

February 8, 1938.

Mr. Valentine Lentz,
Athletic Director,
St. John's College,
Annapolis, Md.

Dear Val:

We play our last game with the University of Missouri on March 3rd. After that it will take me some time to compile this data that I have and to get it in shape for a report. I am afraid I will have difficulty in getting it to you much before the convention, but I assure you that I will be happy to send it to you as soon as the work is completed.

There has been so much talk on the 12-foot basket in previous years that I have decided not to do more until someone else does something. I am not particularly interested in a 12-foot basket except to solve some of the problems that many of the coaches kick about but do so little work on. Somehow some of the people thought that a 12-foot basket was the only baby that I had in the nursery.

The work also on the 6-foot radius circle on all jump balls will not be ready until after the last game.

No, I have not done any dope on fatigue. I felt I would let some of the other boys work on that. I have always contended that there was a way to handle this rotation of the center jump just like we have a batting order in baseball, rather than to eliminate the jump. Running, jumping, leaping, vaulting, and climbing are the fundamental activities of man. So long as you have held balls and jump balls in basketball I see no reason why we should eliminate the jump.

If you take time out after each field goal or free throw and rotate the jump, then you would have all the good features of basketball and none of the bad. You would also give the spectators a mental breathing spell from one highlight play until the next.

All the coaches cry about the big "goon" under the basket, yet nobody does any work on the 12-foot basket, and none of them want to change because they are not progressive enough, or else not energetic enough to try out something that would correct it. What we need in our coaching organization is a few coaches who will actually do some research work and not just talk about it.

With every good wish, I am

Sincerely yours,

Director of Physical Education,
Varsity Basketball Coach.