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Meantime, Coach Harold (Bud) Fisher's team had lost four times during the regular season, including a pair of setbacks at the hand of Central Iowa Conference rival Marshalltown, who dropped Coach Fisher's men to second place in the final league standings.

The champion Boone squad didn't really start clicking until just before the start of tournament play. They finished out with 12 consecutive wins to boost their final record to 20-4.

In district tournament play the Boone squad had stopped Sac City, 39-13, and Webster City, 23-11.

In the state meet,

Henderson was a 39-26 victim and Boone defeated Alta, 29-17.

That setup a big semifinal round of action on a Saturday afternoon to be followed that night by the championship game.

Boone's semifinal round opponent was Des Moines Roosevelt, a perennial contender for top state honors. Roosevelt was propelled by freshman Marcellus McMichael who was to become a first-team all-state player four straight years, a real unusual circum-

stance.

Boone roared to a 10-6 first half lead and held off the Roughriders, 16-15.

It was a devastating loss for the Des Moines team which did have one last chance to win the game.

With 10-seconds remaining and Boone nursing that one-run lead, Parker, a Roosevelt forward, had one last shot at the basket but the ball "rolled around the iron and fell out."

According to the Des Moines Register game writeup, "Grief stricken, Parker's nerves gave way, and he was helped off the floor by two Boone players in a crowd of spectators who flooded the court to congratulate and console players."

That night, the Boone-Muscatine championship game drew the largest crowd to ever watch any basketball game in the state's history, collegiate or otherwise.

A total of 8,000 fans were jammed into the fieldhouse and 1,500 fans were turned

away at the gate.

According to the Register, "four Muscatine rooters attempted to "crash the gate" after the championship game had started and officials closed the doors for lack of standing room."

The foursome pleaded with the officers, telling them of their long drive from Muscatine to root for their team, but to no avail.

The Boone High School band made it to the arena. They were described as being "in the northeast corner in red and green capes and caps and they, "played valiantly."

According to a newspaper account of the championship game, "Boone really had little trouble in disposing of the river team after the first half."

The halftime score was 6-6 but Muscatine's star player, Barko, grabbed a Boone pass, dribbled in close and made a field goal, his only score of the game, to give his team an 8-6 lead early in the third period.

Boone outscored their rival, 10-3, the rest of the way.

Boone had won the biggest and most successful high school tournament to that time. Gate receipts and

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