

Sailors Teams With Ernie Calverley To Give Providence Scoring Punch

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(Second of a Series)

Getting his feet on solid ground after being pushed around the circuit, Sailors was finally set. His fame was a known fact in Rhode Island but most of the people here (there are about 225,000 of them) had never seen the little ball-of-fire.

Then Kenny made his debut. He tallied only eight points in his first game but began to pick up. His next outing Kenny made 12 and then picked up 22 in each of the next two clashes.

By this time Rhode Island was talking of Sailors.

His jump-shot was "out of this world" as one veteran newspaperman remarked. The kids of the state began to copy the shot. In Boys' clubs, YMCA's, Church leagues, and every other youthful circuit around the state, the kids jumped and shot and always remarked, "That's the way Kenny Sailors does it!"

YES, THE "Wyoming Kid" had won his way into the hearts of every basketball fan. His cat-like defensive play, his swift dribbling and the jump-shot all added up to real basketball entertainment.

In this little state there's a basketball player named Ernie Calverley. He's the former R. I. State ace who made the longest shot on record in Madison Square Garden in the National Invitation tournament of 1946. Ernie is a terrific flash, five feet, ten inches, and swift as a deer as is Sailors.

Words can't describe what happened when the two players became teammates.

THE BALL whizzed like the wind. Calverley fired his patented one-handers from far out; Kenny shot from in close and around the foul line.

With the two aces hitting repeatedly, Providence went on to whip the Washington Capitols and establish itself as a team to contend with for the remainder of the season. And all because of a little guy from the West and his jump-shot accuracy and all-around brilliance.