

Basketball

A new Lincoln – this one from Manitowoc – reigns as champion of high school basketball in Wisconsin.

Manitowoc combined defensive ability and rebounding strength – plus a lot of determination – in taking the 1968 title, climaxed by a come-from-behind 63-51 triumph over Beloit Memorial in the championship game at Madison on March 14-15-16.

It was the second title in six years for the Shipbuilders from the Fox River Valley Conference who succeed Milwaukee Lincoln on the prep cage throne. The Milwaukeeans were eliminated in the Regionals this year and failed in their bid for a third straight championship – and their sixth in 10 years.

Coach Ed Fleener's champions posted an unbeaten record of 26 victories, the 11th team to turn that trick in the 53-year-old history of the WIAA's State Tournament. It also was the fourth time in the last seven years that Wisconsin has an unbeaten champion on the throne – Milwaukee Lincoln turning the trick in 1962, Dodgeville in 1964 and Monroe in 1965, all of them, like Manitowoc, with 26-0 records.

The difference in the final score was a dozen points but the championship game was hardly one-sided. Beloit, a good team which finished the year with a 22-4 record, held the upper hand most of the first half, and was in front, 29-26, at the intermission. But a combination of sticky Manitowoc defense and sudden change in shooting success for Beloit changed the complexion of the game in the second half. A 17-8 edge in the third quarter put the Lake Michigan boys in front by a half-dozen at the three-way mark, Beloit refused to fold and trailed by only two (49-47) with 3:49 to play but Mandy salted away the decision with 14 points down the stretch, 10 of them via free throws.

Third-place honors went to a plucky Kimberly quintet which whipped Wisconsin Dells, 72-52, while consolation laurels were won by a good Brookfield East team, 69-51, over South Milwaukee.

Manitowoc won its way into the finals by stopping a stubborn Dells outfit, 66-47, while Beloit made it with a solid 73-60 triumph over Kimberly. Opening-round battles saw Manitowoc thump Schofield, 81-56, and Beloit win a hard-fought 60-54 decision over Brookfield East. Kimberly, meanwhile whipped Eau Claire Memorial, 87-71, and Wisconsin Dells won the tournament's only down-to-the-wire verdict, 50-49, over South Milwaukee. Consolation semi-finals saw Brookfield East beat Eau Claire Memorial, 59-49, and South Milwaukee stop Schofield, 80-63.

The regular season and final season records, respectively, of the State Tournament field were as follows:

Manitowoc 23-0 and 26-0, Beloit 20-3 and 22-4, Kimberly 19-4 and 21-5, Wisconsin Dells 20-3 and 21-5, Brookfield East 22-1 and 24-2, South Milwaukee 16-7 and 17-9, Eau Claire Memorial 22-1 and 22-3, and Schofield 22-1 and 22-3.

Seven schools had perfect records during the regular season and one of them, Manitowoc, carried its flawless record through the tournament program. Winning all 18 regular-season games were Black Hawk, Kiel, Milwaukee North, Port Edwards, Shorewood and Whitehall in addition to Manitowoc's State champions. Black Hawk and Port Edwards pushed their records to 20-0 before bumping into State Meet finalists Beloit and Schofield, respectively, and losing in the Regionals. North also went to 20-0 before losing in the Regionals. Kiel and Shorewood sent their perfect records to 19-0 before losing in the Regionals to Manitowoc and North, respectively. Whitehall also went to 19-0, then lost in the District finals.

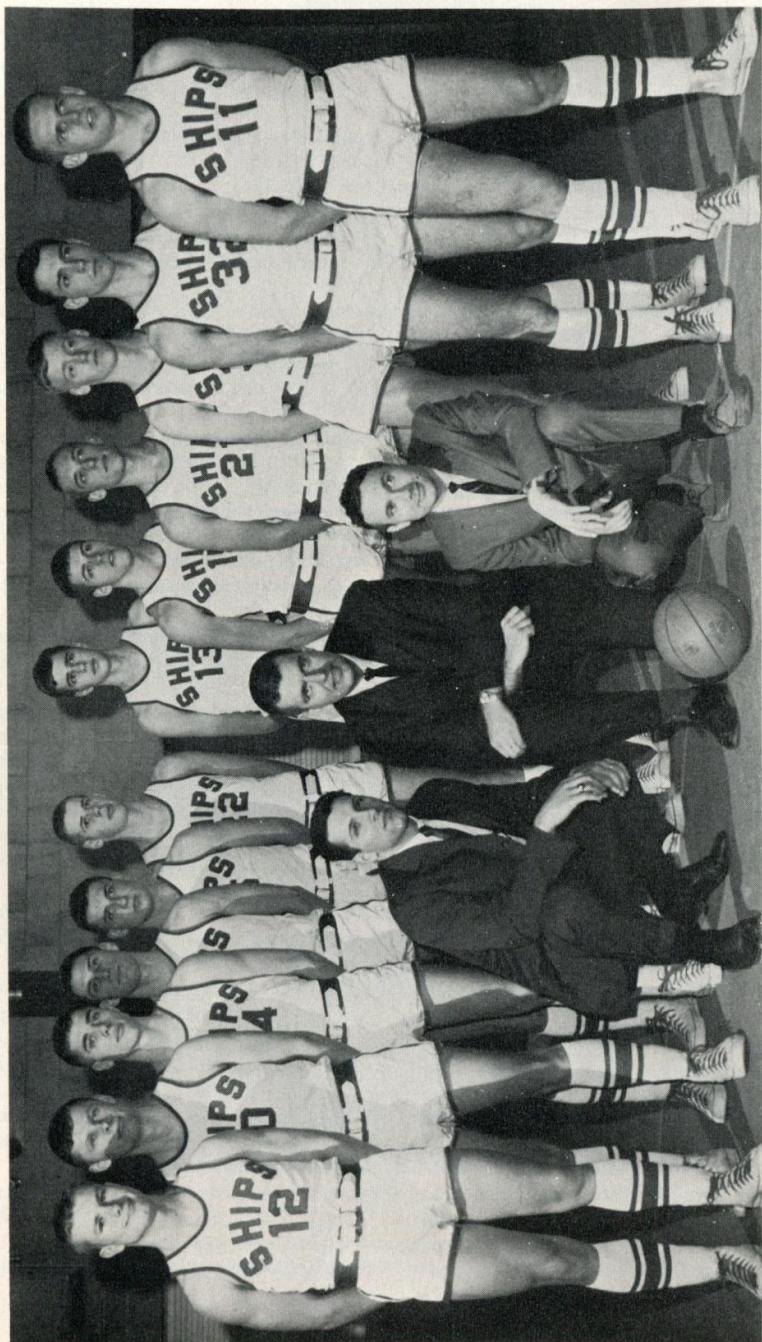
There were 13 schools with regular season records which showed only one defeat: Ashland, Barneveld, Brookfield East, Eau Claire Memorial, Glenwood City, Greenfield, Kohler, Racine Park, Schofield, Trempealeau, Unity, Wausauke and Winneconne. Brookfield East, Eau Claire Memorial and Schofield went all the way to the State before losing another game while Ashland reached the Sectionals before losing agains.

There was a major change in the tournament format with three Friday-Saturday weekends

(rather than two weeks of Tuesday-Friday-Saturday) preceding the State Tournament. Schools played either in two-team District Playoffs or four-team District Meets on the first weekend with the 128 survivors qualifying for Regional competition and the 32 Regional winners going into Sectional play.

The tournament change was a major contributor to the record attendances. Pre-State (District, Regional and Sectional) activity attracted 338,163 paid spectators – an increase of more than 10% over the 305,747 of the previous year and the old record 306,604 of 1966.

A format change on the State level also contributed to a record attendance at the University of Wisconsin fieldhouse. The championship semi-final program was split to provide a game at both the afternoon and evening sessions on Friday with a consolation flight contest as the preliminary. The total attendance at the State reached 79,744 – nearly 3,000 more than the 76,825 of the previous year and almost that much more, too, than the old record year of 1960 when there were 76,930 fans.



1967-68 WIAA BASKETBALL CHAMPIONS

This is the Manitowoc Lincoln team which won the State Basketball championship at Madison on March 14-15-16. From left to right, Dick Rosinsky, Ron Nesper, Rocky Jiroch, Vic Trastek, Pat Meritz, Pat Hansen, Pete Walsh, Tom Haag, Mike Muchowski, John LeClair, Mark Miller, Bill Sepnafski. Kneeling in front, Assistant Coach Steve Contardi, Head Coach Ed Fleenor, Assistant Coach Wayne Gates.

State Box Scores

Championship Finals

MANITOWOC 63	FGA-M		FTA-M		BELOIT 51	FGA-M		FTA-M	
	2-1	0-0	9-4	4-4		8-4	6-6	19-6	4-1
Rocky Jiroch	2-1	0-0	9-4	4-4	Chuck Loft	8-4	6-6	19-6	4-1
Tom Haag	11-5	16-11	Bob Polglaze	5-3	Bruce Brown	5-3	3-1	17-3	0-0
Pete Hansen	11-4	5-4	James Lindsey	17-3	Lamont Weaver	8-2	2-2	1-0	0-0
Vic Trastek	10-4	0-0	Randy Olen	4-2	David Kilgore	1-0	0-0	4-2	1-1
Bill Sepnafski	0-0	5-4	David Kunz	Totals	62-20	16-11	1-0	0-0	1-0
Pat Walsh	3-2	2-0	62-20	16-11	62-20	16-11	1-0	0-0	0-0
Mark Miller	0-0	0-0	62-20	16-11	62-20	16-11	1-0	0-0	0-0
Pat Mertz	46-20	32-23	62-20	16-11	62-20	16-11	1-0	0-0	0-0
Totals	46-20	32-23	62-20	16-11	62-20	16-11	1-0	0-0	0-0

Score by quarters:

Manitowoc	13	13	17	20	—	63
Beloit	16	13	8	14	—	51

Personal Fouls: Manitowoc 12, Beloit 21

Field Goal Averages: Manitowoc .435, Beloit .323

Rebounds: Manitowoc 43, Beloit 37

Officials: Orlando Palesse and Ken Kulick

Third-Place Playoff

KIMBERLY 72	FGA-M		FTA-M		WISCONSIN DELLS 52	FGA-M		FTA-M	
	4-2	0-0	Steve Kahler	12-3		3-2	9-5	6-3	7-3
Bill Lamers	10-5	3-2	Bob Gavinski	7-3	Dennis Sweeney	7-3	15-6	10-8	9-7
Jeff Vanden Heuvel	6-4	1-0	John Demerit	7-2	Jim DeMerit	6-4	0-0	11-4	4-3
Don Hagany	16-11	6-2	Tim Tofson	1-0	1-0	3-1	0-0	10-2	8-7
Wayne Swokowski	10-6	2-2	Larry Meyer	1-1	4-3	3-1	0-0	10-2	8-7
Jeff Haas	4-0	7-4	Dick Rosinsky	0-0	0-0	3-1	5-2	8-6	3-2
Paul Van Grinsven	7-3	1-0	Mike Muchowski	0-0	0-0	0-0	0-0	1-0	0-0
Gary Kisdonk	1-0	0-0	Ron Nesper	0-0	0-0	0-0	0-0	1-0	0-0
Tom Lamers	1-0	0-0	John LeClair	0-0	0-0	0-0	0-0	1-0	0-0
Jim DeGoey	0-0	1-0	Pat Mertz	0-0	0-0	0-0	0-0	0-0	0-0
Gene Loiselle	0-0	0-0	Totals	46-18	35-16	46-22	32-28	Totals	43-15
Joe Ruyts	0-0	0-0	Totals	59-31	21-10	46-22	32-28	Totals	25-17

Score by quarters:

Kimberly	14	19	17	22	—	72
Wisconsin Dells	15	7	11	19	—	52

Personal Fouls: Kimberly 27, Wisconsin Dells 17

Field Goal Averages: Kimberly .525, Wisconsin Dells .391

Rebounds: Kimberly 45, Wisconsin Dells 41

Officials: Don Page and Pete Henrickson

Consolation Finals

BROOKFIELD EAST 69	FGA-M		FTA-M		SOUTH MILWAUKEE 51	FGA-M		FTA-M	
	11-9	10-8	Dan Scherer	15-5		11-4	7-7	9-3	4-3
Tom Garski	13-4	1-0	Tom Tanski	9-3	Jeff Davis	3-1	0-0	10-2	8-7
Tom Kursel	10-7	5-4	Dave Skorupski	10-2	Chuck Gouge	3-2	2-2	10-2	8-7
Guy Lam	3-2	3-3	James Penrose	3-2	Steve Vieth	2-1	0-0	10-2	8-7
Tim Kroening	4-2	1-0	Ken Rome	0-0	Mickey Heinrich	0-0	0-0	10-2	8-7
Steve Schenk	3-2	2-2	Ronald Munia	1-0	Totals	54-18	17-15	54-18	17-15
Dave Anschuetz	1-0	0-0	Totals	45-26	22-17	54-18	17-15	Totals	60-20
Steve Osgood	45-26	22-17	Totals	54-18	17-15	54-18	17-15	Totals	60-20

Score by quarters:

Brookfield East	22	8	21	18	—	69
South Milwaukee	14	12	13	12	—	51

Personal Fouls: Brookfield East 13, South Milwaukee 15

Field Goal Averages: Brookfield East .578, South Milwaukee .333

Rebounds: Brookfield East 32, South Milwaukee 30

Officials: Duaine Counsell and Robert Polston

Championship Semi-Finals

BELUIT 73	FGA-M		FTA-M		KIMBERLY 60	FGA-M		FTA-M		
	9-6	7-6	8-5	5-4		12-5	1-0	Bill Lamers	13-4	
Charles Loft	8-5	7-6	Jeff Wildenberg	6-2	Jeff Vanden Heuvel	10-7	4-2	Don Hagany	12-7	
Bob Polglaze	5-4	4-3	Bill Lamers	6-2	Wayne Swokowski	10-1	1-0	Jeff Wildenberg	10-7	
Bruce Brown	1-0	0-0	David Kilgore	4-3	Paul Van Grivsven	1-0	1-1	Don Hagany	4-2	
James Lindsey	0-0	0-0	Randy Olen	0-0	Jeff Haas	0-0	0-0	Jeff Wildenberg	4-2	
Lamont Weaver	0-0	0-0	Peter Meyer	0-0	Tom Lamers	0-0	0-0	Don Hagany	4-2	
David Kilgore	0-0	0-0	Dale Larsen	0-0	Totals	56-24	18-12	Jeff Wildenberg	4-2	
Randy Olen	0-0	0-0	David Hanzlik	0-0	Totals	44-25	32-23	Jeff Wildenberg	4-2	
Peter Meyer	0-0	0-0	Dan Wohlfert	0-0	Totals	44-25	32-23	Jeff Wildenberg	4-2	
Dale Larsen	0-0	0-0	David Kunz	0-0	Totals	44-25	32-23	Jeff Wildenberg	4-2	
David Hanzlik	0-0	0-0	Totals	44-25	32-23	Totals	44-25	32-23	Jeff Wildenberg	4-2
Dan Wohlfert	0-0	0-0	Totals	44-25	32-23	Totals	44-25	32-23	Jeff Wildenberg	4-2
David Kunz	0-0	0-0	Totals	44-25	32-23	Totals	44-25	32-23	Jeff Wildenberg	4-2

Score by quarters:

Beloit	18	18	17	20	—	73
Kimberly	13	15	14	18	—	60

Personal Fouls: Beloit 13, Kimberly 23

Field Goal Averages: Beloit .568, Kimberly .429

Rebounds: Beloit 36, Kimberly 30

Officials: Eugene Berce and George Sladky

Consolation Semi-Finals

BROOKFIELD EAST 59	FGA-M		FTA-M		EAU CLAIRE MEMORIAL 49	FGA-M		FTA-M		
	10-1	12-8	9-5	0-0		25-11	13-8	5-1	0-0	
Tom Garske	11-4	7-7	10-2	8-7	Jeff Adler	6-2	4-3	16-4	0-0	
Guy Lam	9-3	4-3	9-3	4-3	Jim Howe	10-4	1-0	Bill Sowerwine	10-4	
Tim Kroening	3-1	0-0	3-1	0-0	Dave Anschuetz	4-1	0-0	Greg Bohlig	4-1	
Steve Schenk	10-2	3-2	10-2	3-2	Steve Osgood	3-2	0-0	Greg Morley	3-2	
Dave Anschuetz	3-2	2-2	3-2	2-2	Mike Carity	1-0	0-0	Bob Viel	1-0	
Steve Vieth	2-1	0-0	2-1	0-0	Rick Schielke	0-0	0-0	Stan Morley	2-0	
Ken Rome	0-0	0-0	0-0	0-0	Dean Yoost	0-0	0-0	Pete Hill	0-0	
Mickey Heinrich	0-0	0-0	0-0	0-0	John Stich	0-0	0-0	Dave Gehring	0-0	
Ronald Munia	1-0	Totals	54-18	17-15	Totals	56-18	36-23	Greg Boettcher	0-0	
Totals	45-26	22-17	Totals	54-18	17-15	Totals	56-18	36-23	Totals	60-20

Score by quarters:

Brookfield East	18	10	17	14	—	59
Eau Claire Memorial	16	14	8	11	—	49

Personal Fouls: Brookfield East 15, Eau Claire Memorial 26

Field Goal Averages: Brookfield East .321; Eau Claire Memorial .333

Rebounds: Brookfield East 50, Eau Claire Memorial 44

Officials: Myron Gipp and Richard Arnold

SOUTH MILWAUKEE	80	FGA-M	FTA-M	SCHOFIELD	63	FGA-M	FTA-M
Dan Scherer	7-3	4-2		Bill Alexejun	10-3	4-3	
Dave Skorupski	21-5	2-1		Gordy Kosobucki	6-3	4-2	
Tom Tanski	10-8	10-9		Kurt Spychalla	6-5	5-3	
Jeff Davis	15-9	1-0		Dan Pregont	8-3	8-7	
Chuck Gouge	9-5	0-0		Terry Woznicki	15-9	2-2	
James Penrose	5-3	2-2		Bob Gibbs	0-0	0-0	
Steve Vieth	1-0	0-0		Tom Clark	1-0	0-0	
Milan Bundalo	1-0	0-0		Ed Sattler	0-0	0-0	
Ken Rome	0-0	0-0		Mike Bukowski	0-0	0-0	
Steve Wollak	0-0	0-0		Ed Litzer	1-0	0-0	
Totals	69-33	19-14		Fran Brezenski	0-0	0-0	
				Al Drake	0-0	0-0	
				Totals	47-23	23-17	

Score by quarters:
 South Milwaukee 21 12 22 25 — 80
 Schofield D. C. Everest 18 15 16 14 — 63

Personal Fouls: South Milwaukee 18, Schofield 15
 Field Goal Averages: South Milwaukee .478, Schofield .489
 Rebounds: South Milwaukee 38, Schofield 33
 Officials: Rollo Vallem and Tom Callen

Quarter-Finals

BELOIT	60	FGA-M	FTA-M	BROOKFIELD EAST	54	FGA-M	FTA-M
Charles Loft	10-3	3-0		Tom Garske	4-0	6-4	
Robert Polglaze	20-6	3-3		Tom Kursel	19-7	3-0	
Bruce Brown	5-1	6-3		Guy Lam	24-13	6-5	
James Lindsey	15-7	2-2		Tom Kroening	2-1	0-0	
Lamont Weaver	18-7	3-1		Steve Schenk	3-1	2-1	
David Kilgore	3-1	3-1		Dave Anschuetz	1-0	0-0	
Randy Olen	1-0	0-0		Steve Osgood	0-0	0-0	
Totals	72-25	20-10		Totals	53-22	17-10	

Score by quarters:
 Beloit 11 18 17 14 — 60
 Brookfield East 14 11 11 18 — 54

Personal Fouls: Beloit 14, Brookfield East 16
 Field Goal Averages: Beloit .347, Brookfield East .415
 Rebounds: Beloit 47, Brookfield East 48
 Officials: Otto Puls and Richard Lowell

KIMBERLY	87	FGA-M	FTA-M	EAU CLAIRE MEMORIAL	71	FGA-M	FTA-M
Don Hagany	13-4	1-1		Bill Mills	5-2	4-4	
Jeff Wildenberg	10-6	3-0		Larry Bugner	7-2	1-0	
Jeff Vanden Heuvel	20-13	7-5		Jeff Adler	8-5	5-2	
Bill Lamers	23-10	0-0		Jim Howe	16-5	7-6	
Wayne Swokowski	7-4	2-2		Bill Sowerwine	10-3	2-1	
Paul Van Grinsven	2-1	3-1		Greg Morley	10-4	11-8	
Jeff Haas	1-0	2-2		Stan Morley	2-0	0-0	
Totals	76-38	18-11		Greg Bohlig	4-3	2-2	
				Totals	62-24	32-23	

Score by quarters:
 Kimberly 20 17 16 34 — 87
 Eau Claire Memorial 11 16 19 25 — 71
 Personal Fouls: Kimberly 21, Eau Claire Memorial 13
 Field Goal Averages: Kimberly .500, Eau Claire Memorial .387
 Rebounds: Kimberly 51, Eau Claire Memorial 41
 Officials: Donald Lichte and Phil Schweke

MANITOWOC	81	FGA-M	FTA-M	SCHOFIELD	56	FGA-M	FTA-M
Rocky Jiroch	12-5	1-1		Kurt Spychalla	18-7	4-4	
Tom Haag	16-9	12-8		Gordy Kosobucki	5-1	1-0	
Pete Hansen	13-7	7-5		Bill Alexejun	18-10	3-1	
Vic Trastek	6-3	5-3		Dan Pregont	9-2	4-3	
Bill Sepnafski	19-6	0-0		Terry Woznicki	11-3	2-2	
Mark Miller	0-0	0-0		Bob Gibbs	2-0	1-0	
Pat Walsh	1-0	1-1		Tom Clark	0-0	0-0	
Pat Mertz	0-0	0-0		Al Drake	0-0	0-0	
Dick Rosinsky	2-1	2-1		Totals	63-23	15-10	
Mike Muchowski	0-0	0-0					
John LeClair	0-0	0-0					
Ron Nesper	0-0	0-0					
Totals	69-31	28-19					

Score by quarters:
 Manitowoc 24 10 21 26 — 81
 Schofield 11 15 12 18 — 56
 Personal Fouls: Manitowoc 14, Schofield 18
 Field Goal Averages: Manitowoc .450, Schofield .365
 Rebounds: Manitowoc 58, Schofield 34
 Officials: Steve Reega and Harold Raether

SOUTH MILWAUKEE	49	FGA-M	FTA-M	WISCONSIN DELLS	50	FGA-M	FTA-M
Dan Scherer	15-5	1-1		Steve Kahler	7-3	9-7	
Tom Tanski	8-4	5-3		Bob Gavinski	6-3	9-5	
Dave Skorupski	11-4	1-0		Dennis Sweeney	10-6	6-4	
Jeff Davis	8-4	0-0		John Demerit	7-2	3-2	
Chuck Gouge	5-3	3-1		Jim Demerit	10-2	0-0	
James Penrose	6-2	1-0		Larry Meyer	0-0	0-0	
Totals	53-22	11-5		Tim Tofson	0-0	0-0	
				Totals	40-16	27-18	

Score by quarters:
 Wisconsin Dells 13 14 13 10 — 50
 South Milwaukee 13 11 11 14 — 49

Personal Fouls: South Milwaukee 19, Wisconsin Dells 9
 Field Goal Averages: South Milwaukee .415, Wisconsin Dells .400
 Rebounds: South Milwaukee 34, Wisconsin Dells 36
 Officials: Roy Elandt and John Howland

SCHOOL	G	FG	FGA	PCT	FT	FTA	PCT	PF	PTS	OPP	REB	OPP
Manitowoc	3	73	161	.453	64	92	.696	45	210	154	139	103
Beloit	3	70	178	.393	44	68	.647	48	184	177	120	121
Kimberly	3	93	191	.487	33	57	.579	71	219	196	126	118
Wisconsin Dells	3	49	129	.380	51	87	.586	47	149	187	109	117
Brookfield East	3	66	154	.429	50	75	.667	44	182	160	130	121
South Milwaukee	3	73	176	.415	34	47	.723	52	180	182	102	101
Schofield	2	46	110	.418	27	38	.711	33	119	161	67	96
Eau Claire Memorial	2	44	122	.361	32	44	.727	39	120	146	85	101
TOTALS	11	514	1221	.421	335	508	.659	379	1363	878		