

## SPORTS

## Picks Teams To Fight It Out For Net Crown

## Writer Names Four Teams To Meet In State Final Meet

Indianapolis, Feb. 12. — (UP) — When state tournament day rolls around, and three strenuous weeks of elimination rounds have pruned 700odd teams from the chase, the "big four" fighting it out for the state crown will be Anderson, Horace Mann, Fort Wayne Central and Washington.

That, obviously, is a prediction. It is made with knowledge that (1) those four will not even be in the running, probably (2) that some little gang of wild-eyed gangly kids from Birdseye or Rolling Prairie will go hog-wild and dump a leader or two, and (3) nobody can do Hoosier high school basketball.

But upsets notwithstanding, dark horses discounted, bad nights and hot streaks ruled out—these four will be the only survivors of three grueling weeks of sectional, regional and semi-final play.

They represent, if not the best teams in the state, the best from their own locales. All victims of a system, they break down so that many of the better teams in the state will be knocked out in early

rounds.

Other teams, perhaps greatly inferior, may move to late rounds because of the varying standard of competition in different parts of the state.

By the same token, the following 16 teams will emerge from the regional tournaments:

Bedford Logansport  
Port Wayne Central Marion  
Crawfordsville Bloomington  
Horace Mann Connersville  
Anderson South Bend Central  
Lafayette Washington

Following the "big four" through:

Anderson should win its own sectional with comparative ease, if its late form is any indication. Principal opposition probably will come from Elwood, Lapel or Alexandria. The Indians get a break in the regional at Indianapolis, where they meet the poor competition that will come from the Indianapolis, Plainfield and Greenfield sectionals.

Back on its home floor for the semi-final, Anderson again gets a comparatively-light card. Connersville is doped to be there from a weak Rushville regional. Columbus should show from the Shelbyville stack and Crawfordsville from Greencastle's tourney. The Indians should take it.

Horace Mann gets the break in the sectionals. Gary teams will have been moved to the Gary tourney against weak Porter county outfit.

Mann already has beaten everything in Gary. In the Hammond regional, Mann probably will meet Hammond Tech, also a former victim. In the Hammond semi-final, the going is tougher. Here Mann must down Lafayette, South Bend Central and Logansport, dropped to reach the Logansport playoff.

If Mann fails here, the Lafayette Broncos should emerge.

As for Fort Wayne Central, its chief sectional competition will come from the other Fort Wayne teams—mainly South Side. In the regional, Kendallville and Auburn

## Play Final Home Game Friday



First row, left to right—Briede, Holthouse, DesJean, Terveer, Keller, Kuhnle, Lengerich. Rear row, left to right—Coach T. C. Zayner, Klepper, Wolpert, Colchin, Baker, student manager; Rev. Alvin Jasinski, athletic director.

The Decatur Commodores will play their final home game of the season Friday night, meeting the Pleasant Mills Spartans at the Yellow Jackets gymnasium. Net proceeds from the game will be donated to the Naisman memorial.

should be easy, with the Warsaw Bengals looming toughest here. Then at Muncie's semi-final, Central must face Richmond, Marion, Logansport, Madison and Marion.

Michigan City, Bedford, Monticello, Rensselaer, Muncie, Burris, New Castle, Fowler, Paoli, Peru, Pittsboro, Culver, Fort Branch, Richmond, Rushville, Seymour, Columbus, Tipton, South Bend Central, Sullivan, Tell City, Terra Haute, Wylie, Vincennes, Wabash, Warsaw, Washington, Rochester and Winchester.

(Exit across the border until this thing blows over.)

## DUTCH FORCES

CONTINUED FROM PAGE ONE

ported to be "much quieter."

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The loss of Martaban was acknowledged yesterday. It was the first Japanese break-through in force west of the Salween. Imperial defenders smashed

heavily on land at the invaders and ranged far to strike by air.

Bombers attacked the Japanese positions in the Martaban sector and for the first time attacked Chiangmai, Thailand, where enemy forces are concentrating 200 miles to the north.

Japanese planes were machine-gunning and dive-bombing the imperial troops.

The first hints of a general counter-offensive came from the extreme north of Burma where Chinese troops for the first time were reported in contact with the enemy.

A communiqué said the Chinese had forced Thai troops to withdraw "to the Indo-China frontier." The area of action was not given, but the general description indicated that the Thai had penetrated northward into a portion of Burma jutting to Indo-China.

Such action would be north of Myitkyina, 215 miles south of the China border.

The communiqué mentioned only "advance units" of the Chinese forces as being in action and it was noted that no large-scale offensive in the area was planned at the moment.

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