

The Hard
Court
Herald



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One Seat Down

By Shane Matzen
Hard Court Herald Editor
Marquette High School

To those of you who have served as both an assistant and a head coach, the title for this article has a LOT of connotations to you: the difference between deciding and suggesting, the difference between eating Mexican or a bowl of dry oats before a game, the difference between taking two aspirin during the entire season for a little headache you had after a bowl of ice cream and ingesting multiple containers of Tums during the same four-month span. The list goes on and on. The thrust of my writing to you this edition is two-fold. I want to remind head coaches of the job we have to nurture and include our assistants and also help our assistants out there realize the necessities and importance of their duty.

I've had the pleasure of working as an assistant at three different levels of our sport. At the University of Missouri as a student assistant, it was a dream come true each and every day to be on the floor with the Tigers and get to watch Coach Norm Stewart and his staff work wonders with those great athletes. After I moved to Central Methodist University to serve and learn under Jeff Sherman and his relentless offensive attack as an assistant, the scope and breadth of my job increased dramatically. Finally, after three years as a head coach at Elsberry High, I moved to my current school as an assistant for a season under John David Pattillo before he moved on to the position where he received so much acclaim at Poplar Bluff High.

Though I spent just as much on-floor time at each of those stops as I ever have as a head coach, one thing was consistent about the difference between being the assistant and being in charge: my legs and feet were sore after practice when I wasn't the guy writing up the practice schedule (There's something about the laser-like focus when you're the head coach. On OCCASION, the assistant's mind starts to wander to what's for dinner that night or why is Coach _____ STILL running that drill when his schedule says we should have moved on 20 minutes ago?). Don't get me wrong...when the Tigers, Runnin' Eagles or the 1995-1996 Mustangs lost it hurt and I felt my share of responsibility. But just that twelve inch move to the next chair on the bench brings so many changes. The feelings of elation, disappointment and everything in between are so much more pronounced. There probably is very little that can bridge that gap of emotional intensity because it deals more with human nature than anything.



The "Sore Feet Syndrome" is one that always seemed to strike home with me. How can we as head coaches get our assistants more and more involved with practice and games and thus feel more responsibility and ownership? (side note: For those career assistants who are happy in that role, good for you! Your ability to stay level-headed and help the head coaches out of their abyss of despair and off the mountain top highs is invaluable. You've seen it all and have a perspective which is more important than you can realize. All of which led to the decision by the MBCA to create the Cub Martin

Memorial Award that goes out each season to reward folks like you who mean so much to the game.) We need to recognize the strengths and experience that our assistants bring to the table and implement those strengths within a framework to help them grow as head coaches-in-waiting.

What do I mean by all that? Well, I've been blessed with a wide range of assistant coaches in all the aspects mentioned before. My most experienced assistant I've had on the staff, Eric Schweain, I gave the first 30-45 minutes each and every day for practice to cover our straight fundamental drills. That was his strength in teaching and, being a former head coach, this gave him the time each day to run his own practice so to speak. Some coaches I've spoken to in the past have been comfortable enough to hand over the entire offense or defense to their assistants. Others have allowed them to handle substitutions or call in-bounds plays. All of these things give more ownership to these valuable individuals who can make or break your season just from how much or how little they contribute.

As for suggestions from your staff, find a way to implement things that they would like to do. Obviously, the head coach has the right to final veto. If you're like me, that's a hard thing to do. That is, give up something because let's face it: when it gets right down to it, nobody cares that you took a suggestion when the zone you went to on the final possession cost you an open look at that game-winning three from your opponent. It's ALL ON YOU. My staff knows this about me, thank goodness. Generally, when a suggestion is given to me I have to give it some thought but I come around eventually.

One other thing that I have put in with our staff is in-game responsibilities. I would imagine most of your programs do this as well. It may differ somewhat but we want each coach on our bench to know what he needs to contribute. Those duties for us are as follows (depending on who is available to be with us on a given night):

Tasks: 1=time-outs 2=foul situation 3=who to foul 4=strategy input 5=individual attention to bench players 6=statistics consultant

Varsity Assistant only: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6

Varsity Assistant & Sophomore/Freshman Coach Available...

Varsity Assistant: 1, 3, 4, 5

Sophomore/Freshman Coach: 2, 4, 5, 6

Varsity Assistant, Sophomore & Freshman Coach Available...

Varsity Assistant: 3, 4, 5

Sophomore Coach: 1, 4, 5

Freshman Coach: 2, 4, 5, 6

Finally, to you the assistant: the best piece of advice I can give you is be the person who does as much as he/she can do for the program without being asked. The weight on the head coach's shoulders is a heavy one. Any task or duty that can be taken off his/her back makes the job so much easier. If the head coach you are working for maybe hasn't given you strict guidelines or tasks, take it upon yourself to work outside the box by looking at new ways to do things or something successful you've done at another school and present those to your head coach. Or, most simply, ASK. The

head coach will love it that you show the eagerness and energy and desire to do more than just be another body watching practice.

I hope no one reading this got the wrong idea from my assistant coaching experiences. I could not have asked for three better men to work for or programs or experiences from which to learn. The assistant coach's position will NEVER leave the person carrying the title with the same ownership as the head coach. It just doesn't work that way. You as the head coach though can make your program better and make your job and life easier if you get maximum output from your staff. As an assistant coach conversely you can not only achieve the same goals stated for the head coach, but make that trek to your career goals become all the more achievable and not so far off in the future.

EDITOR'S NOTES: I hope every one of the 1200+ of us in attendance at last month's MBCA Clinic truly have a grasp on the kind of experience we were rewarded with. There a VERY few clinics in this country that could boast of the likes of Bill Self, Tates Locke and Bobby Hurley Sr. on their roster of speakers. Our own MBCA group that includes past-president Jay Blossom, clinic coordinator David Fox, associate clinic coordinator Chris Neff and executive secretary Gary Filbert along with the tireless Special Olympics of Missouri staff go to incredible lengths to give us what we only have to drive to Columbia, Missouri for. Thanks to these folks and the numerous unnamed who blessed us with a great way to kick off our 2008-2009 season.





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The Little Things-“Tradition”
Jason Wolfard
Hard Court Herald Associate Editor
Lindbergh High School



Tradition is defined as a part of culture that is passed from person to person or generation to generation. Many would argue that tradition in basketball programs can only be found in the ones that have experienced success year after year. I was fortunate enough to travel to North Carolina from October 30th to November 1st to visit the basketball programs at North Carolina and Duke. Now obviously you would say that these two programs are probably two programs in America that have an amazing tradition, most due to their success. While visiting both of these schools though, it came to me that there is tradition in any basketball program. While it may be measured in success, it is also measured (and recognized) by simply respecting those who have paved the way before the current players. I think that these days, it is very tough to get kids to respect the tradition that has come before them.

When I got hired as the head coach at Lindbergh, I was downstairs in the storage area one day in the spring cleaning out some of the storage bins. I happened to come across a box of old scorebooks dating all the way back to 1962. Some of them had stats along with them, but some of them were simply scorebooks. I made it my goal to go back and compile as many stats as I could to create as accurate all-time records as possible. It was a very time-consuming process, but at the end I felt it was a very big step to help our kids understand the tradition that did exist in the Lindbergh basketball program. Mind you, there were no state championships, but there were scoring records, pictures, and other statistical records. Before that time, nothing had existed in the program that kept track of this condition. From bringing back tradition into our program (not building it), my kids have an understanding of leaders in many statistical categories and Final Four teams, and we were able to officially retire a player's number that was long overdue. I know there are many coaches and programs out there that have their tradition recognized by current players, but for those of you that don't I guarantee you that a little research on your part and some work would help build your program.



Now how does my trip to North Carolina and my work to compile all-time stats at Lindbergh come together to help you? I will start with an experience I went through my first night on my trip while visiting the University of North Carolina.

My old high school coach is now the main assistant coach at UNC. After practice on Thursday, I and the other coaches that were with me were given the opportunity to take a tour of the facilities at the Dean Smith Center. The thing that stuck out most about that tour was walking down the hallway that lead to the locker room and looking at all the past pictures of Carolina teams. Not the fact that these teams were all ACC champions, but the fact that Coach Holladay, who is by no means a Carolina boy, had so much respect for those who had come before him in the program. He knew so much about each team that had a picture on the wall, but at the same time he had no experience with any of these teams. He played college ball at the University of Oklahoma, coached high school basketball in Oklahoma, and then went on to be an assistant at the University of Kansas with Coach Williams. As we were listening to him talk about tradition of the UNC teams and coaches that had come before him, it was simply clear that there was so much

respect for that tradition. It really made it special to just listen to him talk about those teams. It was almost as if he was part of those teams, but the reality was that he wasn't.



The next day I was once again fortunate to be able to sit down with Assistant Coach Chris Collins at Duke University. After talking shop with him for about an hour or so, we started talking about the things other than Xs and Os. He was going through a list of standards (possibly an article I will do in the future) that the current Duke team had come up with for this season. One of these standards really hit tradition pretty hard. While tradition is great and it should be respected, teams and players also need to form their own identity in the tradition of their program. The standard that the team came up with simply stated, "We will not be a Duke team, but this Duke team." Coach Collins was really impressed with these kids to come up with this standard. They were simply saying that they understood the tradition that had come before them (and trust me there is a ton), but their goal was to make their own tradition for their team for the 2008-2009 season.

I don't know if this will inspire you to look into the tradition at your school, but I think it is an important lesson you can stress to the kids that currently play for you that they should respect the tradition that has come before them and recognize it, but they should also work on building their own "addition" to that tradition and keep their focus there. As stated before, sometimes that is very easy when you come from a very successful program. But if you coach in a program where championships are few and far between, you have to find other ways to establish tradition in your program. Look into your statistics from previous seasons and come up with an All-Time statistical leader board for different stats. Try to have pictures of previous championship teams or successful players around where current players can see them. I think that if you simply put in a little effort, all of us will be able to find the tradition and use it help build our programs.



Implementing the Amoeba Defense

By Steve Mergelsberg

Hard Court Herald Guest Columnist

When the University of Nevada-Las Vegas routed 15th ranked Duke 103-73 in 1990 for the NCAA Championship, UNLV coach Jerry Tarkanian attributed the team's success that night to its match-up zone defense.

Termed "amoeba" for the way it flexed and stretched, it allowed a perimeter defender to put man pressure on the ball-handler while the remaining four players protected their set areas on the court. That game made the amoeba defense famous.

While living in Las Vegas and coaching at Bishop Gorman High School, I had the opportunity to sit down with Tarkanian and have him explain the amoeba defense. One thing that he said always stuck with me. "Our man defense was good that night, but we had 12 to 15 minutes in that game where our amoeba defense just took Duke out of everything," Tarkanian said. "It got us going on a lot of fast breaks and scoring streaks."

The following is the basic alignment for setting up the amoeba defense.

This is the setup that your defenders need to be in when the offensive team is bringing the ball up-court. X1 is responsible for picking up the ball handler as soon as he or she crosses half court. X1's main job is to harass the ball handler, making it tough to dribble up the floor and pass to a teammate. X2 patrols the free-throw-line area looking for flash cuts to the high-post area.

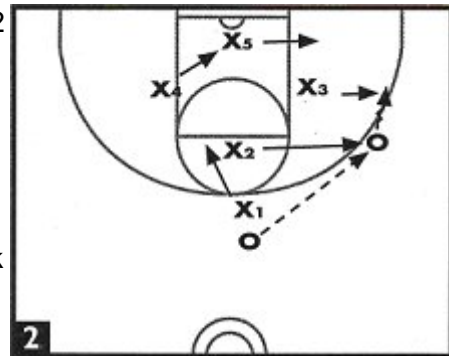
The tandem of X1 and X2 should be the quickest players on your team. X3 and X4 are halfway between the free-throw line and the baseline, facing on an angle toward the sideline. X5 is the "hoop defender," the last line of defense guarding the basket. X5 stands as far back as needed to see the whole floor and must never get beat from behind.



When the ball is passed from the point to the wing, X2 charges out to play the opponent with the ball. X1 retreats to guard the free-throw area. When the ball handler initiates a dribble, X3 sprints out to double team with X2.

X5 moves over to the block area and X4 rotates to become the hoop defender.

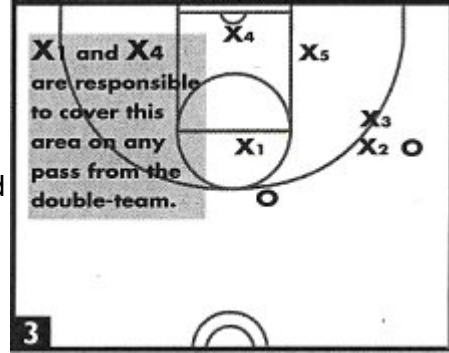
If the ball is passed back from the wing, X2 goes back to his or her original spot at the foul line and X1 pops out to the top, back to his or her original spot.



X1 and X4 are responsible for covering the shaded area on any pass from the double-team.

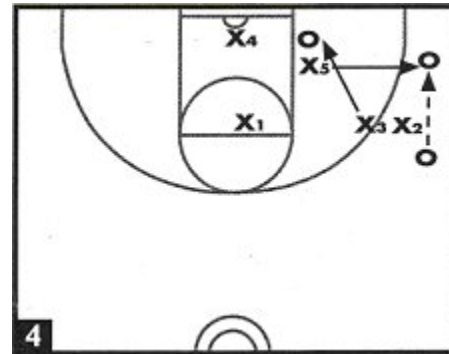
The ball is now double-teamed at the wing. X1 can either deny the point player or encourage a reverse pass from the double-team for a possible steal.

Tarkanian believed that if X2 and X3 are doing a good job of double-teaming, any pass cross court will be high enough in the air to be picked off by either X4 or X1, depending on where the pass is thrown.



Defending wing-to-corner passes.

When the ball is passed from the wing to the corner, X5 comes flying out and closes out on the corner player with the ball. When X3 sees that the ball is being passed from the wing to the corner, he or she pivots and sprints to the low-post area, in what Tarkanian called an "X-cut." X3 fronts the low-post offensive player. The gamble here is when the corner offensive player gets the ball and X5 is sprinting toward him or her, the player with the ball will see the low-post player open, not knowing that X3 is on the way to that area.



Many times, in a panic, the corner player instantly passes to the seemingly open post player and X3 comes up with a steal. Tarkanian's belief is that if X5 is closing out and tracing the ball, a good pass will be impossible to deliver and X3 will come up with a steal. X1 and X4 are still responsible for the weak side of the floor. X2 denies the reverse pass back to the wing from the corner. Any attempt to pass to the point will be picked off by X1.

Defending Cross Court Skip passes

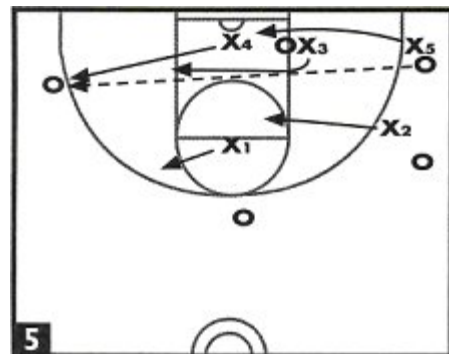
The rule on any skip pass to the other side of the floor is that the closest player covers the player with the ball.

The pass is complete from the corner.

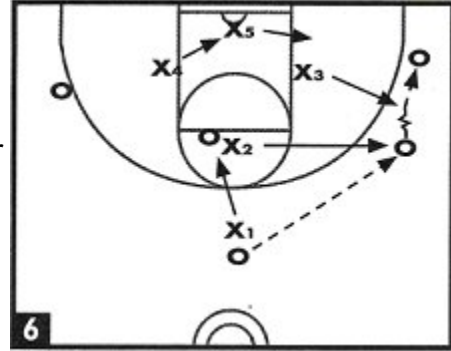
X4 would be the closest defender to the ball, so he or she would cover the receiver.

X3 goes from low post to low post and X5 would become the hoop defender.

X2 retreats to the middle to provide any help that is needed and X1 would deny the pass to the point.



This diagram shows the initial entry pass as seen in Diagram 2, but here you have an offensive player on the high post. In this case - just as in Diagram 2 - when the ball is passed to the wing, X2 sprints out to defend and X1 drops down to play the offensive player in the high post.



This leaves the point guard alone, the theory being that he or she can't harm you being that far from the basket. If the offensive wing player with the ball takes a dribble, X3 comes out to defend and double-teams with X2. X1, who's denying the high post, can anticipate a pass back to the point and go for the steal.

At this point, if the ball is passed from the wing to the corner, X5 sprints out and plays the corner player. X3 "X-cuts" and goes to defend the block area and X4 becomes the hoop defender. X4 and X1 are responsible for stealing anything thrown cross court from the block area and higher. This may seem like a lot of area to cover, but Tarkanian believed that if your defenders are playing good, hard-nosed defense, the only pass that will be thrown is one high in the air that X4 and X1 have a great chance for a steal.

Amoeba vs. Two-Guard Front

Some offenses try to beat the amoeba by utilizing a two-guard front.

If the offense plays a two-guard front, X1 and X2 match-up with the guards. If the offensive team puts a player at the high post, X5 comes up and guards behind. This encourages the offense to make a pass into the high post, which is what you want to happen. If the ball is passed into the high post, X1 and X2 immediately double down and create a triple team at the high post. This may cause the high-post player with the ball to panic and either give up his dribble or throw an errant pass. X3 and X4 anticipate any passes into their areas and go for the easy steal.



Beating the Triple-Team

If the triple-team in the high-post area fails and the high-post player manages to get a pass to either the wing or the corner areas, your defenders react accordingly.

When the ball is passed to the wing from the post, X1 retreats to the high-post area and

denies the post. X2 plays the wing player and X3 denies the pass to the corner or encourages a pass and gets a trap or steal in the corner. X2 may sprint down and double-team the corner player, depending on the game situation. X4 becomes the hoop defender and X5 guards the low post.

X1, who's playing the post, must anticipate passes to the point from the corner, the wing and cross court. This is one of the reasons why it's critical that X1 and X2 be your quickest players. X1 and X2 must always be alert and have the ability to anticipate defensively. If the ball is passed to the corner from the post or wing, X3 sprints out to play the corner player, X5 drops to the low-post area and X4 becomes the hoop defender.

X1 denies the post and X2 denies the pass back to the wing from the corner or encourages the pass and looks to make a steal. A pass from the corner to the point weak-side guard can be picked off by X1 and taken the other way for an easy layup.



Steve Mergelsberg has over 25 years coaching experience on the high school, college and professional levels. Having written and published numerous articles on the Amoeba Defense and Triangle Offense in Winning Hoops, BasketballSense and Coach & Athletic Director magazines, Steve is known worldwide for his ability to break the game of basketball down for coaches at all levels.





Inaugural Norm Stewart/MBCA Classic

**Saturday & Sunday, December 6th and 7th, 2008
Columbia College in Columbia, MO**



Saturday, December 6

10:30am	Rock Bridge vs Kickapoo (Girls)
Noon	Hickman vs St. Joseph's Academy (Girls)
1:30pm	Moberly vs Kirkwood (boys)
3:00pm	Jefferson City vs Marquette (boys)
5:00pm	Columbia College Exhibition (men)

Sunday, December 7

2:30pm	Harrisburg vs Glendale (Boys)
4:00pm	Hickman vs Poplar Bluff (Boys).



Proceeds from the event will benefit Coaches Versus Cancer, a nation-wide fund- raiser originated by Coach Norm Stewart.



Q & A With the Difference-Makers

Bill DuPont MSHSAA Basketball Official

Bill DuPont has served as a basketball official for the past 22 years including the past 15 in Missouri after stints in Oklahoma, Iowa and Nebraska. Included in that tenure have been two years at the Final Four (two state championship games in 2004 (class 1, 2 & 3) and 2000 (class 4 and 5) as well as numerous quarterfinal, sectional, regional and district final assignments. Along with basketball, Bill has also worked the same span as a crew chief in football that also featured an appearance at the Edward Jones Dome in the Class 5 state title game in 2007.

HARD COURT HERALD: *What do you see as the #1 priority in improving referee/coach relationships as they relate to making the game a better experience for all parties?*

BILL DU PONT: I don't think that I could really say there is a #1 priority here. I think the two areas that will always be critical to success in referee/coach relationships are communication and respect. Both coaches and referees have a very difficult and tough job. Communicating in a positive and productive manner both ways will help all involved. Respect is ultra important also. Respect each other, respect the game and respect the players.

HCH: *Relating to question #1, what are ways that we all can go about achieving that priority?*

BD: Short of spending a month or two in each others shoes (not realistic), I think an appreciation for the solid work both parties are bringing to the game while trying to make young people better players and better people. Most referees truly want to do the best job possible on every game they officiate. They work very hard to try and make sure the game is officiated in a fair and proper manner – that they know and understand the rules – and are in the right position to make a call. Understanding that you have ten athletic players on the floor makes it a great challenge.

HCH: *Coaches attend clinics, college practices and order coaching tapes/DVDs, etc in the offseason in attempts to hone their craft. Can you give the coaching audience an idea of similar things that officials are doing to achieve the same goals in their field?*

BD: Officials spend many hours during the off season and during the season on rules study, case study, and mechanics. Every year a few rules are changed and/or tweaked. Many of us are members of several officials' organizations that all do an excellent job in offering meeting opportunities to review new rules, refresh on key rules, and film study. We also have formalized training for our younger officials through on court training and evaluating, rules study and

observing. All of these processes help the veterans keep sharp and help give back to aspiring officials.

HCH: *You have seen the evolution of high school coaching boxes, including the "sit down all the time" rule several years back. What are your thoughts on these types of rules and how they have or have not been good for the game as they relate to how well you can do your job?*

BD: I truly like the current arrangement in the state of Missouri. It allows the coach to coach their teams within the parameters of the coaching box. In a packed, loud gym it can oftentimes be difficult for a coach to verbally get your players attention – visual can help here. The coaching box allows for this. Personally, I thought the seat belt rule was too restrictive.

HCH: *Without naming names (or name them if it's a positive situation), can you give us an example of a situation where you and a coach were able to work together in a situation to bring about a desired result in a touchy spot in a game?*

BD: The coaches I work for are usually excellent at helping in these matters. I can think of several occasions where a particular player was getting near the edge. I talked with the coaches and ask for them to have that player take a rest and compose themselves. Coaches appreciate being alerted to this as they are typically too involved in coaching and managing the game. This gives them the opportunity to work with their player.



IMPORTANT NOTICE

Introducing an all-new event....

MBCA Missouri Challenge All-Star Games

- Replaces current MBCA Hall of Fame All-Star Game.
- 8 Districts - Northeast, Northwest, Southeast, Kansas City, Southwest, St. Louis, Central, South Central
- Each district will have a boys and girls roster of 10 all stars, regardless of class, selected by the regional media when they choose the AP All-State teams.
- Only seniors will be invited to participate in the Missouri Challenge.
- Any coach in Missouri can apply to coach a regional team and if selected they can choose their coaching staff and prepare their regional team.
- Coaches will be selected by from the pool of applicants by the Missouri Basketball Coaches Association. (Being selected as a coach does not guarantee you will have a player on the team)
- The winning district will have the players' and coaches' names engraved on the Missouri Cup, to be on permanent display at the Missouri Sports Hall of Fame.
- The tournament finals will be played at the new JQH Arena on the campus of Missouri State University in Springfield.
- The Missouri Challenge is tentatively set for May 29th and 30th, 2009.
- Teams will play the first round on May 29th and play the semi-final round early in the day on May 30th. The finals will be played in the evening on May 30th.
- For more information contact Ryan Shaw at 417-496-4189.

MISSOURI BASKETBALL COACHES ASSOCIATION

MBCA Board Minutes

October 17, 2008

1. Meeting called to order by President Blossom at 1:30 PM
2. President Blossom ask for a motion to approve the March 8 & 15,2008 Board Minutes. Denny Hunt made the motion seconded by Craig Parrack. Motion passed unanimously.
3. Treasurers report was given by Secretary Filbert. President Blossom ask for a motion to approve. Gail Jones made the motion seconded by Craig Parrack. Motion passed unanimously.
4. Denny Hunt, Nomination Chair made the following motion: President, Stephanie Phillips; Neal Hook, President-Elect; Ryan Shaw, Vice-President, Past-President Jay Blossom. The motion was seconded by Shane Matzen and passed unanimously.
5. Ken Ash, Executive Director of the Show-Me State Games addressed the Board about a High School Basketball Tournament involving girls and boys teams from states throughout the mid-west. Missouri would be the anchor state and provide most of the teams with the hope that 2-3 teams coming from each of the other states in Region 3 of the National Congress of State Games. (Region 3 includes Missouri, Minnesota, Michigan, Wisconsin, Texas, Oklahoma, South Dakota, Ohio, North Dakota, Nebraska, Kansas, Iowa, Indiana, Illinois). This would be a fund raiser for both groups and includes a 50-50 split of Entry fees. Ken ask for a three year commitment from MBCA to partner with SMSG. After some discussion the Board voted to adopt the proposal. President Phillips appointed Shane Matzen, Chair, Tonya Mirts and Greg Dunnigan as committee members.
6. Gabe Lozano of Lockerdome a Vendor at the Clinic addressed the board about his company. He handed out his card and asked that anyone interested contact him.
7. David Fox reported on the 2008 Clinic. Generally the clinic was a huge success with approximately 1300 signed up and over 1150 in attendance. The Clinicians did an outstanding job and vendor attendance was twice as large as 2007. A couple of problems were mentioned including the microphones at the late night and parking.
8. Secretary Filbert commented on the Norm Stewart Classic to be held at Columbia College on Saturday and Sunday December 6 & 7, 2008. There will be five games on Saturday starting at 10:30 AM. Rock Bridge Girls will host Kickapoo followed by Hickman Girls hosting St. Joseph Academy at 12:00 Noon. At 1:30 PM Moberly Boys will host Kirkwood followed by Jefferson City Boys hosting

Marquette at 3:00 PM. Columbia College will play and Exhibition game at 5:00 PM. On Sunday Harrisburg Boys will host Glendale at 2:30PM followed by Hickman Boys hosting Poplar Bluff at 4:00 PM.

Colin See, Kelly Press is putting together a marketing and advertising program which should be ready soon. (Colin did the Vendor Partnership program that proved so successful for the 2008 Clinic)

A meeting will be held in St. Louis in the next few days with Jay Blossom, Ken Libby and Gary Wacker to review plans.

9. Past-President Blossom reported on the Missouri Challenge. This will replace the current All Star format with Boys and Girls teams from each of the eight MSHSAA Districts playing in a two day tournament in Springfield. Ryan Shaw held sign up for Coaches who were interested during the clinic and over 40 showed interest. Teams would be selected by the Media. Jay reported that contact had been made about the possibility of having TV coverage. Sponsorship possibilities have been explored by Jerald Andrews of the Missouri Sports Hall of Fame and by Secretary Filbert.
10. Shawn Erickson reported on the MBCA All-State selection process. Getting Regional reps to Columbia for the final selection is a problem. These positions need to be appointed before the season.
11. Bill Gunn reported on the Web Site. He will have the Vendor Links installed. He continues to need information from the membership.
12. Shane Matzen indicated he had purchased new software which will help with the production of the Hard Court Herald. MBCA reimbursed him.
13. Secretary Filbert reported that the Academic All-State Selection and Banquet will be similar to last year. This program is a wash financially and needs a sponsor. The suggestions was made that the military might be a good fit as a sponsor. He also ask that Board Members be on the alert for MBCA Hall of Fame nominees.
14. No Old or New Business and President Phillips adjourned the meeting at 2:45 PM.





Duke 6-Point Drill

Step 1:

Point one is denial on the wing. A coach has the ball at the top of the key.



Step 2:

The second point is fake traps. The coach starts to penetrate from the top of the key. The defensive player fake traps to stop the drive.



Step 3:

The third point is post defense. The coach dribbles to the wing and the offensive player goes to the post. The defender stops the pass to the post.



Step 4:

The fourth point is help defense. The offensive player goes through to the opposite wing. The defender plays help defense.



Step 5:

The fifth point is the closeout. The coach throws a skip pass to the offensive player and the defender closes out on him.



Step 6:

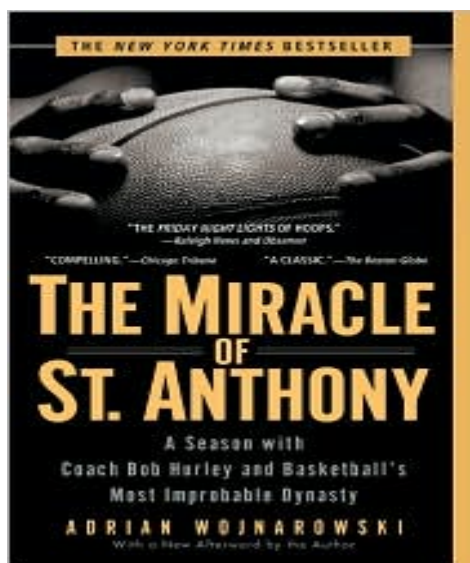
The sixth point is denial of the flash pivot. The defensive player throws the ball back to the coach. The defender resumes playing help defense. The offensive player cuts to the ball with the defender denying the pass.



Suggested Reading

The Miracle of St. Anthony: A Season with Coach Bob Hurley and Basketball's Most Improbable Dynasty

by Adrian Wojnarowski



In trying to stay current amidst the overwhelmingly-positive response we received on having Bob Hurley, Sr. as a speaker at our MBCA Clinic this past month, I elected to place Mr. Wojnarowski's book on Coach Hurley in this section of the newsletter. Having read it myself recently, I highly recommend this book even if you weren't able to be at the clinic. It's an outstanding read but most importantly a good lesson in how we as coaches need to look out for our players.

-----Shane Matzen

From Publishers Weekly

The Bob Hurley profiled here isn't as well known to the average sports fan as his son, Bobby, the Duke University basketball superstar. But the elder Hurley's profile should rise quickly, thanks to sportswriter Wojnarowski's fine and detailed look at the "miracle" Hurley has achieved as coach for more than 30 years of the men's basketball team at St. Anthony's High School in Jersey City, NJ. Wojnarowski provides an excellent look at the phenomenon of the school itself, which Hurley and two Felician nuns managed to keep open even after it lost funding from the church, educating "the poorest of the poor" (more than 50% of the students' families lived below the poverty line).

He delivers a finely etched portrait of Hurley, whose passion and drive enabled him to construct "a national powerhouse program out of an enrollment that struggled to stay at 200" and keep the school's decade-long streak of 100% college acceptance. But Wojnarowski's main focus is on the 2003-2004 season, in which a varsity team that Hurley considered "the most academically, athletically and socially underachieving in St. Anthony basketball history" overcame its "dysfunctional" nature and had an undefeated season. Wojnarowski's sensitive, insightful look at the social backgrounds and emotional development of the varsity players-and Hurley's remarkable understanding of them-will keep readers riveted throughout this book, which is one of the best recent pieces of sports journalism.

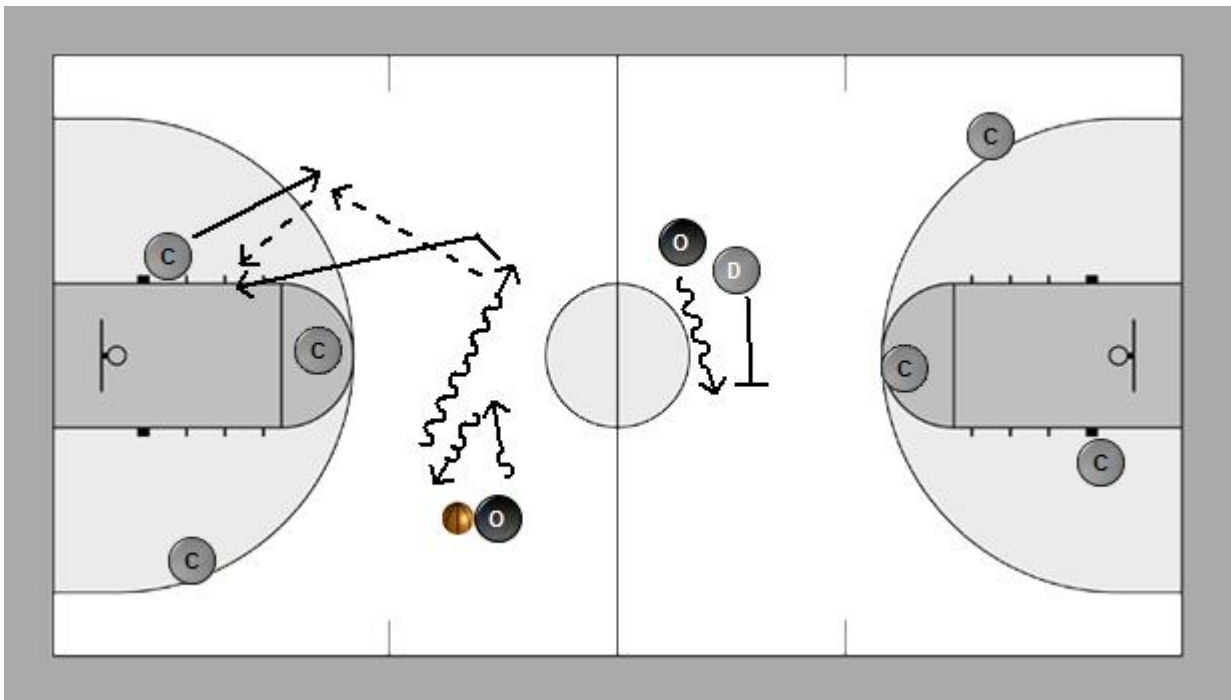
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Featured Web-Site

Basketball Tips

<http://www.knowledgehound.com/topics/basketba.htm>

This is a great site to book-mark if for nothing else the sheer amount of links to take you to all corners of the cyber-universe when it comes to coaching our sport.



Nomination form
Missouri Basketball Hall of Fame
Sponsored by the Missouri Basketball Coaches Association

Coach's Name: _____

School(s) coached at and record at each school:

Nominated Coach's

Phone: _____
School home cell

Nominating Coach's Name: _____

Nominating Coach's Phone: _____
School home cell

Career Honors

Received: _____

Nominating Coach's

comments: _____

Nominating Coach's Signature: _____

Coaches with 500 or more wins in Missouri are automatic qualifiers. Please mail form or seek more information by contacting Gary Filbert at the following address:

Gary Filbert, MBCA Office
906 Wayne Road
Columbia, MO 65203

Return this form by March 10, 2009. YOU MUST BE A MEMBER TO SUBMIT A NOMINATION.



2008-2009 MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Please fill out and return \$15 per single membership (Take note of "All-School" rate and late fees below).

Make your check payable to:
 "Missouri Basketball Coaches Association"

NAME: _____

HOME ADDRESS: _____

CITY/STATE/ZIP: _____

HOME PHONE: _____ E-MAIL: _____

SCHOOL AFFILIATION: _____

CLASS: 1__ 2__ 3__ 4__ 5__

JR HI__ HS__ JUCO__ COLLEGE__ OTHER__

DISTRICT: NW__ NE__ SE__ SW__

South Cent__ Cent__ KC__ STL__

Total Wins as Head Coach _____

Number of years coaching at each level:

COLLEGE: ASST__ HEAD COACH__ TOTAL__

HIGH SCHOOL: JR HI__ HS ASST__ VAR__ TOTAL__

MAIL TO:

Missouri Basketball Coaches Association
 906 Wayne Road
 Columbia, MO 65203

(Please note: single Membership is \$15 per year)

*******SPECIAL "ALL-SCHOOL MEMBERSHIP"*******

INDIVIDUAL Schools may enroll ALL of their coaches (boys AND girls) for a school membership fee of only \$50. Each coach on the staff though will have to fill out an individual membership form along with the check for \$50. After February 1, 2009, the prices will go up to \$25 per individual and \$75 for the entire school staff.

I would like to become more involved in the MBCA and its activities. Contact the following persons if you wish to be involved with their designated MBCA activity:

Nominating: dvhunt30@yahoo.com

Legislative: blossom.jay@mail.webster.k12.mo.us

Hall of Fame Games: sphillips325@spsmail.org

Academic All-State: show4games@aol.com

Newsletter: hardcourtherald@hotmail.com

Suggestions for the MBCA Board to consider:
