

'Leave Backboards, Return Center  
Jump', Cries Swasey -

Durham, N. H. Jan. 15, - "If you're going to change the rules, put back the center jump and forget the backboard controversy". Henry Swasey, for 13 years head basketball coach at the University of New Hampshire, strongly advocated today.

For years champion of the cause for players resulting from the jump, Swasey pointed out that basketball has lost much of its finesse and has become pure "razzle-dazzle."

But despite his longing for the center jump return, the veteran mentor agreed that basketball is a great game as played to day and that it should not be changed very radically at present.

"Taking away the backboards would spoil many a good play under the basket," he said. "Teams would not attempt to work the ball beneath the hoop for close-in plays. Most of the shooting would be set from out around the foul ring, and a lot of the exciting basketball underneath the basket would be gone from the game."

A great argument for the backboard removal is to eliminate the advantage tall boys have in getting rebound shots, but Swasey laughed this off.

"The little fellows wouldn't be able to get set for their shots before the tall lads were in on them. The lanky boys would block out the little fellows' shots. I really don't see how taking away the backboards would help the little fellow."

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#### THE SPORTING THING

By George Edmond.

Unanimous Approval was not forthcoming for the proposal from a basketball critic, explained here recently, that basketball eliminate its present rule which ejects from the game a player who has accumulated four personal fouls.

Disapproval comes from a well-known St. Paul official, who argues that such a change would result in the very thing basketball fans would like to see eliminated - continued whistle blowing by the officials.

This official maintains, contrary to the first-quoted critic, that most personal fouls are deliberate. Players committing them, he says, know what they are doing 90 per cent of the time and consider it worth the gamble that the official won't see the violation or that it's better to give the opposition a free throw rather than a field goal.

If you take away the threat of ejection from the game players who are inclined to violate the rules will do so more than ever, the official maintains.

That would bring about a situation in which the officials would have to call many more violations than they do now, with the result that the game would be slowed up and much of its spectator appeal lost.

#### HOOSIER GETS TOUGHEST JOB

Knoxville Tenn., January 22 (AP) Coach John Mauer, of the University of Tennessee basketball team, says he always assigns Gilbert Huffman, of New Castle, Ind., guard and captain, to "the toughest forward on the opposing team."

In nine games, Huffman has given up only 23 points and has held his men without a field goal in eight of the nine, while himself scoring 63 points.