## IS STREAMLINED BASKETBALL TOO FAST FOR ITS PLAYERS' HEALTH?

Marie Marie

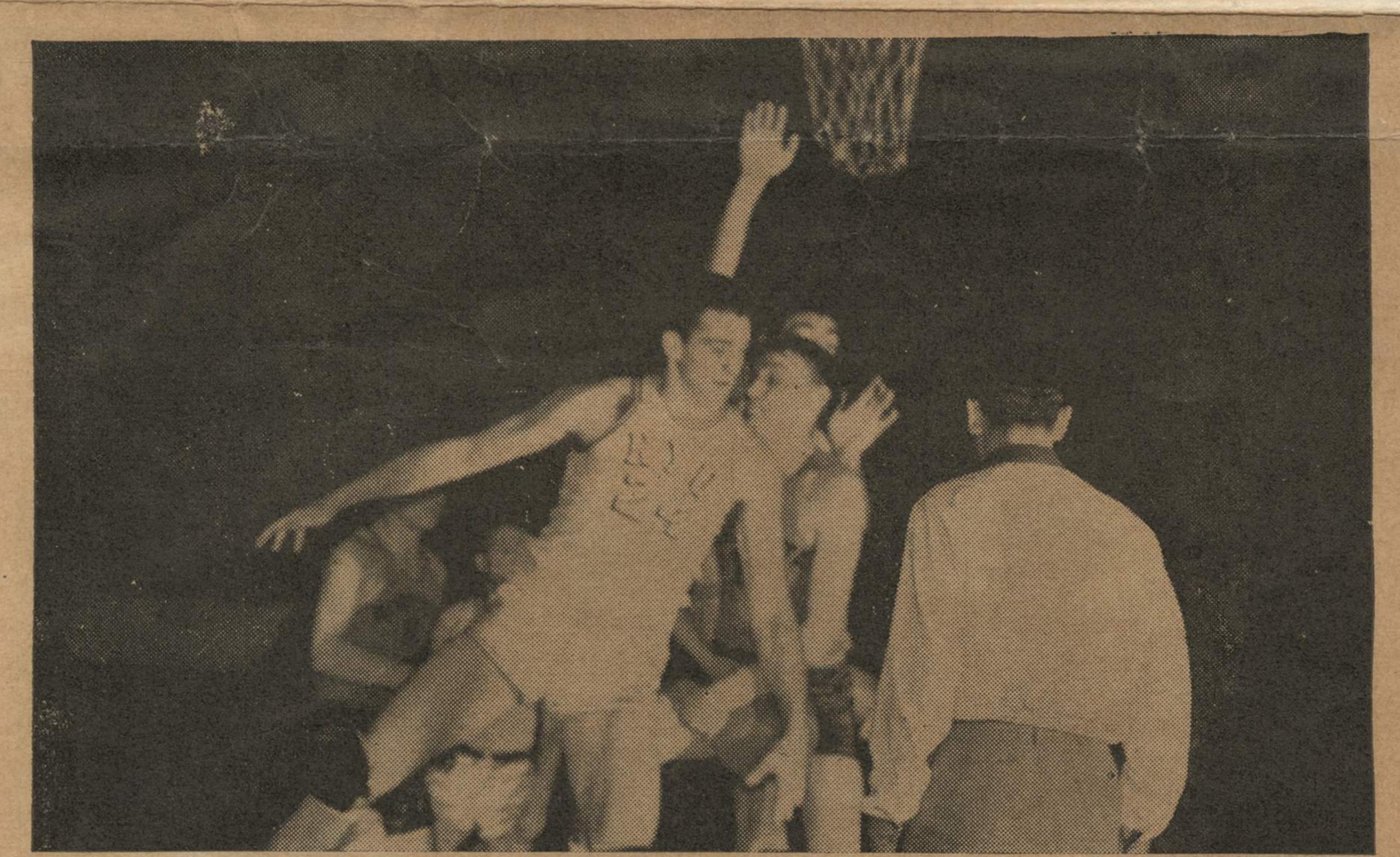
illness has hit my squad, something that never happened before. Colds, grippe, and general susceptibility to disease have afflicted my star players.

Notice the box-scores of various games and you will see that teams are using a dozen or fifteen players. Before the new rules were set up, you used the bench boys only against a weaker rival. Today you cannot win unless you can go "all out" from the start to the finish. Coaches now develop ten-man teams.

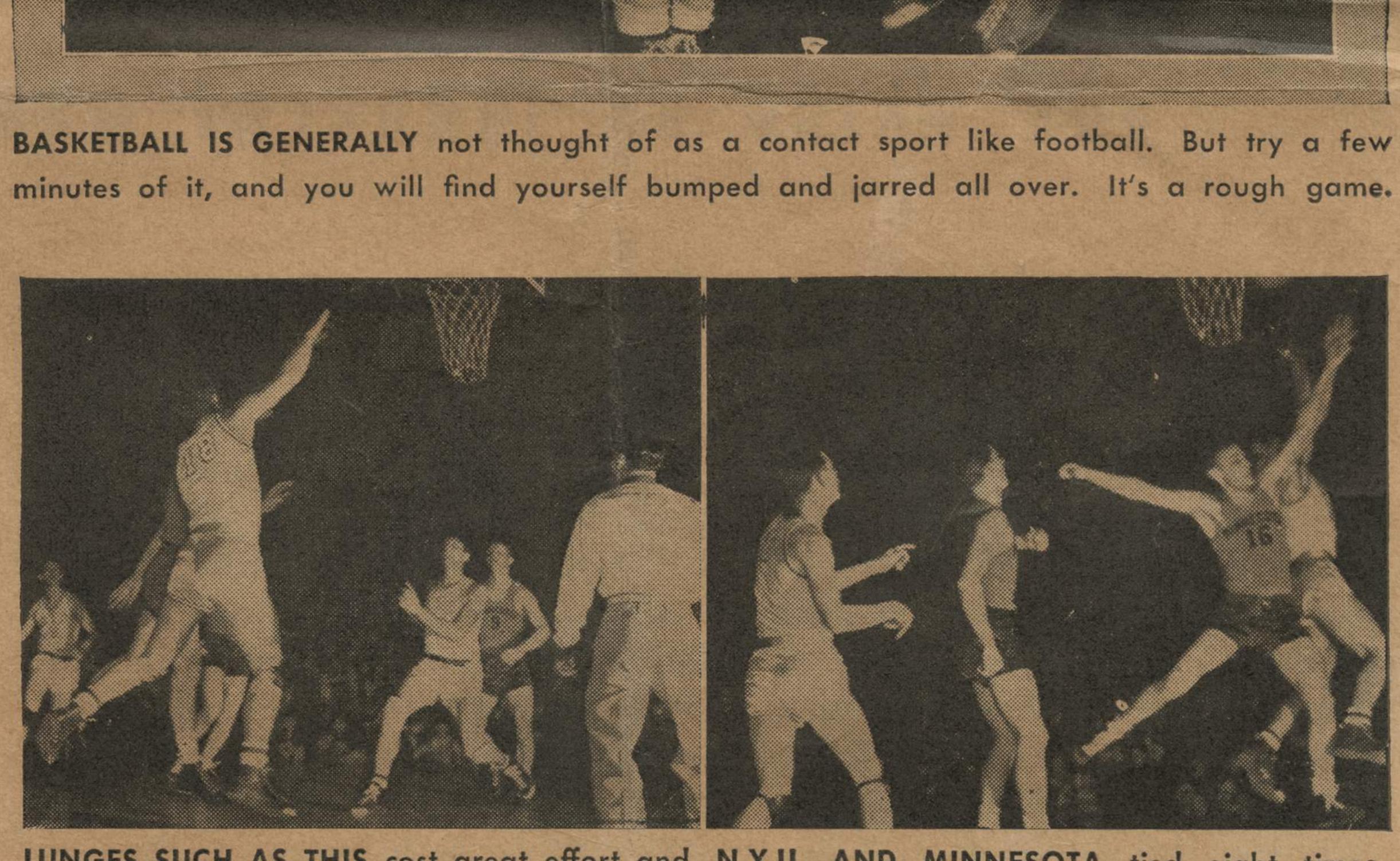
Note also the findings of Dr. Marcus Hobart, team physician at Northwestern. His research, while not conclusive, shows that since the change in rules the player's heart-beat after the game had increased to 108 from a normal 60-to-90. In one instance it hit 144. "I'm not a heart specialist," said Dr. Hobart, "but even these sketchy experiments indicate that the game is too fast for most boys. Basketball under present conditions is a test of speed and stamina instead of a test of skill as it originally was meant to be."

Last year Dr. Forrest C. "Phog" Allen, Kansas University's brilliant coach, and chairman of the research committee of the National Basketball Rules Committee, said at a conference of coaches that "since the elimination of the center-jump, the game has become too fast for the younger, immature players of junior-high-school and high-school age. Research by physicians has revealed that the health of the youngsters has been impaired. They, the boys, have found their growth stunted and their general physical organs injured by the terrific speed now called for in basketball." More recently Dr. Allen asked for the restoration of the center-jump, or at least "a tensecond respite before play is resumed after baskets, out of deference to the players' hearts and kidneys."

Let's give basketball back to the players.



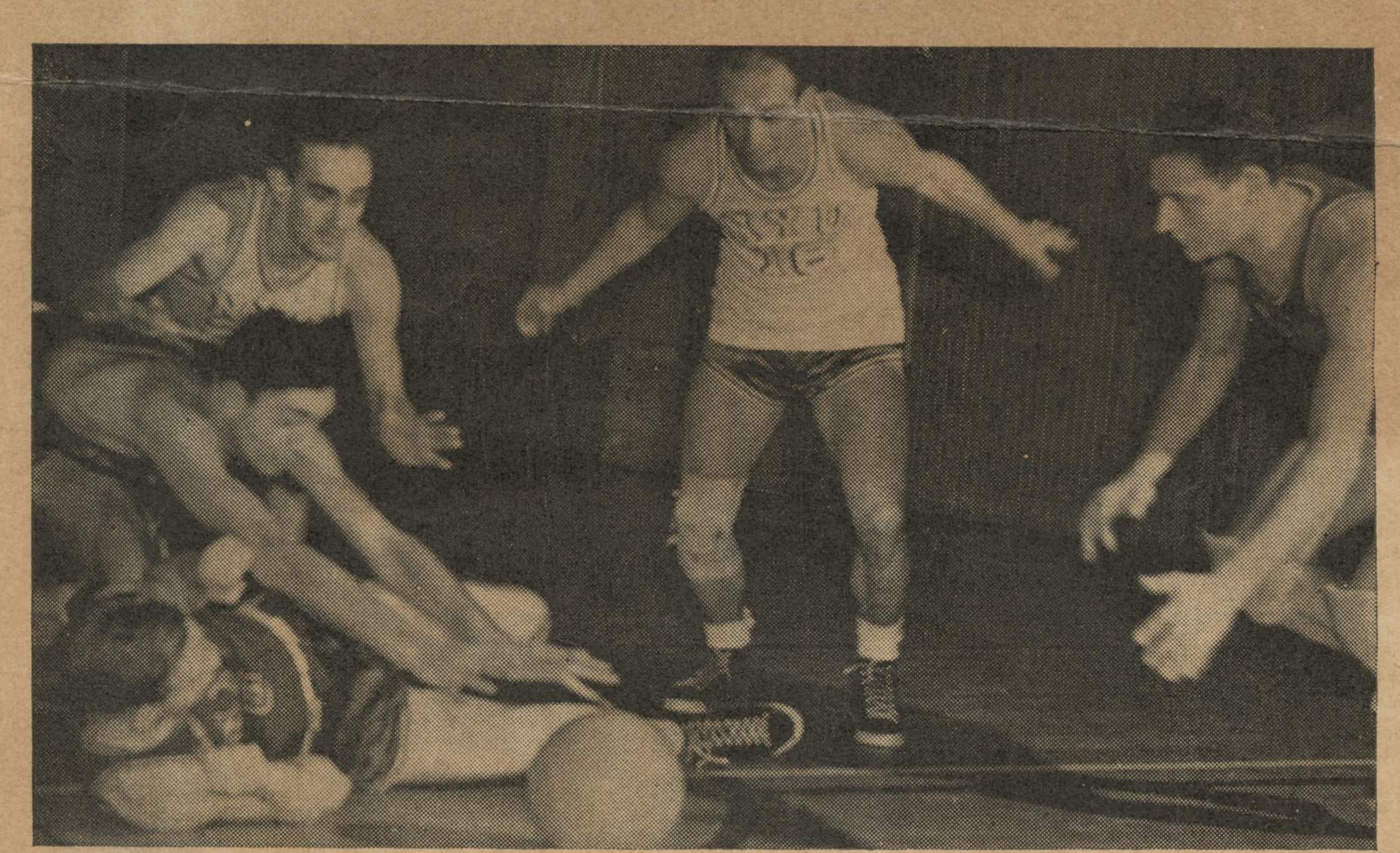
BROKEN BONES AREN'T frequent in basketball, but they are not unusual. However, torn
LUNGES SUCH AS THIS cost great e
ligaments and tendons are common. Note how this Minnesota guard's leg is taped at the knee. may strain the player's heart.



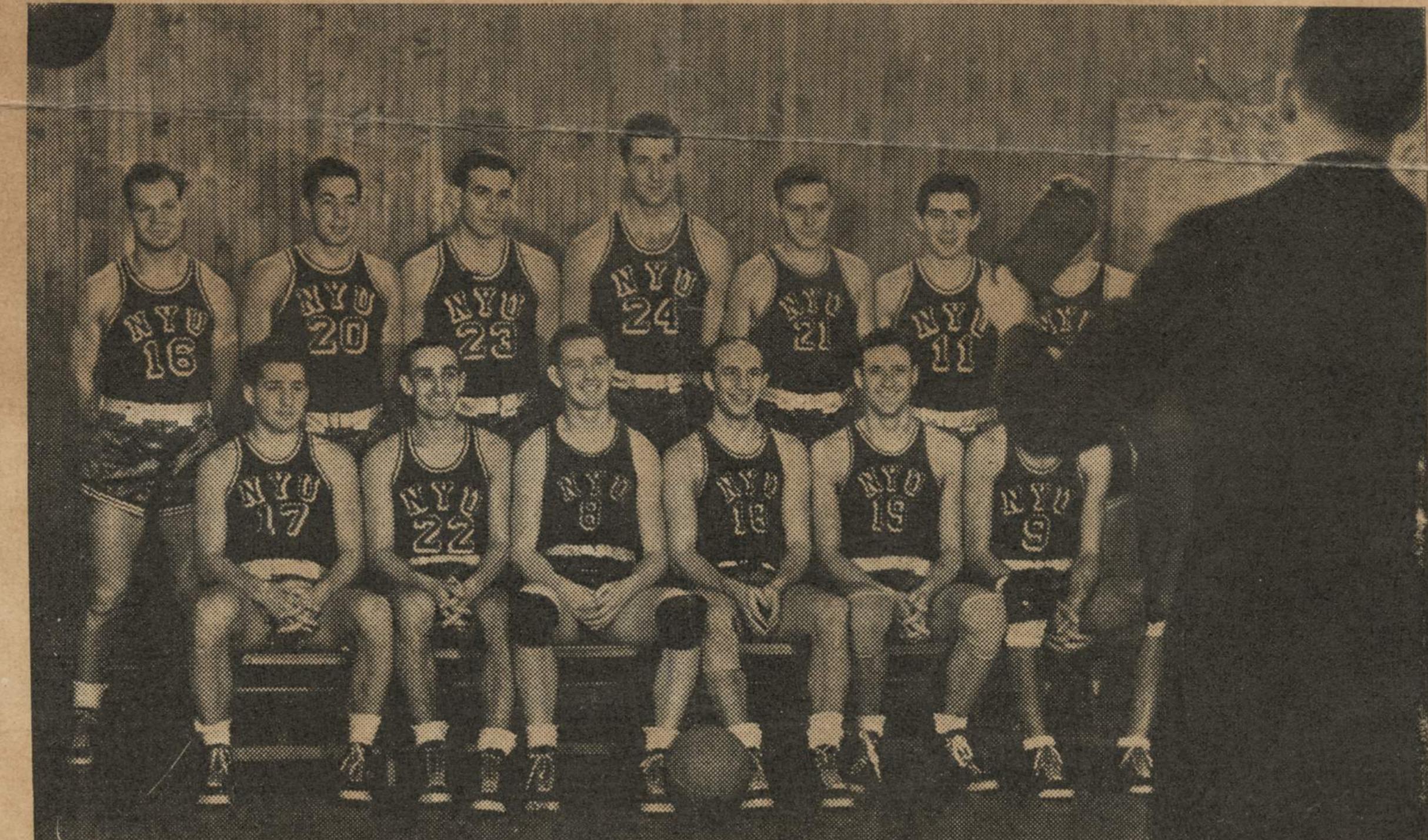
LUNGES SUCH AS THIS cost great effort and N.Y.U. AND MINNESOTA tied eight times.

may strain the player's heart.

Close games leave the players wilted.



BASKETBALL PLAYERS ARE just as familiar with the "ground" as football players. Spills and pile-ups are common. By learning how to fall most players avoid striking their heads on floor.



AFTER THEY'VE RUN themselves to a frazzle all year and perhaps ruined their health, we reward our basketball heroes magnanimously—we ask them to pose for a picture.