

Then there was another play situation almost as bad, when Reid of the Whites would get the ball, and being crowded for a shot, would make either a one hand shot or a throw up under a closely guarded position. The intelligent thing would have been to have brought the ball to the floor, pivoted, and with a quick pass out given it to one of the men in safer territory. Here is a dangerous thing. When you miss a shot on that play situation the ball goes to the opponents, of course, because they are closely guarding you. The defense is in there fighting for the ball and if it is an intelligent defense it is massed around the basket. Therefore, the odds are against you. Whereas, if your thinking apparatus is working properly, by passing the ball out beyond this congested zone the holder of this ball is in a nice position to shoot because of the fact that the defense has drawn a cordon of aggressive defenders close in under the basket. This is the difference between a highly intelligent team and a group of players who just want to bang the ball into the basket when they get hold of it.

This ball is too precious a possession to be thrown around indiscriminately. College players have learned not to throw the ball around like high school players throw it. You only get 60 to 70 shots per game, and if you will manipulate the ball to unguarded areas then your percentage of hits will mount if all other factors are equal. Therefore you must increase your number of shooting chances and that is why the fast break has been employed - to catch the opponents so that they will be outnumbered, and to increase your opportunities for free driving lanes into the basket.

The second point is that when certain plays, swing plays, are used enough scoring opportunities must be presented so as to increase your number of shots consistent with accurate shots.

One other point - many times the Whites had the Reds at a disadvantage, but the player with the ball either drove straight to the basket and did not seem to have any imagination in deploying it so that he would get the maximum benefit from