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July 6, 1942.

Mr. John O. Herbold,
Attorney-at-Law,
201 Hollywood Security Bldg.,
6381 Hollywood Blvd.,
Hollywood, California.

Dear Mr. Herbold:

Pardon me for not answering your favor of March 14th sooner. You certainly do keep up on sports. Our mutual friend, George Halas, did have a great year. I was called back to the University of Illinois in 1916 and was fortunate enough to be able to fix George Halas's bum knee, which he often dislocated while he was playing end and guard for the Illini football and baseball team. I often see George in Chicago and if I am ever around there he never fails to insist that he take care of me for some tickets to the game. Of course, I never make my presence known unless it is at a time to say hello to him in a personal way, and not to see a game. If there is anything I dislike it is a chiseler in athletic contests. But George is a good friend of mine and I have a very high regard for him. He is a high type college man in professional sports, and he is very intelligent and a great personality.

I thank you for sending the clipping on the glass backboard. The theory of the glass backboard is that it does not give a shooting background for a basketball player. The rim is painted black and the net is white, and the backboard should be white to set off the black rim for better visibility. Glass is blue and it is always darker behind the basket in these large auditoriums than on the playing floor.

Therefore, when a basketball player attempts a shot on a glass backboard he is really shooting into the dark for a background. I think you know the value of shooting from clay traps with a black background when you are shooting clay pigeons, or the baseball batsman hitting at a white baseball with a white painted background back of the pitcher in center field. If you will notice any of those situations you will find that they will not take a white painted sign and place it in the center field section. It is always green or dark.

The N.C.A.A. did sanction the use of the illegal equipment but after the meeting was over, to save their face, they made glass backboards legal. But this was done a week after the tournament.