

Wadena Indians Football



The Orangemen

“The Scrapbook”

1900-1949

Dedication



Anton S. Chermak
Head Coach
1927-1937

In the forty-seven seasons from 1903-1949 there were at least sixteen Wadena High School football head coaches. The most tenured and the most successful was clearly Anton S. Chermak. Chermak came to Wadena fresh out of college and after eleven years as the head football and head basketball coach he may have been the most successful combination football and basketball coach in WHS history. From 1927-37, in football, his teams won 78% of the games we know about. During that same time, in basketball, his teams won two District 24 titles, one Region 6 championship, and in the 1936 state tournament WHS lost to Bemidji in the title game. Very impressive! This "WHS Football Scrapbook" is dedicated to coach Anton S. Chermak.

Jebb Willis
Class of 1974

Wadena Indians Football



Orange/White.....Blue/Gold

“The Scrapbook”

1900 -1949

The Beginning

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



The Great Chief Wadena
1885

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

Wadena High School Colors

Until the late 1940's the Wadena Indians were often referred to as the "Orangemen." Dating back to 1925 the Wadena school colors were orange and white. However, because of a shortage of a dye needed to make orange, they chose to switch their colors effective the 1948-49 school year. The student body voted and blue and gold were selected as the new school colors.

Out with the Old	1948-49
1947-48	In with the New

The pages that follow are about the history of Wadena football, by decade, from 1903 to 1949. An attempt has been made to identify the coaches, the team affiliations, and the teams themselves. 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 scrapbooks of former coaches and players.

The WCHS is a tremendous resource. Please support the WCHS (218-631-9079).

You may contact me at: jebbwillis1955@gmail.com

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The Beginning

1903 – 1909 Pages 8-16 (9 pgs)

- WHS Built 1886
- “New” WHS Built 1909 (demolished in 1992)
- 1904 Team Picture
- Rosters & “Football Rules” ex. TD worth 5 pts!
- News Articles



Decade Highlights

Featuring achievements of the teams, players and coaches

The 1910's - Pages 17-30 (14 pgs)

- 65% wins, 5 head coaches.
- “Early football rules” ex. no huddles allowed!
- 1910 undefeated, unscored upon, rosters, results & more.

The 1920's - Pages 31-48 (18 pgs)

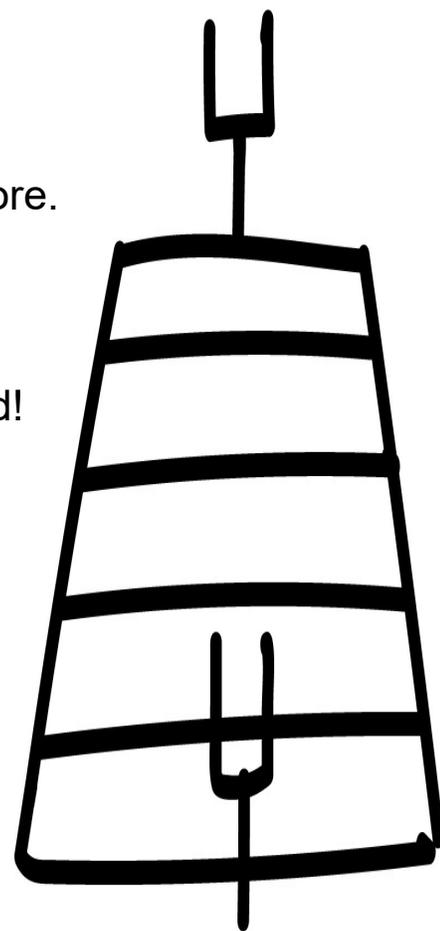
- 66% wins, 4 head coaches.
- “Early football rules” ex. effective 1925 huddles allowed!
- 1925 undefeated, rosters, results & more.

The 1930's - Pages 49-67 (19 pgs)

- 73% wins, 2 head coaches, 12 game streak w/o loss
- Items of Interest: football rules, firsts, and streaks
- 1932 & 1936 undefeated, rosters, results and more
- Stories: “Squeak” Johnson ('35) / T. Edison Smith ('36)

The 1940's - Pages 68-103 (36 pgs)

- 49% wins, 5 head coaches
- WWII, courage, tires, streaks and WHS football 45th anniversary.
- 1943 & 1944 undefeated, rosters, results & “Why Football?”



WADENA HIGH SCHOOL FOOTBALL

THE BEGINNING

1903



Wadena Pioneer Journal

THREE SECTIONS
24 PAGES

MINNESOTA
HISTORICAL
SOCIETY

Number 32

WADENA, MINNESOTA, THURSDAY, OCTOBER 21, 1948

Homecoming To Mark 45th Year of Football

In the Wadena Pioneer Journal (WPJ) archives the first evidence of WHS football I found was in 1904. It was not until I was into the 1948 football season that I discovered WHS football began in 1903. The photo above was in the October 21, 1948 WPJ. Above that team picture was this headline. Below the team picture (note: there are 11 players on the team and they played 11-man football) is an explanation and an update of each player's status as of 1948. See that information on the next page.

From the WPJ October 21, 1948

That picture of the 1903 team was unearthed by E. T. Carroll of Wadena, who was superintendent of schools at that time, on the occasion of the annual homecoming festivities at the school tomorrow.

With the help of Alex Thomson of Wadena, a member of that team, and B. F. Burch, who is also familiar with the town's history, the Pioneer Journal was able to identify the team members, who are:

Front row, left to right: Paul Willson, now living in New York; Gus Baehr, deceased; Fred Brown, deceased; Otto King, now living in Montana; Billy Watson, Minneapolis. Second row: Alex Thomson of Wadena; Art Williams, now living in North Dakota; Byron Jones, deceased. Third row: Clyde Naylor of Red Wing, Ingman (Zinc) Williams, address unknown; and Billy King of Grand Rapids. At the right is Supt. Carroll.

The following players on the 1903 team were also on this 1904 team. They are:

- Billy Watson
- Alex Thomsen
- Art Williams
- Clyde Naylor
- Billy "Willie" King

- Supt Carroll (far right)



1904 WHS FOOTBALL TEAM

On the next page we have all 11 names for these 1904 players, unfortunately we don't have the names matched with the faces,

WADENA HIGH SCHOOL FOOTBALL

THE FIRST KNOWN GAMES

1904



1904 WADENA HIGH SCHOOL FOOTBALL TEAM

We are not able to identify each person, but the following names are taken from a line up for a game with Verndale. The only known person is Emerson T. Carroll the school superintendent who is on the right in the back row.

Robb, Center, W. Williams, right guard, Ralph Williams, right tackle, Cyril Guest, right end, Watson, left guard, Giles Blair, left tackle, Art Williams, left end, Raymond Benedict, quarterback, Thompson, right half back, Willie King, Left half back, Clyde Naylor, full back.

WPJ OCTOBER 7, 1904

FOOTBALL GAME TODAY.

Verndale School Team Will Meet Wadena Eleven Here This Afternoon.

This afternoon at three-thirty o'clock the foot ball teams of Wadena and Verndale will meet on the gridiron in this city. The game was to have been played two weeks ago, but the Verndale team did not come up and it was postponed till today.

The boys here have just organized their team, but have been practicing hard and will give a good account of themselves in the game this afternoon. As many as can should turn out to see the game and encourage the boys in their effort to secure a good team for the school.

WADENA VS VERNDALE

The first two lessons to learn about football in the early 1900's is that:

- 1-a touchdown was worth 5 points, and
- 2-the extra point kick was a drop kick.

No holder was needed. The kicker took the long snap, dropped the ball to the ground and as it bounced off the ground, they kicked it toward the uprights. Just like a punt, except the ball had to bounce before it could be kicked. The footballs in those days were more like a cross between a modern era football and a basketball.

The starting lineups for this game are listed to the right. The only other information about the 1904 season was that the next game would be against Perham.

WADENA 48

VERNDALE 5

WADENA WON

Local High School Eleven Defeated Verndale Aggregation Easily.

Yesterday the foot ball eleven of Verndale and Wadena met on the gridiron in this city and the game resulted in an overwhelming defeat of the former the final score being 48 to 5.

The Wadena team were considerably heavier than their opponents, but it was their superior playing more than the difference in weight that won the game. The boys played a fast, heady game and their work would have scored on a much better team than Verndale had. The Verndale boys lacked team work and they fumbled the ball repeatedly. Murphy was the only Verndale man to cross the namna goal line with the ball, and F. Ritchie failed to kick goal. Wadena's touchdowns were made by Willie King 3, Ralph Williams 2, Naylor Thompson, Art Williams. Goals were kicked by King 2, Naylor, Arthur Williams. In the last few minutes of the play Clyde Naylor kicked a beautiful drop kick from the twenty-five yard line for a goal. A return game will be played two weeks from today.

The line up of the two teams is as follows:

Verndale		Wadena
Morrell	center	Robb
Thompson	right guard	W. Williams
Bradford	right tackle	R. Williams
H. Heinig	right end	Guest
Cranston	left guard	Watson
P. Edd	left tackle	Blair
Coen	left end	A. Williams
C. Ritchie	q. b.	Benedict
F. Ritchie	r. h. b.	Thompson
Murphy	l. h. b.	King
Seal	full back	Naylor.

1904

**WADENA VS VERNDALE
STARTING LINE UPS**

1904



Emerson T. Carroll was the football coach as well as the superintendent. This was a common practice at the time, with the superintendent performing “other duties as assigned.”

Mr. Carroll resided in a large two-story home at 217 4th St on Highway 29, across from where I attended Wadena elementary school in the early 1960's. At that time the Charles Sartell family resided there. Sadly, that structure was destroyed in the tornado of 2010.

1905-07

There was no evidence of WHS football in the Wadena Pioneer Journal (WPJ) from 1905-07. In the early part of that time span there was a WPJ article citing Mayor Ebner's disapproval of the game of football being played by local high school boys. I am not sure if that had anything to do with no WPJ articles or maybe even no WHS teams during those years.



AN UNKNOWN TEAM FROM THAT ERA.

FALL 1907

LOBBYING FOR A NEW SCHOOL.



This 1903 photo shows Wadena's second school built in 1886. The school includes an addition built on the right in 1895 to accommodate more students. Emerson T. Carroll was the superintendent in 1903 and Clifford W. Baumbach was board treasurer. The building was demolished in 1909 to make way for an even larger school, which included bathrooms inside the school, unlike this school with its outdoor rest rooms in the small building on the right. The school remained on the same site, and the 1909 school was demolished in 1992 to make room for additions on Wadena-Deer Creek Elementary School.

In 1907, State School Inspector, Mr. Alton spent an entire day evaluating WHS faculty, administrators, and the facilities. He commended the school's efforts while fully supporting the need for a new building.

In his commentary to the WPJ, Mr. Alton spoke quite favorably of school board member Col. G.A. Whitney and his valuable input regarding this matter.



Supt. and Head Coach
Emerson T. Carroll

1908

Let's Go!

From the October 15, 1908, Wadena Pioneer Journal.
Wadena's lone victory vs Park Rapids.

Game summaries
included next page.

Wadena 15*

Park Rapids 5

*Touchdowns were worth 5 points



1908 Record

1-3-1

Oct 15

Wadena 15
Park Rapids 5

Oct 22

Wadena 5
Perham 5

Nov 5

Wadena 5
Long Prairie 10

Nov 12

Wadena 10
Perham 12

Nov 26

Wadena 0
Little Falls 53

Stubbornly Contested Game Shows Superiority of Wadena Boys

The Wadena High School football team has one paw dangling from its belt. Park Rapids was the victim and the score was 15 to 5.

The game was played at the old fair grounds in this city Saturday afternoon before an enthusiastic crowd of football lovers. The teams were about evenly matched as to weight, Wadena probably having a slight edge over their opponents on this point. The teams were about equal on knowledge of the game, and neither side lacked for grit and stamina. Both elevens played steadily and determinedly and not only the first half had ended and the second half was well under way did the local team pull away from their adversaries.

Albert Lehmann of this city, was referee of the contest, while Dr. C. F. Coulter of this city and Superintendent Banks of the Park Rapids schools, acted as time keepers. Eddie Baehr and Clyde Naylor were linemen. Wadena won the choice of goals and kicked off promptly at 2 o'clock. Both sides scored a touchdown in the first half, but neither kicked goal and the first half resulted in a tie score of 5 to 5. Park Rapids made their touchdown on line bucking and end runs, going over for a touchdown on a tandem play. Wadena scored the first touchdown on a beautiful end run by Arvidson. He had perfect interference and eluded the Park Rapids players successfully. A try at goal failed. Another touchdown came as the result of a line smash, "Liv" Robb carrying the ball over the line amid the cheers of the Wadena partizans. Frank Kingsley made the third touchdown for Wadena on a cleverly executed forward pass. Park Rapids was quite effectively outclassed, especially in the second half. The game was free from rough work and the contest was not marked by any injuries.

WHS 1908 ROSTER:

The line up of the Wadena team was follows: Kingsley, r. half; Robb, l. half; Merickel, full; Arvidson, capt., quarter; Murray, center; Spencer, r. guard; Willer, l. guard; Jones, r. tackle; Merwin, l. tackle; Zozel, r. end; McNamar, l. end. Substitutes, French, Northfoss, Bathroy,

GET IN THE GAME!

Perham, Wadena play to 5-5 tie

Supt. Carroll is the head coach, and his assistant coaches are Albert Lehman and Dr. Coulter. Lehman was referee and Coulter was one of the timekeepers. It was common for the assistant coaches from both teams to officiate the games.

This game started late due to the train being behind schedule, therefore the game was reduced to two fifteen-minute halves.

It was stated that Wadena outplayed the Germans from Perham, despite the score.

Long Prairie wins 10-5

Wadena lost 10-5 in a tough battle. Long Prairie's team consisted of much bigger players with some nearing 200 lbs. Speculation of these larger players being "ringers" came with no evidence, therefore no charges were made.

Perham wins rematch 13-0

After a tie at Perham in the second game of the season, this headline says it all as Wadena goes down in defeat at home.

Little Falls wins 53-0

"Wadena had not the football skill necessary to cope with the visitors."

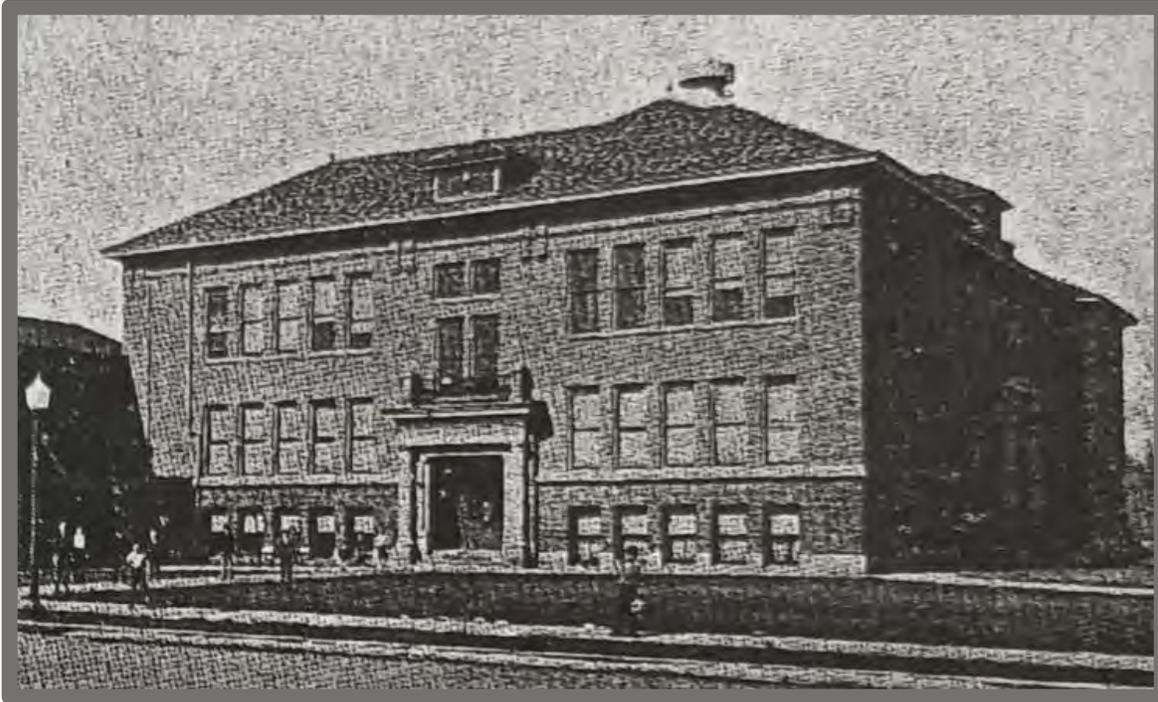
**WADENA BOYS
LACK GINGER**



THE NEW SCHOOL

“MISSION ACCOMPLISHED”

1909



For the 1909 season the only game article uncovered was from the October 21st Wadena Pioneer Journal. In a home game against Park Rapids, in front of the largest crowd ever, the game ended in a 6-6 tie. It was mentioned that **Merwin** was the Wadena quarterback and **Zosel** an end.

Undoubtedly the most exciting event of the year was to move into the new high school. Sixty years later, in the 1970-71 school year, I completed 9th grade, my third year attending Wadena Junior High in that very same structure. And a wonderful structure it was. As a teen I did not fully appreciate the great history of those hallowed halls. I do now.





1910-1919

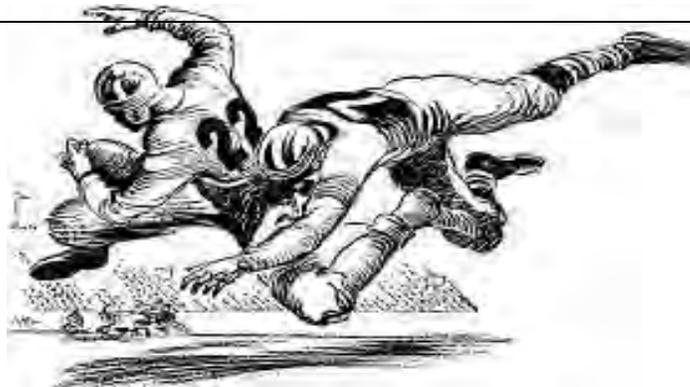
WHS



SEASON RECORDS*

Fall of:	Won	Lost	Tied	Coach	Comment
1910	6	0	0	Chestnut	Unscored upon
1911	3	2	0	Kidder	Also coached basketball
1912	-	-	-	Kidder	Possible lack of funds.
1913	-	-	-	Monson	No games found
1914	3	2	0		
1915	3	1	0		
1916	0	1	1	Smith	Team disbands
1917	-	-	-		WWI and the Spanish Flu may explain why few games were found.
1918	0	1	0	Dr. CH Pierce	
1919	1	2	1	Otte	
	16	8	2	1910-19 Winning Pct – 65%	

*Based on known outcomes.



EARLY

RULES AND CUSTOMS

PRE-1920'S

1-Eleven-man football was played, with some years having only 11-13 players on the team.

2-There was no huddle in between plays. After one play was completed the offense and defense would hurry to the line and the quarterback would call the next play verbally or by hand signals. The ball was put in play from the same location where the previous play had ended. With few or any subs this fast pace required highly conditioned athletes to make for a successful team.

3-Touchdowns were worth 5 points and the PAT (point after touchdown) was drop kicked for one point. Three-point field goals were also drop kicked.

4-Head coaches were often the school's superintendent.

5-Assistant coaches might be school employees or community members.

6-Assistant coaches from each team would serve as the officials and timekeeper for each game.

7-Controversies were common, for example:

- a) In 1910 Brainerd walked off their home field because WHS was easily beating them. That resulted in a forfeit and a final score of 1-0. According to the WPJ, Brainerd superintendent Cobb was unhappy with his coach.
- b) In 1915, playing at Akeley, Wadena won 12-7. Wadena was later surprised to discover Akeley HS had submitted an appeal to have the results of the game overturned and a victory declared for AHS. Read the article for details.

8-Fans were allowed onto the field and were often disruptive.

9-Teams traveled almost exclusively by train. Often greeted at the train station by a delegation from the host team and then escorted back to the station upon completion of the game.

1910

UNDEFEATED, UNSCORED UPON, UNDISPUTED



WADENA GRID TEAM OF 1910. Hugh Parker, Wadena, a member of the 1910 unscored upon high school football team identified the team members. Mr. Parker said that probably Bob Marshall, Park Rapids, Ed Chestnut, the coach, Minneapolis, and he are the only survivors. Pictured are front (from left): Harry Merickel and Loyal Zimmerman; middle row (from left): Morley Kelly, Robert Marshall, Hugh Parker, Harold Parker, Wilbur Spencer, Arnold Arvidson; back row (from left): Jim Power, Ed Murphy, coach Ed Chestnut, Clarence French, Fred Bordeau and William Hurst.

1910 WHS Season Record 6-0

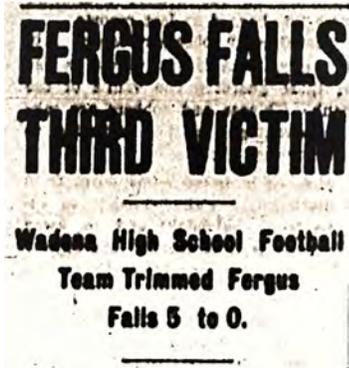
WHS 50	0	Perham	
WHS unknown	0	Staples	Score unknown, shutout certain.
WHS 5	0	Fergus Falls	
WHS 1	0	Brainerd	Forfeit, Warriors walk off field.
WHS 33	0	Little Falls	
WHS 14	0	Detroit	Detroit becomes Detroit Lakes in 1927

NOVEMBER 24, 1910, WADENA PJ

“Coach Ed Chestnut was a star end on the Minnesota University team.”

This 1910 team was not only **undefeated** in six games, but they were also **unscored upon** for the entire season!

After defeating Perham 50-0 and Staples (score unknown, shutout certain) in their first two games they started getting some press.

	<p>Wadena 5 Fergus Falls 0</p>		<p>Brainerd walks off field in protest of lopsided score. Brainerd Supt Cobb unhappy with his coach's decision.</p> <p>Wadena 1 Brainerd 0 (forfeit)</p>
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	<p>Wadena 33 Little Falls 0</p>		<p>Wadena 14 Detroit* 0</p>
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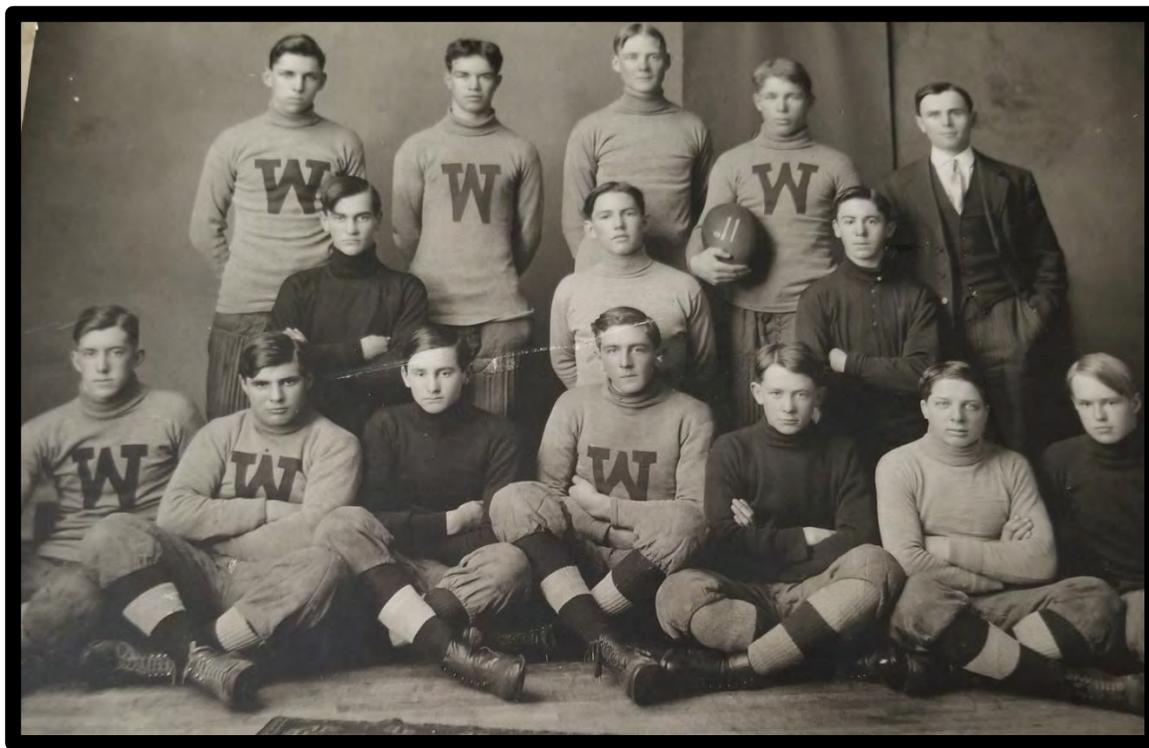
NOVEMBER 24, 1910, WADENA PJ

“Wadena is the **undisputed** champion of Northern and Central Minnesota.”



*Note: The town name of Detroit was officially changed to Detroit Lakes in 1927

1911



Front row L-R:

Bob Langenbacher, Lachlin McKinnon, "Fen" Burch, Bill Hurst, unknown, Albin Lund, unknown.

Middle row L-R:

All three unknown

Back row:

Hugh Parker, Loyal Zimmerman, unknown, Harold Parker, Coach Kidder (also head basketball coach)

This 1911 squad extended the 1910 team's 6 game winning, and not scored upon, streaks by defeating Staples (23-0), LP (30-0), PR (16-0). Unfortunately, they lost their last two games to Sauk Centre (25-0), and Detroit (DL).

1911 WHS

Season Record 3-2

WHS	23	0	Staples	
WHS	30	0	Long Prairie	
WHS	16	0	Park Rapids	
WHS	0	25	Sauk Centre	Thus ends a 9-game undefeated/unscored upon streak.
WHS			Detroit (DL)	Score unknown, WHS lost.

1912

FOOTBALL SATURDAY

Wadena and Park Rapids to Meet Here in Gridiron Battle Saturday.

Park Rapids and Wadena high school football teams will play in this city Saturday afternoon of this week. The game will be called promptly at 2 o'clock in order that the contest may be finished in time for the visitors to catch the afternoon train for home.

The local football treasury is sadly depleted and it is earnestly hoped that the public will patronize Saturday's game liberally. Both teams have been working faithfully to acquire a good knowledge of football and the contest will be well worth seeing.

This announcement from the October 24, 1912 WPJ was the only item found relating to the WHS football team. It suggests the budget was an issue.

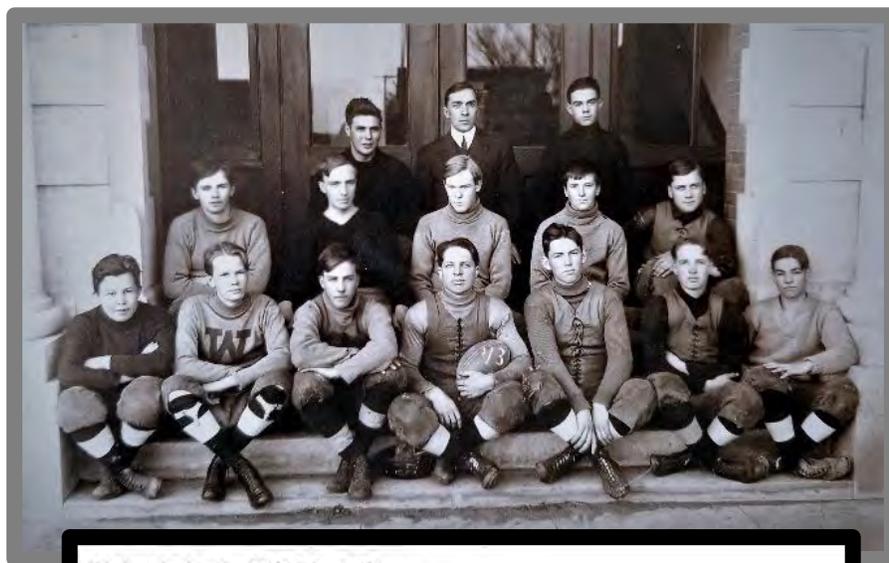
Perhaps the season was cancelled for lack of funding.

1913

No WPJ articles found.



Coach Monson



Wadena high school 1913 football team

Front row left to right:

Fred Spencer who died in World War I, Art Hutchins horticulture professor at Minnesota University, Cliff Stevens, Albin Lund, William Daily, Elmer Lund and Wayne Zimmerman, retired as Major General, U. S. Army.

Second row left to right:

Earl Whipple, Vernon McDowell, Whitney Murray, Arthur Miller, Anton Schmitz.

Back row left to right:

William Robb, Coach Monson, Laughlin McKinnon.

1914

**LITTLE FALLS 65
WADENA HIGH 0**

**WADENA DEFEATS
AKELEY 66 TO 0**

FOOTBALL GAME ON SATURDAY AFTERNOON WAS A ONE-SIDED AFFAIR.

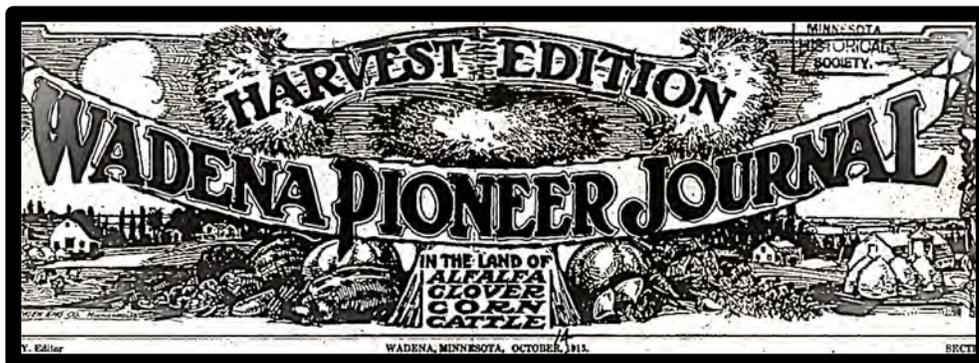
Wadena high school football stock went up considerably last Saturday afternoon when the high school team defeated the Akeley eleven 66 to 0. The game was decidedly one-sided and interest lagged before the close of the second quarter. Akeley was woefully weak in all departments but managed to take a brace in the second half and made first down three or four times before the close of the game.

If you only knew that WHS had scored 66 and given up 65 points in their first two games, you might think they were in a couple of close battles. As you can see by the headlines of those first two games, that was not the case.

In addition to those two blowouts, WHS beat Park Rapids and Detroit (32-6), and lost to Fergus Falls (19-9).

1914 WHS Season Record: 3-2

WHS 0	65 Little Falls	
WHS 66	0 Akeley	
WHS 9	19 Fergus Falls	
WHS	Park Rapids	Score unknown, WHS lost.
WHS 32	6 Detroit	Detroit becomes Detroit Lakes in 1927.



CELEBRATING AGRICULTURE

1915

WHS SEASON RECORD: 3-1

WHS 12	6	Detroit	Detroit becomes Detroit Lakes in 1927.
WHS 66	6	Park Rapids	
WHS 7	6	Akeley	See article below regarding dispute.
WHS 7	9	Fergus Falls	

AKELEY CLAIMS 12 TO 7 SCORE

**QUOTE THE SPORTING EDITOR
OF MINNEAPOLIS JOURNAL
ON DISPUTED POINT.**

CASE NOT CORRETLY CITED

**Game Played Nearly Three Weeks
Ago, Resulted in Score of
6 to 7.**

The Pioneer Journal is in receipt of the following letter from Supt. Aygarn, of the Akeley high school, in reference to the recent football game between the team representing the Akeley school and the local high school aggregation. The score at the close of the game was 6 to 7 in favor of Wadena. The letter is as follows:

Nov. 1, 1915.

Editor Pioneer Journal, Wadena, Minnesota.

Dear Editor:

I am sending to you the decision of the Sporting Editor of the Minneapolis Journal as regards the point in question of whether the touchdown made by Akeley should be counted, which if counted would have made the score 12 to 7 in favor of Akeley. The decision is clear counting it a touchdown. The only reason why the referee did not count it was that he claimed a Wadena player did not touch the ball. But it matters not according to the decision. Hence, Akeley, on the strength of this decision, claims, and justly so, the game of football played at Wadena. I believe that your referee acted in good

After trouncing Akeley 66-0 in the previous season (1914) this year's game was not only a close one, but it was also a controversial one. When the game was over Wadena thought they had won 7-6. The Akeley faithful thought the officials made an error that cost Akeley a touchdown that would have provided them a margin needed for victory. An appeal was submitted by the Akeley Supt., Magnus Aygarn, and the details are explained in the "Letter to the Editor" below.

faith, but made a mistake. Our team was, therefore, denied the glory of victory which rightly belonged to them. I, therefore, kindly ask you to look over the facts of this case and I believe that you will render the judgment of a score of 12 to 7 in favor of Akeley. We shall appreciate the publication of this score. Your referee and ours agreed to leave the decision with the sporting editor of the Minneapolis Journal, if I know the facts correctly. Thanking you for due consideration of this matter, I am,

Yours very truly,
Magnus H. Aygarn.

THE FINAL VERDICT:



WHS'S WIN CONFIRMED!

The inquiry sent to the sporting editor of the Journal and the answer which appeared in a recent issue of that paper are as follows:

W. F. Akeley, Minn.—Akeley punted. A Wadena man touched the ball and it rolled over the goal line. He picked it up and tried to carry it back but was tackled and fumbled. Akeley fell on the ball. Was it a touchdown? If the Wadena man did not touch it and it rolled over the line and he tried to carry it back could it be called a touchdown if Akeley recovered the fumble as in the first instance?

A—A touchdown in both cases.

Prof. Smith, of the public school of this city, acted as referee in this particular game and when shown the above letter and decision stated that it was all correct so far as it went. If there were no other circumstances entering into the case Akeley would certainly be entitled to the touchdown.

When asked for his version of the affair he stated that Akeley punted and the ball rolled down behind the goal line and Zimmerman fell on it. At this point Mr. Smith blew the whistle, declaring the ball to be dead, but Zimmerman picked it up and proceeded to try to run with it. He was tackled by the Akeley men and fumbled the ball as stated. It was at this point in the game that the dispute arose. Having declared the ball dead Mr. Smith took the ball out to the twenty yard line and put it in play, according to the rules governing the game.

The Akeley man lost sight of the fact that the referee's whistle had declared the ball dead and had this not been the case he would have been justified in his protest.

1916

WHS Season Record: 0-1-1

WHS	Detroit (DL)	Score unknown, WHS lost
WHS 0	0 Park Rapids	

FOOTBALL TEAM HAS DISBANDED

FAILURE IN STUDIES OF PLAYERS AND LACK OF SUPPORT IS REASON GIVEN.

Prof. Smith, who has been coaching the high school football team this fall, states that the team has disbanded owing to the failure of seven players in their studies and the lack of financial and moral support. The situation was such that he found it impossible to keep a team in the field and it was accordingly disbanded.

The local high school belongs to an association of high schools which specifies that the members of its teams must be above grade in all their studies and the failure of seven of the local players in this respect was sufficient in itself to wreck the team as there were only eleven candidates out for positions. To add to the difficulties, however, the team lacked support as was shown in the game with Bemidji played here on the 14th of this month. But \$8 was taken in at the gate and the expense was \$65.

Mr. Smith states that the athletic association funds will be sufficient to pay off all obligations but \$8 and he deemed it best to discontinue before a larger indebtedness was incurred.

Team disbands due to 7 of 11 players failure to meet academic requirements.



1917

There was no information to suggest a WHS football team existed in 1917. If true, it is possible that the Spanish Flu and WWI had something to do with it.

1918

The Sept. 12th WPJ article, below left, shows a strong interest in WHS football. The article to the right, from the Detroit paper, is the only game documented. The WPJ staff may have been too overwhelmed with WWI and the Spanish Flu to cover WHS

23 HIGH SCHOOL FOOTBALL CANDIDATES

Dr. C. H. Pierce in Charge of Big Squad—Prospects Are Good

Classes in high school have been thoroughly raked for available football material and as a consequence twenty-three candidates were out the fore part of the week going through the preliminaries under the direction of Dr. C. H. Pierce. The boys average up well in weight and "pep" and the prospects for a good team this year are good.

Eight towns have thus far requested games and others will undoubtedly follow as the season gets under way. Little Falls, Fergus Falls, Detroit, Brainerd, Bemidji, and Staples have already asked for places on the schedule.

Clarence Rice, John Veden, George Welch, Emil Koch and Fred Marquardt are among those who have had previous experience and will probably form the nucleus for the new team. The team average for weight will be around 185 pounds.

AS DETROIT SAW IT

Detroit Herald Gives Its Version of Football Game

The Detroit Herald has the following to say concerning the football game in this city with the Detroit high school team nearly two weeks ago:

"Though the Wadena team were heavier an average of seven pounds, the Detroit high school football team went through their line almost at will in the game played on the base ball grounds here Saturday, scoring 24 to 7. There was no individual starring in the play, but the team worked together like a machine. The backfield worked as a unit. With Leach and Weeks to break the interference Bolstad easily followed through and scored two touchdowns. Leach made a touchdown and Eckel scored one also. The Wadena score was made when they intercepted a forward pass on the 15 yard line. John B. Katowski, coach for Detroit, acted as referee, not the regular thing, but the request of the Wadena team and coach, and his rulings appeared to be satisfactory all around."

football.

From the Detroit newspaper about their game vs WHS in early October.

DETROIT WON 24-7

1919

WHS Season Record: 1-3-1

WHS	0	32	Bemidji	Bemidji later beat Park Rapids 116-0.
WHS	0	25	Detroit	Detroit become Detroit Lakes in 1927.
WHS	-	-	Park Rapids	Score unknown but WHS did lose.
WHS	26	26	Fergus Falls	
WHS	6	0	Fergus Falls	



Several gridders pictured here are still residing in this area. Shown here are (bottom row) left to right: Don McKinnon, Marion Blaha, Pat Lund, George Claydon, Joe Rice and Art Daniels; (middle

row): Assistant Coach Hans M. Anderson, John Veden, Carl McDowell, Albert Parker, Vern Wright, Roland Blaha, Coach Otte; (top row): Willard Neal, Bill Stevens, Lawrence Wold, George Welch, Wilbur Zimmerman and Harlan K. Bluhm.

Bottom row L-R: Don McKinnon, Marion Blaha, Pat Lund, George Claydon, Joe Rice and Art Daniels. Middle row: Asst. coach Hans Anderson, John Veden, Carl McDowell, Albert Parker, Vern Wright, Roland Blaha, coach Otte. Top row: Willard Neal, Bill Stevens, Lawrence Wold, George Welch, Wilbur Zimmerman, and Harlan K. Bluhm.

WADENA HIGH LOSES TO BEMIDJI ELEVEN

This is probably the hardest game the team will have, and since the boys showed a clean and "never die" spirit, Wadena should feel proud of a team that could hold down their heavy opponents to such a low score, considering the experience they have had.

Following is the lineup:

Wright, r. e.

Zimmerman, r. t.

McDowell, r. g.

Veden, c.

Welch, l. g.

Bluhm, l. t.

Stevens, l. e.

Claydon, q. b.

Merickel, r. h.

Daniels, l. h.

WADENA LOSES TO DETROIT SATURDAY

Practice during the week has been taken up with renewed energy in an effort to polish up the rough edges and get into condition for games with Park Rapids and Fergus Falls which follow.

Park Rapids lost to Bemidji last Saturday 116 to 0 while Wadena held them in its first game of the season to 32 to 0.

Wadena was beaten by Bemidji 32-0 in the season opener. **Bemidji then trounced Park Rapids 116-0** in week 2, while WHS was going 0-2 with a 25-0 loss to Detroit. Week 3 would pit WHS vs PR, a game WHS was looking forward to when doing the score comparison against the common opponent Bemidji. However, WHS lost to PR to go 0-3

WHS LINEUP:

Wright, r. e.

Zimmerman, r. t.

McDowell, r. g.

Veden, c.

Welch, l. g.

Bluhm, l. t.

Stevens, l. e.

Claydon, q. b.

Merickel, r. h.

Daniels, l. h.



1920-1929

WHS

Season Records*

Fall of:	Won	Lost	Tied	Coach	Comment
1920	1	1	0	Kuefler	
1921	4	1	0	Kuefler	Kuefler also coached BB including at MN State Tournaments in 1922-23.
1922	1	1	0	Kuefler	
1923	2	2	0	Kuefler	
1924	2	0	0	Voss	Player eligibility issues.
1925	5	0	0	Rosenberger	
1926	0	2	0	Rosenberger	
1927	-	-	-	Chermak	Also, basketball coach
1928	5	1	1	Chermak	
1929	0	2	0	Chermak	
	20	10	1	1920-29 Winning Pct – 66%	

*Based on known outcomes.



1920's Rules of the Game

Rule Changes

Fall 1924 WPJ

Kick-Offs (no explanation provided):

Old rule:

- Kick-off from team's 40-yard line
- Kicking tee allowed

New rule:

- Kick-offs moved up 10 yards to mid-field
- No kicking tee allowed

Time Outs (to speed up the games)

Old rule:

- unknown

New rule:

- Four time-outs allowed per half
- The rule violation penalty will be increased from 2-yards to 5-yards

PAT Ball Placement

(to encourage a running or passing attempt rather than a kick)

Old rule:

- Offense had choice of 5-yard line or further back

New rule:

- Ball placement as close as the 3-yard line

Interceptions

This is a rule clarification.

-If a forward pass strikes an ineligible player and a member of the opposing team catches the ball before it hits the ground that "opposing team" player is entitled to whatever ground he can gain.

Revolver for Field Judge (quoted from WPJ):

"The field judge or the official who keeps time will be compelled to carry a gun, which he will fire to denote the termination of the quarter or game."

The Huddle System

Until 1925 there was no huddle in between plays. After one play was completed the offense and defense would hurry to the line and the quarterback would call the next play verbally or by hand signals. With few or any subs this fast pace required highly conditioned athletes to make for a successful team.

- As documented in the NY Times the first "huddle system" was created by college coach McCracken and adopted in 1924 after he discovered that Penn was scouting and decoding Lafayette's hand signals.
- See the WPJ October 15, 1925, Osakis game article commentary on the "huddle system" and the author's prediction.**



LONG PRAIRIE LOSES TO WADENA SATURDAY

Football Team Wins At Long Prairie
by Score of 32 to 6

The Wadena High School football team redeemed itself Saturday by defeating Long Prairie at that place, 32 to 6. Both teams appeared to be equally matched at the outset but the endurance test soon found the locals a superior outfit with plenty of dash and go when their opponents were lagging. From practically every standpoint of the game Long Prairie was outclassed. Time after time the ball went down the field for twenty yard gains.

Capt. McDowell had the misfortune to sprain his ankle at the opening of the game but fought it out to the finish despite that handicap. his lineup was as follows:

WHS Starting Lineup:

Flink and Thom, guards; Ernster and Stevens, tackles; Rice and Getter, ends; Claydon, quarter; Blaha and Wright, halves; Capt. McDowell, full back; Kruger, center; Hurst and Cook, subs.



1920

Record 1-1-0

WHS 32

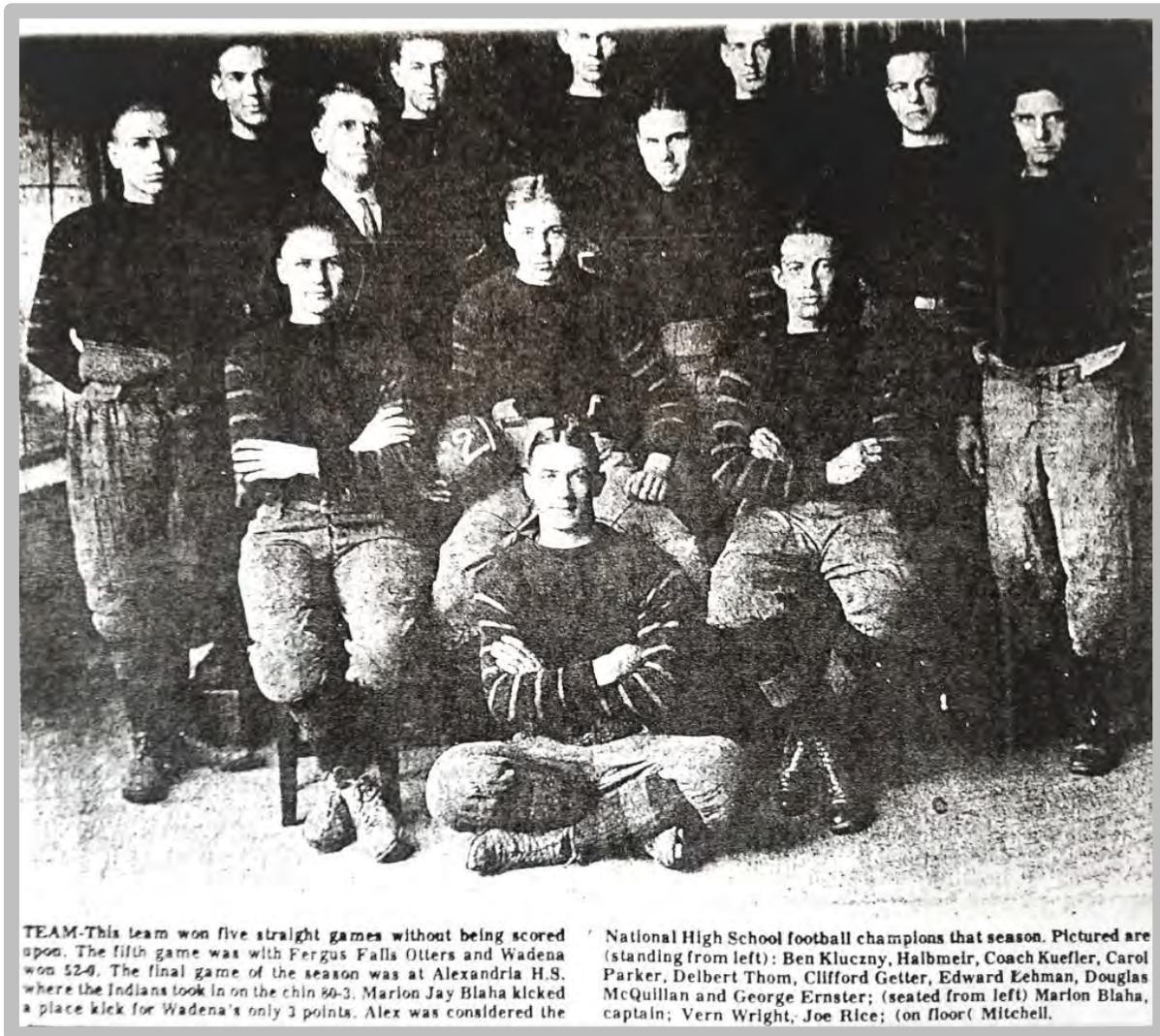
Long Prairie 6

1921

WHS Season Record: 4-1

WHS	7	0	Detroit	Detroit became Detroit Lakes in 1927.
WHS	38	0	Long Prairie	
WHS	27	0	Park Rapids	
WHS	51	0	Fergus Falls	
WHS	3	80	Alexandria	Big build up, read the pre & post game articles.

The team picture below was in the WPJ many years after 1921. The sender states the team was 5-0 and unscored upon. It appears the team was 4-0. The final game, at Alexandria, resulted in an 80-3 loss, leaving WHS 4-1.



TEAM-This team won five straight games without being scored 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) Marlon Blaha, captain; Vern Wright; Joe Rice; (on floor) Mitchell.

Noteworthy

The WHS basketball team was in the MN State Tournaments of 1921-22 and 1922-23. Standing in the picture above is Carol Parker (4th from left) and seated (L-R) are Marion Blaha, Vern Wright, and Joe Rice. These 4 football players were on the 1921-22 state tournament basketball team while Parker and Rice were also on the 1922-23 team. Four years later Marion Blaha, after college, became the head football coach (and likely basketball coach as well) at Osakis. Blaha coached against Wadena in the 1925 football season opener. WHS won 25-0 and went undefeated that year.

OPEN SEASON WITH VICTORY

WADENA WINS GRIDIRON BATTLE FROM DETROIT LAST SATURDAY, 7 to 0.

LONG PRAIRIE TOMORROW AFTERNOON AT 3 O'CLOCK

Preliminary Showing Made by Local High School Eleven Brings Encouragement.

October 6, 1921, WPJ

WHS defeats Detroit 7-0 on the road.

Home opener against Long Prairie next.

"Admission back to pre-war levels
15/25 cents for students/adults."

ALEXANDRIA IS NEXT ON LIST

HIGH SCHOOL FOOTBALL TEAM PREPARES FOR BIGGEST GAME OF YEAR.

FERGUS FALLS BEATEN ON ITS HOME GROUNDS 51 TO 0

Hardest Battle of Season, Though Score Doesn't Indicate It, Say Followers of the Game.

Alexandria, much touted as the home of the strongest high school team in this section of the state, is clearing the boards for Wadena's coming next Saturday afternoon in what the advance dope indicates as one of the stiffest games of the season, with the odds in favor of Alexandria among those who profess to know. In high school circles it is the game of the season and will go a long way towards settling the championship of the northwest. Neither team has been scored on thus far this season, their successes during the past few weeks giving comparatively little grounds for picking a winner. Alexandria appears to have the edge on the situation in having defeated the St. Cloud high school and St. John's college teams. Added to this come the wild stories of a "giant" team which walks over 'em all and gives nor receives any quarter.

Alexandria 80
Wadena 3

WADENA LOSES TO ALEXANDRIA

Local Football Team Meets Its Superior at Alexandria Saturday.

Wadena high school lost its first football game of the season last Saturday at Alexandria to the high school team of that city by the decisive score of 80 to 3. It was apparent from the first that they were outclassed and it was merely a question of endeavoring to hold the score to the lowest possible figure.

A large delegation accompanied the team from this city, the day being an ideal one for both the crowd and the players. There was plenty of enthusiasm on both sides and the commendable feature of the whole game was that it was one of the cleanest contests of its kind ever staged.

Wadena lost its nerve at the outset with two touchdowns by Alexandria in the first few minutes of play, four tacklers passing up comparatively easy chances to nail the runner on his first dash down the field for a touchdown. Before the team had recovered from this disconcerting event a second touchdown had been made and then the teams settled down to the real struggle of the day. With returning confidence Wadena put up a pluckier fight but the hard hitting and fast work of Alex removed all possible doubt as to which was the winning team. From that time on Wadena fought half-heartedly until the end doing little to stem the tide, remaining in the game until the end because good sportsmanship demanded it. The last quarter sent three of Wadena's best players to the side lines and it was during that quarter that Alex seemed to be able to score at will.

The score of 80 to 3 (Wadena did score a field goal) does not fairly represent the comparative strength of the two teams. Alex weighed on an average of from 20 to 30 pounds heavier than Wadena and playing on its home ground had a certain advantage which all teams recognize. They played a superior game but fortune favored them in the desertion of the customary fighting spirit from the ranks of the local team.

Alexandria unquestionable has one of the fastest high school teams in the state and is a strong contender for the state championship. Any team which claims that championship without first having defeated Alexandria cannot fairly do so, comparative scores notwithstanding.

80 to.....
WHAT!!!



The article "Alexandria is Next on List" found on the previous page indicates the Alex football team had "defeated the St. Cloud high school and St. John's college teams." Impressive!

In the 1921 team picture, it claims "Alex was considered the National High School Football Champions that season." It does not state by whom or by what authority.

1922

Record 1-1

October 5, 2022, WPJ
 Loss to Moorhead
 No score given

WADENA LOSES FIRST GAME

MOORHEAD HAS EASY TIME ON
 HER OWN GROUNDS LAST
 SATURDAY AFTERNOON

LACK OF EXPERIENCE
 RESPONSIBLE SAYS KUEFLER

Play at Long Prairie Next Saturday
 Minus Two Experienced
 Men

Wadena high school inaugurated the 1922 football season at Moorhead with a rather severe defeat last Saturday which comes a long way from disheartening the team for the season's work cut out for it. "Green me nand lack of finish in play," is Coach Kuefler's comment on the game.

Following is Wadena's lineup for last Saturday:

Halbmeier and Hezzelwood, center;
 Kluczny, rg; Kuefler, lt; Brumbaugh, rt; Thompson, rg; Parker, re;
 Lehman, le; Spooner fb; Getter, rh;
 Kingsley, lb; McKinnon, q.

WHS
 starting
 lineup

WADENA STAGES A COMEBACK

Local High School Eleven Shows
 Surprising Form Against
 Detroit Saturday

Wadena high school demonstrated its right to consideration as a championship contender in the smothering defeat it administered to the Detroit high school eleven in this city last Saturday afternoon. 31 to 6, tells, in a large measure, the ripping style of play Wadena indulged in but it hardly fails to record some of the stellar individual work which thrilled the local fans, the big thrill being the 87 yard run for a touchdown by McKinnon at quarter.

Detroit presented a string of experienced men in its lineup which was calculated to make easy work of Wadena's raw recruits. However, working at high pressure with Coach Kuefler at the throttle, the boys whipped into shape with determination which invariably spells victory. Two of the main stays of the outfit are still out of the game on account of injuries and the winning last Saturday thus reflects stronger than ever the creditable work done by the new men.

Park Rapids is scheduled to play Wadena in this city next Saturday.

Following is the lineup for the game with Detroit:

Wadena		Detroit	
Thompson	le	Erickson	
Brumbaugh	lt	Eininger	
Kuefler	lg	Lind	
Hezzelwood	c	Paulson	
Halbmeier	rg	Blake	
Kluczny	rt	Graig	
King	re	Hanson	
McKinnon	q	Erickson	
Jones	rhb	Stewart	
Parker	lhb	Leach	
Lehman	fb	Albertson	



1923

WHS Season Record: 2-2

WHS	42	0	Park Rapids	
WHS	19	7	Fergus Fall	
WHS	12	33	Staples	
WHS	0	3	Detroit	Detroit became Detroit Lakes in 1927.

PLAY PARK RAPIDS OCT. 6

High School Football Team Schedules First Game on Local Gridiron

There is a squad of thirty men trying out for the first and second teams, the first team to be selected as follows: Halbmaier, centre; Earl Jacobson, Maurice Ebner, Wesley Taylor and Mark Parker, guards; Kluczny and Walker, probable tackles; Keachle and Neises, ends; McKinnon, qb; Ed Kuefler, fb; Leland Zosel and Harold Clark, half backs. Kluczny, Keachle and McKinnon are out at present on account of injuries.

DETROIT WINS WITH DROP KICK

Wadena High School Plays Winning Game But Loses Thru Heavy Penalties

Wadena lost its final football game of the season at Detroit last Saturday afternoon in spite of the fact that it played a winning game from start to finish. Heavy penalties inflicted repeatedly prevented them from scoring and placed the Detroit eleven in position to drop kick a goal, registering the only score of the game, 3 to 0. It was a hard fought game on a slippery field and local fans are indignant at what they allege to be the arbitrary and uncalled for attitude of the officials.

Detroit 3
WHS 0



1924

Record 2-0

(Season ends due to ineligible players)

From the "Class of 1925" Yearbook:

FOOTBALL, 1924

THE Wadena football eleven of 1924 was one of the lightest in the history of the school. An all-veteran backfield remained from 1923, but there were a number of vacancies in the line, which were filled capably by new men. The team began practice under the direction of Mr. Voss, our new coach, immediately after the opening of school. Wadena played its first game of the season on September 28 at Brainerd, Wadena winning in a close and hard fought game by a score of 12 to 0. On October 12, Wadena played its second and last game, this with Moorhead on the Wadena field. Moorhead greatly outweighed Wadena and expected to win easily, but Wadena's speed and fight carried it through to a 20 to 13 victory. Further games could not be arranged and the season closed with Wadena having enjoyed a short but very successful year. The personnel of the squad is as follows: Ends, Young, Harrison, and Hochstetter; tackles, Jacobson, Thill, and Vogen; guards, Stevens, Jensen, and McBride; center, Zuelke; quarterback, McKinnon, Captain; halfbacks, Zosel and Getter; fullback, King.

The Yearbook Cover

ANEDAW

1925



WADENA
(backwards)

Game 1

WHS 12
Brainerd 0

Game 2

**WADENA 20;
MOORHEAD 13**

A pre-game article in the Fargo Forum stated this would be an easy game for Moorhead allowing for liberal use of their substitutes.



HIGH SCHOOL ASSEMBLY

**Academics first.
Football second.
The 1924 season
GETS THE BOOT!**



October 30, 1924, WPJ

"Supt. Hays has the full support of the school board and the taxpayers."
(Just like the 1916 season)

This WPJ article describes a very optimistic view of the 1924 WHS football season. After two big wins the Wadena players and fans must have been devastated to have to cancel the remainder of the season due to the academic ineligibility of numerous team members.



VOL. XLVII.

PLAY MOORHEAD HERE SATURDAY

Wadena High School Goes Into First Home Game With a Strong Lineup

Wadena high school will send its football team against the Moorhead high eleven in this city next Saturday afternoon at 3:30 in the first home game of the season. In a news story in the Fargo Forum several days ago it was intimated that Moorhead expected an easy time of it here and expected to make liberal use of its substitutes in order to save the regulars for stronger competition to come. The game will be called at 3:30 and admission for adults will be 35c and for pupils 25c.

Wadena goes into the Saturday game with one of the strongest lineups in several years, every man being eligible to play. It will be the first game in which the full string of regulars will have appeared together and the visitors are going to have to play the best they have to save themselves from defeat. It is too early to expect a finished eleven free from the early season imperfections but fans have every reason to expect a fairly accurate, hard driving team which will make a most creditable showing.



The veteran backfield cannot be beaten. McKinnon at quarter has proved one of the most versatile players the high school has ever had and while this will be King's first year at fullback in a regular high school game, his hard hitting and punting proclivities have already given him a top line rating. Getter at right half in his dogged determined fashion knows no letup and cracks many a stone wall for the gains in critical times of play. "Peewee" Zosel at left half early in his playing career developed an uncanny sense of nosing out any small hole that momentarily presents itself, frequently breaking away from his interference when the opposition proves too formidable for the play as planned and grabbing off a few yards in a purely individual effort. It is this sort of material which gives Wadena high one of the strongest backfields on high school teams in the state and unless old King's eligibility retires them from participation in future games they are to be heard from in no uncertain fashion.

Couch Voss states that he has not yet placed his line but has the following to choose from for the different positions indicated: Centre, George Stevens or Arthur Zuehlke; guards, Frank Thelzer, Edwin McElride and Clarence Vogen; ends, Peter Jansen, Charles Harrison and Vesta Young; tackles, Francis Thill and Earl Jacobson.

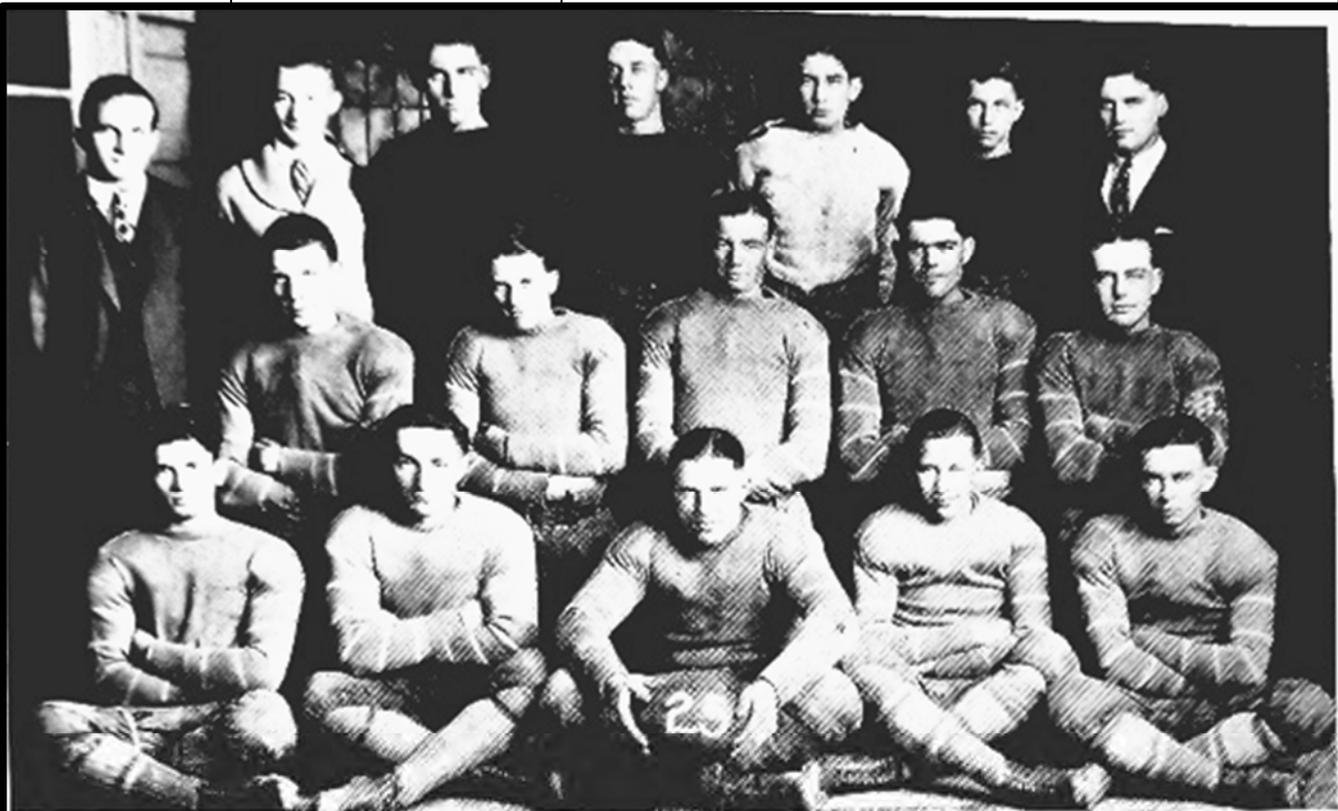
Thill and Jacobson have had one season's play and are now relied on to steady the line of new recruits. Chas. Harrison is regarded as a fixture at end, having played in creditable fashion at intervals last year.

Fans are assured a real game if Moorhead has the aggregation it thinks it has.

1925

WHS Season Record: 5-0

WHS	25	0	Osakis	'22 WHS alum Marion Blaha is Osakis new head coach.
WHS	31	12	Frazee	
WHS	6	0	Park Rapids	
WHS	14	0	Staples	
WHS	12	6	Detroit	Detroit became Detroit Lakes in 1927.



Theisen A. Zuehlke Stevens H. Zosel R. Zuehlke Coach Rosenberger
 Mathews Jacobsen Brownsey Lehman Olin Burnett
 L. Zosel Thill Captain King Young Krause

LINE UP

Ends..... Brownsey and Lehman
 Guards..... Jacobsen, Burnett and Theisen
 Tackles..... Thill and Olin
 Centers..... Zuehlke and Stevens
 Quarterback..... L. Zosel
 Halfbacks..... Krause, Young and H. Zosel
 Fullback..... Captain King

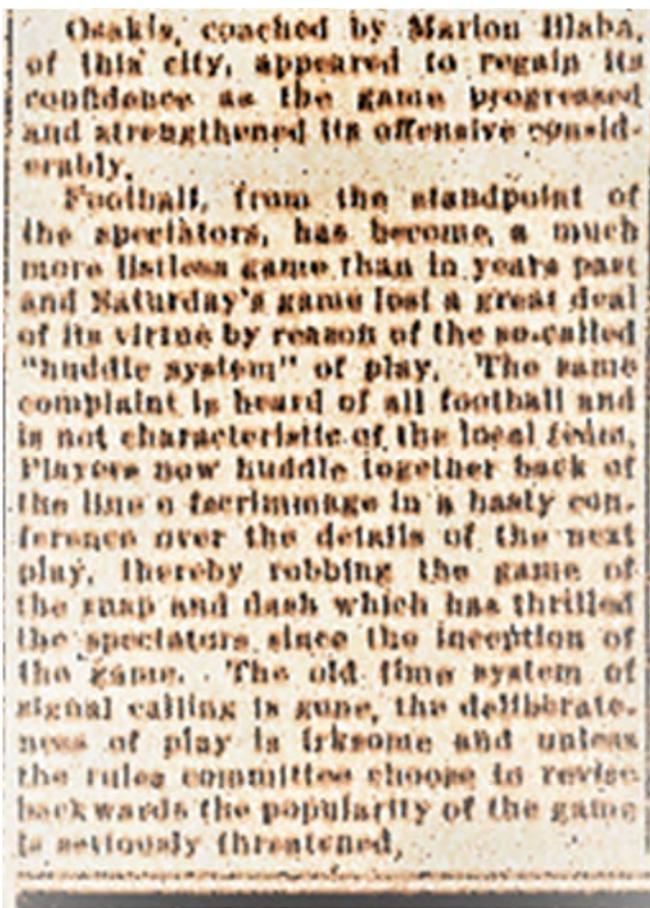
OSAKIS VS. WADENA

In the first game of the season Osakis was defeated 25 to 0. The game was slow and many fumbles were made by both teams. The huddle system was used by both teams making the game slower. Wadena scored in the opening minutes when Lee Zosel returned a punt 65 yards for a touchdown. Wadena managed to score in every period, twice as results of long passes.

New Rule: "The Huddle System"

Prediction of the WPJ author:

"The old-time system of signal calling is gone; the deliberateness of play is irksome and unless the rules committee choose to revise backwards the popularity of the game is seriously threatened."



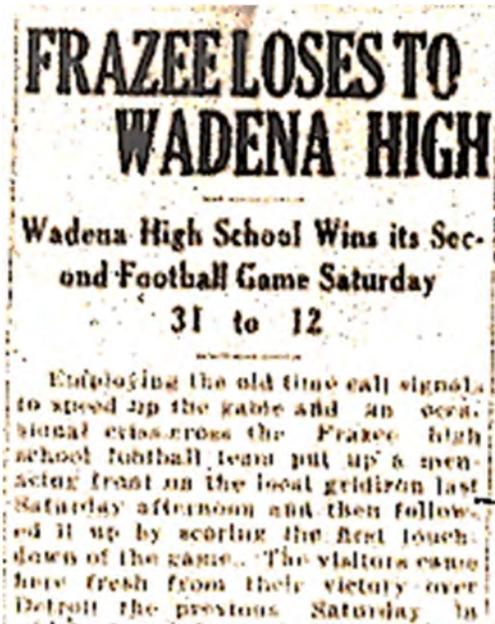
October 15, 1925, WPJ
Opening win vs Osakis

Osakis is coached by 1922 WHS graduate Marion Blaha.

Within the last year or two the rules were changed to allow use of the "huddle system." It allows the offensive team the option to huddle after a completed play for the purpose of deciding their next play. Or they can do as has been the custom, prior to the "huddle" option, which is to line up with no huddle and call a play at the line of scrimmage (the old-time system of "signal calling").

FRAZEE VS. WADENA

On October 17th we encountered the strong Frazee team on our home field. They placed the ball over the goal shortly after the opening whistle, as a result of line plunging. We soon tied the score on straight line plunging and end runs. They managed to score again on a fake end run, but we had managed to score four touchdowns and two points after touchdowns making a total of 32 points.



In addition to using the new "huddle system" Frazee employed the old-style signal calling to speed up the game.



ROBERT J. KING
Football
Captain

October 22, 1925, WPJ
31-12 win vs Frazee



**WADENA WINS AT
PARK RAPIDS**
Local High School Football Team
to Play Staples There Sat-
urday Afternoon

**WADENA WINS AT
STAPLES 14 TO 0**
Line Plunges and End Runs Bring
First Score in Second
Quarter of Game

**WADENA WINS IN
A SEA OF MUD**
Fifth Consecutive Victory Scored
Armistice Day at
Detroit

PARK RAPIDS VS. WADENA

We next journeyed to Park Rapids where we defeated that team 6 to 0 on a snow covered field. We scored our only touchdown of the game in the first quarter, on end runs and off tackle smashes. The ball see-sawed back and forth in mid field until the last quarter, when Park Rapids managed to obtain first down on the first yard line. Here our defense tightened and held them for four downs.

STAPLES VS. WADENA

Our next game was with our old rivals, Staples, on October 31 an ideal football day. Our boys entered the game against a much heavier and more experienced team that were heavy favorites to win. But with a large crowd backing our boys, they were determined to win and did a very good job of it. Staples had a slight disadvantage of the first quarter, but in the second quarter we started a march down the field that could not be stopped and when

GET IN THE GAME!



DETROIT VS. WADENA

Our last game was with Detroit at that city on Armistice Day. A large crowd followed the team that day. The field was covered with ice and water which made very difficult, the playing of good football. Nevertheless, followers were well repaid for their efforts to see these teams play. Detroit scored first as a result of a fumbled punt deep in our own territory and a freak pass that bounded off from three players into the hands of a Detroit player who was kneeling on the other side of the goal. We started a march down the field that was checked many times due to the dampness of the ball. But by constant driving we crossed the goal twice to win 12 to 6.

1926

Record 0-2

Only two games were found in the WPJ, fall of 1926.

- vs Detroit Lakes
- vs Long Prairie



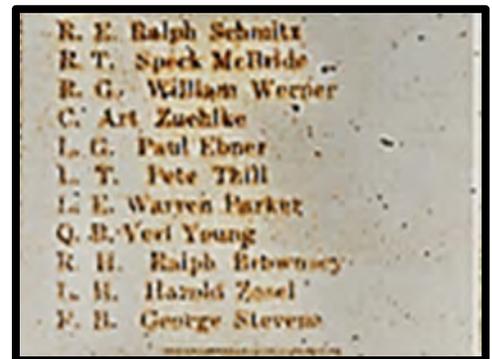
Detroit Lakes 26
Wadena H.S. 7

By next year, 1927, Detroit will have officially changed its name to "Detroit Lakes."

1926 WHS starting eleven



WHS 0
LPHS 14



1927



WADENA (MINN.)
HIGH SCHOOL

Front row, left to right,
Flenner, Miller, Nelson, Cun-
ningham, G. Hanson, K.
Zasel, Askew, Olin, Peterson,
Davis, Waite; back row,
Chermak (coach), Young,
Anderson, Stawe, Ebner, H.
Zasel, J. Hanson, Werner,
Brownsey, Nutting, Schmidt,



WHS Football Field and Fairgrounds

There are no records of games played in 1927 although the above pictures suggest otherwise. The smaller picture appears to be a game action shot. For many years the WHS football home field was at the fairgrounds. I am of the belief the fairgrounds at that time were the low-lying flat land that is surrounded by the technical college on the northeast, the cemetery on the southwest and MN Hwy 29 along the north edge. Growing up in the 1960's and '70s the football field at that time was in the southeast corner complete with concrete bleachers and wood bench seats. All compliments of the WPA of the 1930's. In the northwest corner was the city swimming pool, outdoors and unheated water of course. Sadly, the pool was destroyed in the tornado of 2010. Included in this area were softball and baseball diamonds, skating and hockey rinks, and tennis courts.

I would also like to point out first year head coach Anton Chermak, back row, far left. Fresh out of college, he may have been the most successful basketball / football combination coach in WHS history. From 1927-37, in football, he won 78% of the games we know about. During that same time, in basketball, he secured two District 24 titles, one Region 6 championship, and in the 1936 state tournament WHS lost to Bemidji in the title game. Very impressive!

1928

5-1-1 record



First Row: Coach Chermak, Traverse, Fischer, Olin, Ebner, Schmidt, Schmitz.

Second Row: Nelson, Koch, Flenner, Brownsey, L. Anderson, Adams.

Third Row: Button, Miller, Myott, Zosel, Bretz, Hansen.

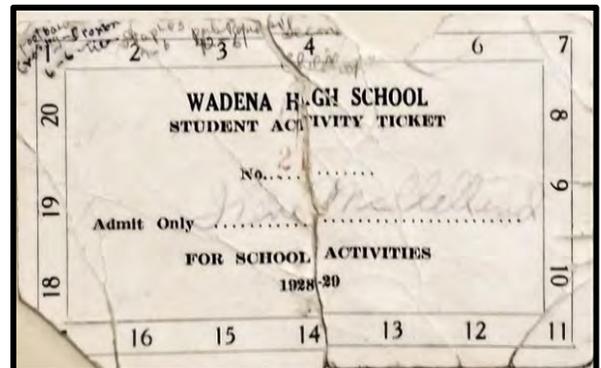
Fourth Row: Askew, Davis, Orr, R. Anderson.

The 1928-29 football team has had a successful season as is attested by the following line of victories:

Crosby-Ironton	6	Wadena	6
Perham	18	Wadena	19
Parkers Prairie	0	Wadena	26
Aitkin	7	Wadena	6
Fergus Falls	0	Wadena	31
Staples	6	Wadena	7
Park Rapids	6	Wadena	42

The row listing above has the back row as "First Row." In the "Second Row" is **Willard Flenner**, 3rd from left. He is a junior on this team. Whenever you see the orange "W" in this scrapbook, think of him, it was his varsity letter.

WHS Student Activity Ticket
Irene McClelland
1928-29



1929

Record 0-2-0

WHS 6 Brainerd 13

LOCALS LOSE INITIAL TILT

Brainerd High Gridders Win
at Brainerd Saturday.
Score 13 to 6

On Saturday, the Wadena high school team lost their opening game of football with Brainerd, there, 13-6. It was a gray day and rain in the forenoon made the field slippery. After the first few plays the ball was wet and slick, causing both teams to fumble frequently. The starting lineup was as follows:

Brainerd		Wadena*	
Hoffblower	LB	Theisen	
Lucken	LT	Olin	
Abrahamson	LG	Koch	
Foster	C	Nelson	
LeMire	RG	Wegener	
Carvey	RT	Fischer	
Larigey	RE	Peterson	
Halvorson	RH	Zoyel	
Schultz	LH	Ernater*	
Gunn	RH	Anderson	
Hautala	FB	Miller	



STAPLES WINS IN LAST GAME

Wadena Victim in Staples
Homecoming Game
Saturday.

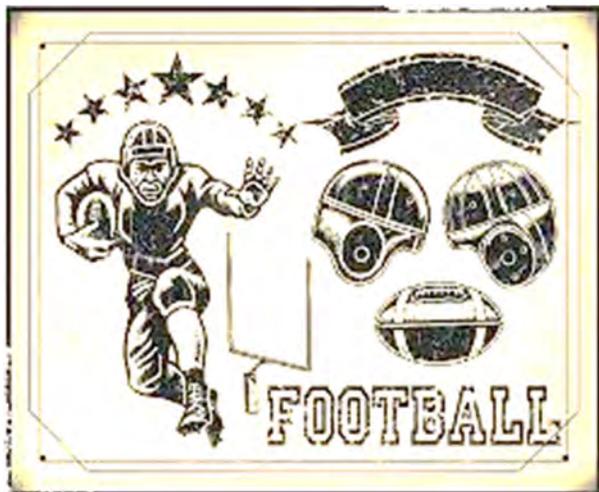
Staples high school won in the feature football game of the season Saturday afternoon when homecoming was observed at Staples with the local gridders as the victims, the final score being 31 to 6 in favor of the Cardinals. The lighter, but faster Wadena team, was greatly handicapped owing to the muddy condition of the field. Only a fair crowd was in attendance, considering the fact that Staples' business places were closed for the game.

all four of the seniors gave splendid exhibitions. Of the 19 players, Coach Chermak took to Staples, 15 will be eligible to play next year. Staples is losing nine players through graduation.

The lineup was as follows:

Wadena (6)		Staples (31)	
Adams	LE	Grippe	
Currie	LT	Wiltrout	
Koch	LG	Sims	
Nelson	C	Alden	
Wegener	RG	Batcher	
Fisher	RT	Read	
Theisen	RE	Volk	
C. Johnson	QB	Phillipps	
R. Johnson	LH	Calhoun	
Ernater	RH	Tevlin	
Olin	FB	Marr	

Wadena substitutions: Lyle Anderson for Ernater, Jung for Olin. Grow for Wegener, Askew for Adams, Davis for Nelson, Bob Anderson for Fisher, Fisher for Currie; referee, Mitchie, Carleton.

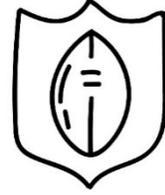


1930-1939



WHS

Season Records*



Fall of:	Won	Lost	Tied	Coach	Comment
1930	0	1	0	Chermak	Big news! Nighttime football!
1931	6	1	1	Chermak	12-game streak w/o loss starts w/Sebeka
1932	6	0	0	Chermak	
1933	6	1	1	Chermak	12-game streak w/o loss ends w/Brainerd
1934	6	1	0	Chermak	
1935	4	3	0	Chermak	1936 MN State BB runner-up
1936	5	0	1	Chermak	1927-36 tenure (78% wins)
1937	5	2	0	Anderson	Asst Kermit Anderson takes over
1938	5	1	0	Anderson	
1939	1	5	0	Anderson	
	44	15	3	1930-39 Winning Pct – 73%	

*Based on known outcomes.



The 1930's

Items of Interest

Rule Changes

For the 1934 season here are some of the new rules:

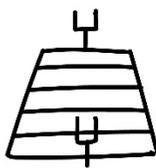
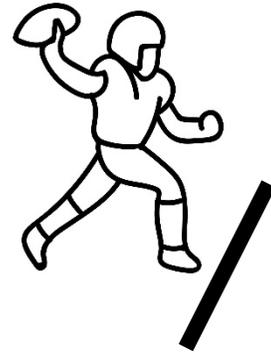


Rule Change 1

Minor change in size and shape of football (making it less round and more oblong).

Rule Change 2

The rule requiring a passer to be at least five yards behind the line of scrimmage has been changed to require the passer to be only "behind the line of scrimmage."



Rule Change 3

If a play ends out of bounds or within fifteen yards of the out of bounds line, the ball must be placed fifteen yards from the out of bounds. Prior to this change, the ball could be placed right next to the sideline for the next snap of the ball!

Firsts

- 1930: First night games played under the lights. More fans able to attend.
- 1935: Joined "Little Eight" Conference (one-yr only, rejoined (Central 8) in 1943)**
- 1938: New stadium seating for 1100 fans (WPA Project).
- 1939: First ever WHS Homecoming celebration and game.



Streaks

- 1931-33: 12-games without a loss (1 tie)

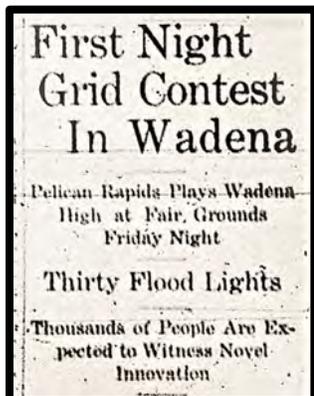
College Football for 1930's WHS Alumni

WHS Yr	Alumni	College	Note
1933	Russell Johnson	U of M	Brothers Cassell & Leland
1933	Robert Prettyman	St Thomas	Brothers Dick & William
1935	Leland "Squeak" Johnson	U of M	See article & amazing story
1936	T. Edison Smith	MSTC	See article & amazing story
1936	Ralph Theisen	MSTC	
1938	Gene Hotz	MSTC	See article

1930 WHS

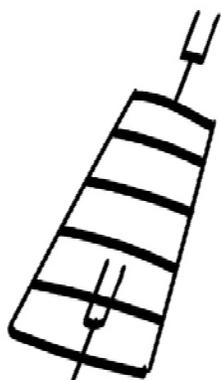
Record 0-1

WHS 13	25 Parkers Prairie	No other scores were found.
--------	--------------------	-----------------------------



There was so much excitement about getting floodlights in Wadena, someone forgot to report on the football games! The decade of the 1930's was as successful for WHS as any decade; however, we don't know much about the team results for 1930.

There were 15 floodlights purchased by the school and another 15 funded by the city council. In addition to use for fall football they were used in the winter when the rink was is in use, as well as in the summer for "kittenball" (what is now known as "softball").



1931 WHS

Record 6-1-1

WHS	12	0	Detroit Lakes	More flood lights since last year and new bleachers for 400
WHS	7	25	Brainerd	
WHS	63	0	Sebeka	
WHS	38	0	Parkers Prairie	
WHS	13	7	Pelican Rapids	
WHS	26	0	Long Prairie	
WHS	0	0	Staples	Earlier Staples snapped C-I's 30 game win streak
WHS	13	6	Fergus Falls	Otter coach Win Brockmier former Gopher star

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 10

Many Report For Practice

Large Football Squad Starts Preparation for Heavy 8-Game Schedule

With the opening of school the Wadena high school football squad started practice Tuesday. A large squad, 32 men, answered Coach A. S. Chermak's first call. Only eight lettermen were out but the new

Eight returning lettermen:

- Russell Johnson - HB
- Cassell Johnson - HB
- Harper Jung - FB
- Russell Askew - E
- Rex Miller - E
- Ross Currie - G
- Alfred Adams
- Kenneth Zosel - QB

Other Starters:

- Leslie Mietzel - T
- Robert Anderson - T
- Harry West - G
- Alvin Pollard - C

Gridders Win First Game

Blank Detroit Lakes 12 to 0 Will Go to Brainerd Saturday

With the first game of the season in the "iron" column, the Wadena high school football team will go to Brainerd Saturday afternoon to match their wits and strength with the Brainerd team.

Play Parkers Friday Night

Wadena High School Will Play Parkers' Prairie Football Team at 8 P. M.

Parkers won 25-6 last year

Wadena Wins From Parkers

Locals' Passing Attack Sweeps Visitors Off Their Feet; Final Score 38-0

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 1, 1931

Play Sebeka Friday Night

Chermak Plans to Use As Many Reserve Players As Possible

Two chastened teams will meet Friday night under the floodlights at the fair grounds when Sebeka and Wadena clash in a football game at 8:00 p. m. Sebeka is de-

Otters Lose To Wadena

Chermak's Charges Defeat Fergus Falls by Close Score of 13 to 6

The big Otter football team from Fergus Falls learned in college football under the tutelage of Coach Win Brockmier, former University of Minnesota star, bowed down to Tony Chermak's team in the game at the local fairgrounds yesterday (Wednesday) afternoon to a score of 13 to 6.

: In Wadena's 13-6 win over Fergus Falls, the Otters failed on their only extra point attempt. Here is how it was explained in the article:

"A center rush for the extra point was met by a stonewall and failed."

A "center sneak?"

Wadena Wins 2 Grid Games

Defeat Long Prairie 26 to 0; Pelican Rapids 13 to 7; Staples Next

Grid Rivals Clash Friday

Many Football Fans Will Accompany Wadena Team To Staples

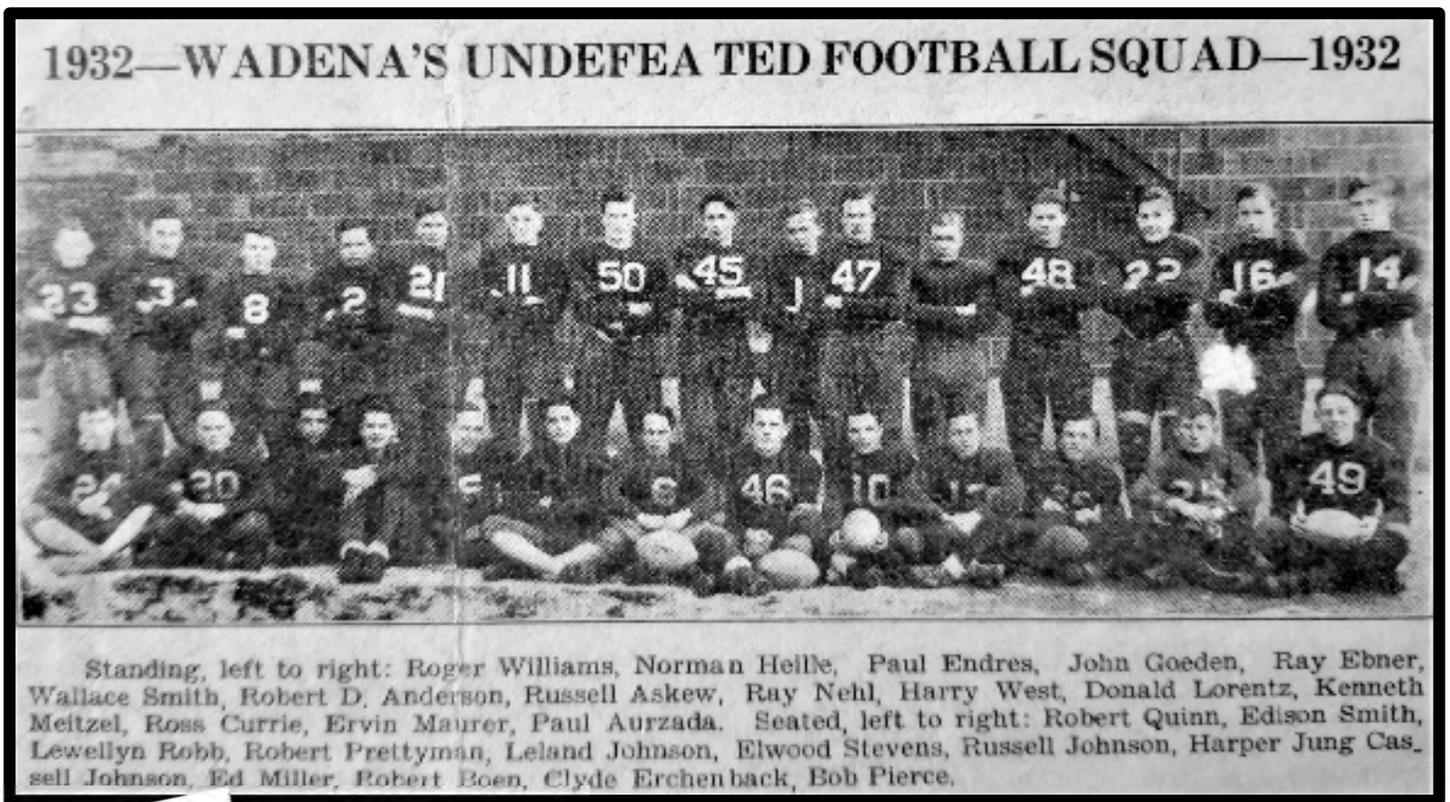


1932 WHS

Record 5-0

WHS	13	6	Brainerd	
WHS	30	6	Pelican Rapids	
WHS	18	6	Parkers Prairie	
WHS	33	0	Sauk Rapids	
WHS	-	-	Staples	Cancelled due to weather, Staples petitions to win by forfeit
WHS	?	?	Mahnomen	Score unknown, WHS certain winner
WHS	-	-	Sauk Centre	Cancelled due to weather

At season's end the Wadena Lions Club treated these boys to a trip to Memorial Stadium to watch the Gophers take on the Purdue Boilermakers.



Brainerd Is Opponent On Grid Friday
 Football Season Opens Locally
 Scheduled Against Expectations
 At Aggregation

Sauk Rapids Here Friday
 Local Football Team in Fine Mettle; Chermak Plans Some Changes

Staples Denied Plea For Game Forfeiture

Pelican Here Friday Night
 Brainerd Shows in Defeat to Locals 13 to 6 In Well Played Game

Gridders To Parkers For Friday Game
 Local High School Defeats Pelican Rapids Handily
 Its Score of 30 to 6

Staples Next Grid Visitor
 Sauk Rapids Was Easy Prey to Wadena Team Friday; Score 33 to 0



Mahnomen to Play Friday
 Stormy Weather Forced Cancellation of Staples Game Last Week

1933 WHS

Record 6-1-1

WHS 12	0	Fergus Falls	Squeak Johnson 58 yd run
WHS 6	20	Brainerd	First WHS loss in 2 years (12-game streak)
WHS 41	0	Parkers Prairie	
WHS 21	0	Perham	
WHS 60	0	Park Rapids	
WHS 32	0	Long Prairie	
WHS 6	6	Detroit Lakes	Squeak Johnson 60 yd run
WHS 50	0	Pelican Rapids	
WHS -	-	Sauk Centre	Cancelled due to weather

Season point Totals: 228-26

Wadena Wins Over Fergus

Local Gridders Win First Game Friday In Steady Rain

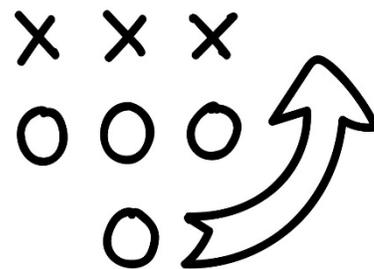
tried the line unsuccessfully for three plays which netted the locals a five yard loss. Then the Wadena quarter-back, fumbling around in his bag of tricks, brought out the moss-covered "statue of liberty" play. It worked like a charm, Askew coming from his end position, circling behind the back-field and taking the ball over the opposite end for a touchdown. Fergus seemed completely hoodwinked by the play and were rooted in their tracks until Askew was nearly across the goal line. The at-

Leland Johnson made Wadena's other touchdown in the third quarter when he displayed the field running qualities that earned fame for his brothers in high school football circles in the past two years. Taking the ball from center Squeak skirted the left end, twisting, dodging and plowing through the whole Fergus team, line and backfield for 58 yards and Wadena's final touchdown. The try for point failed.

"Squeak" 58 yd TD

Wadena Lost To Brainerd
Will Play Parkers Prairie and Perham Next

Wadena Wins From Perham
Long Prairie Gridders Play Here Wednesday



"Squeak right!"

DL came in 6-0 after last week's shutout vs Moorhead

Locals Score Another Win
Defeat Park Rapids And Long Prairie Teams

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 2,

Wadena Ties Detroit Team

Locals' Pluck Wins "Moral Victory" on Gridiron

(by H. E. Boen)

Johnson broke through Detroit's left tackle for a masterful sixty yard race to a touchdown. Detroit fought bravely to keep the

"Squeak" 60 yd TD

1934 WHS

Record 6-1

WHS 18	6	Brainerd	WHS new asst FB and BB coach, John Kipp.
WHS 0	6	Fergus Falls	
WHS 34	0	Perham	
WHS 18	0	Bemidji	
WHS 12	7	Detroit Lakes	
WHS 7	0	Alexandria	"Squeak" Johnson covers 77 yds for the win!
WHS 60	0	Sauk Centre	

Large Squad At Wadena School
Football Season Will Start September 21 With Brainerd
Some 45 prospective football players, all eager for a berth on the team, answered Coach Tony Chermak's call for the first prac-

Forty-five prospects report to practice.

Brainerd Loses To Wadena 18-6
Local High School Wins Initial Football Game

Fergus Wins In Colorful Game
Action and Thrills as Fergus Falls Beats Wadena 6-0

Wadena Gridders Defeat Perham
Local Football Team Takes Perham for 34-0 Victory

Bemidji Beaten By Wadena Team
Hard, Fast Game is Played on Slippery, Wet Field

Alex Will Play Wadena Friday
Will Battle for Grid Supremacy in This Section of State

Wadena In Top Form For Alex
Win 7 to 0; To Play Sauk Centre Here Monday 2 P. M.

Squeak Johnson, in the second period, hit a hole opened up for him in the line, spun through and shook off three tacklers and raced down the field 77 yards for the only touchdown of the game. It was a thrilling run. Two Alexandria tacklers were but a stride behind him up to the twenty yard line and there Squeak put on an unexpected spurt to draw away from his pursuers and cross the Alexandria goal line standing up.

Season's Biggest Game

WHS Wins! 7-0

Future Gopher Star "Squeak" Johnson Goes 77 yds

Wadena Defeats Detroit Lakes
In Well Played Game Wadena Wins From Touted Lakers



Read more about "Squeak" at the back of this 1930's section.

Football Season Ends In Victory
Wadena Runs Wild to Defeat Sauk Centre 60 to 0

1935 WHS

Record 4-3

WHS	39	6	Frazee	Frazee coach Hanson played for Chicago Bears
WHS	20	0	Brainerd	
WHS	50	6	Detroit Lakes	
WHS	31	0	Park Rapids	Read article below re: new "Little Eight" conference.
WHS	6	9	Fergus Falls	
WHS	0	47	Bemidji	WHS BB loses to Bemidji in state title game in March '36
WHS	0	6	Alexandria	Staples game cancelled, Chermak next focus on BB season

Wadena Scores 39-6 Win Over Frazee's Eleven
Team Shows Polish in Initial Test of Season
CONTEST THRILLS
Orangemen Face Severe Test Friday At Brainerd

Brainerd Loses Grid Tilt 20-0 To Wadena '11'
Air Attack Baffles Opponents in Thrill Contest
RESORTERS UPSET
Orangemen to Battle At Detroit Lakes Tomorrow

Detroit Lakes Swamped 50-6 In Lopsided Game



Wadena Scores Fourth Straight Gridiron Victory

Trounces Park Rapids 31 to 0; Fergus Falls Next

LEADING SCORERS

Chermak's Boys Pile Up 143 Points for Season

Coach Chermak's Orangemen of Wadena high continued their winning streak Friday night to swamp Park Rapids grid men 31 to 0. It was a non-conference game but it served to show Wadena's strength.

Press reports already state that Coach Chermak "has one of the strongest grid teams in the new conference this year, but because of former contracts is unable to get in enough league (Little Eight) games to qualify for the championship."

Tomorrow night Wadena meets Fergus Falls, another non-conference team, on the Wadena athletic field, with a bitter battle expected if Wadena is to keep its slate clean.

In Wadena's four games it has piled up a score of 143 to the opponents' 12, ranking with Perham as high scoring team of Minnesota. Last week Perham led the state with 115 points chalked up against opposing teams. Wadena then had 112,—three points behind.

Miller, Smith Share Honors
Smith and Miller accounted for the touchdowns Friday night,—Smith going over for two of them and Miller for the other three.

Frazee coach Hanson played for Chicago Bears.

Wadena Drops First Game to Fighting Otters

Touchdown, Safety Give Wadena 9-6 Victory

SET FOR BEMIDJI

Wadena Drops Second Game To Bemidji '11'

Fails to Score As Visitors Pile Up 47 Points

A steamroller football team from Bemidji high school flattened the Wadena Orangemen last Friday night, defeating the Wadena eleven by the stunning score of 47 to 0. It was the second defeat of the season for Wadena and the victory kept the unblemished Bemidji record clean.

Orangemen Drop Final Game To Alexandria High

Staples Contest Is Cancelled Due To Weather

Wadena High School lost its final game of the football season when it met the strong Alexandria team at Alexandria. The score was 6 to 0.

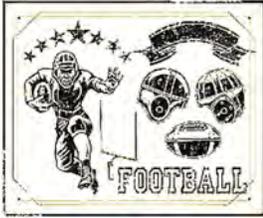
The game scheduled for last night between the ancient rivals, Staples and Wadena, was cancelled due to the winter weather, and Coach A. S. Chermak immediately turned his attention toward basketball.

1936 MN State BB Runner Up (8 players in WHS BB team pic)

Miller, Schiller, Browne, Grogan, Garr, Merickel, Prettyman on FB team as well.

1936 WHS

Record 5-0-1



Season Record			
W. H. S.	12	Frazee	0
W. H. S.	6	Fergus Falls	6
W. H. S.	12	Park Rapids	0
W. H. S.	20	Staples	12
W. H. S.	26	Long Prairie	14
W. H. S.	33	Detroit Lakes	7



PAGE TEN

Wadena Pioneer Journal, Wadena, Minn.

Wadena High News

Wadena's school spirit was likely quite high going into the 1936 football season. Last year's basketball team played in the Minnesota State High School basketball tournament championship game against Bemidji, losing 26-20. Last year's basketball team and this year's football team shared the same head coach, Anton Chermak.



Notice in the season schedule to the right, the last game is against Alexandria on November 6th, at Wadena. Due to a winter storm Wadena cancelled the game and would not agree to have Alexandria host the game. Alexandria was opposed to that decision and sought a win by forfeit. Ultimately the dispute was settled in Wadena's favor.

Chermak Has 33 Men Out; Faces Hard Schedule

Orangemen Will Help Dedicate New Field at Staples

THE SCHEDULE

- Sept. 15—Frazee here.
- Sept. 23—Open.
- Oct. 2—Staples there.
- Oct. 9—Fergus Falls there.
- Oct. 16—Park Rapids there.
- Oct. 30—Detroit Lakes here.
- Nov. 6—Alexandria here.



1936 Wadena High School undefeated football team: Front, L/R: Bob Davis, Bob Weyrauch, Bill Jung, Roy Ireland, Tom Kinney, Bill Anderson, Cyril Winkels, Bill Weyrauch, Tom Davis, ??, Hugh Parker, Wayne Garr. 2nd row, L/R: Ray Bennett, manager, George Nehl, Monroe Balkenol, Wayne Kopp, Gordon Askew, Dick Prettyman, Duane Frost, John Wasche, Jim Tabery, Don Browne, Vince Bretz, Sam Dower, 3rd row, L/R: Asst. Coach James Schunert, Eugene Hotz, Henry Colson, Bill Browne, Donald Finney, Harry Walker, ??, Robert Parker, Bill Breid, Joe Bennett, ??, Paul Schiller, Coach Tony Chermak. 4th row, L/R: Norman Barr, Charles Swanson, Maurice Richter, Philip Schiller, Richard Boyer, Leland Thompson, William Prettyman, William Askew.

Wadena Defeats Rapids 12 to 0
Orangemen Prepare for Battle With Detroit Lakes

Alex High Drops Plan Of Forfeit
Objects to Wadena Cancelling Game On Snowy Field

Wadena Upsets Staples; To Play Fergus Friday

Orangemen Victors by 20-12 Score on New Field
Proving definitely that their first game victory over Fergus was not luck the Wadena Orange-Symphony Director

men battered their way to a 20-to-12 victory over the Staples Cardinals in a thrilling and hard fought game Friday night. Tomorrow night Wadena goes to Fergus Falls for one of the hardest games of the season. The Wadena gridgers, playing on Staples' new floodlighted field were slow in getting started and it was not until the second quarter that Tabery, carrying the ball on three consecutive plays, paved the way for the Orangemen's first touchdown.



Wadena, Fergus Tie 6-6; Rapids Contest Friday



GET IN THE GAME!

1937 WHS

Record 5-2



Gene Hotz
QB

WHS	7	0	Fraze	W
WHS	27	0	Sebeka	W
WHS	26	12	Fergus Falls	W
WHS	6	33	Staples	L
WHS	7	13	Long Prairie	L
WHS	12	0	Park Rapids	W
WHS	37	0	Detroit Lakes	W



Don Tabery
RB

1-0

**Wadena Piles
Up 4 Goals To
Defeat Sebeka**

2-0

**Wadena Defeats
Fraze, 7-0, In
Opening Game**

3-0

**Orangemen Show Fine
Form to Win 3rd
Straight Game**

**Staples Upsets
Wadena 32-6 In
Annual Classic**

**Wadena Will Meet
Park Rapids Here
Friday**

**Wadena Downs
Park Rapids In
Last Home Game**

**Orangemen Nose Out
12-0 Victory Over
Visitors**

**Wadena Downs
Resort Eleven**

**Detroit Lakes Loses,
37-6, In Lopsided
Contest**



The 3-0 WHS Indians were said to be overconfident going into their biggest game of the season, vs archrival Staples. They were in for a big surprise!

In case you are wondering, that is 1935 WHS alum, and MN Gopher, "Squeak" Johnson to the left. He was a halfback and a great surprise for legendary Gopher Coach Bernie Bierman. Read all about "Squeak" and other WHS college players at the end of this "1930's" section.

1938 WHS

Record 5-1

When you look at the team picture below, notice the new bleachers in the background.

Wadena Tromps Frazee 25-6 In Opening Game
Orangemen to Play Fergus There On Sept. 30

WHS	25	6 Frazee	W
WHS	25	12 Fergus Falls	W
WHS	6	13 Staples	L
WHS	13	6 Park Rapids	W
WHS	36	7 Long Prairie	W
V			

Grid Bleachers Will Seat 1,000

WPA Project to Be Completed In Few Weeks

Work on the new concrete bleachers for the Wadena high school athletic field will be completed within a month, Art Faulkner, street commissioner, said yesterday.

The work of constructing the bleachers which will seat 1,000 people, was started more than a month ago as a WPA project. In addition to the bleachers, the east and south banks of the football field are being rip-rapped with boulders. The bleachers and rip-rapping are 600-feet long.

Upset Fergus, 25-12, After See-Sawing Battle
Another Battle Scheduled For Tuesday Night



Wadena High Gridders Meet Long Prairie Here Tomorrow Night



FIRST ROW: K. Anderson, J. Dorry, P. Schiller, S. Dower, W. Anderson, R. Parker, E. Shea, G. Nehl, J. Schunert.
SECOND ROW: A. Ames, D. Frost, D. Tabery, H. Walker.
THIRD ROW: G. Lewis, L. Thomson, J. Tabery, J. Roos, G. Askew, R. Ireland, W. Jung, T. Davis, W. Kopp, E. Felland, D. Browne.

From the age of 5, I lived within walking distance of the field. For big games, early Friday my mom would park our car behind the bleachers, at street level, to secure a good viewing spot to watch the game. In addition to WHS football games I spent a lot of time there in my youth. Track meets. Touch football with friends. We had no idea that was the old fair grounds. It included the baseball/softball diamonds, the pool, tennis courts in the SE corner, and skating rinks to the west of that. Great memories.

Don Tabery - HB

Tabery Stars In Final Victories Of Wadena High

Gridders Take Both Long Prairie and Detroit Lakes

Coach Kermit Anderson's Wadena high gridgers closed their season in a blaze of glory, defeating Long Prairie Friday night, 36-7, and upsetting Detroit Lakes Tuesday night, 12-0.

If there were individual stars for Wadena, credit must go to Tabery at half for his hard-hitting body-crushing blows through the line for substantial gains in each contest, and for the four touchdowns Friday night and the only two Tuesday night.

It wasn't Tabery's game alone. The generalship of the quarterbacks with special mention for "Bum" Ireland Tuesday night and the bone-crushing power of the line Friday night can't be overlooked.



E. Smith, Hotz - Star At MSTC

Wadena Boys Show Ability In Games At Moorhead

Read more about Wadena WHS alumni playing college football at the end of this section on the 1930's.



Edison Smith in Wadena under



Gene Hotz - QB

1939 WHS

Record 1-5

WHS	6	26	Staples	L
WHS	-	-	Long Prairie	L - Score unknown
WHS	-	-	Little Falls	L - 1 st ever H/C, score unknown
WHS	32	14	Park Rapids	W
WHS	6	12	Breckenridge	L
WHS	13	28	Detroit Lakes	L

Wadena Starts Grid Practice
 34 Boys Turn Out For Initial Workout Under Anderson

Wadena-Staples Battle Friday To Open Season



Wadena Welcomes Alumni For First Annual Homecoming

Long Prairie Here Tomorrow
 Coach Sees Little Trouble In Taking Visitors

Long Prairie Wins!



Front L-R: G Lewis, R Felland, J Tabery, B Anderson, W Kopp, B Theriault, P Eng

Back: Head Coach K Anderson, T Ames, T Roberg, ?, L Bluhm, E Blair, ?, J Highum, B Zosel, H Erckenbrack, M Paulston, M Kingsley, E Adamczyk, B Reger, C Kelsey, J Boyer, A Schmith, D Korance, Asst Coach J Schunert





Parade Pleasing At Homecoming Lois Zimmerman Is Crowned Queen of School Fete

Wadena high celebrated its first annual homecoming in a blaze of color; the event getting off to a start Thursday night and closing with a homecoming dance at Memorial auditorium Friday night.

A mile long parade, led by the Wadena high school band, attracted hundreds just before the football game between Little Falls and Wadena.

Students In Snake Dance

The night before students had a snake dance down Jefferson street, thence to the athletic field where pep talks, featured by one from Ray King, all-American Minnesota star of the University of Minnesota, band music and songs preceded the bonfire.

Highlights of the homecoming parade included take-offs on skis, early 1900, comics, and a baby carriage as big as a car in which "Rock" Anderson, football star who lost out of this season's game because of a broken arm, "Roll 'em for Rock" was the slogan for the homecoming game.

Mr. S. J. Dower and daughter, Mrs. T. L. Davis, both graduates of Wadena high, dressed in clothes of yesteryear, brought in the applause of the crowd with their costume. Mrs. Davis' son is also a graduate of Wadena high in last year's class. He is now a student at the University.

Queen Is Crowned

The fire department, every high school class and every grade also was represented in the line of march to the football field where the crowd saw Miss Lois Zimmerman crowned.

Wadena Loses Final Grid Battle To Detroit Lakes

LOOK FOR THE STARS
They're Lucky For Shoppers

**Ireland Takes Ball
Over For First
Count**

Staples Drubs Wadena, 26-6

Frost Scores a Touchdown On Pass From Ireland

The 1939 football season opened Friday night with Wadena receiving a 26-6 drubbing from Staples. Wadena was overpowered in the first half and Staples spent most of the half in Wadena territory. Staples failed on their first scoring opportunity, when a fumble was recovered by Pelland of Wadena of the 12-yard line.

After Ireland punted for Wadena, Staples blasted their way back to the 6-yard line and Fielder scored the first touchdown on a shovel pass from Dahlen. Martin plunged through center for the extra point and Staples led 7 to 0.

The Cardinals' second touchdown came in the second quarter on an 18-yard run by Hill and a 3-yard plunge by McGuire. The score remained at 13 to 0 when Hill failed to circle left end for the extra point.

Staples came back to run their total of 20 points when Dahlen circled right end for 6 points and Strand added another on a plunge through guard. In the last quarter Dahlen again went over the double stripe to score. A pass for the extra point was good but the Staples backfield was in motion and the score remained at 26 to 0 for Staples.

In the last quarter Wadena opened up with a passing attack which gained them their only touchdown and all four of their first downs. Passes from Ireland to Lewis and Zosel to Ireland brought the ball to the Staples 11-yard line. Ireland then threw the touchdown pass which Frost took on the 8-yard line and went over for Wadena's only score. Frost's dropkick for the extra point was wide. There was no further scoring in the few minutes that remained.

The Line-up
Following are the starting line-ups

Wadena		Detroit Lakes
Knigh	LE	Rutled
Reger	LT	Port
Kopp	LG	Ki
Adamszyk	C	Anders
Tabery	RG	Edward
Pelland	RT	Johnso
Lewis	RE	Dak
Kingsley	QB	Luz
Frost	LH	Foster
Shea	RH	Berend
Jung	FB	Peterson

Park Rapids Scores

In the last quarter, against Park Rapids scored two touchdowns on a sustained drive. Wadena after recovering the ball, Thomas went over for both touchdowns and also added both extra points on plunges.

Wadena had only a slight edge in first downs, piling up nine to Park Rapids' eight, but had from a total of 27 compared to Rapids' 14. Wadena's ground for only one yard, Wadena was penalized 8 yards and Park Rapids was penalized 20 yards to Park Rapids 20.

Following are the starting line-ups:

Wadena		Park Rapids
Knigh	LE	Bathel
Reger	LT	Crowl
Kopp	LG	Mark
Adamszyk	C	Long
Tabery	RG	Cochran
Pelland	RT	Hobby
Lewis	RE	Warty
Kingsley	QB	Phib
Frost	LH	Schwan
Shea	RH	
Jung	FB	

1930's WHS Alumni Playing College Football

WHS Yr	Alumni	College	Note
1933	Russell Johnson	U of M	Brothers Cassell & Leland
1933	Robert Prettyman	St Thomas	Brothers Dick & William
1935	Leland "Squeak" Johnson	U of M	See article/story pg 62-63
1936	T. Edison Smith	MSTC	See article/story pg 64
1936	Ralph Theisen	MSTC	
1938	Gene Hotz	MSTC	See article below pg 64

Leland "Squeak" Johnson



Read for a great Wadena coincidence:

Leland "Squeak" Johnson, Wadena boy, proved to the satisfaction of Coach Bernie Bierman and Twin City sports writers Saturday that he is one of the most promising halfbacks at Minnesota this year, when in less than two minutes of play in the game against North Dakota State, he drove left tackle for 24 yards and then swept the left end for the remaining two yards and a touchdown.

Oddly enough, the North Dakota player who brought Squeak down on the two-yard line, preventing him from scoring on his drive over tackle, was Wes Phillips, brother of C. V. (Chuck) Phillips of Wadena. Squeak was also lauded for his passing and punting.

The following Twin City sports writers gave praise to Leland in their stories following the Gophers' decisive victory of 60 to 7 over North Dakota. Here's what

'Squeak' Injured In Husker Tilt

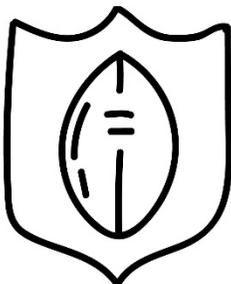
Wadena Youth Shows Speed In Gopher Grid Battle

Leland (Squeak) Johnson, Wadena high school graduate and member of the Minnesota Gopher football squad, got a chance to show his heels to the Nebraska Huskers in the game Saturday, only to have them stop him about two yards short of a touchdown. Squeak had been in the game only a few minutes. Minnesota won 16 to 7.

Entering the game later, he suffered a wrenched knee which Coach Bernie Herman believes may keep him out of the next few games.

Recent issues of the Minneapolis Tribune and the Minneapolis Journal both gave the Wadena youth praise. Dick Cullum of the Journal terming Squeak "a polished football player."

"In brief flashes," says Cullum, "he has shown what a Johnson inspired could do. At Nebraska, last fall for example, he played considerably better than some of the stars; and at Michigan he went to town in a large way in the late stages of the game."



Leland "Squeak" Johnson was obviously a tremendous athlete, but he was much more than that. Below are some of the other great things I discovered about him.

Squeak graduated from the U of M in 1940. He entered the U.S. Navy as an aviation cadet, earning his wings in 1941. He was appointed chief flight instructor at the naval air station in Pensacola, FL and in 1943 assumed duties as Squadron Commander on the USS Independence as well as several other carriers in the Pacific. He was awarded 3 Distinguished Flying Crosses, 2 air medals and numerous citations. After release from active duty in 1945 he was instrumental in organizing the "Weekend Warriors" program at the Naval Air Station at World Chamberlain field and was commanding officer of several squadrons there. He retired with the rank of Captain, USNR, in 1977.

His business career culminated at Brown Steel Tank, where he served for 26 years, the last 11 as President.

He was laid to rest June 23, 2006 in Wadena.



T. Edison Smith (WHS '36)

At a time when most of life's dreams and ambitions have been reached or discarded, Smitty, at age 68, was starting a new adventure, a pursuit of perfection he would delightfully chase for nearly three more decades.



For a first time, Dr. T. Edison Smith shot his age on the golf course when he fired a four-under-par 68 at the Moorhead Country Club in 1984. It was a major milestone very few golfers have reached. For Smith, it was simply the beginning, a goal he would reach a remarkable 3,359 times, an achievement documented in *Golf Digest* magazine and is the world record! He was a true competitor and in his later years his goal was to shoot his age every time he played."

A former student-athlete, coach, professor and athletic administrator at Minnesota State Moorhead, Smith lived to the age of 95.

A native of Wadena, Smith lettered in football, baseball and track at Moorhead State and graduated in 1940. After a military tour of duty in the United States Air Force, he returned to Moorhead State to teach in the physical education department and coach the Dragon baseball team. He later coached the men's golf team for 22 years and his portfolio included six Northern Intercollegiate Conference championships, including three straight titles in 1970-72, an appearance at the 1977 NAIA National Championships and development of several future golf professionals.

Interesting Side Note →

In this article it mentions two WHS grads competing to be the Dragon's QB. Also in the mix was a junior college transfer from Ironwood, MI. His name was Fred Kellett. After WWII Kellet was hired to teach and coach in Brainerd, MN. As the head basketball coach, for all or parts of 4 decades, he led the Warriors to four state tournaments, and they won it all in 1954. He is a Minnesota high school coaching legend.

E. Smith, Hotz Star At MSTC

Wadena Boys Show Ability In Games At Moorhead

To Wadena goes the distinction of furnishing two of the three outstanding candidates for quarterback on the MSTC eleven this year. Eddie Smith, a junior who earned his letter last year, and Gene Hotz, freshman have been sharing honors at that post with Fred Kellet, a transfer from Ironwood, Mich., junior college.

Hotz handled the team quite capably in the recent tie game with Concordia, and beside being the "brains" of the team, exhibited some fine running and blocking.

Smith, one of the smallest men on the squad, gave his best exhibition against Winnipeg Rugby team, particularly in running back punts.

College Football

Notes of Interest

1930-39

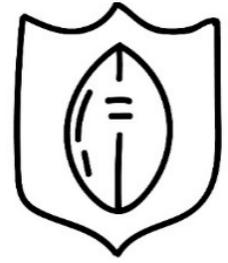
Season	Big 10 Champs	Coach	Other
1934	Minnesota	Bernie Bierman	National Champions.
1935	Minnesota	Bernie Bierman	Leland "Squeak" Johnson* Frosh on U of M team
1936	Minnesota	Bernie Bierman	National Champions
1937	Minnesota	Bernie Bierman	
1938	Minnesota	Bernie Bierman	Leland "Squeak" Johnson* last year on U of M team
			Five-year 35-5 overall record

* **"Squeak" Johnson** had an injury plagued career with the Gophers, however when he was healthy, he was a key player on the team as a hard-nosed running back. He played on one National Championship team and the team record during his four years was 27-5.





1940-1949



WHS

Season Records*

Central 8 History Written . . .
**Athletic Conference
 Was Founded In 1935**

Fall of:	Won	Lost	Tied	Coach	Conference / Comments
1940	1	3	3	Anderson	
1941	0	6	0	Anderson	Head coach since 1937 season
1942	1	2	0	Sand (St. Olaf)	Games cancelled (4) WW II travel restrictions.
1943	6	0	0	Mower (Bemidji State)	Central 8 (also member for 1-yr, 1935)
1944	8	0	0	Mower	Central 8
1945	3	5	0	Anderson	Central 8
1946	4	4	0	Mower	Central 8
1947	2	5	1	Held (Macalester)	Central 8
1948	2	6	0	Held	Central 10 (see "History of Central 8/10 Conference")**
1949	5	3	0	Helland	Central 10
	32	34	4	1940-49 Winning Pct – 49%	

*Based on known outcomes.

See article in "1948 Season" **

The 1940's

Items of Interest

World War II

World War II impacted life everywhere. High school activities were not exempt. In the world of WHS football the impact was very real.

Coaches

The WHS football team had 5 head coaches during the 1940's. Kermit Anderson's first year was 1937 and that stint was over after the 1941 season. In 1945 he took the reins again, for one season. In 1942 it was Arthur Sand. In 1943-44 and 1946, it was Robert Mower. In 1947-48 Whitey Held was in charge, and to end the decade it was Phil Helland in 1949. I don't know the reasons for the turnover in each case, but I did come across an explanation for at least two coaching changes.

The young Arthur Sand, a history teacher out of St. Olaf College, hometown Rushford MN, had to leave for his induction into the U.S. Army in the late summer of 1943. Earlier, in March of 1943, as basketball head coach, Sand lead his cagers to the District 24 title, beating perennial champion Crosby-Ironton. It took 31 years before Wadena won its next district title.

Robert Mower, graduate from Bemidji State Teacher's College, took a one-year leave in 1945 to enlist in the U.S. Navy. Upon discharge he returned to Wadena and continued to teach and coach

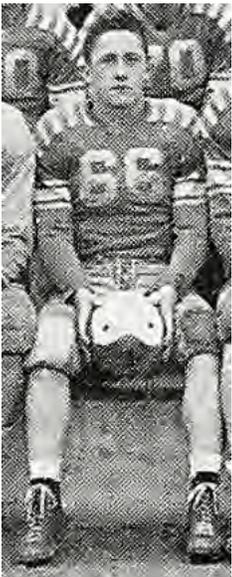
Those disruptions were just part of life at the time, and it was a different time indeed.

1937-41, 1945	1942	1943-44, 1946	1947-48	1949-50
				
Kermit Anderson	Arthur Sand	Robert Mower	Whitey Held	Phil Helland

Courage

As stated, the 1940's were a different time. In fact, so different this next story is hard to comprehend.

Cleon Erkenbrack is in every team picture from 1940 (7th grade) through 1944 (junior year). He was part of a WHS football team that was undefeated in 1943 and 1944, earning a varsity letter in each season. A major contributor during the 15-game winning streak. He must have loved playing football.



At the end of the 1944 season the local newspaper, the WPJ, acknowledged the 14 seniors that had recently played their last football game for WHS. All high school athletes must cross that bridge. The WPJ also acknowledged that the 17-yr old junior, Cleon Erkenbrack, would not be returning for his senior year. Cleon had enlisted in the U.S. Army Air Corp. America was at war with Germany and Japan. At 17, Cleon Erkenbrack chose to cross that bridge.

Scarce Resources

You may have heard about the rationing of certain things that were in short supply during WWII. The needs of our military took top priority. Understandably, they were given what they needed first and our country had to do its best to get by on what was left.

At the beginning of the 1942 school year a "scarce resource" problem was about to impact the football season under the new head coach, Arthur Sand.



ATHLETIC TRAVEL BEING INVESTIGATED

Supt. P. L. Fjelstad announces that O. E. Smith, executive secretary of the Minnesota High School League, is investigating the possibility of getting a revision of the car rationing program to allow school buses to be used for the transportation of athletic teams to and from the scene of contests. If this cannot be done, local automobile transportation must be provided if the athletic program is to be carried out.

See the ruling below.....

.....The "State Tire Rationing Board" ruling:

Transportation to the out of town games must be in private cars. This order was issued by the State Tire Rationing Board in answer to the high school's question concerning players' transportation. The bus must be used for taking students to and from school only.

Commentary

A bus of that era is shown below. Two tires in front, four at most in the back. That's **six tires** being subjected to some "wear and tear" for away games. Yet twenty-five players and gear would require at least six cars and six drivers. The math is simple. **Twenty-four or more tires** to get the football team to the away games by car.



Wadena to Get New Colors for Next Season

Last night marked the end of orange and white as school colors for the Wadena team.

For 24 years Wadena has played under orange and white, but now they have to change. It seems there is a shortage of the color orange.

Getting the school out of the dilemma, the student body voted last January to change the school colors to blue and gold.

Another war-related casualty. The "Orangemen" would be orange no more. This article appeared in the WPJ at the end of the 1946 football season. In the fall of 1947 WHS was "blue and gold." The article says that the color orange was in short supply, but I believe a shortage of red colored dye was the issue. Probably a shortage from its use during and after the war as it would be used to make the color brown, a common color found in camouflage.

1940's

Additional Item of Interest

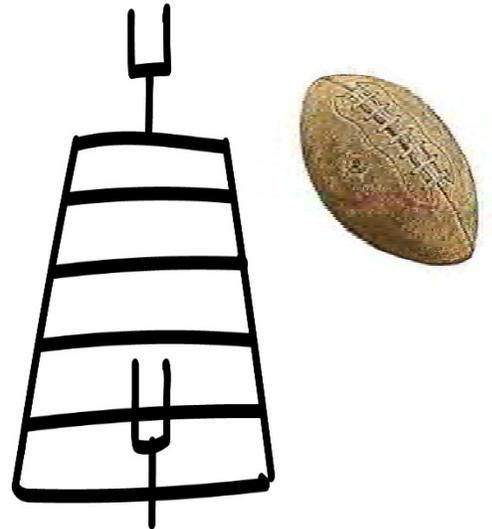
1940 Carlton football team to practice on Wadena turf on way to game vs North Dakota State in Fargo.

Wadena Native Gus Young	Parkers Prairie QB Cleon Stitzel
<p style="text-align: center;">Here Friday</p>  <p>ASSISTANT COACH 'GUS' YOUNG of Carlton will be accompanying the Carlton college football team when it stops in Wadena Friday for a workout at the athletic field for its game the next day with N. D. State at Fargo. Coach Young is the son of Mrs. Fannie Young of Wadena.</p>	 <p>CLEON STITZEL of Parkers Prairie, Carlton quarterback, who will be seen by Wadena football fans when the Carlton team works out on the Wadena athletic field Friday night.</p>
<p>September 26, 1940 - Wadena Pioneer Journal</p>	

Carlton assistant coach Gus Young's coaching career later focused on MIAC collegiate basketball and the fledgling ABA professional league.

He was the head coach at Gustavus for eight years in the 1950's, winning the MIAC three years running from 1954-56.

Mid-way through the 1968-69 Minnesota Pipers' first season, Young was hired by GM Vern Mikkelsen to replace the recently fired head coach, Jim Harding.



Wadena High School Field

1940 season

1-3-3 record



Season's Record		
Madena		Opp.
22	Sabeka	0
0	Staples	13
8	Long Prairie	13
0	Little Falls	0
0	Park Rapids	0
6	Brockenridge	8
7	Detroit Lakes	13
<u>47</u>	Total Points	<u>44</u>



A rather unusual record with 3 ties.



1940 WHS. L/R 1st row: Bill Parker, Vern Wirkkunen, Maurice Kingsley, Roger Robb, Pete Johnson, Bob Zosel, Clyde Kelsey, Harvey Erckenbrack, Jerry Kinney, Bernard Reger, Erwin Becker. 2nd: Chuck Pierce, Erwin Blair, Joe Boyer, Sylvester Rebischke, Len Hedahl, Jerry Highum, Ted Roberg, Tom Ames, Wally Mueller, Joe Hoffman, Lowen Bluhm, Gene Adamczyk. 3rd: Leo Weiss, John

Lowen Bluhm, Gene Adamczyk. 3rd: Leo Weiss, John Larson, Dick Schmitz, Dick Nyberg, Bud Schmith, Don Guntow, Jerry Rebischke, Jack Browne, Glen Maroney, Jake Schmitz. 4th: Bill Davis, Bob Hall, Bob Becker, Lindy Williams, Harvey Vik, Tom Nyberg, Duane Ames, Cleon Erckenbrack, Kelly Baden.

Head Coach: Kermit Anderson

Asst Coach: Jim Schunert

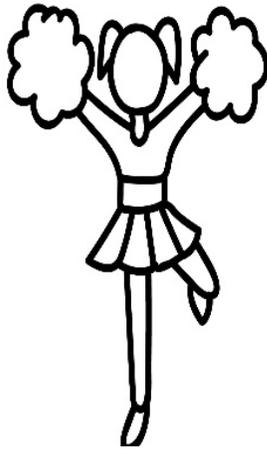


Orangemen Take Sebeka High 28-0 In Opening Night Game

Wadena High inaugurated its 1940 football season Friday night with a 28-0 victory over Sebeka.

The Wadena eleven scored two touchdowns in the second quarter and led 14-0 at the half. Hedahl, new Wadena halfback, scored both of these touchdowns - the first on a two yard plunge through center after the Indians had marched from the Sebeka 40-yard line where Blair had recovered a Sebeka fumble, and the second on a 30 yard run around right end. Highum place-kicked both the extra points.

There was no scoring in the third quarter, but in the final period, the Orange and White falied again when Hedahl fought his way ten yards to his third touchdown. Highum again kicked the extra point. The final touchdown came on a 20-yard run by Erkenbrack, sophomore quarterback. Highum notched the final point with another successful place-kick.



Ruth Vik Crowned Queen of Annual School Day

Staples Downs Wadena 13-0

Cardinals Hand Orangemen First Defeat of Season

The Wadena Orangemen suffered their first defeat of the current season, 13-0, at the hands of the school's most vaunted rivals, the Staples Cardinals.

All of Wadena's boys fought hard in a bitterly contested game and should be given due credit. Erkenbrack's punting was used to good advantage several times. Jerry Highum and Len Hedahl played fine defensive games, their tackles being all hard and low. In the line Bob Zosel, playing tackle and Adamczyk, playing center, were outstanding.

Lakers Trip Wadena In Homecoming Tilt

Lakers Defeat Indians, 13-6

Wadena Gets Third Tie of Season With Breckenridge

Wadena Player Breaks Leg In Long Prairie Grid Tilt

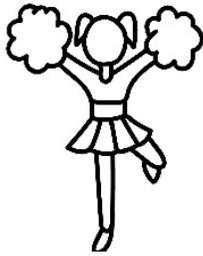
Long Prairie Downs Wadena High, 12-6

Indians Hold Little Falls; Breckenridge Next Home Game

WADENA, MINN.



Robert "Bob" Zosel
Community Advocate
Businessman
Historian



1941 WHS

Record 0-6-0



WHS	6	7	Sebeka	
WHS	0	32	Staples	
WHS	0	32	Long Prairie	
WHS	0	21	Park Rapids	Homecoming
WHS			Detroit Lakes	Scores unknown, defeats certain
WHS			Aitkin	



First Row Leo Weis, Glen Maroney, Herbert Blair, Harvey Vik, Clyde Ostlund, Chuck Pierce, Tom Ames, Clyde Kelsey. Second Row—Mr. Wolverton, Bruce Wilcox, Dick Schmitz, Sylvester Schmitz, Franklin Burch, Bob Becker, Bud Kelsey Pat Frost, Mr. Anderson. Third Row—Dick Weyhrauch, Jack Browne, John Larson, Ted Roberg, Albin Christenson, Frank Jung, Cleon Erckenbrack. Fourth Row—Ben Larson and Jim Zosel.

Though they lost six games this year and won none, Wadena's football team was fighting all the time. Their greatest handicap was a lack of experience, but they played hard and well.

Wadena Drops First Gridiron Tilt To Sebeka

• Meet Staples High Here Tomorrow Night

By KEENE SMITH



Staples Trounces Indians, 32-0, in Home Opener

Wadena Indians Drop Game To Long Prairie

• Visitors Stage Rally In Second Half To Win, 32-0



The homecoming features included the downtown snake dance Thursday night, followed by the bonfire pepfest, the homecoming parade Friday night before the game, the crowning of the queen, and the homecoming dance.

Rosemary Goeden was queen of the reunion.



Orangemen Lose

Wadena Loses Fourth Straight Grid Contest

• Rapids Wins 21-0; Play Detroit Lakes There October 23

Honor Football Team At Dinner

• Sportsmanship of Team Praised by Speakers

The Lions club honored the Wadena high football team and Coaches Kermit Anderson and Mervale Wolverton Monday night with a dinner at the Commercial hotel.





1942 WHS

Record 1-2-0



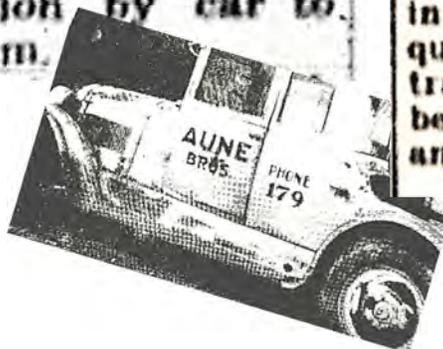
WHS	7	0 Sebeka	New Coach: Arthur Sand
WHS	2	26 Long Prairie	
WHS	13	21 Staples	WPJ headline: 21-18 is in error
WHS		Park Rapids	Due to an order by the "State Tire Rationing Board" school buses were for transporting students to and from school only. Athletic events would need to find other forms of transportation. Some schools simply cancelled games or their entire season.
WHS		Aitkin	
WHS		Detroit Lakes	
WHS		Alexandria	

World War II issue:

ATHLETIC TRAVEL BEING INVESTIGATED

Supt. P. L. Fjelsted announces that O. E. Smith, executive secretary of the Minnesota High School League, is investigating the possibility of getting a revision of the car rationing program to allow school buses to be used for the transportation of athletic teams to and from the scene of contests. If this cannot be done, local automobile transportation must be provided if the athletic program is to be carried out.

In this regard Mr. Fjelsted asks those who will provide such transportation by car to please contact him.



WADENA, MINNESOTA, TH

25 Boys at First Football Practice

Football practice started Tuesday night, September 8, 25 boys reporting. There was also a team composed of 25 Junior high boys.

Coach Sand, mentor of the "A" squad, is a graduate of St. Olaf. He came from Rushford, Minn., to fill the position vacated by Mr. Kermit Anderson.

Mr. Mower will coach the "B" squad. He is a graduate of Bemidji State Teachers' College.

Frank Burch, '45, is student manger for both squads.

Transportation to the out of town games must be in private cars. This order was issued by the State Tire Rationing Board in answer to the high school's question concerning players' transportation. The bus must be used for taking students to and from school only.

Wadena Loses To L. P. 26-2

Powerful Long
Paririe Squad
Defeats Indians

Indians Upset Strong Sebeka Eleven 7-0

Local Team Shows
Improvement In
Season's First Win

Wadena Orangemen hit mid-season form to win their first home game from Sebeka 7 to 0.

A good attendance proved that the Wadena fans were behind their team all the way.

In the opening minutes of the first quarter Bill Parker, Wadena left half, intercepted a Sebeka pass on the 19 yard line, and evaded would-be tacklers for a touchdown. Jack Browne carried the ball over for the extra point on a quarterback sneak.

The Orangemen held off Sebeka's final touchdown drive in the closing seconds of the game. The game ended with Sebeka still trying desperately to score. Final score, Wadena 7, Sebeka 0.

Wadena Drops 21-18 Thriller To Staples Cardinals

BUY WAR BONDS

SPIRIT OF 1942
I am only one.

Fans Heartened
By Growing Power
Of Local Squad

Wadena Athletes See Gopher Game

The Wadena football team witnessed the Minnesota victory over Northwestern at Minneapolis Saturday afternoon.

Once a year the team goes to see a Gopher game; this year choosing to see the Northwestern game.

Those who went are Dick Weyhrauch, Jack Browne, Dick Schmitz, Glen Maroney, Bill Davia, Frank Jung, Lynton Williams, Bruce Wilcox, John Larson, Arbin Christianson, Student Manager, Frank Burch and Coach Arthur Sand.

Tickets for the game were furnished by the local school.



1943 WHS

Record 6-0-0

SEASON'S RECORD

Opponents	W.H.S.	Opponents	W.H.S.
Sebeka	0 12	Detroit Lakes	13 20
Staples	0 27	Long Prairie	0 12
Park Rapids	0 12	Brainerd	13 32

State of Minn. St. Paul, Minn.

Wadena Pioneer Journal

Volume 66 WADENA, MINNESOTA, THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 4, 1943. MINNESOTA HISTORIC Number 33

Brainerd Falls As Wadena Squad Ends Undefeated Season



Back Row—Mr. Kermit Anderson, Clyde Robb, Clement Neuerberg, Harold Wilcox, Thomas Robb, Alfred Hassler, Edmund Bretz, Benjamin Larson, Donald Jordahl, Franklin Burch, student manager; Mr. Robert Mower. Second Row—Robert Hall, Lowell Vogel, Harland Skalisky, Bruce Wilcox, William Parker, Paul Meckel, Cleon Erkenbrack, William Davis, Robert Aaberg, James Ireland. Front Row—Franklin Jung, Thomas Nyberg, John Larson, Rodney Leaders, Dick Schmitz, Charles Pierce, Lynton Williams, Robert Becker, Edmund Richter.

The Wadena High School grid team of 1943, in completing a schedule without a single defeat or tie, has burned its fame deep in the athletic annals of Wadena High. Under Coach Robert Mower, the Wadena eleven achieved an enviable record of six consecutive victories made possible by excellent teamwork and determination.

Tribute is due five members of the squad who were largely responsible for this successful season. The five seniors of the 1943 Orangemen, Captain Dick Schmitz, Bill Parker, John Larson, Rodney Leaders, and Bill Davis, truly earned and appreciated it.

Climaxing the season was the 32-13 defeat of Brainerd which gave the Orangemen their sixth consecutive win. Wadena's goal was crossed but four times, while the Orange powerhouse crossed the double stripe eighteen times during the season.

**Wadena Gets Good Start
In 12-0 Win Over Sebeka**

**Parker, Schmitz
Score; Line Play
Shows Progress**

The Wadena Orangemen, in their initial game, handed Sebeka a 12-0 defeat at Sebeka on Friday, September 17. A strong wind kept both teams' aerial attacks grounded most of the afternoon, but Wadena's running plays worked with devastating effect.

**Wadena Eleven
Defends Clear
Record Friday**
L. P. Game Welds
Orangemen Into
Formidable Unit
Tomorrow night Wadena meets Park Rapids under the lights at the athletic field. Park Rapids was defeated 12-0 last week by a Sebeka team which had previously been beaten by Wadena.

MINNESOTA, THURSDAY, OCTOBER 7, 1943

**Wadena Swamps Staples 27-0
in Night Game Last Friday**

**Orangemen Win
Six Games In
Tough Schedule**

• Make Total of
115 Points to
Opponents 26

**Powerful Line
Instrumental In
Well Earned Win**

Wadena football fans welcomed the spectacle presented them last Friday night when the ever increasing speed and power of the local team crushed a bewildered Staples eleven by a lopsided score of 27-0.

Lettermen

Dick Schmitz
Bill Parker
Paul Meckel
John Larson
Lynton Williams
Bruce Wilcox

Charles Pierce
Robert Becker
Frank Jung
Cleon Ereckenbrack
Harland Skalisky
Rodney Leaders

Tom Nyberg
Ed Richter
Edmund Bretz
Lowell Vogel
Bill Davis
Frank Bureh, Manager

The Seniors



Parker



Schmitz



Leaders



Larson



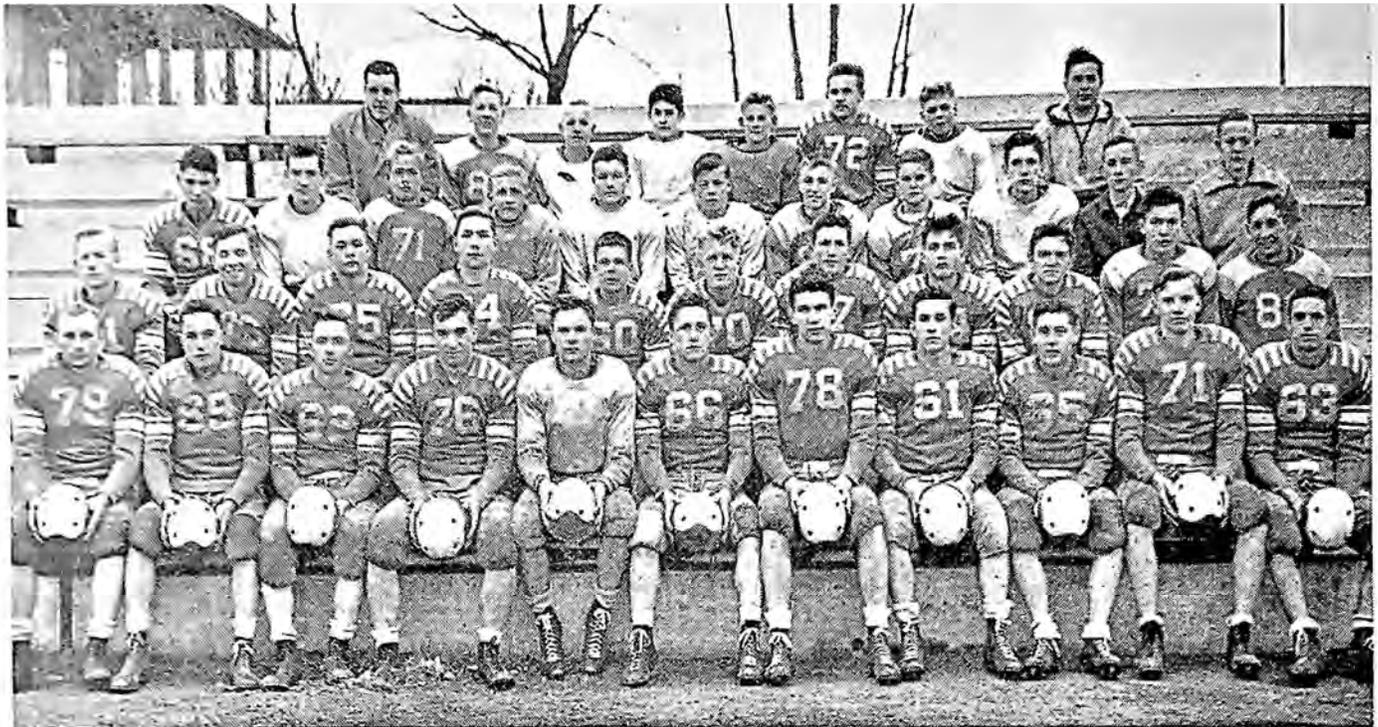
Davis

1944 WHS

Record 8-0-0

SEASON'S RECORD

W. H. S.	OPPONENTS	W. H. S.	OPPONENTS
37	Sebeka 0	12	Alexandria 6
20	Long Prairie 14	38	Detroit Lakes 6
14	Staples 6	19	Brainerd 7
13	Park Rapids 6	13	Bemidji 7



BOTTOM ROW (left to right)—Harland Skalisky, Bob Becker, Ed. Richter, Adrian Snell, Pat Frost, Cleon Erckenbrack, Bruce Wilcox, Frank Jung, Ed. Bretz, Tom Nyberg, Dale Besett; SECOND ROW (left to right)—Bill Fulton, Clement Neuerberg, Bob Aaberg, Dave Storvick, Jim Ireland, Don Jordahl, Ben Meckel, Tom Robb, Bob Schiller, Don Maxson, John Hills; THIRD ROW (left to right)—Clyde Robb, Lawrence Rebischke, Bill Kennedy, Don Schloeder, Ben Larson, Jack Schneider, Bob Hall, Bob Hedstrom, Harold Wilcox, Verle Blaha, Frank Burch; FOURTH ROW (left to right)—Mr. Kermit Anderson, Lee Lamson, Keith Engh, Jim Zosel, Maynard Tarum, Gordon Blair, Don Marquardt, Mr. Robert Mower

Two long seasons ago a high-spirited Wadena team started a win streak which now, at the close of our senior year, numbers fourteen. Six straight games were won in that '43 season. Then came our 1944 team with a noticeable absence of Captain Dick Schmitz, Bill Parker, and others. During this season our team improved until it was pointing to another clean slate.

The Orangemen were seldom spectacular, but always steady and played hard enough to win. Climaxing a tough season, Wadena met the long awaited Bemidji foe. In the last seconds of the game, with Wadena six points in the lead, the Orangemen nailed a Bemidji wingman heading for pay dirt on the seven-yard stripe, thus clinching the season's record.

37-0 (W)

Indians Are On Winning End Of First Game

Sebeka Is Victim Of Indians Apparent Power Here Tuesday

1-0

20-14 (W)

WADENA, MINNESOTA, THURS

Indians Win Another, Long Prairie Victim

Staples Will Be Next Host On Friday Night

Coming from behind on two occasions to go into the lead, the Long Prairie gridgers were unable to do it a third time, and went down to defeat before the Indians 20 to 14 on the Long Prairie field Friday night.

14-6 (W)

Indians March On In Win Over Staples

Had To Watch And Make Breaks To Win Friday

Showing surprising power in the last half, the speedy Wadena Indians overcame a 6 to 0 half time lead of the Staples Cardinals to defeat them 14 to 6, on the Staples field Friday night.



13-6 (W)

Indians Roll On; Win From Park Rapids 13-6

Alexandria Next Opponent On Schedule

Putting the Indian sign on the Park Rapids high school homecoming, the Indians came through with a 13 to 6 win over the Hubbard county aggregation at Park Rapids Friday afternoon. In spite of their defeat the Park Rapids gridgers held the Indians in Wadena territory for the greater part of the first three periods of play. Favorable breaks again played a prominent part in the Indians' win.

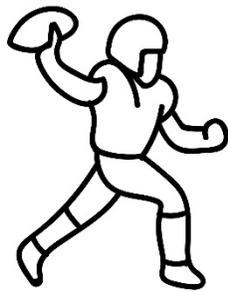
12-6 (W)

Alexandria Is Latest Victim To Locals; 12-6

Remaining Games On Schedule To Be Played At Home

Scoring touchdowns in the first and second quarters, while holding Alexandria to a lone touchdown in the final period, the Wadena Indians have marched to another victory, 12 to 6. The game was played at Alexandria Friday night under the lights.

2-0



3-0



4-0

WADENA, MINNESOTA, THURS

Detroit Lakes Falls Before Indians 38-6

Visitors Score Their Touchdown In Last 10 Seconds

6-0

5-0



Margie Jane Garr, Ruth Breher, Deloris Ceaser

19-7 (W)

Indians Remain Undefeated In Thirteen Starts.

Meet Bemidji Here In Final Game of Season, Friday

Subduing Brainerd here last Wednesday night, 19 to 7, the Indians marched to their thirteenth consecutive win, and have but one game standing between them and another undefeated season. This last game will be at the athletic field, Friday night, at 8 o'clock, and Bemidji will be the opponent.

The blurry article below tells us that 14 seniors and 1 junior will be playing their last game for Wadena. The junior is Cleon Erckenbrack. He won't be coming back for his senior year of high school. He will be in the Army Air Corps, at a time when America is at war against Japan and Germany. Cleon chose to give up his senior year of high school so he could fight for his country. What an amazing young man.



13-7 (W)

Wadena Gridders End Top Season Against Bemidji

13-7 Win Makes Fourteen In Row For Orangemen

In a thrilling give-and-take battle with a colorful eleven from Bemidji, Wadena's gridders rolled through four quarters of play to emerge with their second undefeated season and a well-earned 13-7 victory over Bemidji.

7-0



When the curtain falls on the Wadena grid season at the athletic field Friday night, it will find 14 seniors playing their last high school contest, and also one junior, Cleon Erckenbrack, who will be leaving for the army air corps before another season rolls around. Ten seniors are slated on the starting line-up plus Erckenbrack. The game is to start at 8 o'clock under the lights.

This elite team of 11, from the SC Times, was in addition to the "Central 8 All-Conference Team" selected by the coaches. The 23 players on the Central 8 All-Conference Team included Wadena's Bruce Wilcox (FB), Harland Skalisky (E), and Ed Betz (G).

WILCOX PLACED ON WRITER'S MYTHICAL TEAM

Shortly after the close of the Central-8 football season the St. Cloud Times requested coaches of the conference to name players of teams opposing them during the season to enable their sports department to pick a mythical squad. This squad was announced this week, and it found the following boys placing on the team:

8-0



- ENDS - Lochlein, St. Cloud Tech. and Carlin, Alexandria.
 - TACKLES, Meyer, Little Falls and Mace, Brainerd.
 - GUARDS - Bollo, Bemidji and Norberg, Little Falls.
 - CENTER - Hamilton, St. Cloud Tech.
 - QUARTERBACK - Laurence, Bemidji.
 - HALFBACKS - Bohlig, St. Cloud Tech. and Cameron, Staples.
 - FULLBACK - Wilcox, Wadena.
- Others who received mention for places on the mythical team included Hichter, St. Cloud; Swanson, Crosby-Fronton; Dickenson, Bemidji; Bhogren, Alexandria; Malosky, Crosby-Fronton; Carlin, Alexandria; Qubit, Alexandria.

LETTERMEN

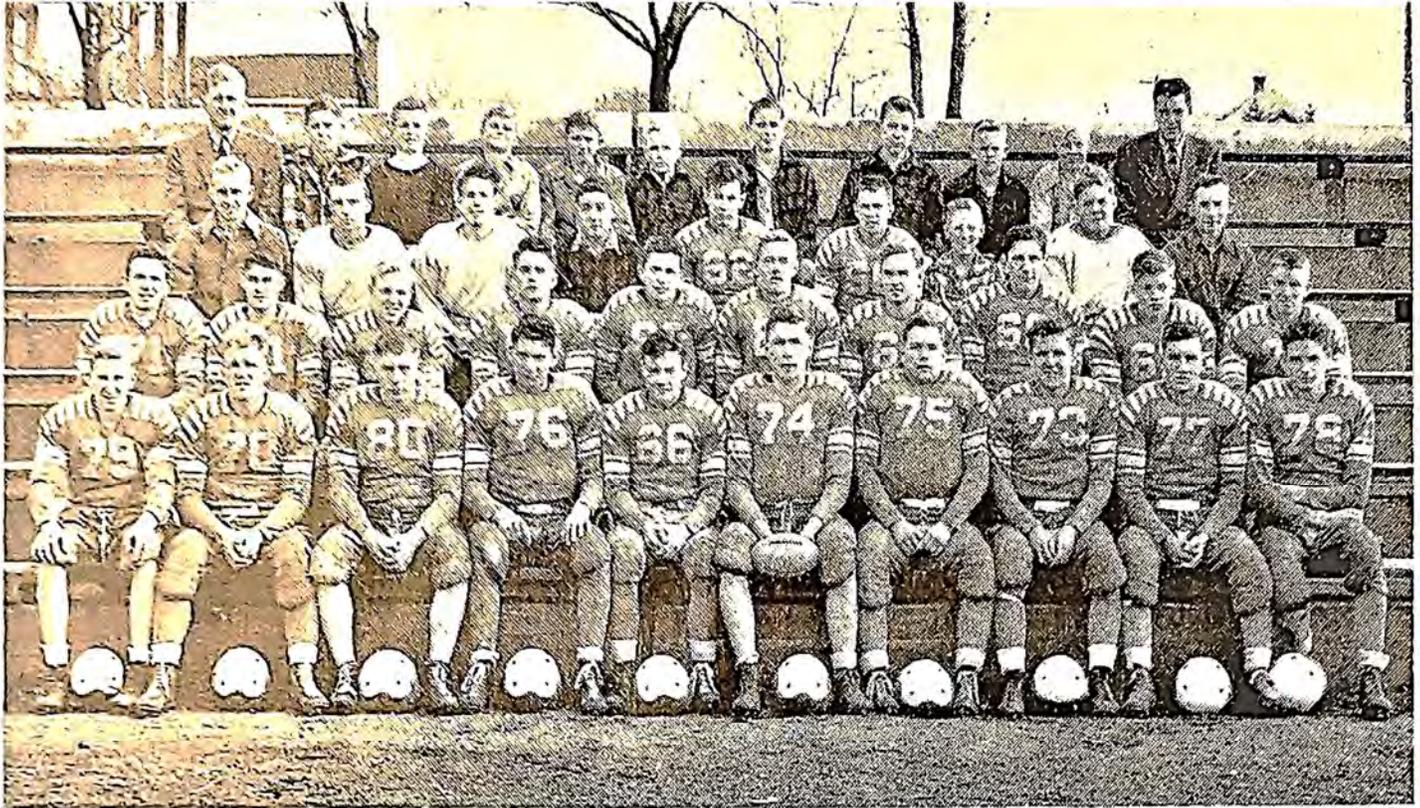
- | | | |
|--------------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| Robert Becker | William Fulton | Harland Skalisky |
| Dale Besett | Frank Jung | Adrian Snell |
| Edmund Bretz | Clement Neuerberg | Bruce Wilcox |
| *Cleon Erckenbrack | Tom Nyberg | Verle Blaha, Mgr. |
| Pat Frost | Edmund Richter | Frank Burch, Mgr. |

1945 WHS

Record 3-5-0

SEASON'S RECORD

Scheka 0	Wadena..... 6	Alexandria18	Wadena.....16
Long Prairie18	Wadena..... 0	Detroit Lakes 7	Wadena.....13
Staples 0	Wadena..... 6	Brainerd34	Wadena..... 0
Park Rapids34	Wadena..... 2	Bemidji40	Wadena..... 6



FIRST ROW (left to right)—Warren Gaslin, Don Jordahl, Roger Reger, Clyde Robb, Ben Larson, David Storvick, Robert Aaberg, Lowell Vogel, Lawrence Rebischke, and Oliver Adams. SECOND ROW—Robert Schiller, James Zosel, Keith Engh, Tom Robb, Ben Meckel, Bill Kennedy, Gordon Blair, Harold Wilcox, Jack Schneider, and Robert Hall. THIRD ROW—Warren Blood, Obert Derby, Arden Kvamme, Don Schmitz, Ray Krause, Jim Ireland, Jack Anderson, Don Marquardt, and Verle Blaha. FOURTH ROW—Shirley Held, Warren Hartman, Kenneth Jordahl, Charles Garr, Kenneth Smestad, Paul Skalman, Bob Hedstrom, John Erickson, Ted Gaslin, Jack Nyberg, and Kermit Anderson.

Football

This year's Indians failed to keep up with the undefeated teams of '43-'44. Hampered by the lack of lettermen, the team was made up, for the most part, of neophytes. Although the team made a poor start, and were later weakened even more by injuries, the Indians turned in three wins and five losses. They added

another game to the two-year record of wins to bring it up to fifteen games before being downed.

The team owes much to our faithful coach, Kermie Anderson, and also to Clyde Kelsey, Jr., and Shirley Held who arrived in mid-season.

1-0 (15th in a row)

1-1 (The streak ends)

Wadena Pioneer Jour

Volume 68 WADENA, MINNESOTA, THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 20, 1945

Indians Win Fifteenth Consecutive Victory

Defeat Sebeka 6-0 Friday Afternoon In Season's Opener

That Grand Old Lady, "Luck," figured heavily in the Wadena cause as the football squad opened their season Friday afternoon at the Sebeka athletic field, and won a shaky 6-0 victory. It was against this same opponent, Sebeka, that the Indians started their victory march in 1943, which now totals fifteen consecutive wins, and it was this same opponent that nearly stopped them by breaking in on a string of victories.

This 15-game winning streak started with the first game of the 1943 season, against Sebeka. It ended with the second game of the 1945 campaign. It represents the most consecutive wins in Wadena football history, to at least 1980.

Coach Montgomery's Long Prairie Squad Wins By 18-0 Count

Under the flood lights, at the athletic field Friday night, one of the largest crowds in a number of years watched the Wadena Indians deprived of their sixteenth consecutive victory, when they dropped their contest to Coach Montgomery's Todd county aggregation, by the score of 18-0. While the score indicates a decisive defeat, the figures show where the two squads were more evenly matched. In first downs, Wadena had the visitors beaten by one, Long Prairie had 7 and Wadena had 8. In yards gained from rushing, Wadena had 164, while Long Prairie had 152. In total yards gained the Montgomery machine held the edge, they had gained 254 from all sources and Wadena had 219.

Long Sweeps By Vogel And Zosel Touchdowns For Locals

In One of Best Grid Classics Played Here In Recent Years

Coach Kermie Anderson's Wadena Indians, out-rushed, and out-downed, pushed across the winning touchdown in the second period of play Friday night, to defeat the Staples Cardinals by a 3-0 count.

This was one of those rare games that come along about once in every decade, where both teams are deserving of a win, but in which one team holds the bag, and the other team holds the score. In first downs the Indians made six to the Cardinals five; in scrimmage the Cards out-rushed the Indians 82 to 64; in punting and kick-offs Wadena compared with Staples' 28. In punting and passing, Wadena had the edge. Wadena's average punting for the evening was a little over 31 yards per try, and Staples a little less than 29. In yards gained from passing, Wadena had 38, and Staples 22.

Panthers Snarl, Devour Jittery Indians 34-2

Indians On Show Of 34-0 Count

Brainerd Warriors Go On Touchdown Parade In First Half To Win

Final Game Played In Snowstorm At Bemidji

Lumberjacks Maul Out 40-6 Win Over Indians



Lakers Fall

The summary.

Pr	Detroit Lakes	Pos.	Wadena
Witt	LF	Adams	
Westwood	LT	Reblachke	
Thompson	LG	Schiller	
Ellingson	C	Larson	
Christiansen	RG	Aaberg	
Norby	RT	Reiger	
Hanson	RE	C. Robb	
Stafford	QB	Zosel	
Kohler	LH	Vogel	
Cook	RH	Meckel	
Joy	FB	Jordahl	

Score by periods:
Detroit Lakes ... 0 0 7 0 - 7
Wadena 0 0 13 0 - 13

Scoring: touchdowns, Vogel and Zosel of Wadena and Joy of Detroit Lakes. Extra points, Snyder of Wadena and Cook of Detroit Lakes.

Detroit Lakes substitutions - Barrett, Tollin, Joy, Edwards, Rydia.

Wadena substitutions - T. Robb, Gaslin, Blair, Snyder.

Officials - Mickelson, Fargo, Omacht, Dilworth; Gussner, Hawley.



Season's Record

Wadena 0, Frazee 6
 Wadena 20, Long Prairie 6
 Wadena 20, Staples 0
 Wadena 6, Park Rapids 13
 Wadena 19, Alexandria 6
 Wadena 33, Detroit Lakes 7
 Wadena 0, Brainerd 20
 Wadena 6, Bemidji 32

1946 WHS

Record 4-4-0

INDIANS IN FOURTH PLACE IN CENTRAL-8

Team	W	L	T	Pct.
St. Cloud Tech	4	0	0	1000
Brainerd	5	1	1	833
Bemidji	4	1	0	800
Wadena	2	2	0	500
Croby-Fonton	2	3	0	400
Staples	2	4	0	333
Little Falls	0	3	1	000
Alexandria	0	4	0	000

HOMECOMING EVENTS ARE SPIRITED AND EXCITING

The first homecoming celebration since 1941 was packed with enthusiasm and spirit. A snake dance, bonfire, queen coronation, and party were among the festivities of the day. As a fitting climax, the Wadena gridders rolled over Detroit Lakes in a thrilling battle, 33-7. Many returned servicemen, college students, and alumni attended the events.



FIRST ROW (left to right)—Harold Wilcox, Don Marquardt, Bob Aaberg, David Storvick, Bob Schiller, Ben Larson, Warren Gaslin, and Ray Krause. SECOND ROW—Don Schloeder, Gordon Blair, Jim Zosel, Don Jordahl, Paul Meckel, Warren Meckel, Jack Schneider, and Clyde Robb. THIRD ROW—Dick Robertson, manager; Arden Kvamme, Keith Engh, Bill Kennedy, Jim Foster, Ken Schmidt, Lee Lamson, and Verle Blaha, manager. FOURTH ROW—Coach Held, Coach Anderson and Coach Mower.

LETTERMEN

Bob Aaberg '47 (G)
 Gordon Blair '49 (HB)
 Warren Gaslin '48 (T-E)
 Don Jordahl '48 (QB)
 Ray Krause '47 (T)
 Lee Lamson '48 (G)

Ben Larson '47 (C)
 Don Marquardt '50 (C)
 Ben Meckel '47 (HB)
 Paul Meckel '47 (FB)
 Clyde Robb '47 (E)
 Bob Schiller '47 (G)

Jack Schneider '48 (T)
 David Storvick '47 (T)
 Harry Wilcox '48 (E)
 Jim Zosel '47 (HB)

Coach Bob Mower Rejoins Wadena Coaching Staff

Indian Grid Machine To Be Headed by This Popular Mentor

There was considerable satisfaction when it was learned Tuesday morning that Bob Mower, former Wadena football and basketball coach had signified his intention to rejoin the faculty at Wadena high school. Mr. Mower, who has been on leave of absence served with the navy for nearly a year, and received his discharge a short time ago.

Wadena Pioneer Journal

Indians Bounce Back, Win From Alexandria

CARDINALS	Pos.	INDIANS
Burtoch	RE	Wilcox
Seeley	RT	Storvick
Hass	RG	Lamson
Melias	C	Marquardt
Ostlund	LG	Schiller
Kluver	LT	Larson
Coykendahl	LE	Gaulin
Mall	QB	Jordahl
Reese	RH	Zosel
Kruger	LH	B. Meckel
Kelster	FB	P. Meckel

34 Candidates Report For First Squad Drill

Two New-Comers And Two Servicemen Are Listed On Roster

Indian hopes took a slight raise Monday when two new-comers called for their uniforms from Coach Mower. Lyle McBride, a senior, attended school in North Dakota last year, and Ken Schmidt, sophomore, comes to Wadena from California. Of the 34 candidates reporting, 10 are lettermen, which gives a good nucleus for the coach to build around.

Two servicemen, Paul Meckel and Lindy Williams have reported, although Williams is still undecided as to whether he will remain at Wadena or not. A third recently returned serviceman, Stan McCaul, hasn't called for his uniform, but is expected to do so before the opening of school.



Indians Feel Sting Of Frazee Hornets By 6-0 Score

Wadena Pioneer Journal

Indians Triumph Over Long Prairie 20 To 6

Starting Line-up:	Pos.	LONG PRAIRIE
WADENA	RE	Rasmus
Gaulin	RT	Bower
Storvick	RG	Detterman
Aaberg	C	Wall
Marquardt	LG	Kinsel
Schiller	LT	Lano
Schneider	LE	Huyink
Schloeder	QB	Bokinskie
Jordahl	LH	Hebelsen
Ben Meckel	RH	Fruetel
Zosel	FB	Haskine
Paul Meckel		

Indians Bow To Park Rapids Panthers 13-6

Indians On Prowl, Win From Staples Cardinals

Brooks Pave Way For 20-0 Victory Friday Night

The Wadena Indians evidently had their Indian sign well polished Friday night, and elected to hang it on the Staples Cardinals for the evening, as they took advantage of breaks to turn in their 20-0 win. A large crowd witnessed the game, with a good representation from Wadena being present.



The way Benny Meckel of Wadena and Russ Dahl of Staples conspired on the field in their tackle Friday night, to the innocent bystander, they might get the impression there was a little ill-feeling between these two youths... let's get it straight... the kids are great pals, and they intend to stay as such... they both play to win, and that's the way it should be. At some future period we would like to see these two hard tackling backs on the same college eleven.

-By "Lu"

Indian Sign Put On Lakers At Homecoming

Starting line-ups:

WADENA	Pos.	STAPLES
Wilcox	RE	Petree
Storvick	RT	Dupre
Aaberg	RG	Kurpius
Marquardt	C	Wilfrant
Schiller	LG	Stafford
Schneider	LT	Langer
Gaulin	LE	Kaler
Jordahl	QB	Johnson
Zosel	RH	Long
Ben Meckel	LH	Dahl
Paul Meckel	FB	Dthart

Indians Fail To Halt Hard-Driving Warriors

20-0 Loss Drops Wadena From Central-8 Undefeated List

The once-undefeated, yet unbeaten Brainerd Warriors, under the guidance of Coach Mike Hyduke, were not to be denied in their quest for a top berth in Central Eight competition Friday night at the Wadena athletic field, as they fought their way to a 20 to 0 win. Two blocked punts and an 85-yard sustained drive netted the winners their three touchdowns.

Up to the time of playing this contest, there was a three-way tie for top position in the Central Eight conference, with St. Cloud Tech, Brainerd and Wadena having perfect records in league play.

by penalty); Wadena 13 (11 by rushing, 2 by passing). Pases, Brainerd attempted two, one was intercepted and the other was incomplete; Wadena threw 12 passes, one was intercepted, 3 completed and 9 incomplete. Penalties, Brainerd 0, Wadena 15.

Following are the starting line-ups:

INDIANS	Pos.	WARRIORS
Wilcox	RE	N. Helzold
Storvick	RT	Swanson
Aaberg	RG	Kotek
Marquardt	C	Worden
Schiller	LG	H. Helzold
Larson	LT	Brockman
Gaulin	LE	Fredstrom
Jordahl	QB	Utzigner
Zosel	RH	Miller
B. Meckel	LH	Conette
P. Meckel	FB	Novick

ANOTHER SPECIAL ENTERTAINMENT FOR FRIDAY NIGHT'S GAME

Another special entertainment is to be featured between halves of the grid contest Friday night. Coach Lee Henningsgaard of Bertha will have a 6-man squad made up of seventh and eighth graders, who will tangle with a Wadena 6-man squad made up from the same grades.

In the absence of Kermie Anderson, who will be out of town for the evening, Jim Ilora will be acting coach of the Wadena 6-man squad.

League Championship



Lumberjacks Hack Out 32-6 Win Over Indians



TWO INDIANS PLACE ON CONFERENCE GRID TEAM SELECTED BY COACHES

Two Wadena high school grid stars—center Dave Storvick and halfback Ben Meckel—were placed on the Central-8 all-conference team, selected Tuesday evening by Central-8 coaches at a meeting in Brainerd.

Central 8 All-Conference:

- Dave Storvick (C)
- Ben Meckel (HB)

Led by Captain Dave Storvick from the tackle position, the 1946 'gridders completed a successful season of four wins and four defeats. Mr. Robert Mower coached the Orangemen.

This year's squad was noted for its rugged, tricky type of football and for its "will to win". The Indians met several of the state's strongest elevens and showed up well against each of them. Highlights of the season were the Homecoming win over Detroit Lakes and a convincing victory over Wadena's traditional rivals, the Staples Cardinals.

The local Lions' Club feted the team members at the close of the season with a banquet. Warren Gaslin was chosen captain of the 1947 squad.



Here is the roster of the mythical team:

- CENTER**—Storvick, Wadena; Worden, Brainerd.
- GUARDS**—Batter, Little Falls; Crosby, Bemidji; Calhoun, Bemidji; Swanson, Crosby-Ironton.
- TACKLES**—Stevens, St. Cloud; Swanson, Brainerd; Chase, Bemidji; Langer, Staples.
- ENDS**—Campbell, St. Cloud; Braun, St. Cloud; Griffith, Little Falls; Coykendahl, Alexandria.
- QUARTERBACK**—Daugherty, St. Cloud; Slevok, Bemidji.
- HALFBACKS**—Ben Meckel, Wadena; Cossette, Brainerd; Moller, Bemidji; Russ Dahl, Staples.
- FULLBACK**—Sworsky, St. Cloud; Novick, Brainerd.

Wadena to Get New Colors for Next Season

Last night marked the end of orange and white as school colors for the Wadena team.

For 24 years Wadena has played under orange and white, but now they have to change. It seems there is a shortage of the color orange.

Getting the school out of the dilemma, the student body voted last January to change the school colors to blue and gold.

1947 WHS

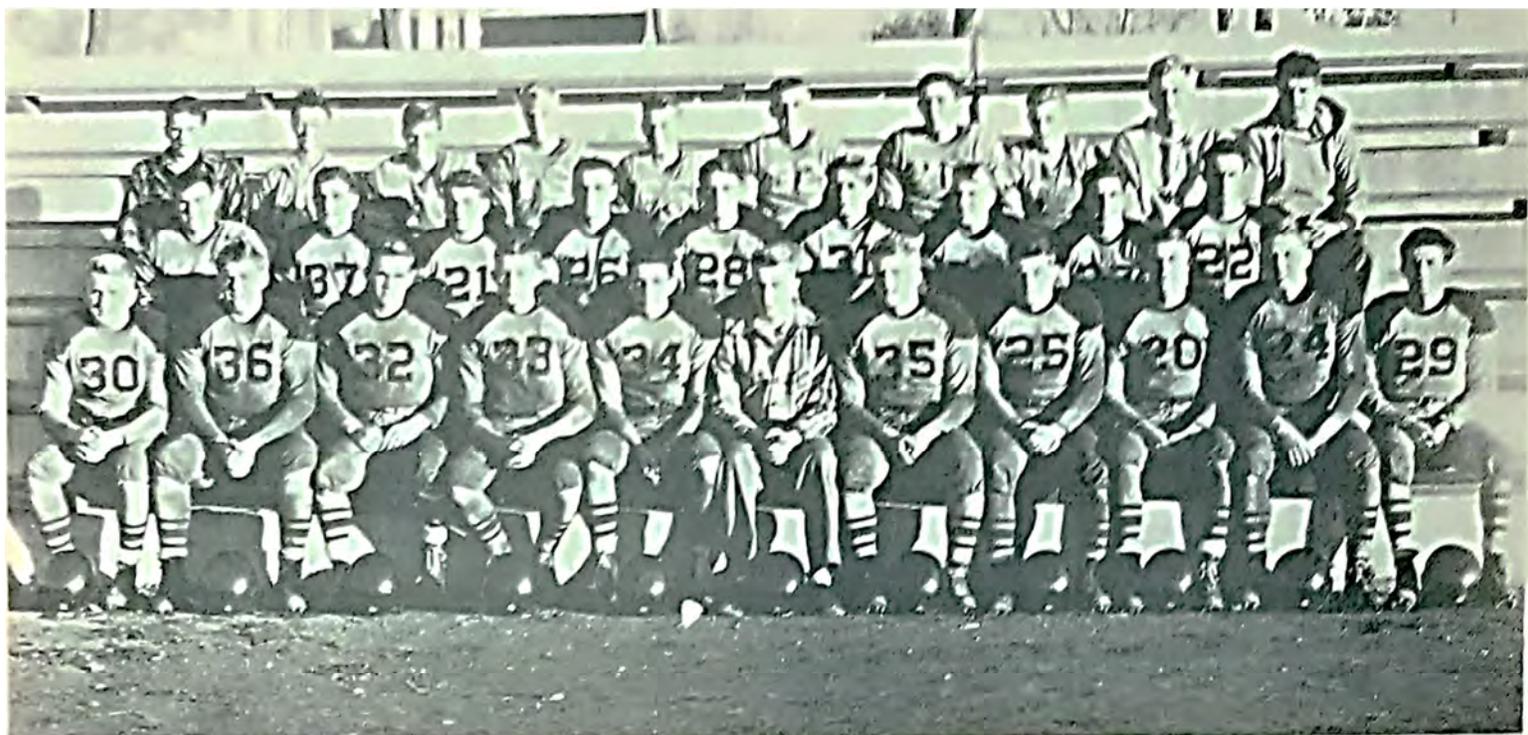
Record 2-5-1

Season's Record

Wadena 8; Frazee 0
Wadena 7; Park Rapids 27
Wadena 12; Staples 6

Wadena 0; Little Falls 18
Wadena 0; Bemidji 32
Wadena 13; Detroit Lakes 21

Wadena 14; Alexandria 14
Wadena 6; Brainerd 14



FIRST ROW—(left to right)—Donald Schloeder, Don Marquardt, Gordon Blair, John Erickson, Harold Wilcox, Warren Gaslin, Donald Jordahl, Jack Schneider, Maynard Tarum, Lee Lamson, Arden Kvamme; SECOND ROW—Lloyd Rebischke, Dick Engelke, Kenneth Jordahl, Kenneth Schmidt, Bob Hedstrom, Bill Kennedy, Keith Engh, Dick Andrie, Warren Erickson; THIRD ROW—John Edinger, Bob Boyer, Charles Garr, John Nyberg, Jack Anderson, Maurice Merickel, Jim Stuntebeck, Ted Gaslin, Coach Shirley Held, Mr. Kermit Anderson.

Orange and White are Out! Blue and Gold are In!

After leading the squad to a decisive victory over Frazee, Captain Warren Gaslin's promising gridiron career was terminated by an untimely injury. Capable leadership was found in Don Jordahl, however, later chosen as a member of the all-star Central Eight Conference team.

A highlight of the season was a 12-6 victory over the traditional rivals, Staples, at a gala homecoming celebration. The Indians were colorfully dressed in new blue and gold uniforms.

In spite of damaging injuries, Coach S. L. Held and his able assistant, Kermit Anderson, came through with another team of fighting warriors.

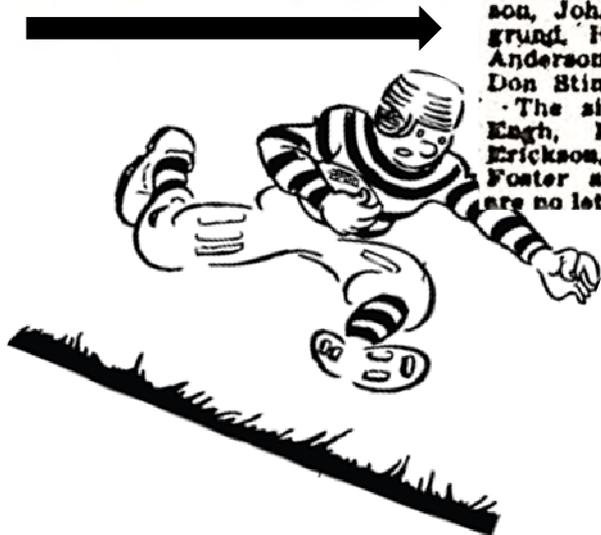
The following athletes received letters for sixteen quarters of play: Richard Andrie, '50 (G); Gordon Blair, '49 (HB); Richard Engelke, '48 (T); Keith Engh, '49 (QB); John Erickson, '50 (E); Warren Gaslin, '48 (T); Robert Hedstrom, '50 (C); Donald Jordahl, '48 (FB); William Kennedy, '49 (T); Arden Kvamme, '48 (HB); Lee Lamson, '48 (G); Donald Marquardt, '50 (G); Lloyd Rebischke, '50 (G); Donald Schloeder, '48 (HB-T); Kenneth Schmidt, '49 (T); John Schneider, '48 (T); Maynard Tarum, '49 (HB); and Harold Wilcox, '48 (E). Robert Boyer '50 was the manager and John Edinger '50 acted as assistant.

Call Letters KWAD Are Assigned To Wadena's New Radio Station

Thirty-Two Candidates Are Working Out Under Coach Whitey Held

The Wadena Indians will get their first test under fire at Frazee next Tuesday afternoon at 2:30 when they square off against Coach Oscar Bjorgen's Frazee Hornets. When Coach Held sends his squad onto the field, they will not be playing at full strength, for there is one letterman, Gordy Blair, and two other strong candidates, Bill Kennedy and Arden Kvamne, who have the possibility of being on the starting line-up but who have not as yet reported to the Coach. Blair and Kennedy are on their way home from California where they spent the summer, and Kvamne is expected home from Wyoming sometime this week, but their appearance will be too late to be considered in this first contest.

Last week, however, the Indians received a shot in the arm when Captain Warren Gaslin, a last year letter earner, reported and the squad now boasts six lettermen on the roster.



Wadena Pioneer Journal

Volume 70 - WADENA, MINNESOTA, THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 11, 1947 Number 26

Indians Win Seasons Opener At Frazee Tuesday, 8 to 0

lettermen on the roster:

A total of 32 candidates are now working out, for along with Captain Gaslin, four other newcomers reported as school opened on Tuesday.

This year's squad is quite well balanced as to classes, with the Sophomores holding the edge in number, there being 12 from this class: Joe Stevens, Don Marquardt, Lloyd Kebischke, Bob Hedstrom, John Erickson, Jim Stuntebeck, Chuck Garr, Alois Walz, Ken Jordahl, Ted Gaslin, Bob Anderson and Dick Andrie. Marquardt is the only letterman from this class.

The Seniors and Freshmen are equal in number, seven from each class. The seniors are: Don Schloeder, Harry Wilcox, Lee Lamson, Don Jordahl, Jack Schneider, Dick Engelke and Capt. Warren Gaslin. Schloeder and Engelke are the only ones in this class who are not lettermen. (An injury deprived Schloeder from this honor last year). The seven Freshmen are: Jack Anderson, John Nyberg, Doug Imgrund, Russ Utermarck, Ronald Anderson, Francis Schmidt and Don Stinar.

The six Juniors are: Keith Eagh, Ken Schmidt, Warren Erickson, Maynard Tarum, Jim Foster and Leo Andrie. There are no letter holders in this group.

Following are the starting line-ups:

WADENA	pos	WADENA
J. Erickson	LE	J. Erickson
Schneider	LT	Schneider
Lamson	LG	Lamson
Hedstrom	C	Hedstrom
Marquardt	RG	Marquardt
Gaslin	RT	Gaslin
Wilcox	RE	Wilcox
K. Jordahl	QB	K. Jordahl
Schloeder	LH	Schloeder
Tarum	RH	Tarum
D. Jordahl	FB	D. Jordahl

Wadena substitutes: Kvamne, D. Endrie, Blair, Schmidt, W. Erickson.

Park Rapids 27 Wadena 7

Opening the home season Friday night before one of the largest crowds in the annals of Wadena football history, a crippled but game Wadena squad reluctantly fell before a good Park Rapids eleven, 27 to 7. On the ground it was the Indians' game, but in the air the Panthers predominated, and it was on this margin that the visitors worked out a well-earned victory.

The margin of victory perhaps should have been closer than what the score indicates, for it was on two bad Wadena breaks that the Panthers were granted their first two touchdowns. However, connected with the visitors' visit to Wadena pay dirt on these occasions, it was the brilliant passing of left half back Bennie Noland that stole the show.

Wadena Pioneer Journal

Volume 70 WADENA, MINNESOTA, THURSDAY, OCTOBER 2, 1947 Number 29

Homecoming Highlighted By 12-6 Victory Over Staples

'Fumbilitis' by Both Squads Marks Tilt on Home Field Friday

Putting a fitting finish on a day of activity at the high school, the Indians thrilled a homecoming crowd with a 12 to 6 victory over the Staples Cardinals Friday evening. Fumbilitis bothered both squads, with the Indians taking advantage of two of their visitors' bobbles in the third period to score both of their touchdowns. The Cards made their tally in the final quarter.

The busy day started Friday morning at the high school as a pepfest was held, and it was announced that Pat Ireland had been chosen as homecoming queen, with Marion Jordahl and Virginia Neuges as her attendants. The three girls had been named by the football squad, and a vote of the senior high school elected them to the highest honor that could be bestowed upon them at this time by the student body. M. J. Ebner was the guest speaker at the pepfest, and in his remarks stressed school spirit.

Late in the afternoon material was gathered for the large bonfire which burned brightly previous to the game. The attendance at the snake dance was large, and as the students wended their way down Jefferson street, the parade was a block and a half long, led by the school's cheer leaders, Muriel Rice, Shirley Erckenbrack and Joan Bernauer. The parade end-

is Friday 18 to 0

Indians Stopped At DL Wednesday By 21 to 13 Count

Wadena's Momentary Lead in 2nd Quarter Overcome by Passes

Wadena Pioneer Journal

Volume 70 WADENA, MINNESOTA, THURSDAY, OCTOBER 16, 1947 Number 31

Lumberjacks Roll Over Indians Thursday, 32-0

Following are the starting line-ups:

Wadena	pos.	Detroit Lakes
Erickson	LE	Paulson
Schloeder	LT	Westlie
Marquardt	LG	Berg
Hedstrom	C	Sander
Lamson	RG	Hanson
Kennedy	RT	Gunderson
Wilcox	RE	Walbaum
Eng	QB	Olsen
Tarum	LH	Brown
Blair	RH	Coborn
Jordahl	FB	Ellingson

Score by quarters:

Detroit Lakes	0	7	8	0
Wadena	0	7	0	0

Wadena Pioneer Journal

Volume 70 WADENA, MINNESOTA, THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 6, 1947 Number

Ring Down Football Curtain With 14-6 Loss At Brainerd

Wadena Gridders Tie For Sixth In League Standing

Here is the order in which the teams finished: (Where tie exists, alphabetically listed)

	W	L	T
Bemidji	4	1	0
Little Falls	4	1	0
St. Cloud Tech.	4	1	0
Brainerd	3	4	0
Staples	2	3	0
Alexandria	1	3	1
Wadena	1	3	1
Crosby-Ironton	1	4	0

Wadena's Don Jordahl (FB) on Central 8 All-Conference team.

The all-star team chosen by the coaches was as follows:
BACKS—Bob Christensen, St. Cloud; Don Jordahl, Wadena; Gayle Meschke, Little Falls and Warren LaDue of Bemidji.
ENDS—Wayne Coykendahl of

Alexandria and Alex Hanschen of Little Falls.

TACKLES—Tom Geering, St. Cloud and Rolfe Hensel of Bemidji.

GUARDS—Dick Calhoun, Bemidji, Lynn Holm, Brainerd and Lee Brill of Little Falls.

CENTER—Cliff Winters, St. Cloud.

On the honorary team the coaches nominated:

BACKS—Jim Keffmeyer, St. Cloud; George Butorac, Crosby-Ironton; Ollie Mueller, Little Falls; Alex Grubb, Alexandria and Billy Finn, Staples.

ENDS—Marvin Athman, St. Cloud; Wesley Sabourin, Bemidji.

TACKLES—Harry Palm, St. Cloud; Matt Hill, Brainerd.

GUARDS—Gene Stapher, Staples; Jim Provost, Crosby-Ironton; John LaLond, Bemidji.

Center—Don Adams, Little Falls.

1948 WHS

Record 2-6

SEASON'S RECORD

Opponent	We	They
BRAINERD	6	12
AITKIN	0	12
LITTLE FALLS	0	25
STAPLES	0	8
BEMIDJI	6	60
PARK RAPIDS	6	26
DETROIT LAKES	26	8
ALEXANDRIA	3	0

Indians On The Road Again -- Go To Little Falls

Friday Night's Game With Flyers Will Be Broadcast Over KWAD

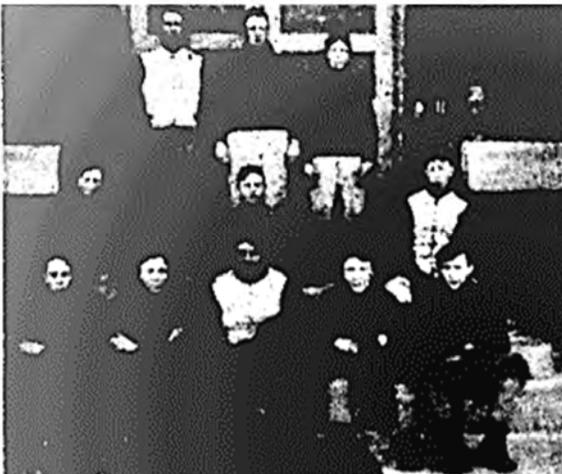
FOOTBALL SQUAD—

FRONT ROW: Marquardt, Kennedy, Tarum, Fultz, Blair, Engh, Schmidt, Foster, Stevens. SECOND ROW: Schmith, Kane, Reblischke, Andrie, Gaslin, Gurr, Erickson, Hedstrom, Stuntebeck, Nyberg, Jordahl, Utermarck, Yetter. THIRD ROW: Coach Held, Boyer, Farrelly, Walz, Anderson, Van Wey, Merickel, Schwartz, Hullwill, Snell, Borge, Coach Anderson.



45th Year of Football

The 1903, 11-man WHS team.



Coach Held Begins Work With 33 Grid Candidates

linemen, are Dick Andrie, John Erickson, Bob Hedstrom, Don Marquardt and Lloyd Reblischke. Two of the senior lettermen are found working out in the line, Bill Kennedy and Ken Schmidt and the other three, Keith Engh, Gordy Blair and Maynard Tarum, are backfield men.

Besides the above lettermen, the following non-lettermen answered the first call:

Freshmen (linemen): Jim Farrelly and Frank Yetter. (Backs): Roland Kane.

Sophomores (linemen): Ronald Anderson, Francis Schmith, Myron Snell, Rodney Schwartz and Keith Van Wey. (Backs): Jack Anderson, Russ Utermarck and John Nyberg.

Juniors (linemen): Ted Gaslin, Maurice Merickel, Joe Stevens and Aluis Walz. (Backs): Chuck Garr, Ken Jordahl and Don Pecham.

Seniors (linemen): Jim Foster, Warren Hartman, Duane Weller and Willard Fultz. (Backs): Warren Erickson.

The squad is being captained by Gordy Blair.

While the picture quality is very poor, no matter how big you make it, below are the names of the players and their current status as of the fall of 1948.

With the help of Alex Thomson of Wadena, a member of that team, and B. F. Burch, who is also familiar with the town's history, the Pioneer Journal was able to identify the team members, who are:
 Front row, left to right: Paul Willson, now living in New York; Gus Baehr, deceased; Fred Brown, deceased; Otto King, now living in Montana; Billy Watson, Minneapolis. Second row: Alex Thomson of Wadena; Art Williams, now living in North Dakota; Byron Jones, deceased. Third row: Clyde Naylor of Red Wing; Ingman (Zinc) Williams, address unknown; and Billy King of Grand Rapids. At the right is Supt. Carroll.

Then



Now

Wadena Pioneer Journal

Volume 71 WADENA, MINNESOTA, THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 16, 1948 Number 27

Wadena Loses Opener, 12-6, To Brainerd Friday Evening

Indians Get Second Defeat By Aitkin Friday, 12 to 0

Indians Lose Close Battle To Staples There Friday, 6 to 0

Page Two

Wad

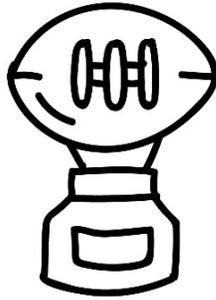
Indians Lose Well-Played Tilt To Park Rapids Panthers, 26-6

Little Falls Flyers Get Easy Win Over Indians, 25 to 0

Bemidji Lumberjacks Run Up 60-6 Score Over Wadena

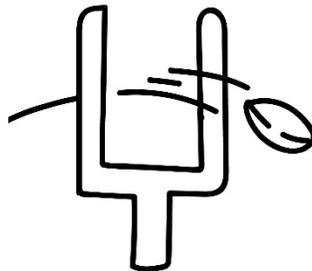


If you are going to only win one home game
all season, it may as well be homecoming.



Wadena Pioneer Journal
 Volume 71 WADENA, MINNESOTA, THURSDAY, OCTOBER 28, 1948 Number 31
**Homecoming Highlighted By
 26 to 6 Victory Over D-L**

Wadena Pioneer Journal
 Volume 71 WADENA, MINNESOTA, THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 4, 1948 Number 34
**Kick Wins Final Indian Tilt
 Friday Against Alex 3 to 0**



Last-Minute Victory One of Most Thrilling In Local Grid Annals

The "educated toe" of Chuck Garr, the accurate eye of Kenny Jordahl holding the ball for Garr's place kick, a perfect pass to Jordahl from "Marky" Marquardt, a Wadena line from one end to the other back up by three backfield blockers, all added together, brought the Wadena high school one of the most thrilling victories in the school annals, as Coach Held's Indians downed the Alexandria Resorters last Wednesday night 3 to 0.

Season finale, at Alexandria, yields a 2nd victory!

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Hedstrom of Wadena on All-Conference Eleven

When 45 officials of the Central-Ten conference gathered at Brainerd last Wednesday evening to discuss matters and make their selections for the mythical football squad, it found one Wadena boy, Bob Hedstrom, making the all-conference 1948 squad. One other Wadena boy was given serious consideration but didn't place, and it was Ken Schmidt. Other Indians mentioned were Engh, Blair, Andre and Erickson.

Officials this year didn't attempt to make up first and second teams, but listed a component of 27 players to the squad and were as follows:

ENDS--Ferklinoff, St. Cloud Tech; J. Hill, Brainerd; Sexton, Bemidji; and Robinson, Bemidji.

TACKLES--Hedstrom, Wadena; Cameron, Staples; Weltrauch, St. Cloud Tech; Provost, Crosby-Ironton.

GUARDS--Stumpf, Little Falls; Wilhite, St. Cloud Tech; Hytinen, Aitkin; Jeff, Bemidji; Johnson, Alexandria.

CENTERS--Sander, Detroit Lakes; Adama, Little Falls; Schierholtz, Brainerd.

BACKS--Schiller, St. Cloud Tech; Howard, Aitkin; Elzig, Little Falls; Vranish, Crosby-Ironton; Handvik, Alexandria.

BASKETBALL

1936--Crosby-Ironton (Record unknown)
Gordon, Bemidji.

1937	Crosby-Ironton	(Won 9, lost 0)	n
1938	Crosby-Ironton)	n
	Brainerd) (tied)	n
		(Won 8, Lost 2)	g
1939	Brainerd	(Won 10, lost 1)	l
1940	Crosby-Ironton	(Won 9, lost 2)	l
1941	Crosby-Ironton	(Won 10, lost 2)	c
1942	Crosby-Ironton	(Won 11, lost 0)	v
1943	Bemidji	(Won 9, lost 1)	f
1944	St. Cloud	(Won 9, lost 0)	f
1945	Crosby-Ironton	(Won 11, lost 1)	:
1946	Crosby-Ironton	(Won 11, lost 1)	l
1947	Crosby-Ironton	(Won 12, lost 2)	n
1948	Crosby-Ironton	(Record unknown)	n

Athletic Conference Was Founded In 1935

circuits. This year, 1948, Aitkin was again admitted into the loop, and Detroit Lakes entered as a new member, the conference has again changed name, and is now known as Central Ten.)

Participation of the schools is as follows:

St. Cloud Tech -- 1935, 1936, 1937, 1938, 1939, 1940, 1941, 1942, 1943, 1944, 1945, 1946, 1947, 1948.

Alexandria 1935, 1936, 1937, 1938, 1939, 1940, 1941, 1942, 1943, 1944, 1945, 1946, 1947, 1948.

Brainerd 1935, 1936, 1937, 1938, 1939, 1940, 1941, 1942, 1943, 1944, 1945, 1946, 1947, 1948.

Crosby-Ironton -- 1935, 1936, 1937, 1938, 1939, 1940, 1941, 1942, 1943, 1944, 1945, 1946, 1947, 1948.

Staples 1935, 1936, 1937, 1938, 1939, 1940, 1941, 1942, 1943, 1944, 1945, 1946, 1947, 1948.

Little Falls 1935, 1936, 1937, 1938, 1940, 1941, 1942, 1943, 1944, 1945, 1946, 1947, 1948.

Wadena -- 1935, 1944, 1945, 1946, 1947, 1948.

Aitkin 1935, 1936, 1948.

Bemidji 1939, 1940, 1941, 1942, 1943, 1944, 1945, 1946, 1947, 1948.

Fergus Falls--1939, 1940, 1941, 1942, 1943

Detroit Lakes--1948.

TRACK

1944 Bemidji (In 1944 no official conference meet was held but all schools were invited to participate in the Bemidji Beaver Relays and records for this event have been added to the list of conference marks.)

1945 Bemidji

1946 St. Cloud

1947 Bemidji

1948 Staples

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Central-Eight Athletic Champions (based on St. Cloud Daily Times records):

FOOTBALL

1935--St. Cloud (Won 3, lost 0, tied 1)

1936--Crosby-Ironton (Record unknown)

1937--St. Cloud (Won 4, lost 0, tied 1)

1938--Brainerd (Won 5, lost 0, tied 0)

1939--Staples (Won 6, lost 1, tied 0)

1940--St. Cloud (Won 5, lost 0, tied 0)

1941--St. Cloud (Won 5, lost 0, tied 0)

1942--St. Cloud (Won 6, lost 0, tied 0)

1943--St. Cloud (Won 6, lost 0, tied 0)

1944--Wadena)
Little Falls) (tied)

(Won 4, lost 0, tied 0)

1945--St. Cloud (Won 4, lost 0, tied 0)

1946--St. Cloud (Won 4, lost 0, tied 0)

1947 Little Falls)
Bemidji) (tied)

St. Cloud)
(Won 4, lost 1, tied 0)

200 yard low hurdles - Richard Valentino, Crosby-Ironton, 1948 (time :24.2)

120 yard high hurdles - George Richter, St. Cloud, 1945 (time :10.5)

880 yard relay - Bemidji team (Bourassa, Utter, Moe and Quinn) 1945 (time 1:37.9)

High jump - Neumann (Bemidji, 1945 (height 5'7"))

Broad jump - Justin Moe, Bemidji, 1945 (distance 21' 1/2")

Shot put - Bob Brown (Bemidji) 1945 (distance 42'11")

Discus throw - Louis Mazar, Crosby-Ironton, 1945 (distance 124'3")

Pole vault - Douglas Patterson, Alexandria, 1946 (height 10'10")

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Let's Go!

1949 WHS

Record 5-3

SEASON'S RECORD

Wadena	6	Bemidji	12
Wadena	12	Detroit Lakes	0
Wadena	6	Aitkin	0
Wadena	0	Staples	13
Wadena	21	Crosby Ironton	0
Wadena	12	Brainerd	0
Wadena	12	Park Rapids	7
Wadena	0	Little Falls	13

FINAL CENTRAL TEN STANDINGS

TEAM	W	L	T	Pct.
St. Cloud	6	0	0	1.000
Little Falls	6	1	0	.800
Alexandria	4	2	0	.666
Bemidji	4	2	1	.666
Wadena	3	2	1	.600
Staples	2	2	2	.500
Brainerd	2	5	0	.282
Detroit Lakes	3	5	0	.325
Crosby Ironton	1	5	1	.166
Aitkin	0	6	0	.000

If the "Season's Record" above is correct, then Wadena's final "Central 10" conference record is not correct. WHS played eight games, seven conference opponents, plus Park Rapids. **WHS was 4-3 in their conference games.** The final standings show that there were five total ties in conference games. For each conference contest ending in a tie there would be two ties to document. The total number of ties must be an even number. WHS had no ties, their conference record was 4-3. Fact based!



FIRST ROW: Schmith, Harrison, Marquardt, Boyer, Campbell, Vorgert. SECOND ROW: Halliwill, Gaslin, Garr, Jordahl, Stevens, Stuntebeck, R. Andrie, Rebischke, Hedstrom, Erickson, Merickel. THIRD ROW: Coach Helland, Freeman, Walz, Nyberg, Juen, Maroney, Utermarck, Imgrund, Yetter, Anderson, J. Andrie, Coach Hadden.

Let's Go!

HEDSTROM
ERICKSON

ANDRIE
GARR

HALLIWILL
GASLIN

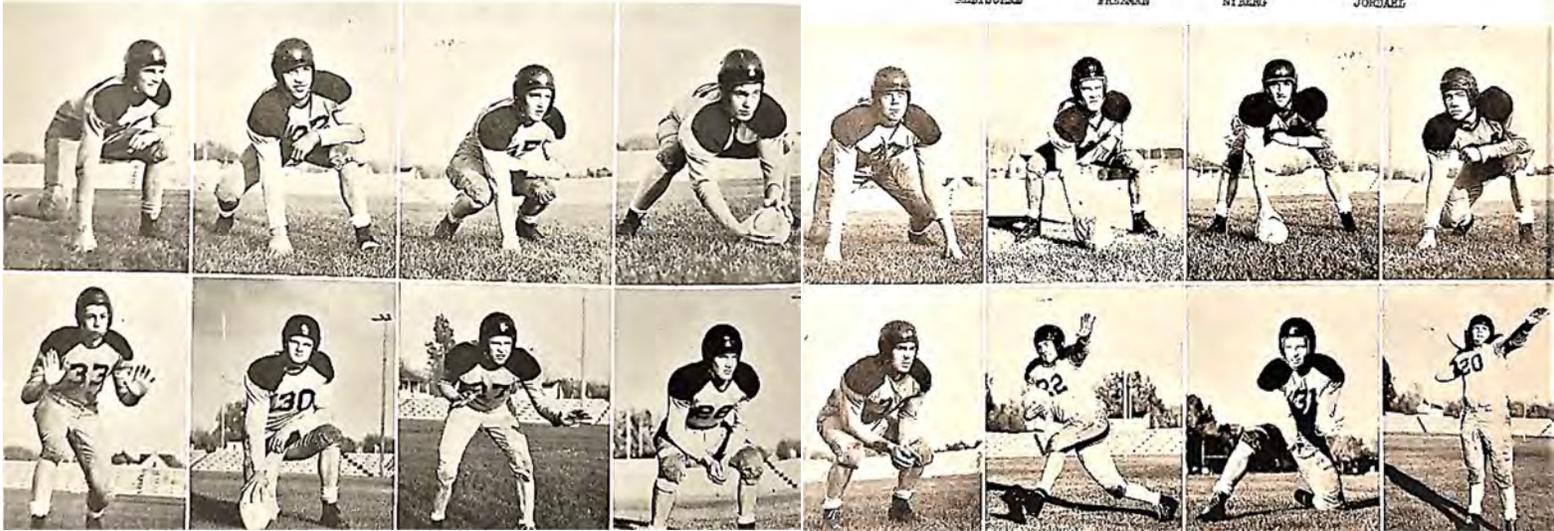
STEVENS
UTERMARCK

STUNTEBECK
REBISCHKE

SCHMITH
FREEMAN

MERICKEL
NYBERG

SCHWARTZ
JORDAHL



Indians To Open Football Season Against Bemidji

This year's Indian grid outfit is big, but it is thin in reserve strength, and it is playing in a mighty tough league. And they are starting the new season against last year's conference champions.

FOOTBALL GAMES TO BE AIRED BY KWAD

Wadena High school football games will be broadcast over station KWAD, it was announced by officials of the local station this week.

Members of the board of education, who earlier had denied the station's request to broadcast the games, at a meeting Monday afternoon granted permission for the broadcasts.

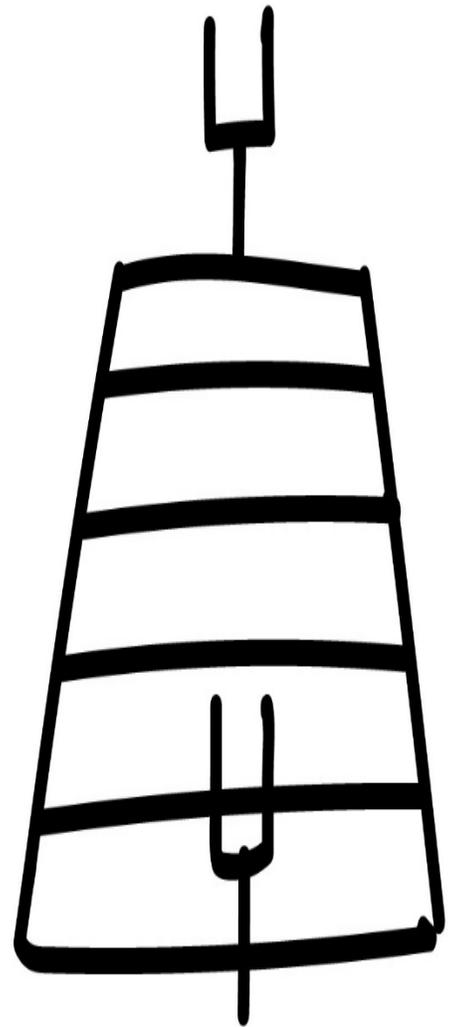
The board's first denial was based on the belief that airing of the games would cut attendance, and thereby reduce gate receipts. Athletic expenses, including equipment, must be purchased with gate receipt funds.

The matter was brought up for discussion at the regular meeting of the Civic & Commerce association on Monday, and it was voted to have a delegation meet with the school board that afternoon and ask re-consideration of their ban on broadcasting.

Representing the association at the session were V. J. Vogel, president; C. I. Folkestad, Dr. A. H. Neitzke, Ken Hall, Carl Holt, C. V. Phillips and Harry Davey.

When Helland sends his team out on the field tomorrow night, the starting line-up will be something like this: Ted Gaslin at left end; Maurice Merickel or Jerry Halliwill at left tackle; Jim Stuntebeck or Rodney Schwartz at left guard; Joe Stevens or Francis Schmith at center; Dick Andrie at right guard; Bob Hedstrom at right tackle; John Erickson at right end; Ken Jordahl at quarterback; Chuck Garr at left half; John Nyberg at right half, and Lloyd Rebischke at fullback. Harold Freeman and Russell Utermarck will be among the reserves.

In addition to the boys above, Coach Helland has the following players on the squad: backs, Jack Anderson, Don Peckham, Don Campbell, Harold Harrison, Ronald Anderson and Bob Maroney; lineman, Frank Yetter, Douglas Imgrund, Norman Thomson, Jim Farrelly, Jerome Juen, Lerov Vorgert, John Tigges, Victor Kern, Mike Uselman, Jim Fox, John Andrie and Blair Hagerman.



*****WHS School Board agrees to allow home games to be broadcast on KWAD despite concerns of reduced gate receipts.

Indians Outscored But Not Outplayed by Jacks



Lose at Bemidji, 12 To 6, In Season's Opener Last Friday

Following are the starting line-ups, substitutions, and complete

WADENA		Pos.	BEMIDJI	
Erickson	LE		Stephens	
Hedstrom	LT		Caswell	
Andrie	LQ		Chandler	
Stevens	C		Bahr	
Stuntebeck	RQ		Draeger	
Merickel	RT		Slough	
Gastin	RE		Elksted	
Jordahl	QB		Rude	
Nyberg	LM		Rohmann	
Garr	FM		Albers	
Rebiechke	FB			

Alternates: WADENA—Freeman, Halliwell, Schwartz; BEMIDJI—Askus, Henry, Hametock, Wilson, Helny, St. John.

Opening the 1949 grid season at Bemidji Friday night, the Wadena Indians were outscored, but not outplayed as they dropped a 12 to 6 decision to the formidable Lumberjacks. The Jacks gathered in their two touchdowns on long runs, one in the first period, and the other in the second quarter. Wadena picked off their lone touchdown shortly after the second quarter started, and were pounding at the door of the Jacks to tie the count as the half-time clock ran out.

During the first half of the contest both squads opened up with their best offensive punches, with very little being offered in the line of defense. In the last half, both squads came out with defensive tactics with the Indians having the edge in offense in spite of the fact they failed to score.

Wadena Pioneer Journal

Indians Get First Win Over Detroit Lakes Friday, 12 to 0

Garr's 81-Yard Dash Sets the Stage for Wadena Victory

Chuck Garr, skirting right end, cutting back through, then racing 81 yards for a touchdown, set the stage Friday night for Wadena's 12 to 0 victory over the Detroit Lakes Lakers at the Wadena athletic field. Garr's run for the touchdown is the longest so far in the Central Ten conference for this year, and is the longest scoring run made by a Wadena player for a number of years.

This long run might not have ever advanced beyond the line of scrimmage, however, had it not been for the effective blocking of the entire Wadena forward wall and the interference set up by the backfield. As Garr came up to the line, well co-ordinated blocks sprung him across the line and from there on he was on his own. Once past the line of scrimmage Garr made a sharp cut, eluding three Detroit Lakes tacklers, and was then on his way diagonally across the field for the coveted double stripe of the Lakers.

Indians Boost Wins To Two With 6-0 Victory At Aitkin

Homecoming Tilt Wrecked By Railroaders, 13 to 0

Following are line-ups, alternates and complete summary:

WADENA		Pos.	STAPLES	
Osohn	LE		Healer	
Rebiechke	LT		Campan	
Merickel	LQ		Germann	
Stevens	C		J. Rasmussen	
Andrie	RQ		Morley	
Hedstrom	RT		Whitney	
Erickson	RE		Perry	
Jordahl	QB		Kurpin	
Garr	LM		Blahnik	
Nyberg	FM		Brilliant	
Uttermark	FB		Johnson	



Indians Alert, Aggressive In Crosby-Ironton Victory

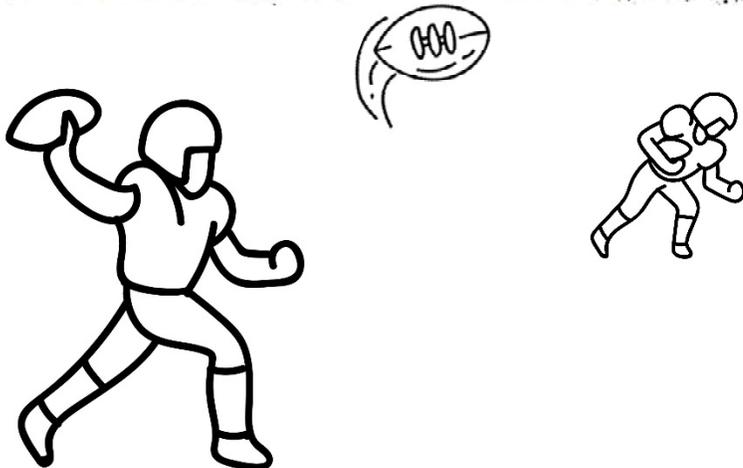
Defeat Rangers There Last Friday Night by 21 to 0 Count

Hitting pay dirt in the first, second and third quarters, and converting extra point after each touchdown, Coach Phil Holland's Indians showed fire in their third conference win of the season, as they downed Crosby-Ironton 21-0. Alertness and aggressiveness highlighted the touchdowns.

Indians Take Brainerd There Last Friday 12-0

Wadena Pioneer Journal

Indians Close Season With 13-0 Loss to Little Falls



Central-10



AITKIN	Bud Wilke
ALEXANDRIA	Tom Connor
BEMIDJI	"Red" Wilson
BRAINERD	Don Adamson
CROSBY-IRONTON	Joe Odanovich
DETROIT LAKES	"Whitey" Helling
LITTLE FALLS	Harvey Shaw
ST. CLOUD	Vern Morrison
STAPLES	"Spike" Johnson
WADENA	Phil Holland

(Final Standings)

	Won	Lost	Tied	Pct.
St. Cloud	6	0	0	1.000
Little Falls	6	1	0	.857
Bemidji	4	2	0	.666
Alexandria	3	2	1	.600
Wadena	4	3	0	.571
Staples	2	2	2	.500
Brainerd	3	5	0	.375
Detroit Lakes	2	5	0	.286
Crosby-Ironton	1	5	1	.166
Aitkin	0	6	0	.000

Little Falls 13, Wadena 0
Staples 26, Aitkin 6

Wadena Pioneer Journal

Volume 72

WADENA, MINNESOTA, THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 17, 1949

Num

Dick Andrie Is Placed On Central Ten Squad

Honorable Mention for Erickson, Hedstrom And Chuck Garr

When coaches of the Central Ten met at Brainerd last Wednesday afternoon and evening to discuss loop problems, set up a new football schedule, and name the mythical all-star squad, one of Coach Helland's Wadena linemen landed a berth on the first eleven. It was Dick Andrie, who has been the stalwart at the right guard post.

For the first time in several years, there was but one eleven-man mythical squad chosen, and of other players who drew attention, they were placed on the honorable mention list, and in this list, three more Wadena athletes placed, John Erickson, Bob Hedstrom and Chuck Garr.

In the course of the meeting, Harvey Shew of Little Falls, presented the football championship trophy to Vern Morrison of St. Cloud, coach of the champion team, St. Cloud Tech. This is the tenth football championship the Tigers have coped since the conference was organized. In only one year did St. Cloud have to share the championship, in those ten, and that was in 1947, when there was a three-way tie—St. Cloud, Bemidji and Little

Falls. The other years in which the Tigers have stood alone were 1935, 1937, 1940, 1941, 1942, 1943, 1945, 1946 and 1949.

Coach Shew also presented Coach Morrison with the championship baseball trophy, as the Tigers were also the winner in this sport. Coach Shew, who made the presentation, represented Little Falls, the runner-up in both football and baseball.

Following considerable discussion on the 1950 football schedule, another meeting date was set for Wednesday, November 18, at Staples, at which directors and coaches will attend.

The annual conference track meet was awarded to St. Cloud, and will be held on May 12.

In the discussion of admission prices to the coming conference basketball games, there was no change over last year, all the schools charging 35 cents for out-of-town students. However, in adult admission, seven of the schools levy a 60c admission. Staples, Crosby-Ironton and Wadena being the only three with a 50c charge for adults.

The fee for the football officials was set at \$32.50, \$12.50 for the referee, and \$10.00 each for the umpire and headlineman.

Following is the all-conference football team named by the coaches:

First Team

Ends—John Gustafson, Alexandria and Earl Super, Little Falls.

Tackles—Jerome Sura, Little Falls and Don Whalen, Staples.
Guards—DICK ANDRIE, Wadena and Don Slough, Bemidji.
Center—Willis Wood, St. Cloud.
Backs—Jim Johnson, Staples; Jerry Helgeson, St. Cloud; Harry Schindlee, St. Cloud; Don Robinson, Bemidji.

Honorable Mention

Ends—JOHN ERICKSON, Wadena; Sheldon Caswell, Bemidji; Bob Miller, St. Cloud; Grant Johnson, Crosby-Ironton.

Tackles—BOB HEDSTROM, Wadena; Gerald Nelson, Aitkin; Ray Maxie, Brainerd; Darold Albers, Bemidji.

GURADS—Jim German, Staples; Harold Johnson, Alexandria; Sheldon Anderson, St. Cloud; John Shackman, Little Falls; Dick Johnson, Brainerd.

Center—Ed. Raymond, Little Falls.

Backs—CHUCK GARR, Wadena; Bob Rude, Bemidji; Don Smith, Brainerd; Jerry Kronfelt, Alexandria; Lyle Anderson, Detroit Lakes; LeRoy Gilmore, Alexandria; Don Vranish, Crosby-Ironton; George Greene, Little Falls.

Wadena faculty members attending the lengthy meeting at Brainerd, which began at 4:30 in the afternoon and adjourned at 10:45, were Supt. T. H. Tofte, Coaches Phil Helland, Russ Hadden and "Whitey" Held.

Central-10



(Final Standings)

	Won	Lost	Tied	Pct.
St. Cloud	6	0	0	1.000
Little Falls	6	1	0	.857
Bemidji	4	2	0	.668
Alexandria	3	2	1	.600
Wadena	4	3	0	.571
Staples	2	2	2	.500
Brainerd	3	5	0	.375
Detroit Lakes	2	5	0	.286
Crosby-Ironton	1	5	1	.168
Aitkin	0	6	0	.000

Little Falls 13, Wadena 0
Staples 26, Aitkin 6

AITKIN	Bud Wilke
ALEXANDRIA	Tom Connor
BEMIDJI	"Red" Wilson
BRAINERD	Don Adamson
CROSBY-IRONTON	Joe Odanovich
DETROIT LAKES	"Whitey" Helling
LITTLE FALLS	Harvey Shaw
ST. CLOUD	Vern Morrison
STAPLES	"Spike" Johnson
WADENA	Phil Helland

College Football

Notes of Interest 1940-49

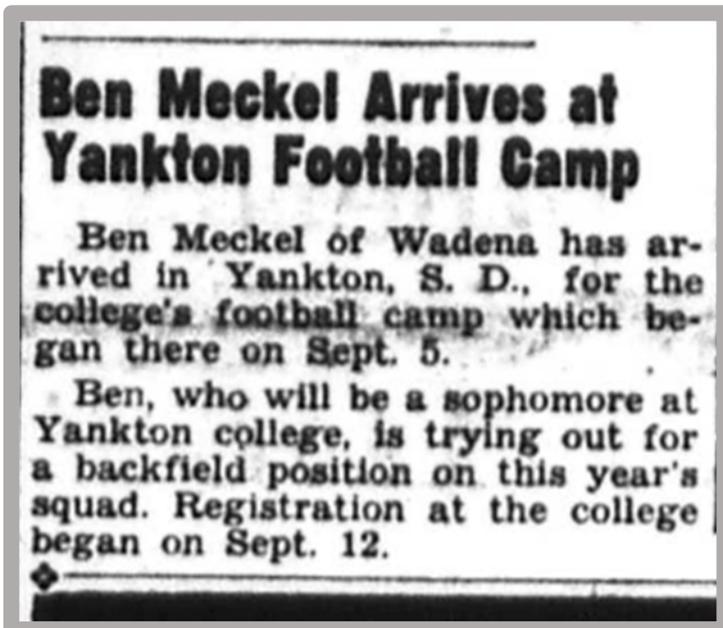
The late 1930's and into the 1940's were the hay days of Gopher football. The legendary coach Bernie Bierman had created a powerhouse. Look back to the decade of the 1930's in the "WHS Football Scrapbook" and check out "Squeak" Johnson (WHS '35). Squeak was a running back who, when healthy, was an important contributor to the Gophers' success during the second half of the 1930's.

In 1940 and 1941 the Minnesota Gophers were undefeated in both the Big 10 and the season. Two Big 10 Titles and one National Title (1940) as well as the 1941 Heisman Award given to running back Bruce Smith. Smith was a native of Faribault, MN.

I only found one instance of a WHS graduate going on to play college football. My guess is there were former players that did just that, but not very many. Blame it on WWII. The one WHS alum I found is Ben Meckel (WHS '47).

1949 article

Ben Meckel - RB
(WHS '47)





Why a Football Scrapbook?

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 purposes are 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. Those two "WHS Basketball Scrapbooks" are available at the Wadena Co. Historical Society.

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 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 Wadena 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 Campbell, 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 man-to-man with your sports hero.

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

- "The Wadena High School Football Scrapbook 1900-49"**
- "The Wadena High School Football Scrapbook 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) taught and coached football at Long Prairie.

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