

• NEIL COLLIER, 5-11 Grizzly guard, drives in for a lay-up shot in the second half of the Grizzly-Pine Bluff game. This goal was one of many spectacular shots which highlighted a bitter game. Another Grizzly player, Harold Owens (45) watches, as do Pine Bluff's two players, Charles Gibbs (16) and Charles Dawson (19). The Grizzlies won the game 48-34. (Photo by Tidwell)

# SPORTLIGHTS

by Wendell Nance

• **STUDENT SPORTSMANSHIP** and larger town crowds at home games will be an important factor when Big 7 coaches begin voting on schools where the annual Big 7 tournament might be held. Such a tourney has never been held here because of inadequate seating and space.

IN THE FIRST THREE road games the Grizzlies played and lost, they wore solid red suits. Since then, they have always worn solid white or red and white, and have gone great guns since then.

ALL BOYS who are planning to go out for track are urged to begin training in some way, for Big 7 track season opens about March 1.

# Bears and Wildcats clash in conference tilt tomorrow

• **IT'S GOING TO BE** a wild game tomorrow—at least that's what all the predictions show as the Bruins travel to North Little Rock to do battle with the high-flying Wildcats.

Up front for the Cats' scoring threat are Wayne Yates and Tommy Worrell, who have proved their worth as a deadly one-two punch.

Although the past game with Little Rock was more important from rivalry standpoint, this game is more important in conference standings, for statistics show that North Little Rock is "the team to beat" for Fort Smith.

AFTER HANDING the Fayetteville Bulldogs a 43-22 setback on their own court earlier this season, the Grizzlies will play host to them in a return game

Tuesday at Ramsey gym. Although Benny Winborn's Bulldogs do not have a good record so far, they are certainly not to be considered push-overs.

February 11 the Grizzlies will journey to Texarkana for a return tilt with the Razorbacks. Earlier this year the Bears came out on the top side of a Big 7 game on their home court by defeating the Razorbacks 41-31.

HOT SPRINGS, the dark horse of the Big 7, will be host to the Grizzlies February 15. The Trojans gained the basketball spotlight early in the new year when they pulled a surprise win over the Little Rock Tigers.

The timely rebounding of Harold Owens and the steady floor play by Jim Gattis, Earl Furlow, John King and Ronnie Bateman should sway the game in favor of the Bruins.

## Grizzlies stun Tigers, win fifth Big 7 game

• **EVEN TELEVISION** did not miss the state's main basketball attraction between the Little Rock Tigers and those barnstorming Grizzlies Friday night in Little Rock.

Jim Gattis, star forward and Bruin high point man, hit 16 points in leading the Grizzlies in a 51-43 pasting of the Tigers.

Little Rock stars Brooks Robinson and Ray Wilson could not hold down the rebounding of Harold Owens and John King.

Ronnie Bateman and Earl Furlow constantly kept the Tigers confused with their superb ball handling.

A 37-24 ROMPING of the Van Buren Pointers January 25

spurred on a long time rivalry as the Grizzlies proved their defensive skill.

This game was played before a packed field house at Ramsey gym. Leading the way for the Bruin scorers was Bateman with nine points.

FURLOW and Neil Collier each contributed seven points toward the winning cause.

Van Buren's Mister-Do-Everything, Pete Collier, lead all scorers with 10 points.

The Grizzlies' Owens and Terry Holt completely dominated both backboards as the Bears kept a clean win record on their home court.

FORCED TO USE a zone defense in the last half, the Grizzlies edged the Conway Wampus Cats 46-43 at Conway January 18.

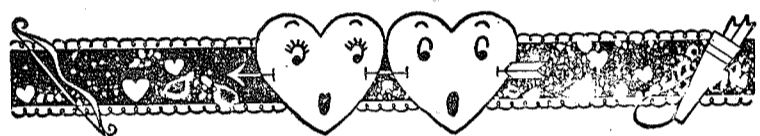
Three Bruin starters were hampered with four fouls, as Conway converted 16 times from the 15-foot mark.

Bateman and Holt backed the winners with eight points each, as the Bruins connected on 17 of 51 shots from the field and 12 of 17 from the foul line.

Conway's Joe Ford matched Gattis with 16 points, and Henry Hawk added 10 in the losing cause.

AFTER SUFFERING their first conference loss at the hands of Pine Bluff, the Grizzlies again met the Zebras at Ramsey gym January 21 and promptly defeated them 48-34.

Top man for the Bears' offense was Holt with 12 points, followed by Gattis and Furlow with 10 each.



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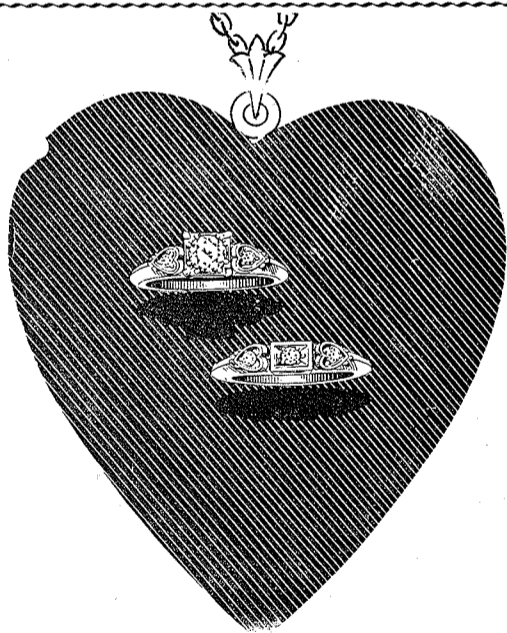
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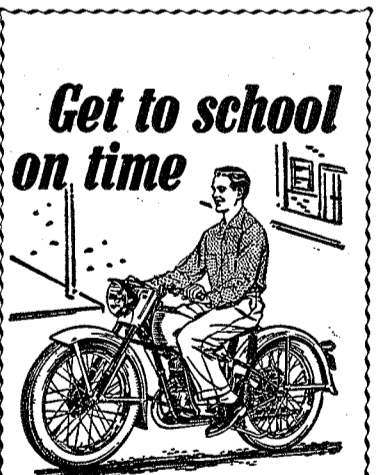
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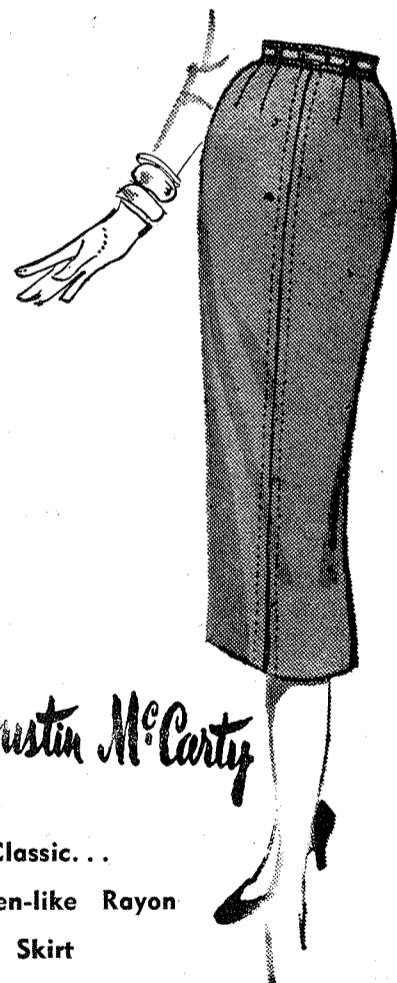
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