

DARE TO BE

Did you ever wonder how people in sports come up with exciting new techniques, bold new rules, and hot new equipment?

It takes an idea and someone brave enough to try it out. Someone who dares to be different!

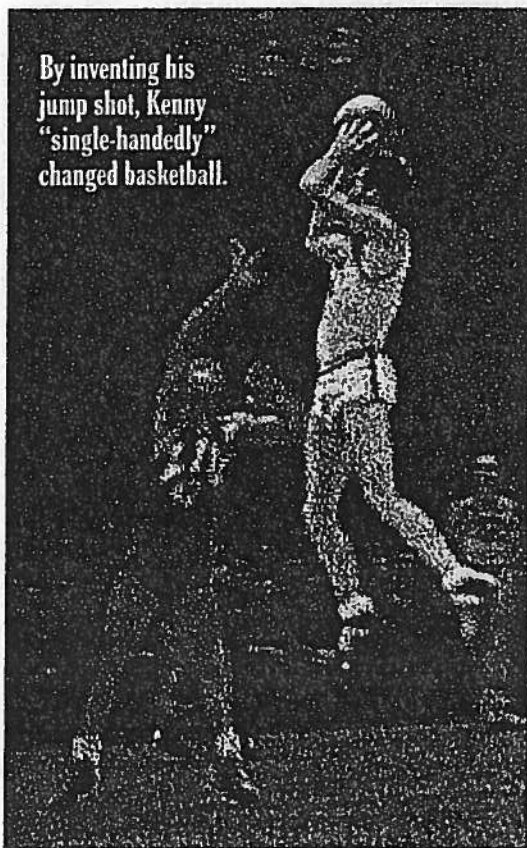
THE JUMP SHOT

KENNY SAILORS GREW UP PLAYING BASKETBALL against his older brother, Bud. Like other players in the 1930's, they used a "set" shot. Holding the ball chest-high, they pushed it toward the basket with both hands. Their feet stayed on the ground.

Bud kept blocking his little brother's shots. So Kenny learned to jump as he shot, holding the ball with one hand high above his head.

Kenny's jump shot helped the University of Wyoming win the 1943 NCAA college championship. He scored 16 points in the final and was named MVP of the tournament. People noticed. By the 1950's, most players were shooting the jumper.

By inventing his jump shot, Kenny "single-handedly" changed basketball.



ORIGINAL PHOTO BY ERIC SCHMALLER

THE FORWARD PASS

IN THE EARLY DAYS OF FOOTBALL, PLAYERS could run with the ball but were not allowed to pass it.

Defensive players would pile on top of the runner. Games were so brutal that U.S. President Teddy Roosevelt threatened to ban football.

In 1906, colleges decided to allow teams to throw the ball. They hoped the new rule

would open up offenses and make games less dangerous.

On September 5, 1906, Eddie Cochems of St. Louis University became the first coach to call a pass play in a game. The pass was incomplete. But St. Louis kept on throwing. The team finished the season 11-0, outscoring opponents 407-11. The forward pass was here to stay!

ORIGINAL PHOTOS COURTESY OF THE SAINT LOUIS UNIVERSITY ARCHIVES (2)



Strong-armed halfback Brad Robinson (right) and receiver Jack Schneider kept the defense off-balance as St. Louis passed into football history.

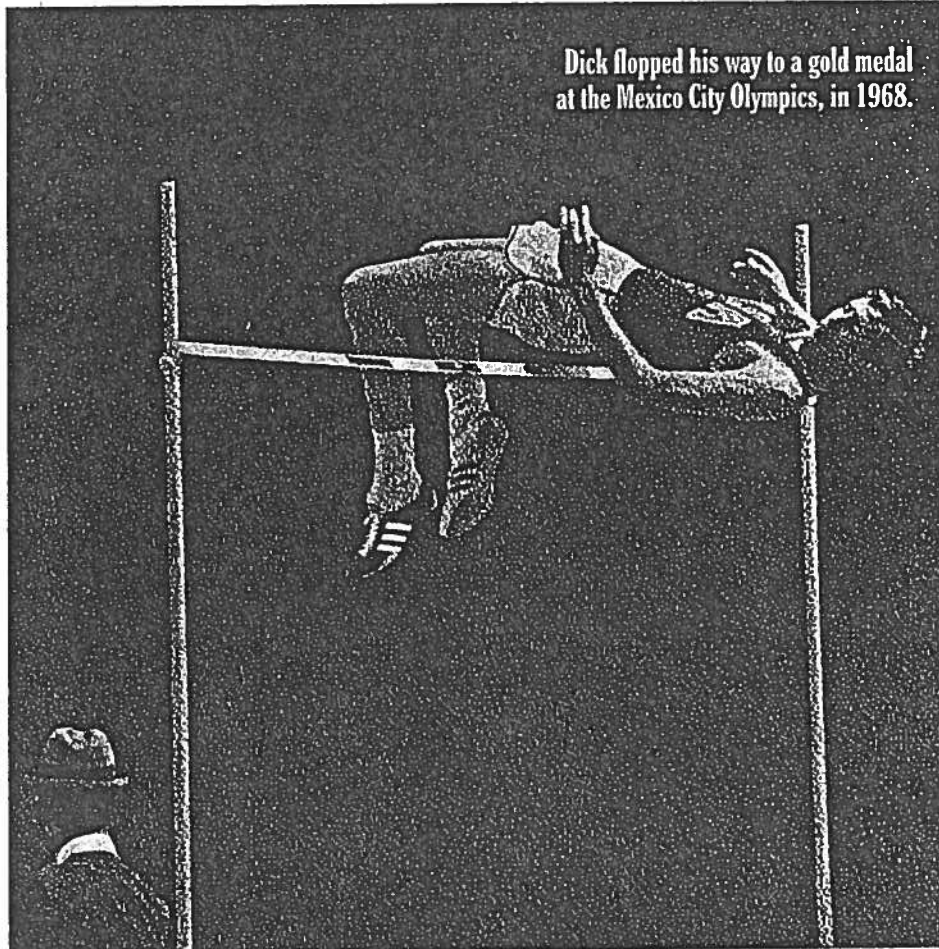
DIFFERENT!

THE FOSBURY FLOP

UNTIL 1968, THE BEST high jumpers rolled over the bar facedown. But 21-year-old Dick Fosbury of the U.S. discovered a better way: dive backward! Dick jumped by turning his body, arching his back, and clearing the bar headfirst.

People made fun of Dick's style. They called it the Fosbury Flop. His coaches were afraid he would break his neck!

Instead, Dick won the gold medal at the 1968 Summer Olympics. He jumped 7' 4 1/4"! Now every top high jumper does the Fosbury Flop!



Dick flopped his way to a gold medal at the Mexico City Olympics, in 1968.

ORIGINAL PHOTO BY COURTESY BETTMANN/UM



THE BASEBALL GLOVE



ORIGINAL PHOTO BY NATIONAL BASEBALL LIBRARY

BASEBALL PLAYERS USED TO FIELD without gloves. Then, one day in 1869, Doug Allison of the Cincinnati Red Stockings bruised his hand.

Doug was the team's only catcher. He knew he had to play. To protect his hand, Doug wore a plain leather glove with the fingers cut off. The glove didn't have much padding, but it was better than nothing.

At first, other players thought Doug was a wimp! But one by one, they began wearing gloves too. By 1896, 27 years later, every pro player was fielding with a glove.