have had but two fairly tall centers. I have gone along with the rules committee feeling that they knew what they were doing, although I have never agreed with their action. I have always contended that it is just another out of bounds play, and just because half of the Pacific Coast Conference - a conference in which basketball never was any too strong - propogandized the thing, this should not have been a criterion to change the national rules. The northern half of the Pacific Coast Conference has always been for the tap play at center.

All the rules makers have done is to eliminate the center tip and just add a great number of out of bounds plays at the end. There are no plays now in the center of the court except the beginning tap.

I have always been strong for a rotation of center jumpers just as we have the batting order in baseball. Then if you took time out after each field goal and free throw, and give them ample time to come back to center to get set, you would give the public a breathing spell mentally after an exciting goal, and you would permit the players' hearts to resume some degree of normalcy before another hard drive up the floor.