

State Tournament Berth
Krum Seniors Help Coach Keep 4-Year Old Promise
By Gene Wilson
Denton Record Chronicle
March 2, 1965

Nov 2016

Krum, Texas-Four years ago Coach F.H. George made a promise to four eight grade basketball players.

“If you want to work hard, enough,” he said, “we’ll be playing the state tournament by the time you are seniors.”

That probably sounded like a mighty big promise, but today it is a reality. Krum, a tiny class B school approximately 10 miles from Denton, will open the state tournament at 8:45 a.m., Thursday against Snook-one of the meet’s top teams.

“If we can get past them, George says, “we may be able to win it.”

Krum has never won a state championship, although it has one of the stronger basketball programs in North Texas. The Bobcats finished second in 1965, after losing both tournament starts in 1954.

This year’s club, however, is the best he has produced since he came here five years ago, George believes. The Bobcats will carry a 36-7 record to Austin, along with a 64-point scoring average and a strong all-state guard candidate, Bill Hall, who has scored 2,246 points in a 4-year career. He averages 25 points per game.

“We are a well-balanced club,” George said Monday as the Bobcats got in their next to last workout before packing for Austin. “We think we have a good team.”

Krum is an unusual basketball town. It has a population of only 350, but the Bobcats draw a capacity of 700 for every home game.

“The rest come from neighboring communities,” George said. “We put up chairs around the gym to accommodate them.”

George, a 30- year old bachelor, fits in well with the school, its basketball program and the community. He lives a block from school, where he teaches elementary science and math.

The Krum coach already has earned his master’s degree from North Texas State University, and needs only 15 hours to complete credit for a PH.D. in educational psychology.

“I’d like to earn the PH.D someday, “he said...”but I might just stay here in Krum forever,”

That probably would suit the town folks just fine. Although he never has more than 12 boys out for basketball, he hasn’t had anything but winning seasons. “We went 27-10 last year,” he said...”and didn’t even win our district.”

Things went fine this year. The Bobcats won the district championship with a 12-0 record and wrapped up the regional title last weekend in Sherman. “The tears flowed freely,” he said. Our kids had worked for this a long, long time.

The Bobcats attribute much of their success to Hall, a classy 5-8 ball handler and shooter, who broke two regional scoring records last week. He fired 26, 36, and 44 points, respectively. The 44 points and the 107 total eclipsed old marks.

Hall is one of the four seniors who heard George's promise four years ago and believed it. The others are Marshall McKinney (5-10), Jim Chism (5-11) and Chuck Monschke (5-10). The others started, classy 6-3 Rick Knight is only a sophomore as is part-time starter 6-2 Jackie Standifer.

Knight gives promise of being one of the better all-around players to represent the Bobcats in a long time. He has all the moves, owns a fine jump shot and averages 12 rebounds.

Sometimes he gets a little carried away when he's battling for the ball. During the regional he caught a flying elbow in the eye during the final game and wound up with a beautiful shiner. "It won't hurt him any," George said, "He can still see out of the other eye."

George, of course, would like nothing better than to bring the state championship back to North Texas, "But," he said "even if we don't win it this year, we'll be back."

It's hard to be humble with that kind of confidence.



1965 Boys basketball team