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THE NEWS PAPER Sports

Thursday, December 28, 1978

Miner Losing Streak Now At 8

The Park High Miners better resolve to play more inspired third quarter basketball in the new year if they hope to escape the frustrations of the old year.

The Miners played their best and worst games of the season back to back last week but the results were the same—defeat. Scoring a total of 17 points in the third quarters, Park City dropped a hard fought 63-59 decision to Wasatch on Thursday night and then fell apart against Morgan, 58-49, on Friday.

The two consecutive losses plunged the Miners' preseason record to an abysmal 0-8, providing a stark contrast to the accolades heaped upon them before the first jump ball. They will have to scramble to find the missing ingredients before the league opener against Wendover on January 5.

Comeback

The four-team Top of the Mountain Classic began Thursday in the Park High gym. After South Summit, had drubbed Morgan in the opener, Park City took the floor against Wasatch, a highly touted 2A school that eventually won the tournament.

Looking for its first victory, Park City had little reason for optimism in the early going. Wasatch raced to a 14-0 lead and it appeared the Miners were headed for their most embarrassing performance of an embarrassing season.

But 17 of the next 21 points belonged to Park City and the first quarter ended with the local cagers trailing by only one, 18-17.

The Miners made their move when Howard Davidson made his first appearance of the season, entering the game midway through the period. The 6'11" senior was last year's leading scorer and his presence gave Park City a visible lift, both on offense and defense. Davidson had been sidelined by a broken leg suffered during football season.

Take the Lead

With only 15 seconds expired in the second quarter, forward Marty Cowin scored on a layup to give Park City a 19-18 lead, capping a remarkable come-from-behind effort. The Miners continued to apply pressure for the remainder of the half and expanded their cushion to five.

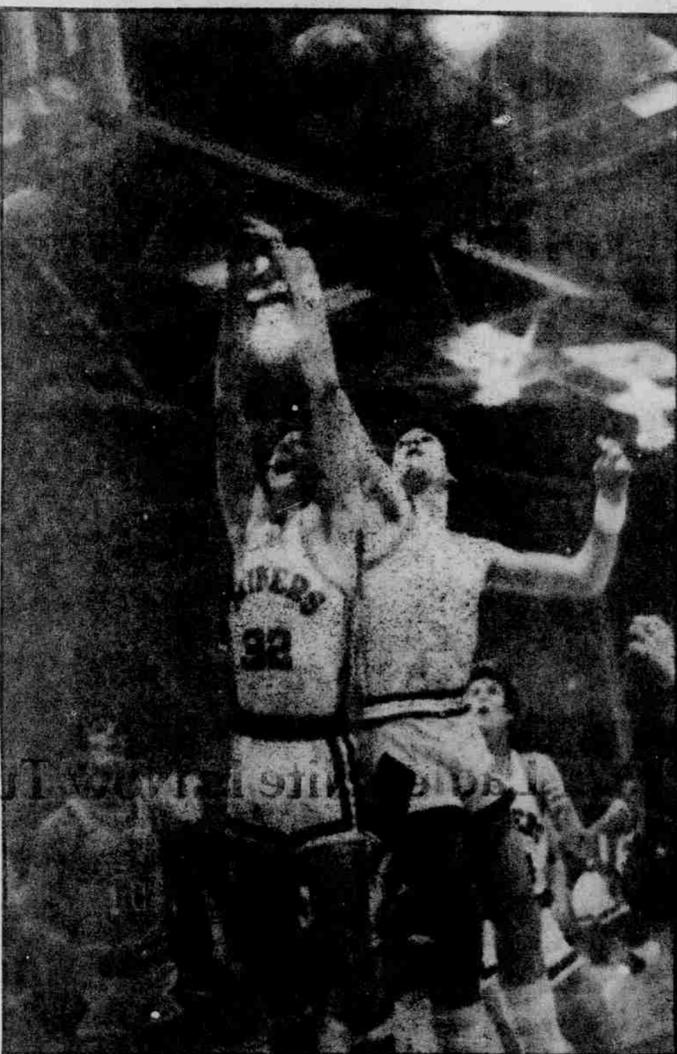
Playing aggressive defense, Park City created numerous turnovers and converted them into baskets. Senior Dave Radford led the second period charge with six points, four of which came on strong moves to the hoop. Cowin and Davidson added four each while Tim King and Mickey Henrich had two points apiece in the quarter.

A turnaround jumper by King with just under three minutes left in the half pushed the Park City bulge to 35-26 but the Wasps collected the final two baskets to make it 35-30 at intermission.

Third Quarter Blues

Lack of productivity in the third quarter has been the Miner's downfall all season and the Wasatch game was no exception. Ahead by five at the start of the period, Park City was outscored 16-8 and found themselves trailing by three when the quarter ended.

Wasatch pulled to within three on the second half tipoff. Scott Davis controlled the jump and got the ball to Bob Hyde, who made it for a



Marty Cowin (left) battles Wasatch's Steve Provost for a rebound

layup. Hyde led all scorers in the game with 21 points.

Davidson, who had 20 points on the evening, answered with a turnaround jumper but the Wasps scored four more to cut the Miner lead to one, 37-36. Davidson scored again, after rebounding a missed shot, but two more Wasatch baskets gave the visitors a 40-39 advantage with 3:15 left in the quarter.

Park City regained the lead on a jump shot by Cowin, only to allow Lane Lythgoe to drive the length of the court for an uncontested layup. A free throw by Mark Uriarte was followed by a 15-foot jumper by Hyde that touched nothing but net. Cowin added another charity toss but Wasatch's Darryl Zenger hit one from downtown to give the Wasps a 46-43 edge going into the final eight minutes.

Close All the Way

Scoring from the foul line, Park City remained within striking distance and with 4-45 left in the game, Davidson scored on an excellent move under the basket to tie the score at 49-49. Wasatch regained the lead after rebounding their own missed shot twice and finally putting the ball through the hoop on the third attempt. It was a lead they would never relinquish.

With Park City trailing 61-57, Dave Radford went to the line and hit two free throws to bring the Miners within a basket with just over a minute and a half left in the game. Davidson then stole the ball but Cowin missed a shot underneath. A subsequent jump ball was controlled by Park City but Cowin again missed his shot.

A missed free throw by Hyde gave the Miners still another opportunity to knot the score but Davidson was off target from the outside and Mike Gebauer committed

ted a rebounding foul. This time Hyde was good on both ends of a one-and-one situation and Wasatch had a four-point cushion. Both Davidson and Cowin failed to connect on last second attempts and Park City suffered its seventh consecutive defeat.

The Streak Goes On

Tournament action resumed Friday night in Heber at the Wasatch High School gym with the consolation game pitting Park City against Morgan.

Despite losing, the Miners had played well the previous night and local fans were hopeful of seeing the losing streak snapped. It was not to be, however, as Park City turned in a lackluster performance against a team they seemed capable of beating.

The Miners fell behind 6-2 in the opening minutes but baskets by Cowin and Radford tied the score. After Morgan's Kelly Hicks scored underneath, Cowin connected on a bank shot and Mark Uriarte added two free throws to put Park City ahead 10-8 with 2:50 remaining in the quarter.

An outside shot by Trojan Roger Randall and another basket by Hicks was followed by a Mike Gebauer basket, coming off a rebound of his own missed foul shot, and the quarter ended in a 12-12 tie.

Fall Behind

Poor defense in the second period contributed to a two-quarter slump that put the game out of reach for the Miners. Park City gave up 20 points while scoring 14 in the second quarter, to fall behind 32-26.

Mounting a balanced scoring attack, the Miners pulled ahead of the Trojans, 26-24, on a well-executed fastbreak by Tim King and Mark Uriarte. But with two

Erickson And Glenne Post X-C Victories

Fifty-four entrants, ranging in age from pre-teenagers to a 74-year-old, raced in the opening Wasatch Citizen's Cup Nordic Series at the Park City golf course last Saturday. Steve Erickson, an instructor at the White Pine Touring Center, took first place in the 15 km. men's expert class race.

The expert women's class was won by Park City resident Marit Glenne, who covered 12 km in 60 minutes, 43 seconds.

Jack Glidden, a 47-year-old philosophy professor from Ogden had a race time that was only 17 seconds behind Erickson's, despite the fact he broke trail on the wind-blown track for the first lap.

Races in the series will be held every Saturday until the end of March. Among the scheduled race events is a February Nordic Slalom dual elimination race in which the racers run a downhill slalom course, ski uphill, then switch courses and run a second downhill slalom. There is also a tandem race in which paired contestants will race on a single pair of skis with double bindings or race side by side with inside legs tied together.

Jim Miller of the White Pine Touring Center in Park City says the races are designed for cross-country skiers of every skill level.

"These races will help people improve their skiing technique through competition, much like the downhill town races," says Miller.

Saturday's meet was sponsored by the White Pine Touring Center and Skilom Skis. A variety of ski manufacturers, retail Nordic shops and recreation centers will sponsor the upcoming races, which will be held at various locations. A pair of skis will be awarded to the competitor at each race who has his or her bib number drawn in the post-race lottery.

For further information and a schedule of race events contact the White Pine Touring Center.

CROSS-COUNTRY RACE RESULTS

Men's Expert Class (12 km)	Race Time	Men's Class IV (8 km)	
1. Steve Erickson	52:46	1. Charlie Peterson	41:43
2. John Glidden	53:03	2. Duncan Oglivie	41:58
3. John Winquist	55:00	3. Marv Melville	42:04
Women's Expert Class (12 km)		Men's Class V (4 km)	
1. Marit Glenne	60:43	1. Rone Wallin	22:57
		2. Jerry Malgard	23:11
		3. Ray Wingstrom	30:13
Men's Class I (4 km)		Women's Class I (4 km)	
1. David Vahluven	25:57	1. Jennifer Wickham	31:47
2. Craig Irvine	26:17	Women's Class II (4 km)	
Men's Class II (8 km)		1. Sherry Melville	25:07
1. Clay Erstein	50:20	2. Cecilia Lekderg	33:00
2. George Peppin	55:12	Women's Class III (4 km)	
3. Chris Bartholomew	64:45	1. Jerry Edelman	21:06
Men's Class III (8 km)		Women's Class IV (4 km)	
1. Craig Zelinske	40:08	June Wickham	28:37
2. Harold Avne	40:14	Women's Class V (4 km)	
3. Jim French	46:56	1. Louise Hollander	36:26



Men's expert Winner Steve Erickson crossing the finish line

ROLAND'S ROUND-UP

By Bill Roland

Sportsman of the Year

He played on one of the most controversial teams that the sports world has seen in some time. He quietly went about the business of doing his work and remained unflappable. He never criticized his teammates, coaches or general manager. You never read in the sports pages of his being involved in a contract dispute, although he was worth more to the team than any other player.

While his teammates were tossing curt remarks about each other and the front office, his strong left arm was throwing asprins at opposing batters and mowing them down one at a time. He was the winning pitcher in 25 games this season while losing three. He had a 1.74 earned run average and 248 strike outs.

Two years ago, this country boy from Louisiana was struggling in the Yankee farm system. Today, Ron Guidry is the premier pitcher in baseball and my choice for the 1978 Athlete of the Year. No other athlete played his sport as well as Guidry, despite the turmoil and confusion that hung around the team like a morning fog, refusing to disappear. Without question, he is the champion's champion.

The Year in Review

Although baseball certainly created quite a stir this year, there were many other sports that grabbed the headlines. Affirmed won the Triple Crown in thoroughbred racing and Steve Caughen answered the critics by having another outstanding year in the stirrups. Racing experts even suggested that, through some mystical powers, Caughen has really been a jockey for 20 years and his youthful appearance is only a myth. And he's going to get better!

Mario Andretti accomplished something that no other American has done for 17 years. He successfully piloted his Colin Chapman-built Lotus to the World Driving Championship on the Formula 1 Circuit. Phil Hill won the Championship in 1961 and it's been a long dry spell for the American drivers.

The season wasn't easy. Not only did Mario have to wrestle through the turns at places like Zandvoort, Monte Carlo, Brands Hatch, and Argentina, he had to cope with emotional problems that have broken men with less character. His teammate, long time friend and competitor, Ronnie Peterson, was killed in the Italian Grand Prix, the race where Mario clinched the championship. He certainly didn't feel like spraying champagne over the crowd that day.

Throughout his career Mario has handled both victory and defeat remarkably well. It was quite ironic that on the day of his greatest victory, the death of his teammate marred the celebration.

In college basketball, the Kentucky Wildcats survived a season inside a pressure cooker and a strong challenge from the Duke Blue Devils to capture the NCAA basketball championship. Joe Hall and his 'Cats were ranked No. 1 throughout the season and anything less than a national championship would have been considered a disgrace to the Commonwealth of Kentucky.

This pressure continued as the season wore on but only a supreme performance by Jack Givens saved the day for 'Cats in the final against Duke. The Baron of Bluegrass, Adolph Rupp, passed away early in the season but somewhere up in the Coach's Corner of the sky, a smile no doubt crossed the face of the legendary "man in the brown suit."

On a beautiful, sun splashed day in early April, Gary Player fired an almost unbelievable 64 on the final round to capture his third Masters title at the fabled Augusta National Golf Club. Hubert Green needed a four-footer on the final hole for a tie but watched in shock as his putt slid by the right side. Player continued one of the hottest streaks in modern golf by winning the Tournament of Champions the following week and the Houston Classic after that.

Andy North won the U.S. Open with a dramatic bogey 5 on the final hole at Cherry Hills in Denver. Continued Page 7

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PEACE ON EARTH!

May you and your loved ones have a safe and joyous Holiday Season, a healthy and prosperous New Year!

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