

The Quarterly Newsletter
of the

BOYS SCOUTS BOYS SCOUTS

Indiana High School Basketball
Historical Society



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THE NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of the Indiana High School Basketball Historical Society will be held on October 10, 1998, from 1-3 p.m. at Western High School in Howard County.

This meeting will be hosted by Russiaville member Gene Parks. Gene has lined up Gene Pearson and Richard Rea as speakers.

The meeting will began at 1:00 p.m. with a very short session on IHSBHS business, which will be followed by the two speakers and a tour of the Western facility.

Gene Parks is a former coach, athletic director, and school administrator. He has done some extensive research into the history of the Russiaville Cossacks. He will take us on a guided tour of Western High School.

Gene Pearson lives in Kokomo, and is a former coach, guidance counselor, and principal, and is the local expert on the history of the three schools which made up Western high school. He will give a short talk on the sports programs at New London, West Middleton, and Russiaville schools.

Richard Rea is a retired Superintendent of the Western School Corporation. He had also served as the principal of both Western and West Middleton schools, and coached at West Middleton. He will talk briefly on the process of the consolidation of the three county schools into the Western School Corporation.

Mr. Parks has also indicated that he is trying to line up Kokomo coach Basil Mawbey and former Flora star Fred Oyler for the meeting.

Directions to Western High School can be found on page 10.

THE NEXT BOARD MEETING

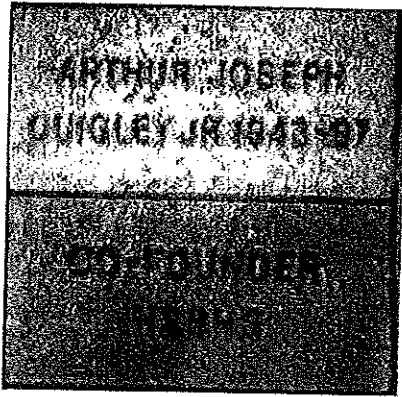
The next board meeting of the Indiana High School Basketball Historical Society will be held on Saturday, September 26, 1998 from 1-3 p.m. at the Adams County Historical Museum, which is located at the corner of Fifth and Monroe (Hiway 224) in Decatur, IN.

Directions to the Board Meeting

From the north or south, take I-69 to the Hiway 224 (Markle) exit. Go east on Hiway 224 to Decatur. Follow 224 thru Decatur (which includes a slight jog on hiway 27). Hiway 27 in Decatur is also 13th St. Stay on 224 (Monroe St.) until you see Fifth St. The Historical Museum is located in the former Dugan Mansion, which is a big, yellow brick building on the northeast side of the intersection of 5th and Monroe. If you are coming from the south, you can also take 67 to 27 to Decatur, then turn east on 224 (Monroe St.)

**Don't Miss The Next IHSBHS Meeting at Western (Howard) High School
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**A Couple of Bricks for
Joe**



When Joe Quigley, one of our founders, passed away last summer, IHSBHS members and others generously donated to a memorial fund for Joe. We ended up collecting almost \$400, and the board members of IHSBHS voted to buy two bricks in the courtyard at the Hall of Fame, and to split the balance of the money between the IHSBHS treasury and the Boy Scouts. \$100 was given to the IHSBHS in Joe's memory, and \$100 was sent to the Boy Scouts, also in Joe's Memory.

The bricks were installed in the courtyard at the Hall of Fame in July of this year, and, on the state map, are located just south of Joe's home town of South Bend.



IHSBHS Co-Founder Joe "Huck" Quigley and daughter Francessa



In Memory of

Jason Crowe

1970-1998

Jason Crowe, the Executive Director of the Indiana High School Basketball Hall of Fame passed away on July 5, 1998.

Jason was a 1988 graduate of Columbia City High School, and a 1994 graduate of Indiana University.

While at IU, Jason had worked in the sports information department, and, prior to coming to the Hall of Fame, he had worked in the same capacity with Rick Majerus at Utah. He had been with Hall of Fame almost three years.

Jason was a great friend of the Indiana High School Basketball Historical Society, and had worked to set up a computer system at the Hall of Fame that would exhibit our work. In addition, he always made available to us tickets to both the Hall of Fame Classic and the state finals.

Jason is survived by his parents, George and Norma Crowe of Columbia City, a brother, and three sisters.

Crawfordsville Meeting

The regular summer meeting of the Indiana High School Basketball Historical Society was held Saturday, July 18, 1998 at Crawfordsville High School.



Crawfordsville High School

After a short business meeting, the meeting was turned over to host Bob Whalen, and Crawfordsville High School teacher and historian, Bill Boone. Bill, who tickled the twine for 298 points his senior season at Ladoga, talked briefly of his athletic career for the Canners, he talked about the Athenian Wall of Fame, how it came to be, and how athletes are nominated.



The Athenian Hall of Fame

Located on a large wall outside the gymnasium, the Athenian Hall of Fame contains pictures of several standout Crawfordsville athletes and coaches as well as an explanation of what they did to get elected to the Crawfordsville Hall of Fame



IHSBHS Treasurer Bob Whalen and Guest Speaker Bill Boone

Norseman Notes

By Bob Adams

This has been a busy summer for IHSBHS members. On July 25, Bob and Margaret Whalen celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary. IHSBHS members in attendance were Don and Ruth White, along with my wife and me.



The Whalens

Also attending the celebration was long-time New Market and Ladoga coach, Harold "Jack" Hester.



Jack Hester

Hester was the high school coach of Bill Boone, who spoke at our last meeting at Crawfordsville. Boone, who recently was named head baseball coach at Wabash college, joined our group at the meeting.

That same day (July 25), Dr. Roger Robison had a book signing at the Frankfort Hot Dog Festival to promote his book "Everett Case and the Frankfort Hot Dogs." His book signing was held at "Old Stoney", the old Crawfordsville High school.

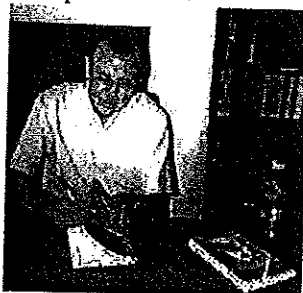


Roger signing copy of his book.

This picture was actually taken at the Oasis, a popular watering hole in Frankfort. Roger's book signing was attended by Harley and Dzintha Sheets and Terri and me.

Wendell Trogden took a trip out to Virginia and Washington D.C. earlier this summer. He and his wife took U.S.

50 through southern Indiana out to the east coast. Upon his return, he was kind enough to attend an open house at the Adams Historical Museum hosted by Terri and I. The Adams County Historical Museum will be the sight of the next IHSBHS board meeting to be held on September 26.



Wendell Trogden at the Adams County Historical Museum

And, several members attended the annual Hall of Fame picnic held at the White River Yacht Club in Indianapolis on August 12.



L to R: Harley Sheets, Dean Kendall, Dee Compton, (former Kokomo girls coach) Mike McCroskey, (new member) J. Bishop and Bob Pearson shooting the bull at the Hall of Fame picnic.

New member J. Bishop has agreed to research Pierceton high school, while Dean Kendall will use his considerable researching skills to gather information on the counties down around Evansville.

Member Gene Parks of Russiaville has agreed to host a meeting at Western High School near Kokomo on October 10, while Wendell Trogden is going to host the summer 1999 meeting and will take us on a tour of the old gyms still standing in Lawrence county. Gene has lined up two local historians, Gene Pearson and Richard Rea, to speak at our next meeting.

Thanks also go out to Wendell Trogdon, Dr. Roger Robison, David Lee Compton, and Harley Sheets for contributing articles to this newsletter.

A Hot Time In Heltonville

By Wendell Trogden

It would be a winter long and dark, one filled with uncertainty and void of pleasure.

The world was at war and there was, in that fall of 1942, little to look forward to for teenagers around Heltonville.

Much of the high school and the gymnasium had burned on graduation night back in April, the superstitious blaming the fire on the fact that 13 seniors were graduating. The township trustee had worked through the summer finding classroom spaces in churches, a lodge hall and an abandoned store. A few classrooms saved from the fire were reopened.

But there would be no gym for practice or games. Gas rationing was about to start, tires were to be limited and the thoughts of most adults was on the fighting in the South Pacific and in North Africa

Teens, however, when not listening or reading the war news, were thinking of the basketball season ahead. They had expected that, somehow, some way, a basketball schedule would be played, even if the team had to practice outdoors and play all games on the road.

It was not to be. Principal Loren Raines announced the grim news there would be no basketball early in October. Some upperclassmen, who would have been on the team chose to quit school and enlist in the military. Underclassmen, dismayed and disillusioned, stayed in school, their enthusiasm drained. School spirit dropped to a new low.

Only patriotism remained high.

The sports pages were distressing, the pre-season write-ups about other Lawrence County teams demoralizing for not only Heltonville teens, but the adult fans around town. It made no difference that schedules for other schools had been limited, that the annual county tourney had been canceled, or that many coaches had gone to war.

The year passed slowly. A few teens, who could find a ride with someone who had gasoline to spare, traveled to nearby schools to watch games.

February came, warm days bringing hints of green to the grass, burning off the gloom that had blanketed the winter. It was time for the basketball sectional, a time for those around Heltonville to

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Don't Miss The Next IHSBHS Meeting On October 10 at Western High School

Heltonville-continued

cleanse themselves of a regretful winter and enjoy the action at the "Quarry," which is what they called the Bedford gym.

They were a losing chorus as they cheered for the county teams against the county seat Stonecutters, hoping for an upset which was not to be when Oolitic fell short of an upset, 28-25, on Saturday afternoon. Bedford went on to defeat Needmore, 54-36 in the finale.

The sectional settled, county fans made Bedford their team, their horse to ride. And, it was a long ride. The Cutters won the regional, then defeated Evansville Central and Jasper in the semifinals at Vincennes.

At school, students at Heltonville fought over the sports pages at the town restaurant, scoring information about the state finals, learning all they could about Lebanon, the team Bedford would face at Butler (now Hinkle) Fieldhouse.

The week days passed slowly. Saturday came and farm youths, who had spent the summer without a team of their own, were huddled in farm homes listening to dry cell battery-powered radios, there being no electric lines in some rural neighborhoods at the time.

They listened as the announcers gave the starting lineup for Lebanon, Houser, Again, Mount, Laflin, and Truitt. And for Bedford, Wagner, Bellush, Brennan, Simmons, and Beretta.

Only static interrupted their concentration.

Brennan countered each Lebanon basket until Joe Huter came to his aid with a couple of baskets late in the game, which went into the final minute, the winner uncertain.

"It's over," declared the announcer. "Lebanon wins, 36-35."

Bedford's adopted fans slumped into their seats, recalling each missed basket, each unsuccessful opportunity to score. John Brennan had netted 21 points to earn selection to most all-state teams. (He would later become an all-American at Notre Dame).

It mattered little to them when Fort Wayne defeated Lebanon for the state championship that night.

They walked out to the barn, where the loft was nearly empty of hay. It was time to start practicing basketball again, although the next season was eight months-or maybe an eternity-away.

The Greens Fork Grasshopper From "Everett Case and The Frankfort Hot Dogs"

By Dr. Roger Robison

One of the more interesting Regionals (in 1936) was at Muncie Fieldhouse. The hamlet of Greensfork had beaten Richmond to take the Wayne County Sectional and faced the Muncie Bearcats in the Regional. An eye-witness, Fred Dennis of Chandler Arizona, recounted the game for the author in January 1997. The Demons had a 6'3" pivot man named Rex Ellis who later played for Notre Dame (1938-40). Their center was 5'9" Junior Saffer. Fred asked some Greens Fork folks in the stands why in the world was Junior jumping center instead of Rex.



Greens Fork High School

The simple answer was that "Junior can out jump Rex". This was hard to believe. The game started with 6'7" big black Henry Young jumping against Junior. To everyone's amazement, Junior controlled the tip time after time. Muncie got only two tip-offs the entire game! The Demons trailed only 12-8 at the half.

Early in the second half, the Demons quickly tied it at 12-12. The Demon fans had told Fred that if Greens Fork got ahead, Muncie was done for because "they can really control the ball".

In addition to Junior controlling the tip-offs and big Rex in the pivot, the Demons had a 5'6" 115 lb. guard named Bobby Lintner who was a marvelous ball handler. And he had one spot on the floor where he could shoot with deadly accuracy. Sure enough the Demons got the lead and did just that. Controlling the ball with the lead, the Demons passed the ball around with alacrity and precision until Muncie began to get dizzy watching them. Eventually Bobby would pop over to his favorite spot and big Rex would pass to him for the shot. The Demons were on a 15-4 run which put them up 23-16. Finally big Henry Young got wise

and went away from the basket and went out to cover Bobby. As Bobby shot big Henry leaped at him and threw his long arms in the air to block the shot. The high arching shot was partially blocked off Young's out-stretched arms. It went straight up instead toward the basket. When it finally came down behind big Henry it had so much spin on it that it then bounced up and into the basket, 25-16. Muncie never fully recovered after that one. The Bearcats closed to 25-22 in the last six minutes but it was too little too late. The Demons lost to Newcastle 33-20 in the final but did take 2 of 3 from the NCC.



1936 Greens Fork Black Demons

Front Row: Fred Pugh, Chester Hillard, Virgil Hillard, Paul Winters, Richard Cranor
Second Row: Coach Albert Brown, Billie Butner, Junior Saffer, Rex Ellis, Leland Taylor, Bill Litner, Principal Harry Winter

Greens Fork won the 1936 Richmond sectional by beating Boston, 32-18, Webster, 38-14, and Richmond, 34-20, in the title game. Through 1995, the 14^{year} defeat remained Richmond's worst defeat in sectional play. What made the upsets of Richmond and Muncie Central even more amazing was that 4-year player Chester Hillard was ruled ineligible for sectional play because he had passed the age limit during the season. Greens Fork and Whitewater are the only Wayne county school other than Richmond, to win a game in the regional. Greens Fork's only other loss of the regular season was to Parker, 27-25 in triple overtime in a game played at the Randolph county school. Rex Ellis, he of Notre Dame fame, led Black Demons in scoring in the sectional with 37 points in three games. The only other time the school made it to the final game of the sectional was in 1945, when they lost to the Red Devils, 47-25. The Black Demons became a thing of the past when the school closed its doors at the end of the 1962 school year, and its students were sent to Hagerstown.

Down In The Valley

By David Lee Compton

Clyde Edward Lovellette was born September 7, 1927, in Terre Haute Indiana.

He attended Lange Elementary and McLean Junior High before entering Terre Haute Garfield as a freshman in the fall of 1944. Garfield won the Wabash Valley Tourney for the first time in 1945 and finished the year with a 17-6 record. The 1946 team was 14-4 and hopes were high for 1947.

While participating in four years of basketball at Garfield, it was Clyde's junior year of 1947 that he really blossomed and captured many awards throughout the Valley and the State. Clyde was a towering presence, listed at 6 feet, 9 inches, but taller according to his team mates.

Coach Kehrt stated that the Eagles could win the state right off, and said if they would get it together and play as a team, they'd have a chance to win it.

"We'd have been the only team in the state of Indiana at that time (to go undefeated)," Lovellette said.

Some of the lessons taught on the Garfield court that season showed up for decades on other courts.

"Anytime you play on a team that won as frequently as we did, you learn about togetherness and unselfishness, and that's something I carried with me to Kansas and the pros," said Lovellette.

"Willard Kehrt's coaching, the impression he made on me... most of the things I did (as a coach) and most of the things (my teams) tried, I learned from him," said Gordon Neff.

"We felt we had to have everyone on the same note or it would be hard to win, or we were going to lose," Lovellette added, "and most of the year in '47, we were on the same note.

"Nobody pointed fingers. Mr. Kehrt let us know that there was not one individual that wins, and not one individual that loses."

The 1947 Purple Eagles finished the season 31-1, were Wabash Valley Champions, City Champs and Western Indiana Conference Champs, Sectional, Regional, and Semi State Champs, and also IHSAA Runners Up. That season Clyde was named All-State Center, All-Western Indiana Conference Center, All-Wabash Valley Center, and All-City Center.



Clyde Lovellette

The 1948 Eagles were 22-4, repeated as Wabash Valley Champions, giving Garfield three trophies during Clyde's four years. Clyde again was named All-Western Indiana Conference Center, All-Wabash Valley Center, and All-City Center. He also captured Garfield's 1948 Zimmerman Award and the Krietenstein Award and was named to the 1948 Indiana All-star Team.

At the University of Kansas from 1949 to 1952, Lovellette played under legendary Forrest Phog Allen and helped foster the trend of the, high-scoring centers. Clyde won the conference scoring title as a sophomore with a 21.8 PPG average. As a junior Lovellette again paced the conference in scoring with a 22.8 PPG average. In his final season of 1952, Kansas won the NCAA Championship. Clyde scored 141 points in 4 games for an NCAA tournament record and was named the MVP. He tallied 44 points against St. Louis University for a new single game NCAA Tournament mark. He made 315 field goals and scored 795 points for a 28.4 PPG average that season to lead the nation in each category. A three-time All-American, Lovellette scored a then college record 1,888 career points, a 24.5 PPG average.

He participated on the U.S. Olympic team that won the gold medal at the 1952 games in Helsinki, Finland. Clyde played AAU Basketball for one season with the Phillips 66 Team and was their leading scorer and named All-NIBL.

Lovellette began his pro career with the Minneapolis (now Los Angeles) Lakers and helped them win the 1953-1954 NBA championship. He became the first of a select few to play on an NCAA, Olympic, and NBA

championship squad. Lovellette later played for the NBA Cincinnati Royals (1957-1958), St. Louis Hawks (1958-1959 to 1961-1962), and Boston Celtics (1962-1963 to 1963-1964), the latter twice winning NBA Championships. He appeared in the NBA championship series in 1960 and 1961 with the Hawks, which lost both times to Boston. With Minneapolis, Lovellette led the Lakers four times in field goal percentage, three times in rebounds, and twice in scoring.

In 1955-1956 he scored 1,526 points (fourth best in the NBA) and grabbed 992 rebounds (NBA third best). His best season came in 1957-1958, when he paced Cincinnati in scoring with 1,659 points and compiled a 23.4 point average, ranking fourth in the NBA. He led St. Louis in field goal and free throw percentage in the 1959-1960 and 1960-1961 seasons.

One of the most physical centers in NEA history, Lovellette played in 773 regular-season and play off games, scored 12,910 points (16.7 PPG average), and grabbed 7220 rebounds (9.3 rebounds-per-game average) in eleven seasons. He played in three NBA All-star games (1956, 1960-1961) and in 1956 was named to the All-NBA Second Team. A member of HAF (Helms Athletic Foundation) Hall of Fame, Lovellette in 1952 was selected as their Player of the Year. After leaving basketball, Lovellette served as a television sports director and as a sheriff in Terre Haute. He also directed a nursing home in Illinois, owned an antique shop in Massachusetts, and coached at St. Anthony's School in New Bedford, MA. His last job was in Wabash, IN as the director of the Vocational Education Program at White's Institute. Lovellette's first wife, Sally, whom he married in 1952, is deceased. He married Judy Jean Wray in 1970 and has five children, Cynthia, Linda, Cherie, Barry, and Robb. In 1988 he was elected as a player to the Naismith Memorial Basketball Hall of Fame.

**PLEASE PAY YOUR DUES
IF YOU HAVEN'T PAID YOUR
1998-99 DUES, THIS WILL BE THE
LAST ISSUE OF BOXSCORE YOU
WILL RECEIVE. DUES ARE \$5.00
PER YEAR AND WERE DUE ON
JULY 1, 1998**

The Quigley Memorial Library

By Bob Pearson

Following is a list of books available from our library to all IHSBHS members (* designates IHSBHS member. If you would like to buy a copy of the book contact that member):

1. **Where in the World is Wes-Del, Westview, and Wapahani-Second Edition**
By Harley Sheets*
2. **Where in the World is Wes-Del, Westview, and Wapahani**
By Harley Sheets*
3. **I'm Telling You, You Can Go Back Home**
By Dean Kendall*
4. **Hoosier Hysteria-Seventh Edition**
By Herb Schwomeyer*
5. **Whistle Blowers**
By Wendell Trogdon*
6. **No Harm, No Foul**
By Wendell Trogdon*
7. **Out Front-The Cladie Bailey Story**
By Wendell Trogdon*
8. **Basket Cases**
By Wendell Trogdon*
9. **Gym Rats**
By Wendell Trogdon*
10. **Damon-Living a Dream**
By Damon Bailey and W. Trogdon*
11. **Tiger Basketball-A Lebanon Passion 1911-1991**
By Harley Sheets*
12. **The Eagles-Monmouth H.S. Basketball 1924-67**
By Bob Adams*
13. **The Kangaroos- Kirkland Twp. H.S. Basketball 1917-49**
By Bob Adams*
14. **The Spartans-Pleasant Mills H.S. Basketball 1915-63**
By Bob Adams*
15. **The Commodores-Decatur Catholic H.S. Basketball**
By Bob Adams*
16. **The Bearkat-Monroe H.S. Basketball 1913-49**
By Bob Adams*
17. **The Gorillas-Hartford Twp H.S. Basketball 1918-63**
By Bob Adams*
18. **Huntington County Basketball**
By Chuck Wohlford*
19. **Decatur County Basketball 1946-68**
By Jack Poore*
20. **The Early Years-Decatur County Basketball 1932-45**
By Jack Poore*
21. **Pimento-A History and Memories**
By Dean Kendall*
22. **Crawfordsville High School Basketball 1900-Present**
By Bob Whalen*
23. **The Wabash Valley Tournament**
By Dean Kendall*
24. **Maconaquah Braves 1963-1996**
By Gary Working*
25. **Indiana High School Basketball Record Book**
By Gene Milner *
26. **Montgomery County Basketball History Before Consolidation**
By Bob Whalen*
27. **Covington High School Sports History**
By Don and Ruth White*
28. **Crawfordsville Sectional Basketball 1915-71**
By Bob Whalen*
29. **Indiana High School Basketball Review**
By Harley Sheets*
30. **Shooting Stars**
By Wendell Trogdon*
31. **All Star Memories**
By Don Bates
32. **A March For Honor**
By Alexander Wolff
33. **The Complete Book of Basketball A New York Times Scrapbook History**
By Gene Brown
34. **The Franklin Wonder Five**
By Phillip Ellett
35. **Small School, Giant Dream**
By Raymond Moscovitz
36. **The Bears-A History of Bern H. S. Basketball 1903-66**
By Bob Adams*
37. **North Montgomery H.S. Basketball and Football Record Book**
By Bob Whalen*
38. **Southmont H.S. Basketball and Football Record Book**
By Bob Whalen*
39. **Larry Bird's Basketball**
By Larry Bird & Larry Bischoff
40. **Hatchets-The History of Washington H.S. Basketball 1905-96**
By Bob Padgett & Larry Richardson
41. **John Wooden-They Call Me Coach**
By Jack Tobin
42. **Larry Bird-Drive-The Story of My Life**
By Bob Ryan
43. **On Red Devils-Jeffersonville H.S. Basketball 1906-74**
By William S. Johnson
44. **The Last Tiger- An Indiana Basketball Story**
By Mike Edwards*
45. **A Season On The Brink A Year With Bob Knight**
By John Feinstein
46. **Glory Days-History of Jay County Basketball**
By Dean Monroe*
47. **New Castle Trojan Basketball 1909-97**
By Neil Thornhill D.D. S

Gems Of The Past

By Harley Sheets

The Hunk Francis Mystique

There have been many unusual happenings in the world of Indiana high school basketball, but none more bizarre than what happened at Jeffersonville in the mid-thirties. When this strange event took place there was more than ample press coverage, but since that time, as far as I know, there has been nothing expounded or printed on the subject. It has remained a mystery. Since the individual involved in this incident had a Latvian name and because my wife is Latvian my curiosity was aroused and I started digging.

Janis (Latvian for John) "Hunk" Francis was born in Union County, Ohio just northeast of Columbus in 1903. However, he attended Avon High School and Central Normal College, both in Hendricks County, Indiana. I have no information on his schooling at Avon, but since I live in Hendricks County it was easy to go to the Danville Library and the Hendricks County Historical Society that have Central Normal yearbooks. I found out that he was a basketball star at Central Normal, graduating in 1928. By this time he had acquired the moniker - "Hunk". His first coaching experience was at little West Point High School in Tippecanoe County where he compiled a 24-6 record in 1929 while winning the Lafayette sectional. In 1930 he was 17-10 at Edinburgh before taking the Jeffersonville job.

Coach Francis after some problems in his first year started producing exceptional yearly records, 20-3 (1932), 17-9 (1933), 26-4 (1934). However, in 1935 the bottom fell out. After a 22-0 regular season, his Red Devils were the favorites to win the state tournament and it looked as though it would happen as they advanced to the final four, but here is where the trouble began. Friday night prior to the semifinal game against Richmond the coach sent his boys to bed. The next morning at breakfast Mr. Francis didn't show, but a taxicab with a dazed coach appeared at the Marrott before the team left for the Butler Fieldhouse. Some of the team members got their coach to the game and on the bench. They won, but "Hunk" just sat there in a stupor saying and doing nothing. The coach was immediately returned to the hotel and put to bed, the

thinking being that he would recover for the titular contest. However, the coach was worse for the championship game and the Anderson Indians won 23-17.

Naturally, there was a huge uproar in the Ohio rivertown when the team returned on Sunday. There were several allegations and people were calling for the coaches scalp. Since "Hunk" was an unmarried man, it was reported that he had been with prostitutes and had gotten drunk. It was suggested that there had been gangsters involved and that the coach had taken a bribe. Some speculated that he had been drinking with some fans that were in cahoots with bookies who were offering odds in favor of Anderson, whom the Red Devils had beaten during the regular season.



Janis "Hunk" Francis

In speaking to a member of the 1935 team I found out these facts. There was, as might be expected, no celebration and when the team arrived home, reporters were swarming all over Jeffersonville. The captain of the team went to the high school to feel out the situation and spoke to the principal who had never gotten along with "Hunk". After analyzing the situation the boy went to his coaches home. "Hunk" somewhat better but still shaky could still not recollect what had happened so had no explanation. He asked the young man what he thought should be done. It was suggested that he should leave town or risk getting shot. Later on it was the opinion of the team members, having been the closest to him,

that their coach had indeed been drugged because if he had have been intoxicated then his condition should have improved with some sleep.

In 1947, five years after "Hunk" had ended his coaching career and would have had no fear of I.H.S.A.A. sanctions, a member of the team met him for lunch. He asked him what really had happened and why he had never defended himself. The coach still insisted that he had no recollection of what had transpired and therefore had no explanation.

There were some who wanted Mr. Francis banned from coaching in Indiana and it was thought that this could be a distinct possibility. However, the embattled coach was back on the bench in 1936 at little Windfall in Tipton County. The next year he took the Elwood job where he stayed through 1942. In his 14 year coaching career his record was 205-138.

Before writing about this adventure I had the privilege of conversing with Mrs. Janis Francis and daughter Fanchon who now live in the Logansport area. Here are some things I found out. Coach Francis met his wife in Windfall and they had three children. Fanchon, the second child, attended Ball State and while there was a baton twirler in the band. This year she is starting her twenty-third with the special education department in the Logansport school system. Oldest son David recently retired as a TWA pilot, after thirty years of service, has recently moved from Cincinnati to Monticello, Indiana. He graduated from Butler University in 1960 and played a little basketball there. He also had a thirty-two year tenure with the Air Force Reserve. The youngest of the three, Jan, lives in Phoenix, Arizona and has a law degree. He is a Regional Crime Prevention Manager of a chain of Circle-K convenience stores. All three graduated from Windfall High School.

Mr. Francis after saying goodbye to basketball had a small vending business and supplied small hot dog rotisserie machines to food establishments. You now see these devices in Super 7's and other convenience stores.

In my opinion, Janis "Hunk" Francis is worthy of Hall of Fame consideration. It has never been proven that he was involved in any wrong doing. Others in the Hall of Fame have had controversy

Continued on page 8

Gems Of The Past-Continued

swirl around them. Mr. Francis' brother, Chet, who is an inductee, coached at Vincennes for ten years. He won seven sectionals, two regionals and had an overall record of 130-126. This is according to the Vincennes basketball book written by Bill Steadman. "Hunk's" overall record stands at 205-138 in 14 years of coaching with four sectionals, two regionals, two final 4's and a runners-up. Also included is an undefeated regular season in 1935.

"Hunk" passed away in 1965 and a large number of his former players attended the funeral including several from Jeffersonville. The prior year most of the same fellows attended a picnic held in his honor which attests to the respect that they had for him.

Mr. Francis may have made some mistakes in Jeffersonville but he continued coaching with children who seem to have turned out quite well. Let us judge him on this achievement and not on a supposed indiscretion which happened many years ago.

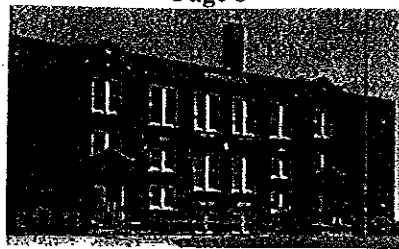
"Hunk" Francis' Coaching Record

Year	School	Record
1929	West Point	24-06 (F32)
1930	Edinburgh	17-10
1931	Jeffersonville	00-17#
1932	Jeffersonville	20-03
1933	Jeffersonville	17-09 (F32)
1934	Jeffersonville	26-04 (F4)
1935	Jeffersonville	31-01 (RU)
1936	Windfall	11-10
1937	Elwood	06-16
1938	Elwood	10-12
1939	Elwood	11-13
1940	Elwood	13-08
1941	Elwood	12-12
1942	Elwood	07-17

#17-0 before being forced by IHSAA to forfeit their entire schedule.



Western High School
Site of our meeting on October 10



Clay Twp School

Eddie Lippold-A Clay Township Institution

By Bob Adams

The dictionary defines an institution as an established organization, corporation or public figure.

No man from Clay Township High School in Miami county fits this description better than Eddie Lippold.

Eddie Lippold was born November 26, 1902. He attended Bunker Hill High School and Manchester College.

Prior to 1922, there was no high school in Clay Township. Students from the ten township grade schools had to attend high school in Amboy, Bunker Hill, Howard Township or Kokomo.

This all changed in the early 1920's when it was decided that a high school would be built in the center of the township, and would include all 12 grades.

The school opened for the 1922-23 school year, and when the bell rang and the doors opened, Eddie Lippold was there, teaching fifth and sixth grade students.

There were basketball coaches at the school before Eddie Lippold. John Conn coached the first team at the school, followed by Carl Jenkins and Albert Flaugh, who coached two years each.



Eddie Lippold

But, when the sixth edition of the Indians took to the floor for the 1927-28 season, Eddie Lippold was on the sidelines, a spot he would occupy until 1957, some 30 years later.

No wins in sectional title games are included in Lippold's 384 wins, but he did take the Indians to the title game nine times, including three straight years from 1929-31. The Indians met Peru in the final game all ten times. The Indians came close, losing by one point in 1930, two points in 1935 and 1936, and by three points in overtime in 1939.

Lippold did guide his Indians to the final game of the Miami county tourney 13 times. Clay Township won seven county titles during Lippold's tenure, the first coming in 1930, the last coming in 1957, his final season.

Lippold had some excellent seasons. His 1935 team went 23-4, his 1940 team went 21-5, and his last team in 1957 went 19-3.

He also turned out several players who followed in his footsteps, going on to become teachers and coaches. One of his protoges was Claude Wolfe, who coached two seasons at Converse before entering military service, then came back after the war and coached for several years at Manchester College.

Lippold retired from coaching after the 1956-57 season and left Clay Township. He spent the last four years of his teaching career at the Roosevelt Elementary school in Kokomo. He passed away on April 13, 1990, at the ripe old age of 87.

**Eddie Lippold's Coaching Record
At Clay Twp**

Year	Record	Year	Record
1928	09-15	1951	16-07C
1929	18-06*	1952	05-15
1930	15-10C*	1953	09-11
1931	19-07*	1954	08-13
1932	09-13	1955	10-12
1933	07-15	1956	10-12
1934	09-15	1957	19-03C
1935	23-04*		
1936	20-02C*		*Sectional R/U
1937	17-07		C-County Champs
1938	15-10		
1939	17-05*		
1940	21-05C*		
1941	12-11		
1942	07-18*		
1943	07-16		
1944	08-14		
1945	05-18*		
1946	16-08C		
1947	19-05		
1948	13-08		
1949	11-13C		
1950	10-10		

Times Were Tough.....

By Wendell Trogden

The status of high school basketball was uncertain for most teams as the 1942-43 season approached.

Gasoline was to be rationed and tires were to be restricted within weeks, making transportation to games doubtful. Even if games could be played, attendance would be minimal, some officials feared, forgetting that Hoosiers would attend games even if they had to walk.

It was anticipated that principals and superintendents might cancel games.

In early October, the Bedford newspaper reported both Shawswick and Heltonville had given up the sport for the year: Heltonville because its gym had burned, Shawswick because of the war situation.

The paper retracted its premature report on Shawswick, blaming its unnamed source for the error. "There will be basketball," the principal emphasized.

Meantime, on October 30, the United Press revealed that the Indiana High School Coaches Association had drafted a letter to President Franklin D. Roosevelt asking that provisions be made to allow high schools the gasoline and tires needed for the transportation of athletic teams.

Signers of the letter included Ed Diedrich, Broad Ripple; Henry Bogue, Indianapolis Washington; Russell Julian, Shortridge; Henry Orner, Crown Point; Paul Newman, Lebanon; and Clyde Lyle, Rochester.

They said coaches of America wanted to continue to turn out fighting men, and added: "Will we have to scrap our athletic games when these games are the very instruments of basic train for our fighting men?"

"If necessary we advocate taking the required tires off beer trucks and using the necessary gas to transport our teams in order to play games."

"It is an established fact that the War Department is not satisfied with the type of fighters that the draft secures in the upper age bracket. This dissatisfaction is based upon our physical condition and poor mental attitudes. Our highest ranking officers have long pointed out the excellence of athletics for the fighting forces because of their fine physical condition and will to win."

Meantime, schools began to adjust to the situation. Some limited the number of games, other readjusted schedules to eliminate long trips.

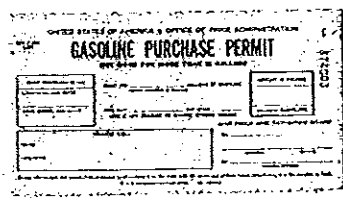


- Alcohol
- Automobile tires
- Automobiles
- Bicycles
- Cameras
- Candy
- Cars
- Clothing
- Cigarettes
- Coffee
- Dishes
- Drapes
- Eggs
- Gasoline
- Grease
- Hair cream
- Hair oil
- Hair pomade
- Hair soap
- Hair spray
- Hair tonic
- Hair water
- Hair wax
- Hair cream
- Hair oil
- Hair pomade
- Hair soap
- Hair spray
- Hair tonic
- Hair water
- Hair wax

Gasoline rationing and a national 35 mph speed limit were proposed in March of 1942 and went into effect nation-wide in December of 1942. Gas was not in short supply, but rubber for tires was, hence the need to restrict travel. An "A" sticker got you 3 gallons of gas per week, while a "T" sticker got you unlimited fuel.

of games, other readjusted schedules to eliminate long trips.

A few, like Tunnelton and Huron in Lawrence County, reduced the number of games to eight, the minimum allowed for participation in the IHSAA basketball tournament.



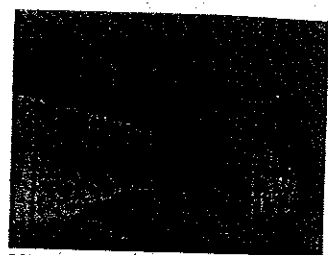
The season went on, some coaches leaving in mid-season to answer draft summons. Interim coaches were the rule at many schools.

Basketball, would that season, and two more seasons to come, become a welcome diversion from the horror of war.

The Ten Second Line

If Roy Rogers is the "King of Cowboys", then Richard Butt must surely be the "King of Overtimes."

Most basketball fans know that Butt's Liberty Center team went nine overtimes in losing to Swayzee in the 1964 Marion regional. (Swayzee had beaten Oak Hill the week before in triple OT!!) Butt's 1974 Leo team and Adams Central took six overtimes to decide the Lions 68-62 win.



The Last Heltonville School

It wasn't until after the war that Heltonville was able to obtain the permits and material to rebuild its school

Postscript to A Hot Time in Heltonville

The Heltonville principal, persuaded by some fans who volunteered to use their rationed gasoline to drive players to practice at Shawswick, four miles away, and to games, declared a short time later the school would floor a team for the 1943-44 season, one when the author would be a freshman.

The tide of the war was beginning to turn. The long, dreary winter of 1942-43 had ended.

Most schools had to make adjustments to war-time demands. In Adams county, Jefferson Township, (which never had a gym), had signed two different coaches, only to see both of them drafted before the war began. Their was talk of canceling their season, but local farmer volunteered the use of horse drawn wagons and tractors to get the team back and forth to Geneva and Berne for practices and games.

Pleasant Mills lost six of their top ten players during the season to the military. Berne's coach was drafted into the service between the end of the regular season and the beginning of the sectional, leaving the team without a coach. The Pleasant Mills coach offered to coach the Berne squad, which might have caused a problem since they were in the same bracket, but Berne lost their opening game and did not have to meet the Spartans.

One Adams county coach, Herman Neuenschwander from Monroe, had hired a close friend and college buddy, Merlin Eichenberry, to assist him in coaching the Bearkatz. When Neuenschwander was drafted, Eichenberry took over as head coach. A few weeks after the season had ended, Neuenschwander was assigned to take some classes at Yale. Who was the first person he ran in to at Yale? None other than Eickenberry, who had also been drafted.

DOCTOR'S ORDERS

By Dr. Roger Robison
(with a little help from Tiuu)

(1). **EVERETT CASE AND THE FRANKFORT HOT DOGS** by R.F. Robison, Hot Dog Press, 1998, 406 pages with over 100 illustrations. Now available at the Newcastle Hall of Fame, the Clinton County Historical Society, or send \$20.00 to R. Robison, 304 S. 9th, Vincennes, 47591.

This book covers every Indiana State Tournament from 1911 to 1945 and it gives every all-state team from 1913 through 1945. Frankfort, a railroad center, enjoyed successful semi-pro football and baseball teams and ignored basketball until 1912. The Gem City was forced into high school basketball by the prowess of its neighbors: Lebanon, Crawfordsville, Thorntown, and LaFayette. The weak sisters, drubbed 101-14 by Lebanon and 58-6 by the Athenians, finally struck back beginning in 1920 and went 23 years before having another losing season. How the legendary Everett Case did it, by foul means and fair, is detailed herein.

The book also covers every North

Central Conference race from 1926 through 1945. It covers every Big Ten race from 1906 through 1945. It covers every season of the National Basketball League, the Hoosier League, from inception in '32/'33 until the NBA merger in 1950. It covers every NIT and NCAA Tourney from origin until 1947 and lists all the college All-Americans. It covers the era from 1915-1945 when Indiana was truly the King of Basketball.

(2). **Pioneers of the Hardwood; Indiana and the Birth of Professional Basketball**

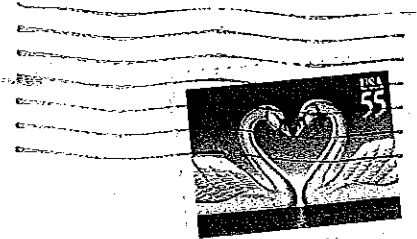
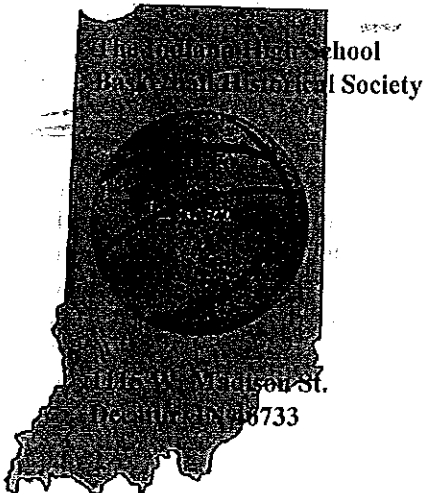
by Todd Gould, Indiana University Press, Bloomington, \$14.95. You may have seen Gould on TV illustrating his book which starts with the Indianapolis Em-Roes in 1913 and their arch rivals the Columbus Commercials. Emmelman and Roeder sold sporting goods in Indy. Groceryman Frank Kautsky started his Indy teams in 1931/32. John Wooden played for Kautsky for 6 years while he coached South Bend Central. Used car dealer Ed Ciesar founded the Calumet Region pro team. The National Basketball

League was founded by Kautsky and Sheeks from Akron. The League was dominated by the Fort Wayne Pistons during World War II as the players got draft deferments. After the War, an evil dwarf named Maurice Podoloff (in the Hall of Fame!) and his hockey puck buddies put the "Hoosier League" out of business. The small town franchises in Indy, Hammond, Anderson, and finally even Fort Wayne were forced out by the Hockey Arena owners who developed the N.B.A. A great book for Indiana fans and if you don't have time to read it there is a summary in book #1, chapter 37: "Hockey Pucks Ice Hoosiers".

Directions to General Meeting

Western H.S. is located s/w of Kokomo and is approximately 2 mi North and 6 mi West of the Intersection of Hiways 31 and 26.

Take Hiway 31 to the intersection of Hiway 26, just south of Kokomo. Go west on 26 two miles to Dixon Rd. (C.R. 200 West). Go north on Dixon Rd. 1-1/2 mile to Alto Rd. (C.R. 250 South). Go west on Alto Rd. four miles to Western H.S. (at the intersection of 250 South and 600 West.) The school address is 2600 S. 600 W. Russiaville, IN



Harley B. Sheets
635 State Rd. 39 South
Danville IN 46122

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