northeastern

By DAVE GRIFFITHS

THE WEAK AND THE MIGHTY

The record-breaking performances of the Wilkes Barre Barons in the Eastern Pro Basketball League have captured the fancy of cage fans throughout the

Stan Novak's club posted an unbelievable record of 26 victories and only two defeats in making a shambles of the Western Division race.

But while the Barons were displaying the kind of basketball that established them as perhaps the finest team in minor league history, the operation of the league itself was suffering from mismanagement.

Harry Rudolph, the only president the Eastern ever had in its long and stormy history, was guilty of neglect. A look at the final standings in the loop give you some idea of why fans in Scranton and most other cities in the circuit stayed away in droves.

Every club, according to the schedule, was to have played 28 games. The final standings showed that only two teams-Wilkes Barre and Allentown completed the required number.

Scranton, Binghamton and Wilmington played 27. Hartford, New Haven and Sunbury 26, Trenton 25.

Springfield, the so-called "Hall of Famers" started the season with high hopes but threw in the sponge after playing only a few games. But, believe it or not, the final standings show that Springfield is charged with a total of 18 defeats. No wins, of course. My question is: who arrived at that "magic number."

Scranton, for example, finished one-half game ahead of Allentown in the Western Division, but the Miners played one less game. If that contest had been played as originally scheduled, the Jets may have tied the Miners for second place.

Little things like that, however, don't seem to affect Harry Rudolph and company. But what they forget is-the fans want to know why such practices are tolerated.

How do you build confidence in a league . . . how do you convince the fans in the loop that the weekend warriors who play for pay and nothing else are really going all out in search of victory?

An official working in the league admitted quite frankly that he didn't even know one of the simplest of rules. But his error was excused and a special five-minute playoff was ordered to determine the ultimate winner of the game involving the Miners and the Trenton Colonials.

These are the mistakes which have proven so costly. And one of the big losers has been Scranton's Art Pachter. Crowds, and that's a poor choice of word, have dwindled down to a precious few in a town that was once the bulwark of the circuit.

Trouble, trouble everywhere but either Harry Rudolph and his board of directors are either ignorant of what's going on or too naive to realize that they've got a good thing going if given proper leadership.

The future of the Eastern Pro Basketball League is at stake. The time for action is now. Instead of a time consuming playoff setup that puts all but one of the competing clubs in line for the so-called Governor's Cup, those in control should discuss their problems, plan ahead for what could be the best

minor league in the nation. The Eastern is that good, player wise. The Wilkes Barre Barons could hold their own in the American Basketball Association and battle many teams in the National Basketball Association on even terms.

The Eastern Pro Basketball League will live and grow but the old order must give way to the new. The sooner that happens the sooner the Eastern will will gain the respect it so richly deserves.

Then a Wilkes Barre record of 26 and 2 will merit the recognition it deserves.

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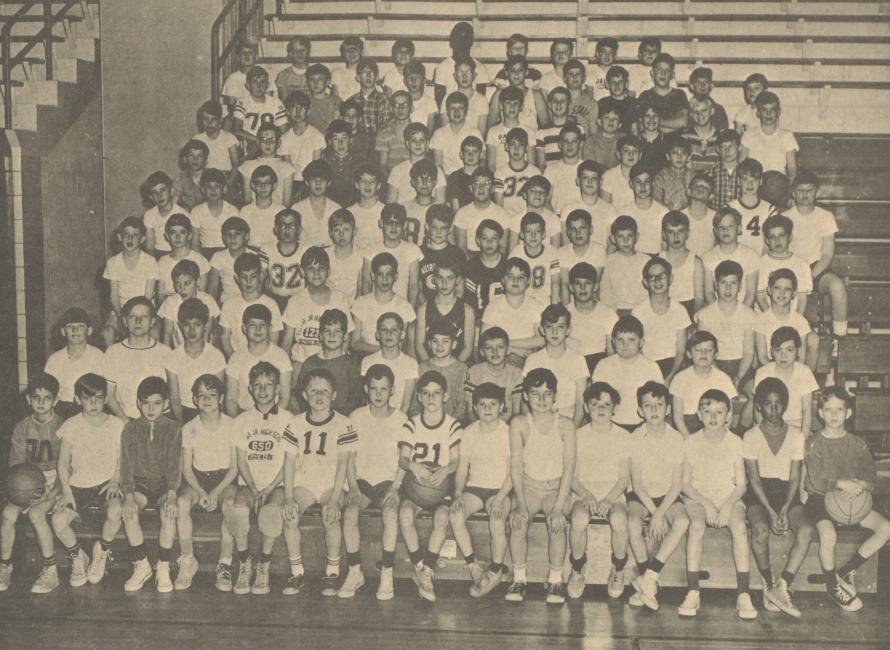
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Posing for a group shot are these more than 100 4th, 5th and 6th grade students of the Dallas area schools, who have just ended their basketball season.

Bowling News

By DORIS R. MALLIN

Neighborhood

B. Roberts was top scorer last week when he spilled 211-205-204, 620 for Brothers 4 as the team copped all 4 from

Payne Printery, paced by Ed losing 3 points to Wesley's.

Kachmarski with 209, 592 and Prebola, Zimmerman, Klass, John Kriel with 213, 570, won Stevens 2, Molley and Gorey 3 points from Williams Atlatnic. Mike Ragnoni rolled 212, 581 and J. Morehouse posted 214, 578 for Hurst Supplies. The team only 1 in the supper 500's, Tom

with 200, 569. Marine Corps won 3 from with 560.

Disque Funeral Home won 181, 477 for Isaacs. all 4 from Cappy's.

chalked up by Eddy, Novak, teammate, Ruth Nygren, was scored 166. Olenovich, Ebb, Hrycyk, Kra- hitting 178, 469. vitz.

Crown Majors

John Kriel was the top kegler for the major league Friday night as he toppled 622 pins for Automatic Cigarette. His series included games of 222-212. His team copped all 4 points from Dallas Shopping Center.

Joe Rodda turned in 219-211, 601 and Harold Kocher Sr. piled up 247, 600 for Dallas Dairy but the "dairymen" lost 3 points to Monk Plumbing and Heating. Jack Nicely and Dave Zimmerman posted 202-200, 591 and 228, 585 for the "plumbers." Birth's Esso won 3 from West Side Novelty. Top scorer for

both teams was West Side's

Two points each went to

Charlie Williams with 205-221.

them up for Michael's were 165. Frank Michael with 210-202, Country 583; Mike Postupack with 212, 580 and Bruce Varner with 206, 562. Dan Richards had 226, 580.

was high man for American Gulf. Nick's team wound up

had individual games of 200 or higher.

Bowlerettes Duke Isaacs won 4 points com Overbrook Inn and Tom Reese copped 3 from Monk

Plumbing. Village Tavern. Leadin the for the night with 199-161, 504 487. victors were Jack Gesmondo for Isaac's. Next was Toots

Ginny Farley posted 164, 464 for Monk's.

Dottie Davis had a 172; Libby Savertown Lumber and Cyphers chalked up 181 and 167 for Galaxies. Her series in-Michael's Excavating. Setting games and Fran Dierolf had a cluded games of 180 and 170.

Arlene Hospodor took the high-scoring honors last Tuesday after gaining an eight-pin Nick Buynak with 211, 574 edge over Anita Matte. Arlene toppled 168-176-190, 534 for Legion in the contest between Joe's Pizza whilt Anita was the "legionnaires" and Wesley piling up 198-167-161, 526 for Nelson Manufacturing.

Joe's won 3 points from its apponent, Fashion Vending, but Nelson lost 3 to Pargas. Marie Bellas gave a big assist to Joe's when she spilled 180, 482.

Joan Bolinski led Pargas with

Pacing Daring's Market to a 4 point victory over Brothers Ann Corbett was pacesetter 4 was Libby Cyphers with 200,

Mona Dymond hit 189, Della with 201, 564 and Bill Supulski Langdon with 163-182, 487 for Belles had 171; Rose Gula

L. Coburn was the only girl 561 for Daring's. to score in the 460's last week as she piled up exactly 460 pins

The Galaxies won all 4 from Davis' Starlights. Tones won 3 points from Galaxies. Carol Hadsel hit 163 and Melba Weber had 168. J.

Birnstock chalked up 152. George Shupp Hudak of Daring's Market mate Kostrabala posted 214, took the limelight Monday night 564. when he spilled 227-222, 632 pins. His team won 3 points from Cappy's Carpet. Haefel with 219-205. 622; Rich Bonomo Jr. with 217, 604 and Ed Carreiro with 218- Molley. 202, 596 were top scorers for

Cappy's Carpet. Dave Eddy turned in 206-200,

Mike's Electric copped 3 from Davis' Market with Al Ciccarelli posting top series, 214,234, 605. George Boston had 212, 561 for

Zimmerman with 224, 585 paced Bill's Cafe to a 4 point victory over Natona Mills.

Bob Moore led Woodland Inn to a 3 point win from Ranch Wagon with 200-243, 589. Team-

Individual games of 200 or higher were turned in by Roberts, Kardell, R. Bonomo Ivor Williams Sr., Shaw, E. Boston, Klass, Frank Hodle Frank Matinus

men in Vietnam

Theodore Higgins

Thomas G. Appel William H. Baker III Ronald Bainbridge John Bliss John J. Bobeck Larry E. Butler Donald Bulford David N. Caffrey Michael P. Casey Philip J Cawley Walter E. Crispell Richard Michael Cummings Richard Dougal Jr. Thomas Detsick Daniel S. Dodd Edward Dubil Joseph J. Harris Lee Eck Warren Edmondson Richard Engleman Charles M. Fleming Edward Gensel George R. Hackling Gary Harris George A. Harvey John J. Phillips Jr. David T. Higgins Alvin W. Jones Robert Kurtinitis Chet Kyle Richard H. Long Daniel Metzger Jr. Ralph McCormack Richard McCuen Kenneth E. Maculloch Breck L. Miller Robert O. Nicely Fred Neuman Kenneth F. Novis William L. Oncay Barry G. Pahler Charles J. Patla Osbert J. Patton Michael Preslipski Michael A. Purcell Keith Reeves Colin Keefer William C. Sarley Herbert Saxe John Scavone Robert G. Schooley Loren Schoonover Wayne G. Shonk Joseph C. Smith William A. Smith Jr. William Spenseller Jr. Laurence Stearn Leonard S. Stoner Charles Tredinnick James Vann Clarence Wilk Thomas M. Zaboraski Joseph L. Turner James M. Wall

Reach! Overbrook. Peg Hartman had chalked up 169; Tooties Denmon rolled 170; Mary A. Con-Marge Hislop led Reese's sidine posted 175; Ruth Ben-Games of 200 or higher were team with 203, 486 while her nett had 163 and Doris Amos



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