

# Death Ends Career Of Jimmy Distribute Famous All-State Basketball Player

Death last week from tuberculosis closed the career of James Distribute of Wakpala, outstanding all-round Indian athlete and one of the most famous high school basketball players in South Dakota athletic history.

Jimmy, as he was known to athletes and fans in Wakpala and Mobridge, played baseball for half of this summer's season, as he had done the two summers previous, with the the Mobridge baseball team. He pitched and won his last game of ball in the Mobridge-Dupree game at Isabel.

## In 1931 Tournament

Distribute won state-wide fame as a basketball star in the state high school tournament of 1931. As the center of the Wakpala Indian quint, which represented region four in the state event that year, he won acclaim

as one of the greatest ball handlers and passers ever to perform on the Corn Palace floor. His playing won him a place on the all-state team that year and a permanent niche in the memories of South Dakota basketball fans.

## Remembered by Fans

It will be some time in this part of the country before a Wakpala team will figure in a basketball game without bringing to the lips of watching fans the name and exploits of Jimmy Distribute.

After graduating from high school, where he also made a name for himself in track, Distribute continued his career in independent basketball and baseball. He played center for the Wakpala Independents and last year was a member of the Mobridge Independent team.