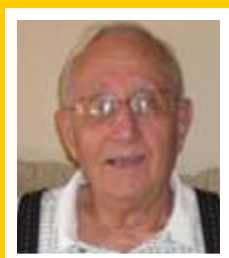


# Go Team!

*“Kinsley had organized basketball. We played Offerle in the fifth grade, and that was where I kind of had a break-out right there and discovered that I could play basketball. We played, I don’t know, two or three games. I played football, basketball and track when I got in junior high. I think I started track in the fifth and sixth grade. That’s when I found out I could really high jump and all that stuff. That’s when Mr. Mettling got excited, because I was able to jump almost his height because he was kind of short. He was about 5’6” or something like that. I was jumping his height, and he couldn’t believe that, I guess.”*

KENNY GAINES Kinsley High School c.



*“I lettered in track four years, and football of course. We were undefeated when we were in football. In basketball, we played on the cement floor at Lewis. I was pretty fast then, and could steal the ball and stuff. The last two hours of the day over at Lewis were for practice. It was set up different than it is now altogether. My senior year at Kinsley, I did about everything. I lettered in track at Dodge City Junior College. But I ran mostly long races. Not very fast. I was quick, but I mostly ran quarters, halves and mile runs. I used to like to run.”*

LEROY SPARKE Lewis & Kinsley High Schools 1949

*“I made a deal with my father when I was a senior. He wanted me to break the 30 point level at school in a basketball game. I wasn’t doing well the first part of the game. I was stone cold. He hollered at me from the side because Dad was not bashful. ‘Come on over here!’ He and Coach Carpenter were good friends, so Dad evidently thought he could get away with it. Anyhow, he said, ‘You make 25 points on this game, and I’ll buy you that damn Ford you’ve been looking at down there.’ There was an old, used Ford car. I think he was going to get me something to use for school so this was just his excuse. I told my buddies at half-time, ‘Pass me the ball, I’ve got a deal with my Dad.’ And everybody helped me. I made over 25 points....”*

DENNIS KINDSVATER Kinsley High School 1957



*“In the 1940’s, I was more interested in sports than sitting. Basketball, baseball, softball and some tennis as the seasons came along. When I got up into junior high, they had the ‘56 League’ down there at Centerview. We played Trousdale, Lewis, Macksville, Byers, Wilmore, and a little town called Radium. We played Garfield in the spring. That consisted of our sports. But during that time, that was when the war hit, and we had all the rationing. We had one bus that they could take us to the sporting events, but about half the time it broke down, so it got to where just parents would take the kids. I also played Van Johnson baseball and on town teams in basketball and baseball”*

KEITH KING Centerview High School



Boyd Mundhenke  
1957  
Lewis



Elwood Agnew  
1951  
Kinsley

## What about those gals?



*“Basketball is nothing like it is today. I would never be able to do what the girls do today. We were half court. We had guards on one side, and the forwards on the other. We got two dribbles. We were fortunate to have a tall girl on our team, so we did well. I think we were undefeated for several years. But none of this up and down the court! I just am amazed at how sturdy the girls are now.”*

MARILYN KERSTING Offerle High School 1955



*“I was looking forward to gym, you know, and when I was in sixth grade, the seventh graders had gym. Then when I was a seventh grader, it was just the eighth grade had gym. Then when I was eighth grade, it was back to the seventh. I never ever got to have it. In grade school, we’d play baseball in recess. I remember I was always right behind the pitcher. When a fly ball came, you caught it, and then you would get to go up to bat. That’s where I always stood.”*

NORMA KENNEDY Kinsley Schools c. 1942



*“They didn’t care if girls were in sports. They were not interested in girls. I can remember, we had gym, and we had to wear these stupid little bloomer things. Our coach...could care less about the girls’ sports, so gym was a study hall for us unless we wanted to bounce a ball around...Some of my friends said they would have loved to have played basketball.”*

SALLY FRAME Kinsley High School c. 1954