

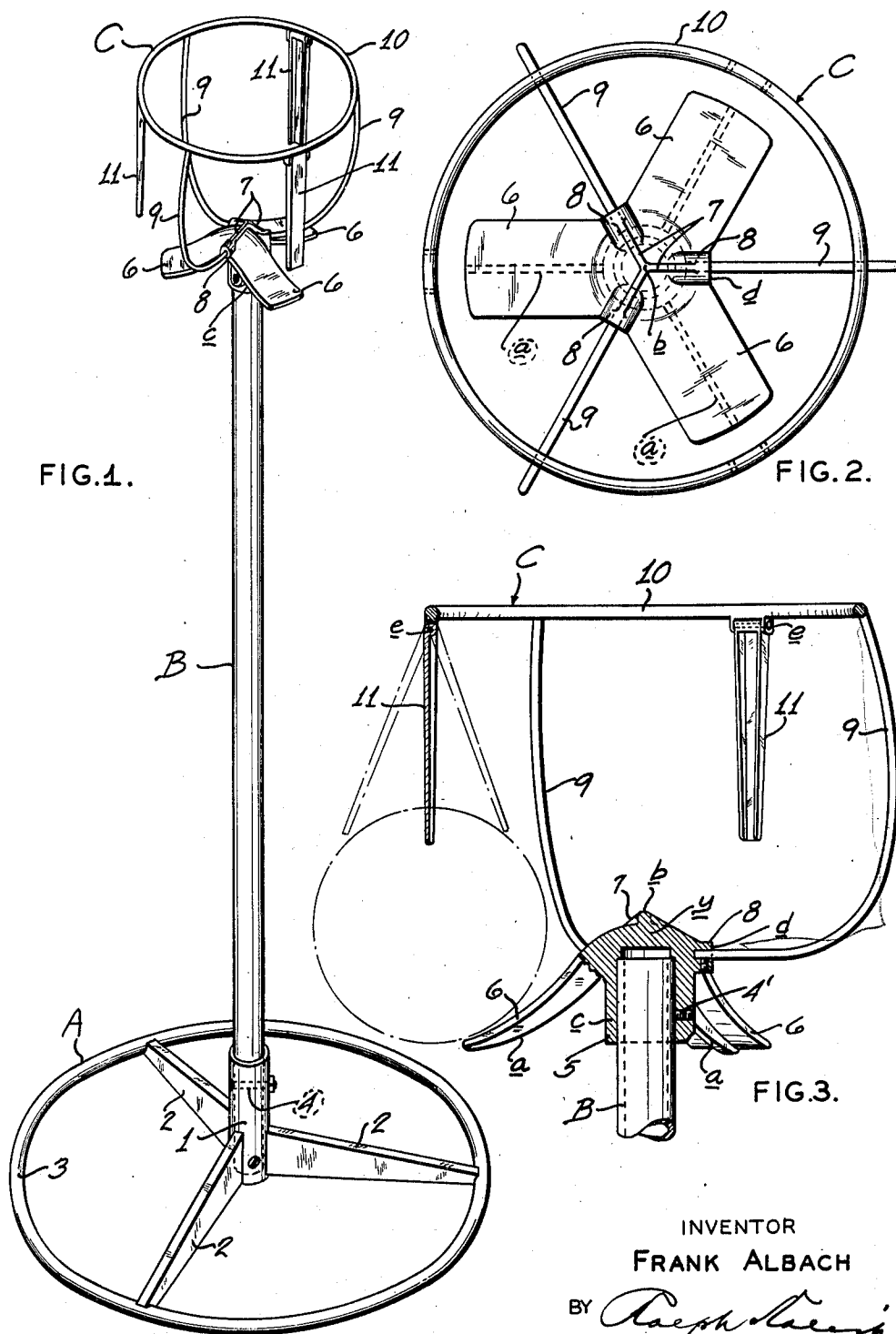
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GAME GOAL

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GAME GOAL

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This invention relates generally to athletic games and sports and, more particularly, to a certain new and useful goal especially adapted for use in an athletic game of so-called modified basket-ball type, my invention having for its object the provision of a goal of the type and for the purpose stated, which may be readily manufactured, which is sturdy and durable in use, which may be conveniently disposed and located at any desired or selected point on the playing field, and which is uniquely contoured and formed for scoring and then directing or deflecting the ball outwardly into, and at an indefinite point of, the playing field and thereby adding to the interest of the spectators of, and calling upon the skill and agility of the players engaged in, the game.

And with the above and other objects in view, my invention resides in the novel features of form, construction, arrangement, and combination of parts presently described and pointed out in the claims.

In the accompanying drawing:

Figure 1 is a reduced perspective view of a goal of my invention;

Figure 2 is a plan view of the goal; and

Figure 3 is a fragmental longitudinal view of the goal.

Referring now more in detail and by reference characters to the drawing, which illustrates a preferred embodiment of my invention, the goal includes a sturdy base A preferably, as shown, comprising a step-bearing providing hub 1, spokes or arms 2 projecting radially from the hub 1, and an outer annular rim 3 fixed on the outer ends of the spokes 2 and of relatively large diameter for firmly supporting the goal in upstanding position upon the playing field. It may be noted, in passing, that the ring-formation of the base A also enables facile rollable shifting of the goal, when lengthwise disposed upon the ground, from place to place on the field or from one location to another.

Suitably engaged with, and fixed at an end, as at 4, to, the hub 1 of the base A, is a standard B of suitable or desired height, and disposed upon, and preferably as by one or more suitable set-screws or the like 4' secured to, the opposite end of the post or standard B, is a so-called basket C of unique form and structure.

As shown, the basket C comprises, in turn, a base in the form preferably of a casting c having a tubular-portion or sleeve extension 5 for fitting the standard B and a plurality of so-called ball-deflector plates 6. Preferably the plates 6 are

three in number equidistantly spaced in an annular series about and with respect to, and meet at their respective inner ends over and form the end wall y of, the tubular portion or sleeve 5, each plate 6 being substantially oblong-rectangular in general outline and lengthwise projecting downwardly and radially outwardly from and with respect to the sleeve 5 and its end wall y in what may be described as a more or less gentle curve, substantially as shown in Figures 1 and 3 and for purposes presently appearing. Preferably each plate is re-enforced or braced on its under face by a longitudinally extending web or rib a.

Extending radially outwardly upon the upper face of the casting end wall y from a central meeting point or crown b, and nicely rounded upon their respective upper face, are ribs 7, which terminate in respective enlargements or so-called bosses 8 disposed at points on the margin of the casting c intermediate the arms 6, the bosses 8 being also nicely rounded on their exposed upper face, and each having a flat outwardly presented side or end face, as at d, having a recess for snugly seating the one or lower end of a particular or respective rib 9 formed of rounded bar-stock and curved or bowed to project upwardly with respect to the casting c.

As shown, the ribs 9 are of such length and conformation as to give the basket C the desired depth and to rigidly support a ring 10 of selected diametrical dimension for accurately defining an annular mouth into the basket C of the desired size.

The ribs 9 are spaced sufficiently to permit a ball entering the basket C through the mouth or ring 10 to escape therebetween, and pivotally attached or connected, as at e, to, and depending over the respective plates 6 from, the ring 10, are arms 11 suitably spaced at their respective lower ends from the plates 6 and the pivots e being in the nature of rule-joints permitting unrestrained or free swingable movement of the several arms 11 outwardly, but limiting the swingable movement of said arms 11 inwardly, with respect to the fixed arms 9 and the mouth-defining ring 10, all for purposes presently appearing.

Briefly stated, so far as is essential here, the game is played with an inflatable ball of the type commonly known as a basket-ball, and a point is scored whenever the ball is thrown into or enters the basket C through the mouth or ring 10, and it may now be stated that, relatively to the spherical dimensions of the particular ball, 55

the limited inward swingable movement of the depending free arms 11 and the spacing between the arms 9 and 11 and between the free ends of the arms 11 and the plates 6 is such that the ball may only enter the basket C through the mouth or ring 10.

The ball, so entering the basket C and a point being so scored, engages one or the other of the fixed ribs 9 or one or the other of the deflector plates 6 and is thus thrown or returned outwardly and downwardly to the playing field, the particular point at which the ball will be so returned greatly varying and being naturally uncertain and indefinite, thus adding to the interest of the game and calling for skill, keen-eye-sight, and agility upon the part of the players, and particularly by those of the players who may be grouped about the goal upon the scoring of a point for gauging the location at which the ball will drop, the game continuing and the ball remaining in play except, for instance, in case of a so-called foul, upon the termination of a predetermined playing period, and the like.

The curvature of the fixed ribs 9, it may be added, is preferably such as to deflect an entering ball outwardly between the ribs and so that the ball will not rebound through the ring 10.

The goal fulfills in every respect the objects stated, and it may also be added that all parts of the basket C are preferably smooth and nicely rounded to obviate cutting or injury to the playing ball.

It is to be understood that changes and modifications in the form, construction, arrangement, and combination of the several parts of the goal may be made and substituted for those herein shown and described without departing from the nature and principle of my invention.

Having thus described my invention, what I claim and desire to secure by Letters Patent is:

1. A game-goal including a rigid skeleton basket including a base, a mouth, spaced ribs supporting the mouth over and in fixed spaced relation to the base, the mouth being of selected dimensions to permit entrance therethrough into the basket of the playing-ball and said ribs being spaced to permit the ball to escape from the basket therebetween, and means for deflecting an escaping ball outwardly away from the goal.

2. A game-goal including a rigid skeleton basket including a base, a mouth, spaced ribs supporting the mouth over and in fixed spaced relation to the base, the mouth being of selected dimensions to permit entrance therethrough into the basket of the playing-ball and said ribs being spaced to permit the ball to escape from the basket therebetween, and means comprising a plate fixed on, and projecting outwardly from, the base for deflecting an escaping ball outwardly away from the goal.

3. A game-goal including a rigid skeleton basket including a base, a mouth, spaced ribs supporting the mouth over and in fixed spaced relation to the base, the mouth being of selected dimensions to permit entrance therethrough into the basket of the playing-ball and said ribs being spaced to permit the ball to escape from the basket therebetween, and means comprising a series of lengthwise curved plates fixed on, and intermediate the respective ribs projecting outwardly and downwardly from the base for deflecting an escaping ball outwardly away from the goal.

4. A game-goal including a rigid skeleton basket including a base, a mouth, spaced ribs supporting the mouth over and in fixed spaced relation to the base, the mouth being of selected dimensions to permit entrance therethrough into the basket of the playing-ball and said ribs being spaced to permit the ball to escape from the basket therebetween, and arms swingably depending from said mouth preventing entrance of the ball into the basket intermediate the respective ribs.

5. In a game-goal, a basket comprising a base including a tubular portion for fitting a supporting standard, and a series of ball deflector plates meeting at their inner end over, and projecting downwardly and outwardly from, said tubular portion.

6. In a game-goal, a basket comprising a base including a tubular portion for fitting a supporting standard, and a series of lengthwise curved ball deflector plates of oblong-rectangular conformation meeting at their inner end over, and projecting downwardly and outwardly from, said tubular portion.

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