

March 23, 1944.

Mr. Weston Mitchell, Coach,  
Central High School,  
Minneapolis, Minnesota.

Dear Coach Mitchell:

Yes, I do remember you, strange as it may seem to you. I remember when I met you through our late and lamented friend, Ray Parkins. It was a decided shock when I learned of Ray's passing, because he of all men, I thought, would be the last to go that way. Illness in the home must have unbalanced his fine reasoning. He was a grand boy and a splendid companion. It is just one of those things that we never can understand.

I am happy to have your suggestion and I want to say to you that I would go along with your idea one hundred per cent. The only criticism I have been making of many of the suggestions of the basketball rules committee is mainly that they are discriminatory.

Does this rule of yours permit both the offense and the defense the same latitude? If you would permit the defense to say in that area then he could still bat the ball away from the basket. The way the rule reads the defensive man might take two steps in any direction and then change his direction and still camp around the basket. Won't you elaborate upon this idea of yours?

I am sending you a copy of a broadcast that I made last Thursday, March 16th over the University station. You can get my idea concerning some of the rules. Personally, I am not on the rules committee and have been very much disappointed at the college coaches' lassitude in doing something constructive about the rules. About the only time a college coach seems exercised about a rule is when he has an opponent against his team that is apt to defeat him. There are few college coaches that really work to improve the game unselfishly, I am sorry to say.

With all good wishes, I am

Sincerely yours,

Director of Physical Education,  
Varsity Basketball Coach.

FCA:AH