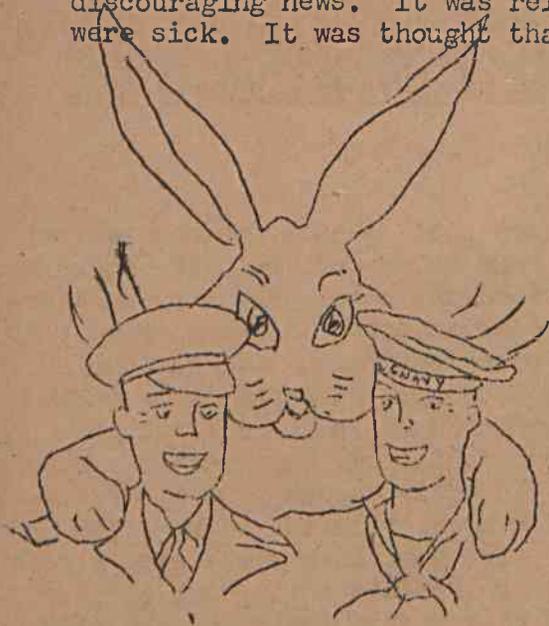


Early Saturday morning Piedmont supporters were the recipients of some very discouraging news. It was reliably reported that Harvey Bowen and Hugh Towery were sick. It was thought that Hugh might be able to play. However, if he should try to play he would be tremendously handicapped. It was very doubtful whether Harvey would be able to play any at all. On top of all this, J.F. Cline, a first string man, volunteered his services to Uncle Sam on Monday of the tournament week. The outlook could have looked much brighter. But Piedmont was scheduled to play a very fine Fallston team and play must go on.



Both teams started the game by playing rather cautiously. Harvey Bowen's mantle fell upon the shoulders of Clyde Scism. Clyde bore up well under the ordeal. When the first half had ended the Piedmont boys were on the long end of a 9-17 score. Pretty soon after the second half got under way Piedmont scored a field goal. At this time the score was Piedmont 19 and Fallston 9. And right here the complexion of the game changed with upsetting suddenness. The Fallston boys jumped on a fast train and started to town. Piedmont fans were dazed. Almost before they

could realize what was happening the Fallston boys had rung up 14 points to take the lead in a 23-19 score. Fallston fans went wild. The noise was terrific. Many were saying, "It's just like it was last year at Belwood." In the end these statements turned out to be a little premature. Naturally Piedmont fans were getting a little warm under the collar. They were rather uncomfortable. It was during this last half that a decision was made to send Harvey Bowen into the game. With the score 23-19 against them the Piedmont lads called time to talk the situation over. They felt that something ought to be done. It was getting late. Well sir, after talking matters over, the boys decided that if they were going to do anything about the rather serious situation, they, too, would have to go to town. And to their way of thinking, late as it was, there was only one way to reach town, and that was to hop on the scoring express. So with Harvey Bowen acting as conductor, Jack Eskridge grabbed the throttle, Bobby Wray started shoveling coal, Hugh Towery and Lamar Champion sprinkled sand on the slippery rails, and Mr. Putnam flashed the green light. They were off. Talk about music, why, the "Music of the spheres" faded into insignificance when compared with the music made by the wheels of this express as they sped along the serpentine track. Piedmont supporters, lining the track, went wild with joy. Pretty soon the old town was sighted. Just as the express was coasting into the station Jack Eskridge reached for the cord and rang up two more points to end the scoring for the evening. The members of the Fallston team rolled into the same station just six minutes behind time. The game was over. Final score: Fallston 28, Piedmont 34.

So for the first time the Piedmont boys are the champions of Cleveland County so far as basketball is concerned. At the end of play in Shelby two of our players were selected on the all-tournament team for the county. These were Bobby Wray and Harvey Bowen. Jack Eskridge received honorable mention. Why not? For Jack had scored 10 points in the last quarter of the final game with Fallston.

Everyone in this community is very grateful for what Mr. Putnam, the coach, has done for the boys. For without his help no one believes that our boys could have copped the championship.

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"Little minds are tamed and subdued by misfortune; but great minds rise above it." — (Washington Irving.)

