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Basketball: The Team Show-off Sport

By Michael Granger

Everyone loves basketball. How could you not, what with the fast pace, the team coordination, and

of course, those slam dunks. NBA basketball is the only sport that has special contests that highlight individual players, instead of the organization as a whole. NBA players are encouraged to not only work as a team, but also express their individual style. Pretty cool no matter how you look at it.

While the dual nature of NBA basketball players is certainly something to be encouraged, it can be taken too far like in the Olympic game between the US team and the Greek team. Basketball is about fundamentals in passing, shooting and lay ups, and of course team coordination. The US team seemed to lose their focus on the team as a whole and really just focused on dunking. While that may be somewhat entertaining to watch, it was useless against Greece. The Greek team had a remarkable passing game, and just scored lay up and 3 point shot one after another, while showing the world their awesome grasp on the fundamentals of the game. We now know that the Greek Olympic basketball team knows the drills.

Basketball fans always love to support their favorite team and of course, their favorite players. That is why you constantly see fans wearing their favorite player's basketball jerseys. Fans don't just go for the jersey's though. They love finding basketball collectibles like these:

http://www.sports-collectibles-store.com/NBA_Player_Snow_Globes-p-1-c-53.html

of their favorite

player.

Basketball is also one of the most popular "pick-up" games around. If you can find a court in a neighborhood, you are likely to see a game in progress. Players give each other great basketball tips and drills, so everyone involved learns and gets better and better. Such a sport of cooperation!

Michael Granger is a basketball fanatic who just happens to enjoy writing. If you would like to read more of his articles, please visit

http://www.sports-collectibles-store.com/Basketball_Wall_Clocks-p-1-c-38.html

The Origins Of Basketball

By Catherine Kenyeres

Do you know the origin of basketball?

The origins of the game of basketball can be traced back to a gentleman by the name of Dr. James Naismith. In 1861, Naismith was born in Almonte, Ontario, Canada. During his early school days, Naismith would play a game called duck on a rock whereby the child would endeavor to knock the duck off the top of the rock with a toss of another rock.

Later on, Naismith would go on to McGill University in Montreal and would later become McGill University's Athletic Director. He would subsequently move on to YMCA Training School in Springfield, Massachusetts and in 1891, the game of basketball began.

Given the cold Massachusetts winters, Naismith needed to find a recreational activity that could be played indoors and he preferred a sport that would develop skill and one that was not exclusively relying on strength. The first game was played with two peach baskets for goals and a soccer ball.

Further to his credit, Naismith became a medical doctor specializing in sports physiology and a Presbyterian minister. Naismith was able to see his beloved sport of basketball, gain acceptance in numerous countries through the YMCA since 1893. As well, the sport of basketball was brought forth at the Berlin Olympics in 1936. As we speak, the game of basketball has become a very popular professional sport.

Catherine Kenyeres is a freelance writer and publisher for

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. Catherine

has written numerous articles for the sports enthusiast.

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