IN THE BEGINNING...

KEARNEY CATHOLIC BASKETBALL

(The First Four Years)

1961-62

1962-63

1963-64

1964-65

by

Dr. Ron Larchick

Kearney Catholic High School - Class of 1965

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PROLOGUE - Introduction

Dear Reader,

A memoir is a historical nonfiction account written from personal recollections or specific sources. The purpose of this memoir is to provide a factual and chronological summary of the Kearney Catholic Varsity Basketball program from 1961 to 1965. This written account will examine the events, games, players, coaches, fans, successes, and setbacks associated with the Kearney Catholic Varsity Basketball teams during those first four years.

The sources and resources for this written account includes information gleaned from sports stories and articles from the *Kearney Daily Hub*. These stories and articles describe the outcome of games as well as other aspects of the basketball program at Kearney Catholic. These stories were written by Bob Van Tine, the legendary Sports Editor of the *Kearney Daily Hub*. Other resources include pictures, personal recollections, and the 1964 and 1965 Kearney Catholic yearbooks.

One of the most important resources for this writing will be the four team pictures from 1961-1965. These pictures will introduce the reader to each one of the players as you will see their faces and learn their names. You will recognize some of these names in the sports stories in the *Kearney Daily Hub* and perhaps remember their faces in the team pictures. The reader may come to identify with these players and cheer their successes and sympathize with their setbacks. You might even become one of the fans who watched and cheered these boys who played the game of basketball at Kearney Catholic High School over 60 years ago.

The boys in the team pictures are all now in their mid-seventies. The passing of many years should not dim nor diminish the memory of what the players meant to the history of Kearney Catholic basketball and what they accomplished in those first four years from 1961-1965. These players were the trailblazers, the ones who chose to face sometimes overwhelming odds and a variety of difficult circumstances just to have a chance to play the game of basketball at Kearney Catholic.

This memoir is dedicated to those Stars of yesteryear who deserve to always be remembered for their many contributions to the beginning of the Kearney Catholic Varsity Basketball program!

Please proceed to the **Prologue – In the Beginning** on the next page, to begin your journey down memory lane.

Sincerely,

Dr. Ron Larchick

Kearney Catholic High School – Class of 1965

PROLOGUE - In the Beginning

In the beginning of Kearney Catholic High School Varsity basketball, we started with very inexperienced players in both the freshmen and sophomore classes for the 1961-1962 school year. Kearney Catholic began playing other school's reserve teams in both football and basketball. We did not have a home football field from 1961-65 at Kearney Catholic High School. In addition, we did not have a school bus, so our parents' provided transportation to the football games and the away basketball games.

We played a few football games at the old Kearney Junior High School West 21st Street Stadium, that no longer exists. Otherwise, all our football games were played on the road. This football schedule made it difficult, if not impossible, for our classmates, administrators, teachers, parents, cheerleaders, Spirit Squad members, fans, and the Kearney community to attend the football games and support the team.

The absence of a home football field increased the importance of the basketball program as a significant unifying factor for all those individuals and groups involved with the new Kearney Catholic High School. The basketball games, especially the home games, provided an opportunity for the students, fans and others to support the team and began to build the winning tradition of Kearney Catholic High School athletics. The first Kearney Catholic High School homecoming celebration took place during the 1964-65 basketball season.

So, the stage was set for the start of the 1961-62 basketball season. It represented the beginning of an interesting, many times very frustrating, and rewarding four-year experience for the Kearney Catholic Varsity basketball team players. What really happened to the Kearney Catholic Basketball Varsity Program from 1961 to 1965?

The reader of this memoir should proceed on a journey through the first four Kearney Catholic Varsity basketball seasons, to find the answer to the question listed above. It is suggested that the memoir information be read in the chronological order it is presented.

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Kearney Catholic Varsity Basketball

1961-62 Season Highlights

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Catholics Jolt Vikes to End Win Famine
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OVERVIEW - 1961-62 Kearney Catholic Basketball Team

FRONT ROW – Left to Right - Tom Weides – Student Manager, Joel Hellman – F, Bruce Ackerman – S, Bill Bonsor – F, Darryl Erpelding – S, Jerry Belka – S, **SECOND ROW**, Left to Right - Ron Ruder – S, Gary Curry – S, Bill Butler – S, John Eilers – F, Raymond Pettinger – F **BACK ROW** – Left to Right - Father John Cook, Father John Scott, Steve Dow – S, Ron Larchick – F, Joe Watton – F, Rick Luth – F, Greg Dunn – S, Monsignor Raymond Miles, Coach Mike Fitzpatrick **Freshman – F** **Sophomore – S**

SEASON HIGHLIGHTS – 1961-62

A sports article written by Bob Van Tine, from the *Kearney Daily Hub* (see below), described the status of the Kearney Catholic varsity athletic program at the beginning of the 1961-62 school year.

"The Kearney Catholic teams are coached by Mike Fitzpatrick, a former North Platte St. Patrick's athlete. Since the Catholic High School just opened its doors this fall, Fitzpatrick has only freshmen and sophomores this year. Games will be played with area reserve teams. The Kearney Catholic coach is a senior at Kearney State Teachers' College." (***Kearney Daily Hub – 1961)***

Most people would assume that our sophomore class already had one year of experience playing high school sports. However, the sophomore class members (class of 1964) spent their freshmen year at St. James Elementary School. These students did not play any organized school sports or have the traditional activities or classroom experiences of a high school freshmen class. So, when we began the school year in 1960-1961, we had two classes with very limited or no athletic experience. Coach Fitzpatrick was both our football coach and basketball coach. He was an excellent coach, who taught us the fundamentals of both sports. Coach Fitzpatrick also required a commitment from each player to always strive to do his best, to hustle, be willing to compete no matter the score, and never stop trying.

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Coach Fitzpatrick guided us through some very trying times as we struggled to learn the game of basketball in a short period of time.

As we began the 1961-62 basketball season, we did not have an electronic scoreboard, electronic clock, nor bleachers in the Arena (gym). The scoreboard was a piece of plywood with numbers that could be flipped to change the score. The game time was kept by a referee with a stopwatch. However, the absence of the scoreboard, clock, or bleachers did not matter to us, in the same sense as the lack of a home football field did not matter to the football players. What mattered the most was that we had an opportunity to play basketball and we were ready to get the season started.

BASKETBALL SEASON BEGINS

A *Kearney Daily Hub* sports article described the opening of the 1961-62 Kearney Catholic basketball season. “The Catholic varsity, made up of freshmen and sophomores, dropped its opener to the West Kearney Reserves by a score of 43-25. The score was tied 25-25 at the end of the third quarter.”

The next two games were played in the Catholic High Basketball Tournament. We lost the first game to the Overton Reserves 39-16. The *Kearney Daily Hub* noted that “The locals were plagued by a frigid hand scoring only three points in the first half.” We played a competitive game for third place against the Holstein Reserves. According to a Hub article, “A 23-8 blitz in the third period was the payoff wallop as the Holstein quint checked the Stars in the high scoring battle. The Stars lost the game 66-52.”

In the next game, we defeated the Amherst Reserves basketball team by a 35-34 score. Kearney Catholic lost to the Lexington St. Ann’s Reserves by a score of 40-31. The *Kearney Daily Hub* reported that “Kearney fought back from an early deficit and crept within striking distance early in the last period, but the host team unleashed a final drive to gain the decision. The loss left the locals with a 1-3 record.”

The *Kearney Daily Hub* sports story stated the following: “A swift start helped the Kearney Catholic High basketballers eke out a 42-41 win over the Hastings St. Cecelia Reserves. The fast getaway cushioned a dramatic 20-9 last period rally by the losers.” Our season record improved to 2-3.

We played a second game against the Amherst Reserves and lost by a score of 38-22.The *Kearney Daily Hub* sports article stated the following: “Kearney Catholic varsity coach Mike Fitzpatrick is working on plans for some additional games and will release game dates later.”

Our final season record was 2 wins and 6 losses. It was difficult to schedule games with other schools because their reserve teams played on the same night as their varsity games. The 1961-62 season had mixed results of wins and losses, but we eagerly looked forward to the challenge of the next year.

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OVERVIEW - 1962-63 Kearney Catholic Basketball Team

Front Row Left to Right – Student Managers Pat Cullen, Greg Kerns – **Back Row Left to Right –** Father Ron Kokes, Coach Mike Fitzpatrick, Darryl Erpelding – J, Gary Curry – J, Ron Ruder – J, Bruce Ackerman – J, Rick Luth – S, Greg Dunn – J, Leonard Glatter – F, Joel Hellman – S, Mike Sims – J, Ron Larchick – S, Kevin Weides – J, Bill Stroh – S, Father John Scott, Monsignor Raymond Miles **Freshman – F - Sophomore – S – Junior – J**

SEASON HIGHLIGHTS – 1962-63

The 1962-63 basketball season brought dramatic changes to the Kearney Catholic football and basketball programs. A sports article written by Bob Van Tine from the *Kearney Daily Hub* outlined the scope and various elements of this new challenge at the beginning of the 1962-63 school year. “Kearney Catholic footballers will move up into varsity ranks this fall and will play both eight-man and eleven-man games.” Van Tine continued, “Still without a senior class, Kearney will have to compete against area powers with freshmen, sophomores and juniors.”

In the previous year, our basketball team competed against reserve teams consisting of mostly underclassmen from area schools. Kearney Catholic played an abbreviated 1961-62 basketball schedule which did not provide the players with a lot of experience. Now our team was stepping up to a different level of basketball, varsity competition, which would present an enormous challenge to both Coach Fitzpatrick and the players. However, all the players and our coach were ready to accept the challenge of playing varsity basketball and looked forward to the upcoming season.

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BASKETBALL SEASON BEGINS

Kearney Catholic was scheduled to play seventeen varsity basketball games during the 1962-63 season. We lost our first varsity game of the season to Spalding Academy 45-28. In the second game, we defeated Oconto 44-38, recording the first varsity basketball victory in Kearney Catholic history.

The Kearney Catholic Varsity Basketball team carried a 1-3 record into their fifth game of the season. *Kearney Daily Hub* Sports Director, Bob Van Tine, described the game highlights. “It’s tough to top a combo of speed, alertness, and marksmanship. The West Kearney High basketballers used generous portions of these ingredients to cook up a tasty 73-32 victory dish over the Stars at the Kearney Catholic Arena Tuesday night. The Stars matched strides with the favored Vikings in the first quarter with leads of 2-1 and 4-3 until the Vikings scored thirteen in a row and took control of the game."

Kearney Catholic next faced the Greeley Sacred Heart Fighting Irish in its sixth game of the season. A *Kearney Daily Hub* sports article described the action. “A 24-6 first period bomb swept the Greeley Sacred Heart basketballers to a 73-38 conquest of the cold-shooting Kearney Catholic High quint at the Kearney Catholic Arena. Ron Larchick scored 13 points, Bruce Ackerman 11, and Rick Luth 10.”

Kearney Catholic was scheduled to play Maxwell in the Hi-Line Tournament at Brady. A *Kearney Daily Hub* article noted the following: “Coach Mike Fitzpatrick’s Catholic High Stars have only won one of ten games to date with their inexperience and lack of height telling factors. However, the club is showing steady improvement and could spring a surprise in the Hi-Line tournament. The Catholic High does not have a senior class this year and Fitzpatrick has to use an all-underclassmen team.”

The progress of the Kearney Catholic Varsity was evident in the next two games against Hastings St. Cecelia, and Halsey-Dunning as reported in the Hub. “The St. Cecilia Blue Hawks defeated the Stars by just **ten points** with a score 71-61 in the second game between the two teams. Earlier in the season, the Blue Hawks defeated the Stars by **seventeen points** with a 58-41 score.”

Kearney Catholic next played Halsey-Dunning as described in a *Kearney Daily Hub* sports story. ”Close may count only in horseshoes, but the Kearney Catholic cagers merit a “moment in the spotlight” for their fine, albeit losing, performance at the Catholic Arena Friday night. The Stars bowed to Halsey-Dunning in a 63-61 overtime chiller. The defeat failed to dim the club’s best showing of the campaign. Inexperience proved costly claimed Catholic High Coach Mike Fitzpatrick. The coach hastened to add, “I’m really proud of our kids. Fitzpatrick praised the club’s spirit and hustle and termed Friday’s showing our best.” We ended the season with a 1-16 record. We learned a lot this year playing varsity teams and more importantly, no matter the score, we never quit trying. Thank you, Coach Fitzpatrick.

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OVERVIEW - 1963-64 Kearney Catholic Basketball Team

VARSITY BASKETBLL SQUAD – KNEELING - LEFT TO RIGHT: Tom Keough – Student Manager, Bill Stroh, Jesse Rivera, Ron Larchick, Bruce Ackerman, Gary Curry, Darryl Erpelding, Greg Kerns - Student Manager, STANDING LEFT TO RIGHT: Rev. John, Coach Colling, Ron Ruder, Dick Fox, Greg Dunn, Leonard Glatter, Dick Sims, Kevin Gallagher, Rev. Hahn, Rev. Msgr. Miles. ***(Kearney Catholic 1964 Yearbook)***

SEASON HIGHLIGHTS – 1963-64

We began the 1963-64 season with a new basketball coach. Mr. Bob Colling took over the coaching duties and continued to build our basketball program on the solid foundation created by Coach Mike Fitzpatrick in our first two years. Coach Colling was also our varsity football coach. This was our first season to have a senior class at Kearney Catholic.

The basketball players were eager to improve our 1-16 record of the 1962-63 season. It had been a difficult and frustrating season facing the players on the varsity teams. We focused on applying the lessons from losing that were learned while competing against those varsity players. We were also determined to continue our tradition of always striving to do our best, to hustle and be willing to compete and never quit no matter the score. Coach Colling prepared us for the upcoming season, and we were ready to get started.

BASKETBALL SEASON BEGINS

We began the season playing the Spalding Academy Shamrocks in Spalding. It was a hard-fought game with the home team prevailing 56-42. Our next opponent was the Pleasanton Bulldogs.

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A *Kearney Daily Hub* article described the game action against Pleasanton. “A 25-13 second period bomb propelled Pleasanton to a 59-57 conquest of Kearney Catholic in a basketball blazer in Pleasanton. The second quarter outburst erased a first period lead of 13-12 by the visitors. Kearney staged a dramatic 14-4 comeback in the fourth quarter that fell shy by two markers.“ We lost our next three games to North Platte St, Pat’s at home, Greeley Sacred Heart on the road and Overton at home. We now had a five-game losing streak.

Our next opponent was West Kearney, a team that had defeated us the previous season by a score of 73-32 at home. Both teams had mostly the same rosters as the previous year. Bob Van Tine, the *Kearney Daily Hub* Sports Editor, described the game highlights of this see-saw battle. “A powerful closing kick of 24-14 swept the Kearney Catholic High basketballers to a 77-64 upset of well-regarded West Kearney. Records fell in the wake of the Stars bombardment. The 77 points set a varsity team record for the school playing its second year of varsity sports. Ron Larchick led the way scoring a new school individual record of 29 points, Darryl Erpelding scored 18 and Bruce Ackerman 16. The triumph snapped a five-game losing skein and was the first for Coach Bob Colling. Colling’s patient leadership is beginning to reap dividends.”

The West Kearney win gave the team a boost of confidence. Our next game was against Lexington St. Ann’s that was described in a *Kearney Daily Hub* article. “The Kearney Catholic High cagers swung a lethal 26-13 first period wallop that floored Lexington St. Ann’s by a score of 75-57 in Kearney. Kearney had a well-balanced attack with Bruce Ackerman scoring 20, Ron Ruder 19, Greg Dunn 16 and Ron Larchick 13.” The win doubled the team’s 1962-63 season win total.

We next played Grand Island Northwest. The *Kearney Daily Hub* story described the game: “Middle period power spared the Kearney Catholic Stars in a battle with upset-minded Grand Island Northwest in the Third City Friday night. Northwest, a new school, fought hard to end a five-game skid and produce the school’s first triumph but the Stars, while facing the same problem only a year ago, refused to become the first victim and won 60-52.” We struggled in the next part of the basketball schedule against powerful teams losing to Amherst, Farnam in the- Hi-Line Tournament in Brady, Eddyville, Shelton, Halsey Dunning, and Ravenna.

Our final regular season game was a rematch with the Pleasanton Bulldogs. The *Kearney Daily Hub* reported the game. “A third quarter bombardment swept the Kearney Catholic Stars to a 68-54 “revenge win” over the Pleasanton Bulldogs in Kearney Friday night.” This win displayed the improvement of our team during the season. We played Loomis, a highly regarded team, in the district game in Minden and lost in a hard-fought game 54-51. We ended the 1963-64 varsity basketball season with a 4-12 record.

Go to the next page to view a transcribed *Kearney Daily Hub* article describing the Kearney Catholic 77-64 win over the West Kearney Vikings.

Catholics Jolt Vikes to End Win Famine

Larchick's 29 Fuses Victory

By Bob Van Tine

A powerful closing kick of 24-14 swept the Kearney Catholic High basketballers to a 77-64 upset of highly regarded West Kearney and ended the Stars' victory famine in a court sizzler at the Catholic High Arena Tuesday night.

The figure bettered a record of 71 set in a losing effort against Overton Saturday. Ron Larchick, long range artist, set an individual mark for the Catholic High with a brilliant 29-point performance.

Free throw proficiency factored in the success story. The Stars cashed 27 of 43 to make up a field goal deficit of 25-26. The Vikes, laboring under a 28 foul burden, had only a dozen charity points.

SLUMP JUNKED

The triumph snapped a five-game losing skein and was the first for Coach Bob Colling, whose patient leadership is beginning to reap dividends. The Vikes skidded to 4-3 for the campaign.

The Vikes held the upper hand during most of the first three chapters, but the Stars hung within range and overhauled West Kearney late in the third quarter. Two gifters by Larchick at the 16 seconds mark put the Catholics ahead for keeps. The comeback also headlined some slick work by Bruce Ackerman.

SHOWS HOT HAND

Larchick showed the capacity crowd a "hot hand" on corner and side shots and singed the cords for eight fielders.

The junior hustler was even more impressive at charity lane, swishing 13 of 15 chances.

The 29-points gave the fast improving forward a six-game tally of 110.

Darryl Erpelding, effective at close range and displaying a neat "turn and shoot" pumped in 18. Ackerman chalked up 16, 11 after intermission. The floor leader mixed up a long-range bomb with drives to collect his total.

The Vikes offered a solid one-two punch in Al Clark and George Eagleman. Clark led the loser's bid with 20. Eagleman poked home 17.

Larchick, Erpelding and Greg Dunn turned in some sharp rebounding for the winners. Clark, Kramer, Graves hauled down most of the Vikes' caroms.

SEE-SAW PATTERN

The Stars jumped off to a 5-0 lead on a three – point play by Erpelding and a side bomb by Larchick but West Kearney countered with seven that featured a Clark jumper and Larry Richards tip-in.

A see-saw pattern developed, and the score was tied three times before back-to-back shots by Eaglemen gave the Vikes the lead at 15-13. An Ackerman gifter cut the margin to a single point at the initial stop (14-15).

The second period was a repetition of the first. The score was tied three times and the lead swapped hands twice before an outburst of six put West Kearney in command. Clark, Graves, and Kramer rang the bell in the spree. Some Larchick heroics melted the margin to three at half-time (32-35).

BIDE THEIR TIME

The Vikings managed to hold leads of 1-3 for most of the third period with Clark and Eagleman buckets keeping the Stars at bay.

The Catholics determined to crash the win column, never let the Vikes out-of-sight, and bided their time.

Dick Sims tied up the game (free throw) with 43 seconds left in the quarter, but West Kearney regained the lead (the last time the Vikes had charge) on a Kramer gifter. Larchick cashed a pair of charity chances to put the Stars on top with 16 seconds left and Ackerman made two free tosses at the end of the period to provide a 53-50 lead for the stretch run.

Ackerman, Larchick and Erpelding alternated in firing home fielders as the Stars padded their lead. West Kearney, in foul trouble faded in the final minutes as Graves, Ross and Kramer left on fouls. The Catholics closed with a rush and wrapped up the win with a string of seven points late in the period. Larchick accounted four of the seven.

RESERVES SHOW WAY

Seven free throws in the last 49 seconds blunted any West Kearney comeback plans. Larchick and Ackerman combined for the points. The final buzzer signaled a joyous celebration in the Catholic camp.

The Catholic High Reserves won the first game of the evening 61-29.

KEARNEY CATHOLIC (77)

Darryl Erpelding 7-4-8-2-18, Dick Sims 0-2-4-4 2, Ron Larchick 8-13-15-2 - 29, Greg Dunn 2-0-4-4-4, Ron Ruder 3-2-2-1-8, Bruce Ackerman 5-6-9-2-16, Gary Curry 0-0-1-1 -0 Totals 25-27-43-16-77

WEST KEARNEY (64)

Al Clark 9-2-2-3-20, George Eagleman 7-3-8-3-17, Sam Graves 3-0-2-5-6, Bill Branch 0-0-0-0, Larry Richards 2-0-0-4-4, Keith Ross 1-1-2-5-3, Jim Kramer 1-6-9-5-8, Terry Foster 2-0-0-3-4, Bill Wehner 1-0-0-0-2 Totals 26-12-23-28-64

Kearney Daily Hub – 1964

Please note the pictures from the Kearney Catholic 1964 Yearbook displayed on the next three pages.

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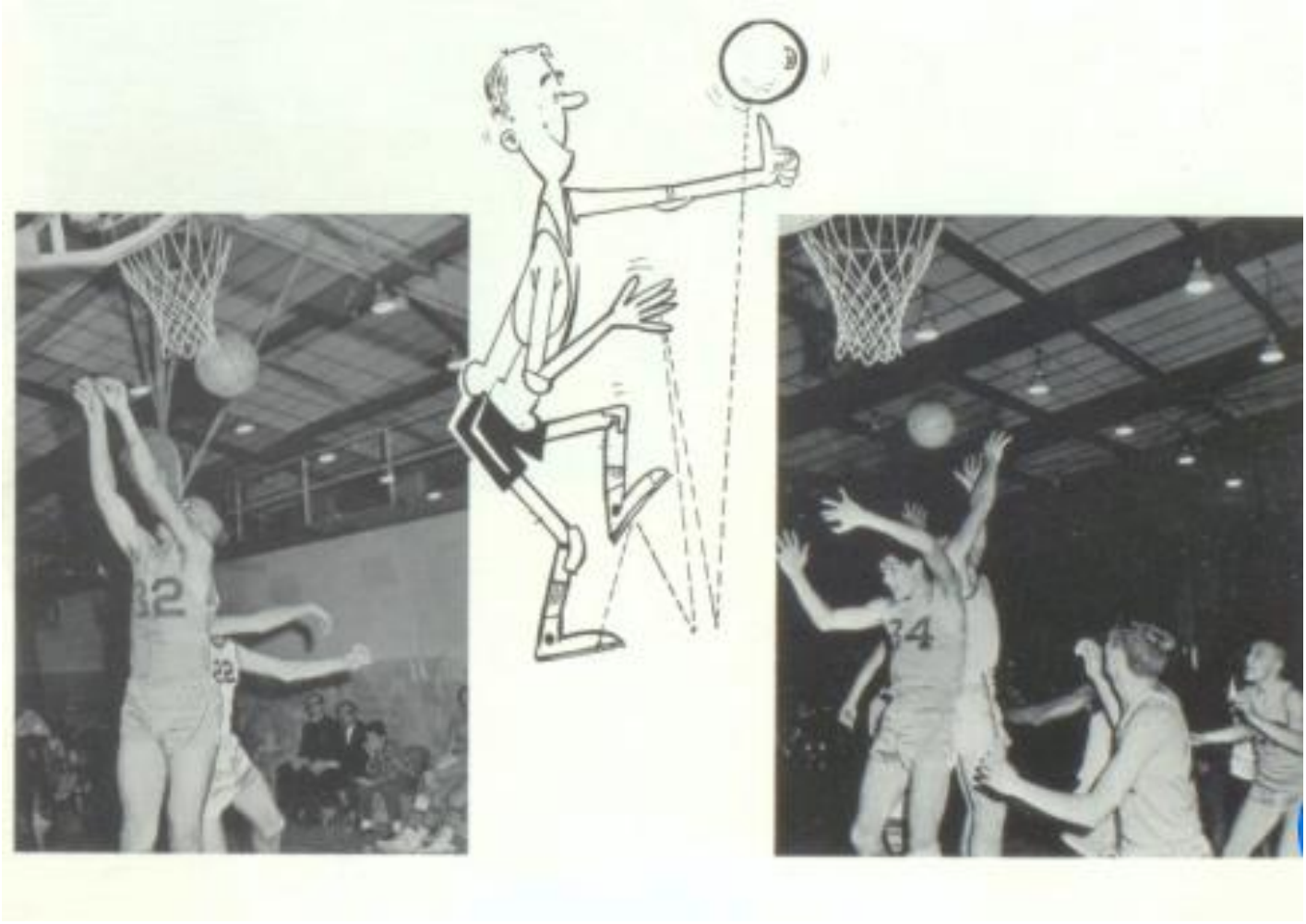

LETTERMANS CLUB – Any boy lettering in one sport for one year of high school sports is eligible to become a member of the Letterman's Club.

Officers: President Kevin Weides, Vice President - Bruce Curry, Secretary/Treasurer Gary Curry

Kearney Catholic 1964 Yearbook

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Stars' Spirit

CHEERLEADERS, L-R.: Ruth Brinker, Patty Nye, Suzanne Williams (Head Varsity Cheerleader), Phyllis Zimmer (Head Jr. Varsity Cheerleader), Barbara Whitney, Lynda Leinacker, Karen Leinacker.

FRONT ROW, L-R.: K. Leinacker, B. Whitney, N. Sims, M. Langtry, M. Nye, M. Lucas, P. Nye, P. Zimmer, L. Leinacker, J. Cavanaugh, C. Verbas, A. Shiers, C. Nickel, S. Williams, R. Brinker. SECOND ROW: C. Cook, S. Miller, M. Gembala, J. Miller, J. Wetta, D. Fitzgerald, T. Kinkade, K. Reidy, M. Butler, L. Muldoon, M. Daake, J. Markus, Treasurer, Sr. James Grace, Moderator. THIRD ROW: S. Lippire, V. Galvan, K. Atchison, K. Lantz, M. Atchison, S. Markus, J. Gion, S. Schroeder, J. Forey, J. Eschilman, F. Kinkade, M. Gibbons, S. Vacha, C. Murphy, Secretary. FOURTH ROW: B. Richter, J. Erpelding, G. Power, K. Epp, J. Chism, K. Ruder, S. Vacha, J. Hellman, K. Harms, R. Gutschenritter, L. McCoy, President. FIFTH ROW: H. Wetta, M. Cavanaugh, B. Geiger, R. Shovlain, E. Briggs, C. Moreau, S. Christensen.

Kearney Catholic Varsity Basketball

1964-65 Season Highlights

(Kearney Catholic 1965 Yearbook)

A BACKWARD GLANCE – 1963-64

KEARNEY DAILY HUB – 1964-65 - PRESEASON ARTICLE

Two Vets Foundation For Stars '64-65 Quint

Catholic High Aim: To Better 4-12

By Bob Van tine

Although graduation left the Kearney Catholic High basketball ranks with only two lettermen, a swing upward is being planned by the Stars and their followers.

First goal of the 1964-65 Stars squad is to better the 4-12 record chalked up a year ago in Coach Bob Colling's maiden voyage.

Highlights of the season were a conquest of arch-rival Lexington St. Ann's and a 51-54 challenge of toughie Loomis in District Playoff action.

Colling, beginning his second year as the varsity boss, will be assisted by Fred Cunningham. Cunningham has been associated with Sumner teams for several years and is credited with a share of the success enjoyed there during the past five years.

At Kearney Catholic, Cunningham will work with the Reserves (the veteran coach, an expert with young athletes, guided Junior High football for Kearney Catholic this fall). Chick Messbarger will work with the 36-man Junior High outfit (seventh, eighth and ninth grade boys).

LARCHICK HITS 269

Returnees Ron Larchick and Dick Sims provide Colling with a solid foundation for his '64-65 machine.

Larchick, a 5-11 senior, was the Stars scoring leader with 269 points. Sims, a 6-2 junior, netted sixty-three points and was a board stalwart.

Heaviest graduation losses included scoring giants Darryl Erpelding (151), Bruce Ackerman (160) and Ron Ruder (130) and rebounder Greg Dunn (96).

Joining the veterans in the bid to boost the Stars in court ranks are Bruce Curry, a 5-9 junior; Dick Fox, 6-1 senior; Kevin Gallagher, 6-1 senior, Leonard Glatter, 6-4 junior; Joel Hellman, 6-2 senior, Ray Pettinger, 5-11 senior; Jesse Rivera, 5-8 senior, Bill Stroh, 5-5 senior; Joe Watton, 6-0 senior; Phil Freeling, 6-1 sophomore.

Stroh, Fox, Glatter and Gallagher saw occasional duty with the varsity troops last season. Stroh scored seven points and Fox one.

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OVERVIEW - 1964-65 Kearney Catholic Basketball Team

VARSITY BASKETBLL SQUAD – CENTER FRONT, Frank Vasquez – Student Manager. SECOND ROW, LEFT TO RIGHT: Fr. John, Fr. Kokes, Ray Pettinger, Ron Larchick, Joe Watton, Dick Fox, Phil Freeling, Leonard Glatter, Joel Hellman, Dick Sims, Kevin Gallagher, Bruce Curry, Coach Colling. ***(Kearney Catholic 1965 Yearbook)***

A BACKWARD GLANCE – 1963-64 – DIFFERENT FORMAT

Coach Colling, and the members of the varsity basketball team, were facing a new challenge at the beginning of the 1964-65 season. The new challenge involved the rebuilding of the varsity roster due to the graduation of the 1964 seniors.

These graduates were an integral part of the leadership core of the varsity team for the past three years. The 1964 senior players were Bruce Ackerman, Gary Curry, Greg Dunn, Darryl Erpelding and Ron Ruder.

The numerous contributions of these 1964 graduates to the Kearney Catholic Varsity Basketball program, can easily be determined objectively on the stat sheet, counting the number of points, rebounds, steals and assists. A subjective analysis of the many contributions of these graduates to our basketball team would include examples of their hustle, positive attitudes, leadership on and off the basketball floor, and their ongoing commitment to compete and never quit, no matter the score.

These ‘64 graduates were also positive leaders in the school and the classroom. Ron Ruder was the Salutatorian of the Class of 1964. Congratulations, and thanks to these graduates of 1964.

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DIFFERENT FORMAT

We will implement a different format for the review of the season highlights of the 1964-65 Kearney Catholic varsity basketball season. The earlier reviews of the 1961-62, 1962-63, and 1963-64 seasons featured some excerpts from the *Kearney Daily Hub* Sports section. Many of these excerpts included the colorful descriptions of the games written by Bob Van Tine, the *Kearney Daily Hub* Sports Editor.

In this section, the reader will be provided, not just excerpts, but also a copy of the entire transcribed *Kearney Daily Hub* story of all the basketball games during the 1964-65 season. A preview of the next game, when available, and the preseason prospects story "Two Vets Foundation for Stars '64-65 Quint" will also be available. The reader will experience the description of the basketball games, through the eyes of Bob Van Tine, who was a huge fan of Kearney Catholic sports.

This would be the first Kearney Catholic basketball season that we had seniors who had played for the previous three years.

The 1964-65 Kearney Catholic players were determined to continue the progress of the first three seasons. This may prove to be a challenging task with just two returning lettermen, one returning starter, and other players with little or no varsity experience. Let us get started and find out the results of the 1964-65 season.

Please go to the next page to view the transcribed *Kearney Daily Hub* article titled "Two Vets Foundation for Stars '64-65 Quint"

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Two Vets Foundation For Stars '64-65 Quint

Catholic High Aim: To Better 4-12

By Bob Van Tine

Although graduation left the Kearney Catholic High basketball ranks with only two lettermen, a swing upward is being planned by the Stars and their followers.

First goal of the 1964-65 Stars squad is to better the 4-12 record chalked up a year ago in Coach Bob Colling's maiden voyage.

Highlights of the season were a conquest of arch-rival Lexington St. Ann's and a 51-54 challenge of toughie Loomis in District Playoff action.

Colling, beginning his second year as the varsity boss, will be assisted by Fred Cunningham. Cunningham has been associated with Sumner teams for several years and is credited with a share of the success enjoyed there during the past five years.

At Kearney Catholic, Cunningham will work with the Reserves (the veteran coach, an expert with young athletes, guided Junior High football for Kearney Catholic this fall).

Chick Messbarger will work with the 36-man Junior High outfit (seventh, eighth and ninth grade boys).

LARCHICK HITS 269

Returnees Ron Larchick and Dick Sims provide Colling with a solid foundation for his '64-65 machine. Larchick is the lone returning starter from the '63-64 team.

Larchick, a 5-11 senior, was the Stars scoring leader with 269 points. Sims, a 6-2 junior, netted sixty-three points and was a board stalwart.

The heaviest graduation losses included scoring giants Darryl Erpelding (151), Bruce Ackerman (160) and Ron Ruder (130) and rebounder Greg Dunn (96).

Joining the veterans in the bid to boost the Stars in court ranks are Bruce Curry, a 5-9 junior; Dick Fox, 6-1 senior; Kevin Gallagher, 6-1 senior, Leonard Glatter, 6-4 junior; Joel Hellman, 6-2 senior, Ray Pettinger, 5-11 senior; Jesse Rivera, 5-8 senior, Bill Stroh, 5-5 senior; Joe Watton, 6-0 senior; Phil Freeling, 6-1 sophomore.

Stroh, Fox, Glatter and Gallagher saw occasional duty with the varsity troops last season. Stroh scored seven points and Fox one.

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Kearney Catholic Varsity Basketball

1964-65 Season Highlights

Kearney Daily Hub – Game Previews – Game Summaries

Spalding Academy

Pleasanton

North Platte St. Pat's

West Kearney

Greeley Sacred Heart

Overton

Lexington St. Ann's

Grand Island Northwest

Amherst

Maxwell

Farnam

Maywood

Shelton

Halsey-Dunning

Ravenna

Wilcox

Elwood

Overton

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SPALDING ACADEMY

SHAMROCKS

1964 – 65

BASKETBALL SCHEDULE

Spalding Academy

Pleasanton

West Kearney

North Platte St. Pat's

Greeley

Overton

Lex. St. Ann's

G.I. Northwest

Amherst

Maxwell

Farnam

Maywood

Shelton

Halsey-Dunning

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Stars Host Spalding Shamrocks

The rookie-laden Catholic High quint, vowing to better last year's 4-12 record, usher in the 1964-65 campaign at the Catholic High Arena here Friday night entertaining the tough Spalding Academy Shamrocks.

Revenge for a 72-54 setback in 1963-64 provides extra incentive for the Stars in the lid-lifter. The Shamrocks and Stars will match hardwood wares at 8 PM. Reserve units of the two schools will compete at a 6:15 opener.

IN 30TH YEAR

At the helm of the Spalding quint is the veteran Ed Colleran, in his 30th year with the Shamrocks.

Colleran has lettermen in Frank Dunning, Bill Stroup, Bob Kleffner, Jerry Coyne, Tom Connelly, and Bob Stroup and is expected to put an all-veteran club on the floor. Bob Stroup hit ten points and Dunning eight in last year's triumph.

The Shamrocks finished 8-1 in Cedar Valley Conference play last season and 12-6 for all starts and plan to match or better those records.

LARCHICK TOP THREAT

Coach Bob Colling, beginning his second year, has two holdovers but a bumper crop of rookies brightens the picture.

Veterans for Kearney Catholic are Ron Larchick, a senior sharpshooter who pumped in a team-leading 269 points last year, and rangy Dick Sims, who cleared the banks with authority for the Stars during the '63-64 season. Larchick is the only returning starter from the 1963-64 team.

Colling plans to team Joel Hellman, Leonard Glatter (6-4) and Bill Stroh or Kevin Gallagher with his two lettermen. All are seniors, except Sims and Glatter who are juniors, assuring the Stars of a bright future.

(*Kearney Daily Hub* -1964)

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Shamrocks Use Late Spurt to Control Stars

by Bob Van Tine

The Spalding Academy Shamrocks used a strong "closing kick" to turn back a scrappy band of Kearney Catholic High cagers at the Catholic High Arena here Friday night. The visitors dealt the Stars a 12-5 last period sock and took the verdict by a 55-47 margin.

The Stars hung within striking range throughout the game and lagged by razor-thin margins at the stops. In the payoff surge, the Shamrocks made effective use of a pressing defense to cut down the Stars shots and step up their own production. The contest pried the lid off the '64-65 basketball season for both schools.

LARCHICK HITS 28

Coached by the wily Ed Colleran, in his 30th season, Spalding Academy unveiled a three-pronged attack with Bob Stroup, Bob Kleffner and Frank Dunning supplying the firepower.

The torrid trio poked in 47 of the 55 points, matching the Kearney total. Stroup hit 21, eight in the last period outburst. Kleffner chipped in with 14 and Dunning added a dozen.

Kearney returnees Ron Larchick and Dick Sims shouldered the scoring load for the Stars, producing 38 of the 47 markers. Larchick, last year's leader with 269 points, displayed an even "hotter hand" as he singed the cords for 28 points, all on fielders. Sims hit 10.

A see-saw pattern developed early and continued for most of the game. The Shamrocks managed to stay on top a major share of the time, but the Stars allowed little breathing room.

'PRESS' SETTLES ISSUE

Dunning was the big gun in a 14-12 first period attack by Spalding Academy while Larchick (eight) kept the Stars within range. The "Big Three" of Dunning, Stroup and Kleffner collected four each in the second quarter to offset the six-point spree by the sharpshooting Larchick and give the visitors a 28-24 spread at intermission.

Kearney crept within a point (42-43) with an 18-15 third quarter comeback that featured a 10-point outburst by Larchick and a six-point blitz by goalie Sims. Then the Shamrocks trotted out the "press" from its arsenal and pulled away behind the sniping of Stroup.

The Spalding Academy Reserves used a 20-3 windup to tame the Stars Reserves, 53-33. Kearney led 15-12 at the quarter and 25-23 at the half and challenged at 30-33 when the teams turned the corner. Gene McManaman was the point leader for Spalding with 17. Jack Murphy (14) and Bill Naughtin (10) joined him in double figures.

Tom Tiehen sparkled for the Catholic Reserves hitting eight. The Stars journey to play Pleasanton on Friday.

Varsity Box Score

SPALDING ACADEMY (55)

Frank Dunning 6-0-0-1-12, Bob Stroup 8-5-6-4-21, Jerry Coyne 2-0-0-1-4, Bob Kleffner 5-4-8-0-14, Fred Semper 1-0-1-0-2, Denny Sullivan 1-0-0-0-2. Totals 23-9-15-6-55.

KEARNEY CATHOLIC (47)

Dick Sims, 5-0-2-4-10, Joel Hellman 0-0-2-0-0, Leonard Glatter 3-0-1-2-6, Bill Stroh 1-0-2-1-2, Ron Larchick 14-0-0-10-28, Phil Freeling 0-1-2-1-1, Jesse Rivera 0-0-0-0-0. Totals 23-1-9-9-47.

(*Kearney Daily Hub* -1964)

Stars Invade Pleasanton Friday

The once-beaten Kearney Catholic hoopmen will go win-shopping at Pleasanton Friday night.

The hardwood mix is billed for 8 PM and follows a Reserves prelim.

Pleasanton is also seeking a first win, having lost its opener to Axtell. The Stars were clipped by Spalding Academy.

Kearney Catholic coach Bob Colling said Thursday he planned to start a combo of Leonard Glatter, Joel Hellman, Dick Sims, Bill Stroh, and Ron Larchick.

28 POINT BLITZ

The Stars opened the season with the two returning lettermen players, Ron Larchick and Dick Sims, scoring 38 of 47 points in a 55-47 loss to Spalding Academy.

In Larchick, the Stars have one of the top scorers in the area. The senior guard, tough from all angles, pocketed 269 points last season and opened the current campaign with a 28-point rampage.

Sims, the only other letterman in the Stars lineup, hit 10 against Spalding. Improvement by the rookies, particularly in scoring, will make the Catholic High a quint to be reckoned with in future action.

Jim Barth holds the reins at Pleasanton and has eight veterans in camp. He expects to start Dennis Rodehorst, Wayne Klein, Larry Riessland, Ted Classen and Bernard Stubbs. Rodehorst and Klein supplied the punch against Axtell with 17 and 14, respectively.

(*Kearney Daily Hub* -1964)

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PLEASANTON
BULLDOGS

1964 – 65

Basketball Schedule

Spalding Academy LOST

Pleasanton

West Kearney

North Platte St. Pat's

Greeley

Overton

Lexington St. Ann's

G.I. Northwest

Amherst

Maxwell

Farnam

Maywood

Shelton

Halsey-Dunning

Ravenna

Wilcox

Elwood

Overton

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Stars Put Muzzle On Pleasanton Bulldogs

Stroh Sets Scoring Pace; Record at 1-1

by Bob Van Tine

The Kearney Catholic High Stars crashed the win column Friday night, muzzling the Pleasanton Bulldogs by a 45-35 count in a non-league hardwood game at Pleasanton.

The Stars, forced to compete without scoring ace Ron Larchick, parlayed a tough defense and a balanced attack to spring the victory.

Larchick suffered a severe ankle injury in a Thursday drill and had to sit out the ball game. Coach Bob Colling expects his sharpshooter to return for Friday's game with toughie West Kearney.

The triumph gave the Stars a 1-1 record. Pleasanton skidded to 0-2 for the current campaign.

MUTT-JEFF TANDEM

Pint-sized Bill Stroh (5-5) and rangy Leonard Glatter (6-4) formed a Mutt-Jeff combo for the Stars and clipped the cords for 29 points. The swift Stroh tossed in 16 and Glatter added 13. Veteran Dick Sims, who teamed with Glatter to provide rebounding firepower, connected for eight.

Pleasanton, burdened by cold shooting throughout the contest, managed twin figure showings by Ted Classen (11) and Dennis Roderhorst (10).

The Stars took an early lead and kept the upper hand albeit Pleasanton made it uncomfortable at times, particularly in the third quarter.

SPIKE BULLDOG RALLY

The Catholic High Stars gained a 9-5 first period lead and held a 23-11 spread at the half. Classen revived the Bulldogs and ignited a 17-10 surge that melted Kearney's lead to 33-28 when the teams turned the corner, but the Stars hung on thanks to timely shots by Stroh and Glatter.

Pleasanton used a 20-point bombardment by LaVern Kaminski to blue-ribbon the opener 36-25. Mike Carranza topped the scoring for the Catholic High Reserves with 13.

The Pleasanton girls swept the volleyball match.

Pleasanton returns to Fort-Kearney Conference play Friday, invading Overton for a shot at the co-leaders of the FKC. The Stars will play at West Kearney on Friday at 8 p.m.

Varsity box score:

KEARNEY CATHOLIC (45)

Dick Sims 2-4-5-8, Joel Hellman 1-0-5-2, Dick Fox 0-0-0-0, Kevin Gallagher 1-0-3-2, Leonard Glatter 4-5-3-13, Phil Freeling 1-2-1-4, Bill Stroh 7-2-1-16, Jesse Rivera 0-0-0-0, Bruce Curry 0-0-0-0. Totals 16-13-18-45.

PLEASANTON (35)

Bernard Stubbs 1-3-5-5, Ted Classen 5-1-2-11, Dennis Roderhorst 4-2-5-10, Wayne Klein 1-0-3-2, Rex Axmann 0-0-0-0, Larry Riessland 2-3-1-7, Lance Hehner 0-0-3-0 Terry Chandler 0-0-0-0. Totals 13-9-19-35.

(*Kearney Daily Hub* – 1964)

Stars, Vikes Match Cage Wares Tonight

The Kearney Catholic High Stars will shoot for a second straight win in a neighborhood argument with the West Kearney Vikings tonight. The Vikes gym, located on the Nebraska Boys School campus, will be the scene of the action.

Tipoff time for the game is 8 p.m. The Reserves squads will play a 6:15 p.m. prelim. The Stars sport a 1-1 record while the Vikes are winless in a single outing.

Scheduled to start for the Stars are Leonard Glatter, Bill Stroh, Dick Sims, Joel Hellman, and scoring whiz Ron Larchick. Larchick's status is in doubt because of a severe ankle injury. If the Star point leader, (28 in his lone appearance), is unable to play, Kevin Gallagher or Phil Freeling with start.

Dick Fox and Jesse Rivera are the best of the firemen in the Catholic Camp.

West Kearney lost a 64-62 overtime verdict to Grand Island Northwest, squandering a 34-18 halftime lead. Coach Glen Einspahr hopes to get more mileage from his starters tonight and avert another "run out of gas" spell.

The Vikes boast a one-two wallop in veterans George Eagleman and Larry Richards and a fine floor leader in Rudy Christensen. Eagleman collected 29 and Richards 20 in the losing effort against Northwest.

John Medina and Romas Aleksonis are the other Viking starters. Douglas Montgomery and Richard St. Cloud get the first calls for assistance.

(*Kearney Daily Hub* – 1964)

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WEST KEARNEY

VIKINGS

1964 – 65

BASKETBALL SCHEDULE

Spalding Academy	LOST
Pleasanton	WON
West Kearney	
North Platte St. Pat's	
Greeley	
Overton	
Lexington St. Ann's	
G.I. Northwest	
Amherst	
Maxwell	
Farnam	
Maywood	
Shelton	
Halsey-Dunning	
Ravenna	
Wilcox	
Elwood	
Overton	

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Vikings Sting Stars, 59-55 As Eagleman Rings Bell for 35

by Bob Van Tine

Behind the 35- point bombardment of sharpshooter George Eagleman, the West Kearney Vikings shaded the Kearney Catholic Stars, 59-55, in a court mix at the Vikings gym on the NBS campus Tuesday night.

Eagleman was at his best in the third quarter when the Vikes erased the Stars halftime lead of 30-27 and took charge for keeps although the Catholic cagers kept it in the thriller bracket down the stretch, staying within striking distance but unable to overhaul the hosts.

The win gave West Kearney a 1-1 reading. The Stars suffered their second setback in three starts.

MIXES UP SHOTS

Eagleman, who relied heavily upon 1-15-foot jumpers in the first half when he chalked up 14 points, mixed a drive-for-the bucket shot with his pet jumper in his second half spree. He shouldered the point making load throughout the third and fourth periods, accounting for 14 of 20 in the third period and 7 of 12 in the final session.

In gaining 35 markers, the Vike smoothie hit 15 double-deckers and cashed five gifters.

Larry Richards poked in 11 despite a foul burden that restricted his second half action and Douglas Montgomery tallied nine. Rudy Christensen got four and added floor general duties.

Bill Stroh, using a jumper effectively, led the Stars bid with 17. Joel Hellman, tough in the down-under milling, chalked up 16 and Leonard Glatter added 12. Ron Larchick, recovering from a severe ankle injury, managed 6.

HELLMAN REVIVES STARS

Eagleman and Richards accounted for all the West Kearney points in a 15-7 first quarter blitz. Both hit on short jump shots.

The Stars stormed back and used some heroics by Hellman to swing a 23-12 second quarter blow that dropped the hosts behind by three at intermission 27-30.

A Hellman shot overhauled the Vikes late in the quarter and the Stars kept control the rest of the period.

FINDS OPENINGS

Eagleman found holes in the Catholic defense in the third quarter and his bucket barrage wiped out the Stars lead. A see-saw pattern developed. After many lead changes, the Vikes spurted to a 47-44 lead for the stretch run.

West Kearney protected the slim lead in the final period. Eagleman and Montgomery teaming for the clutch points while Stroh kept the Stars within range. Muffed layups hobbled the Stars' chances.

The Viking Reserves used a first half wallop of 19-7 to turn back the Stars Reserves 35-25. Bennie Daniels took scoring honors for the winners with 15. Mike Carranza hit nine for the losers and Bob Mendoza, registering a neat floor performance, added 6 as did Tom Tiehen, a hot shooter from the corner. The Stars outscored West Kearney in the second half but could not shake a scoreless second quarter.

The Catholic High quints entertain North Platte St. Pat's at the Catholic High Arena Friday night (varsity at 8 p.m.). West Kearney teams invade Litchfield Friday.

Varsity box score:

WEST KEARNEY (59)

George Eagleman 15-5-8-2-35, Larry Richards 5-14-2-4-11, John Medina 0-0-1-1-0, Richard St. Cloud 0-0-0-1-0, Douglas Montgomery 3-3-7-4-9, Ramos Aleksonis 0-0-1-1-0, Rudy Christensen 2-0-0-4-4.

Totals 25-9-19-17-59.

KEARNEY CATHOLIC (55)

Dick Sims 1-2-4-4-4, Joel Hellman 5-6-8-1-16, Kevin Gallagher 0-0-0-1-0, Leonard Glatter 6-0-1-3-12, Bill Stroh 7-3-3-3-17, Ron Larchick 2-2-7-2-6.

Totals 21-13-22-14-55.

(***Kearney Daily Hub*** – **1964**)

Stars Host NP St. Pat's Quint on Friday

The Kearney Catholic High Stars, anxious to better a 1-2 record, entertain a well-regarded North Platte St. Pat's quint Friday night.

The Stars and Irishmen will trade court wallops in the Catholic High Arena at 8 p.m. after the Reserve units of the two schools have completed a 6:15 p.m. prelim scrap.

Don Templemeyer's Irishmen have won two of three starts to date with a 47-43 win over tough Wallace Tuesday a high spot.

Sparkplug for St. Pat's is John Arnold a 6-4 Junior with a sizzling 16.0 game average. Joining Arnold in the Irishmen's lineup will be Bill Burbach, also averaging in twin figures for three starts: Jim Peterson, Mike Dillon, and Jack Barraclough.

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Stars Host NP St. Pat's Quint on Friday (CONTINUED)

Bob Colling plans to stick with his regular Catholic High unit of Joel Hellman, Bill Stroh, Ron Larchick, Leonard Glatter, and Dick Sims. The Stars boast good height and have shown balanced scoring in recent frays.

Stroh is the season leader with 35 points but Larchick, the 1963-64 scoring champion with 269 points, sports the best average (17.0). Larchick missed the second game of the season due to a severe ankle injury.

Phil Freeling and Kevin Gallagher are the top troubleshooters for the Stars.

(*Kearney Daily Hub* – 1964)

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N. P. ST PAT'S

IRISH

1964 – 65

BASKETBALL SCHEDULE

Spalding Academy	LOST
Pleasanton	WON
West Kearney	LOST
North Platte St. Pat's	
Greeley	
Overton	
Lex. St. Ann's	
G.I. Northwest	
Amherst	
Maxwell	
Farnam	
Maywood	
Shelton	
Halsey-Dunning	
Ravenna	
Wilcox	
Elwood	
Overton	

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NP St. Pat's Sinks Stars on Gifters

by Bob Van Tine

North Platte St. Pat's used the "gift shot" route to check a scrappy Kearney Catholic High quint, 52-42, in a court sizzler at the Catholic High Arena here Friday night.

Irish gifters, 16 by scoring ace John Arnold, proved the difference in the hard-fought game. The Stars outscored St. Pat's from the field by 18-15 but suffered a 22-6 fate at charity lane and carried a "double the count" foul burden of 22-11.

The Stars held the upper hand during most of the game but collapsed down the stretch and Arnold made his trips to the free throw stripe reap dividends.

The defeat was the third in four games for the Catholic High quint. The Irish boosted their season count to 3-1.

LARCHICK TOP HAND

The Stars had a well-balanced attack but placed only sharpshooter Ron Larchick in twin figures. The stocky guard, still recovering from a severe ankle injury, pocketed 12. Speedster Bill Stroh, board ace Leonard Glatter and fireman Kevin Gallagher shared second honors with six each.

Glatter, Joel Hellman and Dick Sims were tough on the banks and fenced in Arnold effectively. The sagging concentration on Arnold's defense kept the Stars abreast until the late stages when the fouls took a heavy toll.

Despite the heavy fire, Arnold flipped in 26 points but got 16 on gift shots. He wiggled free of the defensive net for only five buckets. Gary Peterson was second highest for the winners, tallying nine. Arnold and Bill Burbach were rugged in the rebounding chores.

TOO MANY GIFTS

Gallagher hustled off the bench late in the first quarter and hit a pair of bell-ringers that swept the Stars into a 10-6 lead. Arnold got four of his five fielders in the second period and led the Irish within two at the half, 18-20. Glatter and Larchick kept Kearney on top with timely shots.

The free throw parade picked up steam in the third quarter and Arnold cashed several to pep a 14-10 St. Pat's Blitz that put the visitors on top by 32-30 for the final drive.

The Stars stayed within range on Larchick and Glatter firing and were within two (42-44) at 2:56. Then the Irish used those gift shots to advantage and closed with a spurt of eight that provided a victory margin that fails to tell the story of the conflict. Arnold and Peterson fused the payoff drive with some aid from Burbach.

BETTER BRAND BALM

Shots that might have kept the Stars in contention rimmed out and sealed Kearney Catholic's doom. Soothing for the fans was the fact that the club played a much better brand of ball than at West Kearney earlier in the week and gave indications of developing into a tough team.

Next start for the Stars will be Tuesday January 5 when Greeley Sacred Heart pays a visit to the Arena.

In Friday's prelim the Irish Reserves rolled to a 42-24 win, leaving the Stars squad winless in four starts. Bob Hirschfeld was best for the winners with a dozen and Dick Freeling powered Kearney with seven.

Varsity box score:

NORTH PLATTE ST. PAT'S (52)

Bill Burbach 2-1-3-3-5, Gary Peterson 2-5-6-2-9, John Arnold 5-16-21-2-26, Mike Dillon 2-0-0-0-4, Pepper Dotson 1-0-0-0-2, Jack Barraclough 2-0-0-3-4, Dan Wood 1-0-1-1-2.

Totals 15-22-31-11-52.

KEARNEY CATHOLIC (42)

Dick Sims 2-0-0-3-4, Joel Hellman 1-0-0-3-2, Dick Fox 0-0-0-0-0, Leonard Glatter 3-0-3-2-6, Phil Freeling 1-0-0-4-2, Bill Stroh 1-4-6-2-6, Bruce Curry 1-2-1-2-2, Ron Larchick 5-2-2-3-12, Dick Fox 1-0-2-1-2, Kevin Gallagher 3-0-1-2-6, Ray Pettinger 0-0-1-0-0.

Totals 18-6-16-22-42.

(*Kearney Daily Hub* -1964)

Stars Play at Home Against Greeley Sacred Heart

The Kearney Catholic High Stars, looking to rebound from the loss to North Platte St. Pat's, entertain Greeley Sacred Heart at home on Tuesday night.

The Stars have lost two straight to the Irishmen including a 75-38 blowout at home during the 1962-63 season. Kearney Catholic has a 1-3 record.

This is an important contest for the Stars if they want to improve on last year's record of 4-12. Inexperience has been a key factor in the early going for the Stars as they only have two returning lettermen and one starter from the 1963-64 squad.

Kearney Catholic will have to contain Greeley's Jerry Manchin who has been scoring 20 to 30 points in games this season. The Fighting Irish will start Manchin, Paul Lammers, Tom Warner, Joe Finn, and Jerry O'Gorman. Greeley sports a 2-1 record this season.

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Stars Play at Home Against Greeley Sacred Heart
(CONTINUED)

Coach Bob Colling will start Joel, Hellman, Leonard Glatter, Bill Stroh, Ron Larchick, and Dick Sims. Kevin Gallagher and Dick Fox are the top firemen off the bench for the Stars.

Larchick, the only returning starter, is still recovering from a severely sprained ankle injury that caused him to miss the Pleasanton game. He has only scored 18 points in the last two games after scoring 28 points in the opener against Spalding Academy.

Greeley and Kearney will tip off the varsity game at 8:00 PM and the Reserves will play in the 6:15 PM prelim.

(*Kearney Daily Hub* -1964)

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GREELEY S.H.

FIGHTING IRISH

1964 – 65

BASKETBALL SCHEDULE

Spalding Academy	Lost
Pleasanton	Won
West Kearney	Lost
North Platte St. Pat's	Lost
Greeley	
Overton	
Lexington St. Ann's	
G.I. Northwest	
Amherst	
Maxwell	
Farnam	
Maywood	
Shelton	
Halsey-Dunning	
Ravenna	
Wilcox	
Elwood	
Overton	

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Stars Capture Easy Win Over Greeley Sacred Heart

by Bob Van Tine

Kearney Catholic took an early lead and never relinquished it in belting Greeley Sacred Heart, 56-40 here Tuesday night.

Key to the win for Coach Bob Colling's Stars was the taming of Greeley's usually high scoring Jerry Machin. Machin, who has been hitting between 20 and 30 points per contest of late, was held to a single free throw by Kearney.

The Stars, behind Ron Larchick's 21-point performance, jumped to a 10-2 margin at the end of the first quarter and carried a 26-11 bulge at the half.

Larchick, who seems to have recovered from an early season severe ankle injury, netted eight field goals and five for six free throws in ringing up his personal total. Dick Sims followed him in the scoring column with 11.

Three men were in double figures for Greeley Sacred Heart. Paul Lammers paced the visitors with 13 points.

Colling played 12 men in the Monday night rout.

The Stars, now possessing a 2-3 season mark, visit Overton Saturday night for their next court encounter.

Varsity box score:

KEARNEY CATHOLIC (56)

Dick Sims 5-1-2-1-11, Joel Hellman 2-4-7-2-8, Dick Fox 0-2-3-1-2, Kevin Gallagher 1-2-2-1-4, Leonard Glatter 0-0-3-01-0, Phil Freeling 0-0-1-0-0, Bill Stroh 4-0-0-2-8, Jesse Rivera 1-0-1-0-2, Bruce Curry 0-0-0-1-0, Joe Watton 0-0-0-0-0, Ray Pettinger 0-0-0-1-0, Ron Larchick 8-5-6-1-21. Totals 21-14-25-11-56

GREELEY SACRED HEART (40)

Lammers 5-3-7-2-12, Callahan, 1-1-1-2-3, Finn 4-3-5-4-11, Machin 0-1-1-2-1, Harris 0-0-0-3-1, Warner 1-0-0-1-2, O'Gorman 4-2-3-5-10,
Totals 15-10-17-19-40.

(*Kearney Daily Hub* – 1965)

Stars Invade Overton on Saturday

The Kearney Catholic High courteers, buoyed by Tuesday's rout of Greeley Sacred Heart, visit Overton Saturday for a shot at the Eagles, a Class C toughie.

The Stars, in launching the '65 portion of their chart on a winning note, lifted their season record to 2-3 and can hit the .500 mark by taming Overton.

Overton, 5-2 for the campaign prior to a Friday night exam at Amherst, will provide a stern test.

BOARD SCRAP LOOMS

Wayne Casper, former KSC standout, guides Overton and has a veteran ball club that blends shooting firepower with board control. Goalies Bob Smith, Randy Carpenter and Bill Burns are among the best rebounders in the area. Rod Westerlin and Dale Romatzke supply backcourt magic. Bob Larson and Dennis Burkey are the best of the troubleshooters.

Bob Colling, the Stars chief plans to stick with his regular combo of Leonard Glatter, Ron Larchick, Bill Stroh, Joel Hellman, and Dick Sims. Glatter, Hellman, and Sims will put up a stern argument on the banks while speedster Stroh and sharpshooter Larchick figure to deal Overton fits.

Larchick is averaging 16.8 points a game and hits from all angles.

The Reserves units will open the bill-of-fare at 6:15 pm.

(*Kearney Daily Hub* – 1965)

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OVERTON

EAGLES

1964 – 65

BASKETBALL SCHEDULE

Spalding Academy	LOST
Pleasanton	WON
West Kearney	LOST
North Platte St. Pat's	LOST
Greeley	WON
Overton	
Lex. St. Ann's	
G.I. Northwest	
Amherst	
Maxwell	
Farnam	
Maywood	
Shelton	
Halsey-Dunning	
Ravenna	
Wilcox	
Elwood	
Overton	

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Overton Torpedoes Cold-Shooting Stars, 63-34; Smith Peps Attack

by Bob Van Tine

The shooting of the Kearney Catholic High Stars at Overton Saturday night matched the weather: "Baby, it was cold." For the Stars, banged by Overton's high-flying Eagles 63-34, it was as frigid inside as outside.

The Stars managed only four points in the first quarter and went scoreless from the field for six minutes. The Eagles capitalized on the dry spell to forge a margin they never relinquished.

The non-league triumph pushed Overton's season figure to 7-2. The Stars fell to 2-4.

THE KO SOCK

Overton goalies Bob Smith and Randy Carpenter dealt Kearney Catholic a one-two wallop and enjoyed a field day. The huskies teamed up for 38 points, four more than the Stars squad collared, and sweetened that showing by policing the banks effectively.

Smith pepped the blitz with 20 and Carpenter added 18.

Ron Larchick, the Stars top marksman, pumped in 14. The stocky guard was the lone Kearney cager in twin figures. Dick Sims was runner up with eight.

After taking charge at 14-4, Overton continued to punish the visitors with a 15-12 second quarter, 16-6 third period and 18-12 windup chapter.

LOW PERCENT FATAL

Although their scoring pace quickened after the first round, the Stars were saddled with a low percentage from the field throughout and the cold showing proved fatal.

The Overton Reserves set an example for their varsity brethren by rolling to a 50-26 prelim victory. Dennis Burkey hit 13 and Dale Ballenger 10 to trigger the Overton offense.

Overton will be back on the Fort Kearney Conference firing line Friday, hosting toughie Wilcox in the annual "Battle of the Eagles." The Stars travel to Lexington Saturday for a crack at their arch-rivals, the St. Ann's Knights.

Varsity box score:

OVERTON (63)

Bill Burns 3-0-1-0-6, Bob Larsen 3-0-1-0-6, Rod Westerlin 1-0-0-1-2, Ray Williams 1-1-2-2-3, Dale Romatzke 3-0-2-2-6, Bob Smith 8-4-9-1-20, Bob Veal 1-0-0-0-1, Randy Carpenter 9-2-3-3-18. Totals 28-7-20-11-63.

KEARNEY CATHOLIC (34)

Dick Sims 4-0-0-0-8, Joel Hellman 1-0-1-3-2, Dick Fox 1-0-1-1-2, Kevin Gallagher 2-0-4-0-4, Leonard Glatter 0-0-1-1-0, Phil Freeling 0-2-2-1-2, Jesse Rivera 0-2-2-1-2, Bruce Curry 0-0-0-3-0, Ron Larchick 6-2-3-3-14. Totals 14-6-14-14-34.

(*Kearney Daily Hub* – 1965)

Stars Seek to Defeat Knights at Lex Sat.

The Kearney Catholic High cagers, anxious to improve a 2-4 mark, eye the chance to achieve that goal as they await a Saturday contest with arch-rival Lexington St. Ann's at the Lexington school's gym.

The Stars and Knights will match wits and wares at 8 pm, after the Reserves squads of the two schools open the bill with a 6:15 pm prelim.

Unless they stop Oxford tonight, the weak St. Ann's squad will still be win-shopping when the Stars pay their visit.

OVERDUE?

Dave Gilbert, rookie coach at St. Ann's, has experienced tough sledding in his maiden voyage but points to steady improvement in ball-handling and shooting as indications the Knights may junk their losing skein.

Gilbert plans to start Jim Beran, Randy Fagot, Jim Bigelow, Dan Hellman, and Jim Van Cleave against Kearney.

Best of the troubleshooters are Porfie Gonzales, Rob Stuart and Darrell Bliven.

LARCHICK CLIP – 16.2

Bob Colling, the Stars mentor, will send Ron Larchick, Joel Hellman, Dick Sims, Leonard Glatter, and Kevin Gallagher against the Knights.

Larchick is the scoring stalwart for the Stars, averaging 16.2 with 81-points in five starts. The Catholic High outfit has better-than-average height with Sims, Hellman and Glatter all six-footers.

Bill Stroh, Dick Fox and soph find Phil Freeling are the best of Stars' firemen.

(*Kearney Daily Hub* – 1965)

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AUTHOR'S COMMENT

CROSSROAD

The 2 wins and 4 losses record was certainly not the start of the season we expected. Coach Colling was trying different combinations of starters and reserves substitutions. It was difficult for Coach Colling due to the severe ankle injury suffered by Ron Larchick, the lone returning starter from the 1963-64 team. Bob Van Tine wrote that **"inexperience has been a key factor in the early going for the Stars."** ***Kearney Daily Hub*** **1964**

Bob Van Tine also noted that following the North Platte St. Pat's loss that **"Soothing` for the fans was the fact that the club played a much better brand of ball than at West Kearney earlier in the week and gave indications of developing into a tough team. The Stars fell to 2-4 for the season."** ***Kearney Daily Hub*** **1964**

Coach Colling named a new set of starters that included Dick Sims, Joel Hellman, Leonard Glatter, Kevin Gallagher, and Ron Larchick. We were facing the final twelve games of the season with a set of three **components** in our favor.

The **first component** was the game experience gained by Dick, Joel, and Leonard who each started the first six games of the 1964-65 season. The **second component** was the naming of Kevin Gallagher as a starter that gave a needed boost to our offensive production. The **third component** was that Ron Larchick, had recovered from an early season severe ankle injury. He scored 28 points in the first game, missed the second game, and averaged just 13 points a game in the next four games.

Our team was definitely at a crossroad, with our 2 wins and 4 losses record, and it was time to determine if we could turn our season around. We players had the choice, to just give up and revert to the failures and losses of past seasons, or to bring all three components of our team together, to work hard, and develop into the tough team suggested by Bob Van Tine.

Dr. Ron Larchick

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LEX. ST. ANN'S

KNIGHTS

1964 – 65

BASKETBALL SCHEDULE

1964 – 65 B-Ball Schedule

Spalding Academy	Lost
Pleasanton	Won
West Kearney	Lost
North Platte St. Pat's	Lost
Greeley	Won
Overton	Lost
Lexington St. Ann's	
G.I. Northwest	
Amherst	
Maxwell	
Farnam	
Maywood	
Shelton	
Halsey-Dunning	
Ravenna	
Wilcox	
Elwood	
Overton	

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Larchick Fuses Closing Blitz As Stars Rake St. Ann's 55-38

by Bob Van Tine

Sharpshooter Ron Larchick touched off a 30-15 second half explosion that swept the Kearney Catholic High cagers to a convincing 55-38 win over their arch-rivals Lexington St. Ann's Knights, in Lexington Saturday night.

Held to two points in the first half, Larchick singed the nets for 21 in second half play as the Stars turned a tight battle (23-25) into a romp.

The victory boosted the Catholic High record to 3-4. The loss left the Knights on the winless chart.

The Knights surprised at the start, matching strides on the hustle of Jim Beran and Jim Van Cleave. Weak St. Ann's challenged 10-12 at the quarter and traded points in a hot second period (13-13) to remain within two at the half, 23-25.

TIDE TURNS

Kearney superiority became evident when play resumed as the tall Stars dominated the boards and Larchick cut loose with a variety of bombs. Kearney swung a lethal third quarter wallop (14-8) and added a 16-7 stretch drive poke.

Kevin Gallagher kept the Stars afloat during the shaky first half, producing 11 of his 13 points in the early milling. Gallagher's 13 supported Larchick's game leading 23.

Beran and Fagot tallied 13 each for the losers.

RESERVES SHELLED

Leonard Glatter, Joel Hellman, and Dick Sim, all six footers, controlled the boards effectively for the Stars.

In the prelim offering the St. Ann's Reserves punched the winless Kearney Catholic Reserves 51-34. Dave Kearney pocketed 11 and Dennis Hellman nine to pep the winners. Dave Glatter was best for Kearney with five.

The Stars host Grand Island Northwest at the Catholic High Arena Friday night and can climb to the .500 mark with a win.

Varsity box score:

KEARNEY CATHOLIC (55)

Dick Sims 1-2-3-4-4, Joel Hellman 1-2-3-0-4, Dick Fox 0-0-0-0-0, Kevin Gallagher 6-1-4-3-13, Leonard Glatter 3-1-5-0-7, Joe Watton 0-0-0-0-0, Phil Freeling 1-0-0-0-2, Bill Stroh 0-2-2-1-2, Ron Larchick, 9-5-5-3-23, Ray Pettinger 0-0-0-1-0. Totals 21-13-22-12-55.

LEXINGTON ST. ANN'S 38)

Jim Beran 6-1-4-5-13, Jim Van Cleave 6-1-1-2-13, Bob Stewart 2-1-2-3-5, Randy Fagot 1-1-1-1-3, Larry Bigelow 0-0-0-0-0, Bob Smith 8-4-9-1-20, Dan Hellman 2-0-4-3-4. Totals 17-4-3-12-38.

(*Kearney Daily Hub* – 1965)

Stars Host G.I. Northwest Friday, Eye .500 Bracket

The Kearney Catholic High hoopsters are eagerly awaiting the Friday night visit of the oft-beaten Grand Island Northwest Vikings. For, in the appearance here of the Third City quint, the Stars see the chance to reach the .500 level in the '64-65 play.

The Stars and Vikes will match wits and wares in the Catholic High Arena at 8 p.m. after the Reserves squads of the two schools open the program (6:15 p.m.).

G.I. Northwest, in its second year of operation, is saddled with a 1-8 record. The lone win came in an overtime struggle with West Kearney in the lid-lifter. The conquest of the West Kearney club, a team that defeated the Stars in a 59-55 sizzler, indicates Northwest is no "pushover." The Stars will have to play at their best to realize the goal of gaining a .500 rating.

Bob Colling's crew takes a 3-4 record into Friday's fray.

WILEY TOP GUN

Skeet Mahler holds the reins at Northwest and will floor an experienced five headed by Jerry Wiley. The 6-3 Wiley is the big gun in the Vikings arsenal and has to be silenced for the Stars to hit the win column again.

Best support comes from Larry Berstler, a 5-7 sharpshooter. Other starters for the Vikes are Eugene Hennings, (5-11), Jerry Schultz (5-10) and Bob Humisten (5-10).

Anxious to junk a losing streak, the Third Citians are prepared to deliver an all-out effort in Kearney.

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Stars Host G.I. Northwest Friday, Eye .500 Bracket continued

'SOLID FIVE'

Bob Colling will bank on his new starting five to shoulder most of the playing load against the Vikes.

The starting five is headed by Ron Larchick, the Catholic High siege gun. Larchick, a stocky guard, is averaging 17.3.

Other members of the starting five are Joel Hellman, Dick Sims, Leonard Glatter, and Kevin Gallagher.

Gallagher offers strong support in scoring with Hellman, Sims, and Glatter, all six-footers, the best board players.

Senior Bill Stroh and Soph Phil Freeling tops the shock troops.

(*Kearney Daily Hub* – 1965)

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G.I. NORTHWEST

VIKINGS

1964 – 65

BASKETBALL SCHEDULE

Spalding Academy	LOST
Pleasanton	WON
West Kearney	LOST
North Platte St. Pat's	LOST
Greeley	WON
Overton	LOST
Lex. St. Ann's	WON
G.I. Northwest	
Amherst	
Maxwell	
Farnam	
Maywood	
Shelton	
Halsey-Dunning	
Ravenna	
Wilcox	
Elwood	
Overton	

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Stars Torpedo GI Club, Reach .500

by Bob Van Tine

The Kearney Catholic High Stars climbed to the .500 level as they walloped Grand Island Northwest, 58-47 at the Catholic High Arena here Friday night.

The Stars leaped from the starting gate at a championship gait and never let up the pressure as they kept the Vikings at bay from start to finish.

The win lifted Kearney's mark to 4-4 and set the stage for the best-ever season. Northwest, a winner over West Kearney in the season opener but winless since, suffered a seventh straight setback.

THE BIG THREE

Ron Larchick, Kevin Gallagher ,and Dick Sims supplied the scoring firepower for the Catholic courteers, teaming for 50 points. Larchick, a husky guard who can drop bombs from all angles and is scoring at a 17-point clip in the campaign, exploded for 20 to set the pace.

Gallagher, improving with each performance and credited with the mid-season surge by the Stars, hit 18. Sims, who joined Leonard Glatter and Joel Hellman in board control power, connected for a dozen points, his best output of the year.

Jerry Wiley was the big gun for the Third Citians, pumping in 17 points. Bob Humiston was next in line managing nine.

LARCHICK LIGHTS FUSE

Larchick touched off the early blitz, canning eight in the first quarter spree. Larchick and Gallagher rang the bell for eight each in an 18-11 second period bombardment that swept the Stars to an intermission advantage of 31-19.

Gallagher and Sims were the ringleaders in the third quarter as the hosts stretched their margin to 47-32, plenty of cushion for Grand Island's final spurt of 15-11. Hellman and Sims combined to keep the rally from reaching the danger point.

In the prelim, the Catholic High Reserves crashed the win column for the first time as they overwhelmed the Northwest outfit, 40-28. Dave Glatter was the siege gun, firing home 11. Gary Greving chalked up nine. Kutchow hit 10 and Huff seven for the losers.

The Stars visit Amherst tonight and can join the list of winning teams with a victory.

Varsity box score:

KEARNEY CATHOLIC (58)

Dick Sims 4-4-7-4-12, Joel Hellman 0-3-4-5-3, Dick Fox 0-0-0-0-0, Kevin Gallagher 7-4-4-4-18, Leonard Glatter 1-0-0-5-5, Phil Freeling 1-1-4-2-3, Ron Larchick 10-0-1-2-20. Totals 23-12-20-22-58.

GRAND ISLAND NORTHWEST (47)

Larry Berstler 4-0-4-4-8, Jerry Schultz 2-2-4-4-6, Dick Peterson 1-0-2-0-2, Jerry Wiley 6-5-8-5-17, Gene Hennings 2-1-3-2-5, Bob Humiston 3-3-5-0-9, Gaylen Hutt 0-0-0-0-0. Totals 18-11-26-15-47.

(*Kearney Daily Hub* – 1965)

Stars Visit Amherst Saturday

The Kearney Catholic High cagers, eyeing the chance to advance into "black ink" land, await a shot at the Amherst Broncos Saturday night at Amherst. Tipoff time for the neighborhood argument is 8 p.m. The Reserve squads will open the bill-of-fare at 6:15 p.m.

Kearney Catholic, 3-4 prior to a test at home tonight against Grand Island Northwest, could shoot over the .500 mark with a pair of victories.

The Broncos, in Fort Kearney Conference action at Wilcox tonight, carry 3-7 credentials.

Bob Colling, the Stars coach, hoped to rope and brand the Broncos with his starting five of Ron Larchick, Dick Sims, Leonard Glatter, Joel Hellman, and Kevin Gallagher.

Larchick is the siege gun in the Catholic High arsenal, but all the starters have shown the ability to produce points and bear watching by the Broncos.

Bill Stroh, Phil Freeling, Dick Fox, and Bruce Curry spearhead the reserves.

Amherst may be without the services of sophomore center Larry Carman. The giant pivot is sidelined with the mumps.

If Carman is not available, Coach Dick James, will open with a combo of Dave Babbit, John Eckhout, Gary Iosty, Mick Vavra, and Stan Schake.

Babbit is a prolific point-maker and Eckhout are the hoopsters the Stars must check to post a victory. Babbit is averaging a nifty 17.0 points a game.

(*Kearney Daily Hub* – 1965)

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AMHERST

BRONCOS

1964 – 65

BASKETBALL SCHEDULE

Spalding Academy	LOST
Pleasanton	WON
West Kearney	LOST
North Platte St. Pat's	LOST
Greeley	WON
Overton	LOST
Lex. St. Ann's	WON
G.I. Northwest	WON
Amherst	
Maxwell	
Farnam	
Maywood	
Shelton	
Halsey-Dunning	
Ravenna	
Wilcox	
Elwood	
Overton	

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Stars Use 'Hot Hand' To Rope Broncos, 74-68

Unleash 25-15 Rally in Last Period

by Bob Van Tine

The fast-stepping Kearney Catholic High courteers unleashed a spectacular fourth quarter rally to rope and brand the Amherst Broncos, 74-68 in a non-league hardwood argument at Amherst Saturday night.

The Stars, behind for three quarters despite a "hot hand," scorched the cords for 25 last period points to sweep ahead and reel off a third straight victory. It was the team's highest point production of the year.

Kearney hit on 30 of 46 shots for a blistering 65 per cent mark. The Broncos had 31 buckets (one dunked by a Star player on a rebound play) but took 78 shots. The Stars cashed 14 of 26 gifters to earn the win margin while Amherst converted six of nine. The smaller Broncos were forced to foul against the tall Stars and finished on the short end of a 20-8 foul tally.

Amherst played again without its big man, 6-5 Larry Carman. The soph giant is sidelined with the mumps.

The triumph sent the Stars into the "black ink" division with a 5-4 record. Amherst slumped to 3-9.

STARS TAKE TURNS

The Stars flashed a well-balanced attack in fashioning the win. Kevin Gallagher led the scoring fireworks with 19. Ron Larchick, season leader, ripped the cords for 18. Dick Sims poked in 16 and Leonard Glatter 13. Joel Hellman, the board leader, added eight.

Dave Babbitt, John Eckhout, and Gary losty supplied Bronco firepower, combining for 52 points. Babbit netted 21 although forced to sit out a period with a foul burden. Hustler Eckhout contributed 17 and losty 14.

With Babbit handling the shooting chores, Amherst streaked to an early lead and held the upper hand by a 21-17 margin at the first stop. Despite some long-range bombing by Larchick, the Broncos stretched their spread five more points in the second quarter as Babbit and Eckhout shredded the nets. The score at the half was 41-32.

EXPLODE AT FINISH

Gallagher ignited a Catholic High rally that whittled five off the Amherst spread in third quarter play. The Broncos carried a 53-49 lead into the final session, then stumbled as the Stars found the range with consistency and rode some Larchick-Sims heroics into the lead and a six-point triumph.

The Broncho Reserves won the opener, 36-24. Andy Koenig and Bruce Demmel shared honors with eight. Gary Greving hit a dozen for the Catholic crew. The Amherst girls swept a volleyball match to usher in the program.

The Stars are entered in the Hi-Line Tournament at Brady this week and open against Maxwell Wednesday night at 7 p.m.

Amherst returns to Fort Kearney Conference warfare Friday, hosting Sumner.

Varsity box score:

KEARNEY CATHOLIC (74)

Dick Sims 8-0-1-3-16, Joel Hellman 2-4-8-1-8, Kevin Gallagher 8-3-4-2-19, Leonard Glatter 5-3-6-0-13, Bill Stroh 0-0-1-0, Phil Freeling 0-0-1-0-0, Ron Larchick 7-4-6-1-18. Totals 30-14-26-8-74.

AMHERST (68)

Dave Babbit 9-3-3-4-21, Stan Schake, 2-0-0-2-4, Gary losty 6-2-3-3-14, Andy Koenig 0-0-1-3-0, John Eckhout 8-1-2-3-17. Totals 31-6-9-20-68. **goal by Kearney Catholic player.

(*Kearney Daily Hub* – 1965)

Stars to enter Hi-Line Meet at Brady; Face Maxwell Wednesday

The high-flying Kearney Catholic High hoopmen, savoring a three-win skein and a winning record, will risk both feats as the guest team in the Hi-Line conference tournament in Brady. The meet opens Wednesday night with the Stars battling Maxwell at 7 p.m.

If victorious in the opener, the Stars will return Thursday for an 8:30 p.m. battle with the tough Farnam Greenbacks.

Maywood and Brady collide at 8:30 p.m. with the winner billed to tackle powerful Eustis, a pre-meet favorite, at 7 p.m. Thursday.

Thursday's winners and losers return to the battlefront Friday for the consolation (7 p.m.) and championship (8:30p,m.) contests.

The Stars will carry a 5-4 season record into the meet, the result of the current three-game streak that has seen Bob Colling's sharpshooters whip Lexington St. Ann's, Grand Island Northwest, and Amherst.

Earlier triumphs were scored over Pleasanton and Greeley Sacred Heart. Conquerors of the Catholic cagers, number Spalding, North Platte St. Pat's West Kearney, and Overton.

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Stars to enter Hi-Line Meet at Brady; Face Maxwell Wednesday (continued)

LINEUPS CHOSEN

Wednesday's foe, Maxwell, has encountered tough sledding to date, but boasts an outstanding player in Jim Johnson. The 6-2 senior is the leading scorer for the Wildcats, now 2-7 for the '64-65 campaign.

Larry Gilson is the Maxwell coach and has nominated as starters Roland Hellberg, 5-8 senior, Doug Smith, 6-1 junior, Frank Aloi, 5-4 sophomore, and Johnson. Aloi is a former Kearney athlete.

Colling plans to open with a combo of Joel Hellman, Kevin Gallagher, Dick Sims, Ron Larchick and Leonard Glatter. Bill Stroh, Dick Fox, and Phil Freeling top the troubleshooters.

Larchick is the scoring stalwart for the Stars. The Kearney quint has rebound firepower in six-footers Hellman, Glatter, and Sims and has shown more balance in the attack of late.

Kevin Gallagher has supplied extra point wallop since joining the starting lineup and connected for 37 points in the Friday – Saturday sweep of Grand Island Northwest and Amherst.

(*Kearney Daily Hub* – 1965)

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MAXWELL

WILDCATS

1964-65

BASKETBALL SCHEDULE

Spalding Academy	Lost
Pleasanton	Won
West Kearney	Lost
North Platte St. Pat's	Lost
Greeley	Won
Overton	Lost
Lexington St. Ann's	Won
G.I. Northwest	Won
Amherst	Won
Maxwell	
Farnam	
Maywood	
Shelton	
Halsey-Dunning	
Ravenna	
Wilcox	
Elwood	
Overton	

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Sharpshooting Stars, Overwhelm Maxwell

Larchick Hits 35; Play Farnam Tonight

by Bob Van Tine

The Kearney Catholic High courteers, invited to the Hi-Line Conference Tournament, proved rude visitors in first round play at Brady Wednesday night by sidelining league member Maxwell 81-54.

Ron Larchick, a prolific point-maker, engineered the romp with a sizzling 35 point-performance. Both the 35-point spree by Larchick and the 81 by the Stars shattered school scoring records for individual and team performances.

The triumph earned the Stars the right to return to semi-final round play tonight and consolation and championship action Friday. Bob Colling's red-hot corps will tackle pre-meet favorite Farnam at 8:30 p.m. tonight.

Wednesday's win was the fourth in a row for the sizzling Stars and hiked their season record to 6-4.

RECORDS FALL

The 81 points smashed the school single game mark of 77 set in a win over West Kearney during the 1963-64 campaign. Individual records are incomplete, but a hasty search of the books indicated Larchick set a school standard with his 35.

The husky guard, a long-range bomber, found the range from all angles as he ripped the cords for 14 field goals and sweetened the showing with seven for eight at charity lane.

Kevin Gallagher connected for a dozen before fouling out in the third quarter warfare and Joel Hellman contributed nine.

Nine of the ten players to see action tallied. Hellman, Leonard Glatter and Dick Sims continued their aggressive policing of the banks, a key factor in the Catholic High victory spree.

EXPLODE IN SECOND

Jim Johnson provided the scoring fireworks for outclassed Maxwell. The Wildcat whiz poked in 26 using a variety of shots. The Stars kept the rest of the Maxwell cagers blanketed, allowing subs Bill Masters and Jim Roberts only six each for runner-up honors.

A second quarter bucket barrage provided the Stars with a comfortable working margin. Kearney sprinted ahead 15-6 in first period action, then ripped the fray wide open with a 25-15 second period onslaught that fashioned an intermission margin of 42-23.

Maxwell managed to outpoint the foul-plagued Stars (a total of 28 that sidelined two) 21-20 in the third quarter but the Catholic courteers regained control in the stretch drive and used a closing kick of 19-10 to post one of the most impressive victories in their three-year history.

The Stars drew a large fan following to the tourney.

Varsity box score:

KEARNEY CATHOLIC (81)

Dick Sims 3-2-2-4-8, Joel Hellman 3-3-6-5-9, Dick Fox 1-0-0-1-2, Kevin Gallagher 5-2-3-5-12, Leonard Glatter 3-4-2-3-7, Phil Freeling 0-1-6-4-1, Bill Stroh 1-3-7-3-5, Jesse Rivera 0-0-0-1-0, Bruce Curry 1-0-1-1-2, Ron Larchick 14-7-8-1-35. Totals 31-19-35-28-81.

MAXWELL (54)

Jim Johnson 9-8-12-4-26, Doug Smith 1-3-1-0-5, Roland Helberg 1-0-3-1-2, Jerry Keith 0-1-5-3-1, Frank Aloi 1-1-3-3-3, Jim Roberts 3-0-1-5-6, Tom Workman 1-0-0-4-2, Joe Sukraw 0-1-2-0-1, Bill Masters 3-0-1-2-6, Terry Ross 1-0-1-1-2. Totals 20-14-38-22-54.

(*Kearney Daily Hub* – 1965)

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FARNAM

GREENBACKS

1964 – 65

BASKETBALL SCHEDULE

Spalding Academy	LOST
Pleasanton	WON
West Kearney	LOST
North Platte St. Pat's	LOST
Greeley	WON
Overton	LOST
Lex. St. Ann's	WON
G.I. Northwest	WON
Amherst	WON
Maxwell	WON
Farnam	
Maywood	
Shelton	
Halsey-Dunning	
Ravenna	
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Hot-Shooting Farnam Ends Stars Streak in Hi-Line Semi-Finals

by Bob Van Tine

Hitting at an uncanny pace from long range, the Farnam Greenbacks ended the Kearney Catholic High victory surge at four in Hi-Line semi-final round action, at Brady Thursday night. Farnam led from start to finish in manufacturing a convincing 88-62 win.

The triumph sends the small but sharpshooting Farnam club into the championship round tonight (8:30 p.m.) against Eustis High. The Stars return to Brady a third straight night to tackle Maywood in the consolation scrap for third place at (7:00 p.m.).

Thursday's defeat left Bob Colling's charges with a 6-5 season record.

SIX IN TWIN FIGURES

Six of the Greenbacks finished in twin figures, and all were tough at distances ranging from 10-25 feet. They riddled the Stars zone with their accuracy and forced Colling to lament "Man for man defense might have been the answer but our zone helped us reel off four in a row."

Don Kotschwar and Jim Lydic led the balanced Farnam attack with 18 each. Cal Montgomery was only a step behind hitting 17. Larry Hansen rang the bell for 14 and Jerry Lehman collected 11.

Ron Larchick, the high-scoring Kearney Catholic guard, poked in a dozen to spark the Stars effort. Dick Sims chalked up 11 and Leonard Glatter 10 for the top support.

PULL STEADILY AWAY

Farnam found the Stars a tough foe in the first quarter and needed some eyebrow-raising shots to forge a 17-12 margin.

The Greenbacks continued to scorch the nets while the Stars' production was at a slower gait and forced the Kearney hoopmen to fall steadily behind as play progressed.

Farnam led 37-26 at intermission and outscored the losers 20-15 in the third quarter and 31-21 in the stretch.

The Stars hope to shake off the disappointment by claiming third place in the Hi-Line event. Kearney is a guest team.

Varsity box score:

FARNAM (88)

Dan Kotschwar 9-0-1-3-18, Terry King 4-2-2-1-10, Jim Lydic 7-4-5-2-18, Bruce Derra 0-0-0-3-0, Jerry Lehman 4-3-2-6-11, Larry Hansen 7-0-0-2-14, Tom Lydic 0-0-0-1-0, Cal Montgomery 6-5-5-2-17. Totals 37-14-19-16-88.

KEARNEY CATHOLIC (62)

Dick Sims 5-1-5-3-11, Joel Hellman 4-1-1-3-9, Kevin Gallagher 4-0-0-3-8, Dick Fox 1-2-4-0-4, Leonard Glatter 4-2-4-1-10, Phil Freeling 0-0-0-1-0, Ron Larchick 6-0-0-3-12, Bill Stroh 1-0-0-0-2, Bruce Curry 0-0-0-0-0. Totals 27-8-16-14-62.

(*Kearney Daily Hub* – 1965)

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MAYWOOD

TIGERS

1964 – 65

BASKETBALL SCHEDULE

Spalding Academy	LOST
Pleasanton	WON
West Kearney	LOST
North Platte St. Pat's	LOST
Greeley	WON
Overton	LOST
Lex. St. Ann's	WON
G.I. Northwest	WON
Amherst	WON
Maxwell	WON
Farnam	LOST
Maywood	
Shelton	
Halsey-Dunning	
Ravenna	
Wilcox	
Elwood	
Overton	

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Stars Maul Maywood Hi-Line Consolation

Set Team Mark of 84; Larchick on All-Tourney

by Bob Van Tine

The Kearny Catholic High Stars enjoyed their visit to Brady Friday night, at the site of the Hi-Line tournament. The guest Stars waltzed off with these prizes: the third-place trophy, earned on an 84-46 blistering of Maywood, an all-tournament berth for hot-shooting Ron Larchick, and a school record 84 points poured through the nets at Maywood's expense.

A 26-9 third quarter bombardment and 32-point showing by all-star Larchick were the weapons the Stars trotted out of their arsenal to overwhelm Maywood, the defending tournament champion.

Larchick scored a total of 79 points in the three games played in the Hi-Line Tournament for a 26.3 average.

Farnam, the team that spilled the Stars Thursday night to end a four-game skein, nudged Eustis by a single point to take the tournament title.

Friday's triumph boosted the Stars season record to a nifty 7-5.

The 84-point production shattered a two-day old school record of 81, set in the first-round play at Brady Wednesday night, when the Catholic High shelled Maxwell 81-54.

Kearney Catholic's next game will be against the Shelton Bulldogs.

(*Kearney Daily Hub* – 1965)

Stars at Shelton Friday

The fast-improving Stars, shooting for a best-ever school record in the round ball sport, take their comeback express into Shelton Friday night for a shot at the high scoring Bulldogs.

Tipoff time for the neighborhood argument is 8 p.m. The Reserve teams of the two schools will collide in a 6:15 p.m. prelim.

Victorious in five of their last six starts, the Stars sport a 7-5 record and can finish with the first winning season in the school's three-year history by splitting the four remaining regular season assignments (Shelton, Halsey-Dunning, Ravenna, and Wilcox).

Shelton shows an all-games mark of 7-8 but has traveled in fast company, facing such recognized state powers as Wood River, Loup City and St. Paul.

Fred Holmberg is the Bulldog coach and boasts an array of snipers and every man in the lineup is a scoring threat.

Ray Lee, Jackie Johnson, Jim Pickering, Glen Schanou, and Terry Henion will open for Shelton with Jerry Snyder and Bob Wagner the best troubleshooters. Lee, Johnson, and Pickering have all poked in over 200 points.

The Stars will enjoy a height advantage with six-footers Joel Hellman, Leonard Glatter, and Dick Sims, a trio of capable rebounders in the lineup. Scoring aces Ron Larchick and Kevin Gallagher round out the starting five for Bob Colling. Larchick has pumped in 221 points this season. Sims (107) and Gallagher (102) are the other Stars in triple figures. Best of the firemen are Phil Freeling, Bill Stroh, and Dick Fox.

(*Kearney Daily Hub* – 1965)

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SHELTON
BULLDOGS

1964 – 65

BASKETBALL SCHEDULE

Spalding Academy	LOST
Pleasanton	WON
West Kearney	LOST
North Platte St. Pat's	LOST
Greeley	WON
Overton	LOST
Lex. St. Ann's	WON
G.I. Northwest	WON
Amherst	WON
Maxwell	WON
Farnam	LOST
Maywood	WON
Shelton	
Halsey-Dunning	
Ravenna	
Wilcox	
Elwood	
Overton	

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Larchick Dons Hero's Robe as Stars Shade Shelton in Sizzler

by Bob Van Tine

Ron Larchick provided the payoff fireworks, including a "Frank Merriwell" shot to trigger Kearney Catholic High's court stunner Friday night. The Stars stung a highly rated Shelton quint 80-78 in a free-scoring high-powered battle at Shelton.

Larchick, who shared game honors with Bulldog ace Terry Henion on outputs of 26, twice lit the fuse for Kearney rallies that erased healthy Shelton spreads. Larchick hit 12 second quarter points as the Stars wiped out a nine-point deficit at the first stop and exploded for 10 in the last period as the winners blunted a Bulldog rally to settle the issue.

Larchick capped these heroics by snapping a tie late in the game with a layup shot. The goal earned him the "Frank Merriwell" cloak as the game hero.

The Stars winning their sixth game in the last seven starts climbed to 8-5 for season play and reached the doorstep for the first ever winning season for the school, now in its third year of operation. The club needs only one win in its last three appearances to assure a "black ink" mark.

Shelton slumped to 7-9 for the season.

GLATTER HITS 21

Leonard Glatter, playing the best game of his career, rimmed 21 to back up Larchick's 26 and Kevin Gallagher chalked up 17 for a share of the spotlight. Glatter, Joel Hellman and Dick Sims policed the banks effectively, a major factor in the win.

Jackie Johnson joined Henion in supplying a wicked punch for the losers. Johnson rang up 24 to give the Shelton snipers a count of 50. Glen Schanou contributed a dozen. Loss of high-scoring Ray Lee in the third period play and the Stars defensive job against Jim Pickering, (the season leader made only six) hobbled the Bulldogs.

Henion, who collected 16 of his 26 in first half action and Johnson fired Shelton out of the starting gate and the Bulldogs boasted a 24-15 lead at the quarter.

Larchick revived the Stars and led a 25-17 counter-blitz that shaved Shelton's rest stop advantage to a single point 40-41.

G-MEN STRIKE

Shelton built up a lead of 10 during the third quarter but Gallagher and Glatter gave the Bulldogs some "G-Men" treatment and fused a comeback that left the teams on equal terms for the session (23-23) and Shelton with a one-point lead for the stretch drive.

Larchick shredded the nets as the Stars sailed to the fore in the last period. At one stage the visiting quint enjoyed a 10-point lead, but Johnson lifted the Bulldogs out of their slump and touched off a spree that carried the hosts to a 78-78 tie in the fading minutes. Then Larchick donned the hero's robe as he drove in for the payoff points.

The Shelton Reserves posted a 57-50 triumph in the opener.

Shelton goes after Lou-Platte Tournament honors at Gibbon next week. The Bulldogs face second-seeded St. Paul, a pre-meet favorite, Tuesday at 7 p.m.

The Stars host Halsey-Dunning on Friday night.

Varsity box score:

KEARNEY CATHOLIC (80)

Dick Sims 4-0-5-8, Joel Hellman 4-0-3-8, Kevin Gallagher 7-3-1-17, Leonard Glatter 9-3-0-21, Phil Freeling 0-0-0-0, Ron Larchick 12-2-0-26. Totals 36-8-9-80.

SHELTON (78)

Ray Lee 4-0-5-8, Jackie Johnson 11-2-4-24, Jerry Snyder 0-2-1-2, Glen Schanou 5-2-1-12, Jim Pickering 3-0-1-6, Terry Henion 11-4-0-26. Totals 34-10-12-78.

(*Kearney Daily Hub* – 1965)

Stars to Host Tough Halsey Quint Friday

The basketball comeback surge by the Kearney Catholic High Stars will be put to the acid test here (Catholic High Arena) Friday night when the sizzling Stars entertain highly rated Halsey-Dunning.

Tipoff time for the mix is 8 p.m. The Reserves teams of the two schools will match wares in a 6:15 p.m. prelim.

FORMIDABLE HURDLE

A six of seven streak has produced an 8-5 record for the Stars and placed the quint on the doorstep of a school first: a winning season.

One more triumph in regular season chores (Halsey-Dunning, Ravenna, and Wilcox) will give the Stars their first "black ink" log in the school's history.

Halsey-Dunning, Friday's foe, presents a formidable hurdle. Gary Kruse's outfit brings a 12-1 record to town and boasts an array of sharpshooters, headed by Don Spitler.

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Stars to Host Tough Halsey Quint Friday (continued)

Dave Rodocker, Steve Anderson, Walt Thomas, and Carroll Conrad are the other starters for the Halsey-Dunning gang.

Anderson and Rodocker have joined Spitler in shredding the nets in Kruse's Kapers. Mike Luck and Walt Collyer top the troubleshooting brigade.

LARCHICK CLIP

Bob Colling's fast-stepping Stars, fresh from a conquest of Class "C" toughie Shelton, plot an ambush for the D powerhouse.

Leader for the Stars is Ron Larchick, a hot-shooting guard. The stocky senior has pumped in 265 points.

Joining Larchick on the floor at tipoff time will be Kevin Gallagher, Dick Sims, Leonard Glatter, and Joel Hellman.

Gallagher, Sims, and Glatter have all passed the century mark in scoring. Sims, Glatter, and Hellman, all six-footers, patrol the boards with authority for the Catholic High.

Best of the fireman in the Stars camp are Phil Freeling, Bill Stroh, and Dick Fox.

(*Kearney Daily Hub* – 1965)

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HALSEY-DUNNING

TIGERS

1964 – 65

BASKETBALL SCHEDULE

Spalding Academy	LOST
Pleasanton	WON
West Kearney	LOST
North Platte St. Pat's	LOST
Greeley	WON
Overton	LOST
Lex. St. Ann's	WON
G.I. Northwest	WON
Amherst	WON
Maxwell	WON
Farnam	LOST
Maywood	WON
Shelton	WON
Halsey-Dunning	
Ravenna	
Wilcox	
Elwood	
Overton	

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Catholic Cagers Roll Up Impressive Win

Stars Stun Halsey; Clinch Winning Year

by Bob Van Tine

The Kearney Catholic High scoring juggernaut struck again Friday night! The victim of the point broadside unleashed by the sharpshooting Stars was highly regarded Halsey-Dunning. The ranked Class D power, sporting a gaudy 12-1 record, stubbed its toe at the Kearney Catholic Arena here, falling by a 72-58 count.

The Stars broke from the barrier at a 21-14 gait and never let up the pace or pressure. When the dust cleared away, Halsey was left with a 12-2 mark and the Stars climbed to 9-5, clinching the first-ever winning season for the school.

The triumph continued the spectacular surge by Bob Colling's cagers. Burdened with a 2-4 mark in early January, the Stars performed a snappy "about face" and have won seven of the last eight games to bring their followers the brightest sports moments in the school's four-year history.

FOUR IN TWIN FIGURES

The Stars well-oiled juggernaut featured double column scoring by four of the five starters and excellent playmaking and rebounding by the fifth.

Class C all-state candidate Ron Larchick supplied the heavy artillery again as he scorched the cords for 24 points. Kevin Gallagher rimmed 19, Joel Hellman 12 and Leonard Glatter 11 for solid support.

Dick Sims was a peerless playmaker and one of the board stalwarts. Hellman and Glatter helped the Stars control the banks.

For shocked Halsey-Dunning, Walt Thomas was the top shooter, flipping in 23. Don Spitler connected for 16 and Dave Rodocker 10.

RESERVES SET PATTERN

The Stars followed up the 21-14 first quarter blitz with a similar bomb and enjoyed a 42-28 spread at the rest stop.

Halsey-Dunning recovered in the second half and gained some ground with its fast-moving offense in a 17-15 third quarter but the Stars put the two back on the board with a 15-13 windup chapter. Larchick and Thomas waged a spirited scoring duel down the stretch, matching buckets at a rapid rate.

Catholic High fans had more to shout about as the fast-improving Reserves, steered by the astute Fred Cunningham, won their second game with a 52-40 prelim romp. Tom Tiehen, dunked 17 to power the attack. Gary Greving (13) and Tom McCoy (10) provided backing in the win. Steve Anderson's 12 led the losers.

The Stars visit Ravenna Friday night.

Varsity box score:

KEARNEY CATHOLIC (72)

Dick Sims 3-0-1-4-6, Joel Hellman 6-0-1-1-12, Kevin Gallagher 9-1-1-3-19, Leonard Glatter 5-1-5-4-11, Phil Freeling 0-0-0-1-0, Ron Larchick 11-2-4-1-24. Totals 34-4-12-14-72.

HALSEY-DUNNING (58)

Don Spitler 7-3-2-4-16, Dave Rodocker 4-2-3-1-10, Mike Lucky 1-3-5-0-5, Walt Thomas 10-3-4-2-23, Walt Collyer 2-0-0-0-4, George Collyer 0-0-0-1-0, Steve Anderson 0-0-0-0-0, Carroll Conrad 0-0-2-1-0, Jack McMullen 0-0-0-0-0. Totals 24-10-17-9- 58.

(*Kearney Daily Hub* – 1965)

Stars Play at Ravenna Friday

Although already assured of the best sports record in Kearney Catholic High's brief history (four years), the 1964-65 hoopsters will shoot for some "frosting" when they invade Ravenna Friday night for a crack at the Class B Bluejays.

Tipoff time for the neighborhood scrap is 8 p.m. Reserve units will collide in a 6-15 p.m. prelim.

Now 9-5, the Stars have clinched the first-ever winning season at Kearney Catholic. The defeat of the Jays, 2-11 for the campaign, would put the victory tally in double figures.

Despite the poor won-lost record, the Bluejays have traveled in the tough Lou-Platte circuit and played such state-rated powers as Wood River, Loup City, and St. Paul. Ravenna stopped the Stars last year by a 63-54 score.

Marion Schutte guides the Bluejays and has one of the area's top scorers in the cast. The Ravenna sharpshooter is senior Kenny Fisher. Fisher has ripped the cords for 283 points, a per game average of 21.8 (one of the best in the territory). Dave Sklenar, Bob Johnson, Randy Redfern, and Lanny Meyer are the other probable starters for Ravenna.

Stars, coach Bob Colling has a high scoring bomber of his own in Ron Larchick. Joining Larchick in the starting lineup will be Kevin Gallagher, Dick Sims, Joel Hellman, and Leonard Glatter. All have played excellent ball in the Stars January to February surge winning (seven of the last eight games).

(*Kearney Daily Hub* – 1965)

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RAVENNA
BLUEJAYS

1964 – 65
BASKETBALL SCHEDULE

Spalding Academy	LOST
Pleasanton	WON
West Kearney	LOST
North Platte St. Pat's	LOST
Greeley	WON
Overton	LOST
Lex. St. Ann's	WON
G.I. Northwest	WON
Amherst	WON
Maxwell	WON
Farnam	LOST
Maywood	WON
Shelton	WON
Halsey-Dunning	WON
Ravenna	
Wilcox	
Elwood	
Overton	

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Stars Shade Ravenna in 57-55 Sizzler, Gallagher Shot Payoff

by Bob Van Tine

A driving layup by Kevin Gallagher with 25 seconds of playing time left brought the Kearney Catholic High Stars a 57-55 win over the Ravenna Bluejays in a court sizzler at Ravenna Friday night.

Gallagher's clutch shot blunted a dramatic last quarter comeback by the Jays. A spectacular 24-10 second quarter had shot the Stars ahead by a comfortable margin and they turned the corner with a pad of 12.

Ravenna caught up at 1:30 in the fourth quarter thereby setting the stage for Gallagher's heroism.

The victory, the eighth in the last nine games for the sizzling Stars, sweetened the best-ever basketball campaign record to 10-5. Ravenna faded to 2-12.

LARCHICK HITS 26

Ron Larchick, standout for the Stars as they gained the school's first winning season, pumped in 26 to pace the attack.

Gallagher was the only other Catholic cager in the double column bracket scoring a dozen. Leonard Glatter, Joel Hellman, and Dick Sims all turned in noteworthy rebounding jobs. Coach Bob Colling went the route with his starters.

Kenny Fisher, the Bluejay Blazer who is also averaging 20 points a game, kept Ravenna in contention with 25. Dave Sklenar scored 11 for the best support.

Ravenna came out on top in the see-saw first quarter, 10-8, but the Stars unloaded the 24-10 bomb in the second quarter and left for the intermission rest with a 32-20 lead. Larchick, hitting from all angles, fused the spree.

THRILLING FINISH

Both teams singed the cords a bit in a 19-19 third quarter that left the Stars with a 12-point lead for the stretch drive. Fisher touched off a Bluejay blaze that enabled the hosts to overhaul the cold-shooting Stars with 1:30 left.

After the rivals had swapped goals to keep the fray deadlocked, Gallagher broke free for his layup. In the seconds left the Jays muffed a brace of gifters and the Stars ran out the clock.

The Catholic High Reserves, showing a late season wallop, took the opening game tiff 64-54. Bruce Curry supplied the firepower with 17. Perry Roper earned Ravenna and game honors on an output of 20.

The Stars close the regular season campaign tonight, hosting Wilcox at the Catholic High Arena (8 p.m.). Ravenna plays at Grand Island Northwest Friday in its regular season finale.

Varsity box score:

KEARNEY CATHOLIC (57)

Dick Sims 2-0-3-3-4, Joel Hellman 3-1-4-4-7, Kevin Gallagher 6-0-2-1-12, Leonard Glatter 4-0-2-1-8, Ron Larchick 9-8-14-2-26. Totals

24-9-25-11-57.

RAVENNA (55)

Kenny Fisher 10-5-8-3-25, Bob Johnson 2-0-0-1-4, Dave Johnson 1-0-0-3-2, Larry Meyer 1-1-1-4-3, Gary Psota 2-0-0-3-4, Dave Sklenar 5-1-1-3-11, Randy Redfern 0-0-0-1-0, Perry Roper 3-0-1-0-6. Totals 24-7-13-18-55.

(***Kearney Daily Hub*** – 1965)

Stars Host Wilcox Saturday

The Kearney Catholic High cagers wind up regular season action at home Saturday night entertaining Class D toughie Wilcox.

The Catholic High Arena is the battle site and tipoff time for the test is 8 pm.

The Reserves squads will collide in a 6:15 prelim.

Both teams have assignments tonight. The Stars visit Ravenna while Wilcox hosts Naponee. Prior to these offerings, season records are Kearney Catholic 9-5; Wilcox 9-6.

Both squads have staged late season drives to attain winning records. The Stars have won seven of their last eight and the Eagles, runnerup in the Fort Kearney Conference Tournament, seven of their last nine.

Dale Smidt guides Wilcox and has nominated Bob Swanson, scoring leader; Ken Meyers, Stan Gitt, Craig Lindsay, and Dick Crandall for the starting jobs. Glen Potter and Terry Woollen are the best of the firemen.

The Stars, coached by Bob Colling, headline hot-shooting Ron Larchick, skyscrapers, Joel Hellman, Dick Sims, and Leonard Glatter and sharpshooter Kevin Gallagher round out the starting five.

Phil Freeling and Dick Fox top the troubleshooting corps.

(***Kearney Daily Hub*** – 1965)

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WILCOX

EAGLES

1964 – 65

BASKETBALL SCHEDULE

Spalding Academy	LOST
Pleasanton	WON
West Kearney	LOST
North Platte St. Pat's	LOST
Greeley	WON
Overton	LOST
Lex. St. Ann's	WON
G.I. Northwest	WON
Amherst	WON
Maxwell	WON
Farnam	LOST
Maywood	WON
Shelton	WON
Halsey-Dunning	WON
Ravenna	WON
Wilcox	
Elwood	
Overton	

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Swift Start Brings Catholic High 71-64 win; Larchick-28

by Bob Van Tine

The Catholic High basketballers chalked up one of their most important victories of a spectacular finishing drive as they defeated the Wilcox Eagles, Fort Kearney Conference tournament runner up a week ago, 71-64.

The Stars used a swift start (39-24 first half) and the steady cannonading of ace Ron Larchick (28) points to sting the Eagles.

It was the ninth win in the last 10 games for the high-flying Stars and produced an 11-5 regular season record, best in the school's brief history and first "black ink" mark. The defeat of Wilcox is one of the prize possessions in the Stars' string of victories.

The Eagles suffered their seventh setback and finished regular season chores with a 10-7 record.

BALANCED OFFENSE

Larchick poured in 11 field goals hitting from all angles and cashed six of eleven charity chances.

The Stars sizzler had double column support from Kevin Gallagher (16), Joel Hellman, (12), and Leonard Glatter (12).

Hellman, Glatter, and Sims patrolled the boards effectively and put the clamps on the vaunted fast break by the visiting Wilcox quint.

Stan Gitt was the top point producer for the losers, hitting 16. Terry Woollen, registering one of his best showings, tallied 14 and Glen Potter added 11. Season leader Bob Swanson, victim of an early foul burden was limited to nine.

MISERY FOR EAGLES

Gallagher and Glatter dealt the Eagles a "G-Men" sock in the first quarter, combining for 11 of the 17 points in a 17-10 getaway.

Larchick took over the scoring duties in the second quarter and tortured the foe with a 14-point blitz that touched off Kearney Catholic's 22-14 session and left the Eagles 15 behind at intermission.

Gitt ignited a 21-16 third quarter that sliced the Stars lead to 10 points. Hellman kept Kearney on top with a six-point period.

RALLY SILENCED

The go-go Eagles staged a 19-14 fourth quarter surge but fell shy by seven. Wilcox crept within five before the Stars silenced the uprising.

The final drive by the losers featured the eight-point shooting of Woollen. Larchick matched the mark to help the Stars retain the upper hand.

The final buzzer signaled a wild celebration at the Stars camp as joyous followers showered praise upon their heroes for the coveted win.

TOURNEY FRAY TUESDAY

Wilcox won the prelim game with the Eagles Reserves ending a late season comeback by the Stars Reserves, 45-40. A.L. Marsteller (16) and Rodney Jurgens (14) formed a wallop for the winners. Phil Freeling and Tom Tiehen triggered the Kearney effort with 12 and 11, respectively.

The Stars launch the bid for post-season glory, Tuesday night, tackling Elwood in a Class C district game at Kearney High. Tipoff time for the fray is 6:30.

Coach Bob Colling hopes the momentum of the closing surge will carry over into tournament play. If so, the Stars bear watching. Against Elwood, the Stars with open with Larchick, Gallagher, Sims, Hellman and Glatter.

Varsity box score:

KEARNEY CATHOLIC (71)

Dick Sims 1-0-1-5-2, Joel Hellman 5-2-3-5-12, Dick Fox 0-1-0-3-1, Kevin Gallagher 7-2-4-3-16, Leonard Glatter 5-2-4-1-12, Phil Freeling 0-0-0-0-0, Ron Larchick 11-6-11-3-28. Totals 29-13-26-20-71.

WILCOX (64)

Bob Swanson 2-5-5-5-9, Glen Potter 4-3-5-2-11, Dick Crandall 3-3-3-1-9, Craig Lindsey 1-3-4-2-5, Stan Gitt 7-2-5-2-16, Rodney Jurgens 0-0-0-0-0, Terry Woollen 6-2-2-1-14. Totals 23-18-24-13-64.

(***Kearney Daily Hub*** – **1965)**

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ELWOOD

PIRATES

1964 – 65

BASKETBALL SCHEDULE

Spalding Academy	LOST
Pleasanton	WON
West Kearney	LOST
North Platte St. Pat's	LOST
Greeley	WON
Overton	LOST
Lex. St. Ann's	WON
G.I. Northwest	WON
Amherst	WON
Maxwell	WON
Farnam	LOST
Maywood	WON
Shelton	WON
Halsey-Dunning	WON
Ravenna	WON
Wilcox	WON
Elwood	
Overton	

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Kearney Catholic, Overton, Sideline Elwood, Shelton

Nets Sizzle in 'C' Bill; Larchick 35

by Bob Van Tine

The basketball nets in the Kearney Senior High may still be smoking as a result of the torrid shooting by the Class "C" District teams in a Tuesday night bill-of-fare. Although the weather was frigid outside, it was "hot" inside as the Kearney Catholic High Stars blistered seeded Elwood, 63-53 and Overton outshot Shelton is a 76-67 scorcher.

The triumph sent the Stars and Eagles into the semifinals of the meet.

Kearney Catholic smashed Elwood's zone defense with the uncanny long-range artistry of Ron Larchick and Kevin Gallagher. Larchick, one of the top point makers in the area, matched his season and career single game high of 35 and Gallagher added 16.

A second period run of six supplied the Stars with a comfortable working margin and they maintained control the rest of the game, warding off a closing spurt by the Pirates.

KEARNEY CATHOLIC 63, ELWOOD 53

Elwood jumped off to leads of 2-0, 4-2, and 7-5 as Doyle Haney ripped the cords from distances of 15-20 feet. Larchick ignited a Catholic High surge that produced six straight points and the lead at 9-7.

The score was deadlocked at 9-9, 11-11, and 14-14 as Haney and Larchick traded swishers at a dizzy clip. Then Larchick pocketed another side court bellringer and Leonard Glatter and Dick Sims added free throws to bring the Stars an 18-14 margin at the close of the first period.

After Haney had pulled the Pirates within two to open the second period, the Stars unleashed a run of six to take charge of the game. Larchick and Gallagher teamed on the drive and ruined Elwood's around the bucket zone defense with sharpshooting from the outside.

Larchick continued to shred the nets (he hit 20 for the half) and powered a Kearney spree that produced an intermission spread of 34-25.

CHECK RALLY IN TIME

The Stars maintained leads of 8-14 through the third quarter with Gallagher shouldering the scoring load on shots from the top of the key that "whistled."

Late in the game the Stars began lockup proceeding that almost backfired. Stars' errors and Elwood's superior board play sparked a Pirate revival that lifted the losers within four (53-57) at 1:19. Danny Hilton and Jim Delp got the key points in the rally.

The Stars recuperated and closed with a string of six, four by the talented Larchick.

REBOUNDING WASTED

In ringing up his 35, Larchick found the range on 14 field shots and cashed seven of nine gifters. Gallagher hit seven double-deckers and converted two of three free throws. Glatter added seven.

Haney led the Elwood bid with 21. Hilton added 11 and teamed with Gerald Vonloh to control the banks. The Pirate rebounding advantage was wasted by the Stars brilliant marksmanship.

The Stars raised their season record to 12-5 with the victory over Elwood.

Varsity box score:

KEARNEY CATHOLIC (63)

Dick Sims 0-2-4-5-2, Joel Hellman 0-1-2-2-1, Dick Fox 0-2-3-1-2, Kevin Gallagher 7-2-3-1-16, Leonard Glatter 2-3-4-2-7, Phil Freeling 0-0-0-0-0, Ron Larchick 14-7-9-2-35. Totals 23-17-25-14-63.

Elwood (53)

Kerry Elliott 2-2-3-4-6, Doyle Haney 9-3-5-2-21, David Schroeder 0-0-0-4-0, Gerald Vonloh 1-3-3-1-5, Jerry Neff 1-0-0-3-2, Jim Delp 3-2-3-1-8, Dennis Hanson 0-0-0-0-0, Danny Hilton 3-5-8-3-11, Arlyn Trauernicht 0-0-0-0-0. Totals 19-15-22-18-53. *Technical included.

(*Kearney Daily Hub* – 1965)

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OVERTON

EAGLES

1964 – 65

BASKETBALL SCHEDULE

Spalding Academy	LOST
Pleasanton	WON
West Kearney	LOST
North Platte St. Pat's	LOST
Greeley	WON
Overton	LOST
Lex. St. Ann's	WON
G.I. Northwest	WON
Amherst	WON
Maxwell	WON
Farnam	LOST
Maywood	WON
Shelton	WON
Halsey-Dunning	WON
Ravenna	WON
Wilcox	WON
Elwood	WON

Overton

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Wood River, Overton Gain Title Round in 'C" Show

Bertrand, Catholics Out

by Bob Van Tine

Overton parlayed a sizzling shooting performance (33 for 63) with rebound firepower to cool off the Stars, who took a 10 of 11 wins surge into the scrap. Overton wiped out a Catholic lead of 10-9 late into the first quarter and kept the upper hand the rest of the game.

It's hard to compete against 52 per cent shooting and control of the boards was Overton's success formula. The torrid shooting, and that ability to get the extra shots while limiting the foe to a single try, began to take a toll early and Overton kept control of the contest.

The Stars enjoyed early margins of 2-0, 4-2, 6-5 and 10-9, achieved on some good long-range shooting by Kevin Gallagher and down under hustle by Leonard Glatter.

The Eagles took charge for keeps at 11-10 on a 15-footer by Bill Burns and added shots by soph sizzler Pat Fleenor and aggressive Bob Smith to lead 15-10 at the quarter.

Runs of four and six in the second period, triggered by hustler Dale Romatzke and the clever Randy Carpenter, staked Overton to a comfortable spread, and made the Stars chore a tough one.

Ron Larchick, frigid at the outset of play, steered a rally that got the Stars within nine before Carpenter resumed his bombing to push Overton to a 35-22 halftime spread.

SPECTACULAR IN VAIN

The Eagles used the same techniques to dominate the second half play. Overton enjoyed margins of 13-22 throughout the half, though Larchick and Gallagher offered some fine outside shooting.

Gallagher generated the most excitement of the game when he unfurled an 85-ft. toss at the end of the third quarter that went through the net.

The officials ruled it was released too late, thereby nullifying the most spectacular shot ever seen at the Kearney High School gym.

Overton took a 55-37 lead down the stretch and coasted home. Reserves closed out the game for both schools.

CARPENTER SMOOTH

Carpenter led an Overton offense that had four in twin figures. The smooth-as-silk pivot star had 20, Smith meshed 15, Fleenor 13, and Romatzke 12.

Larchick and Gallagher teamed for 35 of Stars' points with Larchick getting 19 and Gallagher 16. Glatter and Dick Sims contributed eight each.

Pain for the Stars' players and their fans was eased by the school's best-ever record of 12 wins and 6 losses.

Varsity box score:

OVERTON (75)

Bill Burns 3-1-1-5-7, Bob Larsen 3-0-1-0-6, Rod Westerlin 1-0-0-1-2, Ray Williams 1-1-2-2-3, Dale Romatzke 6-0-1-0-12, Bob Smith 6-3-7-2-15, Bill Veal 1-0-1-2-2, Randy Carpenter 9-2-2-3-20. Pat Fleenor 5-3-4-3-13, Bill Larsen 2-0-0-4-4, Terry Schroeder 1-0-0-0-2, Phil Monnington 0-0-0-0-0, Dale Ballenger 0-0-0-2-0, . Totals 33-9-16-21-75

KEARNEY CATHOLIC (56)

Bruce Curry 0-0-0-5-0, Dick Sims 3-2-4-1-8, Joel Hellman 1-2-5-5-4, Dick Fox 1-0-1-1-2, Kevin Gallagher 8-0-0-3-16, Leonard Glatter 2-4-8-2-8, Phil Freeling 0-1-2-1-1, Joe Watton 0-0-0-0-0, Ray Pettinger 0-0-0-0-0, Ron Larchick 7-5-9-1-19. Totals 21-14-29-18-56

(***Kearney Daily Hub*** – **1965)**

Contact Sport? Overton defender Bob Smith (43) appears to be making contact with Kearney Catholic scoring ace Ron Larchick (32) at the Class C semifinal battle at the Kearney High gym Thursday night. Randy Carpenter (45) of Overton and Joel Hellman of Kearney Catholic watch the struggle.

Overton used a hot hand (33 for 63) and board firepower to defeat the Stars, 75-56. The loss was only the second in the last 12 starts for the Catholic cagers. The Stars went to the sidelines but a best ever record of 12-6 provided balm for the players and fans. **(Hub Photo)**

AUTHOR'S NOTE - by Dr. Ron Larchick

Bruce Curry, a Stars' reserve player, set a new Kearney Catholic varsity basketball record during the Kearney Catholic Overton basketball game Thursday night at the KHS gym.

Bruce entered the game for the first time with 3 minutes to go in the 4th quarter. In just two minutes and thirty-six seconds, Bruce committed five fouls, and had to leave the game.

Bruce and I both assume that this extremely fast fouling out school record still stands to the present day.

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FINAL SEASON RECORD

1964 – 65

BASKETBALL SCHEDULE

Spalding Academy	LOST
Pleasanton	WON
West Kearney	LOST
North Platte St. Pat's	LOST
Greeley	WON
Overton	LOST
G.I. Northwest	WON
Lex. St. Ann's	WON
Amherst	WON
Maxwell	WON
Farnam	LOST
Maywood	WON
Shelton	WON
Halsey-Dunning	WON
Ravenna	WON
Wilcox	WON
Elwood	WON
Overton	LOST

Final Season Record

12 Wins - 6 Losses

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Epilogue

1964-65 – Kearney Catholic Basketball Season Review

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Final Thoughts

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EPILOGUE – 1964-65 BASKETBALL SEASON REVIEW

THE MAIN CHALLENGE OF THE 1964-1965 KEARNEY CATHOLIC BASKETBALL SEASON

When I was a high school teacher, one of my superintendents had a unique explanation of the purpose of a school district's mission statement. She said the mission statement is a message that is displayed to the students, parents, patrons, and the public at large each day through the actions and words of every school employee. Our superintendent further challenged us regarding the mission statement that simply "You don't just say it, or just write it, but believe it, and then do it."

For three years, the Kearney Catholic Varsity basketball players were striving to live up to the challenge of the mission statement that Coach Fitzpatrick gave to us at the beginning of the 1961-62 season. Coach Fitzpatrick always required a commitment from each player "To always strive to do his best, to hustle, be willing to compete no matter the score, and never stop trying."

These words became the daily challenge of our mission statement for everyone involved with the Kearney Catholic Varsity basketball team. Coach Colling also required us to live up to this commitment. In simple words, the challenge from our coaches to the players was the same message from my former superintendent, "You don't just say it, or just write it, but believe it, and then do it."

How well did the 1964-65 varsity basketball team live up to the standards set by Coach Fitzpatrick and Coach Colling? Please compare our **team per game average**, and the ***per game scoring average totals* of the starters**, Dick Sims, Joel Hellman, Kevin Gallagher, Leonard Glatter, and Ron Larchick, for the first six games, the next five games, and the next seven games on the chart displayed below. **Wish we had the three-point shot back then!**

Kearney Catholic Varsity Basketball – 1964-65 Season Stats							
Points per game averages	**Team points**	**Dick**	**Joel**	**Kevin**	**Leonard**	**Ron**	**Others**
1st six games averages	**46.5**	**5.4**	**4.8**	**3**	**6.2**	**16**	**11.1**
2nd five games averages	**66**	**10.2**	**6.6**	**14**	**8.4**	**21**	**5.8**
3rd seven games averages	**70**	**5.8**	**8.1**	**16**	**11.6**	**27.7**	**2.1**
Season Averages	**61**	**7.1**	**6.5**	**11**	**8.7**	**23.4**	**4.3**

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Dick Sims, who was 6'2" tall, was our quarterback on the football team and was also the quarterback on the basketball team. He was a versatile player who played point guard, was a leading rebounder and assist leader. Dick was arguably the most valuable player on our team. His highest scoring game was 16 points against Amherst.

Kevin Gallagher's first start of the year was in the seventh game against Lexington St. Ann's when he scored 13 points, two less than his total points scored in the first six games. He was an outstanding outside shooter who dramatically increased our offensive production after he became a starter. Kevin's highest game score was 19 points against both Amherst and Halsey-Dunning.

Joel Hellman was one of our leading defenders and rebounders on both ends of the floor. He was a very consistent player on defense and offense, scoring eight points or more in nine games. He scored 12 points against both Halsey-Dunning and Wilcox. His highest scoring game was 16 against the West Kearney Vikings.

Leonard Glatter was our outstanding center, the big man in the middle on offense and defense. He was a relentless defender and rebounder who helped key our fast break. Leonard scored in double figures in eight games. His career high point game production was 21 against the Shelton Bulldogs.

The transformation of Dick, Joel, Kevin, and Leonard listed above, from inexperienced rookie starters to experienced excellent starting varsity players, was a major factor in our team's successful season. During the season, the five individual starters of Dick Sims, Joel Hellman, Kevin Gallagher, Leonard Glatter, and Ron Larchick, with a wide range of experience levels and skill sets, were able to work together to help the team have a very successful season.

Another contributing factor to our successful season was our outstanding reserve players including Raymond Pettinger, Joe Watton, Bruce Curry, Dick Fox, Phil Freeling, Jesse Rivera, and Bill Stroh. These players challenged the starters every day in practice, providing the pressure and competition we faced in each game. These players would also come into games, often in pressure situations, to carry the fight to the other team. Each of these players certainly lived up to Coach Fitzpatrick's challenge.

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1964-65 - Season Assessment

Bob Van Tine described our basketball team as "The rookie-laden Catholic High quint, vowing to better last year's 4-12 record, usher in the 1964-65 campaign here Friday night." ***Kearney Daily Hub 1964***

We started the year with only two veteran varsity athletes, Dick Sims, and Ron Larchick, who was the lone returning starter from the 1963-64 team. Of the ten rookies on the roster, only four saw occasional duty with the varsity troops in the 1963-64 season. Inexperience would be a factor for our team early in the season.

There were many opportunities and circumstances during the 1964-65 season for our basketball team to quit trying or give up after a tough loss or during close games, such as the Ravenna or Shelton away games, both won by two points. We could have faded, folded, and failed in those two games as we did against the press late in the fourth quarter of the Spalding Academy loss.

We might have quit trying after the North Platte St. Pat's loss, after trailing by two points with three minutes to go in the fourth quarter and lost by ten. There was also the disappointment of the four-point loss to West Kearney, when we led by three at the half, were within two in the third quarter, and once again faded in the fourth quarter to lose by four points.

We could have stopped competing against a tough Amherst team on the road, when we trailed by nine points at the half, and came back to win by six outscoring the Broncos 42 to 27 in the second half. **It would also have been easy to quit trying after the very disappointing two wins and four losses record at the start of the season.**

We might have quit as a team after the 63-34 blowout loss to Overton, or the 88-62 embarrassing loss against Farnam at the Hi-Line Tournament in Brady. These were two outstanding teams, both conference champions, that we failed to beat for whatever reason. There are no excuses offered for these losses. We played hard and never gave up, but they were quite simply the better teams the nights we played them. **What is important is that we won four games in a row after the Overton loss and won six games in a row after the Farnam loss.**

Everyone involved with the Kearney Catholic Varsity basketball program, including Statistician Frank Vasquez, Student Manager Bill Coulter, the cheerleaders, the girls on the Spirit Squad, students, teachers, our families, and fans had a share of our successful 1964-65 basketball season.

BRINGING US TOGETHER

The 1964-65 Kearney Catholic varsity basketball season was an exciting time for our school. Finally, after three years of frustrating losses, the administrators, faculty, students, families, and our fans were able to point to a positive outcome in athletics. The season definitely brought us together and changed the climate of our school.

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Our fans were always there for us, even for our first win of the 1963-64 season against West Kearney.

West Kearney Game - 1963-64 Season

"A powerful closing kick of 24-14 swept the Kearney Catholic High basketballers to a 77-64 upset of highly regarded West Kearney. The triumph snapped a **five-game losing skein** and was the first for Coach Bob Colling, whose patient leadership is beginning to reap dividends. **The final buzzer signaled a joyous celebration in the Catholic camp."** ***Kearney Daily Hub*** **1963**

Maxwell Game - 1964-65 Season

"The Kearney Catholic High courteers, invited to the Hi-Line Conference Tournament, proved rude visitors in first round play at Brady by sidelining league member Maxwell 81-54." **The Stars drew a large fan following to the Hi-Line Tournament in Brady."** ***Kearney Daily Hub*** **1965**

Halsey-Dunning Game - 1964-65 Season

"The triumph over Halsey Dunning 72-58 continued the spectacular surge by Bob Colling's cagers. **Burdened with a 2-4 mark in early January, the Stars performed a snappy "about face" and have won seven of the last eight to bring their followers the brightest sports moments in the school's four-year history.**" When the dust cleared away, Halsey was left with a 12-2 mark and the Stars climbed to 9-5, clinching the first-ever winning season for the school." ***Kearney Daily Hub*** **1965**

Wilcox Game - 1964-65 Season

"The Kearney Catholic High basketballers chalked up one of their most important victories of a spectacular finishing drive as they gunned down the Wilcox Eagles 71-64. It was the ninth win in the last 10 games for the high-flying Stars and produced an 11-5 regular season record, best in the school's brief history and first "black ink" mark. **The final buzzer signaled a wild celebration at the Stars camp as joyous followers showered praise upon their heroes for the coveted win."** ***Kearney Daily Hub*** **1965**

Please note the pictures from the Kearney Catholic 1965 Yearbook displayed on the next five pages.

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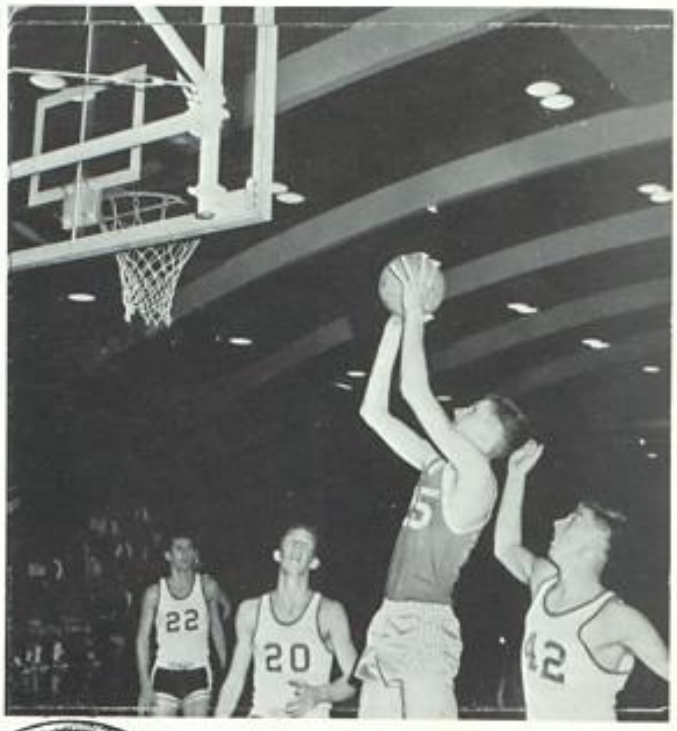
Basketball

Ron Tries for Two



Leo for Two

Kevin Looks For The Rebound

Dick Scores Against Shelton

Joel Pumps For Two

Dick Has The Height Over Shelton

Spalding	Lost
Pleasanton	Won
North Platte	Lost
West Kearney	Lost
Greely	Won
Overton	Lost
St. Ann's	Won
G.I. Northwest	Won
Amherst	Won
Maxwell	Won
Farnam	Lost
Maywood	Won
Shelton	Won
Halsey-Dunning	Won
Ravenna	Won
Wilcox	Won
Elwood	Won
Overton	Lost

CONGRATULATIONS BOY'S
For a record-setting Season
"12-6"

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SPIRIT SQUAD

FIRST ROW, left to right: T. Kinkade, S. Miller, A. Shiers, P. Glatter, D. Van Cleave, M. Nye, M. Langtry, K. Bever. S. Kiatkowski, P. Greving, P. Jacobson, S. Christensen. SECOND ROW, left to right: J. Cavanaugh, L. Muldoon, S. Markus, V. Galvan, D. Carranza, M. Lucas, M. Cavanaugh, P. Cunningham, M. Atchison, S. Feagler, S. Lippire, C. Cook, P. Zimmer. THIRD ROW, left to right: D. Fitzgerald, C. Moreau, J. Miller, B. Richter, K. Reidy, M. Gembala, K. Epp, S. Schroeder, J. Wetta, J. Bendfeldt, R. Gutschenritter, G. Power, K. Ruder, M. Gibbons, S. Vacha, C. Conway, C. Murphy, N. Sims, H. Wetta, C. Galvan, E. Briggs, K. Lantz. BACK ROW, left to right: V. Shiers, C. Keough, L. Stobbe, C. Nickel, J. Eschliman, C. Verbas, R. Dunn, C. Brinker, B. Fox, D. Churchfield, F. Kinkdade, J. Hellman, R. O'Dea, K. Harms, J. Forey, R. Elliot, K. MacDonald, S. Kerns, J. Erpelding. Officers were: E. Briggs, President; G. Power, Treasurer; H. Wetta, Secretary.

FRONT ROW, left to right: T. Kinkade, D. Fitzgerald, P. Zimmer - Varsity Head Cheerleader, S. Christensen. BACK ROW, left to right: M. Nye, P. Nye - Junior Varsity Head Cheerleader, M. Langtry.

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Homecoming - -

Another First

King Ron Larchick & Queen Delores Fitzgerald, and court; Duke Kevin Gallagher, Lord Joel Hellman, Lady Ellen Briggs, Duchess Phyllis Zimmer. Crowning were Gary Curry and Marie Daake.

With Royalty

And Grads.

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The Pep Club Yells . . .

The Team Plans - -

Balls Fly - -

And Kearney Catholic Wins!

3rd Place Hi-line Tourney At Brady

Left to right – Leonard Glatter, Kevin Gallagher, Dick Sims, Coach Colling, Joel Hellman, Ron Larchick

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LESSONS FROM LOSING

SET SCHOOL STANDARD. The Kearney Catholic Stars, sizzling down the stretch run with 10 wins in their last 12 games, set a school standard for future cage clubs to shoot at with the best-ever record of (12-6). It was the first winning season for the Stars in a brief history (four years). Senior sharpshooter Ron Larchick, a prolific pointmaker, engineered the sparkling season with 397 points production (game average of 23.3). Bringing Kearney Catholic its best year ever, were: Front Row left to right, Statistician Frank Vasquez, Raymond Pettinger, Ron Larchick, Joe Watton, Bruce Curry, Dick Fox, Manager Bill Coulter, Back row left to right: Coach Bob Colling, Dick Sims, Leonard Glatter, Joel Hellman, Kevin Gallagher, Phil Freeling. (Hub Photo).

We started the 1964-65 basketball season year going from winning just 33% of our first six games to winning 83% of our last 12 games including the first district playoff victory in school history. It was an unbelievable, almost surreal, very fast turnaround with credit going to all the players and Coach Bob Colling for his excellent leadership.

Our basketball players finally learned the harsh **Lessons from Losing** that we experienced in the first three seasons of Kearney Catholic varsity basketball that produced a cumulative record of **7 wins and 34 losses**. We learned how to win and change the losing culture of Kearney Catholic varsity basketball.

The 1964-65 varsity team's basketball record of 12 wins 6 losses was modest compared to those of other years. However, the record was also an important milestone that laid the foundation and marked the beginning of a tradition of athletic excellence at Kearney Catholic High School. The Stars' athletes of today are certainly standing on the shoulders of all those Stars' athletes of yesteryear who chose to always strive to do their best, to hustle, be willing to compete no matter the score, and never stop trying.

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EPILOGUE – TRIBUTES

Monsignor Raymond Miles

In conclusion, I want to recognize our founder Monsignor Raymond Miles, whose vision and remarkable leadership skills made possible the rich history of present-day Kearney Catholic High School. He was also an ardent supporter of Kearney Catholic, the administrators, faculty, and the students.

Monsignor Miles was reported, by Coach Fitzpatrick, to be an excellent basketball player, even an all-stater in high school. The monsignor would sometimes come to our practices and shoot at the side baskets. We all agreed that he had a very good set shot. Many of the Kearney Catholic athletes served Mass for Monsignor Miles when we were students at St. James Elementary School. We even knew Monsignor Miles when he was Father Miles, so many years ago. May God bless Monsignor Miles for his good works as the pastor of St. James Parish.

Coach Mike Fitzpatrick

Mr. Mike Fitzpatrick coached both football and basketball during the 1961-62 and 1962-63 seasons. The fingerprints of Coach Mike Fitzpatrick were most assuredly on our successful 1964-65 Kearney Catholic basketball season. He was an amazing coach and teacher of the game who guided us through challenging times for our basketball teams during our first two years.

Coach Fitzpatrick was relentless in pushing us to be fundamentally sound, not only as individual players, but also as a team. He stressed the value of learning the harsh **lessons from losing**, identifying what we should and could have done during a game, so we would not repeat the same mistakes again.

One more thing, you never wanted to challenge Coach Fitzpatrick to a game of HORSE. He was an excellent basketball player in his own right and his very unusual looking two-handed jump shot, (that is being kind), would beat you every time.

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Bob Van Tine

Robert “Bob” Van Tine was born in Oneida County, New York on August 27, 1921. He served as a sergeant in the U.S. Army during World War II. Bob later came to Kearney to live and work. He died in 1977 at the age of 55 and is buried in the Kearney, Cemetery.

Bob Van Tine was the Sports Editor for the *Kearney Daily Hub* for many years, including 1961-1965, when Kearney Catholic was founded. He was a tireless sports reporter who attended many athletic events and wrote colorful, comprehensive, and always interesting summations of the results of each game. Bob’s sports stories made you feel like you were sitting next to him at the game.

Bob was much more than a sports editor. He was also a strong advocate and supporter of various youth athletics in the community. He was always willing to volunteer his own time and be personally involved in youth athletics. In fact, Bob Van Tine was my Little League baseball coach, for the mighty Cosmos. He was always a huge fan and supporter of Kearney Catholic athletics and one of our best cheerleaders.

Kearney Catholic Founders

I also want to recognize the generosity and sacrifice of the good people of St. James Parish that led to the construction of Kearney Catholic High School. They were our parents and grandparents and St. James parishioners who stepped forward to donate their hard-earned money to make a dream into a reality. They were the founders and benefactors of Kearney Catholic, who should never ever be forgotten. May God bless them all.

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.EPILOGUE – FINAL THOUGHTS

Dear Reader,

It was an exciting first four years at Kearney Catholic High School. The memories of these years involve the establishment of a new high school, adding a new class level our first three years. We were building new traditions at Kearney Catholic such as the first homecoming during the 1964-65 basketball season, the proms, and graduations. Probably the best experience of being a student at the new Kearney Catholic High School was that everything, such as desks, textbooks, typewriters, etc., were brand new.

I hope you enjoyed this trip down memory lane, reviewing and reliving the triumphs and setbacks of the first four years of Kearney Catholic High School Varsity Basketball. I trust you may have recalled details of these memories while learning things you did not know. It was a joy for me to research, compile, organize, and publish the information in this document.

Go Stars!

Dr. Ron Larchick

Kearney Catholic High School – Class of 1965

You can contact me at rllarchick@gmail.com.

P.S.

There is an ironic déjà vu twist to the story of my experiences as a student and athlete at Kearney Catholic High School, where we added a class level the first three years until we had graduating seniors. The irony is that I had many of these same experiences as the principal of a newly established high school in a former K-8 rural school district located east of Norman, Oklahoma.

We added a new class level each of the first four years until there was an enrollment of over 400 students in the new high school. My experiences as a student and athlete, at Kearney Catholic, were valuable resources for me as a principal dealing with the different, difficult, and numerous challenges of starting a new high school. We were building new traditions, such as planning the first homecoming celebration, first prom, first graduation ceremony, and writing a school song.

Our athletic teams struggled in all sports, and the athletes had to learn the harsh **lessons from losing**, as we lost our first 35 football games in a row. We were everyone's homecoming game. In our third year we won state championships in girls' fast-pitch softball and boys' cross country.

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