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Harter Takes Brilliant Victory To Top League

Harter High School coached by Walt Hoynowski won its first Back Mountain League championship with its thrilling last minute 55-52 defeat of Westmoreland before an overflow crowd at Dallas Township gym Monday night.

Bill Jones and Stan Pincowski, both playing for their final year, wound up their high school careers in a blaze of glory, each connecting for 16 points to pace the champions. Jack Richards, who also finished up his league performances after starring for four full seasons, topped the Westmoreland scorers with 15 points. Richards, notwithstanding the brilliant play of Jones and Pincowski, was perhaps the outstanding player on the court. Not only his scoring, but his floor work, rebounding, playmaking and defensive savvy kept the Mustangs in the game at times when they appeared to flounder.

Pincowski scored the final four points for Harter, the first score coming on a twisting two-hand jump shot to put Harter in the lead 53-52 with 35 seconds remaining. The clincher came after Westmoreland in an attempt to score lost possession and Harter took over. Jones attempted a shot and missed and then "Big Stan" tipped it in to make it 55-52 with 6 seconds remaining. Either squad equally deserved the victory. Both played hard and to win, and in doing so turned out a tense wellplayed ball game. Both officials, George and Watkins, turned in a nice job in keeping a tight ball game under control.

Either quint could have breezed to victory if it had even made a fair percentage of its foul tries. Harter sunk only a pitiful 3 out of 13 attempts while Westmoreland was not much better with 8 out of 17. While Jones and Pincowski gave Harter its mastery of the game, two unsung players hit for some very important points to offset the slow starting Harter offense. Condu, with 11, and Stewart, with 8, turned the trick for the visiting Blue and Gold. Condu came through with the most spectacular shot of the evening as he twisted the ball while falling out of bounds directly under the hoop and gave it enough spin to pull itself in for two points.

Richards played one of the best games of his life and received ample help from Bernie Sherin and Bill Fine in their valiant but futile attempt to overtake Harter. Sherin finished with 13 points and Fine with 8 but both did yeoman service in rebounding on both boards against a distinct height disadvantage. Coach Bernard Rockavitch's charges played with their usual

verve and dash but missed more than their usual amount of shots and thusly lost out.

Harter built up an early lead on successive goals by Stewart and didn't relinquish the lead until well in the third quarter. Harter led 17-13 at the end of the first quarter and held a 31-25 halftime advantage. Westmoreland tied the score at 39-39 in the third period and from then on the lead changed many times with Westmoreland having slightly the better of it until the final minute.

Sportlights

Bob Grose, Dallas, has received a contract from the West Palm Beach club in the Florida International League and plans to report for spring training by March 20. Bob, who has starred for three years with the Pennington Gap nine in the Mountain States League, feels that he has a good chance to stick in this jump to Class B baseball. A stellar shortstop with the Dallas Legion team before signing for professional baseball, Bob made the grade immediately and was approached with many offers but unfortunately his team considered him too valuable and refused to dicker until this season.

Dallas Township has accepted an invitation to the Bloomsburg Tourney and will start play tomorrow evening at 8:00 against Butler Township in the first series of elimination games. Coach Bob Thomas' crew feels that they were much better than their league record showed and hope to prove this at the tournament. The Redskins are entered in Class C and if they can triumph in the first game will probably be matched against a local squad in the semi-finals. Len Kozich, junior center, is the nucleus of the quint with seniors Bob Harris, Lance Walker, Bill Miller and Mike Lewis filling out the starting five.

Lew Disque, league's top scorer and Lehman's brilliant center, broke all existing league single game scoring records with his amazing 46 points against Lake-Noxen last Tuesday. Both his total of 14 goals and 18 foul points eclipse the record of Jack Pesavento who collected a total of 36 points for Kingston Township last season. Disque set a blistering pace in scoring this last half of the season finishing with 78 points in his last two games alone.

Church League Ends Season Tomorrow Night

Shavertown And Huntsville Tied For Top Honors

Final games of the season will be on tap tomorrow night at Westmoreland gym as the Back Mountain Church-Community League winds up its regular season.

The schedule seems ready made for the occasion as Shavertown Methodist and Huntsville Christian clash in the first game to decide the league championship. The two squads are tied and the victor in this contest will also emerge as the new league champion. The two teams have battled for first place all season, with Shavertown in the driver's seat most of the way. Huntsville had finally caught up and now on this last game will hinge the result of the entire season's play.

St. Therese's vs. St. Paul's St. Therese's meets St. Paul's in another natural game at 8:30. Both squads have been in the thick of the pennant scramble all season and at present are still fighting over the runnerup spot. A victory will assure St. Therese's of a second place tie, while St. Paul's will tie for third if it is able to triumph. Orange and Trucksville Methodist will play the final game of the night and although neither is in the pennant race a top notch game may be expected as both squads are on any given night the equal of many of the teams placed higher above them.

STANDINGS

Table with columns: W, L, Pct. Rows: Shavertown Methodist, Huntsville Christian, St. Therese's, St. Paul's Lutheran, Orange Methodist, Trucksville Methodist.

Schedule

Saturday, March 8, Westmoreland Gym. 7:15—Shavertown Methodist vs Huntsville Christian 8:30—St. Therese's vs. St. Paul's 9:30—Orange vs. Trucksville Meth

Last Week's Games Only one team, Huntsville Christian, of the top three teams—Huntsville, Shavertown Methodist and St. Therese's—was able to stay on the rosy victory path during last Saturday night's games in the Back Mountain Church-Community League.

Last place Trucksville upset St. Therese's following a pattern set in the first game of the evening when Orange turned the tables or up-to-then top place Shavertown Methodist. Huntsville toppled St. Paul's in the final game to save some of the wounds suffered by the first division squads.

Shavertown bowed for the fourth time in this last half of the season with Orange the team turning in the victory. The combination of Jim Knecht's shooting and Bob Berlew's rebounding turned the trick on the undermanned Shavertown team.

Trucksville put the skids on St. Therese's first place aspirations with a neat four point triumph in the second tilt of the evening. Ralph Anthony hit consistently and with varied scoring on the part of his teammates this was enough to defeat St. Therese's which could find no possible way of putting the ball through the hoop. Carl Sherinski

Black Widows Play Wildcats

6th, 7th, 8th Grades Have Formed League

The whistle blows, and two small but tense athletes leap for the ball. Saturday morning at Dallas Borough gym is under way.

Sixth, seventh and eighth grade boys of Dallas Borough-Kingston Township Joint Schools meet on Saturday morning at 9:15 in Dallas Borough Elementary School gymnasium under guidance of Robert Becker, Physical Education instructor for Westmoreland, to play basketball.

Standings In The Leagues

Table with columns: Sixth Grade, Seventh Grade, Eighth Grade. Rows: Dallas Braves, Shavertown, Trucksville, Dallas "B's", Eagles, Wildcats, Black Widows, Jay Birds, Tigers, Indians, Morons, Wildcats, Devilrats.

Overtime Periods: Sixth Grade: Shavertown vs. Dallas Braves. Three overtime periods. Game won by Dallas Braves.

Eighth Grade: Wildcats vs. Morons. One overtime period. Game won by Morons. Exhibition Games: If a team does not show up by game time, exhibition games are played. Shavertown edged out Dallas Braves in one such game.

The program of intra-mural activity was inaugurated February 2, will close March 15, with a play-off game between winners in the League on March 22.

Two tenth grade students, John Bauer and William Allabaugh, assist in the program. Henry Welch, custodian, is invaluable, and deserves much credit for taking on extra work.

Girls are interested, also fourth and fifth graders who turn out to cheer their chosen teams.

Except in the case of three sixth grade teams which represent their own schools, personnel is scrambled, with boys from all three schools playing together on teams of their own choosing.

Names of teams run from Morons to Black Widows and Devilrats. All players have opportunity to play. Games are split into halves of nine minutes for sixth and seventh graders, ten for eighth grade teams. Mr. Becker encourages showers after the game.

What the players lack in technique, Mr. Becker says, they make up in enthusiasm. With players sensing that they are there for fun, there have been no fights or arguments.

was the top scorer for St. Therese's. Huntsville had little trouble with St. Paul's as it took an early lead and made it last throughout the contest. This much needed victory placed Huntsville in a first place tie with Shavertown Methodist. St. Paul's threatened a number of times but Huntsville had enough reserve left to pull away in each instance.

ments to date.

Sixth grade Dallas and Shavertown are evenly matched, he says, and give each other a real tussle. Seventh grade Eagles are very hot. Eighth grade Indians average twenty points a game.

Winners of sixth grade league will play winners of seventh grade league March 22. Winners of eighth grade league will play a team of ninth grade boys.

Entertains Workers

Oscar Weissman entertained workers for the Back Mountain Red Cross campaign, along with others from the Valley, at tea in the Weissman Recreation rooms on Terrace street, Wilkes-Barre, when plans for the drive were outlined and a social hour enjoyed.

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