

#2 Mr. John W. Bunn
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they are fussing about under the offensive and defensive baskets. I am sending a copy of a letter I have written Roy Mundorff, President of the Nat'l Association of Basket Ball Coaches. I wish you would study it and offer your criticism.

I would say that we should not raise the basket any more than it would be possible under the rules according to the height of the ceiling. You will remember for years we played on a much narrower court than the rules called for. I can appreciate the difficulty that a discrepancy in the height of the basket would cause in a league, but I didn't know that the Pacific Coast Conference was troubled in having low ceilings. In our conference we could go to 12 ft. without any difficulty.

But, you can see that I am not trying to force a rule through. I am merely calling something to the attention of the public that in my opinion they are overlooking. They are fussing about the tall center at the jump. It is the big, tall boy under the offensive and defensive baskets that licks you. The basket is too low. Move it up 2 ft. and all of the lay-in shots, the post pivot play shot, the tip-in shots, the bat-ins, and all of that stuff is eliminated.

As far as the expense of installing a basket 2 ft. higher over the others, I think it is minimal. It would reduce the number of goals, but it would also reduce greatly the number of fouls. Play would be continuous and sustained; by moving the basket in, fewer out of bound plays would result and with this added advantage of fewer out of bound plays, your scoring would pick up. You would still work the ball in but not in as close as under the old regime. And, what murder these guards get away with - hiping the forwards out under the basket in the present set-up.

John, it is not the difficulty of the skills or the finger coordination that would make these shots difficult. It is really a matter of the accomodation of the muscle of the eye to the height and this adjusts very rapidly. Lots of these passes would be worked in under and behind the basket, if you moved the basket in the court 6 ft. I would certainly like to have a good long chat with you on this subject.