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Central Elgin OFSAA champs



STEWARTTOWN CHEERLEADERS had plenty to cheer about in this game. The team they were cheering for, O'Gorman, won 98-30 in the most lopsided win of the tourney. Cheering them on are Tracey Farmer, Tammy Mackey, Darlene Bistedo, Jackie Gagne, Ingrid Schubert and Joanne Primerano.



DAN WEBSTER PUTS the pressure on his Harrow opponent during their Friday evening win. Brookville cheerleaders watch the action from the sidelines.



ACTON CROWD WAS FIRMLY behind the home team and filled the stands for every game.

Nearly 300 people were on hand to watch as Central Elgin of St. Thomas topped a surprising Kingston Bayridge squad 58-51 to take the "A" division Ontario high school basketball championships at the conclusion of the three day OFSAA tourney hosted by Acton in their new high school.

Acton bowed to Ridgeway 61-53 in the consolation game to take fourth spot in the competition.

The Bayridge Blazers have only existed for four years and this is the first senior team in the school's history. It went undefeated against "AA" and "AAA" teams in the Kingston area during the season.

Despite their league record, they were rated decided underdogs against the tall Central Elgin Titans, who had breezed to wins over Harrow, Central Algoma and Ridgeway in the double elimination tourney.

Nevertheless, the Titans had trouble with the Blazers and were leading by just two at the half, 19-17. They outcored their opponents 20-12 in the third period to take control, but the Blazers fought back to within three in the last few minutes of play.

Blazers missed layups in the early going

and free throws in the final minutes or the score could have gone the other way.

Titans were led by 6'4" Gerald Hikele who potted 24 points. John Buklich contributed 12 points in the last half of the game to help with the win. Lee Knox led the Blazers with 15 points, 12 of them in the last half of the game.

Acton topped a cocky Central Algoma squad in their first match. The Redmen led from start to finish and outscored their opponents 41-14 in the last half of the game. Martin Osso was the big shooter in the game as he tallied 22 points. Mike McGregor followed with 14 and Dan Webster had 12 to round out the top scorers. Every player on the team scored in the game.

A balanced attack, led by Dan Webster's 20 points, helped Acton to their 64-52 win over Harrow. Martin Osso with 13, Don Coats with 11, Brad Buchanan with 10 points all landed in double figures.

The Redmen played solidly for the first two games of the tourney before the inconsistency which has plagued them all year hit. After their wins over Central Algoma and Harrow, Acton's big guns seemed to lose their touch.

They were still leading 24-19 late in the first half of their game with Bayridge when Don Coats suffered an injury to his wrist in a rebound scramble. He had to come out and the Redmen ended the half down 25-24.

They were stealing the ball consistently but because they were pressing, they gave the ball up often on bad passes. Webster led the scoring with 12 points, while Buchanan and Coats pumped in 10 each.

The loss sent Acton into the consolation match with Ridgeway to determine the fourth place finisher. Acton started the game as if they were unbeatable, taking an 11-2 lead early in the first period but were unable to keep their momentum. Shooters could not find the range as Martin Osso and Don Coats, both usually good for double figure scoring tallied 11 points between them. Buchanan potted 23 points and Webster added 10.

The Blue Devils pulled even just at the half and maintained their parity for the third quarter. The final frame was the Redmen's undoing as they were outscored 18-10 to account for the margin of defeat. Blue Devil Albino Pereira scored nine of

his team high 19 points in the quarter.

About the last two games of the tourney, co-captain Dan Webster commented "We could have won it if we had played a little better. We figured we all played pretty poor." The biggest problem they faced was their shooting, where it seemed like fate had nailed a lid on the basket at times.

In addition to the basketball games, fans were treated to the finals of the local mini-shooters contest, a local cheerleading contest, an exhibition by Acton High School girls in a modern rhythmic gymnastic routine and a show by the mini-basketballers, a group of public school boys from Orangeville who amazed the audience with their feats of ball control.

Many of the visiting players complimented the organization of the tourney, giving credit to the many months of preparation which tourney director Rick McArthur and assistant director Rick Boychuk have put into staging the event.

Players and guests also had the opportunity to see films and go to a dance and banquet over the weekend.

Results

Game 1: Bayridge 51 over St. Andrews 30; John Pitts pumped in 13 points for St. Andrews but it was not enough as Tim Huleatt netted 14 and Lee Knox 12 for the winners.

Game 2: A tough and quick O'Gorman team edged the Nicholson Nicks 67-61 in overtime behind an 18 point performance by Dan Molinski. Tim Kalnay led the losers with 17 points.

Game 3: Chesley got 14 points from Larry Wannan to lead them to a 64-34 win over Geraldton. High scorers for Geraldton were Ken Stine and John Cervenak with eight markers each.

Game 4: A capacity crowd watched Acton take apart Central Algoma 78-42.

Game 5: Central Elgin started on the road to the OFSAA championships with a 76-35 win over Harrow. John Buklich potted in 14 points to lead the losers.

Game 6: Albino Pereira notched 25 points for Ridgeway to lead them to a 63-38 win over St. Andrews. Gord Harris with seven points led the St. Andrews' squad.

Game 7: Bayridge got a tournament high 31 points from 6'4" Lee Knox to topple a determined Nicholson Nicks squad in the first game Friday. He was the only player on the winning team to go into double figures. Brian Kehoe netted 11 points for the Nicks.

Game 8: Dan Molinski led with 17 points in a game which saw O'Gorman trounce Geraldton 98-30. The high point of the game came in the last few minutes then the losers rallied to keep O'Gorman over the 100 point plateau.

Game 9: Harrow got 27 points in the last half of the game from Tom Rigg to take a 65-58 upset win from Chesley. Paul Vandervoort led the losers with 18 points while Rigg finished with 29.

Game 10: Wade Walker tossed in 17 points to give Central Elgin an easy 67-33 win over Central Algoma who were led by Jamie Lee with 10 points.

Game 11: Ridgeway led from start to finish as they eliminated the O'Gorman Knights 77-68. Julius Antral stole the scoring show from his teammate Albino Pereira by pouring in 33 points for a tourney high. O'Gorman were led by Larry Ryan with 18 points.

Game 12: Acton eliminated the high flying Harrow Hawks 64-52. Tom Rigg led the losers with 19 points, although he was held to a single free throw in the final frame.

Game 13: Acton fell 50-44 to the Bayridge Blazers after taking an early lead. Dave Tierney led with 13 points for the winners.

Game 14: Central Elgin swept into the finals with a 56-47 win over Ridgeway. They were led by Wade Walker with 20 points, 14 of them coming in the last quarter. Julius Antral again led the losers with 18 points.

Game 15: Consolation final: Ridgeway toppled Acton from the top three with a come from behind 61-53 win.

Game 16: Final: Central Elgin were pushed for the first time in the tourney but came up winners by a 58-51 count.



MARTIN OSSO OUTREACHES Harrow Hawks' Peter Klie with hook shot in Friday evenings 64-52 win. Standing room only crowd cheered every move

the Redmen made, helping keep spirits up on the floor whenever things got tight. Osso finished the game with 13 points.



A FOREST OF ARMS greeted Ridgeway's Bud Toth when he tried to shoot over Bud Buchanan and Martin Osso. Don Coats, bandaged wrist and all, does his part in the defensive effort during the consolation final.



RICK VAN FLEET and Martin Osso intimidate their opponent as he sets for shot.



BRAD BUCHANAN WAS a key figure in the Redmen's good play throughout the weekend as he helped them control the boards and dominated in scoring.