

ST. THOMAS SEMINARY ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION

BASEBALL · HOCKEY · BASKETBALL · TENNIS

BLOOMFIELD, CONNECTICUT

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Dr. Forrest C. Allen
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Dear Dr. Allen:

It has been quite some time since I have written to you although I still follow up with a great deal of interest, some ^{times} (as happened the other night against Missouri) with dismay, the doings of your Kansas team. I have your books, both of them and still find them not only interesting but decidedly helpful.

I have a problem on my hands and wish you would help me. We start off with the man-to-man, and stick to it until things go bad, then we switch to the zone. We play the 3-2, although when the man comes back in the bucket, my center drops back quite a bit.

Here is what puzzles me. Perhaps if I tell you what we do first, then you will be able to correct me. Assuming that we line up in the 3-2 position, and the ball is passed directly behind one of the forwards, then my guard on that side comes up immediately and the forward turns around. These two players, guard and forward, are supposed to smother the ball and stop the second pass.

When this occurs, the other guard comes over immediately from his zone and takes up a position under the basket, and is ready to shoot into the zone vacated by his fellow guard. *or, guard the basket.*

In the meantime, the center drops back and, depending on whether we are behind or ahead, the other forward drops back to the vacated guard zone or makes a fast break up the floor.

How do you play it? Putting the question another way, when the ball is passed behind a forward, what do the two men on the other side of the court, guard and forward, do? I wish that you would outline the positions that the other men take when the ball has been passed inside. I think that we play it better than any of the other teams around here and yet, I am unable to find in your book where you have outline the new positions for the men once that pass has been made inside.

Again, when the shot is taken over the heads of the players, that is the long shot, what do your two forwards do? Some time when you have a little time on your hands, I shall appreciate greatly your clarifying the situation for me. There is a very decided difference of opinion in this particular section as to just what should happen once that first