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March 21, 1934

Dr. Forrest C. Allen,
University of Kansas,
Lawrence, Kansas.

My dear "Phog":

Last week-end I sat through a number of the sessions of the finals in our State High School Basketball Tournament. My personal observations there supplement the conclusions I have been coming to for some time.

First, so far as an actual rule change goes, I believe that I am ready to go along with some change tending to eliminate pretty largely the center jump. A great deal of crowding around the center circle, massing of players in the center of the floor at the time of the jump, a considerable number of fouls called on the jumpers, at times irregular and uncertain tossing of the ball, no particular interesting or scientific set plays from the center bat-off, all conspired to lead me to the conclusion that those people who are actively campaigning against the center jump and the domination of possession of the ball by the extremely tall center, have a good deal of merit. Perhaps the tossing of the ball in the center at the start of the game and at the beginning of the second half might be retained, and at other times give the ball out of bounds to the team who has been scored on. The more I study this situation, the more ready I am to go along with some proposal of this sort. That is the only change I can see as logical in the rules for the coming year.

The other big thing that is needed is a better and more common sense