



Harold Wagers

“From the wing”

In the Pirates 1949-50 hoops campaign, Coach Harold “Dutch” Reis---in his first assignments as head mentor---had a skillful athlete, Harold Wagers, who was an adept player.

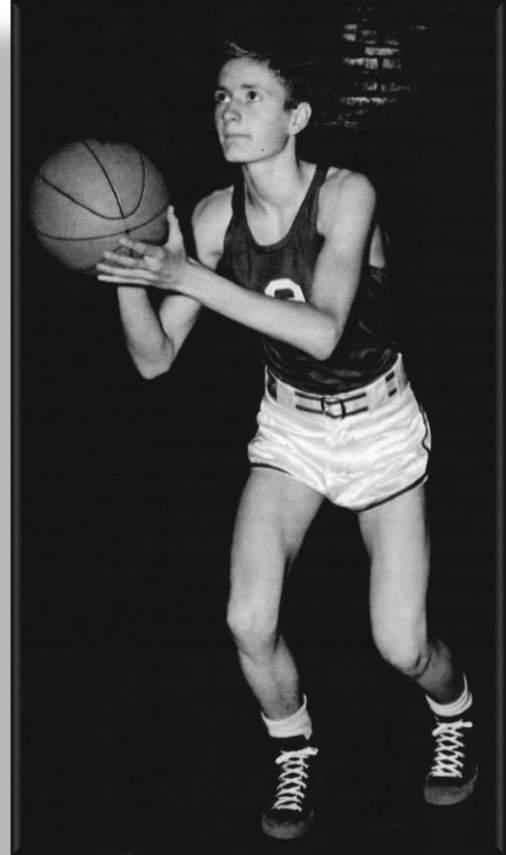
Wagers was one of several returnees that peppered the hardwood year and assisted Charlestown to a 14-8 season for the first year Pirate coach.

The first two games on the road seemed to paint a dismal start for the Pirates, losing to Corydon in the opener and then to the Austin Eagles by a mere 2 points, but Wagers had the heavy shooting arm and dropped 15 in the ringer to lead the scoring before bowing to the Eagles, 34-32.

Teammates Bruce Bottorff and Bobby Fisher---both sterling athletes---dropped in 8 apiece and contributed to the Pirates’ efforts. After that, the Pirates went on a four game winning stretch with Wagers building a 12-ppga and the Pirates a 4-2 mark.

As testimonial to his prowess on the court, Wagers was “Player of the Week” in the weekly Charlestown-Courier (Thursday, November 17, 1949) after his outstanding performance against Austin, and he would continue to brighten the wing spot with his highly spirited ball handling and shooting for the remainder of his senior year. He assembled two, 21 point games---a single-career high---versus Crothersville and Mauckport, respectively. He followed that with 19, 18, 16, 15 and 14 with his hot shooting hand, ending with 274 points on the season.

He was twice winner of the Charlestown Lions Club’s Free Throw Awards in ’48 and ’50. He is credited with 488 career points during his four seasons on teams that went 57-30; won 4 consecutive annual Clark County Invitational titles---the cream of holiday tourneys in the region that dates back to 1928---during the seasons of 1947, 1948, 1949, and 1950. - [Author’s Note: several of Harold Wagers games are incomplete due to a lack of data.] Harold Wagers was one the great outstanding frontcourt athletes in the Pirates 100 years of basketball.



**Harold Wagers stand out forward for Pirates
(Photograph courtesy of Harold Wagers)**