

We used a white leather ball. It was a brown ball in the original, but we used white show card color mixed four parts to one part of LePage's glue. This made a splendid ball to play with for the night game, and where the dust and dirt of the ground ordinarily would make the ball slippery, the LePage's glue did not become moist but served as a fine "stick 'um". There was no fumbling and the boys were immensely pleased with the contact afforded by this arrangement.

And too, I noticed that the wind did not affect the play of the ball like it does the other ball, and I believe I have something there. I believe that it would be possible to take a leather molded ball and paint it and then put some sort of a finishing process that would make the paint impervious to weather. I am going to experiment on this thing and I believe I will have something to break the wind resistance so the ball will not float as the leather balls do or some of the lighter rubber balls.

Another thing. I believe it would be a good idea to make some additional borings in this perpendicular pipe, say one 3 inches above the 10 ft. mark and one 6 inches above the 10 ft. mark so that if you would want to set this metal base in concrete either 3 or 6 inches these other openings would permit you to set it that much lower and still maintain your 10 ft. height.

In addition, we used "U" bolts around the base of the upright. These anchored the base to the ground and there was no danger of tipping it over.

Now, regarding those ears, I believe that these could be made from some sort of light metal - aluminum, for instance, something that would be very light and maybe flexible or semi-flexible, and have them concave so that when the ball strikes them it would deflect it off the cone at a greater height than these iron rods permit. I felt if you made these ears convex that the ball would bounce against them and it would throw the ball down, but by making them concave it would throw the ball further up.

I believe that you are going to have to spend a lot of time and research on this feature because these appendages will take a terrific lot of punishment, and they may go bad. Therefore, to have them durable I believe it is worthy of very careful consideration. All other features looked wonderful. I see no weak spots in them.

We used a Yale lock to insure no tampering with the adjustable pole in the upright. Some youngsters might endeavor to raise or lower it and cause some injury to themselves. For that reason we are keeping the device locked.

Very sincerely yours,

Director of Physical Education and Recreation,  
Varsity Basketball Coach.