



Wauwatosa — Winner State Basketball Tournament

STATE BASKETBALL TOURNAMENT

Wauwatosa High School won the 1948 Wisconsin State High School Basketball tournament at the University of Wisconsin fieldhouse after three days of thrilling play. The Milwaukee suburbanites took the crown by defeating in succession Monroe, Menasha and Eau Claire.

The tourney was one of the hardest fought in its long history and the winners of the 33rd annual title drive richly deserved the honor as they toppled three of the strongest teams in the state in their march to the coveted crown. Paced by two high scoring guards, Bob Wolff and Bill Buechl, the Tosans won the plaudits of capacity crowds of 13,800 that watched their play on three successive nights. The tournament attracted more than 60,000 fans and this without the entry of a Madison team. The final game was a sell-out 24 hours before the players took the floor and the tourney was an assured financial success before the opening whistle was blown.

Tournament Scores

First Round

Eau Claire	39	Hurley	31
Janesville	35	LaCrosse-Logan	30
Wauwatosa	48	Monroe	46
Menasha	63	Wis. Rapids	51

Consolation

Hurley	48	LaCrosse-Logan	30
Wis. Rapids	59	Monroe	56

Consolation Championship

Hurley	39	Wisconsin Rapids	35
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Serond Round Championship

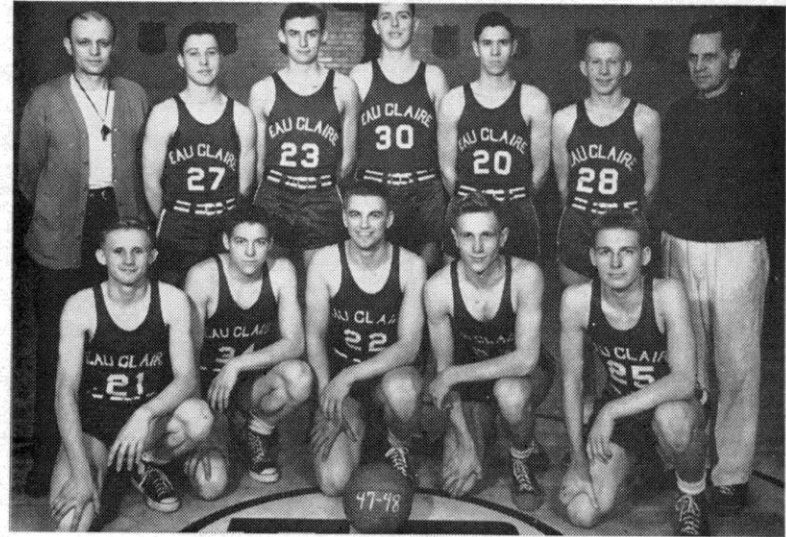
Eau Claire	47	Janesville	40
Wauwatosa	56	Menasha	45

Championship

Wauwatosa	41	Eau Claire	35
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The 1948 State Tournament set a new attendance record of 60,400 exceeding the 1947 figure of 53,557 by 7,183. This substantial increase in attendance is really remarkable when the cold weather and the fact that the nearest team in competition was located almost 50 miles from Madison is considered.

son, Jim Rainaldo, Noel Mattei and Leonard Bartolutti carried the brunt of their title drive.



Eau Claire — Runner-up State Basketball Tournament

JANESVILLE — Highly rated Janesville, co-champion of the Big Eight conference lacked the fire of its regular league play and after getting past LaCrosse-Logan the first day was beaten by Eau Claire. The big team could not hit from all angles as they had in their conference season and a few lapses in defense allowed Eau Claire to drop them by the wayside. Dean Showers, Jack Gibbons, John Madden, Bob Steinke, Bob Diotte, Bob Pike and Jed Black carried the brunt of the play.

LACROSSE-LOGAN — A newcomer in state tourney play, Logan left its scoring punch at home and such fine shots as Merlyn Nehring and Jim Thomas never did hit the hoop with the regularity that characterized their play throughout the regular season and during the elimination tournaments. Ken Gilster, Ralph Twite, Hank Smothers and Dick Koepecke made up the rest of the squad.

MONROE — The speedy five from downstate, co-champions of their conference lost both their starts in the tourney, one by two points and the other by three. In both games, Monroe allowed their foes to pile up a lead and then staged great driving finishes in the final quarters that on both occasions fell just short of victory. Monroe produced two of the highest scorers of the meet in forwards Ernie Vogler and Jerry Dwyer. Others who played well were Bob Rieder, Bob Ableman, Dan Courtney, Bill Purcell and Bill Moon.

WISCONSIN RAPIDS — Rapids was rated by writers as the No. 1 team

WAUWATOSA — The new champions came to the tournament highly rated and they did not disappoint their great following. Wolf set the scoring pace for the meet when he chalked up 56 counters, just 8 below the mark set by Johnny Kotz of Rhinelander in 1939. His running mate, Buechl, dropped in 41 despite the fact that he played the last two games with a sprained thumb on his right hand. The two aces of the champions received fine support from their teammates, namely Howard Thiel, Tom Ward, Ray Kotz, Dave Kvitle and Tom Friesch.

EAU CLAIRE — The runner-up team nearly pulled an upset in the final but started its drive a bit too late. A slow first quarter ruined their chances but took little glory from such fine performers as Ken May, Art Anderson, George Billmeyer, Stan DuFrane, Allan Hanson and Lyle Bulmer. Eau Claire defeated Hurley and Janesville to enter the title playoff.

HURLEY — The Midgets surprised many by taking the consolation honors and they beat a good team, Wisconsin Rapids, to annex the cup. Lacking in size, the far north five battled gamely after dropping the opener to Eau Claire. They upset LaCrosse-Logan and out-rebounded Wisconsin Rapids for the consolation top spot. Wayland Baron, Carl and John Herman-

of the state prior to the meet and showed great ability throughout despite the loss in the first round to Menasha. Rapids had a well balanced team with tremendous speed and fine shooting. Little Mike Daly at forward was generally named one of the outstanding players of the meet while such players as Hal Brewster, Jim Reimer, Jack Torresani, Don Mader and Francis Simonis were not far behind.



Hurley — Consolation State Basketball Tournament

MENASHA — Menasha was the surprise team of the tourney and after scoring a great victory over Wisconsin Rapids was dropped in the semi-finals by the champions. Menasha produced for the tourney in Charles Block what most fans hailed as the greatest all-around player of the meet. Block besides scoring 25 points in the first game and 23 in the second for a two game total of 48, directed the play of his team, was a terror on defense and showed tremendous basketball sense. The team had everything to produce a champion but lacked height. Other fine performers for Menasha were Marv Winarski, Jack Boehnlein, Dick Walff and Carl Springer.

**1948 State High School Basketball Tournament
Free Throwing Records**

School	Attempted	Made	Missed	Percentage
Eau Claire	63	37	26	.576
Hurley	72	42	30	.583
Janesville	25	13	12	.520
LaCrosse-Logan	29	16	13	.551
Monroe	44	32	12	.727
Wauwatosa	52	19	33	.365
Wisconsin Rapids	43	23	20	.534
Menasha	45	26	19	.577
Total	373	208	165	.595