

Discussion by Mr. Fay Cont'd.

"In Table II the result of three high school games are listed. While the distance traveled by high school players is less than that traveled by college players for a complete game, it is interesting to note that the distance traveled, per minute of playing time, is about the same in both games. In the college games indicated in Table I, the distance traveled, per minute of playing time, for game 1, 2, and 3 is 501.9, 524.4, and 523.4 respectively. In the high school games listed in Table II the number of feet traveled, per minute of playing time, is 437.8, 560.3, and 472.4 respectively. The games included in these tables are fairly representative of all games clocked during the season. One would expect a slightly greater distance for college players due to the fact that the playing floor is twenty feet longer, which distance must be traversed each time the team changes from offense to defense.

"In the high school games the ball changed hands, that is, passed from offense to defense, and vice versa, with greater frequency per unit of playing time than in the college games. Ball changes were 60, 63, and 55 respectively in the high school games, as against 59, 74, and 62 in the college games. Since the high school games were eight minutes shorter than the college games, there were more ball changes per minute in the secondary school games. This may be one explanation for the fact that high school players appear to move faster than college players. Frequent ball changes require quick shifts from offense to defense, and this adjustment is made with less running by high school than by college players, because of the shorter floor on which high school games are played. The center who takes the ball off both backboards, for example, would travel twenty feet farther on each ball change in a college game.

"Since a study was<sup>not</sup> made of distances traversed following the inclusion of the ten second rule, and before the inclusion of the rule eliminating the center jump, it is impossible to state the relative effects of these two rules upon the increase in distance traversed by players in college basketball games. Both have undoubtedly been contributing factors, but to say which has had the greater influence would be, in the opinion of the writers, a mere guess. Both studies of college players were made on players representing the DePauw University basketball team, which team was under the direction of the same coach during the course of both studies. In general, changes in style of play which would affect the distance traveled by a player have been only those which were necessitated, or made possible, through the application of the rules under consideration. Studies of high school games were conducted in the Greencastle High School gymnasium on players representing the Greencastle High School team and their opponents.

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