

experiment. That was the matter of putting a division line across the center of the court and requiring the offensive team to bring the ball across in ten seconds. Then there was the three second rule which required that a player not stay in the offensive lane more than three seconds.

I have always said that basketball possessed so many qualities of a thrilling nature as it is played that perhaps we could do without the center jump and other things and still basketball would be highly interesting.

(10) I agree with Bruce Drake that the experimentation idea won't work on this goal-stealing controversy. Why should a coach give up the strongest part of his play when he is not required to do so. I will bet if we were playing Bruce and he had Ford under the basket he wouldn't take a chance of being beaten for nothing. Yes, I think he has something there, and if he had this big boy at Stillwater I'll bet he wouldn't give Hank Iba a chance, and if I were Hank I wouldn't give Bruce a chance until they put the rule in.

(11) The rules committee did pass a ruling, Harold, that no defensive man could touch the ball above the cylinder of the basket. I haven't even read the new rule, but do know that it is discriminatory. I don't see any difference between the rule that you quote and the rule that we now have in effect. I have never had enough tall fellows to bother, so they aren't going to worry me. Can't you see what this 10 foot basket is doing for the search for tall players by coaches all over the country? Any coach realizes that with a 10 foot basket if he can get a 7 foot player it is worth ten to twenty points a game offensively and defensively, whereas if they would raise this basket to 12 feet the search for this tall player would be on the wane. There are so few tall players and when you do get one the coach is practically assured of a championship. Look at this boy Schulz on the Brooklyn Dodgers, 6 ft. 7 in. He played with Hamline and won the championship in Kansas City. Almost every time a fellow like Beisser, Boykoff, Kurland, and in another year, Komenivich, is on a team the coach is assured of a championship. Why wouldn't it be better to raise the basket to 12 feet and give everybody an equal shot at the thing rather than have a few tall players who dominate the game because the basket is really within their reach. When you ask me what I think about the rules committee -- well, I won't tell you what I think, but I have told you something of what I think. You guess the rest, Harold.

(12) When I was a member of the rules committee I told them that rule was discriminatory and I think the basketball coaches association had few men who could write a rule without discrimination. I am asking you why should anyone recommend that the defense be forbidden from touching the ball in its downward flight when they allow the offense to do everything except to do a giant swing on the rim before they dunk the ball in. Can't you see that discrimination, Harold? As I told you, I haven't even looked at the new rule. Maybe I had better order a copy of the rules and see what they say.

(13) As I told you, I haven't been in the coaches association for some time. There are too many little fellows with big noses in there to suit me.

(14) I have explained to you what the questionnaire was so that doesn't mean much at the present. Ask Bruce to dig up one of the questionnaires from his files for you. He has them. The coaches Association has a questionnaire and the rules body has a questionnaire, and if you agree with me about