

February 2, 1944

Coach Forrest C (Phog) Allen
Athletic Dept, Kansas University
Lawrence, Kansas

Dear Sir:

Enclosed in this letter you will find a written story of a new basketball change suggested by Lt George Wells, former head basketball coach at Upper Iowa University and Kirksville Teachers College. Lt Wells is trying to get the reaction of the top basketball coaches in the country on this rule so any comment from you will be greatly appreciated.

This new rule of his tends to do away with the zone defense completely and will give basketball back to the fans where it really belongs. It is very radical, I assure you, but many of our modern rules of today were thought to be radical when they were first proposed. Personally, I think that it is no more radical than that new suggested baseball rule whereby a runner has the option of running to first or third upon hitting the ball.

If it is at ~~ax~~ all possible, Lt Wells suggests that you try this new rule out with a picked team and see how it works. We have tried it out here and the comments that we received from the players and the spectators indicated that it was very thrilling and exciting to them and definitely added speed and a lot more action than we have in basketball as it exists today. Two teams of equal ability were picked and the final score was 67-59, a very interesting game.

~~XXXXX~~ Thanking you in advance for any consideration and comment you may give the enclosed story, I ~~remain~~ remain,

Very Truly Yours,

Mike Haikin
Pvt Mike Haikin

Former Ass't Sports Publicity Dept
Texas A&M College

*College Station,
Texas.*