



RALPH SNEAD

JANUARY 25, 2014



Ralph Snead

Ralph Snead is considered one of the finest all-around athletes to play at Ironton and was one of its best-ever basketball players. Able to go left or right, Ralph used his speed and quickness to drive off defenders and pull up for long jump shots. He scored 45 points in a game against Lancaster in 1958 in what was a school record, decades before the 3-point line. Ralph was a third team All-Ohio Class AA selection and played in the North/South All-Star Game with legends Jerry Lucas, Mel Nowell and John Havlicek.

There were only two classifications in Ohio during that period of time. Ralph attended Ohio University and led the team in scoring as a freshman. He set the single game scoring record in the Bobcats' old basketball arena but joined the Army the next year. In the service, Ralph was often flown to other military bases to play in tournament. He scored 45 points in a game against the William and Mary freshmen team. Ralph had several professional offers but declined.