

SPEAKING of SPORTS

By DON WATSON



Bruce Drake, youthful University of Oklahoma basketball coach, recently prepared a questionnaire which he sent to brother coaches at leading universities throughout the country. . . .

Fifty out of 54 coaches who answered the questionnaire believe that goal tending by skyscraper players should be eliminated by rule.

It showed that 92.5 per cent favored some way of keeping the game from being dominated by the boys who grow tall.

However, the solution isn't in raising the height of the basket most of the coaches voted. Instead, 43 favored awarding a field goal if a defensive player touched a try for goal above the level of the basket after the ball started its downward arc.

Three would inscribe an arc on the floor beneath the hoop which players would be barred from entering. Just two wanted the basket raised to 12 feet, but another wanted an 11 foot high hoop. One would eliminate the three second rule, which two just "didn't know."

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The four coaches who opposed goal robbing restrictions all use "big boys" as goal tenders this season. They are Howard Hobson of Oregon; C. C. Washabaugh of Westminster; M. J. Maddus Jr. of St. Paul, and Gus Miller of West Texas State college.

The nation's big boys are led by seven-foot Bob Kurland of Oklahoma Aggies, and right behind him comes Don Otten, Bowling Green, one half inch shorter. Other prominent goal tenders are Mikan of DePaul, Risen of Ohio State, Novak of Loyola, Schryoer of South Dakota State, Horstein of Penn State, Boykoff of St. Johns, Holub of Long Island, Cotten of Long Island university, Wiley of Oregon, Borrevik of Oregon, Wintermute of Oregon, Henry of Rice, Ellifson and Halbert of West Texas, Carpenter of Arkansas, Dougherty of Loyola, Gruenig of Denver Safeways and Wellhausen of Kansas.

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WILL PRESENT FINDINGS

Drake, who recently wrote a magazine article, attacking goal-tending, said he would present his findings to Chairman James St. Clair of basketball's national rules committee. The committee meets in New York March 27-28.

The following coaches were listed by Drake as opposing goal-tending: Frank Brickey, Arizona State; Forest B. Cox, Colorado; John Breeden, Montana State; Vedal Peterson, Utah; Everett Dean, Stanford; E. M. (Nibs) Price, California; Jack Friel, Washington State; A. F. (Slats) Gill, Oregon State; J. A. Brown, Idaho.