

# BOXSCORE

## Winter 2000

### Volume 5 - Issue 4

Boxscore is the quarterly publication of The Indiana High School Basketball Historical Society, which was founded in 1994 by A. J. Quigley, Jr. (1943-1997) and Harley Sheets for the purpose of documenting and preserving the history of Indiana High School Basketball.

# BOXSCORE

## Table Of Contents

- Page 2 Two Small Schools In Montgomery County by Bob Whalen  
Book Review - Quiz
- Page 3 A Trip To Centralia (Part II) by Harley Sheets
- Page 4 Obituary - Member Profile - New Members - New Life Members
- Page 5 Notes To Editor - Address Changes - Board Election
- Page 7 One Hit Wonders (Freelandville) by Hugh Schaeffer
- Page 8 A Christmas Card From Cofounder, Joe Quigley
- Insert Arrangements made for next meeting (in Terre Haute) and information on the Wabash Valley Classic

### From The President

The October 14, 2000 meeting at the MCL Cafeteria in Richmond, Indiana was a trip down memory lane. Northeastern High School graduate, Gerald Smith introduced retired referees Dee Williams, Bill May, Don McBride and Cliff Dickman as our guest panelists. Dick Tiernan (the Richmond basketball arena is named in his honor), H. Burl Shook (coached Liberty High School to its first sectional title in 1938) and others shared in discussions from the audience.

I judiciously use the word "retired" rather than "former", as the program taught me that all of those present haven't skipped a beat in staying up-to-date on the sport that we all love.

Of particular interest to me were the discussions on the impact of rule changes, the special experiences of refereeing small school games, and of course, class basketball. Also especially interesting, were the dissertations on some of the most memorable players, coaches and administrators encountered in the many years of whistle blowing. Because of the numerous circumstances these individuals with the striped shirts were exposed to, they were able to keep us in stitches and on the edge of our seats - truly quite humorous and in some cases almost unbelievable.

A special thanks to Vernon Weiss for organizing the event, to Gerald Smith for chairing it and to the participants for enriching us with some of the fantastic lore of Indiana High School Basketball.

I would like to convey a final note which comes from the Indiana High School Basketball Hall of Fame, Executive Director (also an IHSBHS member), Roger Dickinson. He has invited the IHSBHS to submit, through me, corrected documentation and information on coaches records. I have accepted this gracious invitation. Roger's suggestion is that we start with a list of the top winningest coaches and work our way down. Our documentation, as most of you are aware, will be as thorough as possible and will deal with one coach at a time.

Bill Ervin

### Next IHSBHS Meeting

It has usually been our custom to meet in New Castle for our winter meeting where the Hall of Fame so graciously has always provided us with a meeting place and where we could see some good basketball played, while supporting their event. However, at the IHSBHS Board Meeting on November 25th, it was decided that our winter meeting would take place in Terre Haute where the once prestigious Wabash Valley Tournament is being reinstated as the Wabash Valley Classic, after an absence of 28 years.

A determining factor in opting for the Terre Haute venue is the fact that member and Vigo County native, Dean Kendall has been invited to sell his prodigious and enlightening publication on the history of this Illinois-Indiana interstate rivalry, that will take place at the Terre Haute South gym (Dec. 27-30).

The meeting date will be on the last day of the tournament (Dec. 30th), but members are encouraged to buy a season ticket, since the price is a meager \$10.00 for the whole show. It will include 20 games with all teams playing during the initial session on the 27th. All teams are guaranteed a minimum of three games with some playing four. See insert in this newsletter for further details.

The spring meeting will, more than likely, will be held in Indianapolis between sessions of the finals of the state tournament - the Indianapolis Athletic Club among other places is being considered. We are thinking of renting a meeting room with a possible smorgasbord for members and guests. This will give members a chance to take part in a very important meeting where board members will be elected. It will afford members who have never met, to get acquainted and talk about our favorite pastime - Indiana high school basketball. Final arrangements will be published in the in the spring Boxscore, about four weeks prior to this affair.

Two Small Schools In Montgomery Co.

By  
Bob Whalen

Breaks

There are probably very few people who know that the very small community of Breaks had a high school and that they even played basketball in the early 1900s.

Information of this era is very hard to come by. In the 1904-05 school year they even laid claim to being the Indiana high school state champions. The justification for the claim has never been ascertained. However some light on the subject can be shed. The larger county seat school, Crawfordsville, registered a 4 and 3 record - very mediocre for the school where basketball was first played in Indiana.

At this time, prior to the establishment of the state tournament in 1910-11, some schools laid claim to being the king of high school basketball - both legitimate and unjustified, according to any person or group's particular ilk.

The only schedule (1907-08), so far, found for Breaks follows.

All-Stars	won
Elmdale	won
Elmdale	won
Yountsville	won
New Richmond	won
New Richmond	won
N.H.S. (possibly Newtown)	lost

Coach: William Stump

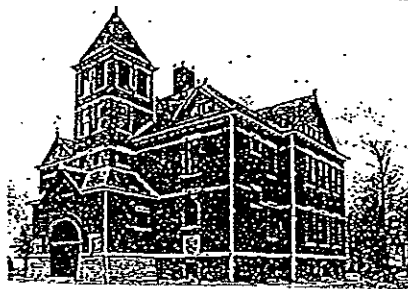
It was known that Elmdale and Yountsville had high schools in these earlier years of the 20th Century, but this is the first record found of them playing basketball. Breaks built a new school (grades 1-12) in 1906. This building still stands today. None of their teams ever entered an Indiana state

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tournament. Other research shows that they lost to C'ville (20-4) in 1908-09 and Wingate (51-21) in 1912-13. This could indicate their reluctance to participate in the event. The school closed at around the time of the First World War.

Mace

Another small school that got little notoriety in these years was Mace. It is believed, that on occasion, there weren't enough boys to form a team. Basketball was played there in 1914 and possibly earlier.

This school, unlike Breaks, did participate in several sectionals but unfortunately lost their first encounter in each year of participation.

Year	Lost to
1917	Newtown (10-23)
1918	Veedersburg (8-45)
1919	Kingman (8-15)
1920	Alamo (14-19)
1921	at Greencastle Crawfordsville by forfeit
1922	Hillsboro (14-22)
1923	New Richmond (10-34)

The Mace school was closed at the end of the 1923-24 school year. At that time most of the students were sent to Crawfordsville and New Ross, with a few possibly going to Ladoga. Currently, all students from this area of Montgomery County go to Southmont High due to school redistricting.

Editor's note: Today, unlike Breaks which has been remodeled into a home, the once majestic Mace school still stands, but sadly, in complete disrepair and disarray. What was once the school yard is fenced off and used for hogs and cattle. Most of the windows are broken out. Such a sad sight.



BOOK REVIEW

"Athenian Greats" by member Bob Whalen is a combination of three separate booklets (AG 1, AG 2 & AG 3).

AG 1 covers the period from 1900-2 and has articles on three Crawfordsville coaches and fourteen athletes, of which three went on to coach. Some of the better known individuals are Ralph Jones, Dav Glascock, Ward "Piggy" Lambert and Ralph "Pete" Vaughn.

AG 2 runs from the early '20s into the '60s. It has articles on four coaches and sixteen C'ville athletes. Two of these became coaches. Some better known are/were Karl "Knobby" Dickerson, Paul "Pat" Malaska, H.T. "Mac" McCullough, Charli Cummings, Dick Baumgartner and Dick Haslam.

AG 3, for the most part, covers the '60s and into the '80s, reviewing the careers of four additional coaches and fifteen players. Some more familiar names are Paul Curtis and Bruce Whitehead.

Cost of these books are AG 1 & 2 (\$5.50 ea.) and AG 3 (\$5.00). A combination of all three \$12.50. When ordering by mail add \$1.50 (1 book), 2.75 (2 books) and 4.00 (3 books) for postage and handling.

I encourage other members who have publications for sale to send in a review of their work(s), with cost of postage and handling, for free publicity in Boxscore. HBS.

Thank You Becky

The readers may have noticed that no pictures appeared in the newsletter, the last issue nor this one. That is because a sweet lady at the Danville, Indiana Carnegie Library had scanned them for me as a favor at no cost, which saved the IHSBHS a little money.

Becky Gramling recently had a heart attack and will not be returning to work. I'm sure all members want to join me in thanking her and wishing her our very best. HBS.

IHSBHS Quiz

Name the Indiana high school that each of these major league baseball players attended? (1) Carl Erskine (2) Gil Hodges (3) Don Larsen (4) Dizzy Trout (5) Scott Rolen (6) Tommy John (7) Max Carey (8) Name the only one enshrined in the Baseball Hall of Fame in Cooperstown, New York.  
(Answers on page 4)

## A Trip To Centralia Part II: The Trip By Harley Sheets

### Underway

Upon crossing into Illinois I decided to get off of Interstate 70 and travel on parallel U.S. Highway 40.

Shortly, I saw signs pointing north to Paris, a two time Illinois state champion, a town whose team in 1942 had designs on being Illinois' first undefeated title holder. Their demise came at the hands of Arthur Trout's Centralia Orphans and their legendary star, Dwight "Dike" Eddelman. This titular game said to be the most memorable of all-time had Paris (39-0) leading by 13 points with five minutes to go, in a time when a led like this was gargantuan. To make matters worse, Ferrell Robinson, Centralia's feisty little floor guard (point guard today) had fouled out.

However, led by Eddelman, the Orphans somehow managed to eke out the victory, 35-33. What was so special about this Centralia title journey was this. The only starter back from the previous year when Centralia was by most accounts the favorite to take the championship, was Eddelman.

Later on came Teutopolis (pop: 1,414), where a sign proclaims them the 1986, Class A (smallest of Illinois' two class format) state champs with a 33-0 record.

Next came Effingham were my third cousin, Cevert Lucas, coached before winning two sectionals at Brownsburg. This is also were Uwe Blab played basketball before his sojourn to I.U.

At Effingham is I-57, the north-south thoroughfare that leads south to Centralia and Mt. Vernon. About fifteen miles down the highway and off to the west is Loogootee, the only other one in the world as far as I know. Loogootee, Illinois!!!! That has to sound weird to a Hoosier.

An hour later exit 109. This puts me

on Highway 161 and then west 10 miles to my destination.

### Checking Things Out

After obtaining a motel room I was immediately off to case the school. What I saw was an older building with some later additions, which took up a good city block, maybe two. As I was surveying Centralia's learning establishment a marquee urging support for the Annies caught my eye.

Next I parked my jalopy and entered the open court inside, got directions to the office and was told that complementary passes would await me at the ticket booth prior to the game. I then followed directions to the gym. For some reason I entered on the balcony level and immediately looked up at the steel girders supporting the ceiling. Then as I looked straight ahead to the far end, the only sign drew my attention. Placed directly under the American flag it read, "Centralia High School Orphans - Home of America's Winningest Basketball Team".

Continuing my diligent scrutinizing of this shrine, I looked down upon the girls team practicing. In doing so, the center circle came into view. Usually it will encompass the school name and team logo. But not this one! It made it clear where you were - The Arthur Trout Gymnasium.

Before returning to the motel to get some rest before the game I solved the mystery of the Annies on the sign outside. I asked a custodian about it and was told that this was the nickname of the girls team. As I walked to the car I began to smile as my brain engaged. Girl team names are, in most cases fairly generic. For example, if the boys are the Warriors, the girls are the Warriorettes. Not so, here in "Little Egypt". Bingo! Since the boys team is the Orphans, the girls are the Orphan Annies! A unique name, indeed.

### Pre Game Jitters

Back at the motel, trying to relax, I wondered if the gym would be full and if Centralia's rivalry with Mt. Vernon would be as colorful as in the Trout era.

As I began my return trip to the school, I worried about being disappointed. My anxiety was based on these facts. Mr. Trout had coached here back when the gym was the epicenter of community activity on Friday nights. When a very minute percentage of students had cars, unlike today when school parking lots are filled almost to capacity. When there was no electronic age to interfere with school activities, and kids hadn't ways or means of imbibing in so many extracurricular activities.

Upon nearing the school, my apprehension began to wane, somewhat. Traffic became more congested and all parking facilities were filled almost to capacity. After parking a block and a half away in an open field, I began my trek toward the long anticipated venue. As I did so, my pulse began to quicken, accompanied by the butterfly-in-the-stomach syndrome, much like the feeling I used to get the day of the game when I played in high school. Earlier, I had come into an almost empty capsule, but now I was about to step into the sanctuary of Centralia's storied basketball tradition in its full glory.

As I walked into the lobby, the smell of popcorn tickled my nostrils. I then acquired a program, picked up the tickets. As I started to enter the gym, I looked up to see a portrait of Mr. Trout gazing down at me. I acknowledged him with a slight nod.

I proceeded to my theater type seat, four rows up and just to the left of press row. Many more of these seats have been added over the years, no doubt diminishing the original capacity.

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See Trout ( page 6, column 1)

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## Obituary

It is with deep regret that this editor must report that our good friend and IHSBHS member Charles L. "Chuck" Wohlford passed away on Friday morning (September 22, 2000) at Huntington Memorial Hospital.

Chuck was the 1998 Huntington Herald-Press "Citizen of the Year" and was the driving force behind the development of the *Forks of the Wabash Historical Park*. He served for many years as statistician for Huntington North High School athletic teams.

A 1946 graduate of Roanoke High School, Chuck coached and taught at schools in the Huntington area from 1950 until his retirement in 1993.

My first contact with Chuck came when he purchased "Where In The World", my book on high school consolidations. In it, he obviously read my plea for nicknames of the smaller schools that had been consumed by school reorganization. It wasn't too long, thereafter, that I received from him the entire list of all Huntington County school monikers along with each team's colors.

I, some years later, met in person our friend and his wife Evalyn at the Hall of Fame, where Joe Quigley and I had arranged a meeting - the one that eventually led to the IHSBHS becoming reality.

Our last contact came coincidentally at an auction I attended in Huntington, approximately three years ago. He was the same friendly guy I had always known and if anything was wrong at the time it was not apparent to me.

Because, in all probability, the majority of IHSBHS members were unaware of Charles Wohlford's passing, in time to attend the funeral or make visitation, I wish personally on behalf of the membership to extended our sincere condolences to Evalyn and son, Eric.

I would also like to thank Bob Adams for making us aware.

Harley, Sheets, Editor

## A Student's Respect

IHSBHS life member, Ann Miller Carr sent the society a \$20.00 gift in memory of Charles Wohlford who was one of her teachers at Huntington North High School.

## Member Profile (Dean Kendall)

Dean has spent sometime in volunteer work. Years ago he served as President of the Board of Directors of the Marion County Muscular Dystrophy Foundation (later became the Indiana Muscular Dystrophy Foundation) - no connection to the Jerry Lewis organization. In 1980 he served on the 30 person, Billy Graham Crusade, executive committee.

For the past 10 years, he and his wife, Lorraine, have served as volunteers at the Riley Children's Hospital where they play with the kids every Tuesday - with the preschoolers in the morning and the school age in the afternoon. He served 4 years on the board for Cheer Guild (volunteers at Riley) and four years as its treasurer.

For 4 years he produced wooden ducks with rubber feet, that when push on hard surfaces make a funny noise. These were sold at the Riley gift shop and the nearly \$4,000 that was generated from their sales was donated to the Cheer Guild.

He and his wife were jointly awarded the *Max Award* at Riley in 1995 as outstanding volunteers. The award was named for the first and long time volunteer coordinator, Maxine Mingle. Dean, sadly laments at this honor being discontinued by Methodist Hospital, who is now running things since a recent merger [shame on you Methodist].

Mr. Kendall now serves on the Board of the Pimento School, Inc., a small non-profit organization that is attempting to preserve his old high school building and turn it into a community center. He is currently involved with preparing an application to get the structure accepted as an official historic landmark, which would then be more likely to get grants to properly restore it to its heyday.

In his spare time, over the last several years, he has published three books, the latest being the 630 page Wabash Valley High School Basketball Tourney, a complete history of that great mid-season event that lasted 57 years and which is this year being revived by Gary Fears and Pizza Hut as the Wabash Valley Classic.

For the past 10 years he has made and given away over 5,000 games of which 4,000 have gone to the Perry Twp. Voluntary Services, which takes care of about 100 poor families every year at Xmas time. This includes a number of inner city

See Profile ( page 5, column 2)

## New Members

Lloyd Bateman  
715 W. 2nd Street  
Bicknell, IN 47512  
Plainville '58

Terry Condre  
5436 Carlton Court  
Speedway, IN 46224  
(317)247-0195  
Indpls. Northwest '66

Crawfordsville Library  
Local History Room  
222 S. Washington St.  
Crawfordsville, IN 47933

Cliff Dickman  
229 S. 23rd Street  
Richmond, IN 47374  
(765)966-5801  
Webster '48

Claude Faulkner (renewal)  
1833 Cunningham Road  
Speedway, IN 46224  
(317)241-5603  
Indpls. Washington '67

Martha Hopkins  
6717 State Road 227 North  
Richmond, IN 47374

Dan Hutton (Life)  
2009 Mustang Drive  
LaPorte, IN 46350  
(219)326-8306  
Garrett '57

Vernon Redd  
1124 Boyer Street  
Richmond, IN 47374  
(765)939-8455  
Union County '94

Bob White  
9955 State Road 227  
Fountain City, IN 47341  
(765)847-2159  
Whitewater '48

## From Regular To Life Member

Doug Bradley  
Ann Miller Carr  
Bob King  
Mike McCormick  
Don Stuart

## Answers To IHSBHS Quiz

(1) Anderson (2) Petersburg (3) Michigan City (4) Otter Creek (5) Jasper (6) Terre Haute Gerstmeier (7) Terre Haute Wiley & Ft. Wayne Concordia (8) Max Carey.

## Notes To The Editor

From Leigh Evans:

I made copies of all of the newsletters and really enjoyed getting caught up on all of them.

I look forward to my association with this fantastic group.

From Patrick Bishop:

Keep up the good work. I appreciate it. Give me a buzz sometime.

Bob Whalen:

Margaret is reading the newsletter and says it is your best one so far.

From Bob Whalen:

I have had FOUR complaints on Pay Dues (or else).

The following from Dean Kendall is in reply to Bob Whalen's thoughts on member Mike McCormick's historical qualifications in the Fall 2000 issue of Boxscore.

I was embarrassed for Mike McCormick in your note criticizing Mike's reputation as the number one sports historian in Vigo County. If it would be possible for you to go to Vigo County, and talk to the Terre Haute sports reporters who rely on Mike's expertise, I think you would find them in agreement, that Mike is the person they contact if they have a question not only in sports, but also in many other subjects.

Mike writes a weekend column for the Terre Haute Tribune called "Historical Perspectives", which is circulated through-out the Wabash Valley, which includes Indiana as well as Illinois.

I have tried for years to have him write a book, but he is so busy it would not be possible for him at this time.

Bob, if by chance you could travel to Terre Haute and meet Mike, not only would you talk to a very knowledgeable person, but one great and humble guy. Something this world needs more of.

I think it would be to your advantage to occasionally leave Montgomery County and learn more about the world around you!

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 Profile (continued from p. 4)
 

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kids, who are bussed into the township schools.

Dean's favorite foods are ice cream and homemade meatloaf. His favorite sports figure is Satchel Paige, who he got to see pitch while a kid growing up near Terre Haute. Dean says, "That when 'Satch' threw the ball, all you could see was a white streak". He says his favorite radio personality is Rush something or other. Being the editor, and knowing the contention this might bring from some members, I just couldn't bring myself to publish his last name.

The very positive information that follows is from his newsletter - "The Cheer-Up News", published monthly, with permission from the pastor for his church. Underneath the title appears this subheading. *Not copyrighted. If there is good here we want to share it.*

Well, Halloween is past and now we look forward to Thanksgiving. If I only had the leaves chopped up. With 12 big maple trees we manage to have several leaves, plus the oak tree across the street that since the guy doesn't rake them, a lot of them blow over into our front yard. Oh well, sometime soon snow will cover the ground and one won't be able to see the leaves.

Before this month is over, I need to finish the rest of my homemade games for the Perry Twp. Voluntary Services. The lady (Gladys Hughes) who handles this project is referred to as Mrs. Santa Claus. The first week of December she starts scheduling the mothers to come to her house and select the things needed. Mrs. Hughes provides the wrapping paper, etc....

Hey! I can tell that this is going to be a better winter 'cause General Knight no longer is a part of I.U. basketball!!!! It was long overdue, but those in charge finally managed to get past him. Look for good things to begin to happen with the basketball team. The players can begin to have fun again.

Ed. note: And this from an I.U. fan!

## Address Changes

Phil White  
2921 Soutar Drive  
Bloomington, IN 47403

Bob King  
1153 Camelback Blvd.  
West Lafayette, IN 47906

Patrick Bishop  
P. O. Box 64  
Churubusco, IN 46723-0064  
Home: (219)693-2015  
Work: (219)267-6826  
Email: squirebishop@aol.com

Dave Schellhase  
3091 22nd Street  
Fargo, ND 58100

## BOARD ELECTION

President-elect, Roger Frank Robison wants to remind the IHSBHS membership that there will be an election of board members at the Spring meeting (most likely the day of the state tournament). Any member wishing to run for one of the six openings should send their request to him.

He wants those applying to know that there will be travel involved and that you are expected to make the meetings if at all possible.

Meetings are in most instances scheduled for some place in or near Indianapolis so as to make it equally convenient for all. There are under normal circumstances four board meetings per year, many prior to regular meetings which does save on travel.

Roger would also like our readers to know that he has copies of the IHSBHS bylaws, recently amended. Any member wishing a copy may send a self addressed, stamped envelope to him at 2422 E. Rechter Rd., Bloomington, IN 47401 or if you wish to contact him about running for the board his Email address is Hotdog@compuserve.com.

Editor's note: On behalf of the membership and as cofounder I want to thank Roger & his wife Tiiu for all of the diligent work they put in, in revising the bylaws which were a bit ambiguous in places.

## Hallelujah

There has been much apprehension and discussion as to whether someone would take on the responsibility of continuing David Pert's, Indiana Basketball Handbook which has been published since 1968.

As I was conversing with my neighbor and IHSBHS life member, Don Stuart, he told me that John Marlowe and IHSBHS member Rocky Kenworthy, had indeed, fulfilled that void.

I called Rocky and confirmed it. He told me that I could get one in my hometown, Lebanon. I got mine and was ecstatic, thanks to Rocky and John!!!! I don't know John yet, but after scanning the booklet John and Rocky certainly are WORTHY!

If anyone wants the booklet and doesn't know were to get one, you can Email Rocky-vols@indy.net or call (317)539-6828.

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 Next Meeting - December 30, 2000  
(see enclosed insert)
 

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(Trout - Continued from Page 3)

### Reminiscing

While enjoying my popcorn during the finish of the JV game and other proceedings, my thoughts digressed to the gym's inception as brought out by Don Schnake in his book, "Trout - The Old Man and the Orphans". The following paragraphs from page 23 describe my musings.

*The gym a facility of beauty, hosted its first game in 1938. Christened "Trout Gymnasium" and built for basketball, it drips with character. No sterile, all purpose building with stages and rollaway bleachers, its 2,800 intimate seats embrace the playing floor. Three rows of comfortable theater-type chair seats - complete with arm rests - graced both sides of the court.*

*In the '40s and '50s, they not only offered a great view of the action, but served as status symbols as well. These prestigious vantage points, coveted by every fan in town, seemed to be occupied every season by the same elite members of the community. Common fans, with no hope ever for a chair seat, shrugged it off and blamed it on politics. Suits, ties and fashionable dresses were the norm, particularly in these deluxe seats. Other than church services, opportunities to dress up, feel good and be noticed didn't happen all that often. Centralia basketball provided exciting recreation, distinctive social interaction and nightly fashion shows.*

It's easy for me to relate to this commentary, having gone through high school in the '50s which is included in the years tabbed the "Golden Age" of high school basketball.

Thanksgiving in my hometown was a festive occasion, a time when people returned to their roots and were reunited with family, friends, former classmates and other old acquaintances. This was a time of meditation, a time to think about the fact that although one had gone out into the tough old world, there was always a haven of familiarity, a sanc-

tuary that one could return too, were you knew you belonged.

It was also the beginning of basketball season and the ballgame was the main event. The gym became the social center where greetings, jokes and hugs were exchanged, where acquaintances were renewed.

I only mention these facts for this reason. Perhaps the ambience in my Indiana high school gym did not ascend to the degree that it did in Centralia, but there did indeed exist there, and I'm sure in the majority of other Indiana gyms, this festive and joyful atmosphere. It is hard to relate to those who have never experienced this past phenomena, this feeling of camaraderie. The best description I can come up with is, that one had a secure feeling of being a part of your community and because of this you were involved in something special that was much bigger than yourself, but did not realize at the time how special it was.

### The Game

The game was exciting with Centralia edging their arch-rivals, Mt. Vernon by 3 points, thus adding another victory to the Orphans' already unanimous win total. However, the game did not hold much meaning for me when compared to just being present in this antiquated edifice replete with all of the trimming of game night-a high school basketball lover's delight.

### Guy That Knows

The next day I was able to locate Bill Niepoetter who had covered Orphan basketball for the Centralia Sentinel during the "Trout Era". He graciously invited me into his home where we had an enlightening chat. But to my chagrin, he informed me that the old shrine might soon meet its maker. Following are some of his updates and recollections on Trout Gymnasium, taken from an article he gave to me, written under the heading of "Niep's Notes"

*Next month voters will go to the polls [by now the results are known] to decide whether Centralia should have a new gym. Before that election date it*

*will be a hotly contested issue and not just because of the estimated \$5,000,000 cost.*

*Trout Gym has been an institution and when constructed six decades ago was considered a "state of the art" building. Most fans from the area have thought of it as indestructible.*

*I had the pleasure of covering approximately 1,000 games over the course of 30 years. It was something to watch visiting players step into this place and looking around as if Trout Gym was "hallowed" ground. So many great athletes have competed in the building, and not just from Centralia. Johnny "Red" Kerr, Archie Dees, a host of Benton standouts, along with Collinsville's, Bethel, Bogle and Bone.*

*The trend today is to build bigger and better facilities, which most of the surrounding schools have done. The trouble with getting older is that we tend to think of the past as perfect. It wasn't, nor was the Trout Gym. Neither will the proposed new facility be.*

*I remember when Trout Gym had those steel beams holding up the ceiling. They did the job but made watching the game for many a real problem. The school came up with an innovative idea to replace those beams by assembling a structure atop the roof to hold up the ceiling. It worked but it was in all honesty an eyesore, but basketball fans, especially die-hard old-timers, never minded the eyesore as long as they could watch the game unobstructed.*

*Through the years a few rows of chair seats became many rows of chair seats for the comfort of the fans. How comfortable those seats are depends on the size of the fan. They, at least, have a back to lean against which is better than the old bleacher seats.*

### A Legend In His Time

This monument of basketball has been around a long time. How much longer is not certain. The absolutes are

(See Trout - Page 7)

## One Hit Wonders (Freelandville)

By Hugh Schaeffer

The Freelandville "Fighting Dutchmen" played in sectionals from 1918 through 1963, but it wasn't until 1941 that true success was accomplished. Let's take a look back in time at this truly great season.

In 1940-41 the future did indeed look bright as Freelandville returned three full-time starters and some good subs from the previous year.

The "Dutch" won their first five games before suffering their first defeat at the hands of an excellent Lyons quintet by three points. Then came six more victories, to make them 11-1 going into the prestigious Wabash Valley Tournament. In their first contest at Bicknell's new gymnasium they were eliminated, on a last second shot by Bruceville a team they had previously beaten by four points.

This loss evidently had a negative affect on the "Fighting Dutchmen" as they won but one more game prior to the sectional which was to be played at the Vincennes Coliseum. Their record now stood at 12-6.

There was not a lot of optimism in the small Knox County community of 600 people when the sectional pairings were released. Besides ending the regular season with four straight losses the "Dutch" had drawn the host, Vincennes "Alices" in the first game. To beat the "Alices" seemed like a monumental task at time, based on the following. Vincennes had not lost a sectional since 1920. They had won 76 consecutive sectional games and had never lost a sectional game on the coliseum floor. To make matters seem even worse, the "Alices" had never lost a first game in any sectional tournament. The situation seemed somewhat bleak.

However, the game was played and what a game it was! Both teams played exceptional basketball with the little school from Widner Township holding a slim lead most of the way, which included a 1 point advantage entering the final period. Freelandville's Jimmy Ritterskamp took charge late in the game scoring 7 of his team's last 9 points

ensuring the upset to end all upsets as far as Knox County was concerned. Vincennes had been beaten, 35-34. Ritterskamp led with 13 points and Ronald Brown finished with 10.

Freelandville fans were truly ecstatic over their team's accomplishment. This was the first time that any Knox County team had ever beaten Vincennes Lincoln in sectional play, but this victory celebration had to be put on hold, because the "Dutch" had to return to the court to face Sanborn in a few hours.

So with new found confidence Sandborn was easily beaten 46-28. The following Saturday afternoon, another game loomed big for Freelandville. Their opponent was the Bruceville Hilltoppers, who in three regular season games had administered two defeats to the "Fighting Dutchmen".

In this game Freelandville lead by three points at the end of three quarters and won this very tough battle 23-17.

The championship opponent was the Monroe City Blue Jeans. These two teams had not played in the regular season. The "Dutch" led by a single point at half time, 20-19, but a super second half turned a close game into a rout, with the "Fighting Dutchmen" running away with a 53-27 victory. Ritterskamp again led the scoring with 17 points, followed by George Jones with 14 and Brown with 11.

After being awarded the tourney basketball and cutting down the nets the team returned home to a wild celebration. The team was met two miles outside of town and given a ride into the center of Freelandville where a huge bon fire was burning at the intersection of two state highways. It was said by many present that close to 1000 people were on hand to greet the new champions.

At the regional, Freelandville with an enrollment of 57 boys was the smallest school. Winslow (20-3) who had defeated Jasper and Huntingburg to win a sectional title was its first opponent. Trailing by 8 points (32-40) early in the fourth quarter, the "Dutch" finished the game by scoring 14 unanswered points to pull off another surprising victory (47-45).

In the title match that evening this small school faced a daunting task. Their foe was the host, Washington Hatchets,

coached by future Hall of Famer, Marion Crowley. The "Hatchets" were fourth ranked in the state. Freelandville early on shocked the packed house, leading 12-10 after one quarter and led by one mid way in the third. But the little school's dream came to an end, as the soon to be crowned state champions won out, 54-43.

Freelandville was coached by Oscar Finke, a Freelandville grad, who went on to win a sectional and regional at Mooresville in 1944. This was the only sectional that Mooresville had won in the first 54 years of the state tournament and their only regional in the first 65 years of participation.

Other players, not already mention, on this feisty team from Freelandville were: Paul Bergman, Charles Bob Clinkenbeard, Fred Hagemeyer, Robert Jones, Herman Pepmeier, James Wagner and James Watson.

-----The End-----

### Trout (Continued from Page 6)

that Arthur L. Trout came from his beloved Indiana to Illinois; succeeded in his profession, in all probability, far beyond his own expectations; and his almost insurmountable accomplishments in his field of expertise is legend. Should Centralia High School get the go ahead to build a new facility, it may replace Trout Gym, but that will never extinguish the history, lore and tradition generated by this unique edifice, constructed to honor Arthur Trout and his "Orphans of the Storm".

Shortly, after returning from this trip, I journeyed to Mr. Trout's hometown - Bruceville, Indiana. Went to the graveyard and paid my respects.

-----The End-----

For anyone interested in reading more about Mr. Trout, the book entitled "Trout - The Old Man & The Orphans" by Don Schnake can be purchased from Richview Press, P. O. Box 92174, Elk Grove Village, IL 60009 - 2174. Fax: (847)952-8095, Telephone: (847)437-3417.

Cost: \$11.95 + 2.50 / book for shipping & handling.. Illinois residents add 8% sales tax. Make check payable to Richview Press.

More about Arthur Trout appears in the Winter 1997 (p. 5) & Fall 1999 (p.7, top of column 2) editions of Boxscore.

## Joe Quigley Remembered

With Thanksgiving just past and the Christmas Holidays nearing, I have found myself thinking of our good friend and cofounder Arthur Joseph "Huck" Quigley, Jr. There is nothing much that any of us can say about this "Good Joe" that hasn't already been said. All of us that got to know him before he went to a better place, will attest to this fact. He had a friendly and extroverted demeanor and was fun to be around. I remember the time that I was going to see a Dixieland band and invited him to go along. We had a good time and he made it even better because he seemed to enjoy it more than I did, if that was possible. John Ockomon can testify to that. When Joe and I reached our destination, which was near his home we phoned John and invited him to join us.

So in the happy spirit of the holidays I would like to share with all of you IHSBHS members out there, the first Christmas card (homemade) that I received from our buddy, Joe. I know that some of you have, in the past, received a copy from me, but its well worth reprinting at this time, in my opinion.. HBS.

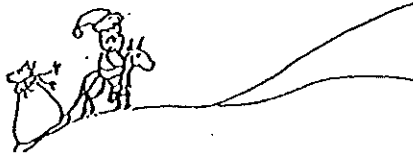


MONEY IS SCARCE

TIMES ARE HARD

HERE'S YOUR DARNED

OLD CHRISTMAS CARD!



MERRY CHRISTMAS

I'm writing this note to remind  
you  
That inflation has taken away,  
The things that I hold most  
essential  
My workshop, My reindeer, My  
sleigh  
Now I'm making my rounds on a  
donkey,  
He's old, He's crippled, He's  
slow.  
So you'll know if I don't see  
you at Christmas,  
That I'm out on my ASS in the  
SNOW!!!

MERRY CHRISTMAS AND HAPPY NEW YEAR!

LOVE,

SANTA CLAUS



SEASON'S GREETINGS!

