

# Medford at Klamath Falls; GP At Crater Tonight; Tornadoes Entertain Comets on Saturday

Medford, Crater and Grants Pass - the remaining three. Who from among them will the conference champion and state tournament entrants be?

That puzzle still is to be solved as the Southern Oregon conference schools take to the maple courts tonight in the final week end of the regular basketball season.

The three high schools, as just above everyone hereabouts knows, are tied for the loop leadership. They have 9-5 records and among the five league schools are the only ones left in the chase for the title and for the two District 6 A-1 berths in the Oregon state tournament which opens on March 19 at Eugene.

Tonight's encounters are Grants Pass at Crater (Central Point) and Medford at Klamath Falls. On Saturday, completing the regular schedule, Crater vies at Medford and Grants Pass at Ashland. Games at Central Point and Medford are billed for 8:15 p.m. and the others for 8 o'clock. The varsity scuffles all follow 8:30 p.m. junior varsity contention.

### Tourney Spot Stressed

While the league championship is a coveted prize, winning it seems almost secondary to garnering a tourney place. And, even the week end games may not settle the issue. Deadlock in the bid for tournament representation looms highly possible - even probable - necessitating a playoff action.

A three-way knot could result should the three contenders split their week end frays.

Crater's Comets feel that the burden mostly is on their shoulders since they meet both their co-league pacers. Coach Gordon Prehm of the Grants Pass Cavemen perhaps reflected Comet and Black Tornado sentiment as well when he said concerning the week end's challenge: "We expect to win two. But, somebody is going to have to lose."

### Hard To Predict

This week end's outcome is a "hard thing to predict," stated Prehm. I don't know as if there has been a situation such as this where three clubs are even and everything hinges on two games. The GP tutor said that the Cavemen are getting ready for Ashland as much as Crater. Both games are just as important, he said. Ashland is a real threat.

Prehm reported that his club has made some offensive changes. Some new patterns are being worked on to try to get increased scoring. He mentioned Cavemen trouble getting the ball in the hoop regularly.

Also, the mentor has worked his charges in effort to avoid collapse such as occurred when Medford pressed in the last part of the Tornado-GP game one week ago. Prehm blamed the collapse on carelessness then panic. He said that quite a bit of time has been spent on the problem and that he feels confident the Cavemen can handle the press by anyone now.

### Possible Starters

Possible GP starters tonight are Jim Pippin, Bob Shepard, Al Hutchins, Lyman Keisecker and Tom Sparlin. How-

ever, Shepard, along with Larry Lindquist, has missed a couple of days practice because of bad colds. Both are expected to be ready for the week end, but Marty Bauer could get the starting call ahead of Shepard.

As for the Crater Comets, who are making their finest show in the maple court in the school's Class A-1 competition history. Coach Lloyd Hoffine had little to add to what has been said already this week. He'll likely open with the regular combine of Howard Tomlinson, P a u l Branson, Lou Alvarez, Mike Glines and Pat Pepper.

The Fireballs, who beat GP on their own court, are ambitious to atone for two bad nights at Grants Pass. But, the view of a state meet berth within their grasp fires them most of all. Crater has never been to a state tourney and has a flood of well-wishers from throughout the conference.

### Keep Wary Eye

It's a big push for the Fireballs and they know it.

The Pelicans are out to get Medford. Such word was brought back to the Rogue valley last week end. "Klamath Falls is really looking for you," was the warning. "Keep a wary eye" out for the Pels.

"We realize Klamath is really waiting," said Medford Coach Frank Roelandt. "It's going to be a rough one I know and it will be the same Saturday (against Crater). It will be one big, long rough week end."

Said the Tornado mentor further, "I think we're as ready as we possibly can be. I just hope it's ready enough. . . . It's just a matter of the ball going through the hoop. . . . We'll be giving that 100 per cent effort."

### Aim To Do Job

The likely Tornado starters are Jim Hill, Rich Benner, Jack Forde, Larry Vowell and Dan Miles.

Klamath may be Fred Kelley, Wayne Chamberlain, Bob Holman, Don Piper and Hal Holman or Lanny Guyer. Grover Dahn, reportedly, has been dropped from the squad. The Ashland Grizzlies will go for victory against Grants Pass as a matter of pride. With only two loop verdicts over the long slate they want to complete their season on a note of triumph.

"We're going to do a job on Grants Pass," said Coach George Kell. The kids are looking pretty good this week. . . . We're going to give it all. Whether it will be enough or not, I don't know." The spectre of flu is hanging over the club.

Possible starters are Mike Cotton, Dale Tepper, Jim Lamb, Rick Pierce and Tod Hess. Howard Johnson has been laid up with a sprained foot and Joe Raynes sprained his ankle this week.

### Past Scores

In past games this season with week end foes Medford downed Klamath Falls 44 to 35 and 49 to 47 at Medford and lost to the Pels 65 to 64 at Klamath Falls; Medford trimmed Crater 67 to 58 at Medford and 61 to 59 at Central Point and lost 68 to 63 to the Comets at Central Point.

Grants Pass has won 56 to

45 and 78 to 48 over Crater at Grants Pass and Crater beat the Cavemen 79 to 67 at Central Point; Grants Pass has won all three from Ashland 87 to 39, 61 to 55 and 51 to 44.

Sophomore games also are set this week end. At Central Point and Medford they will be at the multipurpose room and senior high boys' gym, respectively. Klamath Falls and Ashland game will be at 5 p.m.



Medford player number 23.

## SPORTS



Crater player.

**VIES FOR COMETS**—A veteran competitor for Crater high school's Comets is Mike Glines, above, who is slated for starting duty against Grants Pass at Central Point tonight and against the Tornado at Medford on Saturday.

**TORNADO BATTLER**—Hard scrapping Gibb Mitchell, above, is one of Medford high hoopers likely to see much service this week end. The Black Tornado is at Klamath Falls tonight and entertains Crater here on Saturday evening.

### GP Shares Mat Title

Corvallis - (UP) - Lebanon has to share its Oregon high school Class A-1 wrestling title with Grants Pass, it was announced here.

The schools were named co-champions after a scoring error was discovered by tournament manager John Dustin of Coos Bay.

Lebanon, which was credited with edging defending champion Grants Pass 44-43 for the title in the tournament at Corvallis last week end, lost a point in the corrected scoring.

### Hermiston, Lebanon, South Eugene Picked To Gain Tournament

United Press International - South Eugene, Lebanon and Hermiston are heavily favored to gain berths in the Oregon high school Class A-1 basketball tournament tonight.

South Eugene is at Thurston, Lebanon plays host to Sweet Home and Hermiston is at Milton-Freewater.

Marshall, Franklin, Tigard, Sandy, Molalla, South Salem, North Eugene and Pendleton already have clinched spots in the 16-team tournament at Eugene March 19-23.

Astoria, Milwaukie, Beaverton, Forest Grove, Tillamook, Oregon City, Crater, Grants Pass and Medford battle it out for the five other berths in the tourney.

Coquille, Pleasant Hill and Vale can clinch berths in the Class A-2 tournament with wins tonight.

### Machinery Established For Conference Playoff

Central Point - Machinery was set up in a meeting at Crater High last night to settle state A-1 basketball tournament berths should ties occur for first or second spots in the final standings of the Southern Oregon conference.

This is the final week end of regular league play. Crater, Medford and Grants Pass High schools go into it tied for first and each with two games to play.

Should all teams tie for first, two of them, to be determined by a Sunday drawing, would play on Tuesday on a neutral court with the winner to automatically qualify for one of the league's two tourney spots. The loser then would play the third team on Wednesday for the other position.

IF TWO TIE

If two teams tie for second,

playoff game would be on Tuesday. Should two tie for first, a simple drawing would decide which state tournament each will occupy.

This is the neutral court setup: Should Grants Pass and Crater meet the game would be at Hedrick gym in Medford. Games pitting Grants Pass against Medford or Crater against Medford would be at Ashland High.

Commissioner Golden Noble would assign officials after conferring with coaches and also would name a scorekeeper and timer.

A pre-sale of tickets would be conducted at the schools involved. Charges for admission would be 50 cents for students and \$1.50 for adults. Only radio and newspaper men working the games would be given passes.

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### Stroh Beer Will Roll In Tourney

Buffalo, N.Y. - (UP) - The Stroh's Beer of Detroit, which placed ninth last year and second in 1961, will roll its first three-game block in tonight's American Bowling congress tournament and may pile up enough pins to threaten first place Helin Tackie of Detroit.

Paced by Dave Soutar, who won the 1961 Professional Bowlers Association national tourney and finished fifth in 1962, the team will undoubtedly shoot toward the 6157 compiled by Helin's Feb. 26.

Formed in 1934, the Stroh's won the ABC that year and went on to place second in 1957 and 1958 and third in 1951, 1954, 1956.

Another team, Montclare Pontiac of Chicago will make its classic division debut tonight.

No teams in either division slipped into the top ten standings Thursday. In the minor events, Vince Dinapoli of Rochester, N.Y., missed a 7-pin and settled for a first place tie in the regular division all-events. His 1954 total for nine games matches that of Andy Huboda of Youngstown, Ohio, who moved into first in the all-events three days ago.

### HOCKEY

**WESTERN LEAGUE**  
United Press International

W	L	T	Pts	GF	GA	
San Fran.	37	21	1	15	245	186
Portland	33	29	3	73	239	165
Los Ang.	31	24	3	65	290	186
Spokane	27	27	2	56	181	178

**Northern Division**

W	L	T	Pts	GF	GA	
Vancouver	29	27	3	61	204	192
Seattle	28	29	1	57	193	206
Calgary	23	29	1	41	196	143
Edmonton	19	39	2	40	189	273

**Thursday's Results**  
Los Angeles 3, San Francisco 1

**NATIONAL LEAGUE**

W	L	T	Pts	GF	GA	
Chicago	30	16	15	75	199	138
Toronto	32	21	9	73	201	164
Montreal	26	17	19	71	201	157
Detroit	26	23	13	65	187	171
New York	19	33	11	49	188	212
Boston	14	35	15	43	187	262

Thursday's Results Montreal 8, Boston 0



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