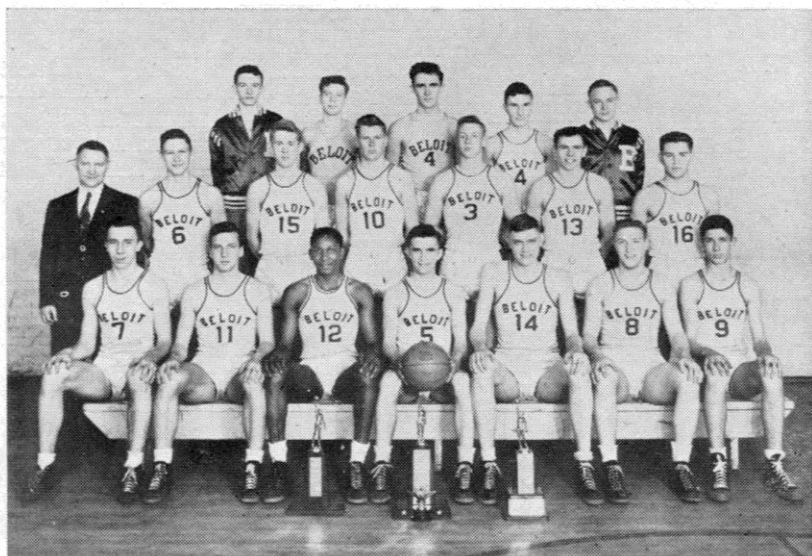


STATE BASKETBALL TOURNAMENT

The 1947 State Tournament set new attendance records. The previous high of 47,190 was exceeded by 6,367 when a total of 53,557 attended the 1947 games. This substantial increase in attendance was truly remarkable when the unfavorable weather is taken into consideration. Blair, a team from the smallest community ever represented in the State meet, did not pull a Lena or Reedsville, but did make an excellent showing in their two games against West Allis-Central and Madison-East losing the first 40 to 38 and the other 42 to 38. Hurley was the prize package of the meet and played surprisingly good ball until late in the final game against Beloit when size and experience caught up to them.



Beloit — Winner State Basketball Tournament

Tournament Basketball has arrived in Wisconsin. The advance sale tickets helped to efficiently handle the record crowds and also gave definite information on the State-wide interest in the tournament. The State meet crowd was truly representative of the entire state. The excellent facilities at the University and the fine cooperation by the athletic department made an outstanding State Tournament possible.

STATE TOURNAMENT SCORES

First Round

Stevens Point 46; Neenah 45 (overtime)
Hurley 35; Tomah 33
West Allis-Central 40; Blair 38
Beloit 45; Madison-East 38

Consolation

Neenah 45; Tomah 41
Madison-East 42; Blair 38

Consolation Championship

Madison-East 37; Neenah 34

Second Round Championship

Hurley 51; Stevens Point 30
Beloit 64; West Allis Central 36

Championship

Beloit 56; Hurley 37

The Contestants:**Beloit**

Coach Carl Nelson brought his team along in great shape through the season and its fine shooting plus height made a definite impression on all present. The team had balance and each member of the first seven men who carried the brunt of the tourney play was a potential scoring ace. Big Bob Wegner at center was a marked man but still tops all scorers in the tourney while Al Grutsch, Art Parker, Vince Stankewitz, Jim Barron, Bill Torrey left little to desire. It was definitely team play that brought the title to Beloit.

**Hurley — Runner-Up State Basketball Tournament****Hurley**

Hurley was the "people's choice" for the crown but the game little ball hounds from the north were just too small in the finale. Superb play by Karl Kaffine, Dom Gentile, and Mike Brown in the meet won high praise from all in hand while the work of Kaffine and Gentile against Stevens Point in the semifinal was hailed as the greatest team guard performance of the meet. Brown was a terrific ball hawk as were Van Hoff and Geach and as Coach Bud Foster of Wisconsin said, it was too bad there could not be two champions.

Blair

A tall Blair team that many hoped would prove to be a second Reeds-ville threat could not quite make it and lost a pair of tough games to more experienced rivals. The great shooting of Carl Herreid won high praise and he practically single-handed kept his team in both games with terrific rebound and shooting in the final minutes. Others on the squad who performed well were Clayton Lee, Donall Berg, Earl Everson, Donald Rogness, and Darrel Slette.

**Madison East — Consolation State Tournament****Madison-East**

The champions of the Big Eight conference won the consolation honors with a great second half rally against Neenah but failed to show the form of pre-tourney play. The hard driving Madison team found its master in Beloit in the first game but went on to nip Neenah in the final. Ralph Brockert, Don Erickson, Ramon Mueller, Glen Schara, Dean Dexter, Neil Schlicht, Ken Sachtjen, Jack Barnhart, Gene Hanson, Charles Anderson, and Norris Ace, did yeoman service for the home town team.

Neenah

Coach Ole Jorgenson's team was another great crowd pleaser in the tourney and after losing a heart breaker to Stevens Point in an overtime game went to the consolation finals. The Neenah guards Tom Stilp and Pat Casperson played great ball and shot with amazing ability. The front line of Jim Powers, Jim Johnson, and Jim Dyreby scored well.

Stevens Point

The Point was rated the outstanding team in the state on the "rating" chart but after staging a fine comeback in the overtime to whip Neenah, could not cope with the fire and dash of Hurley and was dropped from the title chase. The tall Pointers showed plenty of class and reason for attaining their high rating and a team less intent on winning than Hurley might not have blocked them from the finals. Gene Brekke, Bill Snow, Frank Karner, Bob Kluck, Garry Tuszka, Norman Meshak and Jim Mendyke carried the bunt of the work for this five.

Tomah

The usual first round jinx kept close to Tomah's heels in the state meet

and for the fourth year in a row the Indians went down to defeat on the first day. Little Tom Curry and his mates lost two close games but won plenty of support from the fans. It took teams like Hurley and Neenah to knock them out of the title chases.

West Allis Central

Playing for the first time in a state meet, this gallant little team made a great showing and only was blocked from further title play by the eventual champions. A fiery club with speed and great rebound ability, Central was highly rated among the fans and many thought would stop the winning ways of Beloit. Don Kitkowski, Louis Markovich, Jack Taylor, Sam Catarella, Art Lastofka, Dick Ullmer, Nick Krsnick and Don Schultz carried the load for the newcomers.

Tournament Free Throwing

School	Games	Free Throws Attempted	Free Throws Made	Free Throws Missed	Pct.
Neenah	3	47	22	25	.468
Stevens Point	2	41	24	17	.585
Tomah	2	27	16	11	.593
Blair	2	42	22	20	.524
Hurley	3	56	35	21	.643
West Allis Central	2	41	22	19	.537
Madison East	3	78	29	49	.372
Beloit	3	80	49	31	.612
Totals		412	219	193	.532

CONFERENCE AND LEAGUE BASKETBALL FINALS

We have done our very best to secure final reports for the season from all conferences and leagues. If the record is incomplete or inaccurate, conference officials are to blame. Three requests for the information were sent out from the office of the Secretary.

Basketball had another year with increased attendance. One of the problems which must be faced is that of crowd control. Wisconsin crowds were fairly cooperative but considerable booing was evident in a few sections. Crowd control must start within the school. Coaches must take the lead in this vital matter. A coach who constantly finds fault with officiating must accept the responsibility if the crowd becomes difficult.

Many people attended for the first time and were unfamiliar with many of the game details. Schools which used a loud speaker to keep spectators informed helped to sell basketball. Let us continue to develop a still greater interest in the game. But let us not permit the game to supplant the welfare of the boy or the best interests of the school.