

AYA Seniors and Bantams win USAREUR titles

by LEE ROWE

The AYA Senior and Bantam basketball teams traveled to Kaiserslautern last weekend to compete in the USA-REUR Championships.

The Bantam All-Stars drew first blood, trouncing a strong Heidelberg team 34 to 23. The Berlin Seniors then made it two for two by coming back from a 12-point deficit to deflate Zweibruecken's hopes for a championship, winning 55 to 52.

The Berlin Bantams, who annexed their second consecutive USAREUR Championship, started strong leading by 12 points early in the game. The combination of McCoy, Ross, Garcia, Flournoy and Jones dominated the

opposition with tight defense and accurate shooting. The tide turned in the middle two quarters as Heidelberg came back strong to even up the score near the end of the third quarter. Berlin never lost their cool and in the final quarter it was all Berlin.

Big Bill McCoy completely dominated both boards and Willie Ross consistently hit from the outside. Berlin won "going away" as their press stopped the opposition cold.



WILLIE ROSS . . . top Bantam scorer.
(Photo by Dave Bauler)

Flournoy and Ward turned in outstanding defensive efforts while scoring honors went to Willie Ross who had a game high of 16 points. Bill McCoy scored 12 and Mike Garcia had six.

In the tournament finale, the Seniors battled back from a 12-point deficit to erase the Razorback's hopes of a championship. Berlin had problems during the first half as the Razorbacks dominated the game. Rick Payne, who scored Berlin's first eight points, was outstanding on the boards but the sharp outside shooting of the Razorbacks offset his efforts. This enabled them to build a 12-point lead midway in the second quarter. Only the remarkable outside shooting of Johnny Hayes kept Berlin in the running.

Midway in the third quarter the Seniors regained their composure and forced the Razorbacks to change their attack. Switching to a running game while putting on a tight press, the Seniors forced the Razorbacks to commit numerous mistakes resulting in turn-overs. Taking full advantage of the opposition's mistakes, the Seniors took over the lead midway in the fourth quarter and were never behind thereafter. Hancock, Sewell and Jones played outstanding defensive ball while Payne and Thorsen controlled the boards for the remainder of the game.

Johnny Hayes was the "Big Gun" for Berlin as he scored a tournament high of 29 points. Jack Hancock was also in double figures, scoring 10 points.

As always in team sports, the majority of the credit must be given to the players, and rightfully so, but forming a group into an effective team requires direction. The direction for these two teams was of course provided by the coaches. To be commended for their outstanding efforts in developing this group of youths into two outstanding basketball teams are from the Seniors, Chuck Branam and Roy Carter; and from the Bantams, Ernie Bone, Lynn Hansen and Jim Berry.

BAHS sports

Boys' track

The BAHS track teams traveled to Karlsruhe last weekend to run against the Baumholder Bucs and Karlsruhe Knights. Much to the surprise of Berlin, the Heidelberg Lions were also there. Since Heidelberg was not scheduled to be there, their points did not count against the other schools.

The day started off with Mark Schneider taking second in the long jump with 17'2", while Dave Aura and Steve Eldridge took third and fourth place in the high jump respectively. Dave Aura was hurt on his last jump and, unfortunately, will not be able to compete for a long while.

The other points were compiled by Kipp Keller in the 100 meters, and Frank Jones and Jeff McMurtrey in the high hurdles. Dieter Bauberman and Darrel Westfall