

'79 b-ballers flop

By Scott Williams

"Ladies and Gentlemen, welcome to Mather Ranger Basketball!"

The voice of the announcer begins another long and frustrating game for Coach Don Fontana and our own Boys' Basketball Team. The victories are few, the defeats, almost predictable. But every game begins the same way - "Hustle! Hustle! Hustle!" Their play is determined, spirited, almost inspiring but the outcome is almost always the same. It could be worse, and it has been. Last year, only one victory all season; the year before that, none, but this year, they've already won three games.

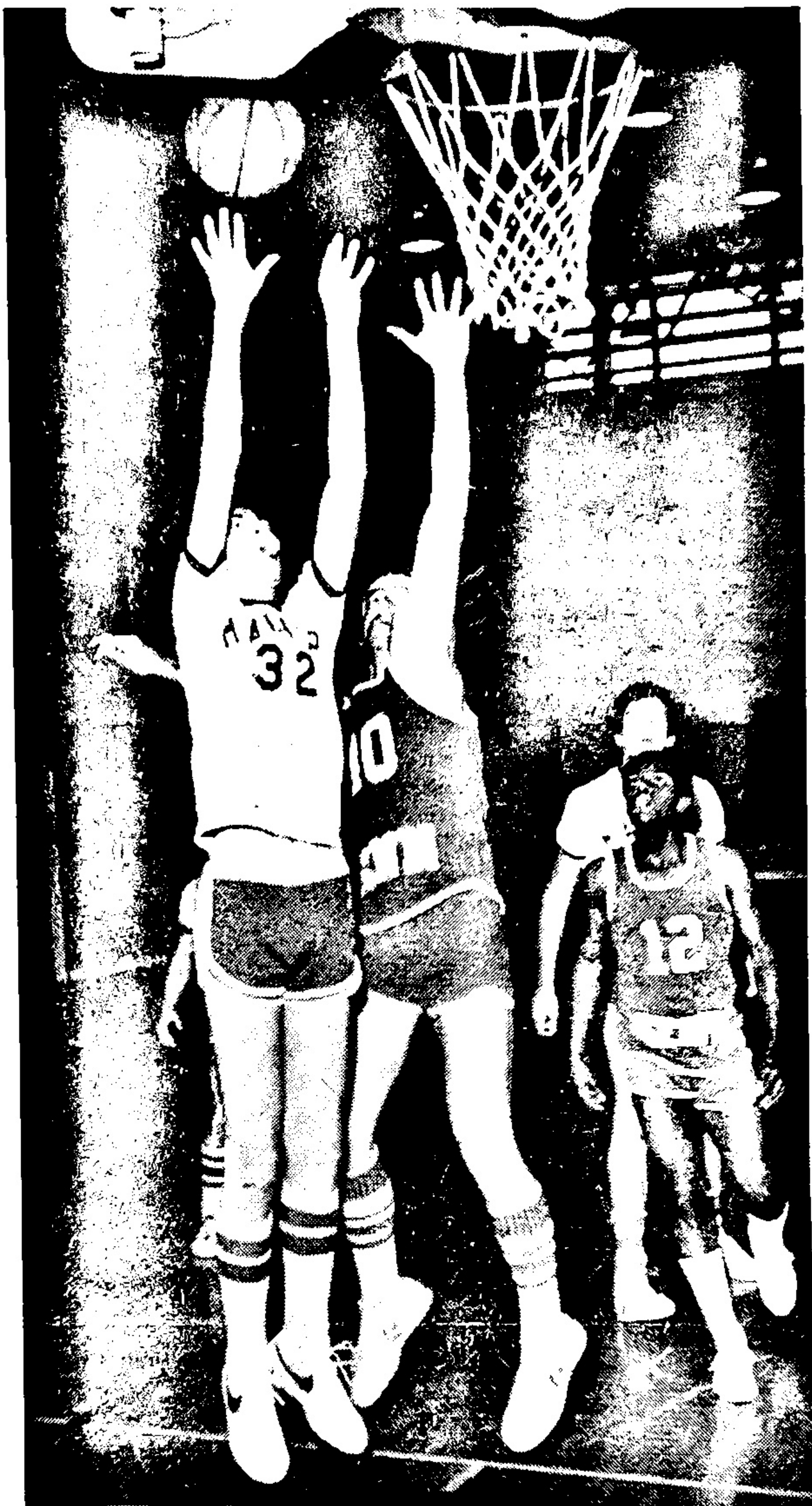
In pre-season play, it looked like we might even have a winning team on our hands. 6' 7" Peter Grosz emerged as the team leader, scoring 37 points against Sullivan, and blocking 11 shots against Hubbard. With a pre-season record of 3-4, it appeared as though the Rangers were ready to begin their season.

However, the Rangers just weren't meant to be a winning team. In most of their games, their defense was slow and ineffective, their passes were sloppy, and most of the players were looking for their own shots and they neglected to create a constructive offensive attack. They were undisciplined, and they were noticeably slower than most teams that they played.

But the Rangers kept on hustling. In their second game of the regular season, Mather beat Von Steuben 70-69 in a thrill-packed contest. Von Steuben led 37-33 at halftime, but the Rangers took control in the third quarter, and with a full-court press defense, held on to win.

The starting line-up for the Mather Rangers included Tom Peterson, David Peterson, Peter Grosz, who is averaging 16 points and 9 rebounds per game, Matt Grizely, and Brian Bell, who averaged 18 points and 9 rebounds per game. Mather's valuable substitutes include Marty Albert, Marc Davidson, Howard Kadet, Chuck Klein, Tony Morgan, Spiro Pappas, and Bob Ross.

Mather's second victory



Ranger Dave Peterson goes up for the rebound against Senn.

came on January 29, when the Rangers, led by Brian Bell with 22 points, defeated Lakeview 71-49. On January 30, Mather beat Kelvyn Park, 67-50.

With a final record of 4-10, the Rangers' fans did not have much to cheer about. But they did continue to cheer, and the Rangers continued to "Hustle! Hustle! Hustle!"

After losing to Clemente, defeating Lakeview, and losing to Lane and Senn the team finished in 6th place in their

division with a final record of 4-10.

When asked what was lacking on this year's team, starting center Peter Grosz replied, "There was none of the discipline that should evolve from coaching. Everyone was doing their own thing."

Speaking of his four years on the basketball team Grosz said, "The only improvements that we (the players) made were by ourselves and while we played - not from the coaching."