

It takes stout heart to coach '63? Ravenswood High School cagers

Coach Tom Crane of Ravenswood High School would have to be regarded as a poor insurance risk.

The insurance companies don't like to fool around with people who have hazardous jobs.

Crane is a basketball coach. His occupational hazard is pressure. Every coach has to expect some of that. He works with a team all week long and then sends them out on the court.

Then there's nothing more that can be done. He can't shoot the ball for his players, and he can't block a shot by the opposition.

That's why Crane is philosophical about the "heart attack" basketball his Trojans have been playing this season.

FOUR CLOSE GAMES

Ravenswood has a 5-1 record. Four of the six games have been decided in the final minute of play.

Crane says: "I was going ahead all the time. Tuesday we thought Fremont was going to be one of those peaceful afternoon games. No pressure."

But it didn't work out that way. Ravenswood won in two overtimes.

"I think it's inexperience," Crane explained. "Against Blackford in the Buchser tournament we had a chance to break the game open but didn't. The same thing happened against Fremont."

What does Crane tell his players in the final seconds of a close game?

PICK RIGHT PLAYER

"If we are going for one shot, just try and pick out the right man to take it," he said.

There are other times when Crane doesn't tell his team anything.

"When you set up a play, they try and force the situation and might lose the ball. Sometimes it's best to just let them play their own game," he said.

There is a point in every game when Crane resigns himself to

A MIRACLE WIN

Against Blackford last week, Crane was convinced his team was beaten. With one second to go, the Trojans trailed by a point and it seemed impossible to move the ball the length of the court in that instant.

But the Trojans did and Crane picked up a few more grey hairs. The most thrilling game for Crane came in the Peninsula Basketball Tournament at Stanford in 1962. That was the year Ravenswood defeated St. Elizabeth of Oakland in five overtimes for the championship. There were other thrillers.

SEVEN OVERTIMES

"We played seven overtimes in the PBT that year. We had to go two overtimes to beat Los Altos in the first round," Crane

Crane also recalls a game in which Milky Johnson tossed in a long shot from the corner to Bellarmine in the Mountain View Christmas tourney. He remembers the playoff with Sequoia for the South Peninsula Athletic League title last year.

The Trojans lost that one. In the years, Ravenswood has had some close ones.

★ ★ ★ NO COMPETITION

What makes a good basketball tournament?

Close games are the basic ingredient. Lack of competition has ruined the Palo Alto

had some of the best players in Northern California.

Among the stars to play are Frank Tarrantts, Dennis Marc and Gary Ryan of San Jose State; Kent Hinckley of Stanford, Bruce Asch of Santa Clara, Ray Gale and Bob Ralls of USF, and Rick Wright of Princeton.

Tonight's championship game at Palo Alto should be a romp for the Vikings. That's a good safe prediction.

The Palo Alto Vikings meet the Mills Vikings.

Cagers win in overtime

Ravenswood High School continued its streak of "heart attack" basketball with a 76-75 double overtime win over Fremont of Sunnyvale in a non-league game Tuesday afternoon.

It was the third straight game in which the Trojans won in the last seconds or in overtime.

In other nonleague games, St. Francis defeated Los Altos 62-54, and Cubberley took advantage of Awalt fouls to win 71-30.

Scott Irwin kept Fremont in the game until the second overtime. He scored with five seconds to play in regulation time to tie the game. Then he tied the score again in the first overtime.

But Ravenswood came back to finally win. The high scorer was Charles Lowery with 21 points. Irwin took game honors with 24 for Fremont.

The victory was the fifth in six games for Ravenswood. Fremont has a 6-2 record.

and Dave Young had seven. The high scorer for Cubberley was Mark Prehn with 14 points.

A full court press by Cubberley ruined the Awalt offense. The win was second in five games for Cubberley. Awalt has a 3-4 record.

St. Francis improved its season record to 6-2 by beating Los Altos. The Lancers had four players in double figures with Frank Hernandez high at 15. Lee Gabbard and Vince Bischof each had 12.

Los Altos now has a 2-4 record. The box scores:

RAVENSWOOD			FREMONT		
	G	F T		G	F T
McNair	3	5 11	Fleming	3	6 12
Butler	1	3 5	Arton	6	0 12
Minor	1	6 8	Wright	2	0 4
Lowery	8	5 21	Corral	3	4 10
Darrough	2	1 5	Egusa	3	0 6
Edge	8	1 17	Irwin	11	2 24
Thompson	3	3 9	May	1	4 6
			Grenwald	0	1 1
Totals	26	24 76	Totals	29	17 75

Score by quarters.						
FREMONT	11	17	18	20	4	5-75
RAVENSWOOD	16	17	21	12	4	6-76

ST. FRANCIS			LOS ALTOS		
	G	F T		G	F T
Gabbard	2	8 12	Herbst	4	1 9
Bischof	4	4 12	Burgess	2	0 4
Kelly	2	0 4	Godecke	7	0 14
Hernandez	6	3 15	Butchart	2	3 7
Delaney	2	6 10	Pratt	1	0 2
Spiker	4	1 9	Hill	5	1 11
			Jackson	3	1 7
			Okuda	2	0 4
Totals	20	22 62	Totals	27	8 57

AWALT			CUBBERLEY		
	G	F T		G	F T
Carpenetti	3	1 7	Young	1	7 9
Vannatter	1	1 3	Prehn	6	2 14
Wangness	1	2 4	Sharpe	3	1 7
Kjer	1	0 2	Keplinger	1	2 4
Fairbaun	1	0 2	Pribble	2	1 5
Wilbur	4	0 8	Chenn	2	8 12
Poppen	1	0 2	Evers	1	4 6
McLeod	1	0 2	Allred	0	2 2
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The Trojans lost that one. Over the years, Ravenswood has won more close ones.

★ ★ ★

NO COMPETITION

What makes a good basketball tournament? Close games are the basic ingredient. Lack of competition is what has ruined the Palo Alto Invitational tournament the last 10 years.

In this year's tourney the winning margin in the first eight games was 7, 6, 14, 16, 19, 13, 3 and 10 points.

The three-point game wasn't close either. Los Gatos had a 10-point lead with a minute to play before Terra Nova rallied against the second team.

The Palo Alto gym doesn't help the situation either. It's old and smelly. It was built when there was a jump ball after every basket and 20 points was enough to win any game.

The most successful tournaments are held at Buchser, Sunnyvale and James Lick high schools.

Competition is always close. And the gyms are big, well-lighted and smell good.

The Palo Alto tourney is the second oldest of the Peninsula prep meets. In the past it has

the Mills Vikings.

Trainers win in overtime

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			Miller	2	0 4
			Lewnowski	0	2 2
Totals	13	4 30	Totals	20	31 71
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