

# Astoria Repeats As State Hoop Champion

## The Inside

Your complete morning newspaper, The Statesman, offers you pertinent comments on war news of the day by Kirby Simpson, Washington analyst.

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## Navy Reveals Details Of Battle In Java Sea

### Fishermen Breeze Through 1942 Meet Beating Corvallis In Final, 34 To 22

### Salem Eliminated In First Fray, Fails To Finish In Top Eight

Defeated Finalists 'Darkhorse' in 23rd Annual Meet; Large Crowds Watch 16 Teams Battle for Crown Most of Week

By AL LIGHTNER  
Statesman Sports Editor

Astoria high's "Flying Fishermen," 1941 state high school basketball champions, repeated for that title in the final game of the 1942 tournament Saturday night, fighting off the onslaughts of a tired but gallant band of Corvallis high Spartans, 34 to 22, before a capacity crowd in the Willamette university gymnasium.

Thus ended four days and five nights of hot hooping from sixteen top Oregon high schools in the 23rd annual basketball tournament.

The annual hoop show started off Tuesday night with Salem, titlists in 1939-40, and runners-up in 1941, being knocked out of this year's championship flight by the team which battled for the

### Where They Finished

1. ASTORIA
2. CORVALLIS
3. BAKER
4. NORTH BEND
5. MAC-III
6. MEDFORD
7. MT. ANGEL
8. OREGON CITY

title Saturday night. The dash to the finals began in earnest Wednesday with the rest of the quints of both the upper and lower brackets engaging in elimination games.

Astoria, Baker, Corvallis and Medford all started the semi-final flight undefeated, but the Fishermen outclassed the southern Oregon boys and the Spartans humbled the Blue Mountain champs to set the stage for Saturday night's final fracas.

In the battle for third spot, the preliminary to the title fray, Baker handed Medford its second loss, which was good for sixth place in the tournament for the Tigers.

In the title game, the Fishermen, tabbed by the pre-tourney experts as the team to beat in this year's meet, had a battle on their hands the entire first half, the blue-clad Spartans fighting on even terms with the casa blanca kings.

Bobby Knoll, who played the entire tournament with a heavily bandaged thigh, opened the scoring after both quints carefully sought each other out for over a minute with a one-hander from in close on a block play.

Cliff Crandall, Astoria's red-headed guard, knotted the count at the two minute mark with a long looping hit and a minute later put the Purple and Gold in front with a gift toss on Allan Anderson's infraction.

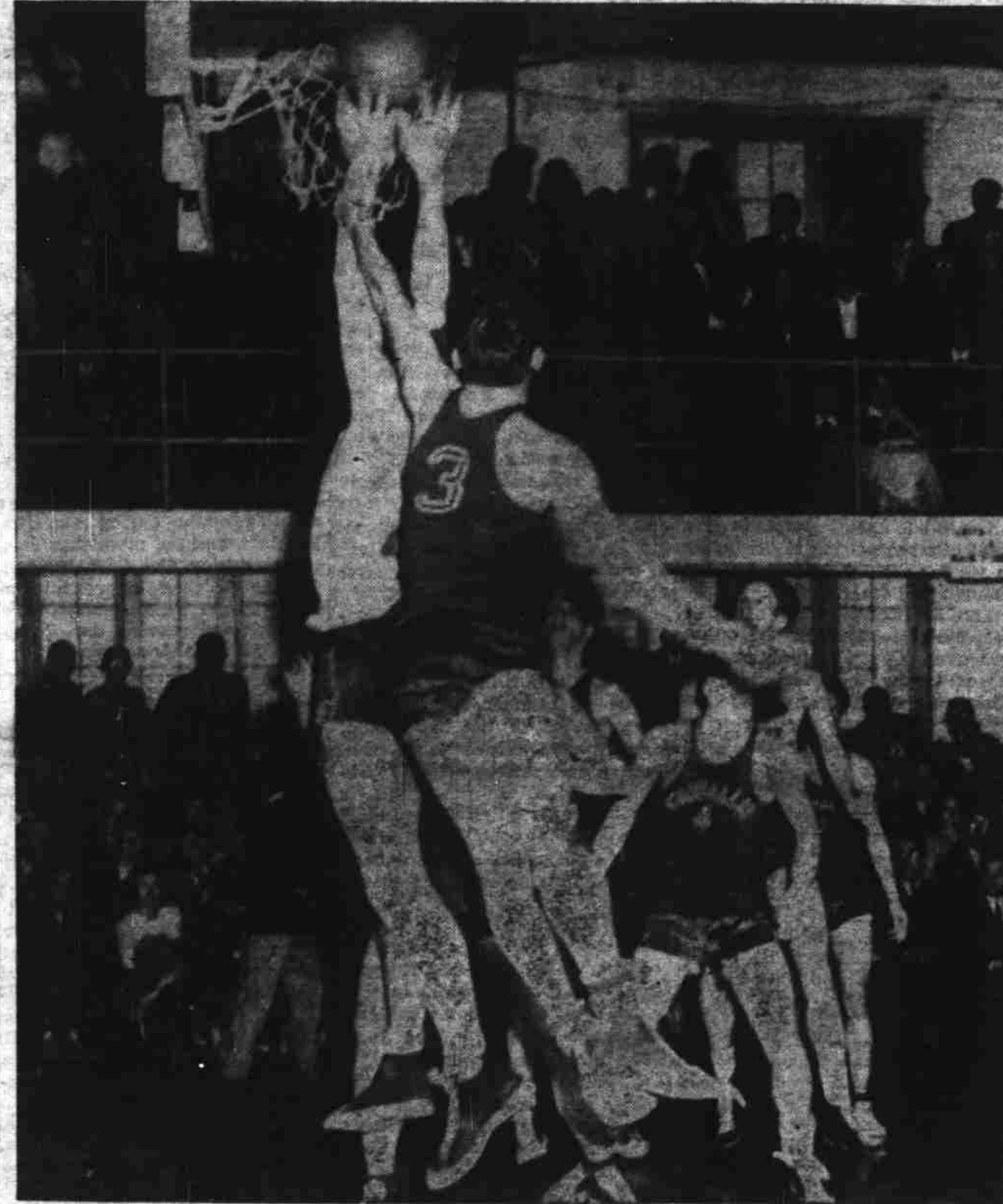
Jason Widmer, All-state forward, rushed the Spartans to the front with his long set-shot seconds later, and Bob Reiman, Corvallis fighting center, showed the lead to 6-3 with a tip-in after Bobby Knoll missed with three to play in the quarter.

The Astorians, who had won their first three tourney games in stride, appeared upset at the speed and cleverness of the Spartan attack, but Eben Far-

### Friday's Weather

Weather forecasts withheld and temperature delayed by army request. River Saturday, 2.5 feet. Max temperature Friday, 47, min., 24.

### Capacity Crowd Watches Hoop Title Tilt



They jumped high in the championship hoop clash of the 23rd annual tournament Saturday night on the Willamette university gymnasium when Astoria defeated Corvallis, 34-22. Leaping for the ball are Allen Anderson, Corvallis, No. 3 and Eben Farner, Astoria pivot man. Also in the picture are All-State Jason Widmer, Corvallis, No. 4, while Tom Shaw of Corvallis and All-State Ruben Wirkkunen stand behind him. Bobby Knoll is seen near the side lines while Bob Reiman, Corvallis center, is hidden from view by the backboard scrabble. (Statesman staff photo.)

### Gas Use Ordered Cut One-Fifth By Board

East Coast and Northwest Affected by Ukase; Exemptions Listed; FDR Asks National Speed Limit of 40 MPH

WASHINGTON, March 14—(AP)—A 20 per cent reduction in gasoline deliveries to filling stations in eastern seaboard and Pacific northwest states was ordered by the war production board Saturday in a step which informed quarters said was preliminary to rationing.

The order means the average motorist among the 10,000,000 automobile owners in the affected areas will have to curtail his use of motor fuel by even more than one-fifth since filling stations were directed to meet first of all the "minimum, necessary requirements" of essential users.

Among those classed as essential users were physicians and nurses, government vehicles, school buses, taxicabs and agricultural machinery.

Also as a part of the conservation program, the approximately Oregon will comply, so far as possible, with President Roosevelt's request to fix maximum highway speeds at 40 miles an hour and to require checking of tires, Governor Charles A. Sprague declared here Saturday.

The present speed limit for passenger automobiles in Oregon is 55 miles per hour but the state highway commission has authority to fix either higher or lower limits.

100,000 filling stations in the 30 states where the order applies were directed to confine their operations to 12 hours daily and 72 (Turn to Page 2, Col. 6)

### Buses Begin Service to Cantonment

Effective Monday the Oregon Motor Stages will inaugurate Albany and Corvallis bus service to and from the Albany-Corvallis cantonment, according to announcement Saturday by Ormond H. Bean, state public utilities commissioner.

The buses will leave Albany at 7:30 a.m. arriving at the camp at 7:55 o'clock; from Corvallis at 7:30 a.m. arriving at Wellsville at 8 o'clock.

Bean's announcement did not mention the same bus line's promised service between Salem and the cantonment.

### Honor Names Contest Over

Winners Announced in Statesman's Roll of Older Salem Firms

Jewell C. Minier, 1745 Saginaw street, Salem, is announced today as the first prize winner in The Statesman's contest honoring Salem business concerns, service and educational institutions that have been conducted continuously under the same ownership for the past quarter century or longer.

Miss Minier submitted a list containing 29 of the 42 firms and institutions, to win a \$5 prize. Listing 28, H. L. Clark, 1418 North Fourth street, earned the second prize award of \$3.

Third place, with 26 names, was won by Lillian Baney, box (Turn to Page 2, Col. 3)

## Hope For US Aid Given Western Mining

PORTLAND, Ore., March 14 (AP)—Assistant Interior Secretary Oscar Chapman appealed for increased production of essential war metals at a Pacific northwest mining conference Saturday as the industry criticized past policies of federal agencies.

Chapman told miners that by emergency expansions they could make the northwest a postwar industrial center.

Representatives of the industry agreed, but in panel discussions charged the bureau of mines with failure to cooperate with local agencies. They added that lack of markets had prevented them from developing mines, and said they needed financial aid and high priority ratings.

Chapman urged small operators to join the war effort and called upon the mining industry to do three things: 1. Give the bureau of mines full reports on possibilities known or believed to exist. 2. Work out with state universities, state departments and mining associations the economic programs for various mills or plants showing how they are feasible and why they should be located at certain points. Studies that are well worked out can be acted upon more quickly by the WPA, he said. 3. To consider necessary conditions for over-all development of the west and come to agreements as soon as possible.

### Lull Lies Over Far East War

Russ, RAF Hit Nazis; Hitler Reveals Plan

By BILL BONI  
Associated Press War Editor

An uneasy calm lay over the far Pacific theatre of war Saturday night—a calm which might be regarded as foreboding, as the proverbial lull before the storm of the next enemy offensive, or could be looked on more sanguinely as a welcome and rare breathing spell afforded the United Nations in which to rally their gathering strength to meet that assault.

On Europe's share of the world battlefield the Russian armies pounded ahead along the entire line from the Baltic to the Black sea.

Over the English channel and western Germany itself the RAF struck fresh blows at the Nazis.

MELBOURNE, March 14—(AP)—Japanese bombers raided islands near Thursday Island, which is only 30 miles from the Australian north coast, lying off the Cape York peninsula opposite New Guinea.

in Britain's own mounting spring offensive of the air.

But there was only slight aerial activity over Australia's barrier islands, with allied bombers smashing at a Japanese air base and no fresh news of the invasion fleet last reported steaming east; in Washington the war department did not even issue a morning communique on the situation in the Philippines, and in Burma there was nothing more severe than patrol skirmishes.

There was one definitely cheering report from the Pacific sector, however, issued in Australia by aggressive Hubertus J. Van Meek, lieutenant governor general of the Dutch East Indies. Van Meek announced that Dutch forces are known to be carrying on the fight against the invader in the hills and mountains of Java, Sumatra and Celebes, and that they are in position to wage bitter, dangerous guerrilla warfare for some time to come.

Heartening in itself, it was fresh evidence that, while the Japanese invasion columns have progressed almost unchecked in more than three months of conquest, their strength constantly is being drained by the large occupation forces which must be left behind.

Not to mention the repeatedly reinforced divisions which General MacArthur's men have kept engaged on Bataan alone.

Given added emphasis by the current lull in combat, there came from foreign diplomatic sources in London an apparently logical—and apparently well-authenticated—account of the newest scheme for world conquest which Adolf Hitler is urging upon his Japanese allies.

### Fleet Of Allies Caught In Trap

### 12 Ships Sunk

Two US Warships Admitted As Among United Nations' Losses; Japs Lose Eight

WASHINGTON, March 14—(AP)—The navy Saturday announced the sinking of 12 allied warships, with a 13th believed lost, some in the battle to keep the Japanese out of Java and the others in boldly trying to escape from a tightly closed enemy trap in which they later found themselves.

Two American ships, the cruiser Houston and the destroyer John D. Pope, were among those lost. The rest were Australian, British and Dutch. These punishing reverses were offset in part by the destruction of or severe damage to eight Japanese warships.

The battle divided itself into three parts. First of all the allied fleet, whose total strength was not disclosed, engaged a superior enemy force on February 27 between Soerabaya, the Javan naval base, and the island of Bawean. Two destroyers, the Kortenaar (Dutch) and the Electra (British) were sunk. The British cruiser Exeter was badly hit.

### New Sinkings Total Seven

Queen Mary Reported Hit; Other Merchants Down in Atlantic

By The Associated Press  
As a joint British-American communique revealed Saturday that the United Nations had lost 12 warships and possibly a 13th in their vain battle to stop a Japanese landing on Java, seven new sinkings were reported along the North American Atlantic coast and in the Caribbean.

In addition, the Rome radio quoted "Argentine maritime circles" as saying the \$1,235-ton British liner Queen Mary, laden with 10,000 "North American" troops, was torpedoed and badly damaged several days ago after leaving Rio de Janeiro.

The huge ship was reported attempting to reach the British base in the Falkland islands. Reports of this nature are frequently contained in axis broadcasts in an attempt to gain information on movements of ships or troops.

Nearer home, the navy revealed that a small American merchantman was sent to the bottom early Wednesday and that seven of her crew had been landed at (Turn to Page 2, Col. 2)

### Last Chance!

Have you filed your 1942 federal income tax return, Mr. Taxpayer?

If not, thanks to the calendar's placing March 15 on Sunday (today), you have one more day's grace.

The Salem deputy internal revenue collector's office, located on the second floor of the postoffice building, said Saturday that returns could be filed there on Monday. The office will be kept open until midnight.

The second phase came in the dead of the night that followed. Lurking Japanese submarines dispatched two cruisers, the De Ruiter and the Java, both Dutch, and the Jupiter, a British destroyer.

By that time, the navy frankly admitted, the battle was lost. Next day, the Japanese were in command of the sea and air. The remainder of the allied fleet was bottled up in an area north of Java. The only escape was through comparatively narrow channels dominated by the enemy.

Dispersed and attempting to run these straits in small groups, three cruisers, the Houston, the Exeter and the Perth (British), and two destroyers, the Pope and the Encounter (British) were overtaken by enemy fleet units. No word has been received from them since, and the navy announced flatly that they were lost. Similarly, the Dutch destroyer, Eversten, was so severely damaged that she was beached, and presumably is lost.

The British destroyer Stronghold and the Australian sloop, Yarra, also are missing, and the navy said must be presumed lost.

The Houston had apparently given up hope that any of the personnel of the Houston or Pope was saved. It said only that the next of kin had been notified.

The Houston, carrying about 1000 officers and men, was commanded by Captain Albert H. Rooks, born in Colton, Wash., and a resident of Seattle. The Pope, whose wartime complement was 145 officers and men, was under the command of Lieutenant Commander Welford C. Bliss, a native of Sparta, Ohio, whose residence was listed as New Smyrna, Fla.

Navy officials said it was impossible to estimate the total United Nations casualties at this time.

When the battle began the al-

(Turn to Page 2, Col. 1)