

Cage Prizes Big, Applicants Few

By DICK JOHNSTON



HERB MOLS
Has Trouble Getting Stars

WANTED: College basketball stars to take a shot at making the U. S. Olympic team, which will play in Tokyo this year. If you don't make the Olympic team, you may still get on a team for a trip to Russia.

This, in essence, is the want ad Herb Mols has hung out. And he's having a mighty tough time getting takers.

Mols is basketball chairman of the Niagara District AAU, which is sending the Almaroones as the local entry to the National AAU Tournament beginning Sunday in Denver.

This year, for the first time, the National Collegiate Athletic Association has eased its post-season regulations so that college players who have completed their seasons can be added to AAU teams for the tourney.

Players from the 16 teams in the AAU tourney will be picked

for two squads to compete against college and service teams in the Olympic Trials April 2 at St. John's University. Some of those who fail to make the Olympic team still may be picked for a trip to Russia.

Bob Myszewski, former University of Buffalo star, who coaches the Almaroones in local amateur circles, told Mols that some of his players are willing to step aside so that college stars can be added to the team.

So Mols started working on a list: Fred Crawford and Miles Aiken of St. Bonaventure; Tony Gennari of Canisius; Chuck Richards and Dave Bing of Syracuse; Happy Hairston of New York University; John Thompson of Providence and Gary Hanley of UB.

Thompson was the first one eliminated. He has been selected to try out in the NCAA Trials. Gennari had to turn down the offer because he can't miss classes at Canisius.

With UB in spring vacation, Hanley is on a Florida holiday. Jim Decker, Syracuse athletic director, and Fred Lewis, basketball coach, are on their way to the coaches' convention in Kansas City and Mols hasn't been able to reach them yet to get permission for their players to compete.

Mols hasn't been able to contact Crawford and Aiken, who played for the Bonnies in the National Invitation Tournament in New York over the week-end.

Today is a holiday at St. Bonaventure, so they were given permission to stay at their New York homes.

Hairston's team still is in the N.I.T. and will play Saturday.

"When I was in South America for the Pan-American Games in 1952," Mols recalled today, "I was asked why the United States didn't have its best amateur players on the U. S. team. I always replied that many of them didn't want to compete because of school commitments, etc. But that when it came to the Olympic year, things would be much different.

"The rules were changed so all top college players would have a chance at the Olympic team. But we still are having a difficult time getting them. Beats me!"

SPORTS

by Bill Doran

An area resident has added to his list of honors in sports activities. Herbert J. Mols, Athletic Director at the Park School on Harlem Road, was recently appointed to the post of Coordinator of Youth Activities, a national committee chairmanship in the Amateur Athletic Union. He was given the appointment at the 76th annual A.A.U. convention held recently in San Diego, California.

Mr. Mols has been active in the A. A. U. for many years and is one of a very few, if not the only person from this area ever to serve as a chairman of one of the organization's 35 committees.

Herbert Mols' past record is impressive. He has been vice-chairman of the A.A.U.'s National Basketball Committee for the last 3 years



HERBERT MOLS

and served as the A.A.U.'s representative on the Olympic Basketball Committee. Last summer Mr. Mols managed the seven week South American tour of All-American college basketball players in conjunction with the culture and education program of the U. S. State Department. Mr. Mols is a past president of the Niagara Association of the A.A.U. and is currently the association's secretary.

Mr. Mols is Buffalo-born, attended Fosdick-Masten High School, and went on to Cornell University where he played football, basketball and baseball.

Mr. Mols joined the Park School in the spring of 1946 as Athletic Director. At that time there were only three organized sports at the school: baseball, basketball and soccer. In keeping with his belief that athletics should share an equal standing with studies, Mr. Mols proceeded to make changes and institute new programs.

In 1947 Mr. Mols formed the CUPS League (Conference of Upstate Private Schools), a five team league of private schools. He then organized football, track, and tennis teams with regular schedules. He also instituted annual "one-shot" CUPS competition meets in skiing, golf, swimming and wrestling. Besides these innovations, Mr. Mols carries on a full daily physical education program for the students and is coach of the basketball, baseball, football and track teams.

Mr. Mols has also been active in organizing sports in the Town of Amherst. He started the Amherst Town Swim Meet and was instrumental in organizing the Amherst Little League. He also founded the Amherst Connie Mack League and was its president for six years. In 1955 he was appointed to the Town of Amherst Recreation Commission.

Mr. Mols resides with his wife and six children at 99 Chateau Terrace in Snyder.

Mols, Derrick On CUPS Team



GARY MOLS

Two area basketball players, Jim Derrick and Gary Mols of Park School, were named to the Conference of Upstate Private Schools All-Star team for the second straight year. Park's Gerry Lang received an honorable mention on the team announced by CUPS Chairman Blake Babcock of Lakemont Academy, N.Y.

Rounding off the All-Star team were Norm Ashenburg and Jim Cetracos of Allendale School in Rochester and Charles Lotspeich of Harley School in Rochester.

Mols, a 5' 10" 175 lb. senior at Park, was third in conference scoring with 147 points for an 18.4 average in the 8-game CUPS schedule. Gary also had the highest single-game output scoring 36 points against Allendale. Derrick led the conference with 176 points in 8 games for an average of 22 points per game. Derrick is also on the Amherst Bee All-Area team.