

February 31, 1943.

Mr. James E. Battell, P.F.C.,
U. S. Army Air Forces,
Station Hospital,
Atlantic City, N.J.

Dear Private Battell:

Pardon me for not answering your communication of January 27th sooner.

Many men play basketball by using a basketball mask. It is a small contraption that fits over the head much after the manner of a catcher's mask, only made very much lighter and adjusted over the glasses so there is no danger of breaking them. I imagine this would be the most inexpensive thing for you to have. Most sporting goods houses keep them.

Then we have the "Safe-Play" glasses manufactured at Beloit, Wisconsin. The best thing, of course, are the lenses that fit right over the eyes, but they are expensive, costing something like \$100. I am sure that you being in the service would not be interested in spending that much money to play basketball.

I believe if I were you I would over-shoot the basket with an arch because the percentage would be in your favor. By endeavoring to over-shoot sometimes the shot is short but if it is in line you would have the added benefit of it dropping in. If you over-shoot you will always get a rebound if it does not carom into the basket.

Suppose you try this out and perhaps your game might be benefitted by it. If not, you can go back to your original style and not be much the loser.

With all good wishes, I am

Sincerely yours,

Director of Physical Education,
Varsity Basketball Coach.