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law hamilton mc laughlin thomas ditrick collins levy sells nottoli
 kjeldsen proulx wirt pearce enos pfister jefford



coach
 chris kjeldsen



walt jefford
 manager

had chris kjeldsen culminated his cagers' schedule in mid-january when he could boast eight wins in ten outings, the pacific basketball story for 1948 - 49 would have been vastly different... in reality, the tigers could present only a 14-13 won-lost record at the conclusion of hardwood hostilities on march 4...

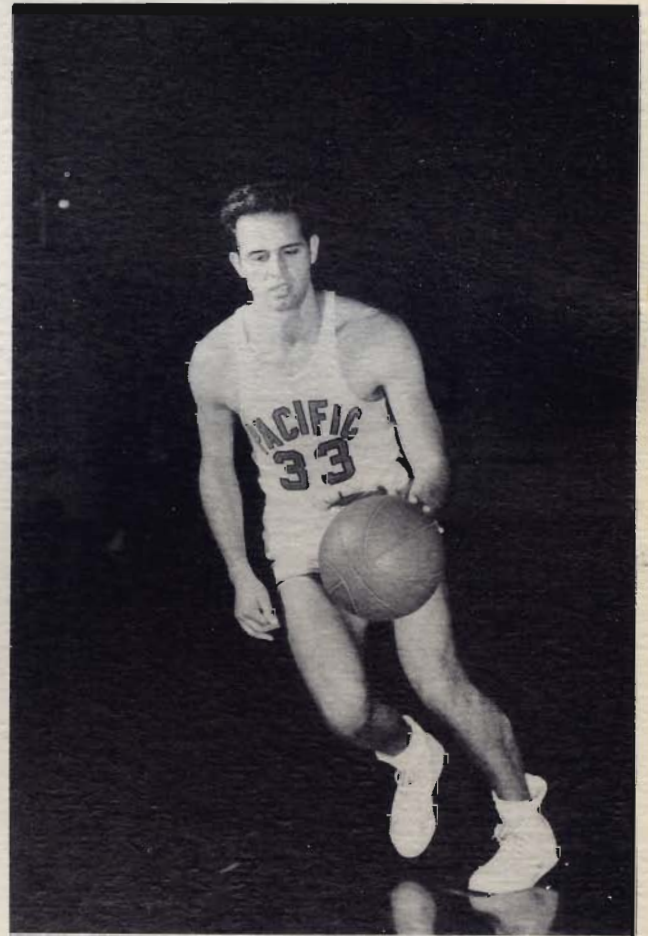
by virtue of their early season victory spree, the bengals were elevated to the role of co-favorites with the defending spartans for the ccaa crown... however, though the team easily overpowered its first two loop foes, fresno and santa barbara, in january play, final conference standings showed the tigers resting in fourth place with a 4-6 season's mark...

in the campaign's finale, the bengals decisioned the stockton amblers 64-54 to take the mythical stockton city championship... it was a satisfying conclusion for the winners, as the city's cage fans had widely speculated over the outcome of the long sought contest -- controversy which gave rise to intense rivalry between these two leading town teams...

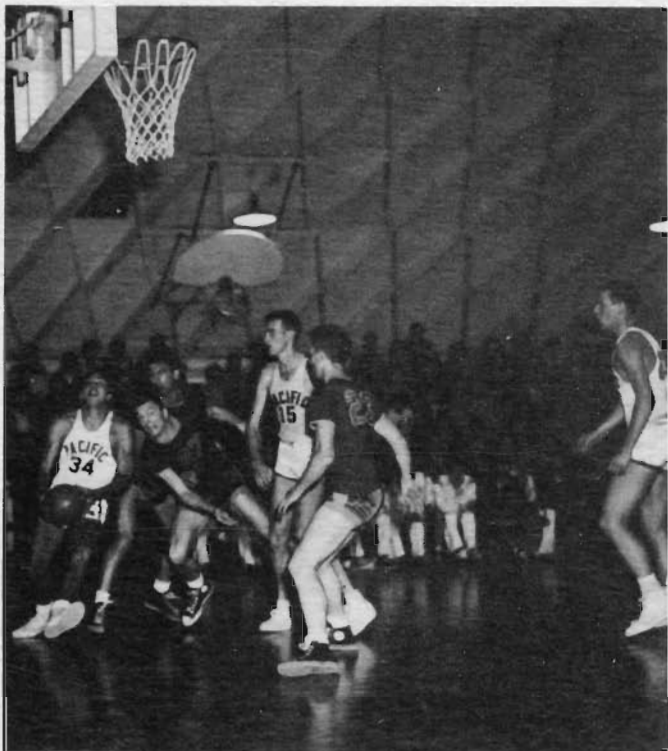
sophomore bill wirt and his taller classmate, center howie pearce, both showed remarkable improvement as the season progressed... with the graduation of al levy and bud proulx, the wirt-pearce duo holds the key to future pacific hoop fortunes... wirt won the individual scoring leadership with 325 points; he was followed by the crowd-pleasing proulx with 312 markers... both were named to a second team berth on the all-ccaa quintet...

tigers' starting lineup

33	hank pfister	f
23	bill wirt	f
15	howie pearce	c
25	bud proulx	g
24	jim enos	g



hank pfister
forward



bill wirt leaps high to
out jump a cal poly player

howard pearce shows his
height to the crowd and
the scoreboard

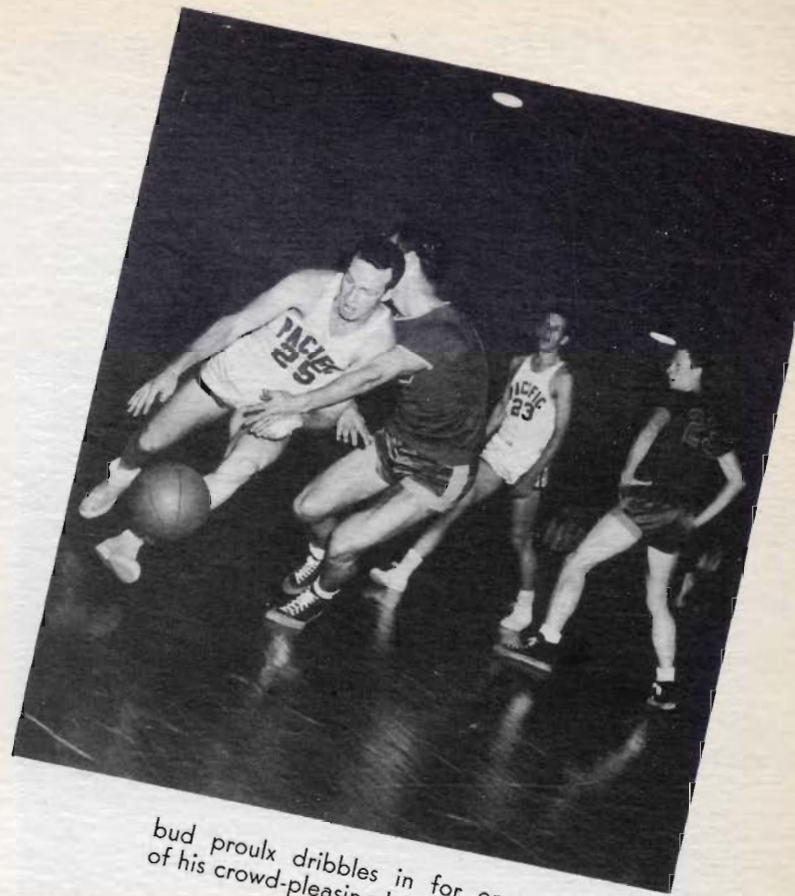
phil ortez drives in for
a lay up

excellent floor play is utilized
by wayne hardin in an attempt
to out-manuever cal poly guard

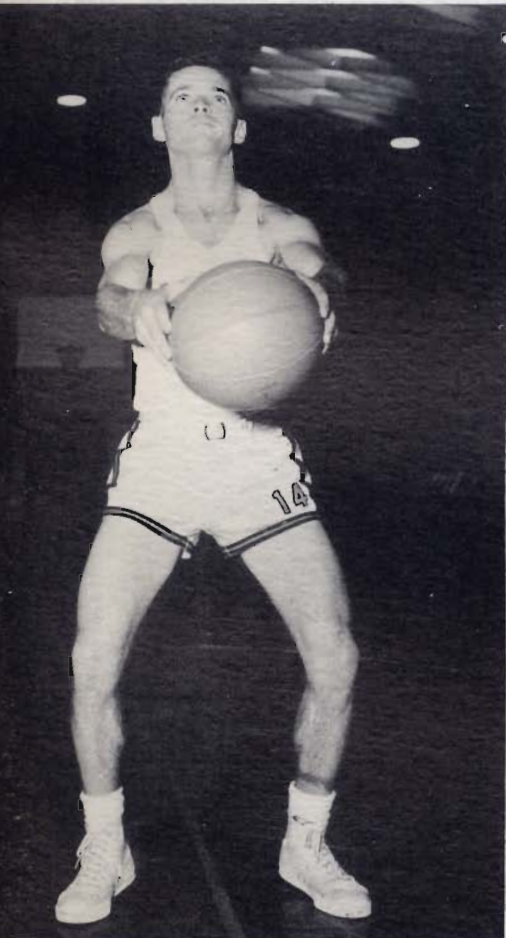
pacific vs. cal poly

ever since pacific's entry into the ccaa races, dating to 1946, hank moroski has been synonymous with the mustangs from the california polytechnic institute... this year was no exception as the driving, diminutive forward led four other guys from san luis obispo through 40 minutes of nominal opposition to the tigers, bowing 58-34... from the game's outset the outcome was never in doubt for the 500-odd tiger adherents who were sprinkled about the local pavilion... though moroski totaled 16 points--a total which bill wirt matched for c o p--here was worthy testimony that a one-man show can seldom offset a five-man performance... the victory broke a third-place tie in the ccaa standings, ousting cal poly and giving c o p undisputed possession of the spot...

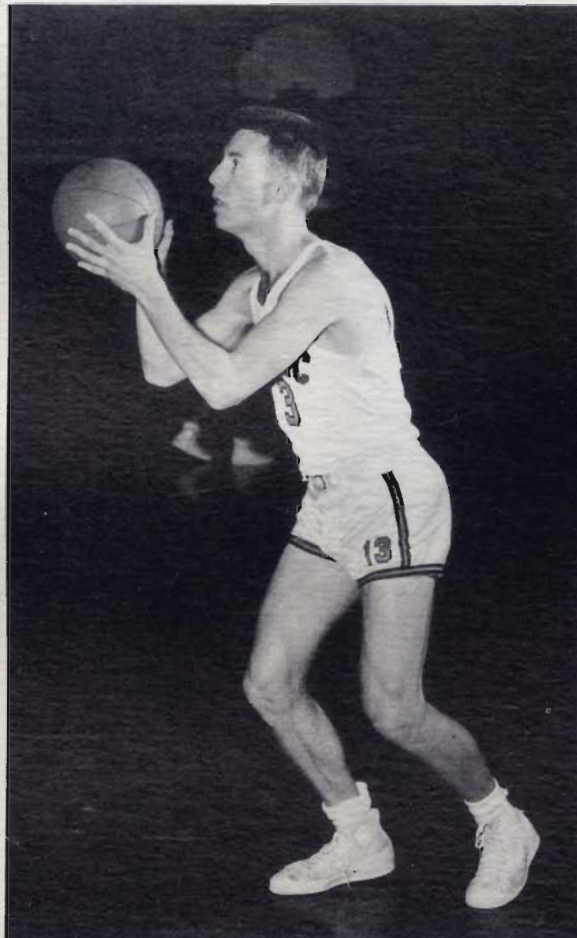
in the tigers' second meeting with the mustangs, this time in the role of visitors, the story was much the same though the bengals' margin of victory was less bizarre, 44-41... bud proulx tallied 16 points to emerge as the winners' top individual scorer, while moroski's 15 digits ranked him number one for the losers...



bud proulx dribbles in for one of his crowd-pleasing lay-up shots



don hamilton
forward



ted collins
guard



wayne hardin
guard

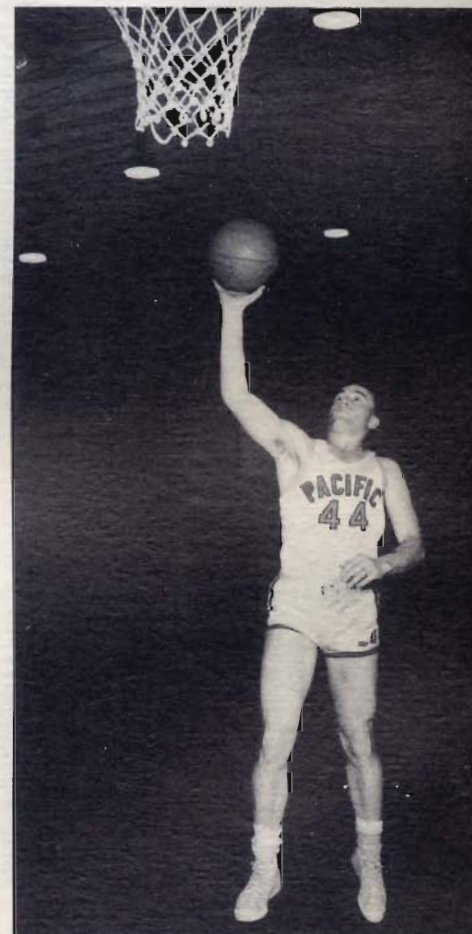
pacific vs. san diego

the hustling aztecs from san diego state college were responsible for the most stunning setback in the tiger campaign when they downed c o p 50-43 on the local court january 5...

this defeat marked finis to the orange and black's one serious bid to assert themselves as a cage power in coast circles... when the montezumans came to stockton on that fateful saturday night, the bengals had posted a six-game winning streak -- destined to be their longest success string of the season... they were also being seriously considered as a worthy challenger to san jose state's ccaa crown...

it seemed a most inglorious way to cap a week in which fresno state had been subdued 88-64 and pepperdine was edged 57-55 by the tigers, but the playmaking of don smith and the pivoting hooks of dick barnes were unstoppable that night...

on meeting the aztecs one week later in their home confines, c o p found the jinx to be quite as effective and were edged out 47-43... though they assumed game control throughout the first half, the montezumans were hard pressed in the last 10 minutes of play by some brilliant play by wirt and pearce... howie was the big gun of the evening, notching 16 markers on his jumping push shots and tip-ins... wirt's nine points made him next in line among bengal scorers... however, the balance that harbor city journalists had so long accredited to their aztecs really paid off as tom keesey, don smith, and bill hutchison tallied 11, 15, and 10 respectively...



len detrick
center



pacific vs. san jose

the spartan jinx once again hexed pacific on february 9 in the civic auditorium when the prune city cagers edged the tigers in the last half-minute of play by a score of 52-51...

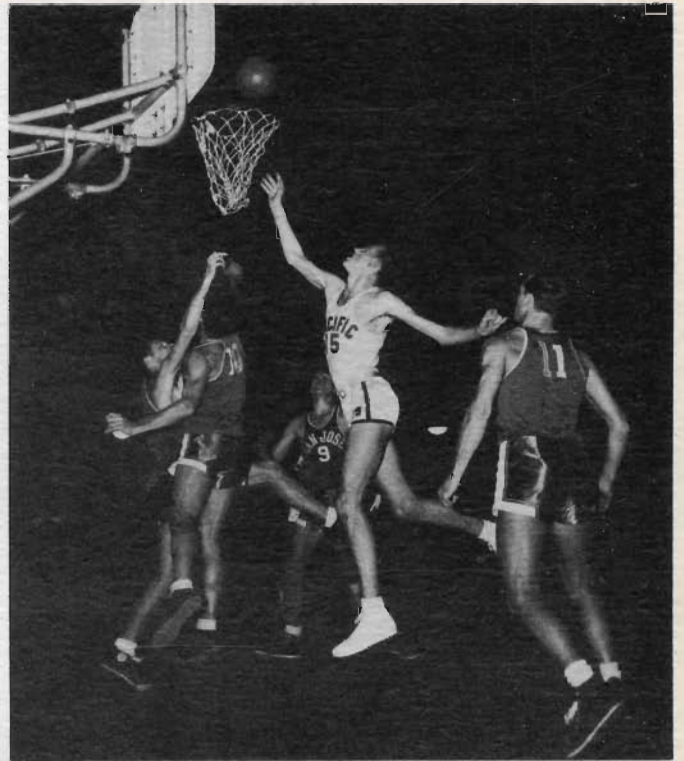
even to win by the narrowest of margins, the joseans needed the aid of a very questionable foul with thirty seconds remaining, which gave their bob hagen the opportunity to sink the game-winning free throw... the visitors had showed game control during the initial half, posting a 30-24 intermission lead... however, the tigers put on a determined rally in the last ten minutes of the contest to knot the count twice -- once at 49-all and again at 51-all...

again, notorious inefficiency at the free-throw line seemed to be the chief factor as c o p missed 12 one-point attempts to half that total for the spartans... howie pearce's 13 markers was tops for the evening...

in the return engagement played in the san jose state college gymnasium, the league-leading spartans were much more impressive in downing the bengals 55-45... don mc caslin took top scoring honors with 18 points, barely edging his old junior college rival bill wirt, who bucketed 16... mc caslin and wirt had both been all-ncjcc selections in '48 -- the former from san mateo jc, the latter from stockton...



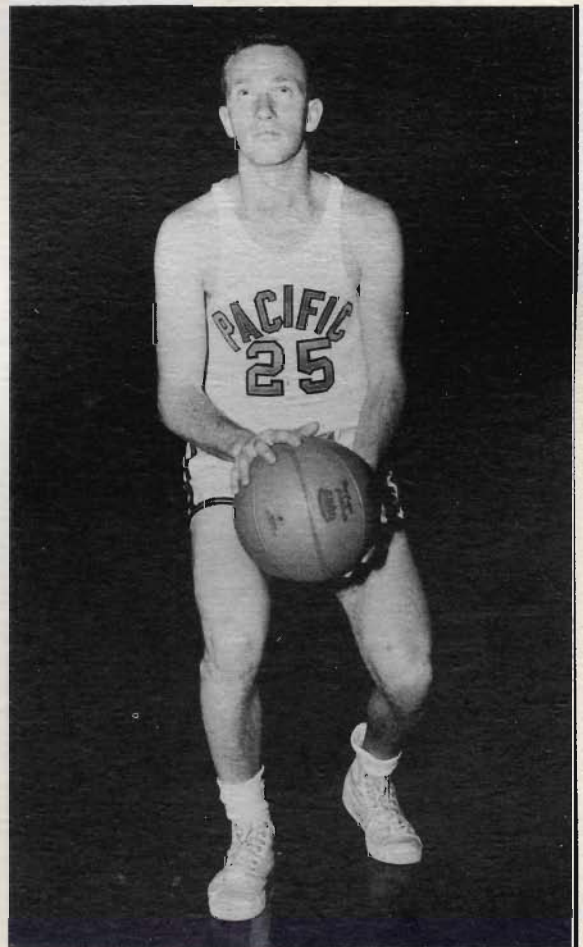
pfister stands by as wirt and pierce attempt a tip-in



howard jearce leaps high to out-manuever the spartan defense and score a bucket



bill wirt
forward



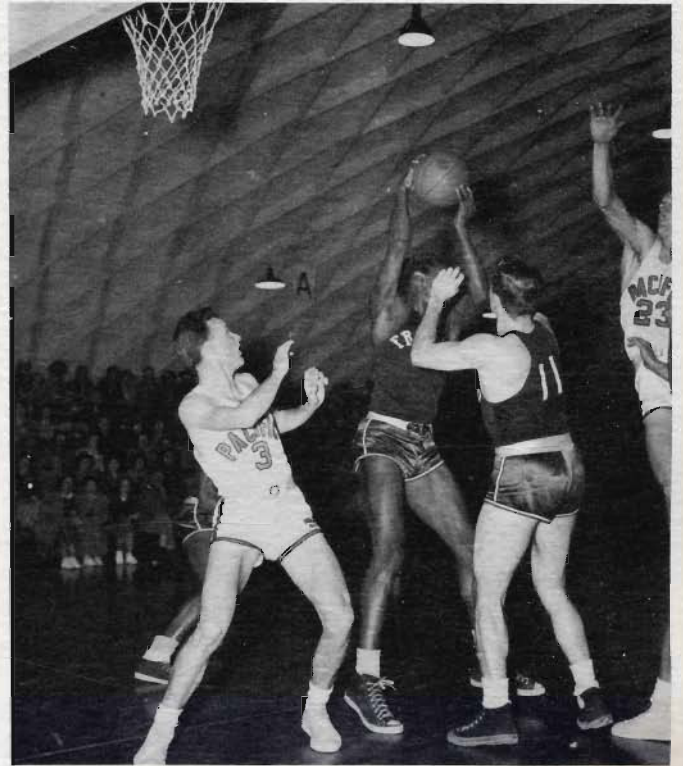
bud proulx
guard

pacific vs. fresno state

true to the year's pacific basketball story, the first meeting with the rival fresno bulldogs produced a much more satisfactory outcome than did the latter... in the january 12 meeting, in which c o p played the role of hosts, the previously high riding fresnans were overrun 84-64 in what constituted a new ccaa game scoring record... the driving fakes of buddy proulx had the slow-footed bulldogs dizzy and the partisan tiger crowd roaring with glee as the score mounted rapidly from the modest 35-28 c o p half-time advantage... proulx tallied 24 points, the highest individual tiger total for the year...

tall verne riggins, colored center for the visitors, and sharp-shooting hank pfister divided runner-up honors... each tanked 18 points...

in the road encounter, the tigers were caught while deep in their mid-february doldrums by the hard running bulldogs, who took a 67-58 decision... bill wirt and vern riggins staged a two-man scoring circus, deadlocking at 19 points apiece...



bud proulx leaps for a hole shot



al levy steps back as wirt comes in

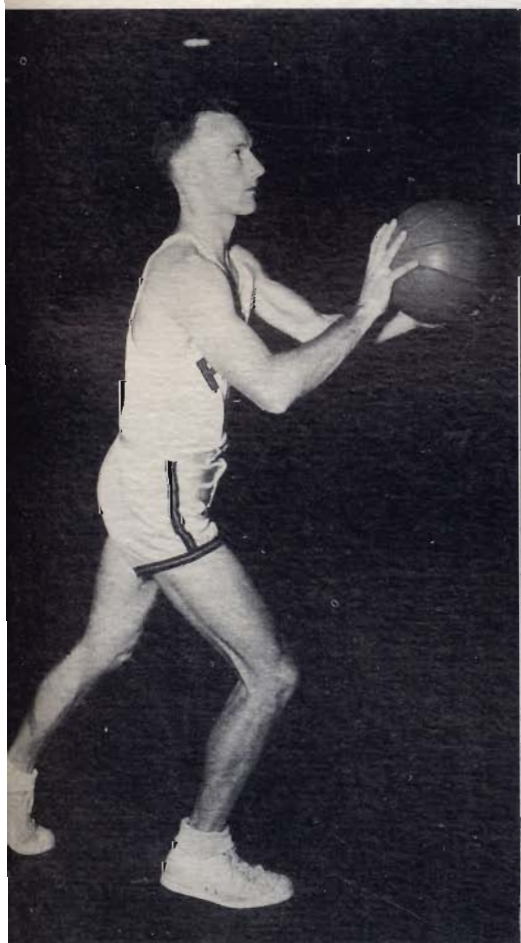
howard pearce's shot is almost deflected by fresno player

pacific vs. santa barbara

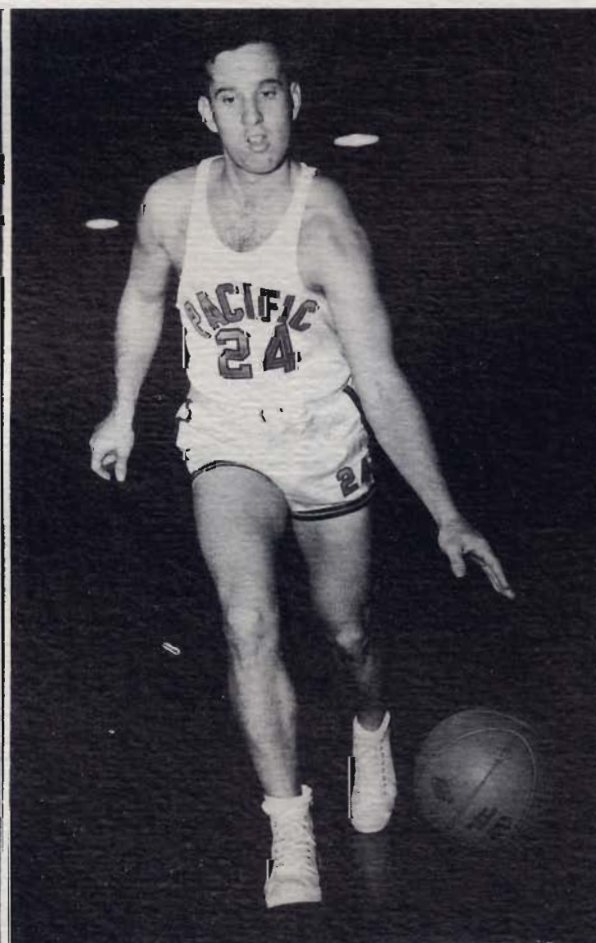
victory on the home court and defeat on the road was the summation of the two-game home-and-home series with the santa barbara gauchos... the tigers met and vanquished the invading cowboys 55-41 in their january tilt in the pacific pavilion, while enjoying their early season winning streak...

hank pfister, on his deadly push shots, the tall howie pearce, and driving bud proulx led the orange and black scoring with 16, 15, and 13 points respectively... forward bob mc cutcheon's 11 markers was tops for the losers, who never threatened seriously after leaving the floor with a 20-25 half-time deficit..

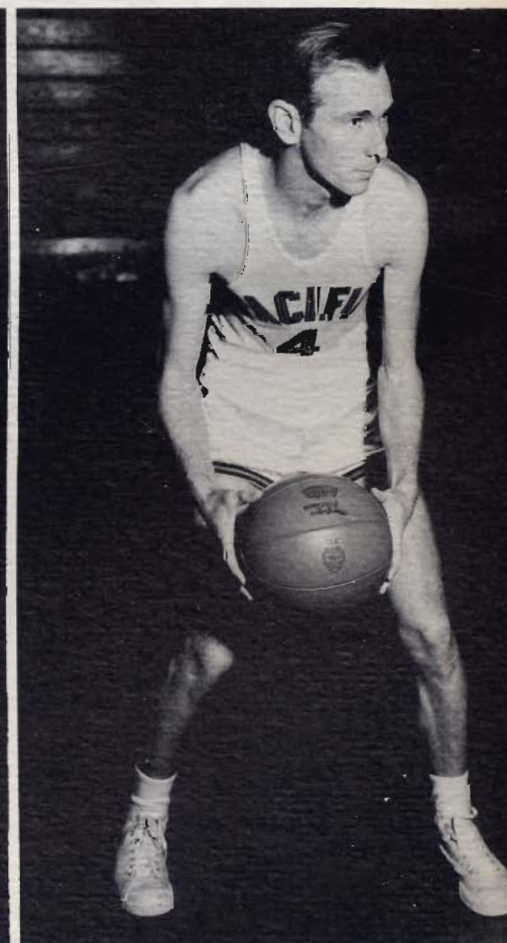
the santa barbarans found the victory road easier in the hosting role on february 18... then the bengals succumbed to a higher scoring mc cutcheon and company by a '4-12 count... the gaucho pacer tallied 21 points, while pearce tanked 16 for c o p... the winners had the advantage at the intermission, 26-20...



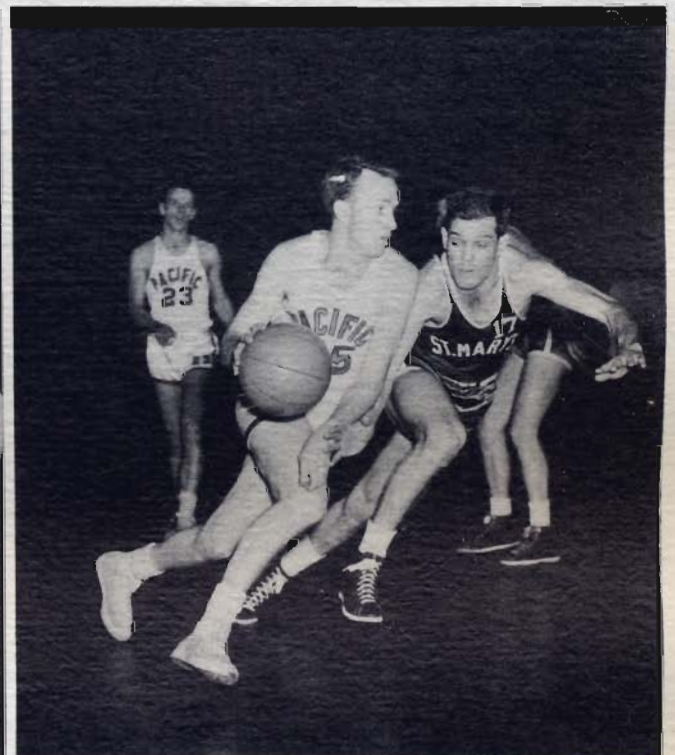
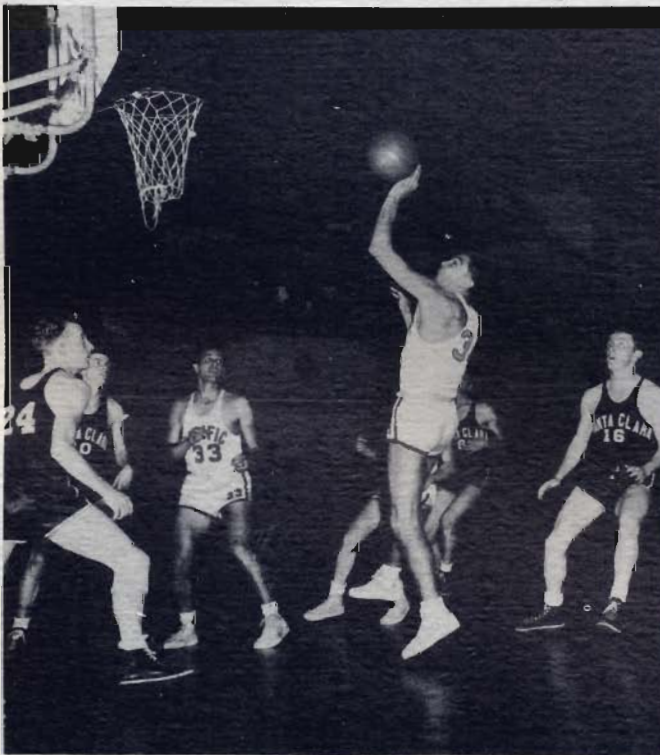
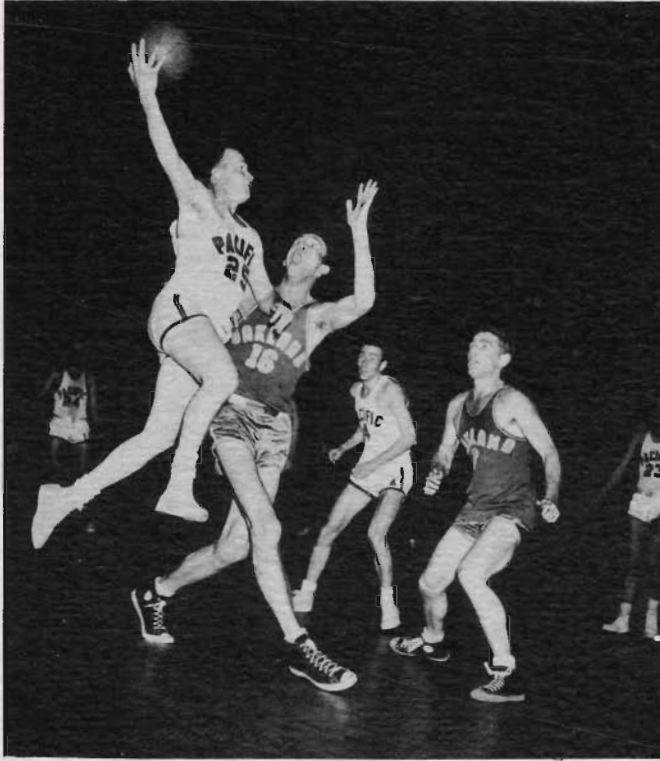
al levy
guard



jim enos
guard



bob thomas
forward



it's proulx again and another of his electrifying hook shots

corky cortez displays his push shot to santa clara

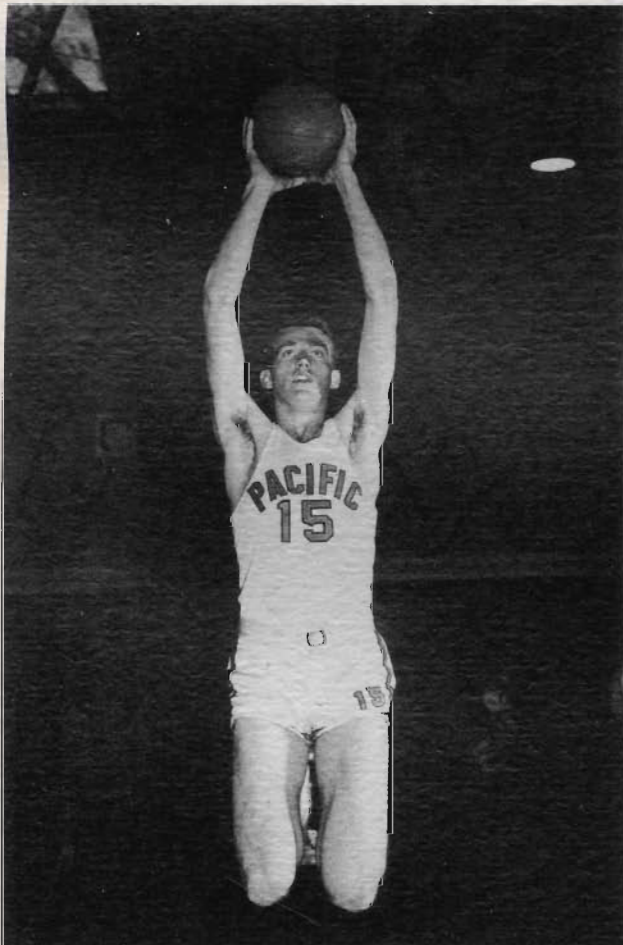
pepperdine man looks on as pearce goes high for a lay-up

proulx out-maneuvers a guard and goes for two points

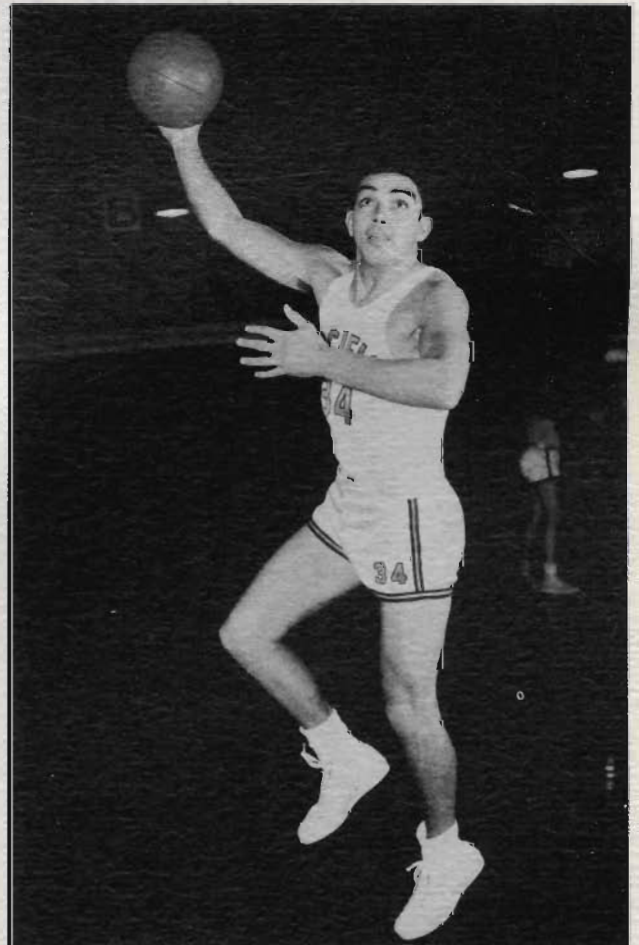
i n d i v i d u a l s c o r i n g

	fg	ft	pf	pts	aver.	games
bill wirt	123	78	85	325	12.0	27
bud proulx	115	84	80	312	11.6	27
howie pearce	91	47	58	228	8.4	27
hank pfister	78	57	47	213	8.5	25
jim enos	43	11	42	97	3.7	26
al levy	36	20	21	94	3.5	27
phil ortez	33	9	33	75	3.9	19
bob thomas	22	5	21	48	2.2	22
wayne hardin	11	12	26	34	1.6	21
ted collins	9	3	6	21	1.2	17
len detrick	9	2	10	20	0.9	12
pacific totals		570	528	1467	54.3	
opposition		296	479	1468	54.3	

howard pearce
center



phil ortez
forward



stockton college basketball



van sweet
coach

confronted with an absolute dearth of experienced material when practice opened in early fall, coach van sweet assembled an all-freshman quintet that copped 10 decisions in 22 outings... former high school and service cages predominated the first ten men; only don newbury returned from the successful 1947-48 aggregation...

scoring hub of the team was forward doug scovil, athlete nonpareil out of lowell high school of san francisco... the other forward position was manned by britt smith, a rebounding specialist with great future promise... another contribution from little mt. diablo high school of concord to stockton college athletics was lanky jim denton, six-foot four-inch center for the cubs... rounding out the initial six were netman darrel winrich, sam gellepes and home-product del king... king, a stockton hi sensation in his prep days, captained the jaysees...

topping the reserve personnel were bill swenson and jack waldron, center and guard respectively and former tarzans; veteran don newbury, ed ingram, and dick hart...

hard running and free scoring featured the sweet-mastered attack of the neophyte cubs during most contests... however, on occasions they were able to employ the slow-break to avail, as they did against the high scoring modesto and san francisco quintets...

sweet is looking optimistically forward to this year's frosh developing into a fine sophomore team in 1949-50...



v. sweet d. scovil j. waldron j. denton j. ward b. swenson b. smith a. gallo
j. westphal s. gellepes d. hart d. newbury d. winrich e. ingram d. king

the first seven



winrich scovil smith denton swenson king, captain gellepees

stockton		opposition
63	placer	46
46	st. amblers	77
56	visalia	28
41	grant tech	66
52	sacramento	64
56	nevada frosh	42
59	placer	51
54	lassen	44
48	long beach	51
48	menlo	38
59	san mateo	52
51	grant	50
73	monterey	42
56	hartnell	41
51	san francisco	61
71	monterey	47
57	hartnell	59
45	menlo	55
61	san mateo	52
32	san francisco	59
33	modesto	34
51	modesto	56
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1165		1173



king and denton go high for a tip-in



denton's scoring chance is removed by menlo center