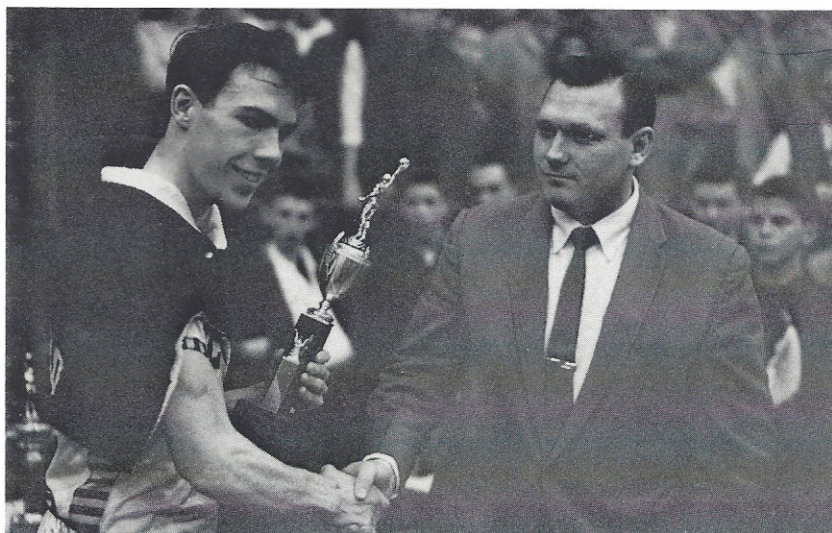


# Mount Zion Captures Conference Championship



Renwick receives Conference Trophy after final game at Rock Hill.

For the second time in one year, the glory of being state Class "A" champions came to M. Z. I. This time the record-breaking basketball team brought home the honors. This feat was never accomplished by any other team in the school's history.

In accomplishing this championship the 'Cats displayed balance, talent, sharp-shooting, and record-breaking form. The team is believed to hold the record for the most points in a single game, 104. Ronnie Collins broke a school record by scoring 61 points in one game.

The team started fast winning the first twelve games, but then it happened. History repeats itself as the Wildcats lost number 13 to Lancaster by two points. But they bounced back hitting the 100 point mark twice in the next three games.

The 'Cats rolled over their opponents the rest of the season averaging 72 points per game. Mt. Zion went to the Conference Tourney the favorite and won it in style trouncing Chesterfield, beating Great Falls, and knocking off Clover for the trophy.

The Wildcats then moved into Columbia for the first round of the State Championship play-offs, being paired with Taylors. At half-time Mt. Zion was behind by one point. Coming out of the second half, the Wildcats went on a shooting spree and took the lead by 4 points. In the fourth quarter, they stretched their lead to ten points and won the game.

The Wildcats' next game was with Woodruff. Mt. Zion commanded the game taking a 12 point lead at half-time. Then they came storming back to put the finishing touches on the game, and they were in the finals.

The Field House was full as the tall, talented Winnsboro team met the fast-breaking and dangerous Olympia Red Devils. Things were about even at the end of the first quarter which ended 8-all. As the half came to a close Mt. Zion was behind 25-21.

In the second half, the "bad boys from the 'Boro" caught fire and were ahead at the end of three quarters by five points. As the game was coming to the wire the crowd grew tense, but our boys were cool-headed. They went into a freeze and finally won the contest, 57-51. Once again the Wildcats were State Champions.



Collins receives Conference Tourney Most Valuable Player Award.