

Sports Review

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Sports Editor



WHO'S AT FAULT?

It has been brought to our attention there is a rumor going around that the reason Highland Park high school does not have good basketball teams is the lack of a decent gym.

For anyone to take such a foolish stand is ignorance of the facts and lack of study of the problem at hand.

Admitted a new gym would afford more practice for the boys and perhaps a larger following, but it will not, alone, make for better basketball teams.

Except for one, Elm Place, the grade schools fail to prepare Highland Park's youth for competition prior to their entering high school.

If Highland Park boys are to hope to be able to participate on even terms with other Suburban schools they must receive instruction and active participation in grade schools so they know the fundamentals of the game before entering high school.

People of Highland Park have too long blamed the coaches for the failure of the high school to win in basketball, yet the same ones that have put the blame there are the real ones that cause the poor material the coaches have to work with because they do not get to the bottom of things. They should find out why the grammar schools fail to play each other in the sport from the 5th grade up.

Wake up Highland Parkers! Don't blame the poor teams at your high school or the coaches or the lack of a new gym (we again admit a new gym would help but it is not the basic cause for poor teams) but get out and see if something can be done to start your athletes out in the grade schools as they are in many other communities. By this we mean teams in 5th, 6th, 7th and 8th grades competing with the same grades in the other schools in the city and nearby communities that have such a program.

Basketball Program At Elm Place 1948-49

Intramural and Interscholastic Games

In keeping with the newly adopted policy of after-school sports at Elm Place, which includes the following general principles, "The majority of time in the after-school sports activities shall be spent in an intramural type program, in addition to a number of games can be played with other schools near the completion of the time set aside for a specific sport", the following summarization of the current basketball program is offered.

Ten teams played a total of 78 games. Teams were grouped according to grade level with 4 teams of 6th graders and 6 teams composed of 7th and 8th grade boys. The 6th grade played on Mondays and Wednesdays, while the 7th and 8th grade group played Tuesday, Thursday and Friday. A total number of 36 boys played in the 6th grade tourney and 52 boys played in the 7th and 8th grade tourney. The average number of games played by each boy in the 6th grade was 14. The 7th and 8th grade boys averaged 11 games. The percentage of boys taking part in the games by classes was:

6th Grade—86%
7th Grade—78%
8th Grade—71%

Near the completion of the basketball season 12 boys were selected from the 8th grade to play as a team with other schools. Two games were played at Glencoe, two games with Oak Terrace and a game with the H.P.H.S. freshmen. In addition to these games, the top two intramural teams played an exhibition game during an assembly program. A faculty vs 8th grade game completed the competition in this sport.

Highland Park High School Track Schedule

Since Tuesday, March 15, the track squad has been holding daily workouts in the limited facilities of the boys' gym under the direction of Mr. Panther. In addition, the team is permitted to use the New Trier track one day a week, but the lack of available facilities does not permit a proper workout, especially in the field events.

The team is preparing a few relay events, with an eye toward competing in the major indoor meet, the Oak Park Relays. In regard to the indoor season, Coach Panther says, "Due to the meager facilities at hand, I consider the indoor season primarily as a preparation for the outdoor season."

A pre-season glance at the situation seems to indicate that the varsity may be stronger than usual, with such proven performers as Steve Behr in the hurdles, Bob Demichelis in the half-mile, Jim Knowlton in the shot-put, Jim Heap in the pole-vault, Ronald Danielson in the mile, Doug Deaver and Bill Kiddle in the sprints, and Guy Wilbur, John Churchill, and Bruce McClure in the middle distances. However, there is weakness in the shot, discus, high-jump, and the 440-yard run.

Mr. Panther points out that Highland Park has never been a strong dual meet team because of lack of depth in all events. This year's team may be different, because it appears to be better balanced than usual. If everyone comes through, it is possible to foresee some triumphs for a few of the relay teams in several of the big relay meets.

As coach, Mr. Panther refuses to make predictions. He would rather allow the results to speak for themselves. This year's squad has the makings of a fine varsity team, and we hope that the boys will make the season a real success.

In the frosh-soph division, the team will be bolstered by such men as Dorrough, Swift, Bulmer, and Levy. The sophomore group is very limited in numbers and will have to depend on a great many freshmen to fill the gaps, particularly in the sprints and field events. The schedule, which will be augmented by several pick-up meets for freshmen, is as follows:

Indoor

March 19, 9 a.m.—Triangular at New Trier — with Schurz, New Trier and Highland Park.

March 22, 4 p.m.—Dual meet at Maine.

March 25—, 7 p.m.—Quadrangular meet at Oak Park — with Schurz, New Trier, Oak Park and Highland Park.

April 2, 7 p.m.—Oak Park Relays at Oak Park.

April 8, 7 a.m.—Relay of Champions at Oak Park.

Outdoor Meets

Saturday, April 23—Lake Shore quadrangular meet at New Trier with Evanston, Waukegan, New Trier and Highland Park.

April 25—Dual meet at Niles.

April 30—Wheaton Relays, Wheaton, Ill.

May 3—Dual meet at Maine.

May 7 — Mooseheart Relays at Mooseheart, Illinois.

Tuesday, May 10—Frosh-Soph Invitational at Evanston.

May 14—District at Evanston.

May 17—Dual meet with Waukegan at H. P.

May 20 and 21—State meet at University of Illinois.

May 24—Lake County meet at Waukegan.

May 28 — Suburban League Championships at Evanston.

Baseball Team In Indoor Practice

For the past week the members of the varsity baseball squad of Highland Park high school have been holding limited indoor practice sessions. This practice is primarily intended to condition the boys' bodies, especially their arms, in anticipation of the day when they can start regular practice at the athletic field.

On paper the team seems to shape up as a fairly strong one. Returning lettermen are: Sheahan, Armstrong, Sordyl, Heimerdinger, O'Connor, and Allen. These will also be augmented by other men coming up from the frosh-soph squad.

Due to the scheduling of three games a week, there is a definite need for at least four capable pitchers. So all of you future Bob Fellers had better drag out your gloves and flex your muscles so that you can lend your efforts to our team.

The team hopes to better last year's record of five wins and thirteen losses.

Cagers Edged Out Of Prep Regionals

In a hard fought game on Wednesday, March 2, the varsity basketball team succumbed 47-46 to a strong Barrington squad in Waukegan. This loss dropped the "Little Giants" from the regional tournament.

The contest was a seesaw battle, with neither team at any time possessing a commanding lead. The Parkers held a four point lead at the end of the first quarter and were still ahead by one point at the half. By the end of the third period, the Barrington five had succeeded in tying the score and they finally crawled out on top in the last seconds, to win the game by one point.

The score by periods:
Highland Park 14 11 9 12 46
Barrington 10 14 10 13 47

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Final Drive Starts To Determine New State Basketball Champs

Sixty high school basketball squads will take the floor this week and by Friday night only 16 of them will be left to battle for the State championship at Champaign.

Elgin, long rated as the state's number 1 team, is still the favorite despite a terrific accident suffered during the Christmas holidays in which one of their coaches lost his life and four of the boys and the head coach landed in the hospital.

The Elgin boys had a couple of close calls last week as they squeezed past Arlington Heights by a 48-47 score and then tripped Dundee 47-45 the next evening.

One of the Suburban league teams will fall by the way side as Oak Park (winner of the Morton regional) and Evanston (winner of the Waukegan regional) tangle in the Elgin sectional. Elgin will take on the strong DeKalb quintet in the other game with the winners playing for the right to go to the finals on March 17.

The pairings for the sectional meets are:

At Canton
Dallas City vs. Farmington;
Monmouth vs. Oneida R.O.V.A.

At Carbondale
Anna-Jonesboro vs. Herrin;
Johnston City vs. Metropolis.

At Champaign
Buckley vs. Champaign; Danville vs. Potomac.

At Decatur
Clinton vs. Decatur; Mt. Pulaski vs. Springfield.

At East St. Louis
Collinsville vs. Jerseyville;
Nashville vs. New Athens.

At Effingham
Mattoon vs. Olney; Paris vs. Robinson.

At Elgin
De Kalb vs. Elgin; Evanston vs. Oak Park.

At Hillsboro
Brownstown vs. East St. Louis
Lincoln; Hillsboro vs. Taylorville.

At Joliet
Aurora West vs. Downers Grove;
Joliet vs. Kankakee.

At Moline
Kewanee vs. Moline; Morrison vs. New Boston.

At Mt. Vernon
Carmi vs. Centralia; Harrisburg vs. Mt. Vernon.

At Ottawa
DePue vs. Forrest; Henry vs. Ottawa.

At Pekin
Athens vs. Chenoa; Pekin vs. Peoria Woodruff.

Faculty Members Play Varsity March 11

Plans for Highland Park's most unusual basketball card of the season are nearing completion. The event will be presented in the form of a double header on Friday, March 11 for the purpose of securing funds for the "Little Giant" annual.

The opening contest will be sort of a dress-up comedy featuring the clowning antics of some of our distinguished senior members against Mr. Carlson's second string varsity.

The second game will put our most nimble faculty members (maybe even that old ringtail, Uncle Dave) against Highland Park's first squad.

It's for a swell cause and promises to be a great pack of fun

Golf Team Prepares For Tough Season

With the opening of the Suburban league golf season less than two months ahead, Mr. Bolle and his state champion swingers are new getting ready to attempt to duplicate their feat of 1948.

Six of last year's eight letter winners will be back with the squad this year, along with other hopefuls who will be trying for a berth on the team. The returning lettermen include Dan Coleman, Welton Mansfield, Don Coleman, Joe Dinelli, Bernie Lenzini, and Tom Weil.

The schedule of league meets is as follows:

Tuesday, April 26—Morton at H. P.

Thursday, April 28—H. P. at Proviso.

Thursday, May 5—Evanston at H. P.

Tuesday, May 10—H. P. at New Trier.

Tuesday, May 17 — H. P. at Waukegan.

At Pittsfield
Chambersburg vs. Pittsfield;
Quincy vs. Rushville.

At Rockford
Freeport vs. Rochelle; Rockford West vs. Sterling.

Here's the way the section winners will be paired in the state tournament finals starting in Champaign March 17:

First Round (upper bracket)
Pittsfield vs. Decatur.

Carbondale vs. Mt. Vernon.

Canton vs. Chicago City league champion.

Joliet vs. Elgin.

Lower bracket
Moline vs. Rockford.

East St. Louis vs. Ottawa.

Pekin vs. Effingham.

Champaign vs. Hillsboro.

Life Saving Classes Working For Certificates

Instead of participating in the State Telegraphic Swim which has been held in previous years, the advanced swimmers of Highland Park high school are going to show their skill in Junior and Senior Life Saving classes this year.

Under the direction of Miss Starrett, the girls are all working towards their Red Cross Life Saving certificates. Every Wednesday from 3:30 to 5:00, you can see these girls practicing.

At the end of these lessons, each girl will be required to pass a test before she receives her certificate. The requirements for the test include the following: artificial respiration, endurance swimming, approaches, carries, and surface dives.

REDBIRDS BASKETBALL SEASON ENDS

Coach Joe Cogdal's Illinois State Normal Redbirds won four of their eight conference contests and finished the season with nine victories and eleven defeats. They completed their 20-game basketball season last week. Dick Baldriani of Highwood, a member of the Redbirds team, finished with 96 points.

Thursday, May 19—H. P. at Oak Park.

Fri-Sat., May 20-21 — State Finals.

Tuesday, May 24—Thornton at H. P.

Saturday, May 28 — League Meet at Oak Park.

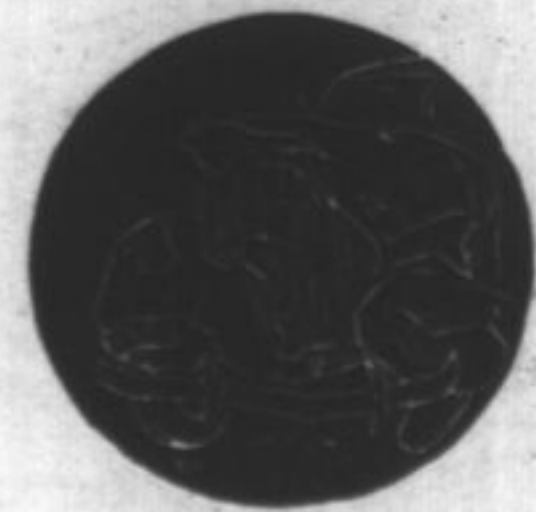
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