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SUPPORTING MEANS FOR BASKETBALL GOAL NETS

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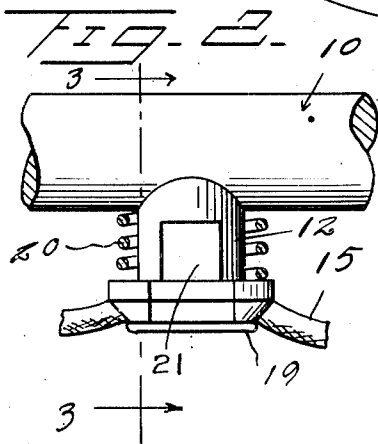
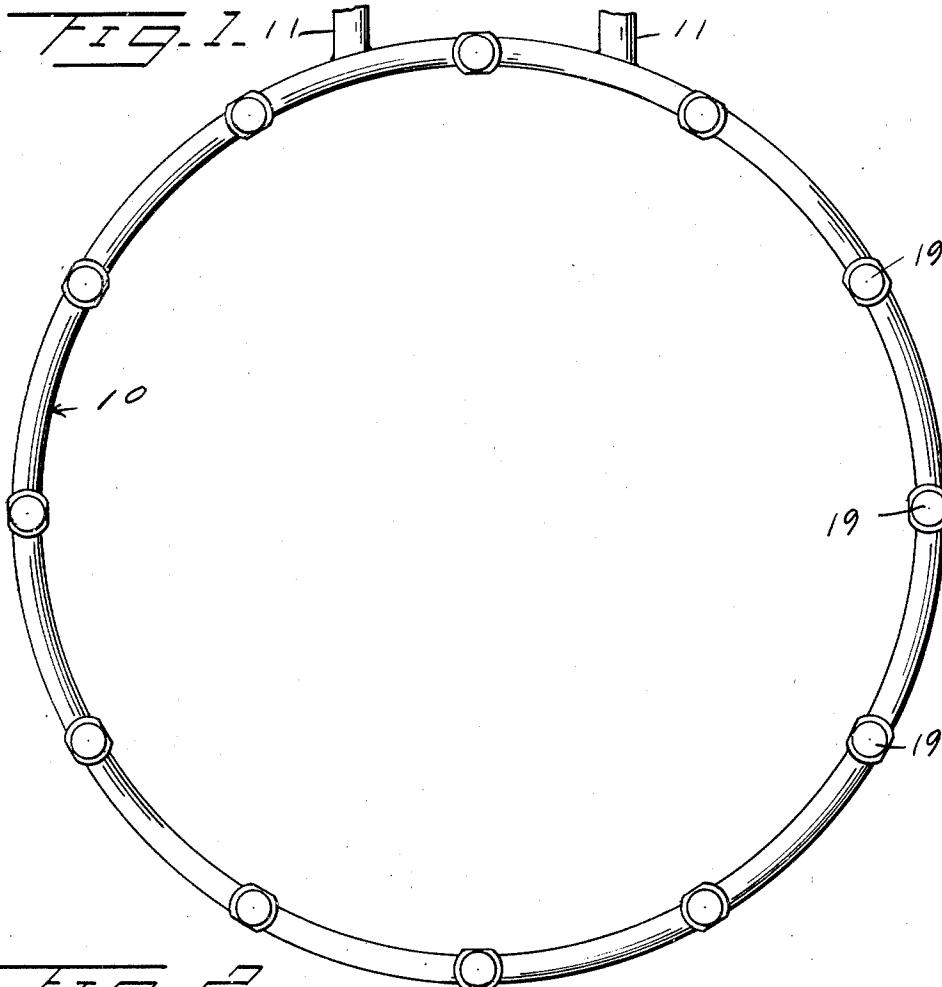


FIG. 3.

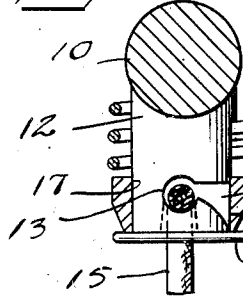
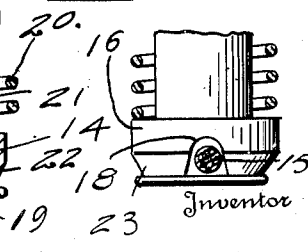


FIG. 4.



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SUPPORTING MEANS FOR BASKETBALL
GOAL NETS

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1 Claim. (Cl. 273-1.5)

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This invention relates to basketball net holders.

An object of this invention is to provide an improved means for suspendingly supporting the net of a basketball goal.

At the present time in basketball goals, the net has the ring extended through the upper loops of the net, and it is not a simple matter to put on a new net. It is, therefore, an object of this invention to provide an improved ring which is formed with spring-pressed coupling or securing members for detachably securing the net to the ring in a manner whereby neither the net nor the ring and fastening members will be damaged from contact with the ball.

Another object of this invention is to provide in combination, a supporting ring, and means depending from the ring for suspending the net therefrom.

A further object of this invention is to provide an improved net supporting means which includes a ring, studs extending from the lower side of said ring, and spring-pressed securing means carried by said studs for detachably holding the net with the upper end of the net spaced from the supporting means or ring.

With the above and other objects in view, my invention consists in the arrangement, combination and details of construction disclosed in the drawings and specification, and then more particularly pointed on in the appended claim.

In the drawings, wherein similar reference characters designate similar parts throughout the respective views,

Figure 1 is a bottom plan view, partly broken away, of a basketball goal ring constructed according to an embodiment of this invention,

Figure 2 is a fragmentary front elevation of the ring,

Figure 3 is a sectional view taken on the line 3-3 of Figure 2,

Figure 4 is a fragmentary end elevation of one of the net supporting members.

Referring to the drawing, the normal 10 designates generally a basketball goal ring which is supported by supporting means 11 of conventional construction. The ring 10 is supported in a horizontal position from a suitable support, and has depending from the lower side thereof a net. The ring 10 has fixed to the lower side thereof a plurality of depending studs 12 adjacent the lower ends thereof formed with openings 13 and with flaring slots 14 extending from the openings 13.

The openings 13 are adapted to receive the upper strand 15 of the net which is inserted in the openings 13 through the flaring slots 14. In

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order to provide for locking the strand 15 in the openings 13, I have provided a slidable locking ring generally designated as 16. The ring 16 is of elongated configuration, having a round opening 17 extending vertically therethrough and the ring 16 at the opposite ends thereof is formed with downwardly opening slots 18. The strand 15 is adapted to engage the slots 18 as shown in Figure 4. Each stud 12 has fixed adjacent the lower end thereof a bead or rib 19 against which the locking ring 16 is adapted to engage when in locking position. A spring 20 is mounted on each stud 12 bearing at the lower end against locking member 16 and at the upper end against the lower side of support ring 10.

In order to provide for holding the locking member 16 against rotation on the stud 12, the stud 12 is formed with a flat surface 21 and the locking member 16 is formed with a complementary flat internal surface 22. The lower edge of the locking member 16 is beveled as at 23, as shown more clearly in Figures 2 and 4.

In order to mount the net on the supporting ring 10, each locking member 16 is moved upwardly thereby exposing the entrance slot 14. The upper strand 15 of the net is then pushed through slot 14 and disposed in the opening 13. The locking member 16 may then be released whereupon the spring 20 will move the locking member 16 downwardly to its normal locking position.

With a goal construction as hereinbefore described, it is a very simple matter to replace broken nets which can be replaced without the use of any tools. Furthermore, by having the upper strand of the net positioned below supporting ring 10, the upper strand of the net will not contact with the ball and will not be injured thereby. This device will, therefore, provide for increased use of the net in addition to providing for quick and easy replacement of any broken net.

I do not mean to confine myself to the exact details of construction herein disclosed but claim all variations falling within the purview of the appended claim.

What I claim is:

A basket ball net supporting means comprising a ring, a plurality of depending studs carried by said ring on the lower side thereof, each of said studs adjacent the bottom end being formed with a lateral opening therethrough and a horizontal outwardly opening entrance slot communicating at the inner end thereof with said opening, a locking ring slidable on said stud, inter-engaging flat surfaces formed on said stud

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and said locking ring for restraining the latter against rotation relative to said stud, a pair of opposed downwardly opening slots formed in said locking ring adapted to communicate with the opposite ends of said lateral opening in one position of said locking ring, an outwardly extending flange formed on the bottom of said stud adapted to limit the downward movement of said locking ring, and a coil spring engaging about the upper portion of said stud and having the bottom end thereof abutting the top edge of said locking ring and the top end thereof bearing against said first named ring for constantly urging said locking ring downwardly whereby when said locking ring is raised against the force of said spring, an upper strand of a goal net can be disposed in said lateral opening through said entrance slot; and

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when said locking ring is allowed to return to its normal position, said locking ring slots will receive the strand so as to retain the strand in said lateral opening.

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