

Eagles Squeak By Atkinson 47-43; Hill Paces O'Neill with 24 Points

It was a cold night for the O'Neill high school team Friday night when they played Atkinson high in the O'Neill gym and managed a 47-43 victory over the visitors, the fourth win of the season.

The Eagles couldn't seem to get "hot" in the game, missing lots of easy shots and having difficulty in getting in close to the basket before firing. However, it was a close and exciting game with instances of commendable shooting by both teams.

It was a slow start in the first quarter with Atkinson making the first basket, one of the four times when the visitors had a scant lead during the game. With 30 seconds left in the quarter the score was tied 10-10 and excitement mounted when Rich Hill connected with a free throw and Stan Schmeichel dropped a long shot to make it 13-10 just as the whistle sounded.

At the beginning of the second quarter Herman Grothe hit a quick basket for Atkinson and 6' 7" Johnson collected a free throw to tie the score at 13-13. Hill scored soon after to make it 15-13 but a free throw by Johnson and a basket by Grothe put Atkinson in the lead, 15-16.

A long throw by Schmeichel to Jerry Kilcoin who dropped the ball in brought the lead back to

O'Neill and the fans were on their feet. From then on the score was only 1-3 points apart throughout the remainder of the second quarter with the teams repeatedly tying the score. The first half ended in a tie, 25-25.

The third quarter was a repeat as far as suspense was concerned as O'Neill would manage a two or three point lead only to have Atkinson crawl up to a tie or one-basket difference before O'Neill could gain a 40-35 lead at the end of the quarter.

Atkinson whittled that lead to 40-39 soon after the final quarter started but only connected with two more baskets in the rest of the game. Two free throws by Jerry Kilcoin and one by Schmeichel, combined with two baskets by tall boy Hill, brought the game to an end with O'Neill ahead 47-43.

Spectator-wise the fans couldn't ask for a better game, as the scores indicate the excitement which held from the end of the first quarter. It was a clean game with only nine fouls by the Eagles and 13 by the visitors.

Hill was top man in scoring for the local lads with 24 points, followed by Kilcoin's 13 and Schmeichel's 6.

Atkinson was led by Kenny Clauson who had 12 points, and Johnson and Grothe were next

with 9 and 8 points, respectively. The reserves successfully defended their record also with a 32-31 victory.

O'Neill Boys Outscored in Wrestling

The O'Neill wrestling team was soundly outscored by an experienced Neligh team in its first meet, 33-5, Tuesday evening at Neligh.

The O'Neill mat men were too overeager and inexperienced and the first five matches on the varsity were beaten by pins.

Steve Peterson, 165 lb entry, saved the Eagles from being shut out as he pinned his opponent in 1:17 of the 3rd period. Mike Hand, 145 lbs, forced his match to go the distance and was decided 6-2.

The Neligh team will be at O'Neill Thursday, January 4, at 7:30 p.m. for the first high school wrestling meet at O'Neill.

The O'Neill boys are anxious now to try and improve for a possible trip to Cozad for the State meet February 16-17.

Results of the first meet at Neligh:

Devall (O); Peterson (O) pinned Drago (N).

RESERVES

Hixon (N) pinned Richter (O); Schweger (N) pinned Young (O); Denny (N) pinned Franklin (O); Shires (N) pinned Dobrovolsky (O); Masser (N) pinned Knoell (O); Rittscher (N) pinned Lindquist (O).

St. Joe Team Downs Cards 63-53 Friday

The Bluejays of St. Joseph's high school, Atkinson, in custom with the other Cardinal foes overcame the Academy team in the second half and went on to a 63-53 victory last Friday night at Atkinson.

St. Mary's jumped into an early lead with Mudloff and Oetter furnishing first quarter points. McKay and Judge then swung into action and dropped in 8 quick points before the end of the first quarter. It was 15-15 at the end of the first period.

The lead changed back and forth several times in the second quarter before Larry Judge, helped along this time by Dick Schauf, again put the Bluejays in front at the half 33-31. Twelve of SMA's 16 points in that quarter came from Donohoe and Spitzberger, 6 points each.

St. Mary's without the aid of a "big man" was hurt on rebounds, but was hindered almost as much by the four fouls of Don-

ohoe, three by Spitzberger, and three by Mudloff, all in the first half.

McKay opened the second half with a book shot good for two points and set the pattern, as McKay and Judge, who had 19 and 23 points, respectively, scored all but 4 of St. Joseph's second half points.

Jim Spitzberger, who hit 3 straight baskets for the Cards, gave the Academy quintet their last tie at 37-37 with 5 minutes of the third period remaining, but from then on the hot-shooting home team steadily pulled away for a 48-42 lead at the end of the third quarter.

With a 6 point lead St. Joe outshot the SMA scrappers 15-11 in the last quarter, although the Academy kids never threw in the towel.

Spitzberger, who led the Cardinal team with 19 points, dumped in 5 points here as did Jerry Oetter, who had 13 for the visitors but it wasn't good enough. Judge and McKay, who had 12 of the 15 St. Joe points in the last quarter, provided the final 10 point margin.

Donohoe dropped in 9, while Mudloff scored 11 to pace other St. Mary's scorers. Dick Schauf aided the home team with 10 points.

RESERVES

The St. Mary's second team continued on the unbeaten trail as they posted a 32-23 victory over the St. Joe second team.

Mike Hammond layed up 12 points for Tomjack dropped in 10 points for 22 of 32 SMA points. Bennett and Mellor had 8 and 7 points to top St. Joe scorers.

Spencer Has Four Straight Game Victories

SPENCER — The Spencer "five" maintained its winning record of four straight victories by defeating Burke, S. D., Saturday evening at Burke, 66-42.

Leonard Kopecky was high man for Spencer with 36 points followed by Ronnie Kopecky with 16 and Bob Haun with 6.

Leonard and Ronnie Kopecky had 27 and 24 points, respectively, when Spencer defeated St. Joseph of Atkinson December 12 72-49. Larry Judge was high man for St. Joe with 23 points.

Spencer's next game will be with Verdigris Friday.

Stuart Wins Over Springview Friday

STUART WINS — Carl Clements contributed 17 points to Stuart's 55-29 win over Springview Friday night.

George Bigelow, Larry Wedge and Jerry Steinhauser were very good on rebounds, and Mel Schmaderer and G. L. Medcalf displayed fine defensive play.

Tomlinson Letters

Larry Tomlinson, student at the University of Nebraska in Lincoln, was one of 30 to receive letters in football this past season. He is the son of Mrs. Mary Tomlinson, O'Neill.

COUNTY COURT

Dec. 18 — Roland Closson, O'Neill, night speeding, fined \$10 and costs, officer E. M. Hastreiter.

Dec. 18 — Roger Pofahl, Ewing, night speeding, fined \$10 and costs, officer R. R. Shorney.

Dec. 19 — Raymond Springer, Oakdale, night speeding, fined \$15 and costs, officer E. M. Hastreiter.

Sets Scoring Record

CLEARWATER — Tom Wrenholt, senior, achieved a school and state scoring record by scoring 39 points in the Clearwater-Royal basketball game at Clearwater Tuesday, Dec. 12.

The local boys swamped Royal with a 68-4 score. Tom Patras, 1960 graduate, held the school record previously. The state record was held by Gary Basted, Elgin, who made 33 points in a game December 1.

Christmas Party Held
Employees, wives and husbands met at the Town House Saturday evening for the annual Christmas dinner of the local Northwestern Bell Telephone company office.



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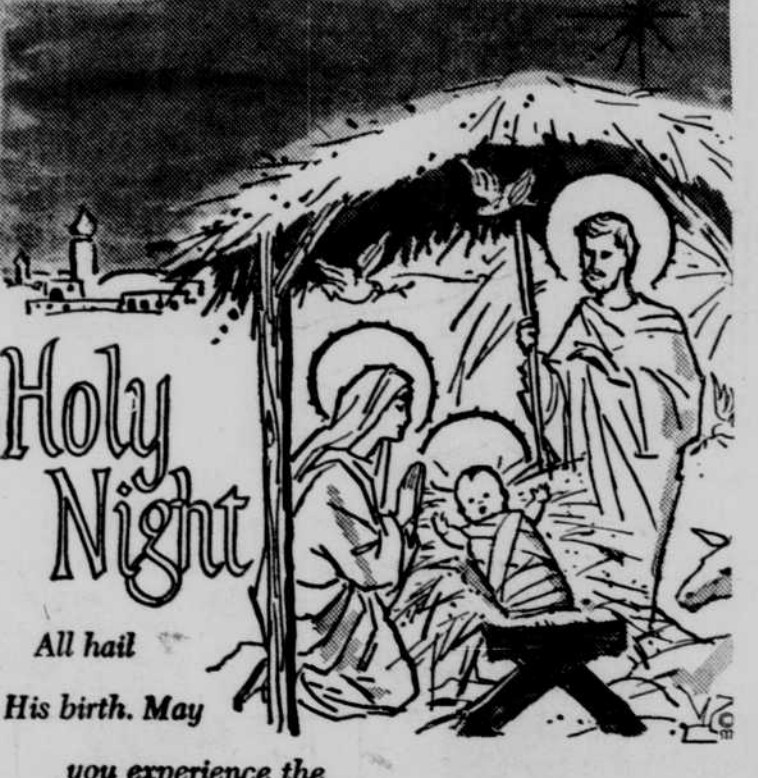


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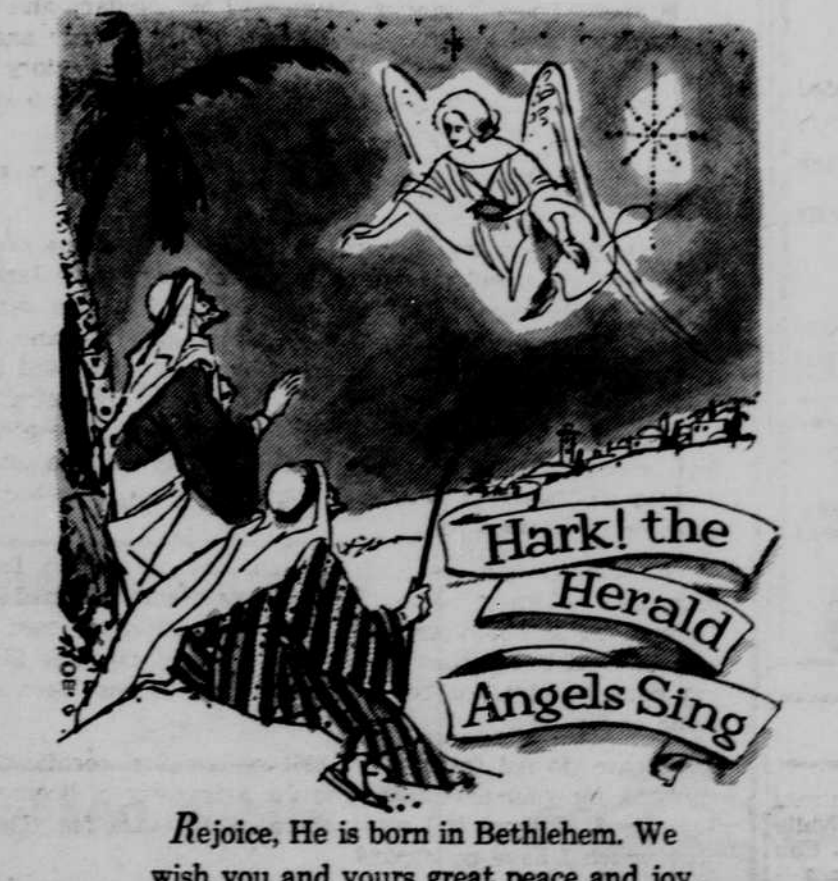
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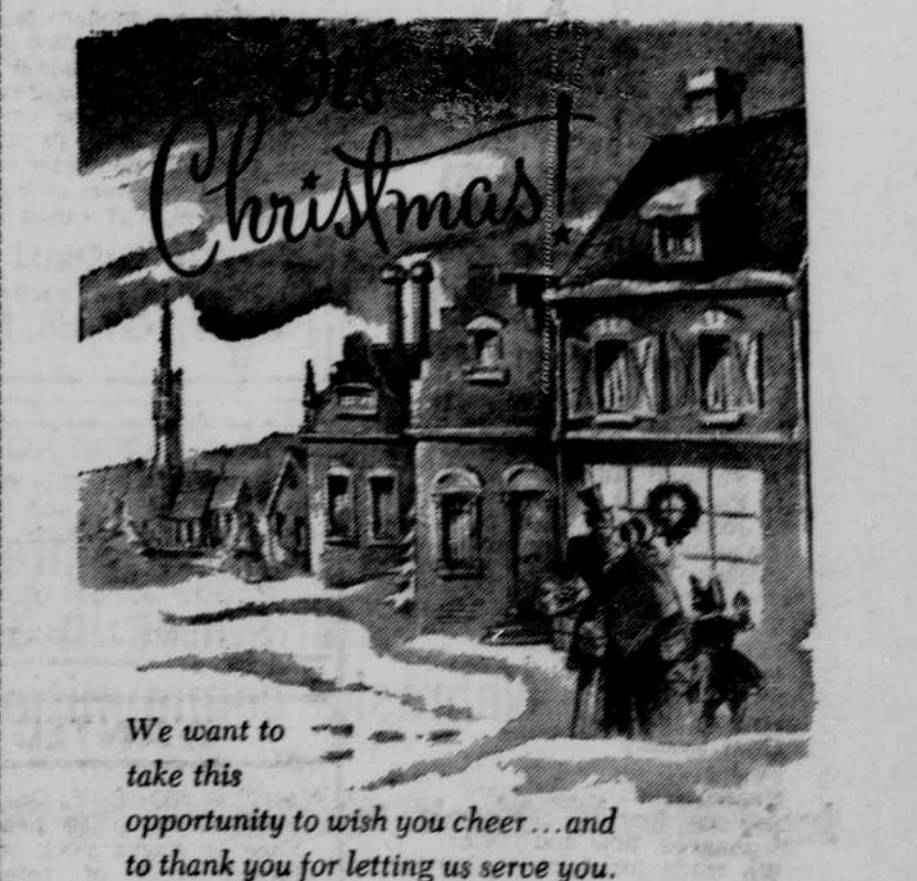


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