

All Stars Win the Pro Cage Championship

Beat the Rens In Final Game For the Title

Local Pro Quintet Takes Fourth Victory in Series of Seven Games, Saturday, by 39 to 34 Score in Thrilling Contest—LeRoy Edwards, All-American Center, Is Star of Battle.

The mighty New York Renaissance basketball team, ambassadors of the cage courts par excellence, have fallen and with their defeat has arisen a new claimant of the world's professional cage championship—the OSHKOSH All Stars.

By defeating the Negro five, 39 to 34, Saturday evening, at the Recreation gymnasium, the Oshkosh quintet took the seventh and last game between the two teams this season to make the record four victories and three defeats for the All Stars. The local aggregation is the first team to take a series of games from the New Yorkers in several years and, in fact, one of the few to hold any wins over them.

But a new champ reigns, long live the champ! The All Stars have completed their schedule and will not defend the title, mythical honor though it be, until the 1937-38 season, when leading professional teams throughout the country are expected to challenge for the championship which the Oshkosh quintet will attempt to retain.

AFTER LONG SEARCH
The mythical title of world's champions has come to the All Stars at the end of a long time spent in search of the crown, beginning back in the season of 1929-30, when the team was organized. Not much attention was attracted those first few years, but last season the team really had something and began to be noticed. An attempt was made to lift the crown from the Rens, but it fell short by losing three of five games to the champs.

Because of having played together last year and with the addition of outstanding new men, the All Stars looked better than ever this year. But in a five-game series with the Rens, the local team again fell short. Then came another opportunity at the crown, two more games with the title at stake. The All Stars practiced for them, worked hard in hopes of two wins, and then gave everything they had in games Thursday and Saturday evenings and came out with two victories and the world's pro title.

Behind the All Stars in these eight years of pointing toward a championship has been Lonnie Darling, manager of the team, who is largely responsible for bringing pro basketball fame to Oshkosh.

That game Saturday night was a battle from start to finish and never was either team certain of victory, even in the last minute when the All Stars were leading, but by so small a margin that a few buckets tossed in from the center of the floor, from which point the Rens are able to drop them with amazing regularity, might have given the story a different ending.

STARS ARE BEHIND
Oshkosh started behind in the last five minutes of the game, the Rens leading by one point, 34 to 33. The battle waged at a tremendous speed for nearly two minutes when Herman Witasek, the North Dakota "jackrabbit" put Oshkosh in the lead with a bucket.

Lanky LeRoy Edwards, All-American while at the University of Kentucky and an All-American on anybody's pro team selections, was fouled by Tarzan Cooper. Edwards made the free throw and the All Stars were two points in front, but it was not enough for safety and the fans were on their feet. Edwards was fouled again and made one of the two gift shots and with a three-point lead, fans breathed a bit easier, but the team kept on plugging.

Clarence "Fat" Jenkins, who, in his prime, was said to have been the fastest pro basketball player, took a long shot, but it failed to go in. With the seconds ticking off rapidly, the game was still not won and Capt. Eddie Muller, All-American while at Marquette and one of the most level-headed players on a basketball court, "fell on the ball" and lugged it tightly. The Rens fought desperately to gain possession and in a jump ball Augie Vander Meulen tapped the ball to Edwards who dribbled under the basket and leaped high into the air to drop in a field goal and put the game on ice and the championship "in the bag."

Six times during the game, the score was tied and the greatest difference at any time was a seven-point margin the All Stars enjoyed early in the second quarter when the count was 14 to 7. But they did not enjoy that lead long.

OPENS THE SCORING
Bethards opened the scoring at the end of 25 seconds with a bucket from the side. Oshkosh had had one shot that failed and the Negro comedian, who did not have much time to clown, made the first shot for the Rens.

Free throws by Edwards and Vander Meulen made it 2-all. On a nice pass from Augie to LeRoy,



"CONQUERORS OF THE NEW YORK RENAISSANCE, SEASON 1936-1937"

OSH KOSH ALL STARS

Top row (left to right)—George Hotchkiss, coach; Capt. Ed Mullen, guard; Augie Vander Meulen, forward; Ray Hamann, guard; "Pete" Preboski, forward; LeRoy Edwards, center.
Bottom row (left to right)—"Bill" Mangan, center; Herman Witasek, forward-guard; Fred Wegner, guard; James Goff, forward; and James Knoblauch, forward.

Ruin the Rens

Oshkosh All Stars (39)	FG	FT	PF
Preboski, f.	1	1	0
Vander Meulen, f.	3	4	2
Edwards, c-f	4	3	2
Hamann, g	3	0	0
Mullen, g	2	0	2
Witasek, f	2	1	1
Mangan, c	0	0	0
Totals	15	9	6

New York Renaissance (34)

	FG	FT	PF
Cooper, f-c	3	2	2
Isaacs, f	2	0	2
Smith, c-f	2	2	1
Holt, g	6	0	4
Bethards, g	2	0	5
Jenkins, g	0	0	0
Totals	15	4	14

xTechnical foul.
Free throws missed: Oshkosh 9—Preboski, Vander Meulen 2, Edwards 5, Mullen; New York 3—Cooper, Holt 2.
Officials: Referee—Art Mansfield, University of Wisconsin; umpire, Bob Kolf, Oshkosh State Teachers college.

Score by quarters:
Oshkosh 9—20—28—39
New York 7—17—28—34

CITY CHAMPIONS DOWN SHELL FIVE

Bleckingers Defeat Bitter Rivals in a Game Saturday by 30 to 20

Bleckingers. Major AA champs of the Muncy league, downed their bitterest rival, Shell, in a nip and tuck encounter played at the preliminary to the professional battle Saturday night at the Recreation gym. The final score was 30 to 20 with the game much closer than the score would indicate.

Shell stepped out in the opening stanza and, hitting a couple of long shots, built up a 9 to 8 advantage. In the second quarter, Hank Luft found the range for Bleckingers and lofted in several pretty field goals to give "Blecks" a 16 to 12 edge at the intermission.

Dominating play the third period, Bleckingers increased its lead to 23 to 16 at the start of the final session and managed to maintain a 10-point difference to the finish.

TAKES SCORING HONORS
Luft netted five buckets and three gift tosses to annex scoring honors for the winners with Les Nell and Ky Duex high for the losers on six counters apiece. The box score of the game follows:

BLECKINGERS (30)	FG	FT	PF
Luft, f	5	3	0
Scheuermann, f	2	0	2
Arndt, f	0	1	2
Erban, c	1	1	1
Koch, g	1	2	2
Lautenschlager, g	0	1	4
Wickinson, g	2	0	2
Totals	11	8	13

SHELL (20)

	FG	FT	PF
L. Nell, f	2	2	3
Banner, f	0	3	4
Riese, c	1	0	4
Garbe, g	1	0	2
Duex, g	2	2	2
E. Nell, g	0	1	2
Totals	6	8	17

Referee: Ervin Schultz.

WISCONSIN, PENN TO RESUME CAGE RELATIONS IN '38

Madison, (AP)—After an eight-year lapse, the University of Wisconsin will resume basketball relations with the University of Pennsylvania in a game to be played at Philadelphia Feb. 23, 1938. Athletic Director Harry Stuhldreier announced.

In 1930, Penn eagles were selected to meet the Badgers in the game which dedicated the Wisconsin fieldhouse—Wisconsin winning, 25-12.

Athletic relations between the two schools were opened by former Athletic Director George Little, now at Rutgers university, when the Badger football team upset Penn here in the fall of 1930. A return game the following year was won by Pennsylvania at Franklin field, Philadelphia.

On the Sidelines

WITH THE SPORTS EDITOR

Records, most of them disastrous to the New York Renaissance basketball team, were established Saturday night in the super-thriller which elevated the Oshkosh All Stars to a place as claimants of the world's professional basketball championship.

It was the first time—this season or in recent years—any team had beaten the Rens in a series of games. This record was the basis of the Rens' former claim of a world championship. Oshkosh's claim for the pro title is hinged on the fact that the All Stars licked the team which reigned in pro ranks.

It was the first time, according to those who talked with the Rens' road manager, that the Renaissance had lost three games on successive nights. They lost here Thursday, were beaten by one point by the Celtics at Chicago, Friday, and then lost again to the All Stars here Saturday.

There will be skeptics who may say "Look at the record" of the Renaissance and the All Stars, and they might maintain that the Rens should be entitled to be champions still, figuring number of games won and lost. Admittedly, the Rens compiled an extraordinary record in this regard.

However, dopsters must consider this: The Rens were not up against topnotch talent in every game on their road tour. Many of the teams were merely "home town favorites," corresponding in caliber to some of the teams in the Municipal league in Oshkosh. It was only when the Rens met teams like the Oshkosh All Stars and the Celtics that they were really given a test of their basketball ability. Naturally, under those circumstances, the record of many wins for the Rens was not difficult to attain.

Oshkosh did not play as many games during the season (the final count being 29 won and six lost). But with only one or two exceptions—the Chicago Crusaders, Celtics, Renaissance, Whiting, and others, Oshkosh fans, in return for their box office support, seemed to demand teams of proven caliber. Barristering

through the state or the midwest, Oshkosh might likewise have compiled a record of many wins, for there are few teams in the midwest that would stand much chance against the Stars.

It is no reflection on the excellent coaching and fine record of the Oshkosh High school basketball team to say that the Oshkosh All Stars have been a factor in the success of the Indians this season. Coach Jack Nussbaum would undoubtedly be one of the first to agree that the high type of player and the fine brand of basketball offered by Lonnie Darling's All Stars has been an inspiration to his proteges.

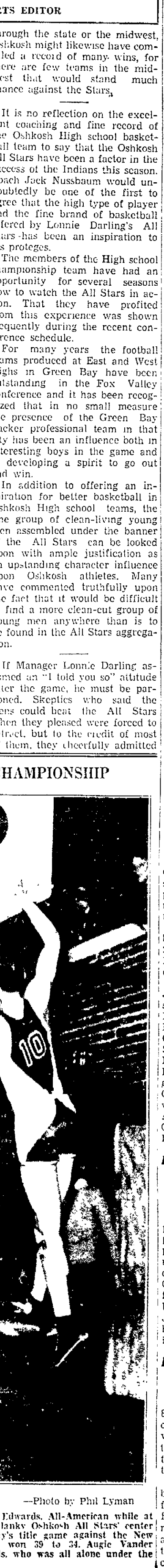
The members of the High school championship team have had an opportunity for several seasons now to watch the All Stars in action. That they have profited from this experience was shown frequently during the recent conference schedule.

For many years the football teams produced at East and West High in Green Bay have been outstanding in the Fox Valley conference and it has been recognized that in no small measure the presence of the Green Bay Packer professional team in that city has been an influence both in developing a spirit to go out and win.

In addition to offering an inspiration for better basketball in Oshkosh High school teams, the fine group of clean-living young men assembled under the banner of the All Stars can be looked upon with ample justification as an up-standing character influence upon Oshkosh athletes. Many have commented truthfully upon the fact that it would be difficult to find a more clean-cut group of young men anywhere than is to be found in the All Stars aggregation.

If Manager Lonnie Darling assumed an "I told you so" attitude after the game, he must be pardoned. Skeptics who said the Rens could beat the All Stars when they pleased were forced to retreat, but to the credit of most of them, they cheerfully admitted

CLINCHES THE CHAMPIONSHIP



—Photo by Phil Lyman

they were wrong. "I'm bringing the Rens back here just to show the fans we can beat them," said Darling when he scheduled the final two games. His hunch was right, and it provided a fitting climax for a successful season.

Individual members of the All Stars were as happy as Jack Nussbaum's High school boys after winning their first undisputed Fox river valley basketball championship. At a celebration attended by the entire squad after the game, LeRoy Edwards and Big Bill Mangan, rival centers, walked with arms flung over one another's shoulder. "I guess I didn't do much to help," modestly declared Pete Preboski, overlooking the point that he was only two points short of being high scorer for the series, "but this was certainly one game we were glad to win."

In the first five games of the Rens series, Preboski led the scorers for Oshkosh with 48 points. He added 11 points last Thursday night, and three Saturday night gave him a total of 62. Edwards scored 43 points in the first five games and made a total of 21 in the sixth and seventh games, becoming high scorer with 64 points for the series.

Following the game Saturday night a number of followers of the team gathered at the Athenaeum hotel for a victory celebration in the English room, guests of the All Stars. Refreshments were served by the players themselves who had contributed to a fund during the season by misuses in the various games. When they mused a free throw or a potshot, it cost them a nickel. The party was a gesture of appreciation on the part of the All Stars to express their appreciation for the support of loyal fans. At the party Saturday's game was replayed verbally and the outstanding events of the season were recalled. Prospects for the coming year were discussed and Manager Darling announced that the All Stars will take an eastern trip next year in December, probably during the Christmas holidays, when the best pro teams in the east will be played.

The Rens were without the services of "Bruiser" Saitch, Saturday. In the game Friday night at Chicago with the Original Celtics, he was injured quite badly in a mixup in the game. He suffered a cut over one eye and five stitches were required to close the wound and another cut on one elbow required two stitches to close.

The state tournament contenders are:
Class A: Beloit, Superior Central, Madison East, Madison West, Stevens Point, Shorewood, Racine Park, Rhinelander.
Class B: Ashland, Tomahawk, Beaver Dam, Stoughton, Durand, Sparta, Shawano, South Milwaukee.

Class C: Edgar, Spring Green, Elkhart Lake, Minocqua, Fall Creek, Milltown, Marion, Middleton.
Platak, who defeated Dr. Herbert E. Noll, Los Angeles, 21-19, was pitted against Bill Mauer, St. Paul, today. Mauer drew a bye in the first round.

Other second round contestants: Jack Schwartz, Washington; Erskin Good, Kansas City; Joe Powers, Los Angeles; Robert Drescher, Milwaukee; Lloyd McGinnis, Los Angeles; Joe Polaski, St. Paul; Albert Zerbo, Detroit; Edward Rawlings, Kansas City; Louis Zerbo, Detroit; Elmer Saniger, Milwaukee; Harold Wallace, Chicago; Jack Goldstein, Louisville; Paul Turner, St. Paul; Sam Atcheson, Memphis; Henry Schultz, Chicago; Ray Kuhn, Fort Wayne, Ind.

HANDBALL CHAMPION CLIMBS AT TOURNEY

Chicago — (UP)—Joe Platak, Chicago, seeking his third consecutive handball singles championship, reached the second round of the National A. A. U. tournament today.

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- 1906—Appleton.
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- 1932—Beloit.
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- 1934—Beloit, Class A; De Pere, Class B.
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- 1936—Superior Central, Class A; Port Washington, B, Pardeeville, C.

POCKET BILLIARD STARS TO BATTLE FOR WORLD TITLE

New York — (AP)—Twelve star players, the cream of America's pocket billiard field, will start in pursuit today of \$8,000 prize money and the pocket billiard championship of the world. Jimmy Carras of Wilmington, Del., defending champion, and Andrew Ponzl, of New York, who retired as undefeated champion last year, headline the tournament's opening card.

The defending champion, Deborah Verry of Worcester, Mass., faced such opposition as Kathryn Hemphill of Columbia, S. C., winner of three Florida tournaments, and Mrs. Glenna Collett Vare, six-times national champion, among other luminaries.

High School Basket Meet Opens Tuesday

Madison — (UP)—The 1937 Wisconsin high school basketball tournament, a four-day meet starting tomorrow at the University of Wisconsin field house here, is the 22nd renewal of the annual classic.

From 1905 through 1915 invitational tournaments were held at Lawrence college. These were considered state championships as no official tournaments were held in that period.

The official state tournaments started in 1916, with the first Wisconsin interscholastic association meet at Milwaukee. The Lawrence invitational also was held in 1916, and that year was considered the better of the two tournaments, Fond du Lac won the W. I. A. A. title but lost in the semifinals of the Lawrence meet. Baraboo took that title.

ENDED AFTER 1918

The Lawrence tournaments were discontinued after 1918. After 1919 the W. I. A. A. state meets were held in Madison in the university armory until 1931, when they were moved over to the field house. The 1936 tournament was held at Wisconsin Rapids.

The state tournament was conducted in one unlimited class from the start until 1934. In 1934 and 1935 it was split into A and B divisions and last year was divided in A, B and C classes.

Fond du Lac holds the record for the most state championships, although it has not competed in a state tournament since 1926. Fond du Lac won four W. I. A. A. titles and two in the tournaments sponsored by Lawrence college.

Superior Central, defending Class A champion, and Beloit, tied for second place in official state championships with three each. Superior Central also won an unofficial title in 1908.

WIN WAY 9 TIMES

Beloit has won its way to the state meet nine times. Superior holds a record of nine straight tournament appearances from 1918 through 1926. Beloit played in seven straight, from 1929 through 1935, winning titles in 1932-33-34, and is the only team ever to win three consecutive championships. Superior can tie that record if it wins this year, having won in 1935 and 1936.

Beloit holds a record with a string of 16 consecutive tournament victories. Superior Central will start this year's meet with six to its credit.

Of the 1937 regional champions one Class A, five Class B and four Class C teams will be playing in their first state tournament. Shorewood is the Class A newcomer. The Class B schools are Stoughton, South Milwaukee, Beaver Dam, Sparta and Durand. The new Class C teams are Elkhart Lake, Minocqua, Spring Green and Milltown.

PLAYED BEFORE

All but one of the Class A teams have played in state tournaments before but only Superior Central, Beloit, and Stevens Point have won titles. None of this year's B and C contestants have won championships before. The 1936 champion, Port Washington, in Class B, and Pardeeville, Class C, were eliminated in district play this year.

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CLASS A

Superior Central: Defending and 1935 champion, in 17th state meet, bids to tie Beloit's record of three straight state titles. Undefeated in last 26 games, 15 this season. Record of 53 wins in 56 games, team averages 6-foot-1 Coach—Harry Conley.
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