



CONGRATULATING THE WINNER—Klamath Union High Rally Squad mascot, Patti Howard, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Harold Howard, Klamath Falls, squeezes the hand of Carla Peterson, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Don Peterson of Portland. Carla's daddy had just won the honor of being the coach of the 1959 State Champion Franklin Quaker squad.



One of the toughest chores yours truly has had to perform since first sitting down to a typewriter to write about the Klamath Union Pelicans was the attempt at a story describing the heartbreaking demise of the Pels' 1959 State A-1 basketball championship hopes after the stunning last second loss to the Marshfield Pirates last Friday night.

The defeat suffered in the anti-climactic contest with Pendleton, Saturday night was relatively meaningless and unimportant in comparison.

Although a sixth place finish against such tremendous competition as the Pels faced during the tourney is a mighty accomplishment, the cold realization that they were within a minute Friday night of a chance to go all the way is a hard thing to ignore.

Still, Fate decreed, with its usual haunting fickleness, that such was not to be the case.

For a ball that is supposedly absolutely round, a basketball takes some mighty crazy bounces.

Despite a well-wishing telegram, signed by better than 600 Klamath Falls fans, presented them just prior to the start of the fateful contest with the Marshfield Pirates, the Pelicans entered the game definitely not the favorite of the huge crowd that jammed McArthur Court to witness what was considered the theoretical "championship" game of the 41st annual prep tournament.

Marshfield, which enjoyed only a mediocre season while working without the services of the towering Mel Counts, seemingly had captured the fancy of the attending throng who cheered their every move during the classic struggle.

The roars of the Pirate supporters drowned out the enthusiastic cheers of nearly 400 Klamathites who made the trek to Eugene to back their favorites.

The defending champs who evidently upset the doers of the state with just their audacious return to the tournament this year, heard the cheers of the largest part of the crowds in the first four days of the tourney go to their opponents.

Although the Pelicans themselves seemed unperturbed, at least outwardly so, over this situation, the fact came as a shock to the few loyal Pel rooters.

To people who have watched the Whitebirds through a season that started with them not being credited much of a chance and then developed into a highly successful one, this sudden show of unpopularity seemed almost unbelievable.

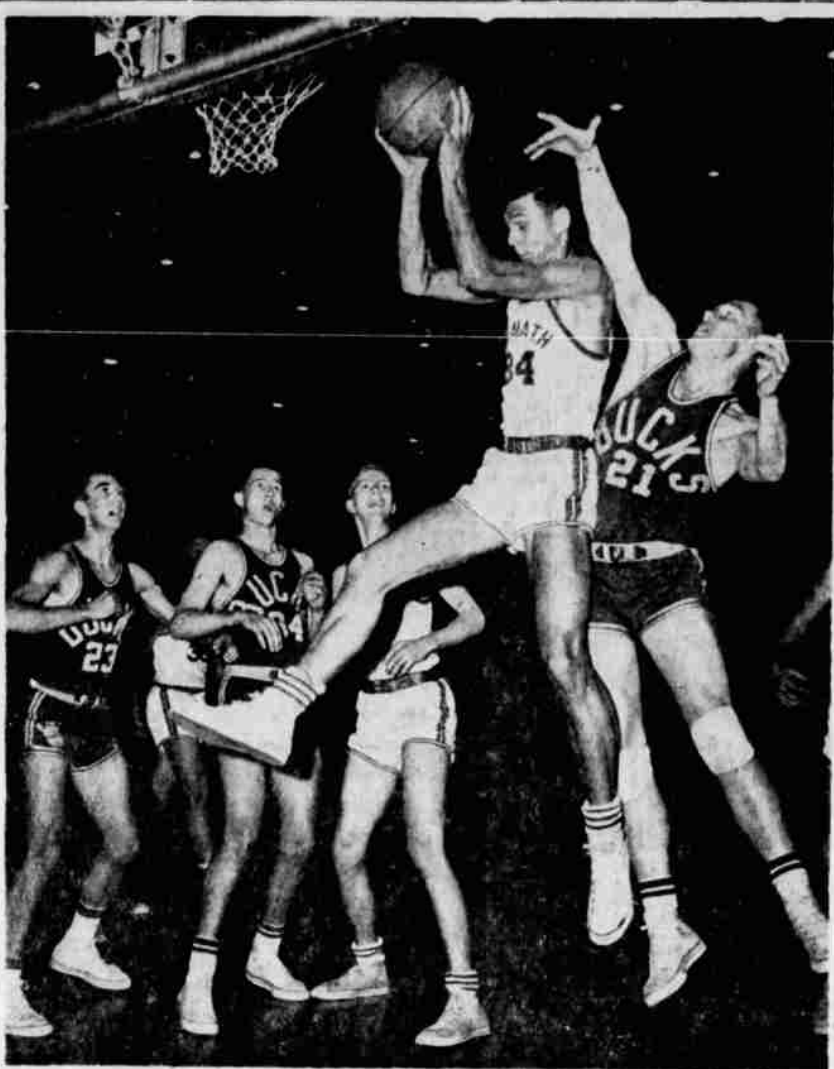
In trying to trace down the reasons behind this feeling one would necessarily start with the Pelicans first conquest of the tourney, the win over the Astoria Fishermen. Disgruntled Fishermen fans, of course, felt bad over Gordon Scott's fraction-of-a-second late shot that came too late. However the shot, had it been good, would have only tied the game, not won it.

In the Pelicans second victory they whipped a team that had become the apple of the fans' eye, the Sandy Pioneers. The Pioneers became the Cinderella team of the tournament with their surprising victory over the Jefferson Democrats. The Pioneer-Pel test undoubtedly added to the Pelican's unpopularity since they roared off to a tremendous early lead, then gave the Sandy five false hope by allowing them to tie the count before swarming over the gallant Pioneers for a disdainful 21-point victory.

Friday night's sudden Pelican surge to a 9-0 lead over the Pirates in the early minutes of the game did nothing but add fuel to the fire of resentment.

All this, added to the fact that the club was the defending champion, must therefore be the reason.

At no time did the Pels display anything but good sportsman-like



ALL-STATE FORM — Pelican Bob Petersen demonstrates the ability that gained him the honor of being named to the 1959 A-1 Prep Tournament All-Star first team in Eugene Saturday night. Petersen (34) grabs a rebound out of the grasp of Pendleton's Dan Eckles (21). Behind the high jumpers are Bucks' Howard Laughery (23) and Bill Cook (4) and Pelican Bob Lewis (44).

NCAA Champions Receive Welcome

BERKELEY (UPI)—This campus was nearly back to normal today after two days of riotous celebration touched off when the University of California basketball team captured the national title Saturday night at Louisville, Ky.

Almost the second the final whistle sounded on Cal's thrill-packed 71-70 win over West Virginia in the finals of the NCAA tourney, the bells of the Campanile rang out "Cal Fights On."

Over 1,500 students immediately assembled at a victory bonfire in the Greek Amphitheater, and then thousands of others poured through Berkeley in a million victory party which kept the town awake through most of the chilly night.

The hysteria crossed the bay Sunday when 5,000 fans welcomed the team home at San Francisco International Airport, despite a light drizzle.

Coach Pete Newell disembarked carrying the four foot high statuette emblematic of the national title. He was followed by his 15 player squad.

As the group came down the ramp, the crowd roared, balloons soared, and a multitude of banners were unfurled proclaiming the magnificence of coach Newell and his defense-minded charges.

The scene shifted to the baggage room where a pep rally was held on the spot.

A motorcade of hundreds of cars escorted the team across the bay to the university campus where another giant celebration was held at the gymnasium.

The Bears were underdogs at Louisville, but swept to their first title by downing Cincinnati 64-58 Friday and beating West Virginia on Saturday.

Red Heads Here

Tickets for the basketball exhibition between Moore's All-American Red Heads and the Klamath Falls All-Stars will be on sale at the depot tonight when the Red Heads match talents with the All-Stars beginning at 8:15 p.m. at Pelican Court.

The Red Heads will take on a quintet composed of Gene Sirehlon, Andy Knudsen, Jim Johnson, Dean White, Jack Petersen, DeLancey Duncan, Jim Inglesby and Gary Dawes.

The Air Force Jets and the Chiloquin Thunderbirds clash in the preliminary game which gets underway at 8:30.

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Basketball Scoreboard

NBA PLAYOFFS
By THE ASSOCIATED PRESS
Sunday Results

Boston 133, Syracuse 111 (Boston leads best-of-seven Eastern finals, 2-1)
Minneapolis 106, St. Louis 98 (Best-of-seven Western finals tied, 1-1)

Saturday Results
Syracuse 120, Boston 118
St. Louis 124, Minneapolis 90

Tuesday Schedule
Minneapolis at St. Louis

Shoulder Ailment Troubles Slugger

SCOTTSDALE, Ariz. (AP)—Ted Williams, Boston's 40-year-old American League batting champion, is having trouble shaking a week-old shoulder ailment despite the hot Arizona sun.

"I can't run, I can't throw and I can't hit," moaned the slugging outfielder Sunday after a 125-mile trip to Tucson for a scheduled appearance against Cleveland.

The prospect of seeing Williams in action had attracted a sellout crowd of 5,016.

"I just can't play and I'm sorry to disappoint all these fans, but I have no alternative," Ted said as he received a cortisone injection for what Dr. Don Kelley, Cleveland team physician, called a cold in the right shoulder.

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CHEERING THE CHOICE — Yell Queen Jackie Dahn, left, and other members of Klamath's rally squad, Lois Snead, Marilyn Metler, Carol Brisbon and Stephanie Walker lead the Klamath rooting section in a big cheer for Bob Petersen when he was selected to the all-state team for the second year in a row.

Returning Pelican Cagers Given Heroes' Welcome

Although not champions in the strictest sense of the word this year, the Klamath Union Pelican basketball team was accorded a heroes' welcome when they returned home following their campaign at the 41st annual state A-1 prep tournament at Eugene last week.

A motorcade of an estimated 200 cars lined Alameda Avenue north to greet the Pelicans as they approached the city. At about 2:30 p.m. the arrival of the first carload of players touched off a horn, hand and voice salute that should have left little doubt in the minds of the Pelicans and their coaches, Dean White and Gene Strehlou, that the community was proud of their efforts whether they had won the championship or finished sixth.

The welcome continued, up and down the streets of town, for at least a half hour until the squad finally pulled into the parking lot at Klamath Union and separated to be picked up by parents and friends for the ride home.

Coach Dean White probably spoke for his players as well as himself, when he said, "We were glad to see the turnout to greet us—it helps. We didn't fare too well at the tournament, but we won as many as we lost and the kids tried hard. As far as I am concerned we had a good season, all told. Now, we are all glad it's over. We're tired."

Now that the basketball season is officially closed for another year spring sports will claim the attentions of a number of the 1959 cage squad, after a brief rest.

Coach White will pick up the reins as the head man of the Pelican varsity baseball activity, taking over from Andy Knudsen who has worked with the early squads while White was finishing up his basketball chores.

Joining White on the diamond are Pelicans Paul Bishop, Dean Dunson, Steve Binney and Jim Hall while Bill Santo, Bob Lewis, Bob Drace and Don Eastman will pick up spikes and sweat suits and report to track coach Jim Inglesby.

Strehlou, who has very ably assisted White with the varsity squad while directing the junior

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