

SPORTS

By - Prof. M.L. Turner



Well, the basketball season for the present school year has come to an end. Both the boys' and girls' teams at Piedmont have had a very successful year. The teams accepted invitations to play in the Valdese Tournament which was held during the last half of February. Piedmont girls ousted the lassies from Claremont in their first encounter at Valdese. While our boys downed a strong Hickory quintet. In their second game the Piedmont girls lost a heart-breaker to the sextet from Hickory. However, the home town girls gave a good account of themselves before bowing out of the tournament. After a thrilling contest they were defeated by the slim margin of one point. Piedmont boys won their second game from Claremont rather easily. The third time our boys went to Valdese they had to face a favored Newton team. This proved to be one of the finest games of the entire tournament. Again, Piedmont came home the victor.

On Saturday night, February 24th, the finals were staged in Valdese. In the boys' game Piedmont was pitted against N.C.S.D. During the first three quarters of the final game it appeared that our boys were headed for the championship in this tournament. However, N.C.S.D. forged ahead in the fourth quarter and finally defeated Piedmont by a narrow margin. So Piedmont won second place in the meet at Valdese. And for this accomplishment the boys were awarded a very beautiful trophy which they brought home with them to place along side the several trophies which our girls have won during the last five years. Also, the members of the squad were presented with silver basketballs. That is not all. Bobby Wray, of the Piedmont Team, was chosen as a member of the All-Tournament team after the final game at Valdese.

Four days after play had ended at Valdese Piedmont boys and girls found themselves playing in Shelby in a county wide tournament which was to decide who should be the Cleveland County Champions for 1945. These games were played in the Shelby Armory. We might say that our girls' record at Shelby was identical with that of Valdese. In their first game they put Belwood out of the running. Belwood had defeated the Piedmont girls once and tied them once during the regular playing season. But in the semi-finals at Shelby the Piedmont sextet was eliminated from further competition by the Shelby High School lassies. Despite the fact that they were put out of the running in the semi-finals, two Piedmont girls were placed on the All-Tournament Team for Cleveland County. These were Vangie Beheler and Doris Spangler. It was the Casar girls who won first place in the meet at Shelby.

We shall now try to tell you what the Piedmont boys did in the Shelby Tournament. Their first game was with Lattimore. Our team copped this one without a great deal of effort. Next came the game with Shelby High. This proved to be a corking good game. The Shelby lads went into the lead at one time during the last half of the contest. The boys from Piedmont fought valiantly and in the end they emerged victorious by a four-point margin. This win over Shelby assured Piedmont of a place in the finals.

Saturday night, March 3rd, came. The finals were to be played in Shelby. The Piedmont boys were to play the Fallston boys for the championship of Cleveland County. Interest was at high pitch. Many people were saying that they must see that game.

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