

Hank's greatest team was the 1930 combine which beat Duke in the finals. "We didn't lose a game during that entire season," the Tide tutor said with a smile. "We've had other good ones but I'll take the team that beat Duke for the championship!"

Alabama whipped Florida in the finals for the Southeastern crown in 1935. In 1924, Hank's first season at the helm, the Tide bowed to North Carolina in the finals and it lost to Tennessee in the finals at Knoxville a few years ago.

WANTS JUMP REVIVED.

Crisp doesn't think basketball is any faster today than it was 15 years ago although he does admit that more players are needed on a squad.

"Seven or eight were all one needed before they did away with the center jump," Crisp stated. "Now you must have 10 or 12. It's extremely rare that a boy plans an entire game now. It's not their lack of conditioning but the fact that they have to run so much more since they did away with the center jump."

Hank would like to see the center jump restored even if it would put more premium on coaching. So would the majority of the spectators.

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DANGERS IN BASKETBALL

Old Player Thinks Modern Game Is Too Taxing on Youngsters

To Sports Editor of The New York Times:

Twenty years ago I played basketball at City College under Nat Holman. I have watched the game ever since with keen interest and anxiety.

Yes, with anxiety because I am worried about the effect of the present game on the players. No doubt all sports have changed in the past decade with the idea of increasing their interest for the spectator.

However, there is no necessity for college and high schools to sacrifice the health and well-being of their youngsters for the glorification of a spectacle that becomes a physical slaughter. We are going back to the days of the Roman gladiators and the sacrifice of men in the arena.

There is no let-up in the present game of basketball and the wild scoring as the result of the abolition of the center jump after a goal makes the game so severe that it taxes the health of even athletes in perfect condition.

It is time to call a halt and sanely reflect that the welfare of the boys who play the game is the all-important thing for the colleges to regard, not the spectators. There is absolutely no excuse for permitting high school students to play the game under its present set-up. I appeal to the coaches and educational authorities to come to their senses.

George M. Feigin.

New York, January 12, 1941.

Editorial Note: If it will allay the alarm, it might be stated that high school teams play only eight-minute quarters and may take time out five times without penalty. Furthermore, twice in the game, if no time out has been called over a period of four minutes, the referee is required to halt the play for two minutes.

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