

Lyle Nelson to Fill New Public Relations Job

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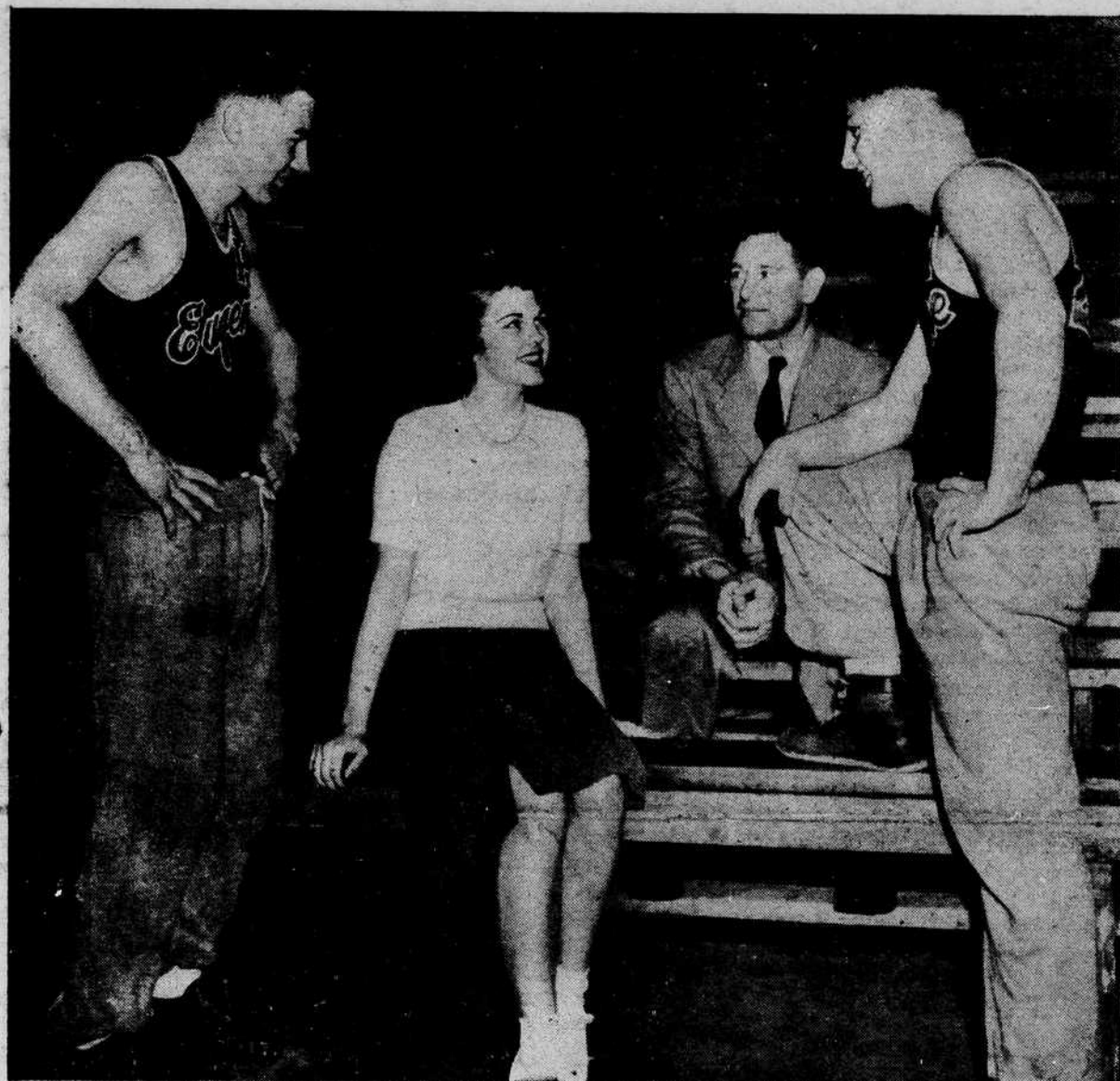
Prep Hoopers Roll Tonight

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CHAMPIONS ALL . . . Gloria Albertson, Cover Girl for the 1947 Emerald, took leave of her studies to visit the defending state high school basketball champions, the Eugene Axemen, as they underwent final preparations for the 1947 state classic. The attractive Cover Girl is shown above talking with Captain Ernie Wilde (left) and 1946 All-State selection Gene Miner (right). Coach Hank Kuchera is in the background. (Emerald photo by Kirk Braun.)

Double Bill at 7:30 Opens 29th Annual Classic in Igloo

By WALLY HUNTER

Assistant Sports Editor

Prep school basketball at its glittering best makes its debut this evening in McArthur court in the twenty-ninth renewal of the battle for the Oregon high school championship. The first round of play begins at 7:30 p. m., and pits the touted Washington Colonials against the perennial tourneyites, Astoria's Fishermen. Second game of the evening finds Hood River's esteemed Dragons battling with Redmond's Panthers.

First round action continues Wednesday afternoon with four games starting at one o'clock in the afternoon and a doubleheader in the evening starting at 7:30. Morning, afternoon, and evening action is slated for Thursday and Friday, with morning and evening games on Saturday.

The title-defending Eugene high school Axemen this year are given nothing more than a one-team-against-the-field pre-tournament rating by the railbirds. Early tabbed as favorites for the 1947 crown were the cream of the Portland city league, Washington's Colonials; the pride of the Gorge country, Hood River's rough-and-ready Blue Dragons, and the heralded Klamath Falls Pelicans.

Standing by in the unassuming role of darkhorses are 12 other classy aggregations all primed and ready to deal a blow to a favorite or two on their way up the ladder that leads to the victor's hardware. Gladly accepting the role of darkhorses are Astoria, Redmond, Roosevelt, Hillsboro, Newberg, Molalla, Sandy, Rainier, Marshfield, La Grande and Lebanon.

Individual stars expected to flash to court fame are such all-around handy lads as Washington high's Ray Foleen and Jack Keller; Marshfield's Bill O'Neal; the Klamath Falls scoring wizard, Leroy Coleman; Hood River's Lloyd Buettgenbach; Rainier's Herb Evans; Gene Miner, Spark of the Eugene defenders, and his teammate Ernie Wilde; Don Peterson of Roosevelt; and "Swede" Grimberg of Astoria.

Only two of eleven players on last year's all-state team will be returning to the McArthur court extravaganza—Keller of Washington and Miner of Eugene, both second-team selections last year.

These are the lads whose sparkling district play has already labeled them as potential greats—but the field is not restricted and a goodly handful of unknowns is expected to make a game effort to take the play away from the more highly publicized brothers.

Five Tourney Officials Set

Five officials will handle the referee duties during the five-day prep hoop session—Hal Eustis, Paul Warren, Bill Bigham, Al Lightner, and Hugh Hartman.

Eustis is well-known to Oregon students, having tooted practically all the Webfoot home games this year. Bigham and Warren hail from Portland where Warren served for several years as a high school coach.

Lightner will take a brief vacation from the sport-editorship of the Oregon Statesman in Salem to don the referee's uniform, and Hartman is well known in local officiating circles.

Handling the score-books will be Nick Weddle, three year varsity basketball manager and record keeper. Elliot Wilson, former Oregon football center, will act as time-keeper.

Grid Practice April 7

Spring training for the University of Oregon's 1947 football team will begin April 7, Coach Jim Aiken told his gridders in a meeting last Friday, as he advised all candidates to be in top condition for a vigorous early-season program.

Eugene Actives Do Outstanding Job In Bringing 1947 Tourney to Eugene

Tournament Schedule

Tuesday—Washington of Portland vs. Astoria 7:30 p. m.; Hood River vs. Redmond, 8:45 p. m.

Wednesday—Marshfield vs. Molalla, 1:00 p. m.; Sandy vs. Rainier, 2:15 p. m.; Roosevelt of Portland vs. Salem, 3:30 p. m.; Hillsboro vs. Newberg, 4:45 p. m.; La-Grande vs. Eugene, 7:30 p. m.; Lebanon vs. Klamath Falls, 8:45.

Thursday—Games at 8:45 a. m., 10:00 a. m., 11:15 a. m., 2:00 p. m., 3:15 p. m., 4:30 p. m., 7:30 p. m., 8:45 p. m.

Friday—Games at 9:00 a. m., 10:15 a. m., 2:00 p. m., 3:15 p. m., 7:30 p. m., 8:45 p. m.

Saturday—Games at 9:00 a. m. for fifth place; 10:15 a. m. for fourth place; 7:30 p. m. for third place; 8:45 p. m. for first and second places.

Supplying the power that makes the annual state tournament "tick" this year is the hard-to-beat combination of the Eugene Active club and its choice for tournament director, Howard Hobson. Early last year when slightly miffed coaches and spectators began to agitate for a change in the tourney site, the Active club when to work. Realizing that the Willamette university facilities were no longer adequate to handle the fast-growing, ever-popular playoff, the Actives worked hard to bring the series to Eugene and spacious McArthur court.

Ticket Sales Heavy

Though it was an uphill battle the Eugene club won, and its work in preparing for the 1947 hoop festival has been phenomenal. An indication of its outstanding work can be gained from the fact that pre-tournament ticket sales have outstripped the take for the entire cage fiesta in any other single year.

Tournament general chairman is hustling Bob Cross who has coordinated the work of the Actives. Chosen by the Junior Chamber of Commerce as "leading junior citizen," he has been the guiding light of the Actives

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BOB CROSS

Dr. Newburn Greet's Preppers

It is a pleasure, on behalf of the University, to join with other interested groups and individual citizens of this community in extending a cordial welcome to the players and coaches, as well as their friends and relatives, who will be participating in the state basketball tournament this week.

We are happy that McArthur court could be made available as the scene of the tournament, and feel certain that everything has been done by the sponsoring groups to provide the proper setting for what promises to be a series of exciting and interesting contests.

We trust that your stay here in Eugene will be a memorable one, and that you will take advantage of all the opportunities to become better acquainted with the community and your State University.

H. K. Newburn, President
University of Oregon