

The higher goal will increase spectator enjoyment, and will decrease injuries under the goal from accidents by players when driving in hard for lay-ins.

We have seen tall players in many team line-ups who were born without any special gift in basketball, but who were on the team solely on the accident of extreme height. Some junior high school coach discovered this altitudinous Brobdingnagian, sky-scraping stepper oozing ethereally down the hall and straightway the coach made for him with a pair of shorts, the stimulus being mainly his altitude and not his ability. Only a severe cardiac insufficiency will permit that basketball monstrosity to escape the coach's tentacles. Therefore, it is beyond reasonable doubt but what we can expect players of this 6'10" altitude to become so numerous that they will be the rule rather than the exception.

An eleven-foot basket would not be out of reach of the exceptionally tall players. A twelve-foot basket would forever guarantee non-interference of the basket rim by players. In addition to this, the twelve-foot basket would contribute markedly in clearing up the congestion under the goal by increasing the arc of disbursement of the rebound of the ball much further out on the court and away from the basket. All modern gymnasiums and auditoria have high ceiling clearances, but in schools that do not have high ceiling clearances ground rules could be permitted which would allow the use of the lower baskets until conditions could be corrected.

In 1934 Kansas State and Kansas played a home-and-home series using the elevated 12-foot basket. Neither team had practiced previously with the 12-foot goal, but the players seemed to have little difficulty in making goals and the spectators enjoyed the game very much. The players' only complaint was that they couldn't drive in and make their lay-up shots. On the other hand, they reacted quite favorably toward the elevated basket.

At the coaching school the following summer conducted by Allen of Kansas and E. J. Hickox of Springfield, Professor Hickox elevated the basket to 12 feet and the boys in the coaching school, without any practice whatsoever, played a match game. We asked Professor Hickox to write his impressions of that game. It seemed to be his opinion and that of the group who watched the game that the players had little difficulty in finding the range of the basket.

It seems to be a fair conclusion that certainly no one should criticize the elevated basket until he has at least tried it out. There are so many benefits and so few drawbacks that this experiment should be indulged in by more coaches than those who have tried it. It also seems reasonable that it might be fair to all concerned that if the 12-foot basket is found to be practical to advance the time of its possible adoption over a two year period so that none of the tall players now in college would be injured, but those oncoming players would have notice of it. This perhaps would remove an objection from coaches who might have tall men now.

The following are a number of reasons set forth in favor of the twelve-foot basket:

1. Arc of disbursement is greater, thus freeing congestion under basket.
2. Guards are forced further away from baskets to get rebound.
3. Forwards are forced further out from baskets to obtain rebound.
4. Will encourage more shooting account greater value of field goals.
5. Will definitely reduce foul shots because of no drive-in necessity.
6. Shots are easier made 8 or 10 feet out from basket instead of directly under.