

Answering your question again in which you say that assuming you line up in the 3-2 position and the ball is passed directly behind one of the forwards, then your guard on that side comes up immediately and instead of the forward turning around, the forward turns and cuts back into the area vacated by your rushing guard. Your other guard comes across under the basket, but unless that forward on that side cuts back, there will be a space in there which the holder of the ball directly behind one of your forwards can pass to. Your defensive center floats over there in the direction of the area where the congestion of the ball is, but he is still a center. It is the guard that rushed out that gives the trouble to your opposition.

The way your letter reads, after your forward turns around, I am afraid you are not cutting your forward back far enough. It is this play, described in My Basketball Bible and Better Basketball, that gives you the chewing off of many possibilities of the opposition.

Now, Mr. Brennan, the principle of the zone that I spoke of applies almost wholly to the time when you are outnumbered by the opposition. It is as if two men broke in on one of your defensive men, then your one defensive man drops back as close to the basket as possible so that no one of the two offensive men could cut in behind him, and yet he harrassed both of these offensive men. And then again it is when three offensive men break on two defensive men; or five offensive men break on three defensive men - then we use this principle.

After you have read this explanation won't you write me again and see if I have answered your questions? I will be happy to hear from you.

Thank you for your nice words regarding Milton. We often speak of the nice visit we had with you when he drove back east with me. Yes, Milton is married now and has a daughter two years of age. He is with the Standard Oil Company in the production end, out at Ellinwood, Kansas. He took his degree in Business Administration, but he is figuring on returning this summer for a Law degree.

Our youngest son, Bob, is in his second year on the varsity and doing a pretty good job of it. He is a pre-medic and hopes to win a Harvard scholarship. He has made excellent grades during his three-year tenure here, and of course his work on the varsity takes much time from his studies, but he is keeping up his program very nicely and we are very proud of him.