

THE GRIZZLY

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No. 11

Grizzlies win state tournament



Grizzlies

end

1955

season

with

10-2

Big 7

record

19-5

total

Bears take North Little Rock 60-55 as Arkansas watches with television

● "THOSE FORT SMITH GRIZZLIES ARE THE BEST." This saying was proven true by the Grizzlies out-lasting the ever-powerful North Little Rock Wildcats 60-55 in a ball game which gave the Bruins the title of Arkansas Class A Champions.

A small crowd at Boston Coliseum in Little Rock plus television viewers watched the Bruins' junior guard, John King, break a 55-55 deadlock with a beautiful jump shot. However, it was a last minute erip shot by all-stater Jim Gattis that gave the Bruins the winning margin and Arkansas' highest basketball honor.

North Little Rock's two man team, Wayne Yates and Tommy Worrell were held to comparatively low scoring, 19 and 17 points respectively, but they still led their team in the scoring column. Yates left the game via the foul route due to the added pressure applied by the Bruins' deadly centers, Earl Furlow and Terry Holt. Furlow also fouled out, but not before he had contributed nine points.

Ronnie Bateman, Fort Smith's senior guard, kept North Little Rock in tow most of the night as he proved his right to be on the all-state team.

Although junior Neil Collier didn't make the all-state squad, his 21 points in the state finals gave only a mild glimpse of what he should do next year. Juniors, Harold Owens and Bill Ragland, each strengthened Coach "Ace" Parker's defense as he added his second state championship within five years at FSHS to the hallowed trophy case.

In their waltz to the state crown, Coach Parker's boys defeated McGehee 67-24, Marianna, 66-36 and Van Buren 45-41.

Up front every game for the

Grizzlies were three seniors, out of which two, Gattis and Bateman, were placed on the all-state squad for their outstanding play. The third senior, Earl Furlow, was named for the second consecutive year to the Big 7 top ten.

The Grizzlies won their right to play in the state play-offs by defeating Little Rock 51-47 in the Big 7 tournament held March 3-5 in Hot Springs. However, law-of-averages played a major part in the loss to the North Little Rock Wildcats in the tournament finals.

FSHS plays host tomorrow to annual bi-state festival

● BI-STATE SPRING music festival begins tomorrow. The festival is the biggest ever, bringing more than 3,000 musicians to Fort Smith.

"We can't stop it from growing," said Floyd Pitts, Grizzly band director. "The contestants like the friendly atmosphere and the personal touch that is stressed here."

ACCORDING TO MR. PITTS the students at FSHS have gone a long way toward making the festival a success with the courtesies they extended to the visitors.

Scheduled for Friday are the 250 piano solos, 330 instrumental solos, 220 vocal solos, 125 instrumental ensembles, 25 vocal ensembles, and 25 choirs. Ratings to be given are superior, excellent, good, fair, and poor.

FRIDAY NIGHT the concert of champions will be presented. It will be composed of the members that each judge considers the best that he heard that day.

The Lawton, Oklahoma, high

school band will be the guest and will present a concert immediately following the Concert of Champions.

MEMBERS OF THE LAWTON are being housed by members of the Fort Smith bands.

On Saturday the bands will step into the spotlight to compete for first divisions.

THE GRIZZLY BAND IS in closer competition than ever with two other class A bands in the running.

"With concentrated effort and a certain amount of spirit, our band can come through with another first division," said Mr. Pitts.

THREE NUMBERS that the band will use are the march "Emblem of Unity" by J. J. Richards, the First Movement from the Unfinished symphony by Schubert, and the Finale to the New World Symphony by Anton Dvorak.

"I think that the festival, so far as FSHS is concerned should be the best ever," stated Mr. Pitts.

● CHAMPION GRIZZLIES are standing left to right Fred Simpson, David Plunkett, Roger Lee, Jim Gattis, John King, Earl Furlow, Ronnie Bateman, Terry Holt, Ben Paddock, Bill Ragland, Neil Collier, Elliot Minor and Harold Owens. Kneeling from left to right are Ronnie Tabor, Larry Holt, Neil Rodgers, George White (student manager), George Gordon and Coach "Ace" Parker.

This is the complete Grizzly basketball team as they pose with the trophy awarded them for winning the state Class A basketball tournament which is the highest basketball honor in the state. The Grizzlies won by beating North Little Rock 60-55.

President-sponsor banquet is tonight

● TONIGHT at 6:30 in the home economics building, the Key Club will stage its fourth annual club president-sponsor banquet, according to Bob Anderson, chairman of the banquet committee.

This is one of the club's biggest functions of the year. R. Earl Farnsworth, principal, will do the cooking as he has traditionally done in the past.

APPROXIMATELY 22 club presidents and their sponsors will be present at the dinner.

Other members of the banquet committee are Bill Barksdale and Charles Ledbetter.

Choruses travel to Poteau meet

● FOR THE THIRD consecutive year FSHS was represented at the annual Poteau Music Festival held March 7 and 8 at Poteau, Oklahoma. Those attending this year's festival were members of the Bel Canto, sophomore girls' and boys' glee clubs.

Although the Fort Smith delegation was the only Arkansas representation, it was one of eleven school participants.

THE FESTIVAL WAS under the direction of Dr. Earl Willhoite whose appearance was made through special arrangement with Fred Waring.

A concert given by the mass chorus consisting of 700 voices concluded the annual event.

Key Club says, 'Come on, we're giving a clambake!'

● COME ON, y'all, and follow the crowd that's going to the Key Club's annual jubilee "Dixie Clambake" March 25. The evening planned at the high school auditorium promises to be one of fine entertainment, according to John Gossett, president and co-director.

This year's Key Club minstrel will include, said John, such famous and outstanding entertainers as Nancy Gail Arnold, Lloyd Eacret, the Kiwana Kings, Raymond Moore, Danny Efurd, Bill Acord, Tony Council, Doc Miller, Larry Hillhouse, the Key Club Chorus and the Columbian kick line girls.

BEHIND THE SCENES are production—Bob Haynes, J. D. Sagely, Danny Efurd and Bill Hawthorne; publicity—Bill Barksdale, Rex Murdock and Barry Hon; set—Ann Whalen and Hilma McAuliffe (art classes); program

and tickets—Bob Anderson; accompanist—Ann Wilson; and the Columbians will serve as ushers.

SELECTED AS END MEN this year are John "Sidepocket" Gossett, Bob "Rock Bottom" Anderson, Tommy "White Lightning" Barr, Tommy "Hayfever" Cutting, Gary "Shagnasty" Wisener and Wendell "Eightball" Nance.

Admission is 50 cents and tickets will go on sale by the Key Club members Monday. Proceeds from the minstrel go to furnish funds for the club's various service projects during the year.

Saturday Gary Wisener, Bob Anderson and Tony Council will leave for Joplin, Missouri, for the Mo.-Ark. District Key Club Convention. Tony is a candidate for district treasurer.

Commented Bob Anderson, "If Tony is elected for this office we hope to enter him in the district gubernatorial race next year."



● WHA' Y'ALL SAY, MAN?" It's all part of the act as Key Club end men hunt around in the costume room for "odds and ends" to make up their wardrobe for the "Dixie Clambake" coming up March 25. Left to right are Tom(Hayfever) Cutting, Wendell (Eightball) Nance, Gary (Shagnasty) Wisener, John (Sidepocket) Gossett and in front Bob (Rock Bottom) Anderson. Absent from the picture is Tom (White Lightning) Barr.

Easter egg dyeing to be JRC project

● PLANS are being made by the Junior Red Cross council to continue a "Easter bunny project" which was begun last year.

Stokely Hays, chairman, Buddy Evans and Carol Griffiee make up a committee appointed to buy baskets and candy and to dye Easter eggs for children in an orphanage. Last year the council provided these Easter gifts for the Rosalie Tilles Home.

IT IS also hoped that the council can take their assembly which was given in November out to Camp Chaffee to be presented in the hospital wards. Committee for this is Jack Gunter, Ann Ellefson, Carol Griffiee, John Mott and Ann Patton.

SCRIPTS, to be tape recorded and played back over radio stations to publicize the blood mobile, have been completed. Participating on this project are John Mott, John Gossett, Carol Griffiee, Patsy Price, Stokely Hays, Buddy Evans, Frances McShane, Carolyn Yandell, Ann Patton, Bill Needham, Sue Woodruff and Charles Ledbetter.

Recent projects completed by the council include placing Red Cross Fund Drive posters in downtown business store windows and packing Junior Red Cross gift boxes from all city chapters at the Welfare Building.