

# The Plattsmouth Journal

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NO. 21

## Basketball Team To Make Trip To State Tourney

Benefit Game Wednesday Night Results in Win Over All Stars by Score of 44-35.

Speed and teamwork of the local Blue Devils proved too much for the All Stars last night in the benefit game before a crowd that was pleased in every respect with the game and the result.

Coach "Spec" Nelson of Midland College and North high, proved to be a "dead eye dick" from out court and led all scorers with seventeen points. Joe Gradoville led the Blue Devils with fourteen points.

Lt. Wayne Galyer, Joe York, Coach Nelson and Coach Stewart used some high school boys on their All Star team but could not muster the speed to handle the kids who hit fact and often in the last half after trailing 18-16 at the half.

Les Thimgan served as referee and drew a round of applause from the fans and players for a good job. The fifth period girls won over the sixth period girls in a roaring preliminary.

The box score:

BLUE DEVILS				
	FG	FT	PF	TP
Cole	4	1-2	1	9
Gradoville	7	0-1	0	14
Reckard	4	1-1	1	9
Attebury	2	0-0	2	4
Eaton	1	0-0	0	2
Livingston	2	1-4	5	5
Wolver	0	1-0	0	1
	20	4-9	9	44
ALL STARS				
	FG	FT	PF	TP
Cullen	0	0-0	2	0
Nelson	8	1-3	1	16
Sack	0	0-2	0	0
Edwards	0	0-0	0	0
Stewart	3	0-0	2	6
Galyer	2	3-6	2	7
Niel	0	0-0	0	0
York	1	1-1	0	3
Thimgan	1	0-1	2	2
	15	5-12	8	35

## Chamber of Commerce Meeting Thursday

The Chamber of Commerce of the city will hold their regular luncheon and meeting on Thursday noon at the Hotel Plattsmouth. All members are urged to attend.

### —Weather Forecast—

High—55  
Low—54  
Nebraska forecast:—Partly cloudy today. Warmer except in extreme south east and extreme west; partly cloudy and cooler tonight; low to night 25 west, 35 east; Friday partly cloudy with little change in temperature.

## Former Teacher Visits Friends

Irving F. Wiltse, a member of one of the leading families of southeastern Nebraska, who has just recently been discharged from the navy where he held the rank of lieutenant commander, was in the city Wednesday.

Mr. Wiltse was a teacher in the local high school some twenty years ago and one of the popular members of the faculty in the years he made his home in Plattsmouth.

After quitting the school teaching profession he was engaged in Boy Scout executive work in the west for some time and for sixteen years was engaged in work for Scouting in Porto Rico.

While here he has the pleasure of visiting with many of the old friends and associates and in meeting many of the former students.

## Bombers Make Raids On Plants In Ruhr Valley

Plants of the Germans Receive Another Blast and Air Attacks From Italy Reported

LONDON, Mar. 14. —(U.P.)— Hundreds of RAF bombers made another heavy attack on Germany's battered Ruhr valley last night, raiding two benzol plants near Gelsenkirchen and Herne.

German broadcasts said bombers were approaching southern Germany from Italy in daylight today.

RAF mosquitoes dumped blockbusters on Berlin and Frankfurt-on-Main during the night. Night fighters supported the British bombers.

Two bombers were lost in RAF raids yesterday and last night the ministry reported.

## Mrs. Philip Hirz Undergoes Operation

Mrs. Philip Hirz was operated on Wednesday at the St. Catherine's hospital at Omaha. The latest reports from the hospital were that the patient was doing very well.

The operation was quite serious and her many friends will be glad to know she is getting along so well.

## Will Visit Relatives at Iowa City, Iowa

Thursday morning Edward Rebal of Montebello, California, departed for Iowa City, Iowa, where he will visit with his brother, George E. Rebal and family.

Mr. Rebal is expecting to return to this city after the visit in Iowa to enjoy a longer stay with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. James Rebal and his many old friends.

## Manila Destroyed On Orders From Tokyo Officials

Captured Documents Tell of the Orders to Wipe Out the City Received From Tokyo

SAN FRANCISCO, Mar. 15. —(U.P.)— The city of Manila was destroyed and her people slaughtered on direct orders from Tokyo, it was revealed here today by Brig. Gen. Carlos Romulo, Philippines resident commissioner, he said he would indict the Japanese on the floor of congress.

Describing the rape of Nanking as "a picnic compared to Manila," Romulo said he would present congress with captured documents, sworn affidavits and documentary films to substantiate his story of the "systematic, deliberate, wanton destruction" wrought by Japanese imperial marines "on direct orders from Tokyo."

Romulo was re-united March 2 in the Philippines with his wife and four young sons who had been with guerrillas since their separation three years and three months ago. He said he was leaving for Washington today and would present his evidence to congress as soon as possible.

"Manila is gone," he said, "it is only a shell. Thousands of her people were deliberately massacred by the Japanese."

"Nanking was the primeval instinct of the Japanese asserting itself. Manila was studied, systematic."

"In the walled city of Intramuros (in Manila) they herded 1700 male civilians into Fort Santiago. Then they doused the fort with kerosene and burned it."

Only three of 1700 escaped. They were shot at.

"A Spaniard who broke his back getting away but swam the Pasig river gave us the story."

"As women and children streamed through a breach made in the wall of Intramuros by U. S. artillery the Japanese mowed them down with machine guns. Thousands of them."

"This was all on direct orders from Tokyo. We have captured documents to prove it."

"These documents said to kill as many Filipinos as possible."

"The Japanese were irate because they didn't get the support of the Filipino people and they wanted to make an example of them for the rest of East Asia."

"It is hard for the American people to understand the kind of enemy we have. The American always wants to fight with gloves on."

Michigan drillers struck oil in 246 wells during 1944. A total of 710 wells were driven including 400 which proved to be dry holes and 64 produced gas.

# Yanks Storm Rhine and Saar Defenses on 200 Mile Front; Reds Pour Men, Arms Across Oder River 30 Miles From Berlin

LONDON, Mar. 15. —(U.P.)— The German radio indicated today that the red army had a bridge across the Oder 33 miles due east of Berlin, and men and arms were pouring over it in "massive soviet attack waves."

The nazis broadcast a Transocean News Agency dispatch which said German artillery scored eight direct hits on a bridge near Lebus, Oder river town 10 miles south of captured Kuestrin.

Whether the bridge was a pontoon span or a permanent structure was not disclosed. That it withstood at least seven direct hits suggested the possibility of its being some solid structure which the Russians might have seized in a coup similar to the American capture of the Remagen bridge over the Rhine.

Transocean said the concentrated bombardment dispersed Russian concentrations preparing for action in the centers of gravity of the soviet offensive at Kietz, Klessin and Podelzig, respectively three miles southwest of Kuestrin, eight miles south of Kuestrin and nine north of Frankfurt.

Between Frankfurt and Kuestrin the nazis said, the Russians were attacking repeatedly in assault waves.

Thus Marshal Gregory K. Zhukov appeared to have fused his bridgeheads west of the Oder for the big push against Berlin.

Other Berlin broadcasts admitted that Russians scored deep penetrations in the defenses of Danzig, Gdynia and Koenigsberg.

Moscow said Marshal Konstantin K. Rokossovsky's second White Russian army was storming the suburbs of Danzig and Gdynia. A nazi military spokesman conceded that the Russians had plunged wedges deep into the defense area before the two cities but claimed that they had not yet reached Gdynia proper. A mass onslaught by seven soviet armies broke into the German defense front near Koenigsberg, a Berlin broadcast said.

(FCC monitors said German broadcasts placed the soviets within 25 miles of Berlin. A German Transocean dispatch said the German commander of the Berlin defense zone had ordered "resistance to the last" and was training Berliners in the use of machineguns for the capi-

tal's "biggest hour."

Pravda's front correspondent said Russian forces streaming down the road from Kuestrin to Berlin were cheered by the sight of allied war planes bombing the nazi capital.

The dispatch said the Germans had flooded a vast area west of Kuestrin in a vain attempt to stem the soviet onslaught. Spring thaws forced the Oder and its tributaries over their banks and nazi troops increasing the inundations by opening the sluice gates of numerous canals.

Masses of soviet infantry and artillery were reported streaming across German Pomerania toward the Oder in endless columns. All vehicles were emblazoned with "To Berlin" and "To Stettin."

"Never have the snow-covered fields and forests of Pomerania seen such quantities of machines, tanks and guns, such a great, determined, well-organized army moving an avalanche of troops," Pravda said.

Ernest von Hammer, German DNB commentator, said the Russians had launched a new offensive on both sides of Zinten on the perimeter of the German pocket southwest of Koenigsberg in East Prussia.

He added the customary claim that the offensive had "failed in German barrage fire."

Berlin reports also conceded that the Russians enlarged their bridgeheads across the Oder at Lebus and Goeritz, 33 and 37 miles respectively east of Berlin, in attacks in regimental strength yesterday. One soviet battle group seized high ground north of Frankfurt, but was driven off, the nazi account said.

## Coach and Blue Devils to Tourney

Thursday morning Coach Merle Stewart and his crew of basketball players that have represented the local school on the court this year, departed for Lincoln to enjoy the opening games of the state tournament.

The boys have not enjoyed the pleasures of a state meet and are anticipating a fine time and seeing some real games.

The boys making the trip were Sterling Cole, Dick Livingston, Charles Wolover, Charles Eaton, Dale Reckard, Joe Gradoville, Terry Cullen, John Kimball, Larry Thimgan, Leslie Neil, Bill Edwards and Dwight Attebury.

The boys are very appreciative of the fine demonstration of loyalty on the part of the local people that enabled them to attend.

## Monsignor Arius To Nebraska City

Rt. Rev. Monsignor George Agius, pastor of the St. John's church in this city departed Thursday for Nebraska City where he will attend the observance of the Forty Hours devotion at the chapel of the St. Mary's hospital.

Monsignor Agius is the dean of the Plattsmouth deanery and will join with the other priests in the devotions. He also expects to visit with Rt. Rev. Monsignor M.A. Mosler, former pastor of the Holy Rosary church in this city, who is a patient at the hospital.

## TODAY IN GERMANY

By United Press  
German sources said 135,000 Russians were massed on the west side of the Oder river for a drive on Berlin.

Berlin was bombed for the 22nd consecutive night.

A German Transocean dispatch said Lt. Gen. Bruno von Hauenschild was training Berliners in the use of machine guns to defend the city from the bomb craters and blasted buildings.

## Cass County To Benefit From Legislation

Measure Passed by the State Legislature Will Give Cass County Better Rating

LINCOLN, Neb., March 15. (U.P.)— Legislation to permit Cass and Holt counties to pay county officers a higher salary was enacted by the state legislature today.

The senate passed, 38-0, the bill by Sen. Tom Dooley, Papillion, establishing the population of Class 4 counties at 13,000-16,500, and of Class 4A counties at 16,500-20,000. The change from the former 15,000-20,000 classification will become effective 90 days after the legislature adjourns.

Three other bills were enacted. They will:

Provide the manner of proving wills when subscribing witnesses are unavailable by reason of service in the armed forces or being deceased or mentally or physically incapable of testifying. (Crossland) Vote: 37-0.

Repeal obsolete sections of law relating to letting of contract for purchases of supplies by departments of state government. (Crossland) Vote: 36-0.

Increase the salary of the state penitentiary warden from \$2,500 to \$3,000, and provide that such increase shall expire March 1, 1947. (Hanna) Vote: 29-0.

## Casualties Of U. S. In War Reach 839,589

This Represents the Total of all Branches Since the War's Start at Pearl Harbor

WASHINGTON, Mar. 15. (U.P.)— Army combat losses fell off sharply on the western front during February's intensive preparations for the climactic battles now going on.

Secretary of War Henry L. Stimson revealed today that ground force casualties on the western front during February were 34,468. This was less than half of those of December and 27,494 fewer than January's. February's western front total included 4,145 Americans killed, 26,436 wounded, and 3,887 missing.

The weekly compilation of casualties in all services in all areas meantime reached 839,589—an increase of 15,957 in a week. Stimson's figures indicated that the Germans were taking much greater punishment than the Americans. Since February 23 he told his news conference, the western front allies have captured about 140,000 German soldiers.

The secretary disclosed also that the enemy in the Philippines are suffering losses about five times greater than the Americans. U. S. army losses on Leyte and Luzon now total 31,221, including 6,889 killed, 354 missing and 23,978 wounded, he said.

Japanese losses, however, include 150,270 counted dead.

Total U. S. ground force casualties on the western front since D-day on June 6th, Stimson said are 425,007, including 70,414 killed, 397,547 wounded and 57,046 missing.

Total army combat casualties in all theatres since Pearl Harbor as compiled through March 7th are 748,457.

Added to 91,132 navy, marine corps and coast guard casualties announced by the navy, this brings total U. S. combat casualties since the wars start to 839,589. The overall total represents an increase of 15,957 over a week ago.

PARIS, March 15. —(U.P.)— Fifth American armies were reported storming the Rhine and Saar defenses of Germany today in a coordinated offensive along a 200 mile front from Duisburg to Karlsruhe corner of Alsace.

A flood of German reports and allied front dispatches indicated that a general offensive to crush the nazi armies in the west was in full swing along the entire southern half of the western front.

Officially it was disclosed that the U. S. 3rd and 7th armies were driving with armored and infantry divisions into the northern and southern corners of the Saar basin.

To the north, the U. S. 1st army struck eastward from its Ruhr bridgehead in a power drive that may already have cut the Rhine Ruhr Berlin super highway and split the German front east of the Rhine.

Berlin said the newly formed U. S. 15th army had joined in the battle in the bridgehead east of the Rhine and that perhaps 180,000 American troops were moving eastward in an all out try for a breakthrough into the Ruhr industrial section.

The nazis also reported that the American 9th army had gone over to the offensive from its spring boards on the west bank of the Rhine opposite the Ruhr.

The German Transocean News Agency said shock troops of the 9th army attempted to force a crossing of the Rhine opposite Duisburg but were "smashed" on the left bank.

There was no allied confirmation of the reported appearance of the 15th army on the Rhine bridgehead north of the army's assault on Duisburg.

The Germans gave no immediate indication as to the size of the attacking force in the Duisburg area, but the reference suggested that the thrust was made in considerable strength.

Far to the south, the Germans appeared to be getting ready to abandon their arsenal cities in the industrial Saar basin to escape envelopment between the 7th army attacking along the southern rim of the Saar and the 3rd army sweeping down from the north and northwest into the rear of the Siegfried fortifications.

Seventh army headquarters announced that the Americans on that front went over to the attack at 1 A. M. today along a 50-mile battle line from Saarbrucken eastward to the Rhine.

American war planes pounded the Siegfried defenses with bombs and gunfire in the path of the charging ground troops blasting open a row upon row of concrete-tank barriers.

U. P. war correspondent Robert Richards reported signs of a general German withdrawal across the Rhine in that one time nazi arsenal which would give the allies virtually control of the Rhine west bank from the Swiss border to the North Sea.

## Start Your Shopping In Your Own Home!

It's the easiest thing in the world to start your week-end shopping right at home when you press Plattsmouth stores through Journal ads.

This issue is filled with offerings of the leading Plattsmouth stores who invite your business—invite you to shop where you are always welcome and always assured of friendly, courteous service.

So, if you want your budget, time and ration points to work to the limit for you read every ad in today's Journal. The food ads will give particular aid to housewives in making ration points stretch to the limit, as well as save time and money.

## Proposed Memorial To Youths Serving In Armed Forces

The proposed sketch of the new Holy Rosary Church and parish house was drawn by Leo A. Daly, architect of Omaha. The goal for 1945 is to raise at least one-fourth of the proposed cost for the parish project. After this war is over, the new church will be erected as a peace memorial in the Plattsmouth community. It will be built to honor the boys of Plattsmouth who performed heroic service for the sake of

humanity in the Second World War and in esteem of the splendid work accomplished by the pioneers of Holy Rosary parish.

In a letter to his parishioners, Father Edward C. Tucek stated, "What greater testimonial of our everlasting love and gratitude can we give our boys now in the service, than by inscribing their names on an edifice dedicated to the service of God in their memory?"

The present parish property of Holy Rosary will be converted into a recreation center, so urgently needed by the youth of Plattsmouth. This center would not only give the returning war heroes the relaxation which they will need and to which they most certainly are entitled, but it will also give their children and the children of Plattsmouth a place for wholesome recreation. The ground floor of the present structure would be used for dancing, basketball, indoor tennis, volley ball, etc., and the basement could be used for table games, luncheons, etc.

