



Bruce and Thelma Hoffine

Coach Bruce Hoffine, was born Frank Bruce Hoffine in 1925, in the small town of Tonkawa, OK. Shortly thereafter, he and his parents moved to Marshfield, OR. His wife, Thelma Bjerke Hoffine, was born and raised in Marshfield. Married 53 years, Bruce and Thelma began their courtship as high school sweethearts at MHS. An all-around athlete for the Pirates, Bruce was a member of the 1942 state champion football squad and was named the captain of the Pirate basketball and football teams his senior year.

After Bruce and Thelma graduated in 1944, she attended Willamette University and he enrolled at the University of Oregon. He lettered as a guard on the Ducks basketball team, graduated with a Bachelor of Science degree in 1948, then returned to Marshfield, renamed Coos Bay at that time.

Bruce spent three years as a junior high coach here in town, winning what was recognized as the junior high state championship, then became the Pirate basketball coach in 1951, holding that position for 24 years. In that span, Marshfield went to the state tournament 12 times, won 1 state championship in 1953 and was runner-up (2nd Place) three times. He never had a losing season and compiled an overall record of 413–176, a .701 winning percentage. Named Oregon Class AAA Coach of the Year in 1974, Bruce was the Pirate athletic director from 1964 until retiring in 1982. Since then, Hoffine became a member of Marshfield High School's First Annual Hall of Fame Induction Class in 2003.

Thelma, a loyal, die-hard Pirate fan, was always on hand for the games. Bruce and Thelma Hoffine will always be remembered and honored with the naming of the Marshfield High School basketball court as *Hoffine Court*, in the "Pirate Palace."