

BOB ADAMS-EDITOR

BOARD MEETING

Due to the number of board members unable to attend the board meeting on March 7, we will have a short board meeting before the next regularly scheduled meeting on March 20, 1999.

This meeting will start at 12:00 noon at the Old Frankfort High School located on Hiway 28 in the middle of Frankfort.

Meeting Agenda

The next meeting of the Indiana High School Basketball Historical Society will be on March 20, 1999 from 1-3 p.m. at the old Frankfort High School.

"Old Stony is located right off Hiway 28 in downtown Frankfort.

The Clinton County Historical Society Society will be having a book signing during our meeting and members can bring books to sell. For more information on this, contact Dr. Roger Robison at 812-331-8018.

We will have a short business meeting followed by an election of board members. Only those members in attendance can be elected to the board.

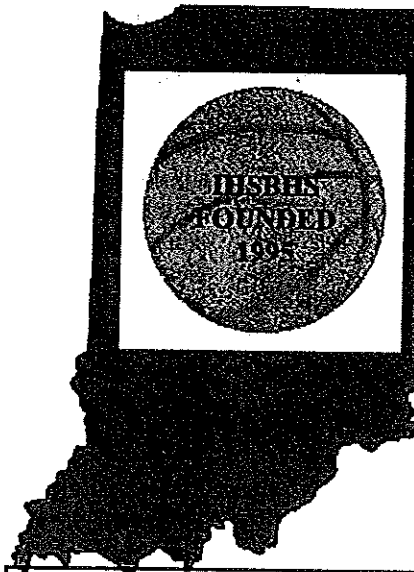
Since our meeting in January was canceled due to the weather, the two people who were going to have the program then, Dr. Robison and Dean Kendall, will give short talks about how they came to research and write their books.

We will also have more information available about our summer meeting and tour of southern Indiana gymnasiums

SPRING 1999

Regular Meeting

The next regularly scheduled meeting of the Indiana High School Basketball Historical Society will be on March 20, 1999 at the old Frankfort High School located on Hiway 28. Meeting hours are from 1-3 p.m. There will also be a book signing and IHSBHS members are encouraged to bring books they would like to sell.



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The Quarterly Newsletter of The Indiana High School Basketball Historical Society

Norseman Notes

By Bob Adams

The nasty January weather caused the cancellation of our last meeting. I think that we should probably plan on having our winter meeting in early December from here on out in order to stay away from the snows and cold weather of January.

The next regularly scheduled meeting is on March 20, 1999, and will be at the old Frankfort High School, which is located right on Hiway 28 in downtown Frankfort. Meeting hours are from 1-3 p.m. The Clinton County Historical Society will be having a book signing during this time, and if you would like to bring books to sell, please contact Roger Robison at 812-331-8018 for details.

Also at this meeting we will be having an election of board members. We have had a problem with board members not attending board meetings. If you would like to run for the board, please plan on attending the board meetings. We are planning on having only four board meetings a year, and two of these will be run right before regular meetings.

If you plan on running for the board, please plan to be at the meeting. No one will be nominated or elected unless they are in attendance.

Also at this meeting, we will finalize plans for our fifth anniversary celebration and meeting, which will include a tour of several old gymnasiums in Lawrence and Jackson counties. Wendell Trodgon, who has put a lot of time and effort into this meeting, has also lined up several former coaches and players to meet us at the gyms, and several will be attending our meeting on Friday night, July 16, 1999.

You can still reserve a room at the Stonehenge Motel by calling 1-800-274-2974. Let them know that you are an IHSBHS member.

Also in this newsletter is an article about the new Hall of Fame director, Clyde Smoll.

Bob Pearson has met Mr. Smoll a couple of times, and while he is cut from a different cloth than the former directors, he still has an interest in what we are doing.

Is anyone doing any research? I haven't had any new research turned in for quite some time. If anyone is, please let me know.

I also need your help on a couple of items. I would like to document losing streaks. If you have any information on any schools in your area that went more than one season without a win, please let me know. I have found one school in Adams county with a 32 game losing streak, and two in Delaware county with even longer losing streaks (33 and 45 games.).

I would also like to welcome a few of new members, Mike Becker, David L. Wade, and Dave Schellhase. Mr. Becker is a friend of Bob Pearson's, and Bob was gracious enough to supply us with some information. Mike, if this information is erroneous, blame Pearson.

A special thanks goes out to Joe Quigley's mother, Mrs. Arthur Quigley Sr., for her generous donation.

For you new members, Joe Quigley was a founder of our group who passed away in August of 1997.

Welcome New Members

Dave Schellhase

1510 19-1/2 St.

Moorehead, MN 56560

218-233-2288

Evansville North 1962

Gary Pine St.

1000 Fair St.

Clay City, IN 47841

Timm Cooney

1119 Walser Rd.

Shelbyville, IN 46176

Mike Becker

5245 Rothman Rd.

Fort Wayne, IN 46835

219-485-6497

219-485-2997 (fax)

MLBECK@GTE.NET

Sulphur Springs 1964

Pastor David L. Wade

200 E. Elder St.

Portland, IN 47371

219-726-9074

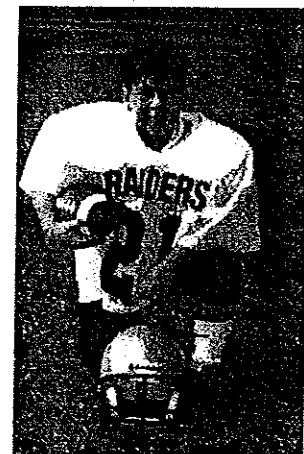
Miss Basketball 2017

The race for Miss Basketball -2017 is over, and the future of the Huntington North girls basketball program was assured with the announced birth of Shelby Dawn Bowman. While her vertical leap has not yet been established, she did check in at 7 pounds, 4 ounces, and was 19 inches long when she was fitted for her Miss Basketball uniform on January 5, 1999. Already exhibiting her athletic prowess, she has been known to dribble without a ball.



Shelby Dawn Bowman

Shelby, the daughter of Kristy and Cory Bowman of Warren, is also the grand-daughter of Bob and Angie Pearson of Huntington.



Brandon Pearson

Shelby joins a trio of other Pearson grandchildren. Future Mr. Football and state wrestling champ Brandon (The Animal) Pearson is 10, another future Miss Basketball (2007), Brittany (Slam-Dunk) Combs is in the fourth grade, and they join the lovely little miss Shannon, a young red-headed beauty.

Meet Clyde Smoll The New Director of The Hall of Fame

By John Hodge

Even though Clyde Smoll has had a comprehensive career in sports administration, he finds the Indiana Basketball Hall of Fame a new and different venture.

Smoll, recently named as executive director of the Hall of Fame, arrived for duty in New Castle [Jan. 4]. His background includes professional hockey, professional baseball and college baseball.

Now he finds himself the guardian of Indiana's hallowed house of hoop history. Priorities are not quite the same as in his past positions.

"This is the first time in my life that I have worked in sports management where it's not-for-profit," Smoll said. "Professional minor-league or major-league sports, as you well know, is about the almighty dollar. I honestly think the dollar is ruining sports in a very big way. So when this opportunity came up, to be involved in sports in a not-for-profit arena, I was very interested.

"I think that high school basketball is probably one of the last bastions of sports just for the passion of the game. Certainly there are no players, coaches, athletic directors and officials that are making anywhere near the kind of bucks they would make even at the minor-league professional level. They're involved for the love of it.

A native of Quakertown, Pa., Smoll played baseball for the University of Cincinnati, where he received a degree in business. He was involved in ownership of a Class A baseball league team in New York State for 12 years before switching to professional hockey the last two years.

Most recently he was vice president of marketing for the Central Hockey League, based in Indianapolis. His wife, Charlene, is director of finance for that league.

"About two months ago I was promoted to vice president for corporate development," Smoll said. "It was about that time that I got a call from Danny Danielson, asking if I'd be interested in the Indiana Basketball Hall of Fame.

The executive director's position had been vacant since last July, when Jason Crowe died unexpectedly.

"My first impressions of the Hall of Fame came from the Board of Directors and other people who were directly involved with it," Smoll said. "I could see their passions and excitement about what they have developed here. I've seen a lot of sports museums, but I don't know of any others devoted to state basketball only. I think it's just a spectacular concept."

"In any kind of not-for-profit arrangement, the unsung heroes are the volunteers," said Smoll, who wants to establish "contact people" all over the state to help publicize the Hall of Fame.

"I think we need some kind of volunteer network all across the state. One of the goals I have is to identify two or three representatives in each of Indiana's 92 counties. A county rep would know the media, the coaches and the



Clyde Smoll

athletic directors in that county. Through the county rep I could arrange presentations to local service clubs and so on.

As for the museum itself, Smoll envisions a system wherein the collection of exhibits would be rotated. Another goal is to increase [the] number of events.

"We have the golf outing which Ameriana Bank sponsors. We have the City Securities Hall of Fame Classic and the induction dinner. But there's no reason we can't have four or five golf outings throughout the state. I don't think we need to be analogous with central Indiana. We need to get out to the south, east and west parts of the state.

Smoll expects to be on the road a great deal, as previous directors of the Hall of Fame have been. He has always been a "hands-on" person, dating back to his days as a baseball team owner.

"My wife and I worked seven days a week for over 12 years. We ran our own concession stands and merchandising stands. I'm proud to say we never saw a full home game in those 12 years. We saw innings, we saw outs, we saw pitches; but never a full game. We were too busy managing our business to make sure that the media and the customers were satisfied.

The first Saturday of Smoll's tenure was to be the third and final showing of the Reebok Distant Replay series at Knightstown's Hoosier Gym. But those scheduled games between the JV and varsity girls teams were postponed due to inclement weather. The Hall of Fame will look into making the series a permanent fixture on its schedule. "This is a three-year agreement with Reebok, but we will sit down and evaluate it each year," Smoll said. "I've already gotten calls from some schools wanting to play in next year's Distant Replay, as well as those schools wanting to play in the Classic."

The Smolls have three grown children: a daughter in Indianapolis, a daughter in Birmingham, Ala., and a son in Atlanta, Ga. They also have two grandchildren.

The biggest challenge says the new director, is to bring more people to visit the Hall of Fame.

"We need to keep it fresh," Smoll said. "This museum is sort of like a Web site. Web sites are fine, but if you don't keep putting new information on it, people will quickly lose interest."

John Hodge is the Sports Editor at the New Castle Courier-Times. This article came from the January 8, 1999 edition of that paper.

The picture of Smoll came from the Hall of Fame quarterly.

Undue Influence

By Wendell Trodgon

"Undue influence," it was called, this case back on June 17, 1935, when Clearspring High School was suspended by the Indiana High School Athletic Association.

The suspension was for the 1935-36 season, but it did not prevent the school from scheduling its own games outside the IHSAA purview.

Minutes of the IHSAA meeting detail the reasons for the suspension

"This case concerns charges of alleged use of undue influence in soliciting basketball players and in securing one basketball player. The Pearson boy of Houston and the Potter boy of Bedford did not enter the Clearspring High School, but Hamel Goodin did enter and played basketball on the Clearspring team (in the 1934-35 season.)

"The father, John Goodin and his family moved to Clearspring last fall. The father was employed to do some painting and repair work at the high school. The family moved away in March, 1934, but the boy remained at the school.

Decision The Clearspring High School suspended from the IHSAA under the rule of IHSAA constitution reading as follows:

"The use of undue influence by any person or persons to secure or retain one or both of the parents or guardians of a student as residents may cause the student to be ineligible for high school athletics."

When basketball season started, however, coach Harry Spurgeon announced a schedule and said the high school would have a team as usual

Among the opponents were the Civilian Conservation Corps team from Kurtz, a Clearspring Alumni team, the Indiana Central College (now the University of Indianapolis) "B" team and some independent squads.

Spurgeon promised a full schedule of games.

Not even the IHSAA could stop basketball at Clearspring High School.

The Kodak Girls By Dick Tiernan

In the late '20s and early '30s, Wayne County had a semi-professional girls basketball team that was sponsored by the Camera Shop and known as the Kodak Girls. The team was semi-professional in that other than enjoying the game they were happy to eat free in the City Restaurant after the games. A Mrs. Morrey and Ather Reeg were the coaches. A few years later Kenneth Price helped coach the team known then as the Sterlings. The girls played boys rules and were so talented that they often played high school boy teams... and usually won.

Most women with whom I've talked usually commented on how they hated their gym suits, and the history of athletic apparel for girls is not exactly by Christian Dior. In 1902 the town of Attica, Ind., had a girls team and the uniform of that day consisted of full bloomers, almost to the shoe tops with a blouse waist that had a small V neck opening with the three quarter length sleeves and all made of wool. The suit was considered so daring that men were not permitted to see their games. If you took gym classes as a youngster you might have some enmity toward Agnes Bloomer. Agnes was a magazine publisher who wrote a story in 1851 about a loose trouser gathered at the knees that was available for physical training. Bloomer's ad doomed girls for several generations. Did any of you ladies ever pull up the elastic that was around the knee to a spot higher on the thigh; and then lap the cloth so that it was more daring?

Basketball for women had different rules in those days. In early years the game was even called Net Ball. The court was divided into thirds with three players in each sector. Girls in the end sectors were always guards who could only play defense. At the other end were the shooter girls, whereas the center girls could go anywhere. Mary Elizabeth Miller told me the rule for girls that she disliked the most was the limited dribble. Girls could bounce the ball but twice and then had to pass which the rule makers thought was more dignified. Later the girls game evolved into just six players on a team.

During the early years girl basketball teams played the first game with the boys game following. Somewhere along the line men must have decided that games for boys were more important so they eliminated



Wilda Sweet Payton

The Kodak Girls



Bottom Row: Wilda Sweet, Betty Ballinger, Nettie Rogers, Anna Mae Haas
Middle Row: Maxine Marine, Mid Doyle, Gene Watkins, Sis ?, Ruth Raper
Top Row: Ethel Killen, Ather Reeg (Coach), Rhea Pinnick, Mrs. Morrey (Mgr), Laura Bassford

the girls games in favor of a boys second team. A return to having the girls teams playing on the same night as the boys game is certainly in order. Today's girls can play basketball just as well as a boys second team. Such a refreshing change would be applicable in our area, however, in Iowa the girls basketball games generally have better attendance in which case it would be unacceptable.

If someone wanted to write a thesis for a college course or to publish a book "A History of Girls' Basketball" could be a best seller since there is little or no information on such a topic.



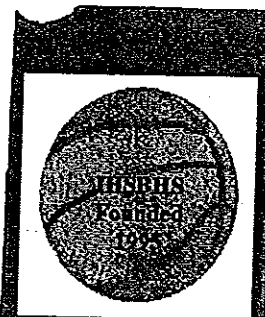
Nettie Rogers, Wilda Sweet, Ethel Killen, Anna Mae Haas, Sis ?, Rhea Pinnick

Not all the girls in the picture can be identified, but thanks to one of the Kodak Girls, Wilda Sweet Payton from Connersville, many of the young ladies are identified. Mrs. Wayne Van Sickle's mother, Anna Mae Haas was a star player, too, and her father was one of the coaches.

In the 1930s era many merchants sponsored free throw shooting contests for the girls. Jenkins Jewelry Store sponsored such a contest that was won by Wilda Sweet who out scored Ethel Killen for the silver trophy.

This article came from the September, 1994 issue of Senior Life. Dick Tiernan was a staff writer for that publication.

Wilda Sweet Payton is the aunt of IHSBHS vice president Bob Pearson, and still lives in the Connersville area.



Don't Miss the Next IHSBHS Meeting At Frankfort on March 20, 1999 From 1-3 P.M.

DOCTOR'S ORDERS

By Dr. Roger F. Robison



Dr. Roger and Tiu Robison

(1) NOTRE DAME AND THE BIG 10. WILL SHE OR WON'T SHE?: ANSWERED FEBRUARY 5th.

For years Notre Dame wanted in the Club. They were rejected maybe 5 times between 1897-1926, significantly in 1908 and 1926. Now the Club wants them. Whichever way the vote went on 2/5/99 you will find fascinating reading about the motives of the two lovers in "SHAKE DOWN THE THUNDER, the creation of Notre dame football" by I.U. Prof. Murray Sperber, Henry Holt & Co., NY, 1993. It's a history of the Big 10 as well as of Notre Dame through 1941.

(2) HISTORIES OF THE BIG 10.

(a) The best book was published in 1967 and sometimes can be found at garage sales or used book stores or remnant sales. Harley and I each bought copies at different times in different states for under \$10.00. Entitled "THE BIG 10" by Kenneth (Tug) Wilson & Jerry Brondfield, Prentice-Hall Inc., Englewood NJ, 1967. In addition to I.U. and P.U. it mentions all the Hoosier hardwood stars who played elsewhere, especially Michigan.

(b) A more recent book is "THE BIG TEN, A Century Of Excellence." by Dale Ratermann, Sagamore Publishing, Champaign IL, 1996. The advice here is to wait for the remnant sale. It sold for \$40.00 and is mostly pictures and records with little text other than summary paragraphs and suffers by comparison with (a).

(3) What can you say about I.U. football? The worst in the Big 10, perhaps in the USA for the first 100 years they have been playing; 885-1986.

For all games they have about a 0.331 winning %. For their first 85 years in the Big 10, it was 0.319. From 1885 through 1920 they had twelve winning seasons and then one until 1935. Bo McMillin, coach from

1934-1947, is essentially the ONLY winning coach I.U. ever had. Two great books are now available about the only man to win football games at I.U. "BO MCMILLIN, Man & Legend" by C.W.Akers & J.W.Carter, Sulgave Press, Louisville, 1989, and "HOOSIER AUTUMN, The Remarkable Story Of Indiana University's 1945 Championship", by R.D.Arnold, Guild Press, Indianapolis, 1996, are both fun.

The latter has a forward by Bob Knight. Starting as a fresh on the '45 Champs was John Goldsberry, son of the legendary Alonzo, national basketball champion at both Wingate (1920) and then at Wabash. A fresh sub was Long Tom Schwartz from the famous 1944 L-S-M-F-T Kokomo runner-ups.

That 1945 title was in the same league as the 1954 Milan tale and just as enjoyable a story.

IT'S NOT TOO LATE

It is not too late make reservations for our summer meeting in Bedford, an event that will mark the Fifth Anniversary of the founding of the Indiana High School Basketball Historical Society.

Members may reserve a room at the Stonehenge Motel for Friday, July 16, by calling 1-800-274-2974, or 1-812-279-8111.

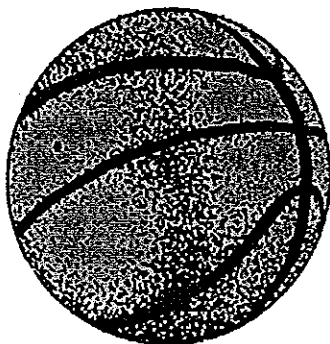
You should tell the desk you will be a part of the IHSBHS and whether you prefer a smoking or a nonsmoking room.

Room rates are \$56 for one person, \$64 for two people, plus an 8 percent tax. You will need to confirm your reservation with a credit card or check.

An IHSBHS meeting will start at 7 p.m. that day, followed by a roundtable discussion by some former southern Indiana coaches.

A tour of six to eight of the old gyms in Lawrence and Jackson Counties is planned for Saturday, making this meeting a special two-day event which you may want to make part of a special weekend getaway to scenic southern Indiana.

Members do not have to stay overnight at the hotel to participate in the tour.



The Amphibious Hilltopper

By Wendell Trogdon

Jack Turner's college choice was sealed the day Ed Diddle walked into the Turner home in Bedford in 1948.

Turner was the star of Ralph Holmes' Stonecutter team that year and was being sought by coaches from Indiana, Purdue and Kentucky. Diddle was the colorful coach of the Western Kentucky Hilltoppers.

"Coach Diddle called one day and said he was coming to Bedford to talk to me. When my mother answered the door, Diddle said, "you must be Jack's sister." That remark went over real well. My mother had a lot of influence in me going to Western."

On scholarship at Western, Turner lived in a dorm near the home of Diddle, who was noted for his colorful language and the red towel he waved during games.

Turner told Parsons, "He (Denton) loved publicity, but he talked so fast when he was interviewed: he got his words mixed up."

One morning when Turner was a freshman, he entered a restaurant where Diddle was about to be interviewed at a remote broadcast site. Bragging about his new recruit from Bedford, Diddle told the radio announcer, "Jack is the deadliest one-hand shooter you've ever seen ... and he can also shoot left handed. He's amphibious."

Turner also related the time Diddle, who had a heart condition that required weight loss, was lured into a bakery by the aroma of freshly-baked pies. Thinking he was entitled to be rewarded for following his diet, he ordered a banana cream pie to go.

"When a bakery employee asked if he wanted the pie cut into six pieces, he replied, "Four, of course. I can't eat six pieces of pie."

Diddle, Turner related, was a good coach. "But Ralph Holmes was the best coach I ever had (high school, college or professional). He was a great fundamentalist."

Turner's 1948 Bedford team was ranked #1 in the state after defeating Evansville Central late in the season and ended the regular season with a 17-2 record. Turner's college career was interrupted from 1951-53 when he was drafted during the Korean War. He returned to Western and helped lead Diddle's 1954 team to a 28-1 record and a No. 1 seed in the NIT.

He was drafted in the first round of the NBA draft by the New York Knicks, where he played one year before returning to Bedford.

Don't Miss The Next IHSBHS Meeting on March 20 From 1-3 P.M. At The Old Frankfort School

Elvis Has Left The Building A History of The Selma Blackbird

By Bob Pearson

The small Delaware county hamlet of Selma had a fair amount of basketball success over the years. The Bluebirds won the Delaware county tourney three years in row in the 1940's, and, with former Portland all-star John Bright as head coach, went undefeated in 1964, and was the first Delaware county school other than the three Muncie schools (Central, South, and Burris) to win a sectional, a feat they accomplished in 1967, the last year the small town had a school. They merged with tiny Center to form Wapahani, and have added three more sectional titles.



Selma High School

Don Odle, the long-time coach at Taylor University, prepped at Selma, as did another pretty decent coach, Jim East. East graduated in 1958 and took his first coaching job at Chester Center in Wells county. His next stop took him back to Center in Delaware county. During his tenure there, he met and became friends with Myron Dickerson, who was coaching at Royerton. When Dickerson moved on to Connersville, he invited East to come along as his assistant. The two men led Connersville to a state title in 1972, and when Dickerson left to take over at Muncie North, his spot at Connersville was taken by East. After five seasons at Connersville, East moved to Lawrenceburg for three seasons, then in 1980 moved to Merrillville, where he remains to this day. East has won over 450 games, and his 1995 team went 27-02 and lost in the state final game to Ben Davis, 58-57. If anyone has Hall of Fame credentials, Jim East does.

The 1958 RETRO, the Selma yearbook, looks more like a tribute to Jim East than it does a yearbook. As sports editor of the yearbook, his picture graces the opening page. He won four letters in basketball, four letters in baseball, and two in track. He was the basketball team's leading scorer, and, in baseball, led the county in hitting. Heck, he was even in the senior play.

He was the boy that everyone looked up to, the boy your mother wanted you to be like, never had a zit or an embarrassing moment-right? NOT!!



Jim East

After all of his success, after all the wins, many of the Selma old-timers remember East for something else, something that had happened on the basketball floor the previous season.

In the early 1950's James Dean of Fairmount arrived on the Hollywood scene, and many of the boys of that era started copying Dean's mannerisms, moves, and particularly his hair-do. A few years later, Elvis, with his jet black hair, arrived on the scene. While he had not made his famous appearance on the Ed Sullivan show, his records were selling well, and he graced the cover of many magazines. The boys of the era felt Elvis epitomized "cool", the girls thought him "dreamy", and the parents of that era felt much about Elvis like today's parents feel about Marilyn Manson and rap music.

The girl that East was dating had a mother who was a beautician, and the girlfriend thought that East would look cool with an Elvis hairdo. With a little persuasion, she talked her mother into doing the job, and she talked East, and one of his team mates, Jerry Rawlings, into getting the Elvis doo and dye job.

Selma had a home game that night, and the Bluebirds wore their home white uniforms. And, like other gyms of that era, there was no air conditioning, and when crammed with fans, these gyms became very hot and humid.

A couple of minutes into the game, the players started sweating. And, forty years ago, hair dye did not set up as quick as it does today. Every time East and Rawlings wiped their hair out of their eyes, they left long black streaks. The more they perspired, the more black streaks ran down their uniforms. Since they were the two best players on the team, and since their coach had a rather off-the-wall sense of humor, the two boys played the entire game. By games' end, both players hair

was almost back to its original color, but their ears, necks, shoulders, and uniforms were covered with sweaty black hair dye. Years later, a fan remembers that the dye adhered better to the players skin and uniforms than it did to their hair.

People in small towns have long memories, and they have a knack for remembering embarrassing things that happen to youngsters, oh, those many years ago. So, in spite of all of his success, there are still many people living in Selma who can tell you about East and the basketball game he started as Bluebird and ended up as a blackbird.

Jim East went on to coach at Chester Center, Center, Connersville, Lawrenceburg, and Merrillville. His 1995 team was runner-up in the state, but probably no game was as memorable to him as his first game as a head coach at Chester Center. This excerpt is from BASKET CASES by our own Wendell Trogdon:

Like most coaches, Jim East remembers his first game as a varsity coach.

He began his career at tiny Chester Center Township in a game against Pennville.

Chester Center won, but it wasn't the outcome of the game East remembers, but the circumstances.

"With only seven varsity players, we ran into foul trouble. In the fourth quarter, my third player fouled out. We continued to play four on five, but in my desperation I looked into the crowd and

saw one of my freshmen, who had dressed for the B team, but had played very little.

"Knowing this little five-feet-three kid hadn't used up all his playing time, I sent him rushing to the dressing room to put on his uniform.

"As the game progressed, I noticed him dash onto the floor, never reporting to the bench or to the official scorer."

East says he was afraid to call a time-out, thinking the officials and the Pennville coach would notice.

"The kicker for this story is that the freshman played two full minutes before they caught up with him. By then the game was almost over and the technical did not cost us the ball game.

"And all this happened to a twenty-two-year-old coach in his first game," East adds.

Plan Now To Attend the Summer Meeting And Make A Tour of The Old Lawrence County Gyms Second Season

By Bob Adams

If you are looking at researching certain facts about Indiana High School Basketball, there is no better source than the members of the IHSBHS. The following information came from material gathered by Harley Sheets for his book "Indiana High School Basketball Review 1911-67."

Going undefeated during the regular season, does not necessarily guarantee success in the state tourney.

And if you look at the records over the years, this is born out. Since sectional play was instituted in 1915, and up through the last year of single class basketball, some 171 teams have gone through the regular season undefeated. Of these 171 teams, 69 did not make it out of sectional play. There have been only six undefeated state champions. The first was Crispus Attucks in 1956, followed by South Bend Central in 1957. Indianapolis Washington started a string of three straight undefeated state champions in 1969. The Continentals were followed by East Chicago Roosevelt in 1970, and East Chicago Washington in 1971. The last undefeated state champion was Marion in 1985.

Two teams have put together strings of three undefeated seasons. Madison did it from 1960-62, while Argos put together a string of 76 straight regular season wins from 1979-81. Both Argos and Madison made it to the final four one time each during their three year run.

Only other five teams, Waynetown, Henryville, Columbus, Darlington, and Evansville Bosse have strung together two undefeated teams in a row. Only one coach, Bill Green, has been undefeated and won state titles at two different schools. He turned this unusual trick by coaching Indianapolis Washington to an undefeated season (31-0) in 1969, and then had another one at Marion (29-0) in 1985.

Probably the biggest upset in sectional action occurred in 1937, when undefeated Deer Creek (19-0) took on a winless Burlington team. The Polar Cubs ate the Crickets up, and handed Deer Creek their only defeat of the season.

The most undefeated teams in a season was 1969, when there were seven unbeaten teams in the state. Three of them, Marion, Vincennes, and Indianapolis Washington, all made it to the final four. That was some final four, as the fourth member of the group, Gary Tolleston, was undefeated in

Indiana, but had lost a game to a Chicago area school.

Two brothers, John and Ed Longfellow, had undefeated teams. Ed's 1959 Bainbridge team was undefeated but lost to Logansport in the semi-state, while John's 1960 team, led by Ron Bonham, was undefeated until the final game of the tourney, where it was beaten by East Chicago Roosevelt.

The Bearcats join seven other teams that made it to the final game unbeaten, only to lose. The first was Jeffersonville in 1935. Terre Haute ~~Gerstmeier~~ did it in 1947, Loogootee in 1973, and New Albany in 1981. Jim Hahn took two undefeated Concord teams to the final game, the first in 1988, and again in 1990. Valparaiso was the last team to do this in 1994. (Keep in mind this is all prior to that disease called class basketball, which first manifested itself in the 1997-98 season.)

Going into the final weekend of the regular season this year, Lawrence North was the only undefeated boys team in the state. A defeat to a Terre Haute team took care of that, insuring that their would be no undefeated champion once again this season.

A Real David Versus Goliath Match-Up

By Bob Adams

In another article in this issue of BOXSCORE, Bob Pearson wrote about the basketball fortunes of Selma, now part of Wapahani. The other school that made up that consolidation, Center, also had some interesting basketball history.

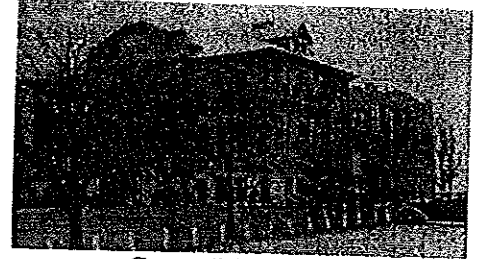
For many basketball fans, Milan's 32-30 win over the mighty Muncie Central Bearcats in the 1954 state championship game was the ultimate David versus Goliath match-up in high school basketball.

While every Indiana school boy or girl who has ever picked up a basketball can recite that story song and verse, and while Bobby Plump has made a very good living off that one basket, there are many other David versus Goliath match-ups that are just as worthy.

The Muncie-Milan match-up was slightly exaggerated in the sense that, while Muncie Central had been a basketball power for several years, Milan was also a power in the early 1950's. The Indians had been to the state finals the year before, losing in the afternoon game, and had returned most of their players and starters from the year before. So, the team that the Bearcats

faced in 1954 was not only extremely talented, it had also had the experience of playing in the state finals the previous season.

So, if you want to start searching for small-versus-big matchups, just go back a few years in Muncie Central's history to the 1943 season. Central was having an up and down year, and had lost several players to injury and to the war effort. They had upset then number one Marion during the season, and even with a 7-11 season record, the Bearcats still looked like a lock for another sectional title.

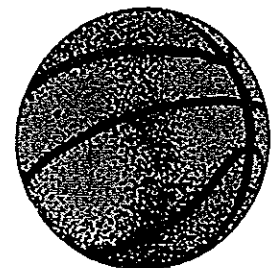


Center High School

The title looked even more secure when Muncie Central defeated Royerton and Gaston in the first two games of the sectional. But then the 'Cats had to play the mighty Spartans of Center.

Where is Center, you ask? Well, it certainly doesn't exist today, as it rests under several feet of Prairie Creek reservoir water in southeastern Delaware county. It wasn't a large school, as it sat in the center (hence the name) of Perry township, and drew its students from the large metropolitan areas of Mount Pleasant, New Burlington, Medford, and Gates Corner. It's students now attend Wapahani High School, which is located outside of Selma.

Anyway, just to prove that size doesn't always matter, the Spartans upset the mighty Bearcats, 29-27, and knocked Central out of the state tourney. This was the first time in history, and the only time until Bruce Parkinson led the Yorktown Tigers to a sectional title in 1972, that any county school ever beat Muncie Central in a high school basketball game. Center went on to lose to Muncie Burriss in the final game of the 1943 sectional.



New Member Profile-Mike Becker

By Bob Pearson

New member Mike Becker is a 1964 graduate of Sulpher Springs High School in Henry County. During the 1963-64 season, Center of Delaware county was in the midst of a long losing streak that had lasted something like 1-1/2 or two seasons. Toward the end of the basketball season, the Bluebirds, who ended the season with a 3-15 record, and the Center Spartans met. Becker and his team helped Center end that long losing streak, for which the citizens of south-eastern Delaware county will ever be forever grateful. (By the way, Center and Selma, Pearson's old high school, merged to form Wapahani).

Mike and I became friends in Huntington in 1967 and have attended all kinds of athletic events together. His son, Chad, took his first basketball shot at my house when he was just eight weeks old.

Chad Becker played high school basketball and baseball at Fort Wayne Northrop High School. He played college ball in Memphis, TN, and is now a high school basketball and softball coach.

Mike and Donna's youngest son, Trent, also played high school basketball at Northrop. He went on to play college ball in Iowa, and is now a head basketball coach in Iowa. His Woodbury team was recently ranked number one in class 2A, was undefeated at 18-0, and had just defeated the number three team in class 4A.

The Ten Second Line

Well-Balanced

The 1952-53 Portland Panthers not only finished the season at 10-10, they gave up 1151 points, while scoring the same number!!!

Shutout!!!

On December 15, 1922, Selma shut out Redkey, 70-0. That same season, Berne, after being beaten by Monroe 142-2 the year before, shut out Jefferson Twp of Adams Co., 98-0.

We Want 100!!!

In 1926, Redkey beat Gray 99-6. During the 1944-45 season, Geneva beat Jefferson Twp (the same one!!!), 99-9. In a game that took 5 overtimes to decide, Albany beat Redkey, 103-100, during the 1969-70 season.

It Must Have Been Sweeps Week

During the 1960-61 season, Poling fans filled the stands in anticipation of their game with Ridgeville. The fans waited, the coaches waited, the players waited. Finally the Ridgeville principal was reached at home. He didn't realize the game had been scheduled and was home watching television.

There Was Lids On The Baskets

During the 1933-34 season, Pennville beat Geneva 37-7, and did not allow the Cardinals a field goal in either the varsity or B-team game.

Summer Meeting

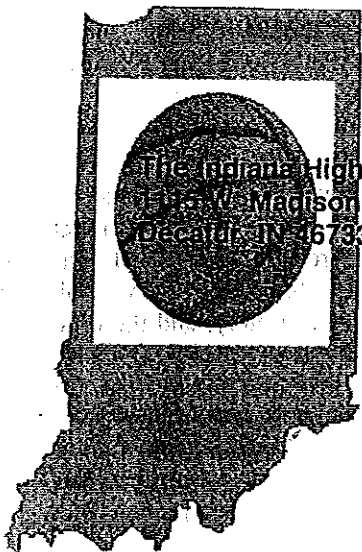
The late word from Wendell Trogdon is that he has lined up former coaches Dean Zilke, Dan Bush, and Charlie Denbo for our SUMMER MEETING. He is waiting word from several other coaches, but these coaches will be at our Fifth Anniversary Celebration. **PLAN TO ATTEND.**

It is not too late to make reservations for the meeting. Members can reserve a room at the Stonehenge Motel for Friday, July 16, by calling 1-800-274-2974. Rooms are \$56 for one person and \$64 for two.

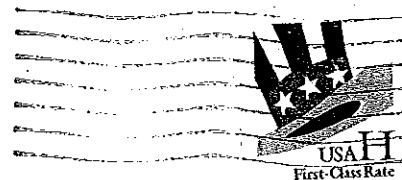
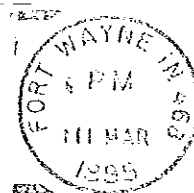
We will have our regular meeting at 7:00 P.M. on Friday and follow this up with a tour of several Lawrence and Jackson county gyms the next day.

Wendell is trying to line up former coaches and players to meet us at each gym and give us a little history on each school.

Summer Meeting



The Indiana High School Basketball Historical Society
116 W. Madison St.
Decatur, IN 46733



Harley Sheets
635 St. Rd. 39 South
Danville IN 46122