

# Franklin Quakers Whip Medford For State Hoop Championship

## Bjarne Jensen's Height, Play Give Portland Quint Edge in A-1 Tourney Final

By DICK JEWETT

Mail Tribune Sports Editor

McArthur Court, University of Oregon, Eugene—Bjarne Jensen, the superb, agile giant and "splendid spire" of Franklin high spurred the Quakers Saturday night to the loftiest peak in Oregon high school basketball, the Class A-1 diadem. And for the second successive year a maple-court goliath proved the undoing of the championship aspirations of Medford Black Tornado.

The 6-foot 9-inch Jensen was the "tower" of might under the backboards and poured 27 counters through the hoops on this collegiate court to head the Quakers of Portland to a record-smashing 73 to 60 decision over a game, never-say-quit Tornado aggregation.

Franklin, in the championship engagement for the first time since 1926, gained its first state prep cage diadem in 35 years. Medford, back for its sixth finalist appearance in the 38 years of tourney history, bowed last



BOB TISDELL  
All-State Choice

year to the Mike Moran-led Eugene Axemen in the title game.

**Spart Away**

The Quakers, who piled up margins of 17 points in the second quarter, saw their lead almost vanish before a potent Tornado gale in the third session. But the Portlanders spurred out early in the fourth stanza with a 10-point rush for a 15-marker bulge and they battled the Medford crew on even scoring terms from that point to the finish.

As vital as Jensen's play and attitude were in the titular triumph, the skyscraping center was not solely responsible for the victory. When the Tornado massed its efforts at stopping the goliath, the "little" Quakers fired from "outside" or slipped close in for all-important scores.

As the third quarter wore along Jensen and company fought to 49 to 32 and 53 to 46. Then Medford applied their pressure. Copley got a jumper, Gober a rebound shot and Copley another jump shot. Gober, who moved with surprising agility for his height and drew "ahs" for his work, stole the ball and went for a solo marker.

Copley scored on a fast break off an interception and score at the end of the third quarter was down to 53 to 46. Reinking plunked a rebounder as the fourth period swung into action to bring the score to 53 to 48.

Coach Frank Roelandt used his seniors in the final minutes. Gober, Foust, Reinking, Tisdell and Cearley, giving them a chance to vie in their final cage conflict for Medford high. They battled their hearts out, as did all the players who saw duty, but the four-day tourney pace was telling on the Tornado. And Franklin, improved since its 58 to 53 loss to Medford in December, was not to be denied.

**Tisdell Scores 17 Points**

Jensen in addition to his 27 points pulled down 22 rebounds. Tisdell scored 17 points for Medford and Copley was the top Tornado backboard man with 16 plunks. Spargur scored 15 points, Gober 12 and Copley 11. Spargur got 13 retrieves and Neil Plumley of the Tornado 10.

Medford's ganging on Jensen and furious play under the basket enabled the Tornado to have 28 to 22 edge in rebounding in the first half but Jensen's effectiveness became more pronounced as the tangle went on and Franklin had a 54 to 47 margin for the game. The Quakers had a .364 average to Medford's .250 in the first half and for the game the difference was .387 to .304.

Franklin made 25 free shots in 48 tries and there was some feeling the Quakers were deliberately trying to draw fouls. Medford shot 18 to 29.

Free shots helped Lincoln to its 72 to 57 third place win over Marshfield. Refs Pat Wohler and Dan Jones whistled 26 infractions on Marshfield and just 13 on the Cardinals. Lincoln made 46 of 30 free attempts and

Medford, an aggregation which

all season never knew the word quit, gave it the old try all the way against the Franklins. The Tornado grabbed the lead in the early portion of the fray, was sturdy on defense through most of the first half and bettered the Quakers, Jensen and all, during the first half.

But the field gunning of the Medfordites fell short by far of their season average. Had their barraging not faltered to a meager 25 per cent in the first half, their rousing surge up in the third quarter could have carried them to the championship.

The Tornado, spurred by burly Larry Gober, Dick Copley and Ed Reinking, turned to a pressing game in its big bid to pull a victory, and with it the title out of the file. Five buckets in the last 1 1/2 minutes of the third panel and one other at the start of the fourth whacked a Franklin spread from 17 points to five from 53 to 36 to 53 to 48.

But the risk of a pressing defense, fouls, caught up with the Tornado. Franklin tallied four points on free shots and added three field goals for a 63 to 48 advantage. Medford could not come closer than within 12 points of the Quakers after that. Franklin had one lead of 16 points at 67 to 51.

**Scoring Records Set**

When Jerry Jarboe added a final free shot for Franklin's 73rd point a new record was set for a champion's final score. Eugene's 72 against Medford last year was the old mark. The 133 points of the final total score was a new record also for the championship game, exceeding last year's 128 (72-56).

Medford had its first lead in the conflict at 4 to 3 on two free shots by Bob Tisdell. Spargur's bucket made it 5 to 4 for the Quakers. But McLaughlin's jumper and a fielder and free shot gave Medford a 9 to 5 edge. Medford still had the front position at 13 to 10. Then Luhrs got a long jump, Hutton two gifters and Luhrs a tip shot for a 16 to 13 Franklin gap at the quarter.

Tisdell tied up the mix at 16 each on a jump basket and a free shot. Spargur got a free toss for 17 to 16 but Reinking countered from the key slot off a feed for a Medford lead of 18 to 17. Kuhn then drove in for 19 to 18 and Franklin was ahead to stay.

**Fight Back**

The Quakers upped their margin to 27 to 20. The Tornado came back with a long shot by Cearley, a free counter by Johnny Foust and brace of four points by Tisdell for 27 to 25. But Jensen and Luhrs got baskets for 31 to 25 at the half.

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## Bob Tisdell On All-State First Team

Eugene —(U.P.)— Seven teams shared spots on the all-state team announced at the close of the state A-1 high school basketball tourney here Saturday night. State champion Franklin and runnerup Medford each landed two spots on the 10-man squad as did fourth place Eugene.

Chosen for berths on the mythical all-state five were two seniors, two juniors, and for the first time in six years, a sophomore.

Seniors named to the first team were Jefferson's Chuck Rask and Bob Tisdell of Medford, a pair of scrappy guards.

**McLaughlin Picked**

Bjarne Jensen, acclaimed as the tourney's top single player, and Roger Johnson of Marshfield were the two juniors chosen. Jensen, 6-9, was picked to fill the pivot slot and Johnson named as a forward.

Rounding out the top five was Charlie Warren, sophomore from Eugene.

Gaining berths on the second all-state five were Dick McLaughlin, Medford; Ernie Spargur, Franklin; Norm Weis, MacHi; Mike Doherty, Lincoln; and Doug Lundstrom, Eugene.

## Bandon Out Of SO Loop This Year

Bandon has been suspended from the Southern Oregon baseball league, according to word received here from Hal Zurcher, Roseburg, league president.

Zurcher said the suspension took place because of Bandon's failure to notify the league of its intentions for the coming season. Several feelers have been sent to Bandon to learn of their 1956 plans but no response has been received.

The suspension means that the Southern Oregon league will consist of five teams for the campaign. They are Coos Bay-North Bend, Coquille, Bend, Drain and Medford. A sixth team will be added if one can be found before the playing schedule is drawn and it could be Bandon if a decision is reached before that time.

Teams already in the league are anxious to learn if they will have bye dates so that they can be filled with exhibition games, Zurcher said.

## Hawks Lead In Play-Off

The St. Louis Hawks, one up on the Minneapolis Lakers in their Western Division National Basketball League play-off series and hope to end it all tonight when they meet the Lakers in Minneapolis.

The Hawks came from behind in St. Louis Saturday night to defeat the Lakers, 116-115, and a victory tonight would clinch the series for them in their best-of-three play-off. The winner of this series will meet the division champion Fort Wayne Pistons in the semi-final playoffs.

A Laker victory would mean they'll meet again on Wednesday night again in Minneapolis.

In the Eastern Division, the Boston Celtics defeated the Syracuse Nationals, 110-93, Saturday to take the lead, and will be trying to clinch the series tonight against the Nats in Syracuse. A third game if necessary, will be played in Boston Tuesday night.

**Central Catholic Choses O'Brien**

Portland—(U.P.)—Bill O'Brien an assistant coach at Aberdeen high school, was named Saturday as head football mentor at Central Catholic high here. O'Brien will fill the vacancy created when Harry Scarff resigned to accept a head coaching job at Vallejo, Calif.

## Medford Rifle Juniors Nab Team Laurels On Sunday

The Medford Junior Rifle club team took top honors at an all junior rifle match held Sunday at the Ashland armory.

Medford's team score of 676 bested Yreka's 664 by 12 points. The Medford team of William Goldin, son of W. A. Goldin, 2933 Lone Pine rd., Phyllis and Margaret Taylor, daughters of Chuck Taylor, Old Stage rd., Central Point, and Eddie McGrew, son of E. E. McGrew, 1433 McAndrews rd., made a fine showing, especially since they have been hampered by the lack of a place to practice due to the loss of their range which had been located in the Merrick building.

There was a total of 36 competitors and five teams, coming from Fort Jones, Yreka, Ashland, Grants Pass, and Medford.

This was the first time Grants Pass has been represented at a local match.

Margaret Taylor came out second best in the Grand Aggregate with a total score of 178, being topped by Victor Hansen of Yreka who shot a 186. Margaret, however, took top honors from a field of nine girl shooters to win the high girl award.

Next junior tourney is national sectional at Roseburg April 21.

**RESULTS:**

**Grand Aggregate**  
1st, Victor Hansen, 186, Yreka; 2nd, Margaret Taylor, 178, Medford; 3rd, Mike McDonald, 177, Ashland.

**Match I (10 shots prone)**  
Class A, 1st, Mike McDonald, 99, Ashland; 2nd, William Goldin, 99, Medford.

**Class B, 1st, Duane Nelson, 93, Ashland; 2nd, Judy Heitmanek, 92, Ashland.**

**Match II (10 shots standing)**  
1st, Victor Hansen, 88, Yreka; 2nd, Margaret Taylor, 70, Medford.

**MILWAUKEE BRAVES THINK 1956 WILL BE THEIR YEAR**

(This is the first in a series of the 1956 prospects of the major league clubs.)

By LEO H. PETERSON  
United Press Sports Writer

Bradenton, Fla. —(U.P.)— The Milwaukee Braves feel that 1956 is going to be their year.

Almost every one is talking about the world champion Brooklyn Dodgers when it comes to the National League pennant race, but Manager Charley Grimm of the Braves will not go along with that.

"Man for man, we're as good as they are, and I think even better," jolly Charley said. "We aren't giving an inch to any club in the league, and that includes Brooklyn."

"I think Charley is right," General Manager John Quinn pitched in. "But there's a lot of luck that goes along with baseball, and if we get some of a change, we could win it all."

**Injuries Hamper Club**

What he was referring to was injuries. For two years now the Braves have been handicapped by injuries to their key players. One of them is a question mark right now—pitcher Gene Conley. The 618 righthander won only 11 games last season because of back and arm miseries. There have been reports that he is through.

But Conley, Grimm and Quinn won't buy those reports. "Gene will be all right," Grimm declared. "He's only 25 and has had his share of tough luck. Maybe that luck book will balance on him. If it does, watch out for us."

It will be big Joe Adcock and George Crowe at first base, Danny O'Connell, a disappointment since the Braves obtained him from the Pirates, at second; Johnny Logan at short and home run hitting Eddie Mathews at third.

In the outfield, Henry Aaron will be in right field, the speedy Bill Bruton in center and either Bobby Thomson, the former Giants star who never has been the same since he broke an ankle in spring training in his first season with the Braves two years ago, or veteran Andy Pafko in left field.

**Depend on Conley**

Del Crandall is the No. 1 guy behind the plate with Del Rice the second string catcher.

Grimm is counting on Conley to anchor the pitching staff. Behind him as starters are the veteran lefty Warren Spahn, Bob Buhl, Chet Nichols, Lew Burdette and a host of other potentials.

Ray Crone, 10-9 with the Braves last season after he was recalled from Toledo; Humberto Robinson, a 14-game winner at Toledo; and two left-handed discards, Gene Bearden and Lou Slater are among them.

## SF Dons Overwhelming Favorites In NCAA Basketball Tournament; Utah Beaten 92-77 in Regional

By UNITED PRESS

San Francisco's brilliance even without All-America K. C. Jones established the defending champion Dons today as overwhelming favorites over the three other survivors in the NCAA basketball tournament—SMU, Iowa, and Temple.

It will be San Francisco vs. SMU and Iowa vs. Temple in the semi-finals at Evanston, Ill., on Thursday night, with the two "hot" streakers, San Francisco and Iowa favored to reach the finals.

And the defending champion Dons must be rated heavier favorites than ever to walk away with the top prize, in view of the way they swept through their first two games in the tourney—72-61 over UCLA and 92-77 over Utah.

The other tourney teams had hoped that the loss of Jones through ineptness as a fourth-year man would make the Dons a much weaker outfit. But soph Gene Brown has stepped capably into Jones' shoes with 41 points in the two games to completely wipe out that hope.

**Russell Sparkles**

And All-America Bill Russell, the Dons' 6-10 center showed that post-season play has dulled

## Jensen Top Point Maker

University of Oregon, Eugene—Bjarne Jensen, the talented Franklin junior who guided the Quakers to their first state championship in 35 years, won both the scoring and the rebounding championships as the 38th annual Class A-1 Oregon basketball tournament closed Saturday night.

Jensen tallied 27 points and grabbed 22 rebounds in his final game to boost his four-game total to 96 points and 91 rebounds. Charlie Warren, the sophomore Eugene center, took second place in both departments with 79 points and 68 rebounds.

Bob Tisdell of Medford took third place in scoring with 75 points and the top five also included Roger Johnson of Marshfield with 73 and Doug Lundstrom of Eugene with 64.

The other three top rebounders were George Ljuealien of Machi with 61, Norm Weis, also of Machi with 59, and Len Paol of Milwaukie with 51.

**TOP SCORERS:**

Jensen, Fran.	39-88	16-42	31	11	96
Warren, Eug.	32-80	15-24	68	16	79
Tisdell, Med.	28-81	10-29	21	14	75
Johnson, Marsh.	23-78	28-32	24	11	73
Lundstrom, Eug.	24-52	16-24	22	10	64
Weis, Mac.	20-58	23-33	59	14	62
Rask, Jeff.	19-55	24-34	27	16	62
Tague, Pend.	21-52	15-22	41	14	54
Ljuealien, Mac.	19-63	15-21	61	8	51
Poole, Mil.	19-39	12-23	51	12	50
G'shbacher, Mil.	14-47	22-23	10	8	50
Thorne, Pend.	17-40	16-30	35	13	50
Doherty, Lin.	21-61	10-16	33	11	50

**NET CHAMPION**

Cannes, France —(U.P.)— Jacques Brichant, Belgian Davis Cupper, won the men's singles final of the Cannes International Tennis tournament Sunday by defeating Antonio Maggi of Italy, 6-2, 6-1, 6-3.

none of his sparkle, either. SMU, on the other hand, had to fight to a one-point win over Texas Tech before drubbing Oklahoma City, 84-63, at Lawrence, Kans., on Saturday night.

And Temple edged Canisius by only 60-58 at Philadelphia on Hal Lear's pair of free throws with two seconds to play. Iowa appeared more formidable in downing Kentucky, 89-77, at Iowa City as Carl Cain tallied 34 points. Each of these teams emerged as the winner of the regional tourney to qualify for Thursday's games.

**By HOWARD APPELEGATE**

Corvallis —(U.P.)— All American Bill Russell led the University of San Francisco to a 92-77 victory over Utah Saturday night for the Don's 53rd straight victory. It advanced the defending national champion to the semi-finals of the NCAA tournament.

A howling crowd of 9,858 fans had visions of an upset for the first 30 minutes of play as Utah, champion of the Skyline conference, battled the heavily favored Dons on even terms.

But Russell's tremendous height and his all-around play pulled San Francisco out of danger late in the game. Russell made three personal fouls in the first half and sat out the final four minutes of the period.

**Jensen Hurts**

Curtis Jensen, a scrappy little guard from Midvale, Utah, was the big thorn in San Francisco's side in the first period. He bucketed 16 points in that period alone, all on field goals. Morris Buckwalter of Utah made a field goal just as the half-time gun sounded and San Francisco led only 44-41 at the midway point.

Utah came out full of fight in the second half and after two minutes and 49 seconds a field goal by big Gary Bergen put Coach Jack Gardner's Redskins in front 49-48.

Sophomore Gene Brown and Mike Farmer hit for the Dons to put them back in front but Jensen sparked a drive that pulled Utah to within one point 56-55, with 13 minutes to play.

**High Water Mark**

That was the high water mark for Utah, however. Farmer, Mike Preseau and Russell connected to put USF ahead 63-55, then Bergen, who had done a fine job on Russell, fouled out. The Utah club sorely missed his 6-foot 8-inch height for the remaining 12 minutes.

Russell scored 27 points, 18 of them in the second half. He thrilled the crowd several times by leaping high above the basket and firing the ball through like a line drive.

Art Bunte was Utah's high point man with 23 counters while Jensen hit for 21.

Brown, the replacement for tournament-ineligible All-American K. C. Jones, scored 18 points for the Dons while Farmer and Preseau hit 14 apiece.

**Russell Outstanding**

Russell was named the tournament's outstanding player. Utah led only once besides its

49-48 margin in the second half. That was in the first half when a field goal by Bunte put the Redskins in front 20-19.

San Francisco appeared to have trouble in the first stages of the game with Utah's pressing defense. Utah also forced San Francisco to play its type of running game. But the Dons had what it takes to pull out to victory, thanks mainly to Russell, who finished the game with four personal fouls.

## MHS Cagers Praised by Their Coach

"I thought they played wholeheartedly and gave all they had," Coach Frank Roelandt of the Medford Black Tornado said yesterday when questioned concerning his aggregation's play in the losing to Franklin of Portland in the Oregon Class A-1 basketball tournament semi-finals.

The mentor had high praise for his squad for its performance not only in the disappointing final game but in the whole tournament. "I feel they did the finest job they possibly could do, the kids worked awfully hard and hustled the whole tournament and I'm downright pleased," Roelandt declared.

**PLAN TO GO BACK**

Medford for the second year had its hopes spoiled in the tournament finale. But the Tornado aims to do like Eugene which last year won the title after losing in the conclusion of the two previous tournaments. "We plan to go back," Roelandt stated, pointing out at the same time that there will be four other clubs in the district with equal ambitions.

The coach pointed to his club's great defense in the first half but brought out that not being able to make shots connect from the field was damaging.

Roelandt did not take anything away from the Franklin team. Like others, he felt they were improved over their December game here.

Medford received the well-wishes of not only Medfordites but supporters from throughout southern Oregon for its finale and Roelandt expressed the appreciation of his team for this backing.

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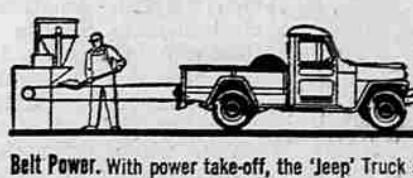


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