

State High School Basketball Tourney Starts At Coliseum

B, C Schools Play

By GARY FRANSEN
Sports Editor

"Can Boys Town do it again?" That seems to be one of the more popular questions as the 44th annual Nebraska State High School Basketball Tournament gets underway at the Coliseum today.

A partial answer to that question will probably be available late Thursday night after their rugged opening round engagement with a powerful Lincoln High aggregation. In a regular-season meeting the Cowboys slapped the Links 50-39, but past performances usually don't mean too much at tournament time.

If Coach Skip Palrang's defending Class A champs should happen to bump the Links, the general consensus is that they'll be mighty tough to beat from there on out.

Jim Cook, who has been Mr. Everything in most of the Boys Town games this year, is the only returning regular from last season's championship team. So goes Cook, so goes Boys Town could be one pattern of logic to follow in evaluating the Cowboys' chances.

THE BEST bets to end Boys Town's one-year reign as Class A ruler appear to be the Links, Hastings and Omaha Benson, with Fremont rated as a darkhorse.

Towering Al Graves, a 6-8 center, and Guard Bob Lee are the mainstays of Lincoln's Red and Black. Hastings, playing in the lower bracket with Boys Town and Lincoln, will have a definite height advantage over every team in the field.

Cal Johnson, a smooth, high-scoring pivot, is the Tigers' top boy and if he gets some solid help from his mates Coach Earl Applebee's lads could go all the way.

Benson seems the logical favorite on the basis of their seasonal record, but last year a highly-publicized Bunnie crew lost in the opening round. Again they have the experienced hands and if they can whip the tourney jinx, well then who knows—maybe the Omahans will pick up their first state championship, something Hastings is seeking as well.

It happened in 1951 and it could happen again, to Fremont, that is. The Tigers entered the big affair two seasons ago with little more than a chance and everyone knows the rest. This year the situation is somewhat the same. The pesky Black and Gold could come through.

LINCOLN TEACHERS, Seward, Minden, Tecumseh and Loup City on paper look like the strongest in the Class B battle, but again don't bet on it. Mitchell has played a rugged western schedule and could ride undefeated Loup City right out of the tourney in this afternoon's feature.

Another certainty is that either Seward or Minden will be all done after the first round. The two clubs meet in tonight's big game which should be one of the best of the tournament's opening round games.

Teachers will be rough mainly because of a big boy like Jim Thom and the Coliseum floor, the club's home grounds during the regular season. Seward and Minden both have fine performers in Ray Sloup and Kendall Peterson, Loup City is undefeated and Tecumseh has a well-balanced attack although lacking height.

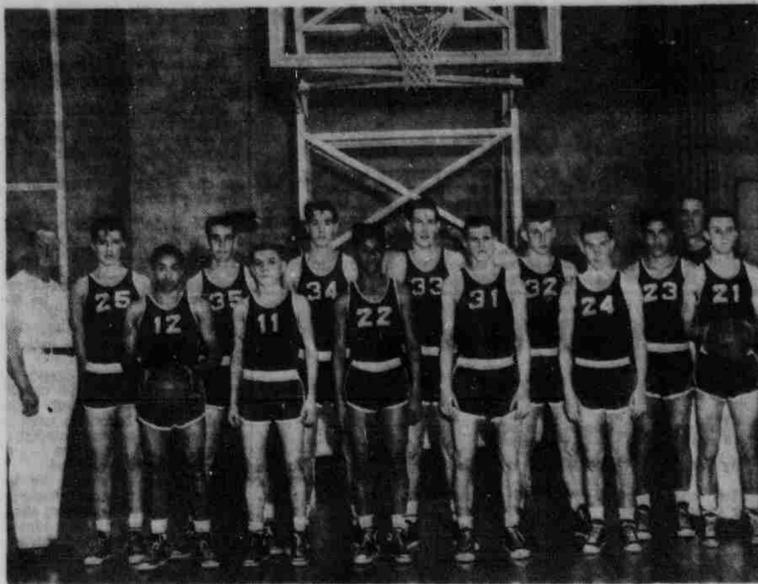
The Class C scramble for honors could easily be the tournament's best. There are four excellent teams in Franklin, Syracuse, Geneva and Chadron Prep.

Franklin is undefeated, having averaged a sizzling, hard-to-believe average of 79.8 points per game, and Coach Jerry Koch has two fine performers in Al Stout and Russ Peterson. Syracuse has Lyle Nannan, enough said.

Coach John Haberman's Geneva Wildcats have played an exceptionally rugged schedule, meeting mostly Class B schools while Chadron Prep again has another fine club, having bowed only to Crawford.

ONE CLUB is undefeated and no team has lost more than four games in a well-balanced Class C field. Edison has a spotless 24-0 mark while Potter has lost four games. Millard, with Gary Reimers usually going wild, has a 70.3 scoring average while tall Western has averaged 70.5.

We probably should have stopped right here, but like every scribe, we love to try and pick the winners. Without any more hesitation Benson, Seward, Franklin and Palmyra are our choices to win it all. Enough said, right?



Courtesy Lincoln Star

Defending A Champs

Boys Town, the defending Class A basketball champions will meet rugged Lincoln High in a first round game in the State High School Basketball Tournament Thursday evening. Coach Skip Palrang's team is shown above. Left to right (front row): Robert Hicks, Robert Maddux, Robert Wright, Al Sybil, Robert Ford and William Grill. Back row (left to

right): F. J. Mahoney, assistant coach; Dale Gearhart, Thomas Render, Glen McKinnon, Edward Render, James Cook, Richard Badillo and Coach Palrang.

Frandsen's Form Chart

(Opening Round)

Class A

Northeast to trip Alliance Benson to squeeze past Fremont Hastings to outscore Scottsbluff Boys Town to edge Lincoln

Class B

Tecumseh to outshoot Gordon Mitchell to surprise Loup City Teachers to whallop Wayne Seward to slip by Minden

Class C

Syracuse to stop Hartington Chadron Prep to conquer Newman Grove Geneva to best Wood River Franklin to race by St. Patricks

Class D

Palmyra to topple Ruskin Western to club Brady Millard to smash Belgrade Edison to get by Potter

Husker Swimmers In Action Friday

Coach Hollie Lepley's Nebraska swimmers will be at Ames, Iowa, Friday and Saturday for the annual Big Seven swimming championships. The preliminaries will be on Friday with the finals slated for Saturday. Oklahoma is the pre-meet favorite.

On the same dates Coach Al Partin's Husker wrestling squad will be at Manhattan, Kansas, for the conference wrestling championships. Iowa State is the favorite in the big grappling event with Oklahoma considered a serious threat.

Three Gridiron Hopefuls Promoted As Husker Spring Drills Progress

Three Husker grid candidates were promoted by Coach Bill Glassford as the spring football drill moved into its second week. Moved up were Fullback Jim Yeisley, a two-year letterman; Sophomore Don Comstock, a halfback; and Mark Lonecar, a center candidate and transfer from Denver University.

Yeisley was moved up to the second team fullback slot while Comstock was lifted to a second team berth at left halfback. Lonecar was working at the center position on the number three outfit.

Main Feature Clock

(Schedules Furnished by Theaters)

Lincoln: "The Glenn Miller Story," 1:00, 3:05, 5:10, 7:15, 9:30.

Stuart: "No Movie Today," "Lincoln Symphony," 8:30.

Nebraska: "Half a Hero," 3:17, 6:36, 9:55. "Escape From Fort Bravo," 1:28, 4:47, 8:06.

Varsity: "Beat The Devil," 1:42, 3:41, 5:40, 7:39, 9:38.

State: "Island Rescue," 1:05, 3:54, 6:43, 9:32. "Adam and Evelyn," 2:44, 5:33, 8:22.

Joy: "Go, Man, Go," 7:08, 10:18. "War of the World," 8:45.

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Phi Delts, Co-op, Sig Eps, ATO's Win I-M Games

Giles, Falloon Lead Phi Delts; Walsh, Longacre Among Stars

By FRANK SORENSON
Sports Staff Writer

Top-ranked Phi Delta Theta moved one step closer in their bid for Fraternity A honors by pulling away from Theta Chi in the last two minutes to win 49-43 Monday night.

The Theta Chi five led for the last time early in the first quarter 7-5, but several times pulled up to within a point of two of the powerful Phi Delts. Leading 10-9 at the end of the first quarter, the Phi Delts jumped to a 19-9 lead, their biggest of the night, early in the second stanza and led at halftime 22-17.

Sparked by Fred Longacre, Theta Chi outscored the winners 16-13 in the third quarter to close in 35-33 at the end of the third period, but couldn't overtake Bill Giles, Frank Falloon and their Phi Delt mates.

Longacre and Giles tied for scoring honors with 18 apiece while Falloon aided the winners with 17.

IN THE big independent game an underdog Nebraska Co-op team stopped the league-leading Ag Jokers 37-33. It was the Jokers' first loss in 14 games. Neither team enjoyed more than a four-point lead in the ragged contest.

The Co-ops lead 14-10 at the first quarter and enjoyed a slim 21-18 lead at halftime. The Jokers led briefly 24-23 early in the third quarter, but the winners rallied to lead 28-24 at the end of three periods.

Dave Beadle led the winners with 11 points while Bob Dostal added 10 to the cause. The loser's Larry Riddle was the game's top scorer with 15 points.

In two other important Fraternity A games Sigma Phi Epsilon walloped Theta Xi 53-31 and Alpha Tau Omega defeated Farm House 39-28. Both teams picked up comfortable 13-point margins in the first half and coasted to a win.

Jim Walsh led the Sig Ep scoring with 18 points while Theta Xi's Bill Soelburg contributed 16. Center Bob Brown led the ATO win with 17 markers while Dwight Jundt hit 15 for the victims.

UNBEATEN PRESBY House made it 13 in a row with a close 36-32 win over twice-beaten Phi Delta Phi. The winners held a 17-9 halftime lead. Kent Briggs

paced the victors with 13 points while Ray Svehla led the losers with 14 tallies.

In the evening's closest game, the NROTC cagers nosed out the Hayseeds 38-37. The Middies led 22-20 at halftime and moved out in front 31-24 at the end of three quarters. Glen Koca and Ron Svec starred for the winners.

In other games the Dorm Bullets edged their near-by rivals, the Dorm Comets, 37-27; the Dubbers plastered the Oliver Oilers 46-32; the AGR Grads nipped the Sig Chi Sox 46-39; the Frosh Dents conquered the Inter-Varsity 59-42; the Ramblers trampled L.S.A. 53-37; and surprising Phi Gamma Delta stopped favored Pioneer Co-op 48-40.

Lee Dobler led the Dubber win with 13 points while Ken Johnson paced the losing Oilers with 14 markers.

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