

BASKETBALL WITHOUT BOARDS NO FUN -- ARTHUR SAMPSON

They eliminated the boards behind the boards behind the baskets in New York the other night and the resultant reduction in scoring was interesting. It was the consensus, however, that the elimination of the backboards did not accomplish the desired purpose, namely to give the small player more chance and reduce the premium on height.

It seems that the taller players were still the more effective around the basket in that they got what rebounds there were off the rim, and occasionally jumped up and intercepted shots which failed to sail through the hoop.

What is more important, it was discovered that the players had more success with shots from a distance than they did when working the ball under the basket.

The opinion of the majority of the eye-witnesses was that the elimination of the backboards spoiled the game. As one competent observer reported: "A basketball game without backboards is as uninteresting as a baseball game in which the pitcher tries in vain to get the ball over the plate and walks batter after batter."

As a result of this experiment, it is unlikely that any more agitation for the elimination of the backboards will be heard from the Metropolitan district.

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IT MUSTA STULK THE JOINT OUT  
By DICK FRIENDLICH

OFF THE BACKBOARD \*\* That 20-18 thing the other night between Oregon State and Idaho is just the sort of stuff to send basketball fans to the movies. In the second half the Leavers scored six points and the Vandals four. You may call it "Ball control," but I call it "box office poison."

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The coaches of the southern division conference teams, convinced that the officiating they got from the Leiths, Baileys, Watsons and the rest during 1939 was the highest type obtainable, VOLUNTEERED to raise the ante from \$25 to \$35 a game. The graduate managers refused to O.K. the raise at the conference meeting last month.

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Strom's Clothiers, who won the Pacific Association tourney in 1938, play their first game of the season on this side of the water tonight, when they meet the Italian A.C. here in part of a double header. Athons Club and Bank of America complete the bill.

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Sure sign that the Stanford-Santa Clara, St. Mary's-U.S.F. double header at Kezar on February 2 will be a sellout is the demand for free ducats. This department is loaded with them right now. (Requests, not tickets.)

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