

We have heard a great deal about raising the baskets out of reach of the tall college players, while leaving them at the present height for high schools. May we suggest that IF the rules need correcting in order to limit the advantage the abnormally tall player now enjoys, there is need for a similar limitation on the activities of the high school player of unusual altitude. IF the proponents of a "statute of limitations" are really concerned ^{about} with a change that will more nearly provide equality of opportunity for all players on the basketball court, then merely raising the basket for college players is just as much a subterfuge as the temporary aspirin-tablet remedy the rules committee has concocted this year.

None of the high school basketball leaders, to our knowledge, have attempted to carry the torch for higher baskets or any other major changes in order to curb the performances of the altitudinous youngsters, but we have never thought that the boys who object to changing the height of the basket on the grounds that we do not limit the weight of football players or the speed of runners on the track, could possibly take themselves very seriously. After all, there is a particular principle involved which is not related to those sports in which the players have almost unlimited space for their operations and no goal restrictions such as prevail in basketball. Superficial and prejudiced opinion will not provide an answer to the problem which, now that the rules committee has started whittling, has been thrown into our laps. Basketball under the present regulations has grown into the greatest interscholastic sport in the nation, and before any changes in the fundamental principles of the game are made, here are a few of the questions that should be answered:

1. Is it desirable that the game of basketball provide, as nearly as possible, equality of opportunity for all players?
2. Does the present 10-foot basket give the extra tall boy an abnormal advantage over his opponents of reasonable and average height?
3. Is there anything sacred about the 10-foot basket now in use? If so, how was it decided that ten feet is the proper height?
4. Would those who oppose a higher basket also oppose a lower basket? If so, would their objection be that it would give the tall players too much advantage? (It should be observed that the 10-foot basket provides more advantage to the tall player now than a basket nine feet, six inches high would have provided twenty-five years ago).
5. If it is desirable to neutralize the advantage to the tall player, is there any way to do it except to raise the basket to a height that will not permit interference with opponents' bona fide shots and will not permit tall players to "jump up and drop it in" without any chance of interference by shorter opponents?
6. Will it remove the abnormal advantage to the tall player if the baskets are raised so that every goal scored will have to be the result of a "shot" whereby the "Shooter" must throw the ball at the basket and not merely "lay it in"?
7. Will the raising of the baskets take away from the game some of the spectacular plays now enjoyed by players and spectators?
8. Does the rules committee have in mind further changes that will curb the offensive activities of the long, tall boys in order to compensate for curtailment of possible defensive demonstrations?