

April 18, 1938.

Coach Leland Lewis,  
Field Kindley High School,  
Coffeyville, Kansas.

Dear Coach Lewis:

Pardon my delay in answering your letter of April 2. I have been out of town at the Central District Physical Education Association meeting at Minneapolis, and then in Chicago for the Basketball Coaches meeting and the Rules Body meeting. This accounts for my delay.

I certainly do not agree that track work would handicap basketball playing at all. I have always insisted that as long as a boy is able to keep up with his academic work that he be permitted to participate in track or basketball, or vice versa, or even football and basketball.

I think it is a detrimental thing for a coach to tell a boy that one sport will injure him for another sport. I do not believe in this policy.

Of course, the case of Glenn Cunningham was somewhat different. Brutus Hamilton, his coach at the University of Kansas during his sophomore year, told Glenn that he was too great a track man to indulge in football and basketball. He was a fine player in both. I think in this case - with a prodigy like Glenn Cunningham, it is better to be a world champion in one sport than to battle along in every sport, but again a fellow could argue on both sides of the question.

Sometimes there is more fun in competing in high school and college sports as an undergraduate than can be had from competing as a world champion in one sport when you get out of college.

I don't think this boy will be hurt.

Very sincerely yours,

Director of Physical Education,  
Varsity Basketball Coach.

FCA:AH