

Highland, Provo No. 1 in Final Poll

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Highland and East, a couple of old friends and old enemies, now converse with one another on a first name basis. And rightly so. Each has challenged the other more often than is normally healthy during the course of a basketball season.

But both are wiser and stronger for doing so.

When they initiated the "13th East Series" in December, Highland was the victor. When Act II unfolded in January, East proved triumphant. And when round three, the rubber match, was contested last Tuesday, the Rams hit the jackpot again.

Two out of three ain't bad.

A Highland-East Final?

If Highland and East are to meet again in 1979 it must be in the Class 4-A state tournament final. But if a fourth game materializes, the roles will be reversed. Highland, which currently owns a 2-1 series advantage, would enter a fourth confrontation as the No. 1 Class 4-A team in Utah, while East would carry the No. 2 banner. At least, that is the popular opinion expressed by 4-A basketball captains throughout the Beehive State in the final Tribune Captains Poll of the 1978-79 season.

The captains still recognize Highland and East as the top two bananas in 4-A basketball. Yet, now that the Rams have twice defeated the Leopards and possess the glossiest record in the 4-A fraternity, Highland has been judged No. 1 and East No. 2. Thus, the captains, in essence, are predicting a Highland-East finale for the 4-A championship next Saturday at the University of Utah.

Highland (21-3) is no stranger to the top position in the 4-A Captains Poll. The Rams began the 1978-79 season as the No. 1 team before being supplanted by East in early February. Now, Highland is back where it began 1979, but East Coach Dick Milne isn't so sure they'll stay there.

"I think it would be a great final," said Milne, speaking of the prospect of a Highland-East championship game. "If Highland is going to be there, we better be there too. Actually, I just hope East is there no matter what Highland does. Right now, I really believe each team has to concentrate on winning and forget about what the other team is doing."



CAPTAINS POLL

While Highland secured the No. 1 ranking and East checked in at No. 2, Region Three made it a clean sweep of the top three notches in the final 4-A poll with the emergence of Skyline as the third best team in the estimation of team captains throughout Utah. Meanwhile, Roy appears in the final poll as a solid No. 4 choice, Hillcrest rose to No. 5, Clearfield finishes at No. 6, Orem No. 7, Layton No. 8, Brighton No. 9 and Viewmont No. 10.

Provo Tops 3-A Poll

Provo, which owns the finest record in 3-A basketball, wrapped up its second consecutive Region Six championship Friday and held on to its No. 1 position in the final Class 3-A Captains Poll this week. The Bulldogs (16-2) edged Woods Cross (16-3) by two points, as 3-A captains predicted Provo would successfully defend its 1978 state title.

Woods Cross, which has yet to taste defeat in Region Four, would like to change a few minds of voting captains. But the Wildcats will have to do so in the 3-A state tournament March 12-17 at the University of Utah.

American Fork (15-4) maintained its No. 3 ranking in the final poll, while Dixie (15-3) soared to No. 4, Logan (14-5) checked in at No. 5 and Murray and Judge shared the No. 6 position.

There is a new face atop the Class 2-A Captains Poll. San Juan, which has played second fiddle to South Sevier throughout the 1978-79 season, has tiptoed past the Rams and assumed sole possession of the No. 1 ranking. South Sevier, which suffered a 10-point loss to Millard in the Region Seven round robin semifinals, still claimed the No. 2 position, while Millard checked in at No. 3.

CLASS 4-A

	Record	Pts.
1. Highland	(21-3)	107
2. East	(19-3)	103
3. Skyline	(17-5)	97
4. Roy	(17-5)	90
5. Hillcrest	(16-5)	88
6. Clearfld	(17-4)	82
7. Orem	(12-9)	76
8. Layton	(12-6)	68
9. Brighton	(15-6)	59
10. Viewmt	(12-10)	52

(Records do not reflect Saturday night games)

CLASS 2-A

	Record	Pts.
1. San Juan	(17-2)	102
2. S. Sevier	(17-3)	98
3. Millard	(12-7)	90
4. Morgan	(10-6)	84
5. Grntsvelle	(11-6)	80
6. Wasatch	(12-5)	74
7. Emery	(12-7)	68
8. Richfield	(10-9)	61
9. Lehi	(8-7)	54
10. Juab	(11-7)	50

CLASS 3-A

	Records	Pts.
1. Provo	(16-2)	104
2. W. Cross	(16-3)	102
3. A. Fork	(15-4)	95
4. Dixie	(15-3)	88
5. Logan	(14-5)	84
6. Murray	(14-5)	79
6. Judge	(13-6)	79
8. Ogden	(12-6)	71
9. Jordan	(12-7)	63
10. Tooele	(10-9)	58

CLASS 1-A

	Record	Pts.
1. SSummt	(16-2)	103
2. Milford	(15-3)	100
3. Kanab	(15-3)	97
4. Piute	(14-3)	91
5. Dugway	(14-4)	87
6. Gunnison	(11-5)	83
7. Wendover	(13-6)	76
8. G. River	(13-5)	67
9. NSummt	(12-6)	60
10. N. Sevier	(12-7)	54