

## **GIRLS SPORTS IN SEABROOK VILLAGE** - by Iddy Asada

I remember sports in Seabrook because I was a tomboy and played baseball with my brothers. They were pitchers (for softball) and needed a catcher, so I was elected. They talked to each other about how to keep your fingernails in the stitching to direct the ball to drop, to curve, etc. And I was there to catch the ball for them, thus, was not afraid of catching the fast thrown balls enabling me to become a better ball player.

### **TRAVELING SOFTBALL TEAM**

When Seabrook Farms Co. opted to sponsor girls sports teams with a traveling softball team I naturally was enthusiastic in becoming a team member. In 1948, our softball team, the Seabrook Farms Co. team (photo 01148), became the Cumberland County Softball Champs and was able to gloat our prowess on a float at a parade in the city of Bridgeton (photo, Kato, Henry 002). For our reward, we were invited to swim in Mr. Seabrook's outdoor pool and received our trophy and individual medals at a cook-out and ceremony there.

### **BASKETBALL**

The Company also sponsored the Seabrook Farms Co. basketball team and I was one of their forwards (second string) playing girls regulation basketball (photo 01140 and 01142). We had a winning team in 1949 and was asked to play preliminary to the Philadelphia Warriors/Minneapolis Lakers National Basketball game at the Arena on Market Street in Philadelphia. Naturally, we lost as the opposing team (a semi-pro team) played men's style basketball and we played the old fashioned girls way and had to adapt to their way of playing. Because most of the girls were nearly 6 foot tall, I was not able to play, but I did sit on the bench and "played" the game from there.

INTRAMURAL TEAMS

The Community House had Social Director, Ms. Dorothy Chapman, who planned various activities for the community. She had a well-rounded staff who provided us with many activities. We had cultural events, the scouts, the brownies, movies, parties, and sports leagues. We played competitively against each other and did not have any reason to go to Bridgeton for recreation because of the well rounded activities at the Community House. She had an outstanding staff who helped her in many ways.

Some of the basketball teams in 1948 were the champion Pandas (two years in a row) with Jim Takemori as coach; the Co-Eds (01844) of which I was a member and Tee Saisho the coach (we came in second place); and Jugs came in third place with Kiyo Ishida as their coach. Other girls teams were the 7-11's, the Sub-Debs (photo Yokoyama, May 003) and the All Shots.

CHARLES F. SEABROOK

We give the late Charles F. Seabrook our sincere appreciation for his insight in keeping a well staffed organization that benefited his employees and their families during those memorable years.

