

February 25, 1943.

Mr. Dillon Graham, Sports Editor,  
AP Features,  
50 Rockefeller Plaza,  
New York.

Dear Dillon:

I just received your favor of the 23rd instant and I assure you I will be happy to cooperate with you in any scheme that you would like to promote. However, I do believe that we should separate college from professional teams altogether.

And here's another thing, Dillon. The game has changed in so many ways that it is very difficult to select an all-time college basketball all-American team. Years ago one fellow threw all the free throws. Also, for a number of years they had the center jump. With the rotation of the throw going to the offended player the specialist on free throws has been cut out. Many fellows made all-time selections on their free throwing being one of the major attributes of the athlete.

Then the center jumper developed certain jumping players who were not the greatest shots but were great floor men and controlled the tip-off.

Another question is how far back would you want to go for your consideration? N.C.A.A. basketball started in 1905, or rather the college rules permitting the dribble started in 1905, but it was about 1920 before basketball really got the attention of the all-round athlete - the football, baseball and track men. Another thing, until Ned Irish started his games in the Garden, the different sectional teams did not have an opportunity to play the other sections as they are doing now. So many teams in remote sections of the country were isolated.

Personally, I don't think we ought to bring the pros in for any consideration. The pros were the fellows that killed basketball in the East by their stalling and dilly-dallying tactics, and they haven't done much for the college game at present, as I see it. Could we not play the college boys up because any pro who played long years after his college playing should have a decided advantage.