Wadena Indians Football



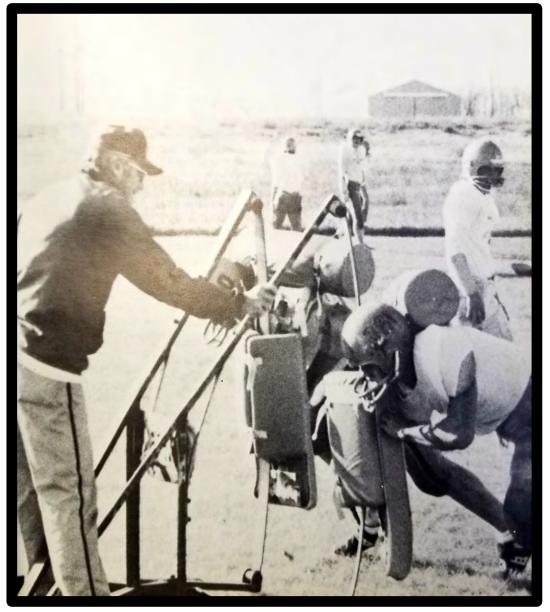
Wadena High School Homecoming

"The Scrapbook"

Football Seasons

1950-1959

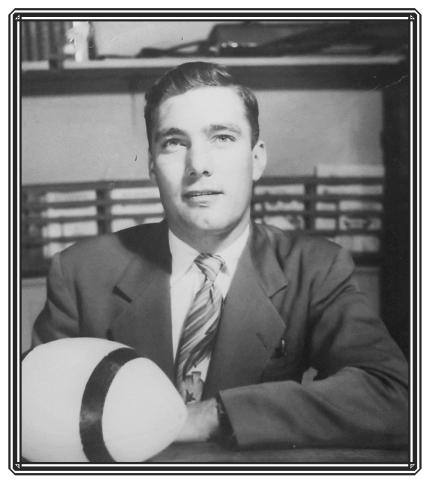
Wadena Indians Football



"The Scrapbook"

Football Seasons 1950 -1959

Dedication



John Conzemius Head Coach 1951-1981

I was born in the fall of 1955. Coach John Conzemius had just completed his fifth season at the helm of the Wadena High School football team. Coach retired after the 1981 season. That spring my first child was born. A thirty-one-year coaching career spanning all or parts of four decades. To me, and countless others, John Conzemius was synonymous with "Wadena football." Many of his players went on to compete at the college level including one who was All-Big 10 for the Minnesota Gophers and later, an NFL All-Pro for the Pittsburgh Steelers. The story of John Conzemius' journey begins here, in the 1950's.

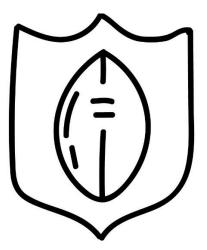
The "WHS Football Scrapbooks," for each decade of his tenure, are dedicated to coach Conzemius, a great teacher of both the game of football and of the lessons of life.

Jebb Willis '74



The Beginning

The Wadena High School football program started in 1903. The high school athletic teams' nickname of "Indians" came from the town's namesake, the great Ojibwe Chief Wadena, who lived in the later part of the 19th century.



The Great Chief Wadena 1885

In the 1980's the Wadena and Deer Creek school districts merged and the new WDC athletic teams' nickname was changed to the "Wolverines."

The pages that follow are about the history of WHS football in the 1950's. In addition to this "Scrapbook" there are three separate "WHS Football Scrapbooks." One for the 1960's and one for the 1970's. The first "WHS Football Scrapbook", released in the fall of 2022, covers the first five decades, from 1900-1949.

Rosters, records, team, and individual achievements are provided where possible. Accuracy has been a goal but cannot be guaranteed. Feedback to provide missing information, or to point out inaccurate information, is encouraged. Old memorabilia including team and individual player photos would also be appreciated.

My primary sources of information have been from the Wadena County Historical Society as well as from the scrapbooks of former coaches and players.

You may contact me at: jebbwillis1955@gmail.com

Table of Contents

NOTE

The years listed below reflect the year of the respective football seasons and not the years of

the graduating class. For example, senior football players graduating in the spring of 1956 played their final year of high school football in the fall of the 1955 season.

1950's Decade Highlights

Featuring stories and achievements of the teams, players, and coaches

Page 7

1950's Decade Team Info

-Records by Season and Conference -All-Conference Honors

Pages 8-68

Individual Season Results 1950-59

-Wadena Pioneer Journal Photos and Articles -WHS Yearbook Pictures -Misc

Pages 67-75

WHS Alums in College Football

& Other Items of Interest

-Skalisky, Goedel, Conn, Walz, Falldorf -Assistant Coach, Ex-Marine, Bill Larson -Training Rules

Page 76

Football Heros

-Why WHS Football Scrapbooks?

Page 77

Final Thoughts



1950-1959



WHS

Season Records

Fall of:	Won	Lost	Tied	Coach	Conference Record All-Conference Honors	
1950	3	3	2	Helland	Lake Region 2-3-1	
1951	3	4	0		Lake Region 1-3-0 J. Juen, H. Freeman, M. Koch	
1952	5	3	0	С	Lake Region 2-3-0	
1953	4	3	1	0	Lake Region 2-3-0	
1954	6	2*	0	N Z	Mid-State 3-1-0 D. Skalisky, G. Goedel, B. Clark, D. Anderson. B. Freeman	
1955	3	3	2	E	Mid-State 0-2-2 Unknown	
1956	3	5	0	M	Mid-State 2-2-0 D. Burrows, J. Ortloff, H. Scott	
1957	5	4	0	U	Mid-State 3-1-0 J. Ortloff, D. Conn, R. Walz, B. Tellers	
1958	4	5	0	S	Mid-State 2-2-0 D. Halbmaier, R. Rickers	
1959	2	6	0		Mid-State 1-3-0 G. Stofer, R. Les Miller	
	38	38	5	1950-59	Winning Pct – 50%	
*The 1954 team had two losses each by 6 points. A TD and a PAT away from a perfect season						

*The 1954 team had two losses, each by 6 points. A TD and a PAT away from a perfect season.







Staples

Alexandria

Park Rapids

Detroit Lakes

Crosby Ironton

13

0

19

14

6

13

19

13

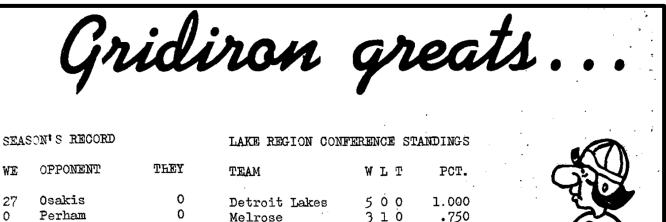
20

23

1950 Season

WHS Record 3-3-2 Lake Region 2-3-1





Park Rapids

Alexandria

Wadena

Staples

Osakis

320

320

231

121

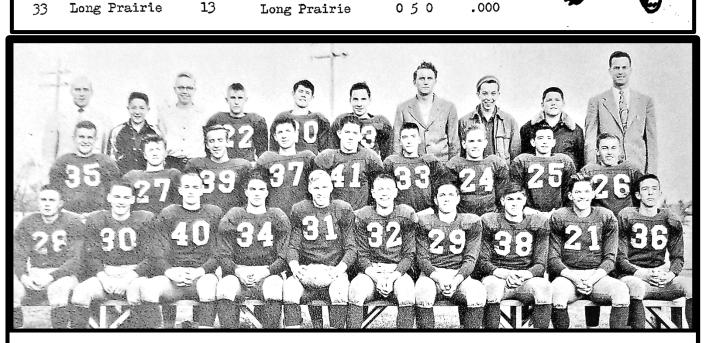
130

.600 ,.600

.416

.355

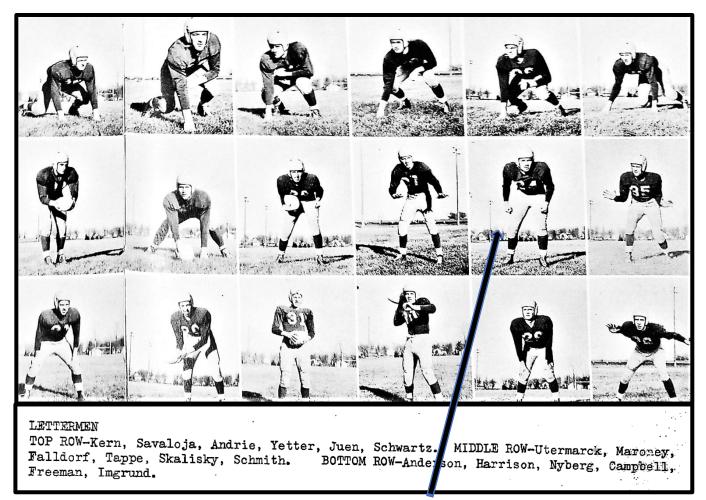
.250



"A" FOOTBALL SQUAD

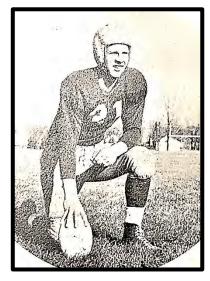
FIRST ROW-Freeman, Campbell, Yetter, Utermarck, Nyberg, Maroney, Andrie, Juen, Anderson, Imgrund. SECOND ROW-Schmitz, Kern, Savaloja, Tappe, Schwartz, Uselman, Skalisky, Phillips, Falldorf. THIRD ROW-Ass't Coach Larson, Walz, Mgr. Ousley, Kresien, Farrelly, Kupfer, Hanson, Harrison, Mgr. Newell, Coach Helland.

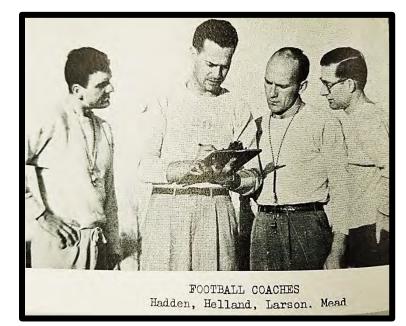
The Lettermen



NOTE: The lettermen above include Dale Skalisky, middle row, fifth in. An 8th grader!

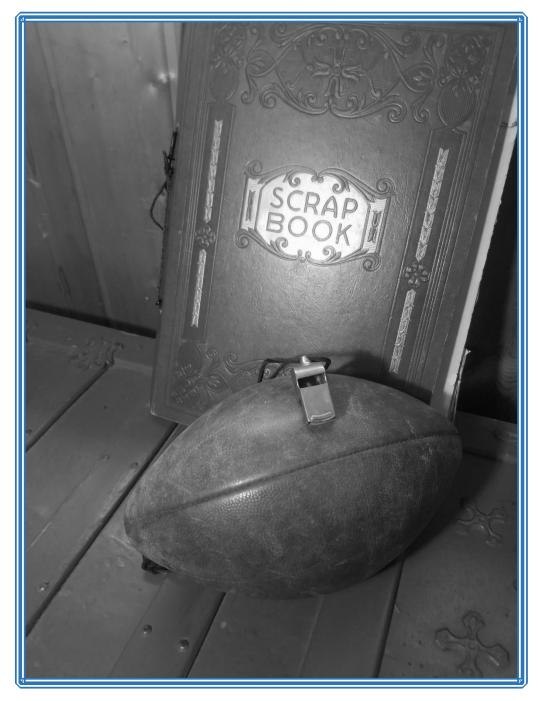
Captain John Nyberg







Wadena High School Football A "New Era" Begins



1951-1981

Looking Back

In the thirty-one WHS football seasons from 1920 through 1950 Wadena had ten different head coaches, five in the 1940's alone. Most were hired right out of college to teach and to coach both football and basketball.

Looking Ahead

In the fall of 1951 WHS would find, yet again, another new coach. This one just a year out of college. His first teaching and coaching job was in his hometown of Breckenridge. "How long would this one last?" had to be on the minds of many WHS players and fans. The answer to that question turned out to be, "31 years!"

John Conzemius, the Breckenridge High School, and Moorhead State Teacher's College star athlete was about to embark on to the next phase of his life. Teaching and coaching at Wadena High School.

Fortunately, his lovely wife Donna started a scrapbook. She was diligent in keeping it up to date for the first 20 years or so. But much like a family photo album, as the family grows the pictures taken seem to be fewer with time. Having children and coaching high school football teams have much in common. Each child is unique, as is each team. However, the camera comes out less often by the time you have the 20th child, er...I mean football team. The scrapbook pages don't fill as fast. That's O.K. You love each one just as much as the others.

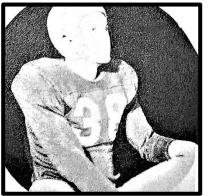
I feel fortunate to have had access to Mrs. Conzemius' scrapbook. Let's take a look.



1951 Season

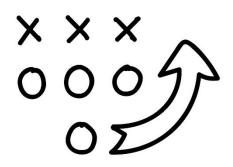
WHS Record 3-4-0 Lake Region 1-3-0

Captain Juen

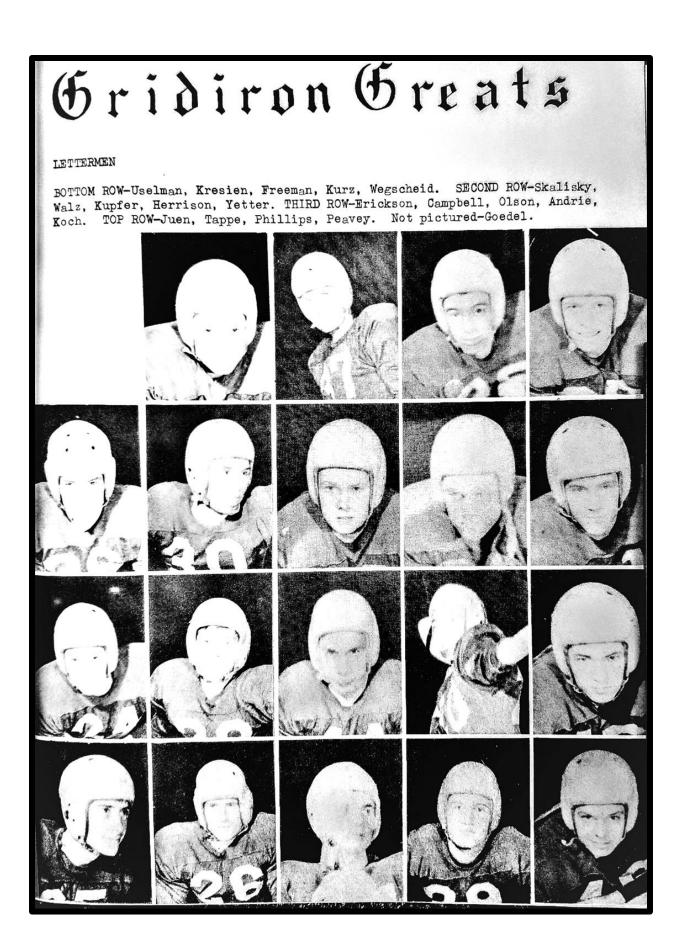


Harper, Mr. Conzemius.

WE	OPPONENT	THEY
0	Aitkin	12
19	Perham	. 0
13	Staples	0
0	Alexandria	20
13	Crosby Ironton	20
7	Detroit Lakes	39
26	Long Prairie	6







Kresien, Kupfer and Skalisky lead ground attack.



W	adena				1	Staples		
Name	Grade	Wt 1	Position	No	Name	Grade		Positio
		127			Jim Markfelder		143	B
Robert Gouldin		42	B ET	42	Bill Shelver	12	120	G
Earl Erickson		165		36	Jerry Hayenga		145	B
John Andrie			G E	29	Gerald Bienusa	and a subserver the	128	B
Robert Ames		$\frac{131}{140}$	B	$\frac{47}{26}$	Larry Geiger		140	G
Wally Kreisen		130	B	43	Tong Wentworth .		137	B
John Bernauer		145	ËC	25	Kermit Severson .		149	B B
Charles Phillips	and the second	178	T	23	Gerald Peterson		138	G
Bill Peavey		161	Ĝ	45	John Sadusky		131	C
Clyde Bigelow		131	H	40	James Mohler		145	Ĕ
Wayne Hill		131	G		Lawrence Pearson		153	Ğ
Eldon Eckert		150	T	39	Don Coleman		156	G
Ray Hunke	11	155	Ĝ	21	Lloyd Sapp	12	149	G
Mike Koch		140	Ğ	32	Bob Johnson		143	E
Gerald Olson	11	143	Ē	35	Carlson		165	Ğ
Mike Uselman		155	B	30	David Leuch		170	Ē
Don Campbell	11	170	B	24	Douglas St. Pierre	e 10	139	Ť
Dale Skalisky		140	Ĕ	31	Gary Johnson		186 174	
Marvin Goedel	11	128	ĉ	33	Tom Finn		174	
Don Falldorf		130	F	34	Jim Peterson		212	
Gary Davis		155	GT	49	Ernie Johnson Jack Martin		205	
Jim Anderson		135	В	20	Jack Martin		200	
Harold Harrison		155	В	27	Colors	Cardi	nal and	d Whit
Fred Kraemer		165	Т	40	Coach:	and a state of the		
Frank Yetter		170	C	38		Aurope		
Jerome Juen		152	E	37	"Spike" J	ohnson		
Lloyd Tappe		128	E	28				
Phil Walz		135	Т	22				
Jim Schmith		190	E	48	A			
Dean Watters		110	E	+0	0			
Ray Kupfer		135	H	4.4	0			
			no Inen		9	X		
Captain		Jeron	a Culd			A		
Colors		ue ar	na Gona			3		
Name	Wa	dena	Indians			4,		
Coaches:						L.		
John Conze	mius				Foo Stan		1	
Russ Hadd Reg Mead	en			/	(dp)			
ive mean			/		00			
					Staples			/
					1.5			
					.2.			
					LA.			
	λ				Wader .			
			A.		ae.			
Λ /			R	h.		20	/	
A				13		in the second se		
S I III K	\mathcal{O}		1.5	4				
🕅 ПП Қ	\mathbf{V}	[11.	AF				
<u> Ч</u> цк	\checkmark	4	11:41	AF	die			
\mathbb{A} 44 f	\checkmark	4	IT:AD	AY.	SED.			
944	$\langle \rangle$	4	II:AD	ENA	SEPT.			
944	4	4	IT:AD	ENA.	SEPT. 21			
944,6	4	4	II:AD	ENA.	SEPT. 21, 10			
×44,	4	4	II:AD	ENA.	SEPT. 21, 1951			
44,	V	4	IT:AD	ENA.	SEPT. 21, 1951 MINNESC			
44,	V	4	IT:AD	ENA.	SEPT. 21, 1951 MINNESOFA			
44,	V	2	It'AD.	ENA.	SEPT. 21. 1951 MINNESOTA			
44,	V	2	It'AD.	ENA.	SEPT. 21. 1951 MINNESOTA			
44,	4	4	IT'AD.	ENA.	SEPT. 21, 1951 MINNESOTA			

If you are not aware of what a big event homecoming was each fall, read the article below. This was commonplace in the 1940's through the 1960's.

Homecoming Fever Steps Up Students Snake Dance Tonight

Grid Classic Friday Night to End Season For Wadena Squad

Wadena won't be the same for the next two days as high school boys and girls take over one of the big events of their young lives —the Annual Wadena high school Homecoming.

Initial plans were started shortly after the school term got underway this fall with the naming of Long Prairie as the homecomguest. But it hasn't been until the last two weeks the homecoming fever caught the students. Candidates for the homecoming queen have been nominated, but the winner of the title won't be made known until ' Friday afternoon.

Homecoming festivities $a \vec{r} \vec{e}$ scheduled to get underway tonight (Thursday) as the student body go into their snake dance through the downtown area. The precessioners will be led by the high school band, and the formation of the parade will be at the band stand uptown.

The snake dancers will parade to the skating rink next to the athletic field where they will have their big bonfire. pepfest, musical interlude by the band and the introduction of the football squad.

This, of course will only be the starter. Friday afternoon at queen coronation exercises, the homecoming queen will be made known and her two attendants named at a ceremony in Memorial auditorium. Jerome Juen, captain of the Wadena football squad will bestow the crown upon the queen.

Following this, the students will have their annual homecoming parade, and the line of procession will be similar to the one of the snake dancers. The parade will form at the school and will approach Jefferson street from Aldrich avenue SW, then down Jefferson to Dayton, and then back to the school. The band will again lead the parade.

The floats in the parade will represent the various grades and organizations, and will center around the homecoming theme,

The displays will be judged on originality, as well as attractiveness, with the winners receiving prizes.

The highlight of the two day celebration will be the grid clash Friday night at 8:00 p.m., between the Wadena Indians and the Long Prairie Indians. The contest will be the last of the season for both teams, and when Wadena takes to the field, six seniors will be making their last appearance with the football squad: Captain Jerome Juen, Harold Harrison, Frank Yetter, Lloyd Tappe, Jim Kurz and Mike Uselman.

The contest should be unique, as well as interesting. Unique in that this will be Long Prairie's fourth homecoming appearance. Wadena's third, and that both teams have the nickname "Indians." Interesting— both squads will be working towards their first Lake Region conference win of the season, and for perhaps the first time during the season both squads will be meeting a team of their equal weight.

The band again will highlight the half time entertainment, and at the half-time, the queen will be introduced. She will address her subjects.

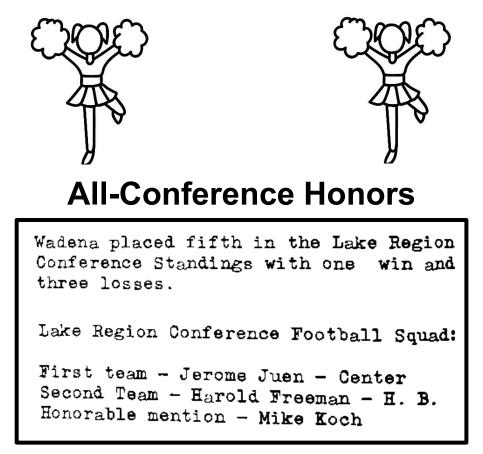
Climaxing the affair will be the floor show at Memorial auditorium, the homecoming dance and party.

Students and faculty are already into the Homecoming spirit, and by the time the starting whistle sounds at the game tomorrow night, citizens, too, will be joining with them.



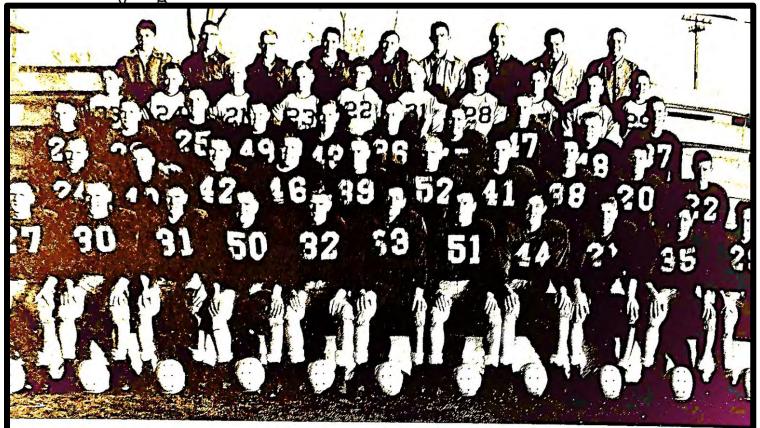


Snake Dance Later!

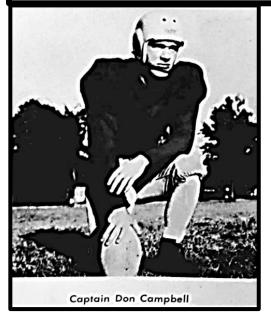


1952 Season

WHS Record 5-3-0 Lake Region 2-3-0



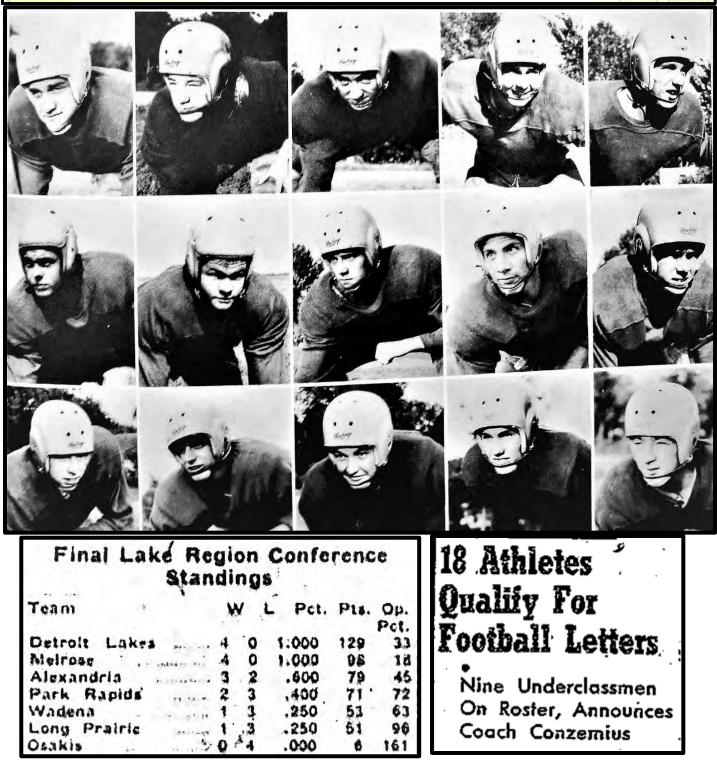
Football Squad—First Row: F. Freeman, D. Campbell, M. Goedel, J. Andrie, G. Olson, C. Phillips, M. Koch, J. Schmith, W. Hill, P. Walz, R. Kupfer. Secord Row: D. Skalisky, R. Pierce, J. Hanson, J. Ratcliff, D. Falldarf, W. Erdman, E. Haight, T. Merickel, G. Davis, W. Cooney. Third Row: J. Olson, D. Anderson, C. Kennedy, M. Ebner, D. Blaha, G. Ryti, C. Bigelow, H. Zosel, D. Ehlen, R. Ames. Faurth Row: T. Zosel, R. Shearer, E. Gustafson, E. Svedine, D. Juen, E. Stiegelmeyer, J. Ament, J. Belch, J. Campbell, L. Gallagher. Fifth Row: D. Newell, W. Kresien, D. Halliwell, E. Goedel, P. Freeman, J. Rice, Mr. Larson, Mr. Gray, Mr. Conzemius.



			SEASON'S REC	ORD)		
WE							THEY
35	-	-	Aitkin	-	-	-	13
33	-	-	Perham	-	-	-	6
34	-	-	Staples	-	-	-	0
7	-	~	Alexandria -	-	-	-	18
0	-	-	Park Rapids	-	-	-	6
14	-	-	Detroit Lakes	-		-	17
13	-	-	Breckenridge	-		-	6
32	-	-	Long Prairie	-	-	-	13

The Lettermen

Football Lettermen—First Row: John Andrie, Gary Davis, Don Falldorf, Fred Freeman, Marvin Goedel. Second Row: Gene Haight, Jerry Hanson, Mike Koch, Ray Kupfer, Jerry Olson. Third Row: Bill Erdman, Charlie Phillips, Jim Schmith, Dale Skalisky, Phil Walz. Not pictured: Jack Ratcliff, Doug Blaha.



26 Prepsters Working Out Following First Grid Call

At some point, after the players show up at the start of the season, the coaches review expectations and rules. A big set of rules labeled the "Training Rules" were applied state-wide to all athletic participants. Coach Conzemius points this out to the Rotary Club in an effort to inform the community as to what has been disseminated to the team. Below, left is the rest of what Coach told the Rotary Club. Please read or jump directly to my **commentary** to the right.

Training Rules For Grid Athletes Reviewed By Coach

With the opening of the football season Friday night, it may interest parents and townspeople of the training rules the young athletes will abide by during the season.

Coach John Conzemius speaking before Rotarians at their luncheon a week ago, told the service club that many of the rules put down were not hand made, but were made by the Minnesota High School Athletic leagues.

Commentary:

He said that he and the boys knew the rules, but wondered if parents and fans knew them. He read the following which would be adhered to during the season: No smoking at any time. No drinking of intoxicating liquor. No roller skating during the

football season. Sleeping hours during the play-

ing season: Must be off the street any night before a school day by 10 p.m. Friday and Saturday nights not later than 12 p.m. No missing of practice unless excused by one of the coaches. The training rules listed are fairly standard. No smoking, no alcohol, no missing practice without permission. And of course there is a curfew with different weeknight hours compared to the hours for the weekend.

The odd training rule I see is,

NO ROLLER SKATING!

All I can come up with is perhaps in those days the roller rinks were frequented by young smokers and drinkers who were night owls.. Pool halls had that reputation for years. They might still, if you can find one.

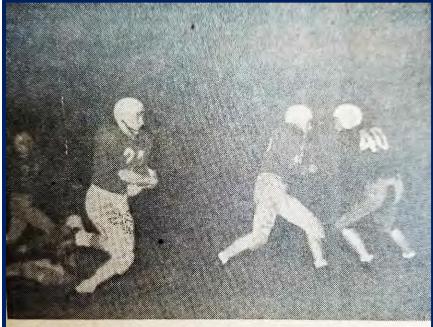
Here are some football players flaunting "Training Rule" #3. And they even have the gall to wear their football helmets! <u>Probably Staples players</u>!



The starting lineups



WHS's Freeman scores 23 of 35 pts in home opener.



The season's first touchdown is scored by Fred Freeman of Wadena against the Aitkin Gobblers. Freeman tallied 23 points as the Indians won, 35-13.

WADENA		AITKIN
Walz	LE	Samuels
Schmidt	LT	Kapiin
Olson	LG	Ritter
Falldorf	С	Herring
Erdman	RG	R. Reither
Andrie	RT	Christenson
Goedel	RÉ	Midthun
Cambell	QВ	Hyytinen
Freeman	LH	Olson
Kupfer	RB	Skog
Skalisky	F	
Wadena alterr	nates: Davis,	Kresien, Ken-
nedy, Ames, Ph	illips, Zosel,	Halght, Han-
son. Batcliff, h	Koch, Bigelov	w, Blaha.
Aitkin alterna	ates: B. Pra	tt. D. McKay,
L. Olofson. Ra	ay Pratt, V	√eston, Ayres,
lliff, F. Reoti	ner.	

Wadena / Aitkin Starting Offense





Lakes Conference Scoring Alex Cardinals to go to Wadena Individual Scoring Jac Campbell, Detroit Lakes For Lake Region Game Friday Player & Team TO PAT TP Robert Sciling, Alexandria Mertin Eman, Alexandria 0 42 7 Tom Day. Detroit Lakes 1 Richard Borstad, Detroit Lakes Indians Much Improved * 2 38 John Andrie, Mike Koch, Earl Erick-Jim Thiesen, Park Rapids 7 Harold Freeman, Wadena 5 5 35 Over Last Year, Winning Son, Bill Peavy and Charles Phillips. Don Falldorf is a new, but able Ineman, it is reported. Over Last Year, Winning Allen Siegle, Long Prairie Tom Wagner, Long Prairie 5 3 33 Kelvin Kleber. Melrose 5 31 Roger Kleber. Melrose 0 1 The Probable Starting Lineup The next opposition of the Alex-Date Sorenson, Park Rapids Alexandria 5 0 30 Roger Knablach. Meirose 0 The next opposition of the Alex-landria high school football team game set for the Wadena Indians, the game set for the Wadena Indians, the field Friday evening. The Wadena eleven is coached by John Con-zemius played ball with the Clipper baseball olub here as the 1951 sea-son got underway. Pos. Wadena Roger Rehkamp, Melrose 24 0 4 LE Wab Linus Heine, Melrose 0 LT Schmidt Richard Nelson, Detroit Lakes 3 3 21 Howard Adams. Melrose 0 LĜ C Erdman Koch Vernan Duenow, Alexandria 3 2 20 Marvin Moening, Melrose 0 RG Oison Lynn Parkel, Detroit Lakes 3 1 19 RT Andrie Goede James Long, Detroit Lakes 0 David Carlson, Detroit Lakes 0 18 RE 1 QB LH RH Campbel Freemar Kresier Û James Johnson, Detroit Lakes Carl Maim, Park Rapids 2 1 13 n got underway. Coach Tom Connor has reported Tobaben is Cardinal footballers as being Sieling 0 William Arndt, Detroit Lakes Richard Matchinsky, Melrose 12 Skalisk William Tababen, Alexandria 0 0 12 Sheldon MacDonald, Park Rapids 1 0 12 2 0 Alexandria Puts Crimp In Yom Kirkland, Park Rapids 0 12 Harold Collins, Park Rapids 1 0 2 0 Date Skatisky, Wadena 2 12 0 Ronnie Pierce, Wadena 1 Wadena's Win Streak, 18-7 In Final 51 Seconds Indians WADENA, MINNESOTA, THURSDAY, OCTOBER 16 Tumble Breck Cowboys 13-6 Indians Lose Homecoming To Lakors 27 to 14 In the second quarter Breck w **Campbell** Returns Punt stopped at the midfield stripe, and punted to he Wadena 21. The 70 Yards for Wadena's Indians pushed to Breck's 40 be-First Touchdown fore giving the ball up on downs. Held without gain, the Cowboys punted from their own 40 to the Breaking from a 6-6 tie with 51 Wadena 30, with Don Campbell reseconds of the game remaining, ceiving the punt. Two key blocks Coach John Consemius's Indians were thrown by mates, and Campbell made the 70-yard runback to turned in a thrilling win Friday score. The extra point was missnight, 13-6. The shaky victory ed and the 6-6 score did not came as a fitting climax to Dads

change until the final 51 seconds of the players who were honored Indians Close Season With of the game. The Dads were 32-12 Win Over Long Prairie seated at a special bench on the sidlines, and remained there for the first three quarters. and through the fourth quarter until their sons started tapping at victory's door. They then formed a line at the goal and watched Fred Freeman crack through the cen-20 Points To Pace ter from the one yard line to Victory March

at this game.

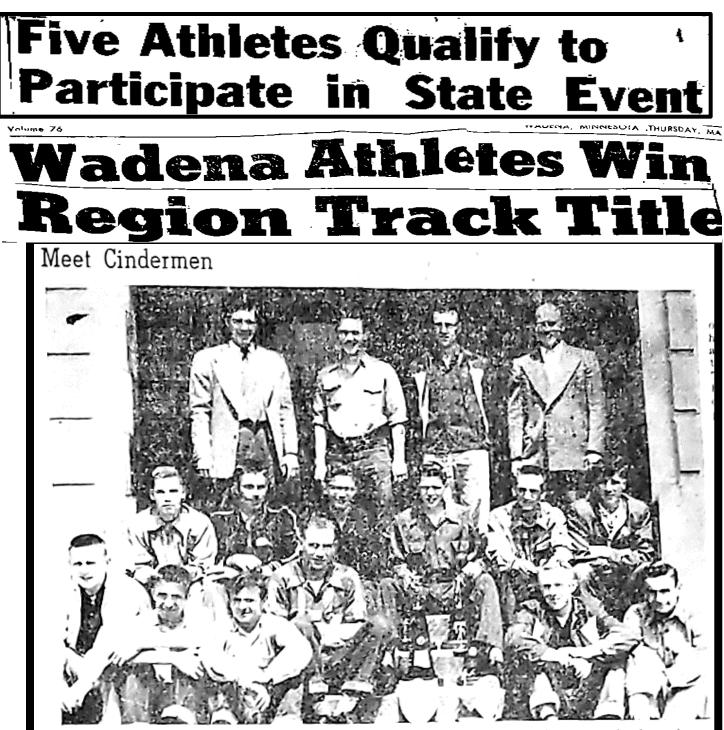
score.

1953 Track and Field!

So, the 1952 WHS football season comes to an end. The 1952-53 basketball season is next. And of course, the **<u>1953 track and field</u>** season will close out the school year.

I happened to stumble across some clippings on the **<u>1953 track and field</u>** team in Coach Conzemius' scrapbook. I thought you might enjoy them.

	od, Minnesota
IVIA	y 28, 1953
	Athletes Win
Region	Track Title
Regional Track	FINAL
Winners Since 1930 1930—Montevedeo 1931—Crosby Ironton 1931—Brainerd 1933—Brainerd 1934—Crosby-Ironton 1935—Erainerd 1936—Fergus Falls 1936—Fergus Falls 1938—Brainerd 1938—Brainerd 1938—Brainerd 1938—Brainerd 1939—Staples 1941—Staples	1. Wadena 2) 2. Merris 18 5 5 3. Moorhead 15 1/3 4. Fergue Fails 15 1/3 5. Lake Park 14 1/3 6. Meiroso 12 7. Olenwood 13 8. New York Milla 14 9. Detroll Lake 14 10. Elbow Lake 14
1942—Detroit Lakes 1943—Detroit Lakes 1944—Detroit Lakes 1945—Glenwood 1946—Glenwood 1946—Glenwood 1947—Breekenridge 1949—Detroit Lakes 1949—Detroit Lakes 1950—Breekenridge 1951—Breekenridge 1952—Breekenridge	Indians Take Firsts In Rolay Team, Broad



In the above picture taken by school photographer, Allen Skei, are the boys who have been working out on the cinder path and in the field this spring.

FRONT ROW(left to right)-Fred Freeman*, Eugene Goedel, Bob Freeman, Dale Skalisky*, Ernest Stiegelmeyer, Jim Ferris.

MIDDLE ROW (left to right) Douglas Blaha, Harold Zosel, David Anderson, Jerry Olson, Clifford Strommen, Phil Walz*

STANDING left to right) John Conzemius (coach), Don Campbello, Wally Kreslene, William Larson (coach).

Not present when picture was taken-Jack Rateliff, Donald Falldorf, Roger Drake, Robert Clark and Ted Merickel.

To participate in state meet.

• In sweeping to the stunning victory, Fred Freeman earned the right to represent Wadena in the pole vault event at the State Meet next week, as he tied with Ronald Glibertson of Lake Park for first place.

• Don Campbell took first In the broad jump, and qual-Ified for the State event,

• The relay team, composed of Date Skalisky, Wallace Kreslen. Fred Freeman and Don Campbell, sped past other opposition to take a first in this event, and the leam will compete in the state.

While Wadena will not be cligible to participate in other events it the State meet, they did pick ip yaluable points in other events it the regional.

Date Skallaky, running in Uie high and low hurdles placed fourth n the highs, and fifth in the lows. Don Campbell, the sprinter of the Wailenn crew, placed third in the 100 yard dash, and should Ron Gilbertson ٩Ľ. Lake Park, ly ho inlated second in this event. decide not to engage in the state event, then Campbell would move into the number two spot, and eligible to compete. would be Campbell also placed third in the 220-yard duph, and again finished , next to Gilbertson. Both the 100 dashes were 220-Yard And the won by Dick Brandon of Fergus الالدح

Fred Freeman, besides picking up a first in the pole vault, fied with Darrell Haupert of Herman for fifth place in the high jump. Phil Walz, the other Wadena point getter, placed third in the

point getter placed third in the 440-yard dash, with Clyde Ulschmio of Frazee finishing second and Maurice McCollar of Morris taking first in the event. In this instance, if the Frazee youth does not elect to participate at the state, Walz will move into the spot.

Clifford Strommen, the other Wadena athlete participating at the regional, missed by a balf a stride from placing fifth in the 250-yard dash.

When Fred Freeman lied with Ronald Gilbertson in the pole vault, the No. 1 spat was decided on the flip of a coin, and in the flip it marked the first time Freeman has lost on the toss. Other times this season when he has tided for the first in the event, he has been the winner in the flip of the coin.

Previous to making his leap in the broad jump. Don Campbell asked Dale Skalisky to place a piece of paper at the 20-foot mark so he (Compbell) would have a definite mark to jump to, Skalisky questioned his mate and asked if he thought he could make the 20-feet. Campbell asjured him he could .

Skallsky reasoned if Campbell could jump 20, there was the possibility the could do better, so without teiling Campbell, he placed the paper at 21 feet. Campbell went six inches over the paper for a loop of 21 feet six inches which was a foot and two inches more than his previous best jump of the season.

Wadena Athletes Win Region Track Title

Continued from page 1

Only one new record was established at the meet, and this was in the mile event when Ruddy Atchego of Moorhend slepped off the 5,280 feet in 4.40.3. The pre-V 5. Herb Oluba Barnenvilel TOO-yard Dash _ 10.15 1. Olek Brandon, Fergus Fails Ŀ 2. Ron Glibertson, Lake Park 1. Don Esimpbell, Wadena d h 4. James Krattenmaker, Breekenridge 5. Den Toerles, Sauk Centre One Mile 4.40.3 1. Rudy Archego, Moorhead Ľ 2. John Hersog, Ulen 0 3. Charles Schelin, Glenwood 4. Don McKay, Allkin 5. D. Holm, Brainerd E 410 Vard Gath 32.83 1. Maurice McColtar, Morris 2. Clyde Ulschmio, Frazze 3. Phil Walz, Wadens 4. J. Brown, Melrose 5. Dewayne Assidcaux "Villard 160 Low Hurdies 29:35 1, James Miller, Moor and 2. Eften Tolkenin, New York Mills 3. R. Rehkamp, Melrose 4. D. LACEY, EIDOW LINE . 5. D. Skallsky, Wadena 220 Yard Dash 22.7 1. Grandon, Fergue Falls Z. Ronald Gilbertson, Lake Park 7. Den Campbell, Wadena 4. Don Toenica, Sauk Centre I Se James Keller, Chekla 1310 Yard Dawn _. . 20:05.7 I. Kalth Flacher, Glenwood 2. Norman Breitenfeldt, Parbam 3. Westrum, Moorhead 4. Jared Smalley, Gienwood B. Lowell Alcxa, Elbow Lake

BELD EVENTS

Y	LO ETENIS	
	Vavit	10"
· .	Rooald Gilbertson, Lake Park	l I
· 2.	Fred Freeman, Wadena	lue
Ċ L	Manton Jorgens, Elbow Lake	
	Phij Walz, Wadena	
9 -	Lyle Hubbard, Morris	1
•	Jim Christopherson, Hending) tie
	Wailaco Ofbion, Moorhead)
High		3*6?
	Lyfe Hubbard, Morris)
	Don Theising, Grey Esgle	
3.	James Kocsling, Petham	
_	Ronald Gilbertson, Lake Park	
5.	Fred Freeman, Wadena 🤊 👘	
	Darrell Havpert, Herman) 11종
	d Jump	2116**
	Don Campbell, Wadens	
	Sob Schultz, Pelican Rapida	
	James Krattenmaker, Breckenr	idae
	Ken Gratinski, Moorhead	
	Lyle Haman, New York Mills	
	Pvt	45.2
	Frahm, Fergus Fails	
	Hubbard, Marris	
	Nyberg, Henning	
-	Sloan, Detroit Lakes	
	Matchineky. Melcose	
DIsc		132.1.
	Lyle Hubbard, Morris	
	Dave Carlson, Detroit Lakes	
	Merlin Echman, Alexandria	
	Fon Jehacic, Orainerd	
	Jone Tratas, Little Faile	
	Yard Belay	t:36.9
	Wadena, Dist. 24	
	Brechenridge, Dist. 21	
	Detroli Lakes, Dist. 23	
4 .	Melrose, Diel, 22	

This was a good eye-opener as to the quality athletes that competed on the Wadena High School football team. Let's look at the 1953 Wadena Indians football team with many of last year's track & field stars returning to school for at least one more football season.

1953 Season

WHS Record 4-3-1 *Lakes Region 2-3-0

Capt. Gary Davis

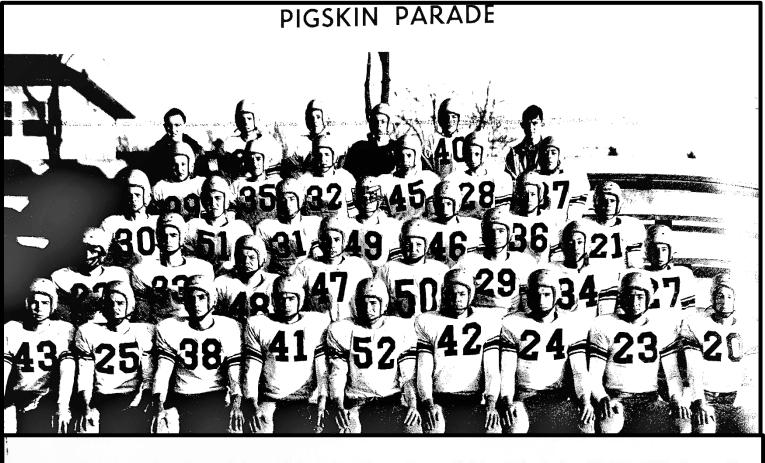
Capt. Bill Erdman



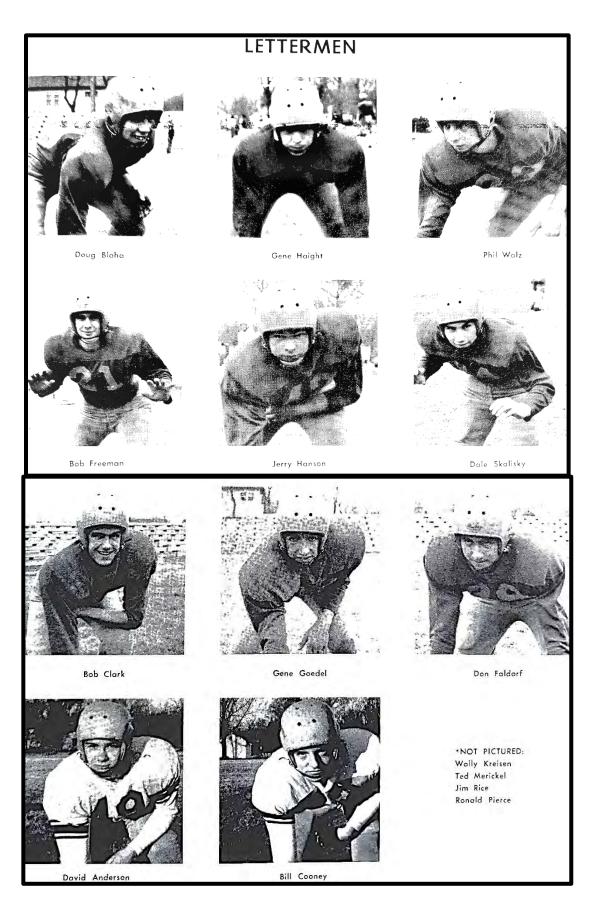
Wadena 13; Aitkin 7 Wadena 18; Perham 0 Wadena 13; Staples 7 Wadena 2; Alexandria 15 Wadena 0; Park Rapids 20 Wadena 7; Detroit Lakes 36 Wadena 7; Breckenridge 7 Wadena 13; Long Prairie 6



*Final Season in Lakes Region Conference



'A' SQUAD—FIRST ROW: I.-r. Blaha, Clark, Merickel, Haight, Erdman, Hanson, Skalisky, Walz, Davis. SECOND ROW: Cooney, Rice, Ehlen, Zosel, Ebner, Kennedy, Gustafson, Shearer. THIRD ROW: Ehlen, Ament, Pierce, Anderson, Drake, Ryti, Freeman. FOURTH ROW: Stuewer, Zosel, Clark, Fossen, Burrows, Erickson. FIFTH ROW: McDonald (manager), Halliwill, Stromeyer, Campbell, Boyer, Fox (man-





Grid Warriors to Report for First Practice Aug. 24

Coach Conzemius to . Take Squad of 27 to Football Camp

The first gentle reminder that fall is just around the corner comes with the changes in the sports pattern, when boys will discard baseball uniforms for football gear. Monday, August 24, at 9:00 a.m., will be the change date for a number of boys when Coach John Conzemius will have his first meeting with his prospective grid warriors.

Something new is being undertaken this year, informs Conzemius, and that is to take the boys to a football camp for a week. During the week's schooling, the squad will study fundamentals, run through conditioning exercises, study and memorize plays, besides having light workouts,

"Leaf Lakes Resort"

Here we come!

Volume 76 WADENA, MINNESOTA, THURSDAY, AUGUST 27, 1953

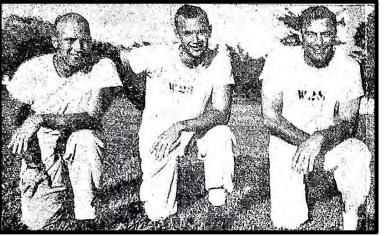
Numbe

40 Candidates Report for First Football Practice

Site of the Wadena football camp will be at Leaf Lakes, and will run from Monday, August 31 to Saturday, Sept. 5. Conzemius says enrollment will have to be held for 27 boys.

While the football camp is something new for Wadena, it is not new elsewhere. Detroit Lakes has been conducting such a school for the past few years, as has Park Rapids, and from the reports the Wadena coach has received, the school have been a satisfactory venture.

When the prepaters report to Conzemius Monday he expects nine lettermen in the list: Doug Blaha, Gary Davis, Bill Erdman. Don Falldorf, Jerry Hanson, Gene Haight, Wally Kresien, Dale Skalisky and Phil Walz.



Left to Right

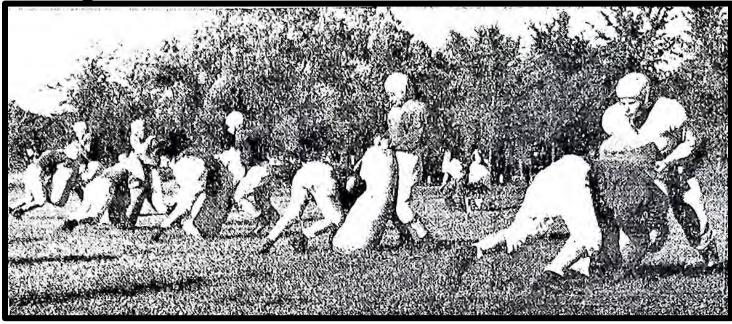
Ed Hasbrouck – back coach

Bill Larson – line coach

John Conzemius – head coach

 $\times \times \times$ 000

This week there has been considerable transition at the athletic field as the summer cry of "play ball" turned to the fall cry of "play football!" With the temperature still hitting in the high 80's at Wadena the field has been filled with perspiring as well as aspiring athletes, as the coaches send them through conditioning exercises.



In photo three Coach Hasbrouck has his backrield men limbering up on passes.

In photo four Coach Conzemius goes for a ride at the expense of his backfield men who were working out on a moveable dummy, perfecting the art of "how to get your opponent to lose ground." As the athletes are being put through their paces, it is with



When the week at Leaf Lakes Resort was done it was time to get back home and get focused on the season that was about to soon start. As preseason practices in Wadena were winding down, and anticipation was growing for the opener versus Aitkin, Supt. Tofte received a letter from the owners of "Leaf Lakes Resort." See below:

Letters We Like to Receive at Wadena

It was with considerable satistaction Supt. T. H. Tofte of the Public School read the following letter from Don Bondy of Leaf Lakes Resort, where the Wadena high school football squad set up their football camp.

All of Wadena will be interested in the public relations our youngathletes and their supervisors are spreading wherever they go.

The letter follows: Mr. T. H. Tofte, Superintendent of Schools, Wadena, Minnesota



Dear Mr. Tofte:

Mrs. Bondy and I feel that we would be very ungrateful if we did not write vow a note expressing our appreciation for the fine conduct of your high school football squad during their stay at our resort. It was indeed a pleasure for us to serve such a well disciplined, gentlemanly and appreciative group.

We also feel that you have in Mr. Conzemius and Mr. Larson the type of men we all like to have leading our youth.

Sincerely yours, Don Bondy.



Meet the Team...

Gary Davis, senior, has played varsity football for three years, earning one letter. He is 5' 8" and weighs 145 lbs. Gary has played all the backfield positions.

Don Falldorf, senior, weighs 165 lbs. and is 6' tall. He has earned one letter in three years on the varsity squad. Don plays center, end, or tackle.

Dale Skalisky, junior, has three letters to his credit in four years of varsity play. He has played defensive guard or in the backfield. Dale is 5' 11" and weighs 180 lbs.

Bill Erdman is playing his second year on the varsity squad. He is a senior, stands at 5' 10" tall, and weighs in at 175 lbs. He plays both tackle and guard earning his letter last year as a junior.

Ron Pierce is a junior this year and plays end. He weighs 135 lbs. and is 5' $8\frac{1}{2}$ " tall. This is Ronnie's second year on the varsity having moved here from Renville last year.

Bob Clark, in his first full year of varsity ball, has moved in as the first-string quarterback. Weighing 130 pounds, he is 5' 7" tall. Bob is a junior.

Jim Rice is also playing his first year on the squad, missing the majority of last season due to injuries. A junior, he is a starting end, weighing 140 pounds. Jim is 5' 10" tall.

Gene Haight, at 6' and 201 lbs. is the largest man on the squad. A junior, he lettered last season, which was his first year with the A-Squad. Gene plays tackle.

Jerry Hanson, a junior, is playing his second year on the varsity team as a tackle. He is 5' 11" tall and tips the scales at 180 lbs.

Doug Blaha, a sophomore this season, already has one letter to his credit which he earned as a freshman. He is 5' 10" tall and weighs 145 lbs. Doug plays both offensive and defensive guard.

Gene Goedel, a junior, is 5' 11" tall and weighs 150 lbs. He was kept out of action last year because of a broken arm, but Gene is back this season playing end.

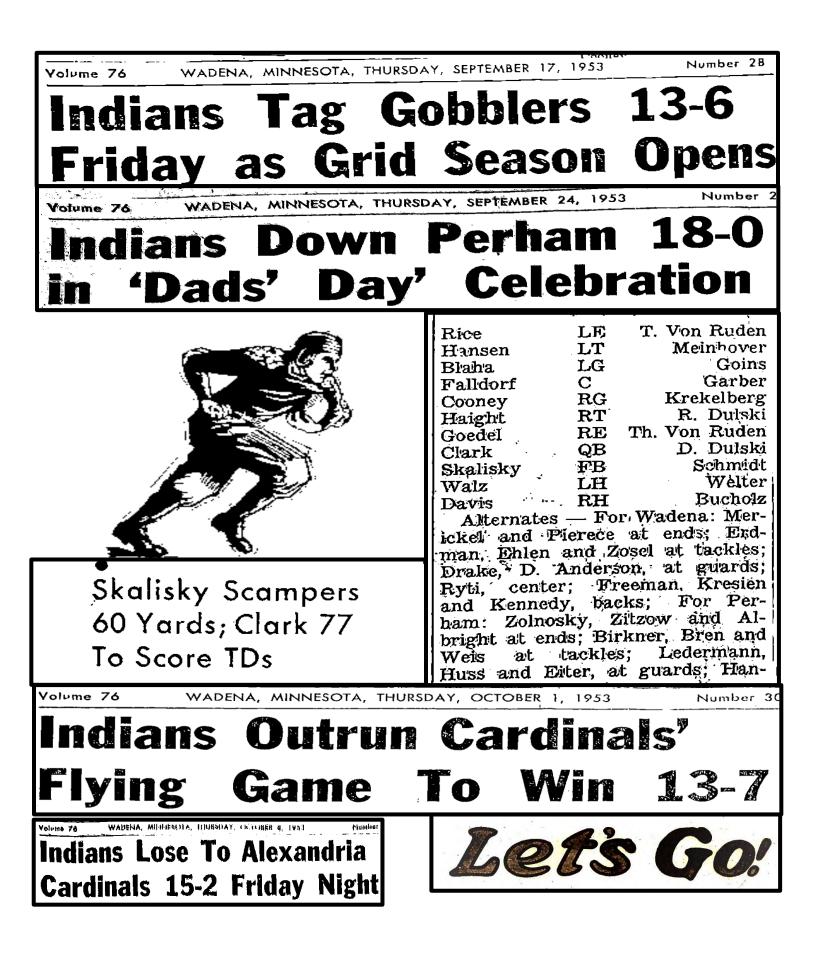
Wally Kresien is starting his 4th year with the varsity, having earned two letters. He also was injured last year while hunting. Wally's position is in the backfield. A senior, he is 5' 8" tall and weighs in at 150 lbs.

Phil Walz, a senior letterman, stands 5'9" and tips the scales at 165 lbs. He is very much at home either in a backfield position or end.

Roger Drake, a 5'8", 165 lb. guard, made his first appearance on the football field this year. He is a junior.

Bob Freeman, a sophomore playing his second year with the varsity, is 5'6" tall and weighs 135 lbs. Bob is a pledged member of the backfield gang.

Bill Cooney, a 5' 7", 140 lb. junior, is playing in the guard position for the varsity. It's Bill's first year with the A-squad.



Three straight losses.



Pictured above are the five day night. From left to right Wadena athletic field will be the seniors who will be putting on Diel Eidman, Gary Davis Don Long Plaurie Indians, with the their football togs for the last Falldorf, Wally Kresten and Phil starting whistle to sound at \$200 that for Wadena high school Fri- Walz. Friding Wadena at the pair.

Wadena - Breckenridge Play to 7-7 Tie There Friday Nite Indians Close Season With 13-6 Win Over Long Prairie GET IN THE GAME!





1954 Season

WHS Record 6-2 *Mid-State 3-1

*Wadena 24; Aitkin 6 Wadena 18; Perham 7 *Wadena 18; Staples 24 Wadena 6; Alexandria 0 *Wadena 19; Crosby-Ironton 18 Wadena 0; Detroit Lakes 6 (H) Wadena 19; Breckenridge 13 *Wadena 19; Park Rapids 14 *—conference games (H)—homecoming

*Charter member of new Mid-State conference

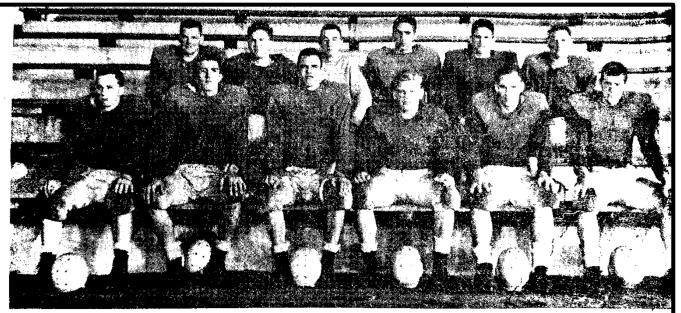
After having been a member of the very competitive Lake Region Conference for four years, the 1954 WHS football became a charter member of the five-school Mid-State Conference. Wadena joined Aitkin, Crosby Ironton, Park Rapids and Staples. The 1954 football season's final standings are below:

Mid State Conference

I was unable to find a 1954 team picture however, on the next page there is a photo of the 12 seniors.

In conference pla	.y, Wa	adena	hadj
three wins and a si	ngle l	loss, v	vhile
Staples had three v	vins a	and a	tie.
In the final standir			
teams placing as f	ollows	5:	1
	W	L	Tie
Staples	3	0	1
Wadena			01
Aitkin	1	1	2
Crosby-Ironton			0
Park Rapids	0	3	1
In scoring in c	onfere	ende l	olay,
Wadena outscored	their	орроп	ients
80-62, and on the se	eason	basis	out-
scored their oppon			

Seniors on WHS 1954 team.

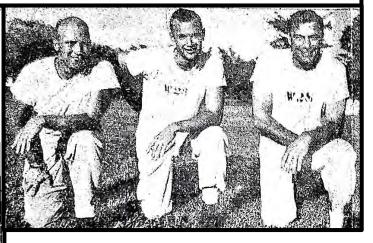


Pictured are the twelve seniors who will be putting their football togs on for the last time next Wednesday night to on their home gridiron. Friday night they will be making their stand against Detroit Lakes in the Homecoming classic, and next y nesday night when the home part of the grid schedule will be completed, they will pit their skill against the Breckenridge Covy In front row, left to right: Roger Drake, Ted Merickel, Jim Rice, Mike Ehlen, Dale Skatisky and Bill Cooney. In back row, right: Jerry Hanson, David Anderson, Toby Pierce, Gene Goedel, Bob Clark and Dean Halliwill.—Staff Photo.

28 Call for Uniforms at First Grid Practice Monday Mornin

Squad Leaves Sunday for Leaf Lake to Attend Football Camp

At the first call for football practice Monday morning, 28 candidates reported to Coach John Conzemius and his two assistants, Bill Larson and Ed Hasbrouck. Uniforms were issued and the boys and their coaches immediately went to work with conditioning being the main menu. The afternoon practice consisted of skull session and continuing of conditioning and offensive and defensive drills.



L-R: Bill Larson, Ed Hasbrouck, Head Coach John Conzemius





Volume 77

WADENA, MINNESOTA, THURSDAY, OCTOBER 28, 1954

Number 34

Indians Trip Cowboys 19-13 Squad's Last Home Game

Skalisky Lugs Mail 85 Yards to Pay Dirt on Kickoff Return

10 Scoring two touchdowns on sustained drives and a third when 19 Dale Skalisky sprinted 85 yards 19or a kick-off return, brought the 19 Wadena Indians back into the win 19 column last Wednesday night as 19 they downed the dogged Breck-19 enridge Cowboys 19-13. The game was the last to be played 19 on the home field for the squad, 19and tomorrow night at Park Rap-19 ids they will close the season.

19 Wadena scored in the first per-19 iod on a sustained 82 yard drive; and in the second quarter pushed 19 38 yards for their second touch-19 down. 19

끚 픚 ¥-

As the half-time ended Shearer passed to Rice, with the latter crossing the Cowboys' goal, but in a controversial decision it was ruled the ball hadn't been snapped to the quarterback previous to the time elapse and the six points didn't count.

> -2-×

4.

Rec	ord in	Past	Ten)	ears
~11410	/4407F	V	Vadena	P. R.
1603		••••••		
1935			. 31	0
1936			. 12	0
1937			. 12	0
1938			. 13	6
1939	•••••		. 32	14
1940		· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	. 0	0
1941	.		. 0	21
1942			. 0	0
1943	•		. 12	0
1944	••••••••••	••••••	. 13	6
1945			. 2	34
1946	·		. 6	13
1947	•		. 7	27
1948			. 6	26
1949	•••••		. 12	7
1950			. 14	20
1951		***********	. 19	32
1952	••••••		. 0	6
1953	• • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • •		. 0	20

Indians Seek Best Season

Next: **Park Rapids Panthers**

Number 35

Indians Close Season With 19-14 Win Over Park Rapids

WHS was 2 TDs and 2 PAT's away from being undefeated.

Skalisky Races 75	Kicking off to Park Rapids, Englund took the ball on the Pan-
Yards to Score	thers' 15 and made a return run
Wadena's Second TD	to Park Rapids' 42. Moving to the Wadena 25 they gave the ball
Turning back the Park Rapids Panthers Friday night 19-14, the Wadena Indians completed their season with a record of six wins against two losses, for the best season since 1944. The squad of that year had a clean slate of eight wins. To gain last Friday night's victory, the Indians had to come from behind to do it, as the	up on downs. * * * On the first play, Skalisky went off tackle and lugged the mail 75 yards to score. He carried for the conversion point, and the score stood, Park Rapids 14, Wadena 13 as the half ended. * * *
	Indian Backfield Had Best Balance in Mid-State Loop
	Clark, Skalisky, Freeman at Top of List-in Scoring
	PlayerTeamPlayRussJohnson, Staples48BobCiark, Wadena24DaleSkalisky, Wadena10BobFreeman, Wadena18JerryGreen, Park Rapids13GaryCondiff, Park Rapids13JerryHolm, Aitkin13JerryPattison, Staples12



Dale Skalisky was a five-time letter winner for the Wadena High School football team. He may be the only WHS student-athlete to have accomplished that feat.

Dale Skalisky Named to Loop All-Star Squad Goedel, Anderson, Clark, Freeman Get Honorable Mention

Staples retained their leading role in the league as they turned back the Crosby-Ironton Rangers 25-13 in their last contest of the season.

In conference play, Wadena had three wins and a single loss, while Staples had three wins and a tie. In the final standings it finds the teams placing as follows:

	W	L	Tie
Staples	3	0	1
Wadena	3	1	0
Aitkin	1	1	2
Crosby-Ironton	1	3	0
Park Rapids	0	3	1

the sport, playing the game since he was a seventh grader, and earn-ning his first letter as an eighth grader.

In the first_naming of a mythical Mid-State football conference team, three players were the unanimous choice of the conference coaches. Of the three, Dale Skalisky of Wadena was one, and he was the only man from Wadena squad to land a spot on the team, although the Indians finished in second place in loop play. Russ Johnson- of Staples and

Russ Johnson- of Staples and Larry Theisen of Park Rapids were the other players who got the unanimous nod.

On the honorable mention team four Wadena players came in for recognition: Gene Goedel, end: Dave Anderson, guard: Bob Clark and Bob Freeman, backs.

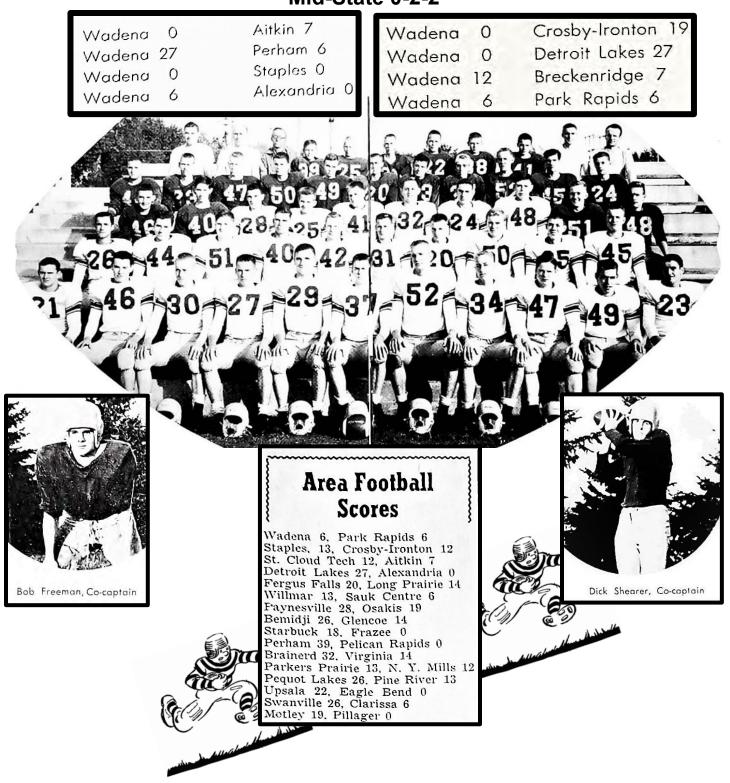
In the complete selection of the coaches, it was as follows: "-

FIRST TEAM

	B'ATTERA A.E.	AM
Pos.	Player ;	School
LE_	Jerry Pattison	Staples
LT.	Gary Johnson	Staples
LG	Bill Hanlon	Aitkin
C	Don Lehrke C	
RG :	Larry Theisen	
RT	Dale Habighors	t C.I
RE	John Galarneau	
QB	Rich Ruzich	C.1
LH	Russ Johnson	Staples
RH	Mel Holm	Aitkin
FB	Dale Skalisky	Wadena

1955 Season

WHS Record 3-3-2 Mid-State 0-2-2



Volume 78

13 WADENA, MINNESOTA, THURSDAY, OCTOBER 27, 1955

Indians Ambush Breckenridge Last Out-of-Town Game

Score TDs in Third, Fourth Periods to Erase Breck Lead

After meeting reverses at the hands of Crosby-Ironton and Detroit Lakes on their road trips, the Indians came out of the hills last Friday night at Breckenridge to ambush the Cowboys 12-7, after granting the Wilkin county squad a head start in the second quarter.

While he didn't score either of the Wadena tallies, little 130-pound Jimmie Klein drawing his first starting assignment, kept the Indian fire burning throughout the contest. Coach Conzemius has commented he couldn't single out any individuals, for what made one boy look good, could be attributed to the rest of the team carrying out their specific assignments. "Team spirit was high for this game. The line functioned especially well, and the timing of the backfield men was well coordinated with the line.

"I think that John Campbell came up with his best game of the season, and the driving of Shearer, Burrows and Freeman in the backfield was the best that it has been for the past several games. But if you are mentioning names, remember Gustafson, Tex, Ortloff, Mohs, Boyer, Erickson, Gibson, Ol-son, Ryti and Fossen all played a good game as did the rest of the alternates. This was Ryti's first game since being hurt in the Crosby-Ironton game earlier in the season. But, that game is over and we are now pointing to our last game against Park Rapids," concluded Conzemius.

On the other side of the fence it was young sophomore Dave Conzemius, brother of the Wadena Sec. 1.

coach; Wes Van Tassel and Jerry able, but for the Indians, the fol-Czitchotzki who were the spark lowing boys saw action: plugs and kept the Cowboys on their horses for the night.

Breckenridge scored their lone tally shortly after the second quarter got underway, when they moved from the Wadena 46 across the double stripe in ten plays, with Dave Conzemius chomping off the last 13 yards to score. The conversion point was good and Breck led 7-0 as the half ended.

Penalties halted any threats the Indians attempted during the first half. One bid was made in the first quarter on the second series of plays when the Indians moved from their own 38 to the Breck 11, but twice they were hurt by penalties. As they gave up the ball they were hacking away on the Breckenridge 6. When the half time came, Wadena was on the Breckenridge 23, and were moving. As the third quarter opened,

Breckenridge accepted the kickoff, and on the third play, Shearer intercepted a Breckenridge pass on the Wadena 38 and ran the ball back to the Wadena 44, from where the Indians moved for their first TD. Burrows and Freeman carried the mail on most of the drive, with Shearer doing the scoring on a quarterback sneak from the Breck one.

The stage was set for the Indians winning tally late in the third quarter when the Cowboys punted to the Wadena 22 yard line. When the third quarter ended, the Indians were on their own 32.

As the fourth quarter opened, Shearer picked up three yards; Freeman 9, Klein three and Dave Burrows three as the ball rested on the midfield stripe. Ten plays later, with every backfield man taking his turn at carrying the ball, the Indians were on the Breck 2, from where Freeman went on to score. The conversion point was missed, and Wadena led 12-7. minutes and 12 sec-

Number 34

Ends - Campbell. Gustafson. Braun, Kennedy

Tackles Orthoff, Johnson, Clark, Halliwill, Gibson

Guards-Boyer, Ryti, Fossen, Olson, Scott, Smith

Center-Mohs, Erickson

Backs — Burrows, Freeman, Klein, Shearer

Two of the other backs-Zosel and Walz were riding the bench with sprained ankles and didn't see action, and Lindberg, was out of the line-up because of illness.



onds of the game remaining, Breck started to move, and on a concentrated drive were on the Wadena 21. A pass, Conzemius to Chizek went amiss, with Jim Erickson making an interception with 53 seconds of the game remaining. Wadena froze the ball for the remaining seconds, and came home with a well-earned victory under

This last "away" game of the season found coach Conzemius not only battling his alma mater, but trying to figure out how to stop their star running back, John's brother, Dave Conzemius. Above is most of the article.

Volume 78

WADENA, MINNESOTA, THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 3, 1955

Number

Indians End Season With 6-6 Tie With Park Rapids Panthers

Dave Burrows

Pass, Shearer to Burrows, Sets Stage for Wadena Tally

In their final clash of the season Friday night, the Indians settled for a 6-6 tie with the Park Rapids' Panthers, and came close to winning the contest, in spite of the fact statistics favor the Panthers.

The game was played on a dry, but windy field, which wasn't the case in a number of other contests played Friday night. At Brainerd it rained, snowed and blowed throughout their game with Virginia, which was won by Brainerd 32-14. The temperature at Wadena at game time stood at 37 degrees above zero, fanned by a brisk 21-mile-an-hour northwest wind.

While the game was hotly contested all the way, it was clear of serious infractions. One of the five yard penalties imposed upon the Panthers deprived them of what could have been the winning touchdown. On the Wadena six yard line, the Panthers moved across the goal, but it was ruled illegal assistance had been given the ball carrier, and they were put back to the Wadena 11. Three plays later they fumbled on the Wadena four, with Campbell and Fossen making the recovery.



It was from this spot wadena moved 96-yards to score.

The Panthers scored their lone touchdown in the first period on the first series of plays. Kicking off to Wadena, the Indians failed to gain sufficient yardage for a first down and punted to the Panthers 40. On the ground Park Rapids moved to the Wadena 38. A pass was attempted, but fell incomplete. On the next try, Manners got behind the Wadena sccondary as Enfield uncorked a second try. The connection was made on the Wadena 10, and Manners ran the rest of the way. The try for the extra point was missed, and Park Rapids led 6-0.

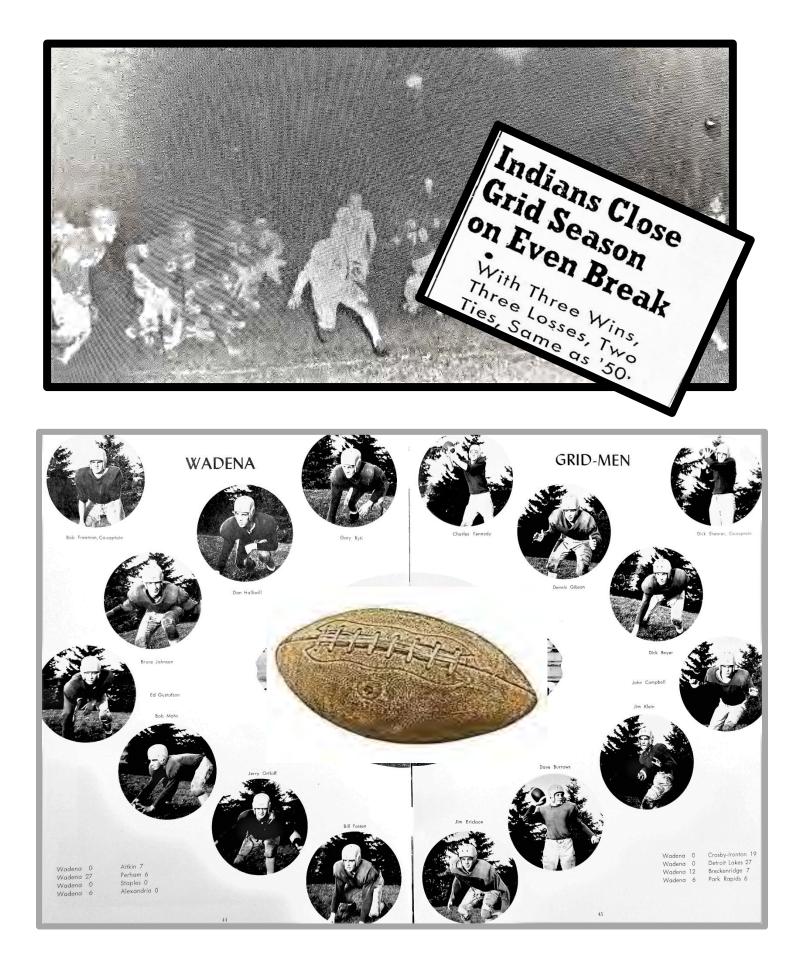
The Indians worked themselves into trouble just before the close of the first quarter when they fumbled on their own 28, with Park Rapids making the recovery. It was in the opening of the second quarter when they tapped at the Wadena door, but the fumble on the Wadena 4, recovered by Wadena, closed the door in their faces.

On the ground Wadena moved out to their own 33 on eight plays. Shearer then flipped a pass to Dave Burrows, which was completed on the Park Rapids 35, and Burrows lugged the mail to the Park Rapids' 12 before being brought down from behind. Three running plays later Burrows carried the mail the last five yards for the Indians only tally. The kick for extra point was missed, and the game knotted at 6-6, with the score remaining unchanged throughout the last half.



John Campbell, future Gopher All-Big Ten selection and NFL (Steelers) All-Pro Team, recovered 3 fumbles against Park Rapids.

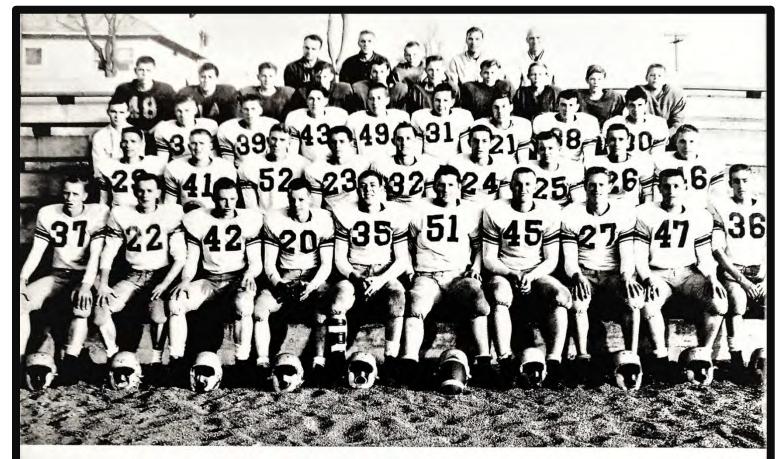




1956 Season



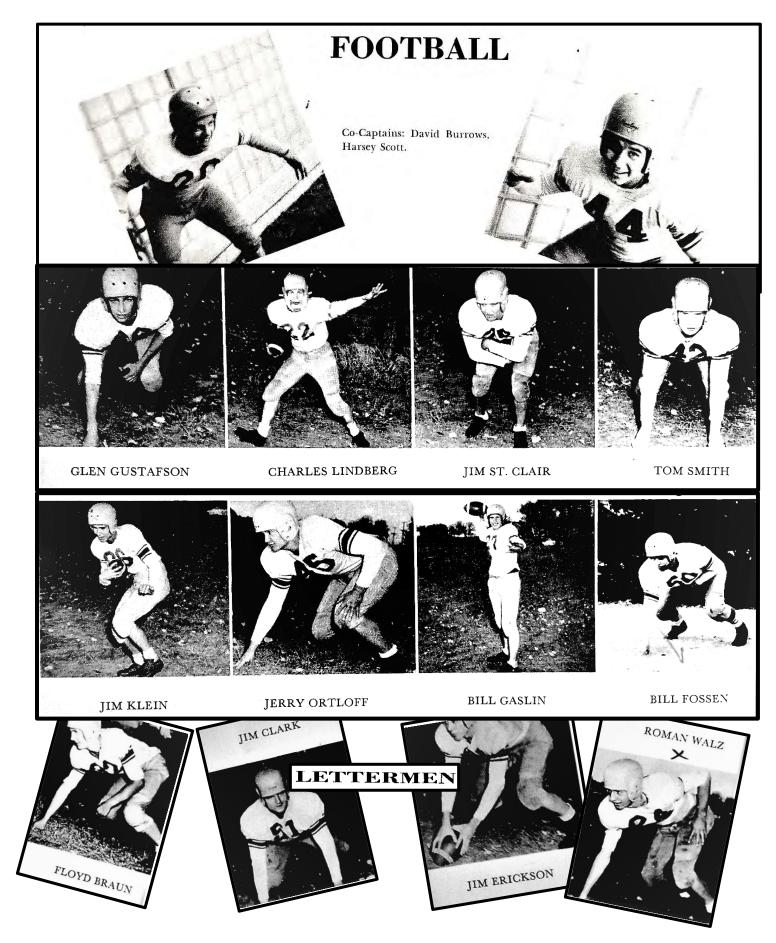
WHS Record 3-5 Mid-State 2-2



"A" TEAM-ROW ONE: D. Reece, C. Lindberg, T. Smith, D. Burrows, J. Erickson, J. Clark, J. Ortloff, W. Gaslin, R. Rickers, G. Gustafson. ROW TWO: M. Rowe, D. Conn, B. Tellers, J. Merickel, F. Braun, R. Walz, J. St. Clair, J. Klein, G. Stofer. ROW THREE: J. Proctor, G. Kluenenburg, R. Mohs, J. Kicker, H. Knutson, J. Koranda, R. Halbmaier, S. Phillips, R. Miller. ROW FOUR: T. Rowe, H. Scott, L. Mickelson, W. Marsh, R. Paarman, D. Neuerberg, D. Miller, R. Reini, A. Crocker, T. Ehlen. ROW FIVE: Mr. Corcoran, Mr. Willis, J. Ehlen, Mr. Conzemius, Mr. Larson.

SCHEDULE

1	÷												•														1	A	i	tk	in	1 1	13	
12													•														1	P	e	rh	a	m	6	
0																						-				1	S	it	a	D	les		23	
6											+												1	41	e	x		a .	n	d	ria	. 1	14	
21																					C	r	0	sł	20	1-	1	-	re	m	to	in	0	
7																	1				Г) (-	m				1	Г.	21	PAG		20	5
7																					1	R	r	er	·L	0		-	-	id	C:		20	5
7																							F	a	rl	k		H	2	a	ge	ls	0	ľ.
	12 0 6 21 7 7	12 0. 6. 21. 7. 7.	12 0 6 21 7 7	12 0 6 21 7 7	12 0 6 21 7 7	12	12 0 6 21 7 7	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12 P 0 St 6 Alexa 21 Crosby-In 7 Detroit In 7 Brecken	12 Per 0 Sta 6 Alexan 21 Crosby-Irc 7 Detroit Li 7 Breckenr	12 Perkonstructure 0 Stap 6 Alexanda 21 Crosby-Iron 7 Detroit Lak 7 Breckenrid	12 Perham 0 Staples 6 Alexandria 21 Crosby-Ironto 7 Detroit Lakes 7 Breckenridge	12 Perham 0 Staples 6 Alexandria 21 Crosby-Ironton 7 Detroit Lakes 7 Breckenridge	7



Volume 79

WADENA, MINNESOTA, THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 13, 1956

Number 28



Alex Stacks Cards Against Indians to Chalk 14-6 up WADENA, MINNESOTA, THURSDAY, OCTOB WADENA, MINNESOTA, THURSDAY, OCTOBER 11, 1956 Volume 79 Indians 'Bing' Crosby 21-0 in In 31 Years, Indian-Laker Homecoming Football Classic **Series Played on Even Basis** 1938-Wadena 12; Detroit Lakes 0 Drives of 45, 52, The record since 1918 reads as 1939-Wadena 13; Detroit Lakes follows; 95 Yards Net TDs 28 1918-Wadena 7; Detroit Lakes 24 1940-Wadena 6; Detroit Lakes 13 in Final Half 1941-Wadena 0; Detroit Lakes 25 1919-Wadena 0; Detroit Lakes 25 1942—Wadena 7; Detroit Lakes 13 1920-No account of game The Indians put a fitting cli-max to the 1956 Wadena high school Homecoming Friday night 1943-Wadena 20; Detroit Lakes 1921-Wadena 7: Detroit Lakes 0 13 1922-Wadena 31; Detroit Lakes 6 1944-Wadena 38; Detroit Lakes 6 as they turned back their trouble-1923-Wadena 0; Detroit Lakes 3 1945-Wadena 13; Detroit Lakes 7 some focs, the Crosby-Ironton 1946-Wadena 33; Detroit Lakes 7 1924—Game cancelled because of ; Rangers 21-0. The scoring came 1947-Wadena 13; Detroit Lakes ineligibility of Wadena players in the last half, with two touch-21 1925-Wadena 12; Detroit Lakes 6 downs coming in the third quart-1948—Wadena 26; Detroit Lakes 6 er, and another in the fourth. 1926-Wadena 7; Detroit Lakes 26 1949-Wadena 12; Detroit Lakes 0 1927-1930-Not on Wadena sched-1950-Wadena 6; Detroit Lakes 23 It was the overall team perfor-1951—Wadena 7; Detroit Lakes 39 ule mance which turned the trick 1952—Wadena 14; Detroit Lakes against the Rangers-the Wadena 1931—Wadena 12; Detroit Lakes 0 backs showed up well, possibly 1932—Not on schedule 27 1953-Wadena 7; Detroit Lakes 36 due to the fact the Wadena line 1933-Wadena 6; Detroit Lakes 6 1954—Wadena 0; Detroit Lakes 6 turned in its best game so far (tied) this season. 1955-Wadena 0; Detroit Lakes 27 1934 -- Wadena 12; Detroit Lakes 7 1935---Wadena 50; Detroit Lakes 6 WADENA, MINNESOTA, THURSDAY, OCTOBER 18/ 1956 1936-Wadena 12; Detroit Lakes 0' First Half Scoring 1937-Wadena 37; Detroit Lakes 6 1938-Wadena 12; Detroit Lakes 0 Sinks Indians 28-7 Volume 79 WADENA, MINNESOTA, THURSDAY, NEWENBER R. 1956 Indians Close Grid Season **Burrows** Hauls Mail 53 Yards for Locals' By Bopping Panthers 7-0

Partially Blocked Wadena Punt Sets Stage For TD

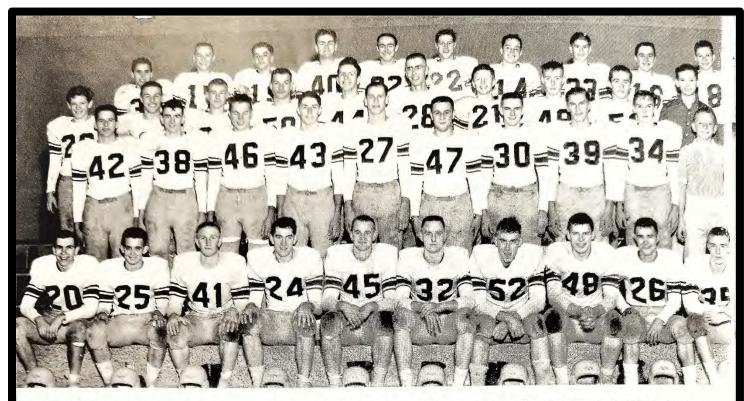


Lone Touchdown

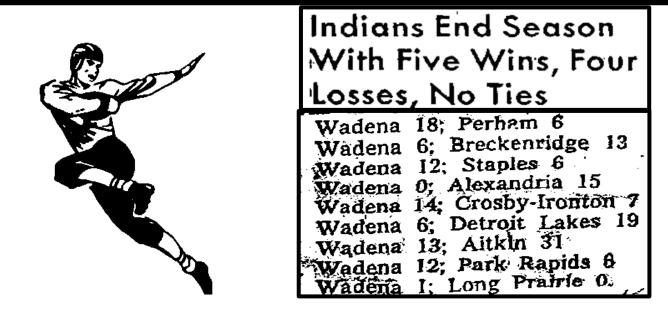


1957 WHS

Season Record 5-4 Mid-State 3-1



ROW ONE: T. Sundahl, J. St. Clair, D. Conn, R. Walz, J. Ortloff, F. Bruan, B. Tellers, T. Rowe, J. Klein, D. Ames. ROW TWO: M. Rowe, S. Phillips, G. Stofer, J. Kicker, B. Gaslin, R. Rickers, V. Brust, R. Mohs, J. Erickson, C. Brandt (Manager). ROW THREE: A. Crocker, D. Halbmier, P. McKellop, R. Paarman, J. Koranda, J. Uselman, J. Gerlach, N. Neurburg, J. Cummings, D. Johnson (Manager). ROW FOUR: S. Parker, R. Taggart, R. Lynk, P. Gleason, B. Miller, R. Geiser, M. Gibson, D. Bruer, D. Kupfer, J. Rowe.



Mid State Standings Q

Aitkin Wadena **Crosby-Ironton** Staples Park Rapids





Ron Rickers



O

Roman Walz



l

2

2

Dick Halbmier





Jim St. Clair

Jim Klein



Ben Tellers



Arch Ortloff



Don Conn

Dick Ames



Mike Rowe



Tom Rowe



Bill Gaslin

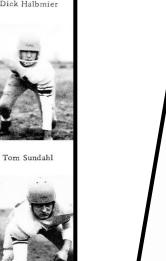


Greg Stofer

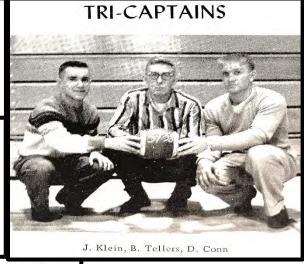
Floyd Braun

Not Pictured: Joe Meric-kel, Dave Reece, Gary Kluenenburg, Bob Miller

53



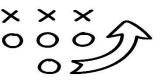




Indians Down Yellowjackets 18-6 For First Win of Season

Halbmaier Sprints 62 Yards to Score Final Wadena Touchdown





Indian Uprising Halted by Breckenridge Cowboys 13-6

Breck Cowboys Lose Services of Dave Conzemius

In Ted Peterson's "Nocan Pickem" column appearing in last Sunday's Minneapolis Tribune, Wadena's football coach John Conzemius and John's brother Dave, of Breckenridge, gave Peterson background for his lead item which was as follows:

"Little" brothers have a habit of growing up Coach John Conzemius of Wadena high school ruefully admits.

He has reference to David Conzemius, 185 pound, 5-10 fullback for Breckenridge high school.

David had a major hand in defeating his older brother's Wadena team recently 13-0.

"I don't like to get licked any time," said Coach John, "even if a brother has a hand in it. Actually it was a pretty good game, but they had a little too much speed for us."

The Wadena defense was polited at stopping David and did a pretty good job, but it wasn't quite enough.

In comparing his young broth-

er's ability to his own as a high school and collegiate player, the Wadena coach says, "Dave's 'way ahead of me right now. He has a good build, lot of speed and a lot of power. He's definitely a good college prospect."

Actually young Dave is 20 pounds heavier than his brother when the latter played at Breckenridge high school and at Moorhead Teachers college.

There are four Conzemius brothers in all—John; Dave; Robert, who played football at Breckenridge high school but lettered in track and baseball at North Dakota State and Michael, a fourth grader, whom John says, "is taking quite an interest in sports, too, and could be the best of all."

		starting line-
	ates and sta	
Wadena	Pps.	\mathbf{Breck}
Walz	LE	Koppelman
Tellers	LT	Jacobs
Conn	LG	Nelson
Rowe	C	Mitbo
		Savoy
		Lane
Braun	RE	Cobb
Halbmaier	LH	Chezik
Klein	RH	Cook
Gaslin	QB	Nagel
Merickel	FB	. Conzemius
		ena) Miller,
Jim St. Cl	air, Mike R	owe, Koran-
da, Stofer,	Rickers (Br	reckenridge)



Gaslin's 43-Yard Touchdown Pass is Clincher

Turning in a 14-7 win against the Crosby-Ironton Rangers last Friday night, the Indians spoiled a fitting finish to Crosby-Ironton's Homecoming plans. It wasn't because the Rangers didn't have a chance, but the fact the Indians successfully put on two goal line stands, and a third time when a Crosby-Ironton fumble recovered by Wadena stopped a serious threat, held them on the short end of the score.

One of the strange incidents in the game, the Rangers didn't punt once during the entire game. On the times they gave up the ball they were deep into Wadena territory and nothing would be gained by the punt, or a fumble, recovered by the Indians took the ball away from them.

The game was the best all-around performance the Wadena squad has turned in this season. The backfield handling of the ball Friday night was good enough to even fool the referee who at one time lost the ball on a bootleg play. He followed the man who didn't have the ball and sounded his whistle to stop play. The man without the ball had advanced from the line of scrimmage for a four yard gain. The man with the ball had sprinted from the Rangers' 22, inside the ten. In the confusion, the ball was put back to the line of scrimmage. There is still some scratching of heads why a gain wasn't noted.

> * * * 0005

Wadena's two touchdowns came in rapid order in the second quarter. The stage was set for the first touchdown in the closing minutes of the first quarter when they moved from their own 23 yard line to the Crosby-Ironton 13 as the first quarter ended. Four plays after the second quarter started, Bill Gaslin carried the last four yards to pay dirt. He also carried for the extra point.

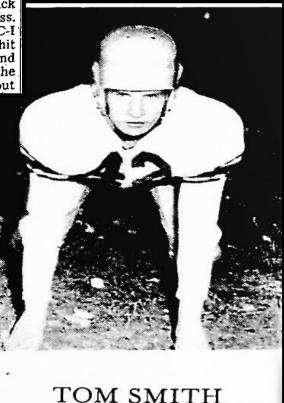
Kicking off to Crosby-Ironton, the ball went out of bounds on the Rangers' 22, and was put into play on the Rangers 40. On the first rushing play they picked up five yards, fumbled with Wadena making the recovery. On rushing they moved to C-I's 31 in four plays. With third down coming up and about eight yards to go for the first down, Gaslin faded back beyond the 40 yard line for a pass. He had two receivers in the C-I end zone, and in the pitch he hit Roman Walz for Wadena's second TB Gaslin also carried for the extra point, and Wadena went out



Tom Smith Heads MSC Freshman Class

In a news release from Moorhead State College, announcement is made that Thomas Smith, son of Mr. and Mrs. Cecil Smith of rural Wadena, has been elected president of the freshman class. Tom, a 1957 graduate from Wadena high school, is now taking academic courses, with the plan to major in Industrial Arts and Mathematic. at MSC.

MSC frosh and WHS alum, Tom Smith '57,is elected class president. Smith held that position for four years





Flu Bug Hits Long Prairie School, Game Forfeited 1-0

All Mid-State Conference

First Team: Walz, Ortloff, Conn Second Team: Tellers

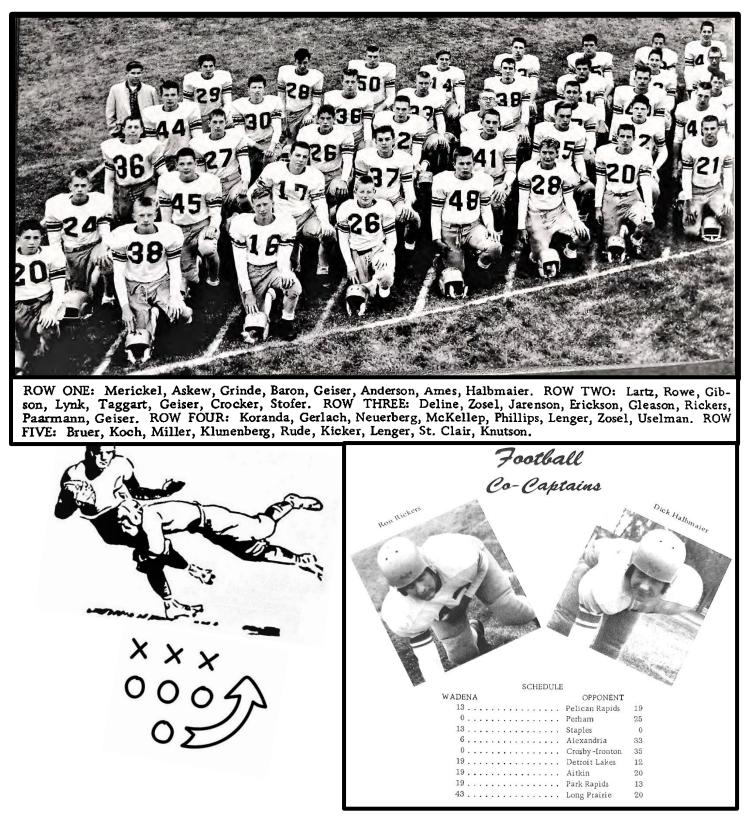
SECOND TEAM
, ENDS-Ken Bothoft, Staples;
Doug Everhart, Park Rapids
TACKLES-Art Doten, Aitkin,
Bernard Tellers, Wadena
GUARDS — Dennis Sanderson,
Crosby-Ironton; Terry Hanlon,
Aitkin
CENTER-Roger Hanson, Park
Rapids
BACKS—Jim Greenwood, Park
Rapids; Joe Bremer, Staples; Gary
Johnson, Aitkin and Don Green.
Park Rapids.



Pictured are ten of the 12 seniors who have hung up their football uniforms for their prep careers, and in essence it is the entire football squad. From left to right: Jim St. Clair, back; Dick Ames, line; Don Conn, back and line; Roman Walz, end Jerry Ortloff, line; Floyd Braun, end; Bernard Tellers, line; Tom Rowe, center; Jim Klein, back and end; and Tom Sundahl, back Missing from picture, Joe Merickel, back; Dave Reece, line.

1958 Season

WHS Record 4-5 Mid-State 2-2





Sam Phillips



Harold Knutson





Bob Miller



Roger Paarmann

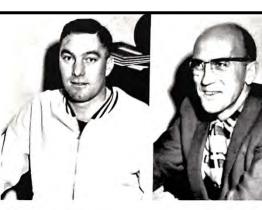


Alvin Crocker

John Erickson



Joe Koranda



Head Coach: John Conzemius Assistant Coach: Bill Larson

Plagued by injuries that hit them early in the season, the Indians won four games, losing five. Seniors Bill Gaslin, Vern Brust, Jim Kicker, Dick Breurer and Sophomore Bob Miller were injured and had to remain out of action for the greater part of the season. Despite a lack of players, the Indians finished third in the conference with victories over Staples and Park Rapids. The highlight of the season was the final 43-20 victory over Long Prairie.



Greg Stofer

Jim Uselman

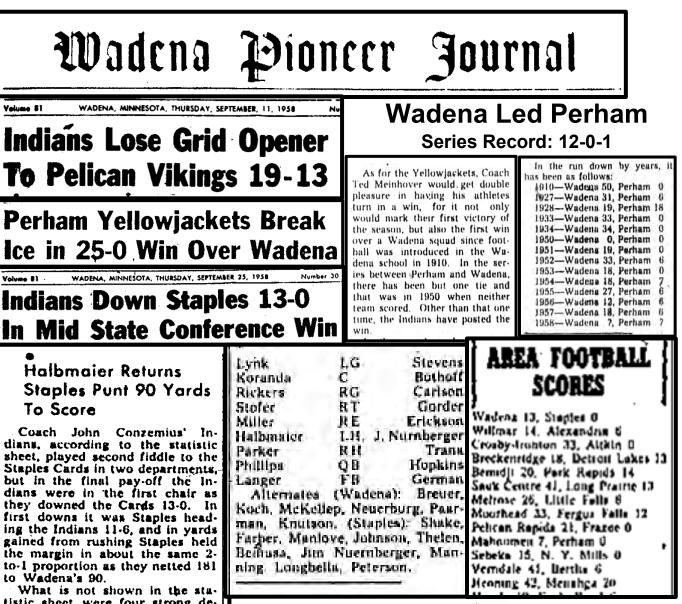


Gary Kluenenberg

Paul Koch

John Lenger

Russell Lynk



What is not shown in the statistic sheet were four strong defensive stands which kept the Cards scoreless. The first stand was made in the closing minute of the first half when the Wadena squad got tough and stopped the Cards on the Wadena one-yard line.

At the start of the second half the Cards moved with comparative case from their own 34 to the Wadena 18 when the Indians got tough a second time and in the next four tries the Cards picked up only five yards and Wadena took the ball on downs on their own 13.

Volume 81

WADENA, MINNESOTA, THURSDAY, OCTOBER 2, 1958



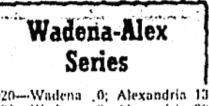
Notice the score in the 1921 game. Last game of the season. Both teams undefeated and WHS unscored upon. Read below (score was 80-3): Against Alex, from 1920-1958, WHS was 6-12-1 and outscored in those 19 games 104-211





upon. The fifth game was with Fergus Falls Otters and Wadena won 52-0. The final game of the season was at Alexandria H.S. where the Indians took in on the chin 80-3. Marion Jay Blaha kicked a place kick for Wadena's only 3 points. Alex was considered the

National High School football champions that season. Pictured are (standing from left): Ben Kluczny, Halbmeir, Coach Kuefler, Carol Parker, Delbert Thom, Clifford Getter, Edward Lehman, Douglas McQuillan and George Ernster; (seated from left) Marion Blaha, captain; Vern Wright, Joe Rice; (on floor(Mitchell,



1920Wadena _0; Alexandria	13
1921Wadena 0; Alexandria	80
1934-Wadena 7; Alexandria	0
1935-Wadena 0; Alexandria	-6
1941-Wadena 0; Alexandria	34
1944-Wadena 12; Alexandria	6
1945-Wadena 16; Alexandria	18
1946-Wadena 19; Alexandria	6
1947-Wadena 14; Alexandria	14
1948-Wildena 3; Alexandria	0
1950-Wadena 0; Alexandria	19
1951-Wadena 0; Alexandria	20
1952-Wadena 7; Alexandria	18
1953-Wadena 2; Alexandria	15
1954Wadena, 6; Alexandria	0
1955-Wadena.' 6; Alexandria	0
1956-Wadena 6; Alexandria	14
1957Wadena 0; Alexandria	15
1958Wadena 6; Alexandria	33
In the 19 games, Wadena h	13%





Dick Halbmaier and Joan Ebner





Volume 81

Number 35

Indians End Grid Season With 43-20 Win Over Long Prairie

Halbmaier Races 78, 75, 55 Yards For Three Touchdowns

Coach John Conzemus' Indians rolled into high gear Friday night to win over the Long Prairie Indians 43-20. With this win, the Indians closed their season with a four win and five loss record

plays after this, Sam Phillips broke loose from the Wadena 14 and raced to the Long Prairie 11 before being stopped—a 75 vard jaint. On a ground drive Halb mater carried the last three yards. The extra point was missed and Wadena led 19-0.

Kicking off to Long Prairie, the Todd county squad made a return from their own 35 to their own 46

Will End Prep Grid Careers

score stood Wadena 31, long Prairie 6, as the third quarter ended.

Scoring was cheap in the last quarter as both squads bit pay dirt twice. Long Prairie was the first to counter as they moved on the ground from their own 20 Sparking the drive was Chuck Reichert who sprinted 43 yards m one burst, and also carried the





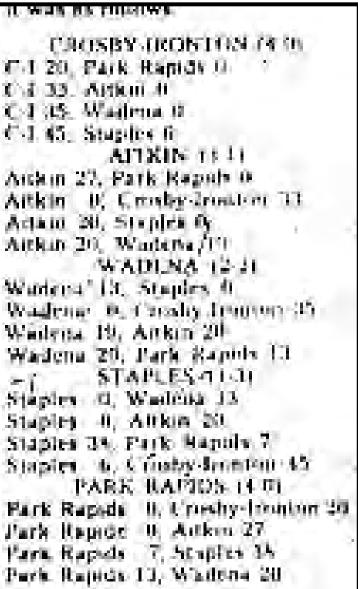
Sam Phillips

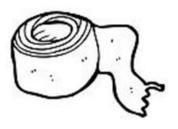


Five Sensors will don their football togs for the fast time Friday night under the Wadena High school banner as the Indians end their season by playing host to the Long Prairie Indians on the Wadena athletic field. The five, reading from left to right: Barold Knutson, Dack Halbmaier, Ron Rickers, Joe Lenger and Sam Philips --PJ Photo

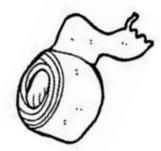
Halbmaier, Rickers Gain Berths On Conference Squad

When the coaches made their nominations, they didn't assign the athletes to set positions, but rather named them either to the line or, to the backfield with the ends being included in the line.	CROSB C-1 20, P4/ C-1 33, A05 C-1 35, W44 C-1 45, Stag
Backfield men to get the nod were: Dick Halbmaier, Wadena Mike Doshan, Crosby Ironton, Dick Vagentino, Crosby Ironton Jerry Carlson, Aitkin Stan Trana, Staples LeRoy Boyd, Aitkin.	Antkin 27, F Antkin 0, 1 Antkin 20, 5 Antkin 20, 7 Wateria 13, Waderia 13, Waderia 19,
In the line they named Francis Murphy, Crosby Iron ton Alvin Buss, Aitkin John Erickson, Staples Bill Bateman, Park Rupids Art Doten, Aitkin Ed Galarneault, Aitkin Grant Schumaus, Park Rapids Denis Sanderson, Crosby Iron- ton Ron Rickers, Wadena Lyle Stevens, Staples Warren Peterson, Aitkin John Becker, Crosby Ironton	Wadena 20 ~1 ST Staples 0, Staples 34 Staples 34 Staples 34 PAR PAR Park Rapids Park Rapids Park Rapids Park Rapids



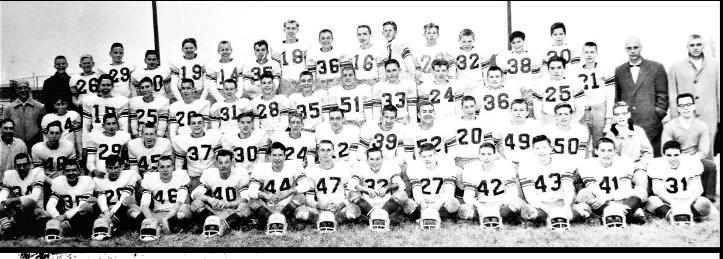






1959 Season

WHS Record 2-6 Mid-State 1-3

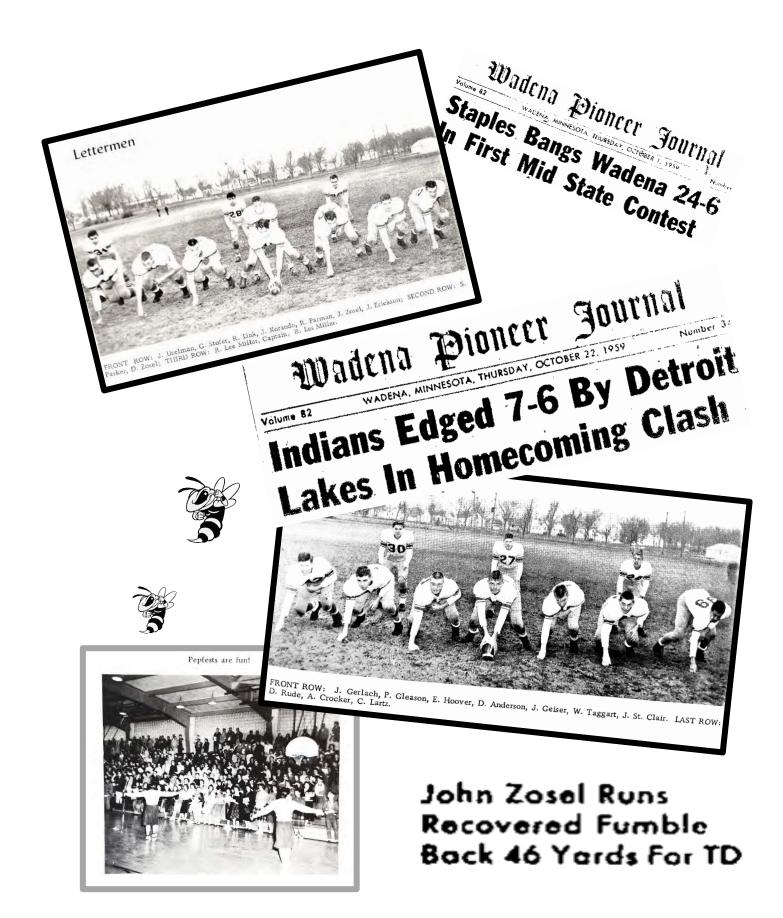


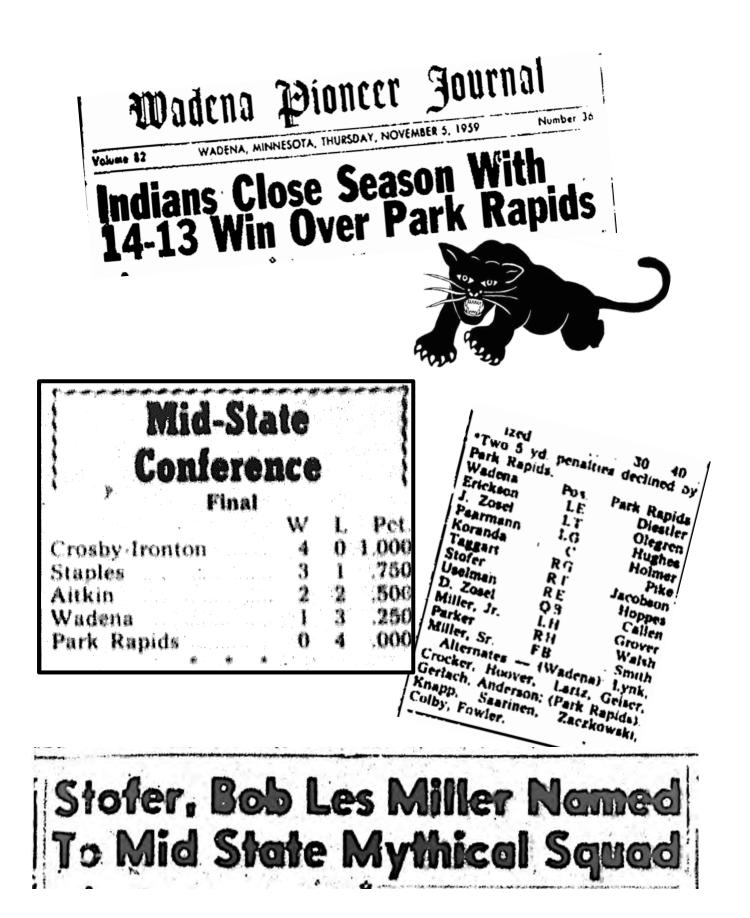
ROW 1-J. Uselman, D. Anderson, R. Miller, G. Stofer, R. Paarmann, J. Koranda, E. Hoover, J. Erickson, A. Crocker, J. Zosel, J. Gerlach, W. Taggert, S Parker, ROW 2--Coach Conzemius, T. Deline, M. Sather, S. Askew, R. Link, D. Rude, C. Lartz, R. Miller, J. St. Clair, P. Gleason, D. Zosel, J. Geiser, C. Beckman, Mgs. Ebner and Gibson. ROW 3--Coach Larson, G. Damlo, C. Tutak, R. Halbmaier, D. Bernauer, D. Jarvela, K. Scott, W. Heather, S. Anderson, R. Ferris, P. Kupfer, C. Sartell, C. Imdieke, Coaches Hamerlinck and Willis. ROW 4 -- L. Overmoen, H. Crocker, R. Johnson, D. Nyhus, T. Auderie, R. Sundahl, L. Weappa, R. May, R. Stofer, T. Fahey, G. Kresien, W. Herzog, D. Baron, C. Weeks, G. Johnson.



Rosters vs Perham









College Football



& Items of Interest

1950-59

WHS Alum College

Don Campbell '53 – Bemidji State College Dale Skalisky '55 - Eastern Wash. College Gene Goedel '55 - Moorhead State College Don Falldorf '54 - Moorhead State College Don Conn '58 - Moorhead State College Roman Walz '58 - Moorhead State College

Four Former WHS Athletes on MSC Dragon Roster

Wadena will have interest in the Moorhead State College game Saturday when the Dragons open their grid season by playing host to Nebraska State College of Rearney, Nebi Game time is set for 2.00 p.m.

Lending interst from the local standpoint is the fact four former, Wadena high school athletes will be dressing for the contest. Gene Goedel, a senior at MSC, is one of the co-captains of the Dragons; Don Falldorf, a sophomore, is a letterman back from last year, and making their first appearance under the MSC banner will be Roman Walz and Don Conn.

Dale Skalisky, who would have have been a junior at MSC this year and who would have been aiming at his thic Pfoothall letter. has withdrawn from MSC and will be attending a college in the state of Washington. Skalisky, a halfback, was one of the top fivêⁿ ground gainers in i rushing last year, according to Sports Editor Dick Seal, and he topped the Dragons' list as a punt returner and a kick-off returner. In kick-off: returns, he carried five times for a total of 150 yards. He also had the top in pass interception returns. In one interception he returned the balt 51yards.

Gene Goedel, an end, was in third place as a pass reciver, and topped the field as a point-aftertouchdown getter, getting eight points via his educated toe. Conn, Falldorf, Goedel, Walz, Earn Football Letters



Gene Goedel Gets Mention On Little All-American Squad

Dick Seal, sports editor of the Western MiStiC, Moorhead State College publication, made note in the Nov 13 edition that four Wadena boys had qualified for their letter in football. The awards were made at a banquet held on Nov. 3.



In a letter to the Pioneer Journal, Seal expressed the personal opinion that this might be somewhat of a record excluding Moorhead boys. He then went on to add that had Dale Skalisky and Harsey Scott remained at the college, there might have been six former Wadena High School athletes qualifying this year. (Skalisky quit Moorhead to attend a college in the state of Washington and Scott quit MSC to get his military service out of the way.) In the MiStiC article, Seal

wrote as follows:

"Tom Weir and Dean Erickson were named to co-captain the 1959 Moorhead State football team. They take the place of retiring co-captains. Gene Goedel (Wadena) and Jim Keeler.

Goedel Gets MSC Dragons Most Valuable Player Award

Goedel (cont.)

ons' most valuable player and the award was justly deserving by the Wadena athlete. He was lettered in football for four years, was twice' second' team all-conference and a-first team Northern State College conference and choice this past year.

In the listing of the 34 MSC letter earners, the names of Gene Goedel, Don Falldorf, Donn Conn and Roman Walz from Wadena were noted.

Goedel was the only man from Moorhead State being selected to the All-Conference first team, while two others were selected for the second team.

Seal also pointed out in the letter to the Pioneer Journal that Goedel was now making a strong bid for a starting forward spot opposite Sherm Moe in basketball, while Don Conn was a wrestling condidate



Goedel won letters in basketball and track. At the time, he held the school record for the high jump, the 220-yard low hurdles and the 440-yard dash.

IMPRESSIVE!



- Dale Skalisky, former Wadena high school athlete, is having another great year in football and is currently one of the top performers in the Evergreen conference, a loop made up of Washington state colleges. Dale, a senior at Central Washington College of Education, Ellensburg, Washington is majoring in physical education and minoring in biology.

In a news release from the college it tells of one of his busy afternoons:

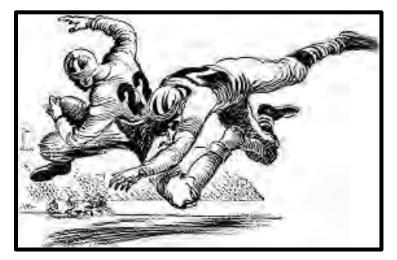
"Dale has proved himself to be a real defensive standout, as well as a very capable offensive performer. He consistently has been among the team leaders in tackles made per game, and has intercepted several passes. In Central's recent 18-12 homecoming win over Eastern Washington College, Dale made nine tackles, scored two touchdowns, and to make the day complete he intercepted a pass in the closing seconds of the game to stop a potential Eastern rally." What the news release failed to say, was that Central's final touchdown was made with 55 seconds of time remaining, and it was Dale receiving a pass on Eastern's nine yard line and slanting off to Eastern's end zone untouched.

Dale, son of Mr. and Mrs. Jake Skalisky, while at Wadena High School, made the Mid State conference team and was selected as a member of the North team to play in the North-South classic. Upon his graduation from Wadena High, he entered Moorhead State College where he lettered for two years is football.

Not all of his athletic talents are confined to football. In his prep days he was a standout basketball player, and excelled in baseball as a catcher, having caught a couple of seasons for the Wadena Chiefs. At Moorhead State, he also participated in baseball, and last year at Central in Washington he carned a letter in this sport as a member of the varsity baseball squad.

Dale Skalisky and Gene Goedel were teamates at WHS and at MSTC for two years. Both were tremendous multi-sport athletes. If you have not already, go to the WHS 1954 team in this scrapbook





1951 WPJ

Bill Larson, coach, teacher, principal. Marine.

Fighting Marine's Influence Reflected In Prepsters Play

William Larson After Year in Korea Says, 'It's Great To Be Back'

Fans who have watched the Wadena football team in action this year may have come up with the observation, "They fight like Marines." Such might not be too far-fetched, for the line is being coached by a former Fighting Marine, William Larson, who re-



Larson, who rejoined the Wadena school faculty this fall following a year in Korea with the "Fighting Marines."

Upon his return, "Bill's" first remark to Supt. T. H. Tofte was: "It's great to be back in

phr: Larson Wadena,"

Speaking at Rotary a few weeks ago, and at Lions Club Monday night. Bill related a number of his experiences in Korea, and later was interviewed.

He severed his connection with the Wadena school faculty the day school was out in the spring of 1951, and was given a leave of absence by the school board. He went directly to Camp Pendelton, Oceanside, Calif. He related it was amazing how quickly one could get out of condition, so for the next four months he played football, and then received his overseas assignment, which was directly to Korea.

When the Marines move, there is nothing slow about them, related Bill, who went on to say he arrived in Korea in the morning, by evening he had joined his outfit, and the next morning was on the line.

From the 15th of October, (1951) until March of this year he remained in his original sector ,and then on March 26 their outfit was relieved, and he was moved north of Seoul where they anticipated a spring drive in that section by the Chinese. His last assignment before geing relieved to return home was just a mile from the peace site of Pannunjom. He said he could see peace delegates going through the area every day. When asked what the Marines thought of the peace talks, he said

thought of the peace talks, he said they never expected a truce, and never talked about it.

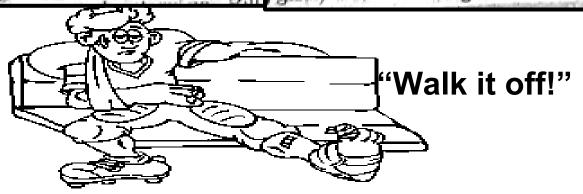
Morale among the soldiers is high, he said, and spoke of the sense of humor among the men, and their ability to make light of serious situations. Our action was mostly skirmishes and patrol action, but with men getting wounded and killed, it is just a little bit rough say: to is a police action, "This a war." Rough and not as it is, there is always some joker who is capable of making you forget, temporarily at least.

In his remarks to Rotarians, the Marine Captain said they no doubt had read of Bucker Hill in recent dispatches. He had been there a number of times and there was considerable trouble there as early as May.

Comparing North Korean soldiers, and the Chinese soldiers, he said there was a world of difference. The North Korean is well disciplined, and much like a well trained dog. You put him in a cave and tell him to stay there, and this he will do, even if it, means getting killed. The Chinese is different. As long as he has the upper hand he will stay and fight, but if fire power is too heavy, he will run.

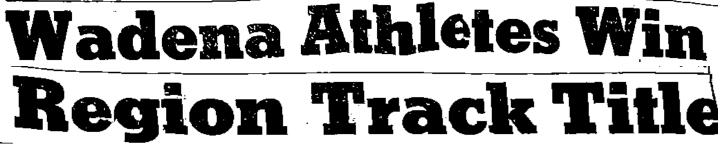
"But don't get the idea the Chinese soldier isn't well trained, for he is. After all why shouldn't he be-we trained him when we were fighting the Japanese, and with this training, he is now being trained by the Russian military. They are well equipped in clothing and armament, and area't shooting 'B-B guns,'" he said,

In the personal interview, Bill was asked what type of gifts the men were most desirous of re-This brought a laugh ceiving. from the Captain, who said, "You know I was telling you about the sense of humor the infantrymen have. Well, the Marines are just like the army when it comes to chow, you can have your beans as just beans, beans and bacon. beans and pork, beans and beef, or beans with a combination with just about anything. Well, last Christmas one of the fellows received a gift from his mother. and it was a dozen cans of 'pork and beans'. For the next month, we never wanted for a joke, and the fellow thought it was just as funny as the rest of our outfit." "But if folks want to send appropriate gifts, canned peanuts, canned fish, candles, not the little, kind but those big ones that will last beyond a flicker, those about an inch in diameter, and about ten or twelve inches long; canned, cheese, pocket warmers, stationery and pencils. They are all good gifts, and don't forget the letters.



1952 Training Rules

He said that he and the boys **Training** Rules knew the rules, but wondered if parents and fans knew them. He For Grid Athletes read the following which would be adhered to during the season: No smoking at any time. **Reviewed By Coach** No drinking of intoxicating liquor. With the opening of the foot-No roller skating during the ball season Friday night, it may fotball season. interest parents and townspeople Sleeping hours during the playof the training rules the young ig season: Must be off the street athletes will abide by during the any night before a school day by season. Friday and Saturday 10 p.m. Coach John Conzemius speaknights not later than 12 p.m. before Rotarians at ing their No missing of practice unless luncheon a week ago, told the serexcused by an of the coaches. vice club that many of the rule put down were not hand mad Go to 1952 season and read more but were made by the Minneso about this rather odd training rule. High School Athletic leagues. TAUENA, MINNESULA ,THURSDAY, MA Valume 76



Between the 1952 and 1953 football seasons you can find out more about Wadena High School's Region 6 Track and Field Championship.





Why Football scrapbooks?



In 2017 I did some research on three Wadena High School basketball players, from the 1950's, that played for my dad Harold Willis (1955-64). Upon completion of that I decided to work my way back in time as far as the archives would take me. The result was the "Wadena H.S. Basketball Scrapbook 1900-59." After that I knew I had to do the same for what came after 1959. Project #2 culminated in the "Wadena H.S. Basketball Scrapbook 1960-80." Neither have been a commercial success. They were never intended to be money makers. Their purpose is to bring back memories, or to confirm a dad's or a grandpa's claim of greatness in their youth. Or at least be forced to modify said claims. And ultimately, I want our Wadena sports history documented.

I resisted the thought of doing something similar for Wadena High School football. It is such a "long haul" process. Time consuming and monotonous. Besides I was a cross country runner in high school. I loved football but wanted to be in shape for the basketball season. Plus, I was not a very good football player. Then I started to think about my youth and WHS football. In 1966, at the age of 11 I was the "water-boy" for the high school football team. My brother Greg was a sophomore on that team. I loved being around those guys.

Then my memory took me back a little further. Dave Campbell* ('66) played for WHS in the falls of 1963-65. He lived on the corner of Dayton Ave and 4th St. SW, just a stone's throw from the football field. Behind his back yard was a playground and behind that, the Wadena elementary school. One beautiful spring day I was at the playground alone. I do remember very clearly sitting under a big tree in Dave's backyard and talking with him. Dave Cambell, quarterback. He was a star football player, and he was talking with me. He may have been my first sports hero. It was then that I realized many of the guys that would be in this football scrapbook were sports heroes to the youth of their era. In the 21st century it is more likely the youth of the day have sports heroes that make \$100's of millions of dollars. That's not a bad thing, it's just a sign of the times. I like the way it was when I was a kid, you could sit down and talk to your sports hero.

Suddenly I had another reason for projects #3 and #4 (completed 2022:

Project #3 - "The WHS Football Scrapbook 1900-49"

Project #4 - "The WHS Football Scrapbooks, by decade, 1950-80"



Jebb Willis Class of 1974

*Dave Campbell's brother John ('56) was All-Big 10 for the Gophers and an NFL All-Pro for the Steelers. Dave's sister Cathy ('55) is married to Wadena native Joe Krause ('55), contributor to the WHS Basketball Scrapbooks. Don Campbell ('53) played at Bemidji State and later taught and coached football at Long Prairie.



Final Thoughts

This all started so innocently. In 2019 I just wanted to dig up some facts about three WHS basketball greats from the 1950's. However, once I had that project completed, I could not stop. Below are the **"Scrapbooks"** that have been assembled to date:

-Wadena High School Basketball Scrapbook 1900-1959

-Wadena High School Basketball Scrapbook 1960-1980

-Wadena High School Football Scrapbook 1900-1949

-Wadena High School Football Scrapbook 1950-1959

-Wadena High School Football Scrapbook 1960-1969

My <u>tentative</u> plan is to continue researching, documenting, and assembling the following, in the order in which they are listed:

-Wadena High School Football 1970-1980

-Wadena High School Track & Field

-Wadena High School Wrestling

-Wadena High School Baseball (and other spring sports)

-Wadena High School Cross Country

In the early 1900's high school sports were limited to football, basketball, and track & field. Therefore, after completion of "**WHS Football 1970-80**," track & field will be my last big project as it will also cover 1900-80. The other sports listed above will go through 1980, with their starting date yet TBD.

None of this is possible without the resources at the **Wadena County Historical Society.** I encourage those of you interested the **"WHS Scrapbook Collection"** to buy (aka donate) one or more of your favorites. 100% of your donation goes directly to the **WCHS.**

Thank you,

Jebb Willis '74 Spring 2023