



DIXON BULLDOGS STATE CHAMPS

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Before some 6,000 basketball fans at Brewer Field House at Missouri University, Columbia, Saturday night, the Dixon Bulldogs completed their undefeated season by edging out Oran with a 76-74 to claim the State Championship for Class M High Schools.

Oran until this game was also undefeated with a 34-0 record for the season, compared to Dixon's 35-0. This was the 11th time the finals were played by undefeated ball teams, and the most points scored by the finalists - 150.

Fantastic John Brown of Dixon set a new four-game scoring record of 126 points breaking the record of John Cunneen of Kansas City Redemptorist in 1960. Cunneen had scored 115 in four games. John scored 32 points in this game to run this total points for the season to 1133. The 6 foot 7 ace of the Dixon Bulldogs averaged over 30 points per game for the season.

Dixon took advantage of the opponent's determination to stop high scoring Brown and he was fouled time after time, and converted 10 of this 12 free throws.

The Bulldogs had a remarkable shooting average for the game of 59 percent and a sensational 70 percent in the first half. Oran's high-leaping Fred Johnson besides pushing Brown every inch of the way, scored 31 points himself to keep the game tight at all times.

Dixon held a first quarter lead of 24-22, and halftime lead 49-42 and Dixon was behind at the three-quarter mark, 62-59. Brown did not score a point in the third quarter.

Dixon trailed as late as the 2:35 mark before tying it at 71-all. Fred Hauck converted both ends of another clutch one-and-one situation to give the Bulldogs a 73-71 lead. Oran's Don Evans then cut the margin 73-72 by hitting the first of a one-and-one opportunity from the charity stripe. When his second shot was off John Johnson grabbed the misfire and was fouled trying for the tip-in.

He missed the first of the two-shot foul but made the second try to tie it 73-73 with :57 left to play.

Then Dixon took time out and decided to play for one last shot. But when Paul Hauck failed to cross the five-second penetration line a jump ball was called with 24 seconds left. Brown got the tip for Dixon was fouled, setting up his two free throws and the last second climatic.

Trailing 75-73 with just 12 seconds left in the championship game, the Eagles Fred Johnson was fouled on a drive by Paul Hauck and went to the charity stripe with a chance to tie the game on a one-and-one situation.

Johnson converted his first shot to make the score 75-74 and earned the second chance that could've knotted the score.

But trying to relax and overcome the pressure, the Oran senior bounced the ball a few times and peered out into the crowd and took more than the 10 seconds allowed to get the shot off.

The referee, Gene Barth, then made one of the toughest decisions he'll probably ever have to make, by handing the ball to Dixon who took it in from out of bounds, and Randall Irvin dribbled around in circles and was crushed to the floor on an intentional foul by Johnson.

Shortly after landing on his back, Irvin arose, thanked Mr. Johnson profusely and walked to the free throw line and calmly sank the first of two free throws. He tossed the second one carelessly in the air and Dixon had its first State Championship in history.

One Columbia sportswriter said most of Dixon's shots started from about 6-7 in the air and not too far away from the basket while Oran's shots started at the most 6-2 and were farther from the basket.

Randall Irvin scored 22 points. Fred Hauck shot 7 out of 8 free throws, Henry Hauck had 4 points, Paul Hauck 3 and Mike Sims 4.

St. George of Herman scored a 70-54 victory over Skyline of Urbana to win the State S Championship.

Friday and Saturday night the town of Dixon was practically deserted as hundreds and hundreds of basketball fans made the 90 mile trip to Columbia to support the Bulldogs and help claim the victory.

TOWN AWAITS VICTORS WITH ALL NIGHT PARTY AT HIGH SCHOOL

On their arrival home in the wee hours of the morning, following the championship victory, fans and players found the high school open with sandwiches, hot and cold drinks awaiting and a large crowd that left parking space at a premium.

Our hats are off to the Bulldogs and their coaching staff for finishing out the long and weary season by finishing so strong with an undefeated season. This was a great boost for the Frisco League, for Dixon's championship, and Crocker's fine play in the regional at Skyline.

Most of the well learned tributes were paid John Brown this season and Randall Irvin came in for many, many honors. However, the other three starters, the three Hauck cousins, did their share and even more in every game....and opposing teams will have to put up with amazing Paul Hauck for two more seasons, as he was only a sophomore this year.