

HISTORY OF KENNETT BASKETBALL



Kennett Boys Basketball 1924

The first Kennett boy's basketball team had seven players that played on a regular basis. These players were Bob Garland, John Chandler, Fred Kenison, Raymond Twombly, Charles Davidson, William Mahoney, and Chester Goulding. They compiled a record of thirteen wins and four losses in their first season of competition.

It was agreed that one of the highlights of that first season had to be Kennett's 20-17 win over the Manchester West Side team, a squad that had won twenty straight games without a defeat. The team's leading scorer for the year was forward, Bob Garland with 216 points, followed by center John Chandler with 98.

The highest point total scored by Kennett in 1923-1924 was 77 points against Porter, Me High School with 19 points. Bridgton High School scored 55 points to beat Kennett who managed to score 30. For the season, Kennett scored 604 points with their opponents scoring 456.

The boys played games in the small gym, known as "The Pit" in the cellar of the original building. Most games at that time were low-scoring games because they were played in gyms equally as small or even smaller than the Kennett gym, which accounts for the low scoring.

BASKETBALL COACHES TO REMEMBER

KARL "CRUSH" SEINDENSTUECKER 1939-1965

When one discusses high school sports in New Hampshire, there's only one place to start - Kennett High School. That's where the late Karl Seindenstuecker established himself as one of the premier high school coaches in the state's history.

"Crush" as he was known, was a teacher and coach from 1938 until his retirement in 1975. He began his coaching career as an assistant in football, basketball, and baseball for one year. In the fall of 1939, he became the head coach for football until 1959 and head coach of boys' basketball until 1965. It was his basketball teams that created the legacy of Kennett Basketball. Crush's basketball teams had a record of 304 and 178. Five of his teams in 1942, 1950, 1959, 1960 & 1961 won state championships.




"Crush" was known and respected throughout New Hampshire and New England as a top-notch coach. He was elected to the Torriagn Athletic Hall of Fame, the New Hampshire Coaches Hall of Fame, and the Kennett Hall of Fame. and lastly, the gymnasium at the now Kennett Middle School was named in his honor.

As fortunate as the athletes in his life were to have him as a coach, of more importance was his influence as a role model for life. His love of family, friends, history, music, loyalty to Kennet and his players, honesty, pride, determination, work ethic, sense of humor, and being so humble set an example for hundreds of student athletes to follow.

1000 POINT CLUB FOR KENNETT BASKETBALL

KENNETT HIGH SCHOOL



1,000 POINT CLUB

1970 ROGDGER BLANCHARD	1989 DEBBIE RUSSELL
1982 LARRY DAY	1994 ERIN RUSSELL
1990 JEFF PERRY	1994 ALISON MacDONALD
1995 ABE WROBLESKI	1999 KISTEN UMLAH
1998 TREVOR MacDONALD	2011 ALISON WAGNER
	2011 MELISSA FRASE
	2019 ISABEL WROBLESKI

This club recognizes boys and girls basketball athletes who score 1000 points or more during their 4 years of playing basketball at Kennett High School.

CONGRATULATIONS TO

Rogoger Blanchard, Larry Day, Jeff Perry, Abe Wrobleski, Trevor MacDonald, Debbie Russell, Erin Russell, Alison MacDonald, Kristen Umlah, Alison Wagner, Melissa Frase & Isabel Wrobleski

CHAMPIONSHIP TEAMS TO REMEMBER

1942 BOYS STATE CHAMPIONSHIP



KHS 1942 Basketball Team

1942 Kennett's very first state championship basketball team was one of Coach Seidenstuecker's best. Led by Mohawk Native American, Ruby Lorraine and Captain Bill Hawkens, Kennett's sharp shooting forward and ably supported by Ken Warren, Jim Berry, and Chauncey Smith. This squad came back from first-half deficits twice to pin down the state title at the UNH Fieldhouse in Durham.

Playing Class "B" competition at the time, similar to Class "M" later, the Eagles won 6 games and lost none. The Eagles lost to a strong Class "A" team from New London High School, Connecticut, and twice in one-point defeats at the hands of the Berlin High Mountaineers, at that time a Class "A" power. In another out-of-class competition, Kennett posted wins over Portland "Y" Juniors, Portland Emeralds, and the Portland Boy's Club. In the Class "B" tourney at Durham, Kennett produced wins over Conant of Jaffery, Meredith, and Hillsboro High School in the finals. Some clutch outside shooting by Ruby Lorraine sparked the Eagles to a comeback and win in the finals.

Squad members were Bill Hawkens, James Berry, Ruby Lorraine, Chauncey Smith, Ken Warren, George Fuller, Bob Lorraine, Harrison Randall, Bob Saunders, and Harold Vincent with the team's manager, John Potter, guardian of the trophy emblematic of Kennett's first state championship team. The team coach was Karl Seidenstuecker, assisted by George Davidson.



CHAMPIONSHIP TEAMS TO REMEMBER

1950 BOYS STATE CHAMPIONSHIP

1950 Kennett's second state championship in basketball was given only an outside chance of winning the coveted title in 1950. However, the team fooled the experts and the team endeared themselves to basketball fans all over the state "for their fighting spirit and excellent team play." Given the nickname of the "Black Knights" by the state sportswriters, the team was forced to come from behind time and again, and they refused to give up.



KHS 1950 Basketball Team

The 1950 Kennett Yearbook, "The Eagle" said of this team; "They blended the ability to profit from sound coaching and a fighting spirit that produced the victories when the pressure was the greatest. This team will long be remembered when the greatest teams of Kennett are recalled." The team record was 16 wins and 3 losses, including a first-round upset victory over previously undefeated Groveton High, a 41-40 tournament win over arch-rival, St. John's High of Concord, and a thrilling climatic 37-35 win over Somersworth Hilltopper to bring home the championship to Kennett.

Team members were: Felix Acosta, Roger Berry, Richard "PeeWee" French, Fred Hall, Arnie Quint, Danny Quint, Davis Reny, and Drew Webster with Perley Irish as the capable team manager. Once again it was Kennett's highly respected coach, Karl Seidenstuecker who piloted this squad to the school's second State Basketball title.



CHAMPIONSHIP TEAMS TO REMEMBER

1959 BOYS STATE CHAMPIONSHIP



KHS 1959 Basketball Team

The **1959** boys' varsity basketball team will be remembered as the team which started Kennett's three-year destiny as state champions in Class "M" competition. Coached by Karl Seindenstuecker, and assisted by Coach Gordon Mann, the Eagles defeated St. Pat's High of Berlin, Alvirne High of Hudson, Colebrook Academy, and Charlestown High School to notch the Class "M" State Championship.

Kennett was invited to play in the Class "L" State Tournament and the team earned a thrilling 41-40 win over Stevens High School of Claremont, only to lose to a powerhouse, Keene High School by a score of 51-41 in the second round of play. Kennett's overall record was 20 wins and 5 losses. Kennett fans were treated to some terrific outside shooting by Sut Marshall, some aggressive rebounding by Bob "Beake" Sweeney, and the amazing long-distance shots of Bob Francoeur.

Members of the 1959 team consisted of Robert Abbott, Charles Birch, Roland Conner, David Eldridge, Robert Francoeur, David Gosselin, Conrad Hitchins, Jerry Labbee, Pit Marshall, Sut Marshall and Robert Sweeney with Steve Potter as Team Manager.

CHAMPIONSHIP TEAMS TO REMEMBER

1960 BOYS STATE CHAMPIONSHIP



KHS 1960 Basketball Team

The **1960** State Championship team was a young team. There was not a single senior on the team and Kennett's dynamic backcourt play-maker was Hugh Farrington, a Freshman. Captained by Pit Marshall, this team was one of Kennett's finest ever. The overall team record was 21-6, including four tournament victories over Pembroke, Plymouth, Pinkerton Academy, and Woodsville in the Class "M" Competition. Invited to compete in the Class "L" tournament the Eagles defeated Spaulding High School of Rochester and lost to Nashua High School in the second round of play.

Members of this team consisted of Captain Pit Marshall, Charles Birch, Roland Conner, Hugh Farrington, David Gosselin, William Hounsell, Gerald Labbe, Dwight McLellan, Paul Richardson, Lyford Smith, John Stuart, Oliver Turcotte and Robert Philbrick as manager,



CHAMPIONSHIP TEAMS TO REMEMBER

1961 BOYS STATE CHAMPIONSHIP



KHS 1961 Basketball Team

1961 - Most of the games between Kennett and St. John were always close, decided by one or two points. Kennett in the 1961 Class "M" Championship game played at the University of New Hampshire Fieldhouse, knocked out St. Johns High to win the coveted state title for the third year in a row. This team posted a record of 24 wins and two defeats; at the hands of St. John's in the regular season and the second in the Boston Garden when the Eagles lost to Main High School, Orono by a score of 57-47.

The members of this squad were Charles Birch, Roland Connor, Hugh Farrington, Bert George, David Gosselin, Jerry Labbe, Pit Marshall, Dwight McLellan, Donald Reny, Paul Richardson, Lyford Smith, John Stuart and Oliver Turcotte with Bob Philbrick, as the teams very efficient manager.

