

Chiloquin, Jacksonville Get Tonight's Hoop Favorite Nods

*** Pre-district Cage Counsel ***



PANTHERS' GENE GENTRY, COACH FRANK DIULIO



MUSTANGS' GARY MAUNEY, COACH JIM CONROY

Malin, Paisley Other District Cage Entries

BY RED HURD

Chiloquin, a team that followed the blueprint with the Klamath County championship, and Malin, a surprise entry, go in quest of the Dist. 5-B basketball title and a berth in the state tournament in a playoff that opens tonight on Henley's gym floor.

The other two teams in the cage quarrel are Jacksonville, champion of Jackson County, and Paisley, Lake County's automatic kingpin. It's a new method of determining the Dist. 5 entry in the Class B state tournament, laid out this season by OSAA representatives in Klamath, Jackson and Lake Counties.

The two top teams in the Klamath County tournament were picked as representatives in the single-elimination tourney with all the blue chips riding on the outcome. **OPEN SHOW** Paisley and Jacksonville open the hoop program at 7:30; Malin and Chiloquin mix in the 9 o'clock afterpiece.

Tonight's winners scramble for the pig prize in Saturday night's final while the losers square off in the consolation preliminary.

Saturday night's winner jacks its gear for the tournament in Salem Mar. 12-14 that will pick the best Class B high school team in the state.

Frank Diulio's Chiloquin Panthers and Ed Rooney's Jacksonville Redskins must be co-favored on their records to date. Actually, if Jacksonville and Chiloquin find themselves in Saturday's chip-down battle, it will be the rubber game between the two teams.

The Redskins scalped the Panthers, 62-49, early in the season and the Panthers evened matters with a convincing 71-48 win in the rematch.

19-4 RECORD Jacksonville goes into the play-off with a 19-4 record, while Chiloquin boasts a 20-2 mark, both records including season-ending county tournaments.

Jacksonville's other three losses were to the Southern Oregon Junior varsity twice and Eagle Point. Chiloquin dropped a close decision to Sacred Heart in a non-league game in addition to its loss to the Redskins.

Gene Gentry is Chiloquin's top scorer, while Don Clay leads the Redskins in the point-scoring department.

Malin's admittedly slim chances hang on the scoring prowess of Gary Mauney, while the Paisley Broncos, home Bob Elder finds the range for an upset.

Malin finished with a 20-20 14-7 record but the Mustangs proved they are capable of an upset when they knocked highly-favored Sacred Heart out of contention in the championship semi-finals of the Klamath County tournament.

AUTOMATIC Paisley comes here with a 6-6 record, but its championship in Lake County is an automatic thing, being the only Class B school in that county.

It's been six years since Klamath County has qualified for the Class B state tournament. It was Chiloquin then—in 1947—that entered the Big Show but was eliminated early.

Never has a Klamath County team captured a state Class B title.

Tonight's meeting will be the fourth this season between Chiloquin and Malin. The Panthers won them all, 60-55 in a non-

league game, 64-43 in one that counted, and 45-27 in the tournament final.

Actually, Paisley is an unknown quantity and the Broncos' underdog status stems from past performances in district play against Klamath County teams.

In the past, the Lake County team has thrown its hat in the district ring only when it felt there was some chance of winning.

Coach John Gunther may have a team capable of tossing a surprise into the district shindig but Jacksonville will be highly favored to win.

HIGH Malin Coach Jim Conroy usually has the Mustangs high when all the marbles are down. Tonight could be a hot one in Malin. But the Panthers are odd-on favorites on their three wins over the Mustangs.

Tonight's probable line-ups: **PAISLEY** — Forwards: Dan O'Leary and Joe Bonnarrens, center Bob Elder, guards Don Kemery and Dennis Johnson.

JACKSONVILLE — Forwards: Joe Nolan and Leroy Clay, center Don Greene, guards Don Clay and Dick Seuz.

CHILOQUIN — Forwards: Ron Leggett and Jo Jo George, center Gene Gentry, guards Vernon Joe and Bill Vaden.

MALIN — Forwards: Gary Mauney and Glen Steyskal, center Rod Lyon, guards Stan Miller and Laven Travis.

Mat Tourney Opens Today

The Klamath Pelicans opened their bid for the Oregon high school wrestling title this afternoon at Oregon State College in opening rounds of the two-day state mat tournament.

Pelicans entered by virtue of district qualifying are: State Champion Dean Johnson in the 148-pound class, Ronnie Conner 115, Larry Dearing 123, Joe Quinowski 136, Louis Taucher 141, Elvis Mitchell 168, Don Dexter 190, Jay Dearing 196, Don Biehn 141, and heavyweights Ben Lawver and Jack Hinkelwright.

The Pelicans, bumped off the throne last year by Hillsboro, is seeking their fifth state title. The Klamath wrestlers won the title 1948-51.

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JOE KAHUT ... he'll fight here

Joe Kahut Signs For Tiff Here

Promoter Mack Lillard yesterday signed crowd-pleasing Joe Kahut and fast-rising Chuck Ross to headline the Armory flistic card a week from tonight.

The banging heavyweights will go 10 rounds or less in the top bout on the first professional fight program here for many months.

Ross, fighting out of Tacoma, Wash., is considered a real contender. He's won 24 of 31 fights, a number of them by knockout. Kahut is a dangerous trial horse who, win or lose, never fails to turn in a rousing performance.

Ross will outweigh Kahut, 215 to 185, Lillard said.

The promoter hinted that the winner may get a shot at the victor in the upcoming Kid Mathews-Freddie Beshore Portland fight, possibly here in Klamath Falls in an outdoor show.

Lillard is busy rounding up an attractive supporting card that may include Ralph Weiser, the Heavy Bomber, in the semi-windup.

Reserved tickets for the main show went on sale today at the Dick Reeder clothing store, 5th and Main.

Harper, Haas Lead Open

BATON ROUGE, La. (AP) —

Twenty-two closely bunched par-busting golfers went after first round leaders Chandler Harper and Freddie Haas Jr., Friday as the \$10,000 Baton Rouge Open swung into its second day.

The cream of the nation's linkmen opened action in Louisiana's capital city Thursday and when the firing was over, Harper, a PGA veteran, was knotted at four-under-par 68 with Haas, a seasoned New Orleans pro who once played in these parts as a college boy.

Breathing on their necks was the pre-tourney favorite Blammin' Sammy Snead, the long ball hitter from White Sulphur Springs, W. Va. Snead made a whirlwind finish

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Chiloquin

Klamath Falls

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