

# Well-Scouted Player

## Brown of Wingate Rated Top Performer in Scholastic Basketball Today

By HOWARD M. TUCKNER

At today's opening double-header of the Public Schools Athletic League basketball play-offs at Madison Square Garden, scouts representing colleges throughout the land will scrutinize every move of a tall, graceful sharpshooter who is expected to be the glamour boy of the tournament. He is Roger

High  
School  
Sports

Brown, Wingate's 6-foot 4½-inch jump-shot artist, who is considered the finest prospect in public school

competition today.

Brown will perform against Manual in the first game of the double-header, scheduled to begin at 2:15 P. M. Brown's ability as a dribbler, a passer and as a defensive player will be carefully noted. His shooting percentage on field goals and fouls, his rebounding strength and his talent to move swiftly with or without the ball also will be recorded.

### Scholarships Must Wait

But the scouts will be forced to keep their scholarship applications in their attaché cases. Brown is only a junior and he intends to hold out against scholarship offers until his senior year.

A regular as a freshman, Brown is expected to better Tony Jackson's P. S. A. L. scoring record. Now a sophomore star at St. John's, Jackson tallied 1,433 points during his four years at Brooklyn's Thomas Jefferson High.

No one, including Brown or his coach, Howie Rosenstein, knows how many points the gifted Wingate junior has scored. Everyone is certain, though, that he has made more than 900 points.

"Roger doesn't keep records," Rosenstein said, "and I can't find my figures for his freshman year. But I'm sure he has more than 900, something around 950."

According to the coach, Brown's potential in basketball is limitless. However, he is perturbed over Brown's "happy-go-lucky attitude."

### Attitude Is Carefree

"He takes nothing seriously," Rosenstein said. "He doesn't realize how great he could be if he stopped horsing around. Roger's terrific when he's facing top players, but against me-

diocre teams he dogs it a bit. When I accuse him of lazy rebounding he says, 'When they don't leap with me all I have to do is stretch to get the ball.' What can I tell him? He's right."

Wingate, with seventeen victories in eighteen games, has the best record of any team on today's card. In Mike Brown, no relation to Roger, and Les Barbanell, the Generals have one of the slickest back court combinations in town. Barbanell, at 5 feet 8 inches, Wingate's smallest starter, and Mike Brown, a 6-foot 1-inch master dribbler, have been averaging around twenty points a game.

Manual, appearing in the play-offs for the first time in thirty-seven years, has a 9-5 season won-and-lost mark.

The second game brings together Columbus (13-5), the runner-up to Morris in Bronx I, and Van Buren, the South Queens titleholder. Van Buren, coached by Charlie Shannon, also has a 13-5 record. Its star performer is Jim Vander Hill, a 6-foot 2½-inch forward who is averaging twenty points a game. Roy Rubin's Columbus five, making its first appearance in the tourney since 1953, is led by a trio of long-range shooters—Ronnie Miller, Paul Lizzo and Larry Kessler.

The play-offs continue at the Garden Thursday with a triple-header, beginning at 12:45 P. M. A double-header was originally slated for Thursday, but Morris and Erasmus received permission from the P. S. A. L. to switch their game from Queens College to the Garden.