

## SPORTS PAGE

## Daily Nebraskan

• PEGGY SPEECE—Sports Editor

## From The Stick

... by Rick Akin

## It's That Time Again

And as some high school kid spills his coke down your back while sitting in the Crib, the Stick takes an unbiased look at the winners of this weekend's whoopla Hoopla—the State Basketball Tournament.

The fields in the lower two classes are strong, but in the upper two classes some of the better teams, such as Omaha Tech, Papillion, Falls City, Northeast and Lincoln High were dumped in the Districts.

This may lead one to believe that picking the winners is a simple task—not so, sports fans.

For at least three teams in each class could walk away with all the marbles. It all depends on which teams keep the cool heads in these three days of hoop havoc.

Let's take a look at all the classes as the Stick picks the probable victors.

## Class D . . .

One of the stronger fields . . . Herman with its 22-0 record has been the expert's nod . . . But they'll have to get by DeWitt, with high-scoring Doug Tietjen, in the semifinals to go all the way . . . Maywood is a good bet in the lower bracket but when it comes to the finals . . . Give it to HERMAN.

## Class C . . .

Again the winner will be determined in the semifinals . . . Either Henderson or Gibbon, with 6-7 Curt Lauer, will get the winners' trophy . . . But these two powers meet in the semis of the lower bracket . . .

In the regular season Gibbon beat Henderson, 67-66, but keep in mind that Gibbon lost in the finals to Polk last year as they proved themselves a tournament team . . . Stanton should cruise to the finals in the upper bracket . . . but that'll be it for them . . . GIBBON.

## Class B . . .

Holy Name, which lost only to Class A Pius X in the regular season, is ranked No. 1 in the state by Don Forsythe of the Lincoln Journal-Star and will ease through a weak upper bracket into the final game Saturday afternoon . . .

Down below Ralston, which made it through a tough district, and York, unimpressive in taking its district title, are the top choices . . . Ralston has height and depth and an improved playmaker in sophomore Rick Koch and should snuff the Ducks in the semifinals . . .

I'll have to go along with RALSTON in the finals and the crown.

## Class A . . .

The question is: Will Wally Anderzunas and his Creighton Prep sidekicks be able to play the way they did last year? . . . The Junior Jays have the weakest competition in the tournament, meeting Grand Island in the first game and Hastings or Alliance in the semis . . . Count Prep in the finals.

In the lower bracket three teams, Pius X, Boys Town and Bellevue will battle it out for the right to meet Prep.

The big one Thursday will be Pius v. Bellevue. I'll throw a curve and pick Pius in this one . . . The Bolts have improved greatly of late, knocking off Northeast for the tourney ticket . . . A week before Northeast took Bellevue to the cleaners . . .

The winner here will go all the way to the finals. If it's Bellevue, they'll win the tournament . . . If it's Pius, prep will take the cake . . . PREP.

## Players to Watch . . .

Keep an eye peeled for these stars—Prep's Anderzunas, Boys Town's Dick McGuire, Bellevue's Dick Agnew, Pius' Doyle Churchill and Chris Wickham, Ralston's Doug Cottingham, York's Paul Johnston, Gibbon's Curt Lauer and Henderson's Ron Regier.

## Injuries Hit Team; Wrestle Hopes Dim

The nation's top wrestling conference opens its two-day tournament Friday and Saturday with one of the toughest fields in the history of Big Eight wrestling.

The Big Eight has failed only four times to produce the national championship team. The number one and two-ranked teams in the nation are Iowa State and Oklahoma State, as rated by Amateur Wrestling News. In a pre-tournament All-America poll, 17 Big Eight wrestlers were given top spots.

Coach Bob Mancuso feels Iowa State and Oklahoma State will battle for top honors. In a dual match, the Cyclones and Cowpokes drew 12-12.

Mancuso gives the edge to the Cowboys, however. O. State is strong in the 115 and 191 pound classes which are not included in dual meets. Mancuso looks for Colorado and Kansas State to fill out the top half of the bracket with Nebraska, Oklahoma, Missouri and Kansas in the lower division.

Husker stock dropped when Dennis Kendall, consistent point-getter and 147-pound batter, sustained a back injury. Coach Mancuso could not say Wednesday whether or not Kendall would be well enough to make the trip.

The Nebraska coach previ-

ously lost three performers due to scholastic ineligibility. In addition, sophomore Phil McCaffrey who returned to the squad this past week after sitting out nearly two months with a broken foot hasn't had time to work into condition.

Nebraska hopes are pinned mainly on Kendall and 123-pound Rick Allgood. The red-headed flash has been beaten only once this year in duals, and could surprise at the tourney. Only one boy on Mancuso's young team has previous tournament experience; Chuck Martin, senior 130-pounder. All other grapplers are sophomores.

Five champions will return to the tournament this year.



Coach Bob Mancuso

John Thompson from K-State, 137; Veryl Long, Iowa State, 147; Bob Zweicher, Oklahoma State, 167; Dean Lahr, Colorado, 177; and Joe James, Ok. State, HWT., will all be looking for repeat crowns.

Last year the tourney was won by Oklahoma State, with Oklahoma a distant second. Iowa State was third, followed by Kansas State, Colorado and Nebraska. Later, in the nationals, Oklahoma State was surprised by Oklahoma and Iowa State, who finished 1-2 in the NCAA tournament.

All eight league schools will be entered in the tournament this year for the first time. Kansas and Missouri who have not previously been in the conference tourney will be entered.

Husker traveling squad:  
115—Bob Thorpe  
123—Rick Allgood  
130—Chuck Martin  
137—Gary Richards  
147—Dennis Kendall  
157—John Hallgren  
167—Phil McCaffrey  
177—Wayne Williams  
HWT—Jim Brown or Roger Lott.

## Academic Hoopsters Selected

Gary Hassmann, who is as tough in the classroom as he is on the basketball floor, heads the Big Eight academic all-conference basketball team selected by three mid-western sports writers.

Hassmann, a 4.0 mathematics and science major at Oklahoma State, carries such subjects this year as chemistry, botany, physics and social science with his perfect average.

Other members of the Big Eight academic honor team are Harry Gibson, Kansas, 3.5 mechanical engineering major; Joe Gottfrid, 3.3 physics major from Kansas State; Max Moss, 3.5 veterinary medicine student at Kansas State and Jim Cooper, 3.4 history major at Oklahoma State.

The five Big Eight winners will be nominees for the All-American squad to be picked later this month.

The selection group for the Big Eight team was composed of Jay Simon, DAILY OKLAHOMAN, Oklahoma City, the president of the Basketball Writers Association; Bob Hunt, DAILY CAPITAL, Topeka, Kan.; and Jim Moackler, DES MOINES REGISTER.

The basketball academic team is sponsored by the College Sports Information Directors of America.

## Today's Prep Pairings

Class A  
Noon—Creighton Prep (18-3) vs. Grand Island (7-11)  
1:45—Norfolk (14-4) vs. Alliance (11-6)  
7:00—Hastings (6-12) vs. Boys Town  
8:45—Bellevue (16-2) vs. Pius X (14-4)

Class B  
Noon—David City Aquinas (14-5) vs. Wayne (14-5)  
1:45—Holy Name (20-1) vs. Gothenburg (11-6)  
7:00—York (15-2) vs. Valentine (15-6)  
8:45—Gering (11-10) vs. Ralston (20-2)

Class C  
Noon—Waverly (13-8) vs. Scribner (15-3)  
1:45—Stanton (19-2) vs. Tecumseh (13-8)  
7:00—Arapahoe (20-5) vs. Henderson (20-1)  
8:45—Sidney St. Patrick (19-5) vs. Gibbon (18-4)

Class D  
Noon—Sumner (23-0) vs. De Witt (19-2)  
1:45—Milligan (19-4) vs. Herman (22-0)  
7:00—Maywood (22-0) vs. Orchard (24-1)  
8:45—Stapleton (22-0) vs. Beaver Crossing (23-1)

## Two IM Champs Decided

Intramural basketball action is rapidly narrowing down to the final round of games to decide the All-University championship.

Two leagues have now completed play and their champions will go on to the final round. In the fraternity Class C league Phi Kappa Psi lost to Sigma Phi Epsilon by a 21-41. In the Cather Hall loop, Custer defeated Frost 57-51 to claim a final bracket berth.

Fraternity Class A has resulted in a Kappa Alpha Psi-

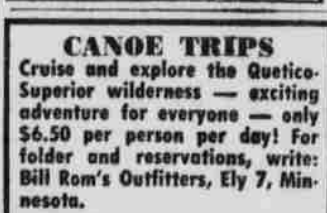
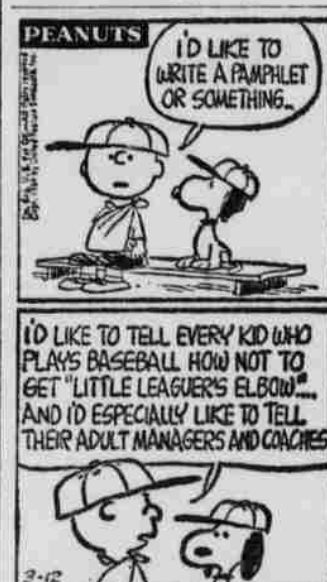
Sigma Chi playoff. Both squads defeated Sigma Phi Epsilon to gain a chance at the league championship.

Sigma Chi won over the Sig Eps by a close 37-35 score while the KAP's beat them 33-16.

Delta Upsilon is in the finals of the fraternity B league and will be meeting the winner of the Beta Theta Pi-Phi Kappa Psi contest.

The Independent League finds the Dents in the championship round. Their opponent cannot be determined until more games are played.

Hitchcock and Gus III are pitted against each other for the Burr-Selleck championship. This will be the second meeting of these teams in tourney action. Gus III took the first decision by 50-54.



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