

Crater To Play Medford for District 4A Diadem

Comets Belt Eagle Point In Tourney

Eagle Point—Crater high school Comets, turning in their top performance of the year, claimed the District 4A small school basketball title Saturday night for the fourth consecutive season.

Hitting their shots effectively from far out as well as at close range, the Comets built up a wide margin in the first half and maintained it with fluctuating spreads throughout the second half to trim Eagle Point 70 to 53 in the finals of the Little Six tournament here.

Adding the triumph to their Rogue League title banner, the Crater cagers won the right to oppose Medford, Big Four participant and overall winner for the overall district championship.

Crater placed four players and Eagle Point three among the 11 boys chosen. No first or second team was designated. The tournament concluded Saturday night.

Jim Higginbotham, Vern Parent, Harvey Tonn and Fred Hogue were the Crater boys chosen. Eagle Pointers named were Bill Caldwell, Frank Reich and Harvey Nelson. Henley placed Louie Zarosinski and Dale Seary, Ron Vreeken, Phoenix, and Frank Fadling, Brookings, rounded out the squad.

Original plans were to name 10 players. Hogue and Fadling tied for 10th position.

Victor will go to the state hoop tournament at Eugene.

District 4 play-off tussles open Friday night at Central Point. The Black Tornado and the Comets move to the Medford high court on Saturday night. If the two quintets split, a third conflict will be contested next Monday.

Two Other Games

The Crater-Eagle encounter was one of three tourney hassles here last Saturday. Henley captured third place with a 52 to 32 decision over Brookings. The Phoenix Pirates scuttled Illinois Valley 62 to 25 for the consolation honors.

In the championship engagement Crater, sparked by the shooting and backboard work of Jim Higginbotham and Bob Gray, the accurate firing of Harvey Tonn and the floor play of Vern Parent, got the first basket when the game was 25 seconds old. They never trailed nor were they tied during the evening. And in the first half, particularly, they had a sharper edge than did the Eagles, who were playing their third game in three nights.

Eagle Point licked Phoenix on Thursday and Henley on Friday to gain the finale. Crater drew a Thursday by and polished off Brookings on Friday.

Every member of the Comet quint contributed points as it surged to an 18 to 8 lead in the first quarter. Crater outscored Eagle Point again in the second period, 19 to 11, for a 37 to 19 midway command. Tonn, connecting on three long shots and two fast breaks and scoring two free shots, spurred the Crater offense in the half with 12 points. Higginbotham contributed eight counters. Bill Caldwell got eight for the Eagles.

Eagle Point kept more even pace in the second half. Comet lead fluctuated between 18 and 23 points in the third quarter and Crater wound up that part of the scrape with a 20-point margin at 55 to 35. Scoring edge of the Central Pointer crew was 18 to 16. The 23-point advantages were at 47 to 24 and 52 to 29.

The Eagles fought to within 16 points of the Comets at 39 to 55 in the fourth panel but Crater collected eight points before EP could score again and picked up a 24-point, 63 to 39 spread. Eagle Point then cut the margin to 68 to 47 and with 13 minutes to play, Crater Coach Leonard Warren sent in an entire team of reserves. It was the first time he had substituted during the game.

Jerry Tuttle got a field goal and free shot, and Harvey Nelson and Jerry Eastgate gift tosses for Eagle Point and Harold Lefler of Crater a field bucket at the buzzer to round out the scoring. Eagle Point had an 18 to 15 point-making edge in the final stanza.

Higginbotham with 11 points and Bob Gray with 10 topped Crater scoring in the second half. Each got four field goals, Gray on tippins or rebounds and Higginbotham on longies. Frank Reich collected five field

baskets for the Eagles. Each club connected for 13 field goals from far out, for two at mid-range. Crater had the edge 10 to five at long distance. Shooting charts kept for both schools varied. The Comets showed 13 shots made of 31 tried in the first half for a .419 average. Eagle Point's showed eight for 34 in the initial .235. The Eagles didn't take a lot of shots from far out in that stage of the fray and ability to hit from in close hurt. Crater hit from both in and out.

Crater His 410 For the game Crater's chart gave 25 for 61, almost .410. Eagle Point listed itself for 20 for 65, which is .308.

While the Comets missed 16 free shot tries during the fracas, they also made more points from the foul line than the Eagles, 20 to 13.

Rebounding in the scuffle was just about even. Charts again differed. EP's indicated a 45 to 44 edge for its team. Crater's gave 39 to 34 for the Comets. The Eagle statistics listed Crater's Bob Gray as top retriever with 17 boards. Higginbotham and Caldwell were shown with 15 apiece. Crater's statistics had 14 apiece for Higginbotham and Gray and did not break down the Eagle total. Gray, only junior on the starting five and most improved Crater player, was particularly effective under the offensive board with his tip-ins.

Coach Warren commented yesterday that Comets played their best of the year. He said that defense would get concentration this week in preparation for Medford. The Comets go into the play-off underdogs but determined to show the Black Tornado and the crowd real ball games.

Four Comets had double scoring figures for the game. Higginbotham with 19, Tonn with 17, Gray with 16 and Fred Hogue with 10. Caldwell got 14 and Reich put in 10 pointers for the Eagles.

In the tussle for third place, Henley had trouble for just one quarter with Brookings. The Hornets led just 12 to 11 after the first intermission and pulled away after that. Big husky Hornet Louie Zarosinski was a big cog in the win over the shorty Bruins.

Phoenix had no difficulty in wrestling the consolation laurels from Illinois Valley which got only eight field goals in the game. Ron Vreeken had the height for the Pirates over the Cougars and his 24 points showed it.

Crater first won the small school division honors in 1952. That year it lost in the play-off to Klamath Falls and in 1953 was beaten by Medford. Last year the Comets came their closest to a state tourney trip, forming Grants Pass to go the full three games before the Cave-men nabbed the mantle.

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Clevelanders Only Have Spot Cinched

Portland—(U.P.)—A lot of action is on tap this week around the Oregon high school basketball circuit as the prep teams go down to the wire in district tournaments to decide entries in the state championships.

With the Class A tournament only two weeks away, Cleveland of Portland is the only team so far cinched for a tourney berth. The Indians defeated Benson last weekend, 68-50, to clinch at least a tie for the Portland city championship and assures a state tournament spot. Games this week will decide the other Portland entry.

In District 1-A close competition forced a split into sub-district playoffs with Baker and La Grande meeting in a sudden-death game this week in one half of the playoffs, and Vale and Ontario clashing in the other half.

Tournaments to decide district winners will open this week in Districts 6, 7, 12 and 13. Redmond and Lakeview will stage a one-game playoff in District 3-A. In District 4-A Crater meets Medford's powerful Black Tornado.

North Bend defeated Marshfield, 69-64, Saturday night to go into the District 5-A playoff against Corvallis. At Albany this weekend, Roseburg, Reedsport, Newport and Albany will contend for the District 7-A title.

Seaside and Astoria are unbeaten in the District 10-A double-elimination tournament at Tillamook. Warrenton and Tillamook are once beaten.

The District 9-A tournament at Hillsboro was thrown into a turmoil when TVV League champion Beaverton was upset, 51-49, last weekend by Hillsboro in the double-elimination tournament. Hillsboro is the only unbeaten team in the tourney and Beaverton must win three straight if the Beavers are going to make the state classic.

Mike Souchak Houston Victor

Houston, Tex.—(U.P.)—Big Mike Souchak, the hottest player in golf with two major victories under his belt within a week, headed for the Baton Rouge, La., open today in the unaccommodated role of favorite.

The 27-year-old former Duke university football player, who has been a professional golfer two and one-half years, blazed from behind Sunday to win first money of \$6,000 in the \$30,000 Houston Open, richest tournament on the winter trail.

He fired a record-breaking 72-hole total of 273. That was two strokes better than the 275 by little Jerry Barber of Los Angeles.

Only one week before, Souchak, of Durham, N.C., won his first tournament as a pro, taking the Texas Open at San Antonio. Tied for third with 278 and winning \$2,000 apiece were Shelley Mayfield of Chicopee, Mass., and Jack Burke, Jr. of Kiamesha Lake, N. Y.

BOWLING INDUSTRIAL LEAGUE

Standings: Medford Steel 4 W L 0 0, Austin King 3 1 1 0, Richards Oil Co. 3 1 1 0, Stevens Kaiser Willys 3 1 1 0, Hunter and Best 2 2 2 2, Paghams 2 1 1 0, Hawkinng Tire Tread 1 3 3 4, Cummings Agency 1 3 3 4, Telephone Employees 0 4 4 4.

Results: Snobys 1, Richmond 3, Frank Couch 530, V. Zaiter 527, Geo. Russell 378, G. Anderson 409, Virgil Lowe 452, E. Kennedy 500, Les Rogers 419, Gale 426, J. Henderson 487, Dave Kreer 469, Handicap 120, 2286, 2333.

Barnard's 0, Medford Steel 4, Lin Lowe 476, Lin Smith 540, Jack Monroe 530, Bob Chris 414, Bill Jones 421, R. Eastgate 449, D. Morehouse 450, R. Edwards 484, Harry Frye 535, T. Farvin 523, Handicap 201, 2432, 2611.

Cummings 1, Stevens K-F 3, Don Fryer 391, Bob Stevens 536, Absentee 435, Absentee 402, Herb Dunkey 479, C. Owsley 496, D. Schlichter 459, R. Hutchinson 411, Ted Maul 454, Don Poling 433, Handicap 57, 2218, 2250.

Tel. Emp. 0, King's 4, John Martin 391, Austin King 403, H. Parrott 336, Pete Prince 555, John Strobel 389, J. Fletcher 445, John Sedey 363, Orv. Caster 392, LeRoy Boyd 448, Handicap 54, 1896, 2152.

Hawkinson's 1, Jaycees 3, C. Goodrich 423, Jim Ather 486, Bob Shangle 387, M. DeHeart 460, H. Baker 480, Joe Walsh 385, Bob Carr 526, R. Foster 412, Al Bohannon 529, K. St. Hill 461, Handicap 93, 2355, 2447.

Paghams 2, H and B 2, Art Keith 529, Joe Cabler 528, C. Hunter 412, Jack Cabler 555, Jack Milhoan 445, Joe Hunter 442, J. Lausman 389, Hank Taylor 323, Herb Wilson 436, Bob Cabler 523, Handicap 183, 2394, 2371.

Tornado Drubs Pels 76-59 To End Loop Play Unbeaten

Medford high Black Tornado, a "second nightier quint throughout its 1955 league campaign, followed the old familiar script again Saturday and with hurricane intensity finished with an unblemished season in the Southern Oregon Conference basketball campaign.

Galed up by the high scoring and all-around playing of Larry Coppel and whirling away in the second half, the Black Tornado left Klamath Falls in its wake, 76 to 59. The win followed a 55 to 45 decision on Friday. Its 12th straight triumph in the circuit gave Medford its first unbeaten season in the circuit since 1945. For Medford it also was the 20th straight win and the 21st in the regular 22-game season.

The Black Tornado, as in so many games this year, showed the ability to wear down the opposition in the second half. Klamath, which led the Tornado at halftime, on Friday was still making a battle of it on its home floor Saturday when the first half ended. But the Tornado margin widened from there.

Coppel, the snakish high-scoring Medford guard, swished the net from all angles but mostly from mid and long range to roll up a huge 34 point individual count. He got 12 field goals and 10 free shots. Twenty-four of the tallies came in the first half when they were needed to meet the Pelican challenge.

Medford jumped to a 14 to 3 lead in the hassle and had a 20 to 13 quarter advantage. However, Klamath caught up at 29-all and then tied twice more, the last time at 34-all. The Tornado had a 40 to 37 midway surge. In the third chukker the Medfordites widened to 58 to 44. Kalapus joined Medford as big gun in the second half. He had 12 points for the game. Dan Lowe got 18 and Dave D'Olive 16 for the Pels.

On the backboards Medford had control with 40 to 29 margin in retrievals. Glenn Peterson and Kalapus each had nine boards, Coppel seven and Bud Kastner six.

The Tornado, which had a bad night from the field Friday, hitting only five for 23 in the first half and 15 for 45 for .333 average, more than made up for it on Saturday night with 28 out of 53 shooting for real hot .547.

Good Job Done

While Medford had its trouble in the first half on Friday night, the boys, according to Coach Frank Roelandt, did "a good job" in the series. Their second half defense on Friday allowed Klamath Falls only one field goal in that time.

Medford's jayvees, which had run up a 19-win, no-loss record for the season, tumbled from the unmarred ranks Saturday night. They were 45 to 42 victims of the Pelican junior varsity.

Klamath had a 20 to 19 half-way spread. They stretched it to six or seven points in the second half. Medford tried to press to overtake the Pels but made a few mistakes and, after that, couldn't catch up.

Earle Tichenor racked up 15 points for KF. Bob Tisdell got 11 for Medford.

BOX:

Medford: Peterson, f 4 1 2 9, Kastner, f 3 0 4 6, Kalapus, f 12 10 4 34, Coppel, f 32 24 4 38, Reitor, f 10 2 0 2, Foust, f 0 0 0 0, McLaughlin 1 0 2 2, McCullough 0 0 3 0, Cochrane 0 0 0 0, Cochran 0 0 0 0, Deakins 0 0 0 2.

Klamath Falls: Yarnell, f 15 11 1 3, D'Olive, c 5 4 16, Sunitsch, g 2 1 3 5, Lowe, f 4 10 5 18, Todd, f 46 39 12 44, McCarty 1 2 1 4, Causey 3 5 0 10, Baker 46 39 12 44, Pepple 1 0 3 2.

High School Scores

SATURDAY SCORES High Schools: The Dalles 49, Hood River 41, Albany 50, Corvallis 36, John Day 89, Redmond 73, Grants Pass 69, Ashland 63, Mosier 48, Cascade Locks 45, Medford 76, Klamath Falls 59, Mac Hill 59, Hermiston 47, Powers 69, Gold Beach 42, Hillsboro 51, Beaverton 49, Forest Grove 60, Banks 42, Sherwood 55, Tigard 50, St. Francis 40, Huntington 35, Halfway 68, Adrian 52, Enterprise 38, Union 27, Baker 58, La Grande 47, Days Creek 45, Canyonville 38, Elkton 46, Glide 41, Todd 46, Sutherlin 44, Roseburg 48, Myrtle Point 42, Neah-Kahnia 52, Nestucca 27, Seaside 52, Warrenton 43.

SPORTS

ADDITIONAL SPORTS ON PAGE 11

Spectators Provide Fireworks; Referee, Kowalski, Clobbered

A couple of feminine spectators engaged in a quarrel over the merits of a couple of the participants, police were brought up to quiet them, the referee was knocked out twice and Ella Kowalski got clobbered at Merick's arena here Saturday night. All of the fireworks except the Kowalski thrashing brought hoots and hollers of satisfaction from the near-capacity crowd gathered to watch Mack Lillard's weekly wrestling card.

It took Gerry Hunter only 20 minutes and 20 seconds to whip Kowalski in the feature match. Miss Hunter, on the short end of the offensive during most of the match, had to virtually turn savage to defeat the wiry and popular red-haired flash from Texas.

Thrown From Ring The blonde bombshell threw Kowalski out of the ring, using her hair for leverage, and when Referee Larry Presnell leaned over the ropes to count, Hunter also heaved him out. Both got back in but again Kowalski was tossed out, this time hurting her back. Presnell counted the necessary 20 before Kowalski was able to move and the fall went to Hunter. Time was nine minutes and 40 seconds.

The last fall was won by Hunter on default when Miss Kowalski was unable to continue, much to the displeasure of the near-capacity Kowalski-partisan crowd. When the bell sounded Kowalski tried to come out but fell on her face near mid-ring and Presnell stopped it. Miss Kowalski had taken the first fall in 10:40 with an air-plant spin and body press while the crowd cheered wildly. Harold (Buck) Davidson found

Joe Hahn gained his second victory on a foul in as many weeks when he beat Johnny Dobbs, the crowd-baiting Omaha man, in the opener. Dobbs took the first fall in 17:10 with neck twisters and a press and Hahn evened it six minutes and 40 seconds later with a half crab. When they were going after the third fall Dobbs threw Hahn out of the ring and wouldn't let him get back. With Hahn on the apron outside the ring, Dobbs applied a headlock and failed to break when Presnell counted five so the referee gave it to Hahn. Dobbs stormed around and challenged practically everyone in sight but it didn't do any good. Promoter Mack Lillard announced that the next card will be held on March 19 when one of the country's outstanding feminine grapplers will be signed, probably to meet Miss Hunter.

Walch, Eckel, Dyer Gain State Mat Tourney Berths

Les Walch, Paul Eckel and Bill Dyer will represent Medford high in the state wrestling tournament at Corvallis starting next Friday.

Walch in the 157-pound class and Paul Eckel in the 178-pound bracket won championships in the district tourney at Klamath Falls on Saturday and Sunday. Dyer was runner-up in his weight, the unlimited class.

Walch and Eckel won three matches each to get their titles. Dyer won three tussles and lost a 1 to 0 decision to Philip Barker, Grants Pass, who won the heavy crown.

Ray Williams, 148, a nd Larry Fraser, 168, almost made the tourney for Medford. A 2 to 0 loss cost Williams and 1 to 0 setback kept Fraser out of a state tourney trip. Medford was fourth in the district tourney with 46 points. Klamath Falls qualified 11 men and ran up 162 counters, Roseburg got 84 and placed seven, Grants Pass 76 and 4 and Sutherlin 37 and 1.

Other scorers were Illinois Valley 9, Myrtle Creek 6, Douglas 4.

Wins Score Race

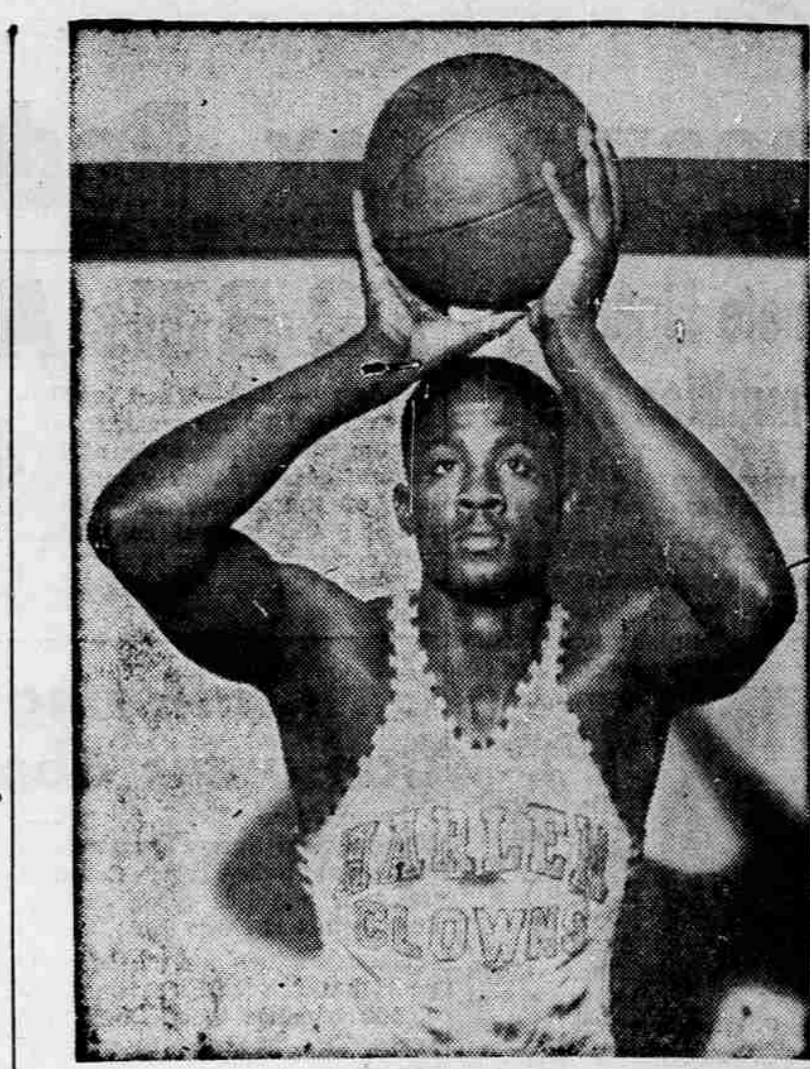
Saturday night's game was a personal triumph for Webfoot forward Jim Loscutt who scored 27 points, high for the game. This gave Loscutt a Northern Division season total of 314 points, a record for the school. It assured him also of the Northern Division crown.

Leading the spring parade for Slats Gillis' Beavers was beanpole Wade Swede Hallbrook, who rung up 19 points and snagged 20 rebounds. Oregon's Jim Loscutt edged him out by getting hold of 21 rebounds.

NAIA Encounters Slated Tonight

Milwaukie—(U.P.)—Four of the Pacific Northwest's top small college teams will meet here tomorrow night in the opening of the NAIA district two basketball tournament.

In the opening game of the two-night tourney, Pacific University will face Eastern Oregon College of Education at 7:30 p.m. In the nightcap, Portland State goes against Willamette at 9 p.m.



WITH CLOWNS WEDNESDAY—All-American John Barber from Los Angeles State has joined the Harlem Clowns and will be seen in action when the fabulous basketball team plays here Wednesday. Barber is the 6-foot 6-inch, 220-pound boy who made national headlines last season when he scored 188 points in an "experimental" game against Chapman college. Not counting this game he was seventh highest scorer in the nation with 840 points in 32 contests. The Clowns play Andy's Jewelers at 8 p.m. at the senior high school.

YELLOW CABBIES FACE OREGON TECH TUESDAY

Yellow Cab the state AAU tournament basketball entry from Medford gets its final warm up for the week end trip to Hermiston when it battles Oregon Technical institute here Tuesday evening.

The game will be at the St. Mary's school gymnasium at 8 p.m. A later day in the week had been set but the switch was made to accommodate another

George Blum Paces Field In Trapshoot

George Blum, Tillamook, was high overall winner in the early spring registered trapshoot Saturday and Sunday at Medford Gun club.

Blum had a 472 out of 500 score to top a field of about 60 shooters who braved the snowy weather.

The Tillamook man won the Class A doubles both days with 46 out of 50 on each try. He took the Class A 16-yard shoot on Saturday with 99 out of 100.

Harry Lupher, Drain, shot a 99 yesterday for Class A 16-yard honors. Other victors yesterday were Paul Culbertson, Medford, 95, Class B; Lila McMullen, Roseburg, 98, Class C; Tom Mehl Jr., Glendale, 85, Class D.

Because of her win in C class the Roseburg woman yielded high lady trophy to Donna Woolley, Drain, who got 88. Larry Ed Pease, Medford, broke 99 for high in the Sunday handicap and Sam Samson, Medford, was runner-up with 96.

George Jantzer, Medford, won class B doubles with 40 out of 50 yesterday.

About 40 shooters were on hand Saturday and the field grew to 60 yesterday.

SNOW CANCELS SKI MEET Reno, Nev.—(U.P.)—Three scheduled skiing meets in the high Sierras near here were cancelled yesterday, on account of heavy snows.

Donahue Grabs Bowling Honors

Cools Bay—(U.P.)—Clarence Donahue of Hubbard won the Class A Oregon men's bowling championship with a score 670 in the annual tournament which concluded here yesterday.

Flashing from behind to take the Class B title was George Carter of The Dalles. Carter rolled a 621 yesterday to top the field. Calvin Breneman of Albany with a 633 was best in Class C with Frank Burdell of Brookings rolling a 577 for the Class C crown.

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