



The Hard Court Herald

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The Third Leg of Your Program

By Shane Matzen

Hard Court Herald Editor

Most of us spend a great deal of time in our careers making sure our players are as prepared as possible for Tuesday and Friday nights to go to battle with our area rivals. We also take the time to attend events such as the recent MBCA Coaching Clinic, ordering DVDS and tapes and studying our craft through books, web-sites and the like. I would contend that most of us probably spend the least amount of time on the third part of what makes a basketball program: our players' parents.

Like a stool that one would sit on, our programs will find it impossible to stand on only two legs. It takes that third leg to give balance to the stool and to a basketball program. We've all heard the horror story of the impassioned coach speaking to his player for 2-3 hours during a practice or a game and then it all come crashing down to earth as the player rides in the back seat of his mom or dad's car and experiences the people who love him the most telling him how big a jerk the coach is and/or how everything he's been taught on the court and/or locker room is all a load of bunk (or worse).

Anyone who knows me has figured out really quickly that I'm a little uncomfortable around people I don't know. I don't easily go up to people and introduce myself or bring up topics of conversation out of the blue. However, I figured out that this degree of shyness is looked upon by others maybe as aloofness. This is a killer in the parent-coach relationship. While I don't profess to know everything about parenting (I'm only at the nine and five-year-old level), I think I've figured out a big thing that parents want: they want to feel like the person in charge of their kids CARES about their kids. How can we show this degree of caring that most (and I would hope all) of us have for our players? Depending on what your strengths are as a person, there are a lot of different ways to earn the respect of your team's parents.

1) Open up your practices to parents. I know this isn't something all of us are comfortable with and let's face it...most of your players will tell their parents they don't want them there anyway. However, if you've got nothing to hide invite them to come and see what's going on. Ignorance breeds contempt. If a parent wonders why their son doesn't play and has never been to practice, invite them. Tell them your decisions are based mostly on what happens from 3-5:30 on non-game days.

2) The time honored tradition of the parents' pre-season meeting must live on. It's important at this meeting that you establish ground rules. Maybe you tell parents you'll discuss anything except playing time and strategy. Maybe you hold a mini-clinic so that those parents who are interested can see what you're trying to do offensively and defensively and can ask questions (and thus, get it out of their systems before the "no strategy discussion rule" goes into effect). (This is great because often times as you're X'ing and O'ing them they realize that "Hey, he does know what he's doing." Or, they say to themselves, "I'm so confused right now, he must be smarter about this stuff than me!") Be sure and be organized at these meetings. Providing parents with schedules for games and practices shows that you're on the ball and care about their time. Have a Q & A session where they can air concerns early on and there be no questions about little matters that can balloon later on. One more thing we do at this meeting is introduce our community service work we plan on doing during the season. We've traditionally put on a clinic at a north-St. Louis children's home and given a portion of our fund-raising money to a needy cause. Showing parents you want to teach their children about the world we live in and not just how to make a wrap-around bounce pass goes a long way in establishing their trust in you.

3) In your try-out paperwork, have agreements that parents must follow. With our program, this involves parents signing off on understanding how we determine playing time and the chain of command that needs to be followed when a problem comes up. Some parents are going to fail to follow these items anyway. That's just the nature of the beast. However, it's hard for them to question you when you ask why they met with the A.D. and not you when you show them a document that they signed saying that they agreed to have their son meet with you first followed by a parent-coach conference. If you're interested in some of the paperwork that we use here at Marquette, send me an e-mail (matzenshane@rockwood.k12.mo.us). The wheel doesn't need to be invented twice. After 12 years here, we've got a lot of things yet to be established but this is one area I'm comfortable with what we're doing.

4) Take advantage of a situation. If you run into a parent at a football game and can talk about the Cardinals game, do it. They need to know we're regular people. While I think you run into dangerous waters when you develop an obvious, close friendship with one parent where other parents wonder how that relationship affects your decisions; being friendly makes a world of difference. This has been the big deal for me. I think I'm a nice, reasonable person. However, when parents never got to talk to me all they know about me is the straight, grim face I'm displaying at games that to them makes them think I'm a grim person (when all I'm doing is wondering what play we ought to run next or what substitution I should make at the end of the quarter).

5) Use some decorum in dealing with your players. You can be as angry and as frustrated as all get out with one of your players. However, how you handle those feelings dictates a lot of how your parents feel about you. When a player makes one of those mistakes we just cringe over, there are a couple of great things you can do. A wise administrator of mine told me a long time ago that when this happens put your arm around the player and just within earshot make it very clear your feelings on what he needs to do differently. Yelling and causing a scene on the court can break a lot of bonds you worked so hard to build (even if the loud volume is justified). One of my former assistants also told me once that every time a player comes off the floor shake his hand or give him a slap on the back regardless of how badly he just performed. This is good PR for you and also is a good thing to do because if you're that angry the player already probably knows what he did if you've done your job coaching in practice.

There is no doubt that these five suggestions will work and help you. The past few seasons have been my happiest as a coach. A lot of that goes to the fact that with experience you learn about priorities in your life and priorities you want to teach to your players. However, I've made it a real point to overcome my aversion to being open with others and make our parents more and more involved with our program in a reasonable way. I know that I still make mistakes in how I deal with my players and parents and I probably will until the day I retire. However, understanding the importance of the parent-player conversation on their drive home about what we (parents, players and coaches) can all do together to make us successful has made my experience as a coach all the more rewarding.



POST-CLINIC EDITORIAL

What a wonderful day-and-a-half in Columbia back on October 19th and 20th! While I know many of you reading this have gone to more clinics than myself, I can't remember a clinic that I enjoyed and felt like I got my money's worth more than the event the MBCA put on. From valuable X & O info from the coaches that spoke, to the collegiate teams that traveled to share their practice routine, to the convenience of having a good meal provided on-site and to the wonderful entertainment provided by Coach Norm Stewart and Jon Sundvold at the Thursday night social hour (Jon is as smooth as they come and Coach Stewart as most of you know could go on the club-circuit and have a successful second career if he chose to!).

We ended up with over 750 coaches registered for the clinic. At our MBCA board meeting held immediately after the end of the proceedings the first thing we talked about was what if any complaints we had heard. The discussion was a short one. Having a curtain to separate the speaker and gym venue along with plans we had for opening up another site on the Columbia College campus to possibly include a high school coach-of-the-year roundtable discussion were issues that were brought up. We would like to hear from our membership though. If you have constructive criticism, ideas or even things you liked and would like to expand on, please send us a note. We can be contacted via e-mail (hardcourtherald@hotmail.com).

While many, many people were involved in making our inaugural clinic a successful one, I would like to mention a few parties here that were key figures: It was Webster Groves Coach and new MBCA president Jay Blossom's idea a couple of years ago that gave birth to the idea for the event. There were many doubters initially when he brought up the topic, but through sheer determination he kept plugging away until we had the event that so many of you were able to participate in. Being from central Missouri and thus close to the clinic site...our MBCA clinic coordinator and Jefferson City Coach, David Fox, along with long-time MBCA executive secretary and co-MBCA founder, Gary Filbert, worked tirelessly putting the logistics of the event together. Finally, it needs to be mentioned the cooperation of Columbia College and Athletic Director and Head Men's Basketball Coach Bob Burchard who cooperated through the use of their facilities as well as virtually turning over a huge portion of their campus to the MBCA membership in attendance. Much thanks to all of these gentlemen, the rest of the group who aided in the formation and running of the clinic and finally to all of you who were able to share in the event. We hope next year to see it grow bigger and better!

MISSOURI BASKETBALL COACHES ASSOCIATION
October 19 & 20, 2006 Board Meeting Minutes

Thursday, October 19, 2006

1. MBCA Board Meeting Called to Order by President Sean Williamson
2. Minutes of the March 2006 were handed out. Randy Albrecht made the motion to accept the minutes. David Fox seconded the motion. Passed
3. Treasurer's Report was handed out. After remarks by Treasurer Filbert, Jay Blossom made a motion to accept the report. Denny Hunt seconded the motion. Passed
4. David Fox, Clinic Committee Chair made a report on the MBCA Inaugural Clinic.
 - A. The Columbia College under the leadership of Director of Athletics and Mens's Basketball Coach Bob Burchard have done a great job of preparation.
 - B. The numbers look like 627 pre registered.
 - C. A line up change will have Norm Stewart speaking at 8:45 AM on Friday and Bob Burchard speaking at 7:00 PM on Thursday while at the same time Columbia College Women will be holding practice.
 - D. Dinner will start at 5:15 PM instead of 5:30 PM
 - E. Assignments for Board work times and stations were handed out.
 - F. MaxPrep headed by Bill Gunn have given \$1000.00 and are included on the program.
5. President Williamson has appointed Denny Hunt to come up with a slate of Officers and Board members to be presented to the membership.
 - A. President - Jay Blossom
 - B. President-Elect - Stephanie Phillips
 - C. Vice-President - Neal Hook
 - D. Secretary/Treasurer - Gary Filbert
 - E. Board Members - Darrell Davis & Courtney Haskell - Northeast.
Jay Osborne & Jeni Hopkins - Southwest
Scott Jermain & Brad Oyler - Kansas City
Mike Arnold & Gail Jones - Central
 - F. It was noted that according to the Constitution, which was handed out, that the Board could select At-Large members to serve on the Board to represent Districts.
6. Hall of Fame Games Managers discussed the 2007 Games.
 - A. President Williamson met with Jerald Andrews of the Hall of Fame. He indicated that Jerald would be more involved now that Todd Yearack had resigned from the Hall.
 - B. If we move the games to the spring, they could be held at Drury College which would save money.
 - C. St. Johns will probably not be the presenting sponsor and a statewide business would seem to be a better fit. This possibility will be pursued by the Hall personnel.
 - D. It was suggested that the Media be involved in selection of players.
 - E. Major concern was expressed about the fact that getting players to commit and show up is a continuing problem.
 - F. Deciding on whether to play 2 or 4 games will be a yearly decision.
7. Shawn Erickson will make a presentation on the Academic All State Banquet and the MBCA All State Selection Process at the Friday, October 20th meeting.
8. Web Master Bill Gunn would like for Board Members and General Membership to E-mail more information for inclusion on the Web Site.
9. Shane Matzen announced that Jason Wolford had been added to the Hard Court Herald editorial staff.

10. New Business

A. David Fox suggested that Gary Filbert's title be changed from Executive Secretary to Executive Director and a person be hired to assist with the work of administrative details. No action taken.

Friday, October 20, 2006

1. Meeting called to order by President Jay Blossom.
2. Clinic Report given by David Fox, Clinic Chair.
 - A. According to T-Shirt count and registration, approximately 785 either attended and/or registered
 - B. The following speakers donated their stipend back to MBCA: Burchard; Davis; Sundvold; Stewart, which amounted to \$1950.00.
 - C. Suggestions for future clinics included having Coaches go through a film session, use more High School Coaches in a forum setting.
 - D. The Venue was excellent. It was suggestion that the Dinner might be serve in another building across the campus. The food was well received.
 - E. Work needs to be done on the registration process. Vendors should be up and running by Noon for a 1:00 PM opening speaker.
 - F. Future considerations include returning to Columbia College with the same dates (As of 10/27/06 this as been confirmed with Bob Burchard), speakers and teams need to be selected for a three to four year period if possible. President Blossom and Clinic Chair Fox will meet with Missouri University Basketball staff about the clinic. With the increase in funds it was suggested that additional scholarship opportunities be explored.
 - G. A motion was made, to donate \$2500.00 to Special Olympics Missouri (SOMO) for their aid in providing assistance in promotion and registration of the Clinic, by Ryan Shaw. It was seconded by Denny Hunt and passed.
3. Shawn Erickson and Jim Vaughan presented a plan to select MBCA All State Teams and Coaches of the Year. A rating system would be set up to provide an MBCA Coaches Poll every two weeks. Scott Harris stated that the Softball Coaches have a similar system which he will share with the Board. It was further suggested that a combination of the Hall of Fame Games and the Academic All State Banquet could be held in the spring a week after the NCAA Final Four in Springfield. This will be discussed with Jerald Andrews of the Missouri Sports Hall of Fame.
4. Secretary Filbert stated that the Lenox MBCA Coaches Basketball Memorial at the Hall will be completed and dedicated during the February 2007 Enshrinement Ceremonies. \$42,000.00 has been raised. Jackie and Leah Lenox wife and daughter of John Lenox made the lead gift of \$25,000.00, MBCA contribute \$5000.00 from the sale of "The Lure and Lore of Basketball in Missouri" and the rest came from Friends of John and MBCA Hall of Fame Coaches
5. Denny Hunt made the motion that John Shaffer of Mountain Grove High School be added to the Game Managers group for the Hall of Fame Games. Jacky Payne seconded the motion. It passed.
6. David Fox made the motion to allow Secretary Filbert to hire a person to help with administrative details. Sean Williamson seconded the motion. It passed
7. Meeting adjourned

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VICE-PRESIDENT: Neal Hook-St. Joseph Central H.S.

EXECUTIVE SECRETARY/TREASURER: Gary Filbert

PAST PRESIDENT: Sean Williamson-Glendale H.S.

COLLEGE: Bob Burchard-Columbia College.

JUNIOR COLLEGE: Randy Albrecht-Meramec C.C.

JUNIOR HIGH:

HALL OF FAME GAME MANAGERS: Denny Hunt-Kickapoo H.S., Jacky Payne-Stoutland H.S.,

John Schaefer-Mountain Grove H.S., Ryan Shaw-Hillcrest H.S.

CLINIC COORDINATOR: David Fox-Jefferson City H.S.

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Q&A with the Difference-Makers

Each issue of the Hard Court Herald we conduct an interview with a person who has made a difference in our sport in Missouri. This edition we were fortunate enough to have Columbia College Head Men's Basketball Coach Bob Burchard give thoughts related to his experiences.



Coach Burchard has been at Columbia College going on 19 years now. During that span, he has guided the Cougars to 12 trips (including 11 of the last 12 seasons) to the NAIA National Tournament and a .742 winning percentage (and most importantly produced 59 All-Conference and 6 All-American Academic honorees). Before taking over the reins at CC, Coach Burchard was an assistant at Missouri Western State College where he was originally hired by MBCA Executive Secretary Gary Filbert. Prior to Missouri Western, he served as head boys and girls coaches at Jameson High School in far northwest Missouri.

Hard Court Herald: Your tenure at Columbia College can now be spoken of in terms of what will be remembered as "the Burchard Era." Can you give some examples of things that have taken place to build what can truly be called a "program?"

Bob Burchard: I appreciate the term "Burchard Era," but it is more appropriate to talk about a "Cougar Era". It has been a great time to be a Columbia Cougar. All of our sports teams have been highly successful over the past eighteen years. There are many reasons this has happened, the most important of which has been the ability to recruit highly qualified, success-driven students. I sincerely believe the success of our teams is a reflection of what has happened across our campus. Our president, Dr. Gerald Brouder, encourages our academic and athletic programs to operate at a level that emphasizes quality, and he provides the resources needed to make that happen. Our facilities are some of the best at the small college level, our staff has stayed together for ten years, and we have been able to consistently attract high level players.

HCH: For those unfamiliar with play at the NAIA level, can you give them an idea of how it compares to other levels of play in the world of college basketball?

BB: The NAIA is a historic organization. Most people don't realize the NAIA was the first association of intercollegiate athletics and actually started as the NAIB, the National Association of Intercollegiate Basketball. There are two divisions in NAIA Basketball. These divisions are based on scholarship limits. Division I can offer up to eleven scholarships and Division II a maximum of six. There are two very strong NAIA conferences in Missouri. The American Midwest Conference competes in Division I and the Heart of America Conference in Division II. Both conferences are competitive at the national levels and, in my opinion, can be compared to NCAA Division II. The best programs in both leagues have some players who either have competed at the NCAA Division I level, or could have competed at that level in the right program.

HCH: You have a unique situation at Columbia College with the Mizzou campus being only blocks away and a real cosmopolitan feel to the town. What were steps that you set forth to take to give Columbia College a niche in that atmosphere?

BB: Columbia is often described as "College Town USA." Over 30,000 students come to Columbia each year to study at Mizzou, Columbia College, or Stephens. It is an exciting, diverse town with a wide variety of entertainment options. Columbia is a sports crazy city! We have three network television stations in the area, two newspapers, and multiple radio stations, all of which are interested in sports news. We never try to compete with Mizzou, but offer an exciting option for sports entertainment. Every seat in our arena is "A" section, our ticket prices are family friendly, and our loyal fans always encourage their friends to have a "Cougar Experience." We sincerely feel if we can get you into the arena you will want to come back and bring a friend with you! Media coverage is the most important window into our program. We work hard to get information to our media outlets in a professional and timely manner. We established interview rooms following home contests, host seasonal media lunches, broadcast our games on the radio and internet, televise games, and are now streaming live video to our website. We also developed our Cougar Club and Scholarship Fund which raises funds and sponsors special events such as fan busses to away contests. I think that through these efforts, combined with the success of our teams, we have developed our niche in the sports scene of Columbia.

HCH: Yours truly can remember some great games between the Central Methodist Eagles and the Cougars that would rival any that a fan could see....what are some of the highlights of your career at Columbia that you look back on?

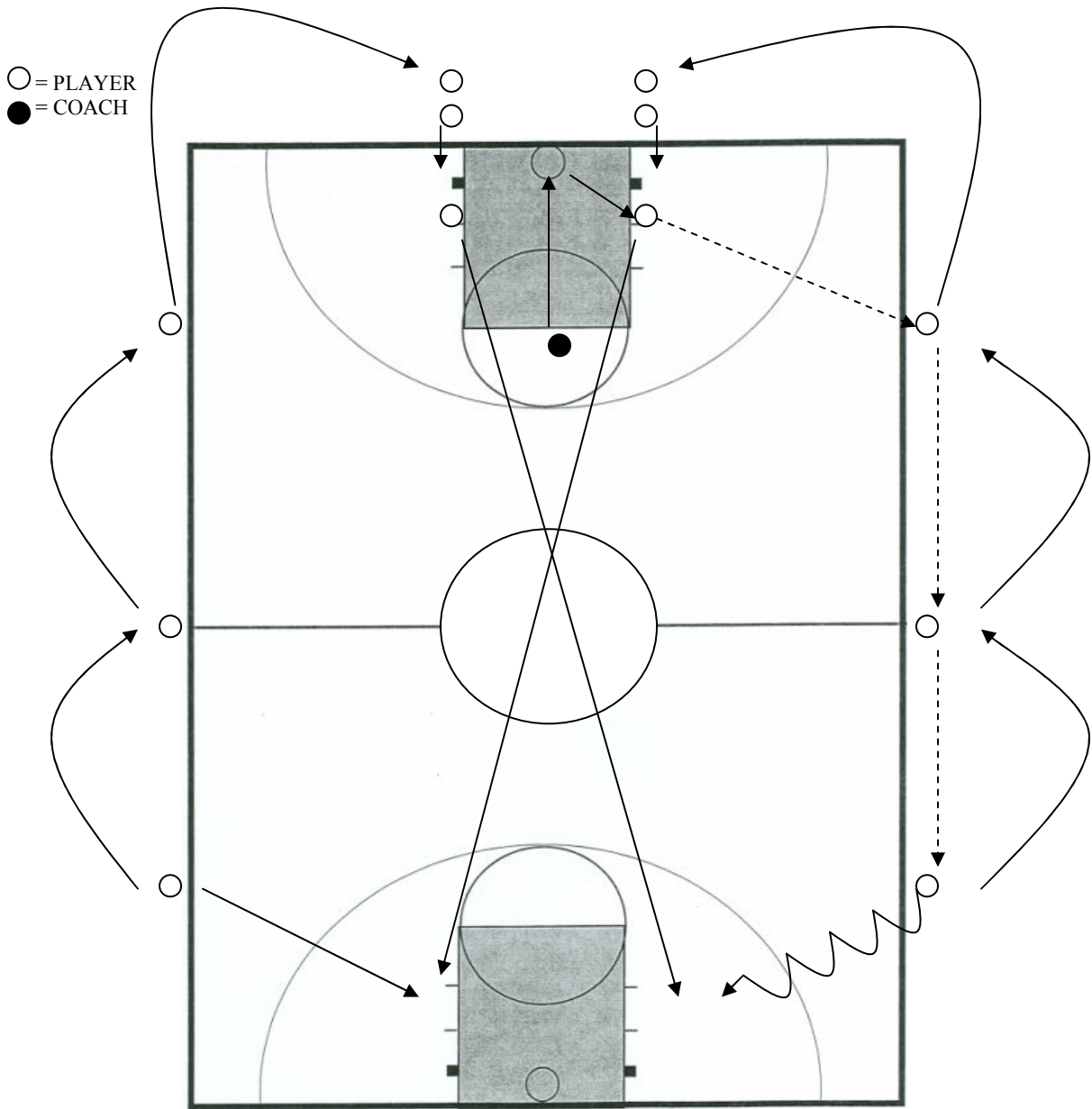
BB: Over eighteen seasons I can think of a lot of highlights and low points! We have developed many longstanding rivalries with local opponents, Central Methodist, Lincoln University, Missouri Valley, and, of course, our conference contests with McKendree College and Missouri Baptist University to highlight a few. Our playoff win at Drury (when they were NAIA) that led us to our first national tournament appearance is one contest I will never forget. Drury had a storied basketball program, and we were just getting started. I don't think anybody expected us to be able to compete, much less win. We have now participated in twelve national tournaments, and each one is very special.

HCH: Finally, a question that I ask nearly all of our interview subjects: What traits do you see when you're out recruiting that make you sit up, take notice and think "this player has been well-coached?" In other words, are there unique things you look for in a player that makes you feel like he could become a Columbia Cougar?

BB: We are very interested in how players react to game situations, their teammates, coaches and the environment. I think most of us can figure out a player's athletic ability, skill level, and ability to score. The tough task is getting a clear picture of the "character" of the student. One of my most memorable recruiting trips to St. Louis occurred at a Lutheran North game. We were recruiting a point guard on their team and got to the game early; the student sang the national anthem with the choir, was a captain who met with the officials, and hit the game winning shot! That was a student we REALLY wanted to recruit. I guess in my mind the well-coached kid is versatile, has developed his basketball skills (not just positional skills), and is willing to listen, learn, and compete.



Practice Drill of the Month
 "Cougar Transition Defense Drill"



If you attended the MBCA clinic and had the chance to watch the Columbia College women practice, this is a defensive transition drill they did at the beginning of practice. Here's how it works:

It starts with a coach shooting (and missing) a free throw with two rebounders on the block. The player that gets the rebound will immediately outlet the ball to that sideline. As the ball is moved down the sideline, the two rebounders are now sprinting back to defense. The last player to receive the ball on the sideline will attack the basket. The player that must guard this offensive player is the one who did not get the rebound. The rebounder must sprint back and cover the weak side offensive player.

The rotation to fill the spots goes back toward the original basket. Both sides will rotate every time. The two defenders will become the next offensive players on the sideline. The two offensive players rotate back to half court and the same rotation continues until the outlet positions are at the end of the rebounding line.

An adaptation you can make is to add another player in the last sideline spot (offensive player spots).

If you have any questions OR if you have a practice drill you would like to share with members of the MBCA then send an email to lindberghoops@sbcglobal.net.



LIZ LOST ~~109 lbs~~

“My name is Liz Dale. Along with a group of co-workers, we signed up for the Shape Up Missouri.

To date, I have lost 109 pounds: I couldn't have done it without my support system at work.

This has probably been the best experience I have had at weight loss. The newsletters we received had good information and recipes that I found helpful.

The big picture is very simple; you have to change the way and amount you eat and you have to get moving.

You have to do it for yourself first and then for your family.”



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Little Things Can Make A Big Difference

By Jason Wolfard

Hard Court Herald Associate Editor

Several things came to mind when I was trying to figure out what my first contribution to the Hard Court Herald would be. Several years ago I was at a coaching clinic at the University of Kansas (I probably just lost half of my readers). Several topics were discussed that Saturday, but as a young assistant coach with aspirations to be a head coach, one topic really meant a lot to me. The talk was simply called “The Little Things”. The coach who was speaking talked about all the small things behind the scenes in a basketball program that make things work smoothly. Being that it was a very helpful topic to me, I thought I would make my first article here talk about “The Little Things” in my experiences of that I have read about that have helped me better myself as a coach and helped me build my program at Lindbergh High School. This list is in no particular order. It is simply a collage of thoughts that will hopefully help you with your program.

- Organization of your bench:
 - Where do you sit? We have played with a couple of ideas to make sure our entire bench is into the game. From sitting in the middle with players on both sides to even having a bench captain. One thing we try to make sure happen is that every player who comes out of the game sits next to the coaching staff and the players on the bench stand up when those players come out of the game.
 - Stats kept on the bench – We all know that once the game starts we are so into it that we don’t probably pay as much attention to stats. However there are some stats that could possibly help you during the course of the game besides the basics.
 - Points per possession – This is probably becoming more popular. We like to average 1.2 pts per possession while holding our opponents to .8 pts per possession. On your possession chart you could also keep track of how you score on each one, what type of turnover is made, or what kind of defense you are in.
 - Player fouls, timeouts, and possession arrow
 - Offensive rebounds for both teams and if it results in a score
 - Score of game for different rotations
- Managers / Student Assistants:
 - We have been very fortunate to have some great student assistants (we use this instead of the word manager). To put it pretty simply, having these kids help us allows us to do what we do best...coach our team. Our student assistants show up to all of our practices and go to all games. They do everything from keeping stats, video taping the game, getting water and towels for our players, as well as a ton of little things that others don’t see. At the end of each game, they clean up our bench, collect equipment, and fill out our stat sheet. During practice we will have them run our clock, keep track of our “hustle” stats (I will talk about this next), and keep score of different

competitions. We love having them around and they become part of our team. Our players treat them like they are their teammates. This is the biggest “little thing” that helps us the most!

- Stats kept during practice:
 - Keeping “hustle” stats (or whatever you want to call them) will usually result in more focus in your players during practice. We award players positive and negative points for different stats (i.e. + for diving on floor and - for missed lay up) and have around 8-10 stats we keep throughout practice. At the end of practice we total up team stats and run if we are on the negative side. If a player has a positive total, then he can get out of a sprint.
- Timeouts
 - How do you handle them? Do you have players remain on the floor or sit on the bench? Do you start talking immediately or do talk to your assistants first? Is your timeout productive? Do you have a play to draw up or a defense to switch into out of a timeout? I’m sure there are other things, but sometimes in the heat of the moment, these things slip our mind. How are you going to get the most from your timeouts?
- Pre-Game Talk:
 - Man I struggle with this. How much information do you need to go over with them? One thing we are looking at this year is to simply rank each team we play on how they score (i.e. – Are they shooters? Do they score off drives? Pts off defense? Pts in transition? Pts inside?). We will focus on that and how we are going to hopefully stop them. Some coaches write only one or two things, while others can fill up an entire board (I’m guilty) of info that doesn’t matter after the first five minutes. This is really something that is not discussed much, but I would love to hear what others do.
- Substitutions:
 - How many times does a player go into the game and then once play starts he has no idea who he is guarding? Is it his fault or his teammate’s fault? I have seen some teams have their subs give the other player their warm up or a towel, but what do they say? Who are you guarding? What play are we running? What defense are we in?
- Body Language
 - I heard this at the MBCA clinic and I also read it in a book from Pat Summit – eye contact is extremely important. Do your players look at you when you are talking to them? What about their body language when something goes wrong? Does a guard who throws a pass to a post man and it gets stolen drop his shoulders or roll his eyes, or does he go talk to him and tell him “to get it back next time.”
- “Be a Thief”
 - Not literally, but use things with your team that you see working with other teams. A majority of ideas we use have been stuff we have taken from other teams and most of it involves these “little things”. At the same time, don’t shy away from creativity.
- Read a book

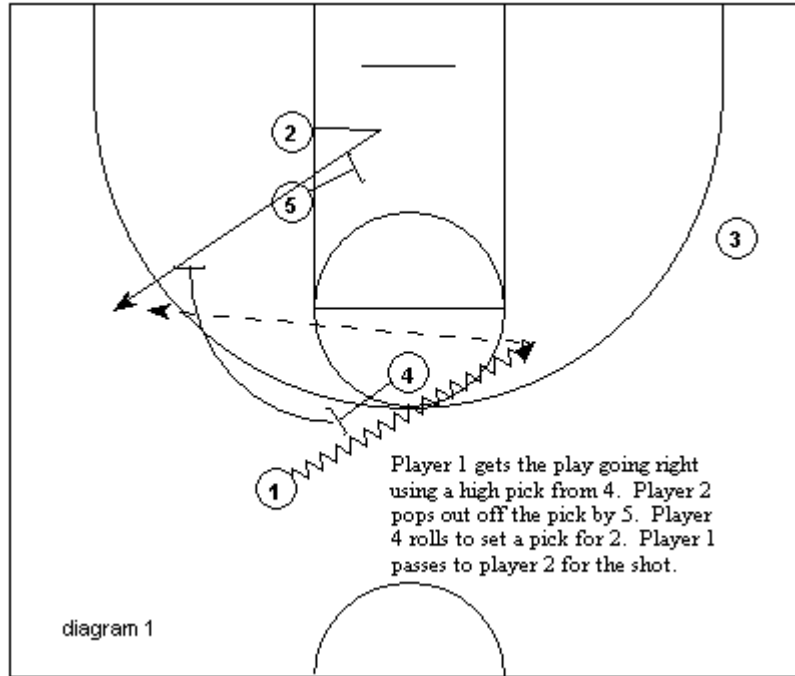
- I have read two great books the last month that have given me many ideas (Pat Riley’s “The Winner Within” and Pat Summit’s “Reach for the Summit”). Coach K’s books are very good as well. If you get the time, it is a relaxing time that will help you get ready for the season.
- “Give the credit, take the blame”
 - This is something I have learned as a young coach and might not apply to you vets out there. If your team wins, it was the players that did everything right. If your team loses, it was your fault. Sometimes it is tough to do especially when they don’t play well or hard, but it is a little thing that will help your team bounce back next time.
- “Think Big!!!”
 - This is my last thought for you. As much as all the posters on the message boards, the media, and other “fans” of the game tell us how many games each team will win, who will win conference, and who will make it to the final four, you have to think big. In my first year as head coach, I knew we weren’t going to be a great team, but I placed a picture of the Mizzou Arena floor in each players’ locker on the first day of practice. Above the picture it simply said, “Think Big”. We didn’t make it to Columbia that year (not even out of districts), but it made our players believe we could beat anyone.

As I said, this list is just a random list of little things I have learned in my years that have helped us. Hopefully you can use some of them. If you have any ideas I would love to hear about them. I would also love to hear ideas from coaches out there of what they want to read about in this newsletter in the future. Feel free to email me with any thoughts for future articles or questions about any of the thoughts above (JWolfard@LindberghSchools.ws). Good luck to all of you as you start your season!



COACHES' CLIPBOARD

Play of the Month "Eckerd" (for a 3-pointer)



This edition's "Play of the Month" courtesy of the Playanizer CD. The CD and other useful coaching aides can be purchased through their web-site at: <http://www.teamanizer.com/>

Suggested Reading:

Last One Out of Town Turn Out the Lights: Glasgow Girls 2000 Title Run

Glasgow girls basketball coach (and now Glasgow Schools Superintendent) Mike Reynolds writes a touching book about how a small town comes together as one behind their school's basketball team on the road to a state championship. You can obtain a copy of this book by contacting Mike via e-mail (mreynolds@tnp.more.net) or by phone at (660) 338-2012.

Featured Web-Site: **The Coach Silver Home Page**

(www.coachsilver.com)

Many of you have already joined Coach Duane Silver's e-mail group. If you haven't, it is a MUST for any basketball coach. Duane shares thoughts and tips about the game as well as great X & O ideas that WILL help your team. He has a wide variety of playbooks covering all facets of the game that are well-worth the low cost. To join FOR FREE, send him an e-mail (duane@coachsilver.com).

To contribute to the Coaches' Clipboard (plays, drills, books, quotes, web-sites, etc.) or to submit any other item for "The Hardcourt Herald (article, article idea, etc.), contact Shane Matzen at hardcourtherald@hotmail.com.



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I would like to become more involved in the MBCA and its activities. I will volunteer my services if needed with the following:

Nominating__ Legislative__ Hall of Fame Games__

Academic All-State__ Newsletter__

Suggestions for the MBCA Board to consider:
