

1926 State Tournament...

CITY CHAMPIONS PREPARING FOR STATE TOURNEY

Bunk Ross is working hard with the city basketball champions, preparing them for the Tiffin tournament, in which they are scheduled to take the floor Friday night against Sandusky high, the game being set to start at 7 o'clock.

Coaches Ross and Laub are of the belief that the boys can win from Sandusky and are working hard to perfect the team work of the squad with this idea in mind.

When the teams met some time ago on the Sandusky floor, the Erie county lads got the verdict in a game that was slow and uninteresting, by a margin of four points, the score being 26 to 22.

Since the time of the previous game, Swint has been added to the lineup at center and this gives Bob Fangboner a chance to get into the game at a guard position, where he is of much more value to the team.

With Bowers and Althoff at forwards, Swint at center and Fangboner and Foos at the guards, the team presents a much more formidable lineup than at the time of the Sandusky game. Their defeat of St. Joseph's high, county champions, in the final game for the city championship, showed a marked development in the work of the squad and a victory over the Sanduskians will be no surprise to those who have been watching the boys in their workouts during the last week.

PURPLE AND WHITE OUTFIT IS READY FOR BIG TOURNEY

**In Great Shape for Fling in District
Event at Tiffin Friday**

"Bunk" Ross, coach of the Fremont high school basketball squad, this morning named the eight men who will make the trip to Tiffin, where the team plays Sandusky Friday night at the Tiffin tournament.

Eight players are allowed each team according to the ruling of tournament officials and Ross has named the regular lineup, Bowers and Althoff forwards, Foos and Bob Fangboner guards, and Swint, who has been playing a bangup game at center since his entry in the lineup. Johnny McCarthy, Harold Fangboner and Frank Lance will complete the squad.

At 7 o'clock tomorrow night the Fremont squad will take the floor against the Sandusky five and should they succeed in winning this game which is more than probable, they will meet the winner of the Fostoria-Bucyrus game which will be played during the afternoon.

There are a number of classy teams entered in the tournament and the Rossmen will have to step if they are to make a showing worth while, but the boys are confident that they will hold their own.

Ross said this morning that he will leave Fremont early Friday afternoon so that he may witness the Fostoria-Bucyrus game in order to be in position to know something of their style of play should the Croghan street lads be successful in their first contest.

JINX FOLLOWED F. H. S. DURING PRESENT YEAR

Cage Team Preyed Upon by Hoodoo in Many Ways

The Fremont high school basketball squad will probably play their last game of the season tonight or tomorrow at the Tiffin tournament, where they are scheduled to meet Sandusky high tonight.

The season has been a poor one for the purple and white, they having gone through the entire league schedule without winning a single game, and with the exception of the Sandusky contest, they failed to even come close to winning one.

Starting the season, it seemed that the team would break the jinx which has seemed to follow the Fremont basketball teams for several years. The faculty team was defeated and Clyde went home on the short end of the count, and then the team went to Lakeside, where they lost their first game, just the beginning of a disastrous season.

Soon after the first of the year, Ollie Zink, who was expected to have his biggest year at center, was declared ineligible, and Kenny Hawk gave up his studies at the local school to enter Waite high at Toledo. In the first contest with St. Joseph's high for the city title, Sommers broke his arm.

These things and others which happened during the season, made the task of Coach Bunk Ross one that was not a bed of roses. Efforts to replace the injured and the deserters were futile. Every time that it was thought a hole in the lineup had been plugged, something happened and it had to be done all over again.

The only bright spot of the season for the purple and white, and the only accomplishment for which the team can be given credit, one that will cause it to be remembered in the annals of athletics at the school, was the winning of the city championship from the St. Joe cagers, a feat which had not been accomplished by any of the teams of the school since the establishment of the city series four years ago.

If they win from Sandusky at the Tiffin tournament, students at the

school will think the season was ended in a blaze of glory.

"SURE FITS" TAKE ANOTHER

In a fast, snappy game, the Willys Overland DeLuxe basketball team of Toledo, fell before the onslaughts of the Hodes-Zink Sure-Fit five by a score of 29 to 28, Thursday night at Educational hall. The game was close throughout and whoever is the manager of the Sure Fits, could not have made a better selection in picking out the Toledo team as opponents.

The first quarter found the teams even with the score being 9 and 9. In the second period it looked like curtains for the Sure Fits as the Toledo team scored five points to their opponents' none, making the score 13 to 9 at the half.

In the third quarter the locals came out of their slump and scored 13 points to the visitors' 9, making the score 23 and 22 in favor of the Toledo team. In the final section the Hodes-Zink team went out and won the game by a single point, scoring 7 to the visitors' 5 in this period.

As usual, it was a battle between Ray Beeker and Red Johnson for scoring honors of the Sure Fits. Johnson scored 15 points to Beeker's 14. Shively, who was the star of the Toledo team, scored 15 points, R. Myers 8, and W. Noe 5, which ended all scoring.

"Tope" Babione handled the game in good style. Time of the quarters were eight minutes.

FARM HAND SAID TO BE WIZARD OF THE TRACK

Sydney, Australia, March 5.—A farm hand from the Antipodes may yet become the world's champion middle distance runner.

After Lloyd Hahn of the Boston A. A., who is here on tour, had been beaten three times in a series of one-mile races by Randolph Rose, the farm hand in question, he asserted that Rose had the possibility of becoming a real rival of Paavo Nurmi, the champion from Finland.

Now 25.5 per cent of the farms in Ohio are operated by tenants; five years ago the percentage was 29.5.

"New York Wants Name for New Hotel." Why not call it "The Palms?"

SANDUSKY PUTS FREMONT HIGH OUT OF GEAR

"Basstown" Cagers Spread Defeat on
Thick at Tiffin

By J. A. (Gimmie) Murphy.

The final game of the season for Fremont high school's basketball team resulted in a defeat for the lads who wear the Purple and White at the hands of Sandusky, a team that has improved 100 per cent since the meeting of the teams at Sandusky a few weeks ago, and one which will give the Erie county school a real challenge to start the 1927 season with. Score 44 to 14.

But getting back to the tournament game at Tiffin last night, Sandusky had an eight man team, if such a thing is possible, and Coach Jim Miller used every one of them in fact he kept the starters busy with the changes he made.

The game started with Hatchler, the basketball captain of the Erie county outfit, slipping down the floor behind the Fremont guards and dropping one in the lane opening a few minutes after the game started, a moment later slipping one in from the foul line. Bowers made the first shot for Fremont, the only point scored by them during the first quarter which ended with the count 8 to 2.

At the start of the second period, the crowd was on its feet yelling for Fremont, as all Tiffin was pulling for a defeat for Sandusky, the team which had whipped Tiffin last week, but their efforts were of no avail for the team which has prevented the Fremont team from practicing during the week had sapped the strength of the Croghan street boys, and they soon showed the effects.

Swint who was ordered to stay at home by his physician, accompanied the team, and started at center, but had to be removed early in the game, and in the last half, Althoff was replaced with Swint replacing him.

A Thriller.

The thriller of the tournament was the Tiffin-Norwalk game which the latter won after one of the gamiest fights and greatest comebacks ever staged on the Tiffin floor, or any other floor for that matter. At the close of the half, the count was 13 to 8, with Tiffin leading. The Maple City lads came out for the second half and showed that a few points had by the other team meant nothing to them, and in the first few plays had knotted the count without permitting a Tiffin score to be made. At the close of this period, Tiffin had again taken the lead, and the score was 21 to 17.

At the opening of the final quarter, Brown was given a free shot, and made it and in short order he put two shots through the hoop from the field and his team was leading by a single point. Hater, the Tiffin star, then got a holder and the lead again shifted but a free shot by Taylor, put Norwalk on even terms with one and one half minutes to play.

The crowd was again on its feet and the cheer leader of the Tiffin school were working like Trojans and the gym was a regular bedlam. When the flashy Brown slipped down the floor with the snipe Tiffin team at his heels and dropped the ball for two more points and the count was 23 to 21 and it remained at this figure when the gun cracked.

During that final minute, Norwalk had the ball in their possession and gave the most beautiful exhibition of passing that one could care to see, that is, passing the ball from one to another in order to keep the Tiffinites from getting it and having an opportunity of causing it was not stalling, but just keeping the ball out of play and staying within the rules. Tiffin had defeated Bellevue in the afternoon 24 to 17.

Postoria Out.

Bucyrus defeated Postoria in the afternoon, 42 to 28 in one of the roughest games of the tournament. Postoria finishing with 4 men, two having gone out on fouls and two having been banished by the referee for unsportsmanlike conduct.

This afternoon Norwalk and Massena, which defeated Galton yesterday, will meet for the right to enter the finals and the winner of this game will meet the winner of the Sandusky-Bucyrus battle for the championship, which Bucyrus should win.

From what I saw of the games yesterday I am naming the following players on an all tournament team and will compare my judgment later when the selection of the team is made by Tiffin action. At the forwards Belmont of Tiffin and Scam of Postoria, at center, Rush of Bucyrus, and the guards will be Hater of Tiffin, and Hatchler of Sandusky.

"BUTCH" BOWERS ONLY FREMONT MAN ON LIST

After a careful consideration of the merits of the players participating in the basketball tournament of the Class A teams held at Tiffin Friday and Saturday, the all star teams were picked by the following sport representatives present at the tournament: Pat Sheldon of the Bellevue Gazette; Frederic Ball, Tiffin Advertiser; Paul Ebel, Tiffin Tribune; Dan Cook, Sandusky Register; Jimmie Murphy, Fremont Messenger; Steve Stahl, Mansfield Journal, and Harold Switzer, Fostoria Review.

The teams:

First Team

Haley, Tiffin, right forward.
Kish, Bucyrus, left forward. z
Simon Mansfield, center and captain.

Hotchkiss, Sandusky, right guard.
McMullen, Mansfield, left guard.

Second Team

Senn, of Fostoria, right forward.
Brown, Norwalk, left forward and captain.

Holzmueller, Sandusky, center.
Grathwol, Sandusky, right guard.
Richards, Mansfield, left guard.

Honorable Mention

Forwards—Bowers, Fremont; Beisner, Tiffin; Gabele, Norwalk; Hagamier, Bucyrus; Lynch, Mansfield.

Centers—Miller of Norwalk and Zinn of Galion.

Guards—Snyder, Bucyrus; Martin, Mansfield; Sherek, Tiffin; Thom, Sandusky; Taylor, Norwalk; McClintock, Bellevue.

WHAT AILS BASKETBALL AT FREMONT HIGH? A BIG PROBLEM CONFRONTS

By J. A. (Jimmie) Murphy.

A basketball fan, said to me some time ago, What is the matter with Fremont high school basketball? The speaker is a graduate of the school and a fellow, who until a short time ago, never missed a game at the local gym and who on many occasions followed the team in its travels to the gyms of the other schools in the L. B. S.

The question is one that has been heard many times during the season just closed, and it has set me to thinking. What is the matter with Fremont high school basketball?

Back a dozen years ago, Fremont is said to have had cage teams that were able to hold their own with those of the other schools with which games were scheduled, but since that time have had few teams that have been up among the leaders. In 1915 the team made a good record and the team of 1921, of which Bunk Ross, the present coach, and Harold Wendler were members, made a good showing.

In the last two years Fremont has been represented by teams which between them have been able to win but one game in the L. B. S. that from Bellevue a year ago.

Many fans say that a city the size of Fremont cannot hope to produce teams of the class of those produced by Lorain, Elyria and Sandusky, but when it is considered that Bellevue, Norwalk and Oberlin can turn out teams that are up in the running and are not handicapped by the fact that they are of much smaller size than Fremont, then the cause lies somewhere else.

Favoritism?

What is this cause? Some of the fans say that favoritism keeps many from being given a chance to make the teams and that for this reason many of the students fail to turn out for basketball. This is incorrect, in the opinion of the writer, who watched a squad of nearly sixty students working out in the early season preliminaries of the present season and it is my belief that the best men on the squad were selected for the varsity team.

In practice at the start of the sea-

son, the team looked as if it would set a record, not equalled by Fremont teams during the last five years, but when the season got under way they failed to live up to expectations and from the time the first game was played against Lorain they have looked like anything but a class A team.

There is one exception, or rather two to the above statement, and those occasions were when the team faced St. Joseph's high in the games which decided the city championship. In these games they looked like a real basketball squad and stepped out on the floor with a dash and snap that lent the appearance of a high grade school team.

Up on the Bit.

Against every team in the conference the locals went on the floor in a perfunctory manner that seemed to admit defeat before the referee tossed the ball for the first play, except in the Sandusky game when they met a green squad which were making their first appearance of the season as regulars and showed a fight right up to the finish which kept the result in doubt until the firing of the timers gun for the ending of the battle.

There has been a lot of hard luck following the team during the last campaign starting with the ineligibility of Ollie Zink, and the desertion of Kenny Hawk, but, with the number of students which are to be drawn upon for players there should have been players ready to step into the places of these men.

There is something wrong, somewhere, whether it be with the method of selecting players, the coaching of the team, or the conditioning of the players, we do not know. Whatever it is or wherever the fault lies it should be learned now so that at the opening of the next season a team can be assembled that will give Fremont its rightful place in the league standing.

The Messenger will be glad to have any of its readers who may be acquainted with the facts, or any who have ideas on the question, communicate with the sporting editor, and will be glad to publish any communications which may have a bearing on the question. What is the matter with Fremont high school basketball?