

52nd Finishes Second To 97th In Cage Race

Without drawing much more than three or four deep breaths all season, the Howard's Hotshots of the 97th won the CAAF basketball championship race, which was completed this week. They took 18 straight.

Their closest competitors were the Brown Bombers of the 52nd, who were five and one half games to the rear with 11 won and six lost. They nosed out the tottering Q.M. five, which lost its last two contests to finish a poor third.

Only a few percentage points behind the Quartermaster outfit was the rejuvenated Weather team. In that order behind them were the Tenth, 78th and 79th.

Several factors contributed to the position of the latter two teams, among which was winter training at Victorville, which broke up a very promising 78th five. Before the trip south, Pvt Wilson's boys had won four straight and looked like a real threat.

The training trip also broke up the officers league, which had gotten off to a nice start. At the time of the trip south, the Musangs were leading with five straight victories.

Teamwork was the big item in the smooth running victory race of the Hotshots. Although Cpl VanGundy was the high for the 97th, a terrific set of defensive guards in Lee and Lindner, and some tall forwards like Shanks and Mike Timko held the opposing scores down.

And the 97th had plenty of reserves, too, and good ones they were. At no point in the race was there any doubt that the Hotshots would win the title. At least not in their own minds.

The 52nd and Quartermaster started out strong, and at one time about midway through the race, a Q.M. victory would have brought the high flying leaders within a game of the pack. But the Robbers couldn't cut it, and Major Howard's men were never seriously challenged after that.

Neurotics to Get Pre-draft Test

New York (CNS)—The New York Selective Service System has instituted a program of weeding out 17-year old psycho-neurotics in the schools here before they reach the induction age of 18. The purpose is to detect unstable students not suited for military service.

CPL VAN GUNDY HEADS CAGE SCORING LIST

Speedy little Bob Van Gundy, forward for the championship Howard's Hotshots of the 97th, not only captained his team to the title, but was the leading scorer of the CAAF Basketball League.

In 16 games he was good for 132 points, or an average of 8.2 per contest. In second place was Cpl Ed Macauley, Finance man who played with Weather. He had 121 markers in 14 games, with an average of 8.6. In third place was Cpl Cleon Henry of the 52nd with 109 in 12 tilts to make his average 9.1. Fourth, but with the highest average per contest was Sgt Bill Bertino of the 10th, with 104 markers in 11 games. His average was 9.4 points a game.

Other leaders were Pvt Mike Darnell of the 52nd, with 98 points in 16 games, S/Sgt Johnny Murry of Q.M., 82 in 11 games, and Sgt Meltzer of Weather with 71 in ten contests.

Four Teams Will Play Post Season Games

Although regular play in the CAAF basketball league is over, four teams are taking on two post season rounds just for the kick the game gives them.

The four teams include the championship 97th Hotshots, the second place 52nd, the Quartermaster and Tenth. It is likely that the last two fives will pick up several stars from disbanded teams, and the resulting competition should be something.

The first games were played Thursday night, and will continue through March 14 with each five playing six contests.

BASKETBALL STANDINGS

(Final standings)

Team	Won	Lost	Pct.
97th Hotshots.....	18	0	1.000
Brown Bombers.....	11	6	.647
Quartermaster	9	8	.529
Weather	10	9	.526
Tenth	8	9	.474
78th	5	11	.312
79th	3	13	.189