

December 23, 1940

Mr. Andrew J. McDonald
Basketball Coach
Southwest Missouri State Teachers College
Springfield, Missouri

Dear Andy:

I received your request in your special delivery letter as of Sunday morning December 22. I notice that your letter is post-marked December 20 at 8:00, and arrived in Lawrence, Kansas December 22 at 8:00 A.M. I do not know what is wrong with Uncle Sam, but had I gotten it Saturday I could have had it in your hands Monday morning. I hope this arrives in time.

Texas plays three men in. They play double post with one man out near the side-line and just about in line with the free-throw circle. The other men are along the straight line, about four to six feet out from the line and just about where the free-throw circle meets the straight line. They both play outside of the free-throw area.

The ball is generally passed to the man out in front and along the side-line. Then the man along the free-throw circle may swing toward the man on the side-line and receive a pass and he may hand it back to the fellow who cut around him. The two guards bring the ball down the floor and dribble and they very seldom fast-break.

They have three very big men, 6'4½", 6'3", 6'2", and they never pass out when the ball gets near the basket; they keep rebounding, batting, or trying to throw it back in the basket. When the three men get in the offensive area one of the two guards may shoot a shot designed for the basket, but if it is missed the big boys endeavor to catch it and rebound it in. The three big boys also work the defensive basket, leaving the two smaller men out in front, in a position of the forwards on defense.

They play the figure-of-eight swing, much after Dr. Carlson's rolling offense. They are pretty rugged and some of these boys are hard fighters and pretty clever for their size. They are not as good ball handlers as the boys in our area but they make up for it in fight and determination. They are in pretty good physical condition and they guarantee anybody a good scrap.

Instead of floor bouncing when they are in the three-man offense area they will make low one-hand underarm passes and they are pretty good at it. But it is the old traditional rolling offense with mean well pick-off. The inside man moves out and the outside man swings in, hoping that they can work the pick-off in the usual traditional pick-off play. If you do a good deal of switching or trading you will get along all right.