

Chiloquin Emerges Stronger With Approach Of District Tournament

By DON MCKINNON
Herald And News
Sports Editor

With the District 5B prep basketball tournament less than one month away, the Chiloquin Panthers are making a strong bid as tournament favorites. The Panthers currently boast a 7-1 conference mark, their only blemish coming at the hands of second-place Merrill Huskies in a close 55-53 decision on Merrill's home court Jan. 29.

Although Chiloquin isn't winning its contests without some difficulty in a hard-fought county league program, Chiloquin has too many horses, and too much horsepower for the majority of county league clubs.

With cagers of the caliber of Oran Miller, Charles Spicer, and Doug Brattain, plus cap-

able backing from Len Wilder and Erwin Miller, and a fair bench, coach Dave Sigado has indirectly issued fair warning upon other county clubs that he has the team to beat.

Of course it goes without saying that Sigado would be the last person to make such a declaration, but his boys are doing it for him.

Merrill, on the other hand, is a potentially dangerous team, with capability of upsetting any top flight team in any league.

Merrill emerged from a dark and dismal pre-season circuit with less than hopeful outlook, and has become the No. 2 team in a tough league.

Coach Jerry Groeneveld is getting the most out of an average bunch of cagers, and must rely upon his equally "average" size boys to do the scoring.

With six-foot Larry Connor, 5-9 Martin Barnes, 5-11 Rocky Liskey, 5-11 Larry Kurtz, six-foot Russ Smith and 5-8 Mike McKen carrying the bulk of his offensive punch, Groeneveld has to get extra effort from

each during their time in action. Merrill will certainly be a team to concentrate upon in the district tournament.

The Bonanza Antlers have proven only one thing so far this season, that being that they are still in contention. Coach Bob Frierich's talent-loaded bench has failed to come up for the big contests this year, dropping two big games to Chiloquin.

The Antlers have plenty of power, but their generators haven't been working in unison. By tournament time, they too should find themselves, and if they do, look out competition!

Of course, on the other hand, the Antlers must come up from their present level of performance, otherwise their chances for a championship are less than good.

Coach Jerry Bennett of Gilchrist is having his moments. His team is capable of big things, but so far he has found them wanting when the stakes are biggest. His recent stage for some interesting

battle at Chiloquin proved his boys have the stuff, but they haven't put all the stuff they have in the same basket.

Gilchrist, like Merrill, should be tough at tournament time, and if they are, this should be one of the first tournaments in years.

Malin is a scrappy team, with talent, but through no fault of their own have found themselves near the bottom of the heap throughout most of this season.

While the Malin show has not been altogether a "one man effort," the name Ruben Aldinger echoes loudly in ears of Malin's competitors during the season. This 5-10 cager has been a consistent factor in Malin's conquests, and will figure prominently in coming events.

And then there is Jack Patzke. Of course we mean the Bly Bobcats, but Patzke and Bly are currently uttered in the same movement of the jaws.

While the Bobcats have failed thus far to win, they have set the stage for some interesting

programs. And Wayne Snoozy, despite his losses is a mighty proud coach.

He has good reason to be with two boys like Jack Patzke and John Ashford in his lineup. He just needs a few more to go with them.

Even so, area sports fans will vouch for the fact that these two fine Bobcat players keep opposing teams working hard. And this pair of aces will make things rough throughout the balance of the season.

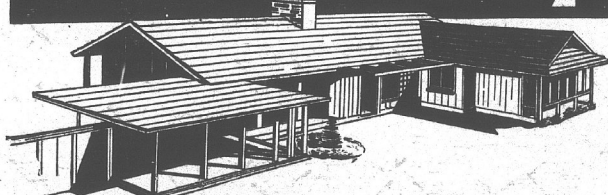
Chiloquin is playing Prospect this weekend, and can expect trouble in the non-conference clash. Malin is at Merrill, and unless Aldinger has other ideas, Merrill will come through for its sixth conference win.

Gilchrist plays a non-conference against Butte Falls, and should come through smiling, but look out at Bonanza.

Snoozy is counting upon one with this season, at least, and he's heading for Bonanza with that in mind. While it shouldn't happen, the Bly Bobcats may shock the county league this weekend with the big upset of the season.

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County League Standings

	W	L
Chiloquin	7	1
Merrill	5	2
Bonanza	4	3
Malin	3	4
Gilchrist	3	5
Bly	0	7

All-Indian Tournament Under Way

The All-Indian Elimination Tournament action opened at Chiloquin this afternoon with the All-Nation Stars clashing with Chiloquin Red Foxes at Chiloquin High School gymnasium.

The tourney opener was followed with Sprague River Indians meeting Shadley's Hunters at 3:30.

Action continues tonight at 7:30 with Winema Sons, an all-league team in the tournament, clashing with Beatty, another all-league team. The night cap for today's action comes at 9 o'clock with Warm Springs Cougars battling the Toppish Papoose live.

The tourney continues through Saturday evening with consolation and championship rounds beginning at 7:30.

The Chiloquin Thunderbirds are currently competing in the Lapwai, Idaho, Indian Tournament, which also ends Saturday night.

Hockey

By United Press International Eastern Division

	W	L	T	Pts	GF	GA
Quebec	35	19	1	71	234	170
Hershey	29	22	4	62	194	174
Baltimore	24	27	4	52	197	192
Springfield	22	29	4	48	182	200
Providence	18	35	2	38	141	204

	W	L	T	Pts	GF	GA
Rochester	36	17	3	75	218	145
Buffalo	29	21	5	63	183	164
Pittsburgh	24	27	4	52	171	196
Cleveland	15	35	5	36	166	219

Wednesday's Results
Hershey 7 Cleveland 4
(Only game scheduled)

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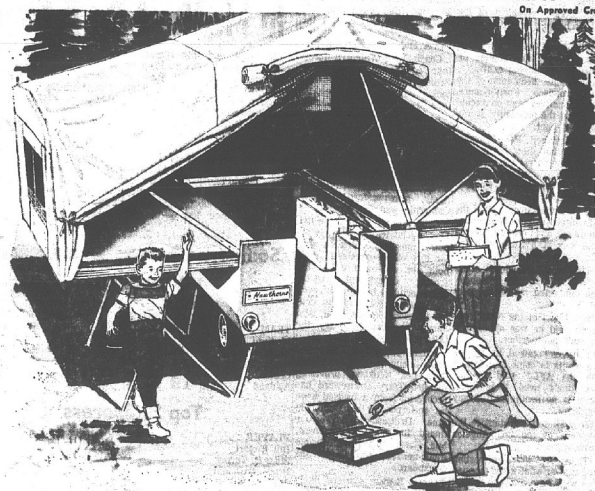
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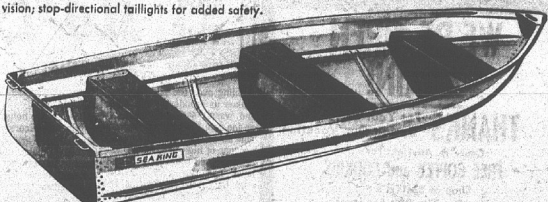


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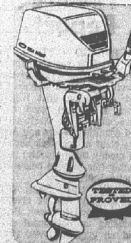
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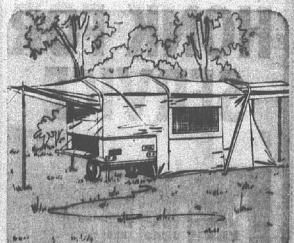
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