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Author	加藤, 大仁(Kato, Hirohito)
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Brief Reviews on Popular Offenses in Modern Basketball

No. 1   The Stack Offense

By *Hirohito Kato**

The Stack Offense gained its popularity with Fred Jucker's Cincinati Bearcats and Bob Cousy's Boston College. But it is not so popular compared with Passing Game or UCLA High Post Offense in Japan.

Definition & Classification

The Stack Offense is defined not by players' movement but by players' alignment. In this sense, we can say that the Stack Offense is a group of set plays. It is classified as follows.

a)   Single Stack   d)   High Stack

b)   Double Stack   e)   High-Low Stack

c)   High Stack   f)   Triple Stack

Advantages & Disadvantages

The Stack Offense has following advantages.

1)   The Stack Offense is easy to run even for unskilled players, because they can read situations without moving.

2)   The Stack Offense provides a good scoreing opputurnity-either from the low-post area or midiam range jump shot after one or two short passes.

3)   The Stack Offense eliminates the number of turnovers, because the best ball handler handles the ball most of the time.

Disadvantages of The Stack Offense is as follows.

1)   The point guard is overloaded.

2)   It is not impossible to use the Stack Offense as the only offense for the game.

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*Assistant of the Institute of Physical Education, Keio University.