

STATE BASKETBALL TITLE TO MADISON EAST

Madison East took the championship honors in the 1958 state high school basketball tournament which produced outstanding performances witnessed by all-time record-making audiences at the University of Wisconsin fieldhouse in Madison March 20-22.

The Purgolders defeated Milwaukee North, 62-59, in the title contest after previously turning back crosstown rival, Madison West, 57-55, in the semi-finals and beating Superior Central, 71-63, in the opening round. North, an unbeaten team all season until the state tourney finals, reached the last night by ousting Shawano's defending champions, 60-56, in overtime on the semi-final program and beating Black River Falls, 76-59, the first day.

Shawano, failing in an attempt to duplicate Beloit's 1932-34 stint of three straight state titles, wound up with third-place honors by beating Madison West, 77-71. The consolation honors went to Manitowoc on the strength of an 82-70 decision over Eau Claire.

A blistering first half demonstration and tremendous field goal firing all night carried East to the state championship. Coach Vern Belisle's talented cagers roared to a 27-11 lead early in the second quarter and held a 37-24 edge at the intermission.

The game Milwaukeeans staged a fierce comeback in the second half, narrowing the gap to three points near the end of the third period and several



Madison East High School
1958 State Basketball Champions

First row (l. to r.): Dale Holzhuter, Hugh Richter, Robert Powers, David Heisig, Ronald Staley. Second row: William Acker (manager), Frank Wichern, Larry Biddick, Thomas Handford, David Hoppmann, Ray Hustad, Eugene Nelson (manager), Verlyn Belisle (coach).

times to two points in the final period. The difference was 60-59 with 18 seconds to go but East, which countered with skill each bristling surge of North, was not denied as the Purgolders added a basket in the waning seconds to clinch the hard-fought decision.

East set a record with 22 of 40 field goal attempts for 55 per cent in the championship game. Included was a spectacular 15 of 24 for 63 per cent in the first half.

The title-winning effort by the East quintet was the first in state tournament history for the Purgolders. It also gave the four Madison schools a record of at least one title each — West having won in 1945, Wisconsin High in 1931 and 1923 and Central in 1918.

Madison West built a 10-point halftime lead (41-31) in the third-place playoff but could not hold it as Shawano outscored the Regents, 46-30, after the intermission and won by six points. Manitowoc in the consolation finals used 23-11 and 22-11 edges in the first and third quarters to triumph by an even dozen points over Eau Claire.

Semi-final action was spectacular. East beat its rival, West, in all-Madison affair by scoring the game's last 11 points. West was scoreless for the last 9½ minutes as East stalled out its two-point lead during the last two minutes of the game. Shawano blew a six-point lead in the final minutes of regulation time as North's fast-finishing outfit roared down the stretch and won in the extra three-minute session, the only one in the tournament.

The top record-breaking feat was the 44-point splurge of Shawano's Marty Gharrity in the opening-round game with Eau Claire.

Crowds exceeded the records in all but one of the six sessions and the single day combined totals as well as the entire tournament total were topped. The total attendance reached 80,022, almost 3,000 more than the previous record established in 1955.

Tournament Scores

Quarter-Finals			
Milwaukee North	79	Black River Falls	59
Shawano	90	Eau Claire	81
Madison West	67	Manitowoc	66
Madison East	71	Superior Central	63
Consolation Semi-Finals			
Eau Claire	87	Black River Falls	71
Manitowoc	75	Superior Central	70
Championship Semi-Finals			
Milwaukee North	60	Shawano	(ot) 56
Madison East	57	Madison West	55
Consolation Championship			
Manitowoc	82	Eau Claire	70
Third Place Playoff			
Shawano	77	Madison West	71
Championship Game			
Madison East	62	Milwaukee North	59