

Now for quick breaks. There will be plenty of quick breaks, but it is just another out-of-bounds play, if you can impress your boys with that fact. Tell them this -- that as soon as they lose possession of that ball have every man on your team take thirty quick driving steps back toward your basket. This, of course, applies to your defense. If you will have those fellows count thirty steps and run them as rapidly as possible as soon as they lose the ball you will have a dandy defense. Or, in other words, I should say they will be in a splendid position for defensive work. It will be up to you, of course, to teach them the skills attendant with a good defense.

On quick breaks we do not use timing plays, but we do use the revolving triangle, or the rolling offense. We do not use screening with fast breaks. We use the fast break in an effort to beat the opponent to the basket, but if they have an equal number of defensive men ahead of us then we use set plays on them and that is when the screen is worked.

The purpose of the fast break is to get two offensive men on one defensive man, three offensive men on two defensive men, and so forth. The moment we can do this we set the play up, because the defense is ordinarily stronger than the offense if the defensive team or group has as many men back to meet the offensive group. If you have the same number in the defense as you have in the offense, then we employ set plays. I think you can easily see the reason for this, because in set plays if you have the legitimate disposition and fakes you can screen a man very easily on account of the small space involved, when it is considered there are ten men in that space.

If the defensive man moves over to meet a man for man opponent, the other fellow can employ a screen on him without the victim being able to diagnose quickly enough the play situation. That is why it works.

Answering your question concerning the screening of B and A, I would say that if the ball does not arrive A should divert his attention for the moment from that man and go to another opponent until the play could be set up again, the ball being out in front so that it could be repassed so the play would work.