

BUT IT'S BASKETBALL NOW



NIBS PRICE.



JIMMY NEEDLES.

to high heaven. They hadn't seen it before, and since it was something new, at least to them, they figured it was illegal.

"Bob Herwig, the big footballer, was playing with us at the time, and naturally he enjoyed himself hugely. Cage officials permitted some pretty rough contact, and Bob was all for staying in the East and playing all our games there. He liked the rough going."

Nibs sized it up pretty well when he said the East, as a whole, "has some pretty definite ideas, and the coaches back there don't like to change. But because of the success of Western teams in in-

ter sectional games, the East has been forced to change many of its ideas, not through choice but of necessity."

Needles, coach of the '36 Olympic Games team concurs with Price in believing intersectional games have done much to change the style of play there. "These games have resulted in the East taking up Western tactics," he declared. "A few years ago the game as it was played there was so rough that in some cases the man was in the basket instead of the ball, or so it seemed."

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As another example of the reluctance of the East to change its style of play, Jimmy pointed to the one-handed shot, made famous when Hank Luisetti and his barnstorming Stanford team invaded New York some six years back and snapped Long Island's winning streak at something like 44 games. Some Eastern coaches went on record as saying they'd die first rather than change from the two-handed style of shooting. One coach did; he passed away several years ago and to the bitter end never conceded anything to the one-handed shot.

In his New York outburst Dr. Allen again broached the subject of raising the height of the baskets to 12 feet. He fears the present 10-foot level of the hoops is all to the advantage of the big men, the cagers ranging from six feet three inches upward. As he puts it, the increased height would give the smaller men a chance and also make better players of the giants.

Here, Dr. Allen runs into violent disagreement from Messrs. Needles and Price.

"The increased height simply would put a greater penalty on the small man," declared Needles, a statement echoed by Price.

"I can't get this point," said Price. "The tall boys would benefit, and the extra two feet only would make it tougher on the smaller men. Take my boy, Chuck Hanger, for example. He's six feet five inches tall, and the extra effort which would entail him going two feet higher on lay-ins and follow shots would be nothing as compared to that which a smaller man would have to make."

And Needles, whose small U. S. F. team was soundly whipped by California's towering team this week, pleads, "Don't make it any tougher on the smaller boys."