

State's Hoop Biggies Liked

By the Associated Press
Oregon's one-two-three teams in the 1945 prep basketball tournament stacked up as leading contenders for top honors again this week as 1946 season play got down to serious business throughout the state.

Portland's Washington high, last year's titlist, held five straight wins in the city loop, one full game ahead of second place Roosevelt. Oregon City, 1945 runner-up, goes to Milwaukie tonight (Friday) for a district 12 tilt with eight wins and two losses.

Medford, third place team last year, initiates its play in the southern Oregon conference tonight as host to Grants Pass. Undeclared against Oregon teams thus far, Medford dropped a decision to the touring Longview, Wash., five for the only blot on its record.

In the upper Willamette valley, Junction City, two time winner in district 8, goes to Roseburg tonight, while Eugene, flooded out last week, opens its district season against Cottage Grove. Lebanon, defending district 7 champ, entertains Corvallis, which lost a No-Name league game to Salem Tuesday for a tally of eight wins and two defeats.

The Tualatin-Yamhill valley league closes its second week with McMinnville, defending titlist, playing at West Linn.

Salem? We've had a discussion on the subject.
We shouldn't answer that one at all, for it wouldn't be cricket to point out any one gent. There are a flock of what you'd call "good" cage coaches hereabouts. Some with much more material to work with than others and some who can get the very best out of what little they have to do a smart job of coaching. Often as not, the definition of "good coach" isn't found in the won and lost column. Naturally, if a mentor comes up with his hoop suits filled with talented kids and wins a mess of ball games, he's automatically a "good" coach. If in the next year, however, those suits are vacated by the sharpies and filled with awkward lads with slow reactions, same lads being unable to win their share of the time, the coach isn't so good in the eyes of the public.
So let's answer it this way and hope we're not treading on anyone's toes. We won't name our "best" man but will point out those we believe are "good" coaches year in and year out whether they win consistently or not. These gents can be depended upon to get the best out of what material they have and are sound in the deliverance of fundamentals. We limit our picks to class "A" schools mostly: Paul Reiling, Mt. Angel; Jiggs Burnett, Woodburn; Harold Hauk, Salem; "Chief" Thompson, Chemawa; Hank Kuchera, Eugene; Ray Bee, Silverton; Don Wilson, Molalla; Lew Uhrhammer, St. Paul; Andy Anderson, Dallas; Rex Hunsaker, Albany; M. Van Driesche, Stayton; Al Cox, Corvallis, and Bud Page, Lebanon.
We've named 'em all? Sure we have. What'd you expect us to do? Some are no doubt better than others, friend, but you elect



Palmbergs Due Tonight, SHS

(Continued from page 10)

of the Salem-Astoria classics, but also at least two other items of note. First, 'twill be Palmberg's initial effort with the Purple since his discharge from the navy. Too, 'twill be the long-awaited return to competition between themselves for both Palmberg and Harold Hauk, the SHS skipper. Cage customers will be watching for the famed Palmberg sideline antics also.

These two basketball brains have duelled 16 times in the past, including two state tournament tries. Hauk's teams have copped the nod in nine of the 16 games. They've broken even in the tourney tilts, each winning once. But Hauk has some getting even to do and Palmberg has some prestige to hold up starting tonight. Since Hauk's departure for the navy three years ago, the Fishermen have humbled Salem nine times in 13 tries. Palmberg took care of the first five straight wins in that record in 1943.

A favorite in the series? No such animal when Astoria and Salem get together. Their seasonal record is 11-11.

Our circulation department won't let us.

Katonen, Martinelli in Next Mat Mainer

Faavo Katonen, the flamboyant Finn himself and one of the most rugged lightweight gladiators ever to fill fights in the northwest, makes his return to the Ferry Street Garden mat next Tuesday night after a lengthy absence. Back again after biffing his way through a long campaign in southern California, during which he retained his Coast light-heavy title belt, pulchritudinous Faavo tackles top-notch Angello Martinelli in

next week's main event. Matchmaker Elton Owen, in announcing the brawl, furthered that he for one wants to see if Katonen is still the hotshot he used to be, so signed him to meet Martinelli, a punishing gent who has grappled his way to prominence hereabouts since entering the circuit a few months ago. Martinelli and his glamour stuff, usually an assortment of flying double-drop kicks, teeth-jarring body blocks after cata-

paulting off the ropes and flying head scissors, should be able to offset the large assortment of punishing holds employed by the rugged Finn. Katonen makes full use of the forearm smash, a legal but head-fogging weapon. His head butts and knee-lifts, plus an occasional "hangman's hold" are things to be reckoned with also.
The balance of the card is to be announced as it is arranged by Owen.

Bearcats Face Pacific Quint

(Continued from page 10)
will be out indefinitely. The foot blisters picked up by Forward Bruce Barker and Center Dale Bates in the UBC tilts have healed considerably, however, and those two regulars are due for much of the action at Forest Grove. They'll likely be joined by Courtney Jones, Fred Graham and Irv Miller on the starting unit.
Should they find the same groove tonight as they were in late in the Portland game Wednesday, the 'Cats should have no trouble turning back the Badgers. The WUs have come a long way since Sparks first started with them this season.

las Tuesday night. Stayton's Bees won a hair raising prelim, 16-15.

STAYTON (11) F (29) DALIAS
Lierman (3) F (8) Ziegler
Duncan (6) F (4) Siebert
Johnson (4) F (4) Kahler
Etzel (1) C (6) Mains
Hindes (1) C (7) Fisher
Stayton sub—Brown 1.

Bulldogs Meet Silverton '5'

WOODBURN, Jan. 10 (Special)—Anxious to get back into the win column, Coach Jiggs Burnett's Woodburn Bulldogs meet the potent Silverton Silver Foxes in a Willamette Valley league basketball game here Friday night. It will be the second meet-

ing of the season between the two arch rivals. Silverton out-caged the undermanned Woodburns in the league jamboree last month.
The Foxes will be heavily favored Friday. A preliminary game between Bee teams starts at 7 o'clock.

Dallas 29, Stayton 11
STAYTON—The Dallas Dragons downed Stayton 29-11 at Dal-

Gates 31, Hubbard 21
HUBBARD—The Gates Pirates outcaged the Hubbard Rockets 31-21 in a Marion county league basketball game here Tuesday. In preliminary games the Hubbard Bee downed Gates, 21-8, and the Hubbard Townies tripped Woodburn Training School, 59-17.

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SPORTSLIGHTNER

(Continued from page 10)
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