

ROOSEVELT HI CROWNED NAT'L CHAMPS

Gary Cagers Win 6th Straight Championship

BY WILLIAM "SMILING" TUCK (SPORTS EDITOR)

FAYETTEVILLE, N. C. — The ninth annual three-day basketball tournament of the National High School Athletic Association which brought sixteen of the nation's top-ranking high school teams from five different states last Thursday, Friday, and Saturday, (March 28-29-30), saw the unusually superior team from Gary, Indiana, again stamp in the minds of all that they are still in a class to themselves. A climax to the continuous proof of the Indiana team's superiority in every department came in the thrill-packed final game on Saturday night when Gary, West Virginia, went the way of all the other three challengers who tried their luck against the champions. The score in this game which gave Gary, Indiana, the national championship for the sixth time was 24-37.

Gary, West Virginia, reached the final round by getting victories over Rocky Mount (28-40); Blue field, 55-49, and Smithfield, 44-34. However, their dream of defeating the five-year champions showed less and less hope of being as the championship game continued. The teams that fell in the wake of Indiana's march to the finals were Statesville, 42-33; Hillside of Durham, 46-23; and Charleston West Virginia, 54-36.

FINAL GAME REGINS CLOSE

For most of the final game, it was in no way definite just which way the championship would go for the game started out both teams playing almost over cautiously and without either team's getting any scoring advantages. The result was that the nip and tuck first quarter ended with Indiana bare ahead by 7-6. When Owens and Scott were added to the Indiana lineup for the second quarter, the smooth, effortless play and amazing shooting of the champs began to live up to its reputation to put them out in front as the half ended, 19-12.

As the last half of this game for the national championship got under way, the tenseness of the spectators became greater and greater, for both these teams were playing the brand of basketball that can be expected on nothing less than champions. The calmest persons in the gymnasium were the members of the Gary, Indiana, team led by Captain I. Brown who calmly scored 14 points for his team. He scored a total of 67 points as high point man of the tournament.

Indiana drew first blood at the beginning of the second half to make the score 19-12. Allison of West Virginia sank a beauty which was followed by another from his teammate, Reese. The score "see-sawed" for most of this quarter with both teams continuing to play calmly and cautiously and with Allison of West Virginia and I. Brown of Indiana becoming more and more impressive.

After Reese replaced Allison in the West Va. lineup, Indiana began to move steadily and farther ahead. J. Brown put one through the flashing hoop from the outer court as a thriller for the grandstands. The score-board read 32-23 when there were 3 minutes to play; a minute later a free throw had brought it to 36-23; at one minute to play the count stood at 23-37 and finally Gary Indiana took the championship for the sixth time to the tune of 24-37.

GARY HAS MANY HONORS

For the past eight years the Gary, Indiana, team has been coached by John D. Smith who is a graduate of the University of Illinois. Aside from being champions of the United States they are the 1940 champions of Indiana as well as the Mid-West. They lost only four out of 23 games played during the 1940 season.

PLAY BEGINS THURSDAY

This sixth annual national basketball tournament got off to an excellent start Thursday afternoon at 2:30 when Gary, West Virginia, ring up the curtain with an interesting 40-28 victory over Rocky Mount, N. C. Hillside Park High School of Durham took the next game from Greenville, S. C., 21-18. In the evening the champions from Gary, Indiana, turned the tables on the only team that was given a possible chance to upset them. This was the team which Coach Royal Brownling brought down from Statesville; they showed a 38-44 spanking at 8:30 on the same evening. Smithfield upset Fayetteville by one point, and Excelsior, West Va., scored back Camden.

ELEVEN GAMES FRIDAY

Friday was the most crowded day of the tournament with 11 games played in the main and consolation brackets. Statesville started the day with a consolation victory over Greenville, S. C. Then Rocky Mount in the consolation bracket defeated Columbia, S. C.; Fayetteville defeated Camden. Later in the day it was Smithfield over Excelsior; Gary, W. Va. over Bluefield; Atlanta over Whiteville; Charleston W. Va. over Laurinburg; and Bluefield over Columbia, S. C.

HILLSIDE LOSSES

During the night session Charleston, W. Va. decisively trampled Atlanta, Ga. and Gary, W. Va. treated Bluefield likewise. The game of the evening was that between Gary, Indiana, and the HILLSIDE PARK HIGH SCHOOL HORNETS of Durham. Although the boys from the Bull City lost this game (46-24) there were times when they provided plenty of thrills for the spectators and never ceased showing the fighting HORNETS SPIRIT.

REAL GAMES ON SATURDAY

Every game that came up on the final day of the tournament was a thriller in every sense of the word. The first game of the afternoon at 1 o'clock was the victory of Gary, Indiana, over Charleston, W. Va. and of Gary, West Va. over Smithfield in the semi-final matches. The other afternoon games were in the consolation bracket in which Fayetteville pushed Rocky Mt. aside and Statesville trampled Laurinburg.

Statesville became fourth place winner of the tournament by their victory over Fayetteville in the consolation final Saturday night. Smithfield was impressive in taking game for third place from Charleston, W. Va.

WELL KNOWN MEN PRESENT TROPHIES

Immediately after the final game Coach "Army" Armstrong of Fayetteville Teachers College came to the official table and called forward the winners and the famous men who were to present the trophies. The first trophy was presented to Captain Brown of Gary, Indiana by William Cooker, Director of extension at Hampton Institute, who was present by President J. W. Seabrook of the host college. In his remarks President Seabrook expressed his appreciation to the high school principals for allowing the North Carolina teams to take part in the meet and to the officials of the tournament for choosing Fayetteville. Then he greeted the spectators collectively and extolled the many "virtues" of the championship team. To the runner-ups of Gary, West Virginia.

Principal Pope of Burgaw Please turn to page seven

SPORTING WORLD

PAGE TWO — THE CAROLINA TIMES — WILLIAM A. TUCK, EDITOR

CREECY HIGH WINS NORTH-HAMPTON CHAMPIONSHIP

The Sports Bazaar By Wm. Tuck



WERE YOU THERE in the Fayetteville Teachers College Gymnasium for any of the 23 games that were a part of the ninth annual National High School Basketball Tournament? If you weren't, you missed a rare chance to see in action the future court stars of the nation. Although there were as many as 11 games in a single day, even those who were forced to see everyone of them never became bored, for each one of these teams, which was the championship calibre, put its heart and soul into each game, the result being that every game was a good, clean, thriller.

The teams from Smithfield and Statesville, who took third and fourth place respectively, proved that in spite of the lack of a rounded athletic program in North Carolina (thanks to the Principals) the teams of the state are only waiting for a chance to show that they can compare favorably with the best of the nation. These North Carolina teams, some of which have very poor imitations of gymnasium facilities, competed against teams that came as the result of well-planned programs of high school physical education and did not make such bad showings. What would they do if physical education became a part of the curriculum and if they were a bit more familiar with tournament competition?

The team that won the National Championship for the sixth time was Roosevelt High School of Gary, Indiana, a team that had already competed in and won two tournaments. They had taken the championship of the State of Indiana as well as the mid-west and had played several games on their trip down. All of the teams from other states had attended at least one other tournament this year and from this point of vantage, that made a slight difference in the type of playing and mental attitude.

ALL TOURNAMENT TEAM

In trying to select the five best players in this tournament out of around 130 who took part, there is the temptation to say that the five best players were the five first string men on the championship team, but while they were tops in their respective departments, there are others who stood out likewise. The Gary team had four seniors, Townes, Hardy, Smith, and J. Brown. There were also four men over 6 feet tall on the team. This height meant the difference between winning and losing in some of their games.

One of the five groups that might look good on any all-tournament team are: Allison of Gary, West Virginia; I. Brown and J. Brown of Gary, Indiana; Patterson of Statesville and Vines of Smithfield.

FOOTBALL AT HILLSIDE

COACH HERMAN RIDDICK of Hillside is sending his charges through stiff drills these days in the attempt to get those

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Seaboard Drops Championship To Rich Square

BY ED GLEED JACKSON, N. C. — T h e

Northampton County Basketball tournament was brought to a sensational and thrilling close here on last Saturday by the almost unbelievable victory of the W. S. Creecy High School boys team from Rich Square over the highly rated team from Seaboard, N. C. This Championship game was full of unexpected thrills and chills and after the last whistle had blown the "Little Giants" of Rich Square found themselves champions, unbelievable as it seemed, as evidenced by the score of 25 to 16. It is hard to believe even after having seen the game, that for one whole quarter the Rich Square boys were forced to play with only four men on their team. It was in the third quarter when the two teams were battling their hardest that the officials disqualified (killing of Rich Square for unnecessary roughness. There was no one left to take his place so the game went on with four men left on

his side. At this point the fireworks began

Instead of this being a handicap to the Rich Square boys, it seemed to be just what they needed to set them off. Instead of the Seaboard boys walking away, as everyone expected, they began to march on Seaboard. Sparked by a brilliant performance by the left forward, Tan, the "Little Giants" caught and then passed the Seaboard boys. Seaboard scored only two points during the remainder of the game. Coach Creecy finally found another man in the closing minutes of the game and in this manner his team was able to hold its lead. Tan, in this reporter's opinion, was unquestionably by the finest player on the floor during the whole night. He was later chosen the most outstanding player of the tournament.

GARYSBURG GIRLS DOUBLE SCORE

The Garysburg Girls High School team proved themselves true champions by defeating the

Seaboard team by 37-14. Garris of Garysburg was playing her last game and will graduate this year. She turned in a remarkable performance, scoring 20 of her teams 37 point in the game decided who is tops among the High school girls of Northampton County. This was a very hard fought game with L. Edmondson, center for Seaboard, scoring all of her team's 14 points.

In the girls' game the Conway team won from the Jackson girls by a score of 26-16. R. Boone, center for Conway, scored 18 points and was chosen as the most outstanding player in her division.

The boys game was exceedingly interesting. It was also a hard fought contest and your reporter was amazed at the brand of basketball that was played. I might say here that the average high school team would have a hard time defeating

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Regal Theatre

TUESDAY***SPECIAL***WEDNESDAY

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— IN —

Man in The Iron Mask

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