



Coach Grimes discusses plans for coming games with head manager, Lynn Mueller, and assistant managers, Ed Stein and Dave Langford.

**OPPOSITE PAGE:**

Stacy Bunton goes up for a "dunk" in the Western game.

The Varsity basketball team of Hughestown, before small but lively Hughes crowds, dramatically defeated Mariemont and aggressive Milford in the Southwestern District Class AA Tournament, to come in fourth out of twenty-three competing teams. The Big Reds were ousted from the tourney by a hot-shooting St. Xavier team in their third tournament game.

Going into the first game, Hughes faced a fourth-seeded Mariemont team, but put on a beautiful show of offensive strength to subdue the Warriors 77-62. Big Stacy Bunton paced the team with 24 points, while sophomore Bob Standley chipped in 16 points in this decisive win. On the record books, the second game appeared easier than the first. But

Bob Standley deftly drives around a St. Xavier player.



## Big Reds In Semi-Finals

a determined Milford squad provided an uphill battle for the Big Reds. With fifteen seconds left in the game, and Hughes losing by one point, Forrest Buckley sank a jump shot to put the Big Reds ahead 54-53. With the crowd cheering wildly, Milford took the ball out under their own basket with six seconds left; a basket then would have given the Eagles the ball game, but alert Ron Ward deftly blocked the out-of-bounds pass and dribbled out the clock, while the triumphant Hughes crowd stormed the floor.

Hughes then entered the semi-finals against St. Xavier, a very much improved team since Hughes beat them 62-48 early in the season. The Bombers were deadly in their shooting and took advantage of Hughes' weak defense as time after time Xavier players would dive in for easy lay-ups. In spite of this, the Big Reds gave them a tough battle, looking good offensively themselves, though losing 65-59. Although Hughes ended up a respectable fourth out of twenty-three in the tournament, this was a disappointment to those who really knew the team's potential.

In the seventeen games played in the regular season, Hughes won twelve and lost five. The team scored 1013 points to their opponents' 995 in season play. This is an average score of 60 per game for Hughes, against 58 for their opposition.

The Big Reds finished second in Public High School League competition, only behind Central; and, as it would seem, Central was Hughes' biggest nemesis. Having a three-point lead at halftime in the first Central game, Hughes faced a baffling Central full court press. The lead was promptly smashed and Central romped to a 66-33 win over Hughes. The Knights' effective full court press was experienced again by Hughes in their second meeting. The Big Reds were out for an upset and revenge, and played expertly the first half. Midway through the third period, Hughes led by a 17-point margin. Then, everything collapsed for Hughes. The Knights scored 33 points to Hughes' 8 the rest of the game and won 70-62.

Bobby Williams goes in for a basket while Central's Larry Elsaesser looks on helplessly.

