

ANOTHER WAY AT LOOKING AT THE NEXT STEP: SOME RANDOM THOUGHTS

- During the season we felt that the one thing keeping us from being more successful was a defensive mentality. After the season the statistics showed that we were near the top of the conference in both offense and defense. Another way at looking at the path to more success was improvement in both areas. A little improvement at both ends of the floor could be the answer.
- Do we need plays for our best players to use during the game and especially at crunch time when we are trying to win the game?
- Even when we are running our offense well and moving the ball most of our offense comes off the ball screen or the dribble drive. If that continues then we can work more on both of those in drills like the 4 on 4 ball screen drill we used at the end of the year. We can do the same with the dribble drive and it will also allow us to work on the off the ball player movement on the drives. It will also help our defense on offensive skills that our opponents are using-in some case exclusively.
- Will the press help us get better defensively?
- What defensive philosophy is best suited to us becoming a championship team-An emphasis on one defense or multiple defenses and changing defenses often.
- Even when we are playing at a fast pace, how many 2 on 1s, 3 on 2s and 4 on 3s do we get? Can we be a better fast break team?
- Our inability to finish a game might be a little bit of everything throughout the game as well as the finish. If you are ahead by 12 and the other team goes on an 8-point run then you win by 4. If you are ahead by 6 and the other team goes on an 8-point run then you lose by 2. Improve our defense, FT shooting, post play and have some set plays to run for our best players and perhaps other teams do not come from behind or beat us in the last minute.
- Leadership is not something that has come up often in our discussions, but it is something that we need more of.
- We made good progress in the last off season and now we need the same or better this off season to take the next step.



THE NEXT STEP

STRENGTHS - How do we play to our strengths to win more games?

- Guard play
 1. Recruit true point guard.
 2. Improve the point guard skills of current guards.
 3. Sets and looks in offense for guards-use them more effectively.
- Good team speed & athleticism
 1. Fast break more and more effective offense.
 2. Press more.

OKs - How do we get to strengths?

- Rebounding - a little more emphasis and drilling in practice.
- Ball handling - off season and pre-practice drilling.
- Shooting - more consistent shooting for all players.
- Physical strength - continued in season and out of season lifting.
- Defense - man, press, stopper mentality.
- Free throw shooting - extra work for some individuals and some correction.
- Conditioning - another step forward.

WEAKNESSES - How do we get to OK?

- Post play
 1. Improve skills with post plan for off season and practice.
 2. Get stronger.
 3. More post play in offense including sets and looks.
- Strong drives to basket - drills to develop strong drives.
- Finishing end of game - conditioning, improve defense, post play, and plays for players.

