

Therefore, if you paint a glass bank then you spoil the affect that is hoped for; namely, of allowing the spectators to see through them from the rear.

The manufacturers make this pressed-steel backboard for \$36.00 a pair. The old backboard, 6' x 4' on the steel bank, cost \$100.00 a pair. It was very difficult to make a large steel surface, 6' x 4', without having it warp, but this bank is much cheaper, presents much more visibility both from underneath and the sides than the old board, and the players, after shooting at it for a little while, declare it just as easy to hit as a larger one. In fact, there are many coaches who say that if a player, shooting for a basket, cannot come close to making a basket on the new board then you do not have much of a basketball player on the floor.

The new boards, you will notice, have a cut-in arch which permits spectators to sit fifteen feet back underneath the board and still see the ball go through the basket. This is a great improvement to buildings which have many seats on the floor back and underneath the basket.

I would say that the players adjust themselves quickly to the new board, and there should be no great handicap through using the two types of boards interchangeably.

Both the new board and the old 6' x 4' are still legal. The Rules Committee did not make a rule requiring the new board because of the fact that many school systems in big cities do not have a sufficient budget to change all the banks at once. It is for that reason the Committee has made both boards legal, but I feel pretty certain that in time the new board, being much more efficient, will replace the big, old, cumbersome board that was placed on a running track to keep the spectators from knocking or batting the ball away from the basket. That was the original intention of the people who put the first boards back there, and then the players got to banking.

I trust that this gives you enough information from which to write a yarn.

Sincerely yours,

Director of Physical Education and Recreation
Varsity Basketball Coach

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