

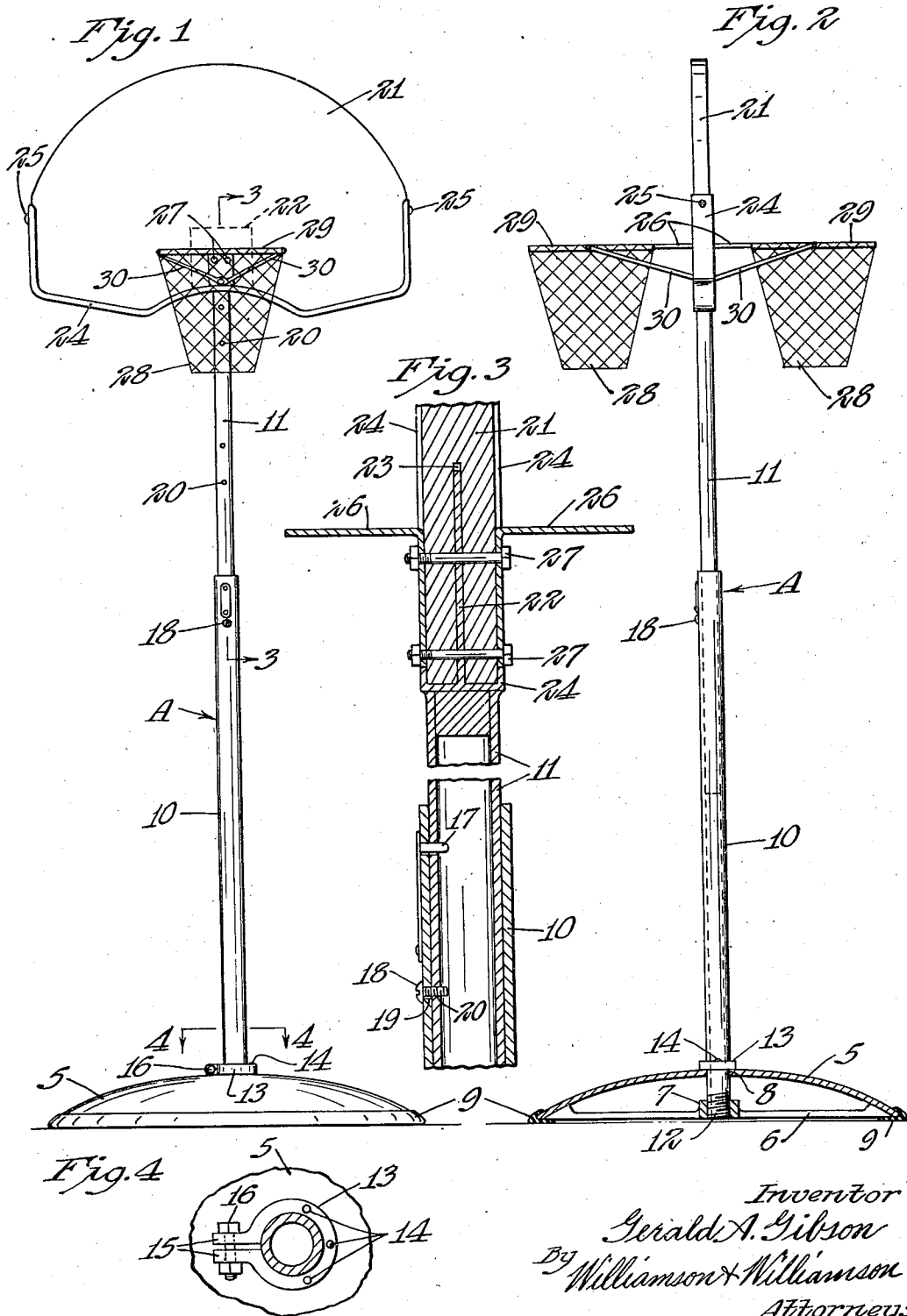
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PORTABLE BASKETBALL GOAL

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PORTABLE BASKETBALL GOAL

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This invention relates to goals for ball games, and more particularly to portable goals for use in the practice and play of the game of basket ball.

Portable basket ball goals of various types have been devised heretofore. They have the disadvantage, however, of being unstable after a short period of use since the construction of the supporting standards have been such that the frequent blows of the ball against the backboard have worn different portions of the unit with the result that the basket and backboard soon tilt at an angle. Not only is this true but the goals are generally improperly balanced and are easily tipped over.

Furthermore, in the past it has been the tendency to either substitute a basket of entirely the wrong shape without a backboard, or if correct backboard and basket were used to use the latter without any semblance of balance. These past arrangements have prevented the player from using fundamentals of basketball since he had the choice of shooting at either an unstable basket or a basket entirely different from the one used in standard play.

It is a general object of my invention to provide an officially approved portable basket ball goal which is stable in construction and which can be readily adjusted in height to meet the physical capacity of the players to properly direct their shots to the basket with a basket ball meeting official standards.

Another object of the invention is to provide a stable yet portable basket ball goal which can be readily dismantled for convenient movement.

Another object of the invention is to provide a portable basket ball goal including a support wherein the backboard can be easily replaced in the event the original board is damaged due to exposure out of doors.

A more specific object of the invention is to provide a portable basket ball goal including a base and upright, wherein the upright is formed of two telescoping sections which are vertically adjustable relative to each other and wherein the upper section includes an integral unit for supporting the backboard and the basket.

These and other objects and advantages of the invention will more fully appear from the following description made in connection with the accompanying drawing, wherein like reference characters refer to the same parts throughout the views, and, in which:

Fig. 1 is a front elevation thereof;

Fig. 2 is a side elevation thereof;

Fig. 3 is an enlarged vertical section showing portions of the supporting post, the backboard, and the basket brackets; and

Fig. 4 is an enlarged section taken approximately on the line 4-4 of Fig. 1.

In Figs. 1 and 2 there is illustrated a circular, concavo-convex base 5. The convex side of the base is uppermost and presents a gently rounded surface which has no projections which might cause injury to the players. Across the bottom of the base is located a spider 6 which is provided at its center with a threaded socket 7. The upper central portion of the base 5 has an aperture 8 formed therein, and the lower edge of the base has a shock reducing rim 9 of rubber or other yielding material positioned thereon.

Extending upwardly from the base 5 is an upright or vertical post A. This post is formed of a lower tubular section 10 and an upper section 11 which telescopes into said lower section 10. The lower post section 10 is provided with threads 12 at its bottom end, these threads being adapted to fit into the threaded socket 7 at the center of the spider 6 in the lower portion of the base 5. At the point where the lower post section 10 emerges from the base 5 there is a split collar 13 which is preferably secured to the base 5 by any suitable means such as bolts 14 which are disposed in spaced relation to the split ends 15 so that the collar 13 is rigidly secured to the base 5 and is also releasably secured to the lower post section 10 by reason of the nutted take-up bolts 16.

The upper post section 11, as has been stated before, telescopes into the lower post section 10. Said upper post section 11 can be vertically adjusted relative to the lower post section 10, and the adjusted position of said upper section 11 is controlled by a spring pressed pin 17 which is secured to the outer lower section 10 and is adapted to be positioned in registering apertures in the two post sections, as best indicated in Fig. 3. The pin 17 serves as a vertical support for the upper post section 11 but it does not provide lateral support therefor. For this reason, there is provided a locking bolt 18 which extends freely through an aperture 19 in the lower post section 10 and which can be threaded into any one of a plurality of threaded apertures 20 in the upper post section 11. When the bolt 18 is tightened the two post sections 10 and 11 can be drawn together laterally to prevent any relative tilting of one post section to the other.

The backboard 21 is secured to the top portion of the upper post section 11. Extending up-

wardly from the top central portion of the post section 11 is a relatively broad flat plate-like brace 22. This is adapted to fit into a socket 23 which is formed upwardly from the lower central edge of the backboard 21. Extending outwardly from each edge of the plate-like brace 22 is an arm 24 of channel shape in cross section and each of said arms 24 extends along the bottom edge and up the side edges of the backboard 21 and said arms 24 are connected to the backboard 21 by suitable means such as screws 25.

Also extending upwardly from the top of the upper supporting post section 11 is a pair of brackets 26 which extend vertically and thence outwardly horizontally in opposite directions. The brackets 26 are also connected to the backboard 21 by means of nutted bolts 27 which clamp said brackets 26 and the backboard 21 together as a stable unit. The brackets 26 are adapted to support conventional baskets 28, the upper basket rim 29 being secured to the horizontally extending portions of the brackets 26 and the downwardly diagonal basket braces 30 being connected by any suitable means to the lower vertical portions of said brackets 26.

From the foregoing description it will be seen that I have provided a portable basket ball goal which is sturdy in construction and which can be easily dismantled for movement to various temporary locations such as from indoors to outdoors. It is provided with a relatively wide spread base whose width is approximately that of the widest spread of the backboard as well as the extreme distances between opposite edges of the baskets, and at the same time the base affords no dangerous obstruction to players running in close to the baskets. The connections between the base

and the upright support or post unit assure maintenance of the post unit in a rigid vertical position regardless of the strenuous use to which the goal is put.

As stated above, the post unit A telescopes vertically and means is provided to insure rigidity where the two sections are connected together. Additionally, the upper post section 11 includes as a unit the plate 22 extending upwardly into the backboard 21, the arms 24 which are secured to the edge of the backboard, and the brackets 26 which comprise the supports for the baskets 28. The result of this construction is a readily portable, yet extremely rigid goal post for basket ball which can be made to meet all the requirements of standardized athletic practice, but can also be adjusted for junior requirements.

It will, of course, be understood that various changes may be made in the details, arrangement, form, and proportions of the various parts without departing from the scope of my invention.

What I claim is:

1. In a game ball standard, a base having a lower portion with a socket therein and an upper portion spaced above said lower portion with an aperture therein, a vertically disposed post passing through said aperture and extending into said socket, and releasable clamping means rigidly secured to said base adjacent said aperture and positioned to engage said post adjacent said aperture.

2. In a basket ball goal, a central base, a vertical post extending upwardly from said base, and a post tightening ring rigidly secured to said base and releasably embracing said post.

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