

In a frank discussion on inter-collegiate versus professional basketball, William (Chuck) Solodare, the famous Newark official, says:

There is no comparison. Intercollegiate basketball is so-called streamlined. It's not, but a hard running game. The best conditioned and also the luckiest team often wins. To me, college ball lacks the oomph of pro basketball.

"The elimination of the center tap has taken a lot of good points away from the game. The guys who can shoot with one hand have the edge on teams that must get down into the scoring zone and get set to shoot. Look what Butler did to L.I. U. the other night as compared with Syracuse against New York University. Butler had one of those small ball clubs but the kids could run and flip that basketball one handed from an off-balance position. L.I.U. was much taller and luckier. They won out by two mere points.

"Syracuse, on the other hand, had a nice club but it must get around the scoring zone first and then get set to score field goals. N.Y.U. presented the so-called Mid-West type of ball. It played for and got the ball and shot from all distances, short and long and many of their shots were one-handed. They gambled more often and won easily.

"As compared to pro basketball, college doesn't stand one-two or even three. The pros have the jump, set plays, and the scores aren't as mountainous as the college type. Their ball isn't a marathon race, but skill," says Solodare, who now and then officiates college games but concentrates on pro league games.

Chuck, by the way will be back in the International League as an umpire again during the 1940 season. His hopes? He'd like to be in the big leagues as an umpire, if only for a year.

"Only then will I feel that I have made the grade," says the Newarker.

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Boost for Panzer and Seton Hall

"I've looked at as many as 10 to 12 college ball games a week," says Sam Klugman, an old basketball tosser, himself. "But I think we got two great teams right in this area in Seton Hall and Panzer. I'd like to see them get into the so-called big time. They'd run a lot of the alleged big-wigs ragged.

"Panzer has a great forward in a boy named Berger. He is the class of the field. He rarely loses his head and is never in back of the ball. He knows what is going on all the time in this high speed game.

"Seton Hall has a flock of good ball players. You can't single out an individual star. It is a combination of all-stars and that's the way Honey Russell wants his team to be rather than have one key player. His team could beat two-thirds of the high class ball clubs in the country," says Klugie, who is with a top notch ball club, the Hebrew Club.

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Columbia Mentor Suggests

Paul Mooney, Columbia University basketball coach, seems to agree with Chuck Solodare that college basketball is nothing but a game of hard, fast foot-work and lacks real skill.

Mooney is for eliminating the backboards. He prefers to see the collegians shoot at open baskets as the professionals once did.

"Only then will you see science and skill replacing sheer luck and height as the more important factors in the game today. For a player to