

November 18, 1944.

Mrs. Alice K. Griffith,  
The Athletic Journal,  
6858 Glenwood Avenue,  
Chicago, Illinois.

Dear Mrs. Griffith:

I have finished the article a day or so late, but knowing that you perhaps would not be in the shop Saturday afternoon I intentionally held it until I could peruse it more fully and pick out what bugs that I might discover.

I have tried to emphasize the teaching of fundamentals through competitive activity, making a game out of fundamental necessities. You will note that in the diagrams I did not place one offensive man on one guard. I thought that would merely take up space and cost more for you to run the diagrams. If you feel that such a thing would be necessary, a short statement on page 3 just ahead of the last paragraph could be included as follows:

"The first fundamental defensive activity is when the offensive man is given the ball back of the free throw circle and in front of the basket and the guard is restrained back of the free throw line until the coach tosses the ball to the offensive man. Then the offensive player may shoot, dribble or execute any offensive play that he wishes. By the same token, the guard is unrestrained after the first pass and may rush the offensive player. Each member of the team should become a guard and an offensive player in their turn."

I consider the inclusion of this paragraph unnecessary because that fundamental activity constantly takes place, but seldom do coaches drill two on one, three on two, and so forth. The teaching of this fundamental defensive activity is neglected by most coaches. Therefore, we have fewer versatile defensive men than the game should possess.

You will find this article longer than I had hoped to have it, but when you go into exposition it is always difficult to confine yourself to a few words if you are going to be explicit.

I will be glad to follow your advice in your letter. When do you want the editorial? I think it has possibilities and I will do the best I can with it.