

On December 5, 1939, at a meeting of the New England colleges for conference on athletes thirty colleges voiced approval of the following code:

(1) that coaches and athletic officials stop the practice of attending school banquets, interviewing athletes and visiting prep schools, (2) that if athletes receive scholarships, they be based on scholarship competitive ability and never given because of mere athletic ability, (3) that all athletes, upon entering college, relate all sources of financial aid, (4) that reports of the athletes financial aid be available to the public, and (5) that when the athletes' filed records show they have received financial aid from only those upon whom they are naturally dependent they shall be declared eligible in this respect by their colleges.

Their action will probably be sneered at by the racketeers. They will be called sissies and even hypocrites because they themselves do not practice what they preach. Most of us never expect to see subsidization, nor competition for athletes eliminated whether it be for football, basketball, baseball or track, but out and out professionalism will be destroyed within a few years. Colleges were founded for educational purposes first and will continue to be for that purpose. Athletics are secondary and coaches should realize it. As a dean of a large college said "Athletics are on the spot".

Athletic Directors and coaches should read the code - We should all agree that it is a step forward.

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On Saturday, December 9th Brown University played Clark University in Worcester, Mass. Officials before the game had some misgivings when they discovered that Clark had put on steel mesh nets on their baskets, which are not permitted by the rules. What were they to do if the Brown coach refused to play. Last March Mr. John Bunn of the rules committee brought up the fact at our meeting that the rules absolutely defines the kind of cord that is to be used for the net. He thought the rules were specific, although the length is not defined and he thought the statement about nets should be definite. Mr. Bunn finally said the rule is quite specific and leaves no loeway.

The steel mesh nets are a new development, and we hear that the graduate manager of Clark says that they have been approved. All of us coaches would like to know who approved them. Probably the rules committee gave them permission to try them out.

The Brown University coach did not kick a bit as he said that if both teams used the same kind of net it made little difference.

The Providence Journal paper printed a comment "It sounded like bank night when the boys start popping them in because the 'music' generated when the ball goes through is akin to that heard when someone dumps the jack-pot".

Late in the game the Brown coach enjoyed the music no end.

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