

March 11, 1938.

Mr. Clair F. Bee,
Director of Athletics,
Long Island University,
300 Pearl Street,
Brooklyn, New York.

Dear Clair:

Thank you very much for your good letter of March 7.

I am with you 100% in the restoration of the center jump. I think it has taken a lot out of the game. I also agree with you that the elimination of the center jump has had nothing whatsoever to do with the elimination of tall players.

I am for the elevation of the basket to 12 feet, but I would like to see you and some of the other leaders take time by the forelock and go to bat. Of course, if I lead off with that 12 foot basket they will think it is a personal hobby of mine. Why don't you begin corresponding with some of the eastern friends and see if we can not at least cause a good round robin discussion among the coaches on the higher basket. The argument that we will present is that many times a 6'7" jumper can bat the balls out of the basket that come within an 8" or 10" sloping plane on the rim.

And say, Clair, wouldn't it be a fine idea if you would write some of these western coaches, because then they would see that an eastern man is sponsoring the thing, when many of our jealous contemporaries here do not want to support a 12 foot basket because somebody thought of it first.

You will find me pitching in your league right along. I think we have many ideas that are quite similar.

It will be a pleasure to see you in Chicago.

I also note that Temple University's team averages 6'5" and is a 40 minute team. If you throw a 12 foot basket at these tall boys you would find that none of them are exceptionally good under the basket. They would soon be forced to move out 12 to 15 feet to get a good shot at the hoop at that height.

Why do you not put up a 12 foot basket between now and the meeting of the coaches association, and see just exactly what happens. You will be surprised.

With all good wishes, I am

Sincerely yours,

FCA:AH

Director of Physical Education.