

February 22, 1941

Mr. John W. Bunn  
Dean of Men  
Stanford University  
California

Dear John:

I was glad to have your letter of February 15. We have just returned from Columbia, Missouri where we were fortunate to eke out a game on the Tigers. The Kansas coach and the team were as popular at Columbia as ever.

Now, regarding basketball, I certainly agree that you were not one of the fellows who argued that the center tap would eliminate the excessively tall men, but there were a lot who voted for the elimination of the tap that campaigned on that basis.

You were pretty warm about the matter when you felt that Shabby did not play square with you, but there were just as many who felt that St. John and Olsen, when they made a trip to the Pacific Coast and arranged some games, rather sold out the tap to the Coast people because they wanted it.

You will remember that Ohio State played both football and basketball on the Coast and Saint spent quite sometime politicking out there, so many of us felt that the center jump was not eliminated upon its real merit. But I am not sorry because I have always said that doubtless basketball still retains so many desirable qualities that it would not suffer regardless whether it had the center jump or not.

I have not had a chance to read Floyd Rowe's article in "Black and Gold", but as you say this finding was made before the center jump was eliminated so it would have no bearing on this question at hand. Also, I feel that there are so many angles to the center jump regarding its affect on players that it would take a budget of some \$50,000 over a course of five years to get a real scientific finding.

I do not believe that we eliminated the center jump on logic or exact findings but the prejudices and the emotions of people have more to do with this than good, clear, logical thinking. I want you to know that I am not campaigning for the center jump and do not care if they ever put it back, but as you resented the defeat the first time the Pacific boys came in, so others resented the action when it was legislated out because extraneous matters should have had no part in the consideration.

With all good wishes, I am,

Sincerely yours,