

# Tri-County Teams Dominate West Virginia Scholastic Basketball Tournaments

## Wingler Leads Beckley To 4th Title In Row

By Bob Wills, Register Sports Editor

WINGLERVILLE, March 20 — A record breaking 44 - point performance by Dwayne Wingler, the greatest ever seen in the 41-year history of the State High School Basketball Tournament, carried Beckley's Flying Eagles to an 84-66 triumph over the Mullens Rebels and an unprecedented fourth straight Class A cage championship here today.

Coach Jerome Van Meter said after the Eagles had nosed University High of Morgantown, 69-67, in Friday night's semifinal game that "we'll have to play better ball than we know how" to beat the Rebels, who had be-

come the "darlings" of the tournament with a near-perfect 79-67 victory over Stonewall Jackson's Generals Friday.

And that's exactly what the Beckley team, which had recorded its poorest season record (11-9) in five years, and had lost twice to the same Rebels in seasonal play, did. When the chips were down they had it. And this time the winning spark came from the most amazing individual showing this basketball conscious seat of West Virginia University has ever seen.

Wingler, whom Coach Van Meter tabbed after the game as "not only the greatest I have ever had but the finest high school player I have ever seen," almost single-handedly broke

the spirit of the Mullens team he hadn't been allowed to play against in the second regular-season meeting.

Wingler scored 29 points in the first half alone in leading Beckley to a commanding 40-32 lead and directed the team in such a manner that the Rebels never had a chance. By the time the game was over Wingler had broken the two-day-old single game scoring record set Thursday night by University High's Larry Hardman, and also the tournament scoring record for three games held by another Beckley boy, Willie Bergines.

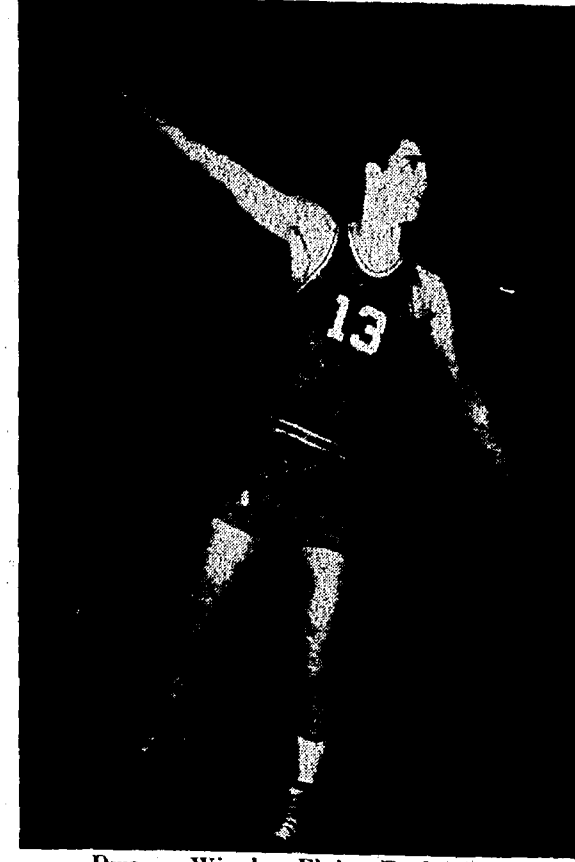
Bergines' old record was 82 points. Wingler scored 93 in the three games it took the Flying Eagles to wrap this one up, getting 20

against Elkins, 29 against University, and 44 today.

Beckley moved out front at 4-2 just a minute and a half after the game got under way on a drive-in shot by Wingler, and was in command the rest of the way.

The lead mounted to 17-13 by the end of the quarter, 40-32 at the half, and was virtually in the bag at 58-42 at the end of the third quarter.

In justice to the great Mullens team, and without taking one bit of glory from Beckley's victory, it should be said that the Rebels didn't have the same fire that they showed in the racehorse semifinal win over tourney-favorite Stonewall Jackson. (Continued on Page 6)



Dwayne Wingler, Flying Eagle star, rated by Coach Jerome Van Meter as "the finest high school player I have ever seen."

### Start Paying More Monday

## Telephone Rate Hike Authorized By PSC

### Ninth Fire Victim Listed; Heaviest Loss, 16 Years

PARKERSBURG, March 20 (AP)—The death toll rose to nine today from a fire which consumed a small farm home and caused the heaviest loss of life in a West Virginia residential blaze in at least 16 years.

Mrs. Nellie Tuttle, 43, died in a hospital here today from burns suffered in the fire yesterday. The fire leveled the Tuttle family's four-room frame house on Spider Ridge, seven miles northeast of here.

The bodies of eight other victims—six of them small children or infants—were recovered from the ashes where the house had stood. The last two bodies, recovered late yesterday, were identified as those of 1-week-old Ambra Rose Starcher and 6-month-old Belinda Lou Hoge.

Survivors said the fire began with the explosion of kerosene which Mrs. Tuttle was using to start a wood stove in the living room. Her husband, Albert A. Tuttle, had left for work at the Parkersburg Machine Co. about an hour earlier.

### Spring Makes Debut

Spring sprang a sprocket Saturday. Billed as the vernal equinox, a prelude to calm and soothing breezes, Spring made her official entry at 10:54 p.m. Saturday.

### WEST VIRGINIA WEATHER

Mostly cloudy, windy and colder with a few snow flurries mostly in the mountains Sunday.  
BECKLEY  
High Friday ..... 57  
Low Friday ..... 43  
7 a.m. Saturday ..... 43  
10 a.m. Saturday ..... 44  
Noon Saturday ..... 44  
8 p.m. Saturday ..... 37

# Stratton Wins State Negro Title

## BECKLEY POST-HERALD

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## Pax High Defeats Piedmont To Capture Class B Honors

MORGANTOWN, March 20 (AP)—Pax stalled off a late spurt by a slow-starting Piedmont team here today and went on to capture the 1954 State Class B High School basketball title, 63-51.

The tall and rangy Piedmont squad just couldn't get under way until midway in the final period. Then, although three of their starters had fouled out, the Lions cut an eight-point spread to three points with 1:26 to play.

Piedmont was unable, however, to score further in the remaining seconds as it was caught fouling Pax players on four occasions.

Pax, which came into the tournament with a 19-6 record and gained the finals with a 58-57 victory over Huntington Vinson, took advantage of Piedmont lapses to build up a safe margin early in the game.

Big Don Slover, who scored 26 points for high individual honors, dropped in 10 of 16 free throws—and it was at the foul line that the Fayette County squad applied the clincher.

Piedmont, with 6-3 George Campbell leading the way with 13 points,

shot 65 times from the field as against 42 shots by Pax, and Piedmont outscored the victors from the floor 19 goals to 16. But Pax hit on 31 free throws in 47 tries, and that told the story.

Pax improved a 9-8 first-quarter lead to a 26-14 edge at halftime and led 46-31 at the end of three quarters.

Tommy Miller opened the final period with a foul shot and Harry Taylor added a fielder for Piedmont. Jerry Phillips retaliated with a free throw for Pax before Piedmont's Campbell and Pax's Slover exchanged almost identical jump shots from the key.

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## Marines Hit Iwo Jima In Training Exercise

WITH TASK FORCE 90 OFF IWO JIMA, Sunday, March 21 (AP)—The U. S. 3rd Marine Division returns to Iwo Jima today, splashing ashore in the largest amphibious training exercise since World War II.

Target of the mock invasion is the same volcanic beach which Marines stormed Feb. 19, 1945, to open one of the most vicious close-quarter battles in history. Some of the officers and men in today's operation took part in the grim one which cost the lives of 4,500 Japanese.

Barring unfavorable weather, the first wave of 3,500 Marines lands at 1 p.m. after a simulated pre-invasion bombardment of the island by 7th Fleet warships and planes. Twelve thousand more will follow.

South Korean and Chinese Nationalist military observers are watching the maneuvers, along with top ranking American military command members in the Far East.

The "enemy" today is the 2nd Battalion of the 4th Marine Regiment which also has planes and ships to "resist" the assault.

Still on the landing beach are the rusted frames of landing craft blown up in 1945. Expended shells, shattered helmets and other debris also are there.

Alop Mt. Suribachi, a 550-foot,

cone-shaped, extinct volcano at the southern tip, an American flag Feb. 23, 1945.

It is one of two spots in the world where the American flag never is taken down. The other is the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier at Arlington National Cemetery near Washington.

Wear and tear on the flag at Suribachi is terrific. A new flag goes up in place of a tattered emblem about once a week.

## Crash of Cargo Plane Probed; 18 Persons Dead

WASHINGTON, March 20 (AP)—The Air Force called in technical specialists today to determine whether any part failed in a big cargo plane that crashed and exploded near Annapolis, Md., last night, killing 18 men.

Lt. Col. William E. Nix, head of an investigating board that spent much of today searching through wreckage and human remains scattered over Maryland farmland, said a specially trained upturn in the Air Force Safety Branch in San Bernardino, Calif., would arrive tonight to help in the investigation.

Nix said the investigation so far had turned up "nothing confirmed" as to the cause of the crash.

## McCarthy Urges Reading Of Forthcoming Probe

OKLAHOMA CITY, March 20 (AP)—Sen. McCarthy (R-Wis.) urged the American people tonight to get copies of the Senate investigation subcommittee's forthcoming probe of his row with the Army and offered to foot the bill himself if the demands exceed the group's limited supply.

He said he wanted the people to read the testimony so that they could determine for themselves that his fight is not against the Army but "against those who would destroy the Army."

In notes prepared for an address here tonight to a dinner meeting sponsored by the state Republican organization, McCarthy said that if the demand for the printed testimony outruns the subcommittee's supply he would pay for all additional copies.

## Ike Confident of Economic Upturn

WASHINGTON, March 20 (AP)—President Eisenhower apparently remains fully confident that the country will soon recover from its present economic downturn without any special government help.

The widespread impression that Eisenhower is thinking of triggering a big new government-aid plan unless the unemployment situation improves in March seems to be a mistaken one.



Woodrow Wilson High School is again the state champion of West Virginia. The Flying Eagles came through with a victory over rival Mullens yesterday afternoon in the class A finals at Morgantown, to bring home the hardwood bacon for the fourth year in a row. The champs are, back row, clockwise: Bill Hill, Bill Tolley, Bill Jackson, Clark Kester, Sam Caudill, Jim Stout, and Bob Alexander. Front row, same sequence: Julian Trail, Tony Lusk, Norman Southern, captain and all-star Dwayne Wingler, Paul Hutchinso, Howard Hall and Bob Miller. Seated in front is the smallest boy on the tournament squad in Ricky Thompson.

## Van Meter's Rags-to-Riches State Champs

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## TV Transmitting Tower Will Be State's Tallest

CHARLESTON, March 20 (AP)—WCHS-TV, which expects to begin television broadcasting here about July 1, announced plans today for erecting a transmitting tower which will be the tallest man-made structure in West Virginia.

The station said the 649-foot steel tower would be erected on a 300-foot hill located a quarter of a mile west of Charleston on U.S. 35. Thus the tip of the completed tower will be nearly 950 feet above the floor of the Kanawha Valley.

A Columbus, Ohio, firm will fabricate and erect the tower. Preparation of the land at the site will begin about April 1, the station said.

## 3 Crash Victims Found

AMELIA, Va., March 20 (AP)—An Air Force B26 bomber that crashed and exploded in an Amelia County swamp last night carried at least three and possibly four airmen to their deaths.

Air Force authorities probing the crash said today portions of three bodies had been located.

## Missing Plane Search Limited By Weather

Bad weather, particularly winds, limited the number of planes taking part Saturday in an air search for a missing F-51 fighter.

But about 17 planes did get off from Southern West Virginia fields to search along the route of the craft which disappeared Friday somewhere between Charleston and Pulaski, Va.

Poor visibility, low ceiling and some rain hindered the search, and no trace of the missing plane was found.

The F-51, believed to be an Air National Guard craft, was on a flight from Battle Creek, Mich., to Charlotte, N.C. Its pilot made a routine radio report to Charleston at 12:05 p.m. He failed to check in at Pulaski, Va., his next scheduled point. The plane was due at Pulaski about 12:35 p.m.

Search planes which got into the air included two Air National Guard craft from Charleston. The others were Civil Air Patrol planes, including six from the

Charleston squadron, four from Welch, four from Bluefield and one from Hinton. Stiff winds and low ceiling kept planes of several other CAP units grounded.

A search was instituted Saturday in Raleigh County after word was received at Raleigh County Memorial Airport by Harold Hanks, airport manager. The plane was due in the Beckley vicinity at 12:20 p.m., but had not been sighted.

Two definite leads were received later Saturday. Casey Milan said he and Oscar Rinehart, who live about five miles from Oceana on the Baileyville-Pineville road, saw a P-51 over Oceana headed toward Pineville about 1 p.m. Friday. Milan said the plane seemed to be having engine trouble.

Bob Brash, Beaver, also reported the identification of a P-51 headed east over Beaver about 12:30 p.m. Friday.

## Byrd-Prillerman Defeated 65-55 For Championship

INSTITUTE, W. Va., March 20 (AP)—Beckley Stratton, keeping the pressure on all the way, turned back Amigo Byrd-Prillerman, 65-55, here today to wrap up the State Negro Scholastic basketball championship.

Just last week, Beckley defeated Amigo, 55-50. In the finals of an Eastern Regional tournament, although that contest went into overtime.

The winners fashioned a 13-12 first quarter edge and steadily kept the situation in hand the remainder of the way. Cornelius Clark with 17 points and Lloyd Hembrick with 13 paced the Beckley offense.

Walter Staples with 18 points and Vernal Richardson with 17 provided Amigo with a potent one-two punch, but the losers just didn't have the necessary overall balance.

Three teams placed two players each on the all-tournament team. Honored were forwards Howard Barrett of Beckley, Austin Hudson of Wheeling Lincoln and Staples; centers Richardson and Willie Jones of Fairmont Dunbar; and guards Ralph Whitlow of Charleston Garnet, Roy Meeks of Fairmont and Ray Crisp, Beckley.

(Continued on Page 6)

## Coaches Favor Playoff System For Grid Title

MORGANTOWN, March 20 (AP)—The West Virginia High School Coaches Assn. voted today to go on record as favoring a continuation of the present football playoff system in the state.

The action was taken as the coaches met in conjunction with the state high school basketball tournament.

The present system was defended by W. R. Fugitt, executive secretary of the State High School Athletic Assn. Fugitt said that in the past the football playoff system has worked to the benefit of all involved.

The coaches discussed the possibility of changing the classification of high schools but took no action.

Schools currently are divided into Class A and Class B divisions, depending on enrollment. Fugitt said that a change in the classification probably would require much planning.

He added he believed it would be impossible to set up three or four different classifications on the basis of enrollments because the number of students in schools vary.

Dr. Ray O. Duncan, dean of the college of physical education and athletics at West Virginia University, advised the officials to make themselves as inconspicuous as possible during interscholastic contests.

## Roy M. Hawley, WVU Athletic Director, Dies

PITTSBURGH, March 20 (AP)—Roy M. (Les) Hawley, 53, athletic director at West Virginia University, died tonight at West Penn Hospital where he had been under treatment since suffering a heart attack two weeks ago.

Hawley had been athletic director of the West Virginia school since 1938. He was alumni secretary there two years prior to that.

He was widely known throughout the country in collegiate circles. His last active work was in making plans for the Southern Conference basketball tournament at Morgantown, W. Va., early this month.

## 'Prosperity In Peace' Is Goal Of GOP—Hall

RIPON, Wis., March 20 (AP)—Republican National Chairman Leonard W. Hall said tonight the GOP is a "dynamic institution 100 years young" which stands at the forefront of the free world's struggle to overcome "the arch conspiracy of our time, communism."

In a speech prepared for the party's centennial celebration, Hall said the GOP's immediate goal is "prosperity produced in peace—something we have not seen for a generation."