

THE HISTORY OF INTERSCHOLASTIC ATHLETICS AT  
SACRED HEART HIGH SCHOOL, SALINA, KANSAS

by

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A MASTER'S REPORT

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requirements for the degree

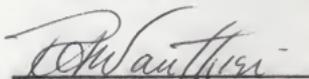
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## INTRODUCTION

Private church schools throughout the nation have grown considerably in enrollment during the last decade. A major problem facing these schools is the increased financial burden placed on the parents and students themselves. Parents sending their children to a private church school must pay additional tuition and fees and still support our public schools through our tax programs.

The ultimate goal of a Catholic education is the achievement of eternal life. The proximate goal in and through which our ultimate goal is reached is Christ-like living in American society. To achieve these goals, Catholic education aims to develop all the God-given talents, both physical and mental, of the individual students in an effort to fit them to take their places in our American democracy as true Christians--at home, at school, in the community, and at recreation. It is the school's feeling that this can best be accomplished in an educational environment where religion is the core of the curriculum. Since religion is a part of life, it should be a part of education.

Sacred Heart High School, located at 406 West Iron, in Salina, Kansas, was founded in 1908 as a parish high school. It was reorganized in 1959, at 230 East Cloud, to serve all parishes of Salina. With this reorganization came the formation of an interparish board, known as the Council of Administration. The Council of Administration, composed of the pastors and

laymen of the three parishes, serves as the policy-making board for the four-year high school. The Junior High School was also placed under the jurisdiction of this policy-making board.

In November of 1958, under the direction of His Excellency, Bishop Freking, approximately 1,200 Catholics of the Salina area pledged \$510,000.00 over a three-year period ending in November of 1961, for the Bishop's Educational and Development Fund Campaign. To date, nearly \$295,000.00 has been paid on these pledges by Salina Catholics, and the funds are used to finance the following projects: four classrooms at St. Mary's Grade School costing \$61,457.91; Sacred Heart High School, \$579,579.79 including furnishings and site improvement; the new St. Mary's Convent costing \$135,000.00 with furnishings and architects' fees. The expenditure of these projects, together with all architects' fees, will total \$806,037.70.

The building is one of the most economical school plants ever built in this area. The three contracts totaling \$495,579.79 represent a cost of \$8.68 per square foot for the ground area coverage of 57,065 square feet. If the entire floor area for dressing and shower rooms beneath the bleachers and storage area above the band room and kitchen is included, the total area is 63,285 square feet, representing a cost of \$7.83 per square foot.

The Sacred Heart High School plant built in 1960 is a Maximlite, contemporary, functional, one-story building. The structure meets all local and state requirements for the comfort and safety of teachers and students. The building is

constructed of the best conventional materials--reinforced concrete, steel, brick, Suntrol glass block, aluminum window frames, and masonry block.

The Maxamlite classrooms are designed in a hexagonal cluster of six rooms which makes for greater window and wall space. Skylights in the halls and corner rooms supply natural lighting which is conducive to study.

Sacred Heart High School is staffed by the Sisters of St. Joseph of Concordia, diocesan priests, and lay teachers. From the time the first lay teacher was hired in 1920, the number of laymen has gradually increased to twelve of the present staff of twenty-four teachers.

The Home-School Association is the organization for parents and teachers of Sacred Heart High School students organized to help everyone come to a clearer understanding of the mutual responsibilities of the school and the home. Special programs are featured at the bi-monthly meetings to promote a greater appreciation and understanding of the ideals and problems of both environments.

Sacred Heart High School was added to the list of high schools accredited by the State Department of Public Instruction in 1912. It has been a member of the North Central Association since 1924.

## STATEMENT OF THE PROBLEM

The main purpose of this report is to provide a record of athletics at Sacred Heart High School, upon the request of Father Donald Weber, Director of the school. It is also hoped that this study will be of assistance to the Council of Administration, faculty, students, and community. A brief history of the school in the introduction has also been provided to acquaint the reader with the school itself.

This report will be concerned primarily with the changes in the athletic program at Sacred Heart High School over the fifty-six years of the school's existence. It is also the intention of the writer to provide a history of Sacred Heart High School's athletic records as accurately as possible.

## MATERIALS AND METHODS

Most of the material used in this study came from many different sources. Sacred Heart High School and Junior High School libraries furnished necessary material to complete this study. Personal interviews with former coaches and players of Sacred Heart High School helped provide additional material. School records obtained in the main office of the school helped verify some of this material. By being a part of Sacred Heart's athletic program, I feel that this personal experience was of assistance in collecting pertinent material. Newspaper clippings from Coach Anthony Zamrzla provided about 80 per cent of the material used on basketball. Microfilm furnished by the Salina Journal newspaper also proved to be very valuable. Without this help, this study would have been impossible.

## LEAGUES

Sacred Heart operated as an Independent school in athletics for fifty-eight years. This has had its advantages and disadvantages. The most obvious disadvantage was in the scheduling of games. In 1964, Sacred Heart High School applied for admission to the North Central Kansas League. Because of the different classes of schools already present in the league, admittance was not granted to Sacred Heart. In 1965, the North Central Kansas League split and was left with only two members, Concordia and Marysville. Abilene, Chapman, Sacred Heart, Clay Center, and Wamego were invited to join with Concordia and Marysville to reorganize the league. Three of the five schools accepted. The North Central Kansas League membership for 1966 is as follows:

- (1) Abilene
- (2) Chapman
- (3) Concordia
- (4) Marysville
- (5) Sacred Heart

The sports competition in the new league will consist of football, basketball, cross country, golf, and track. Wrestling and tennis will not be included in the league sports program until more schools provide competition in these areas.

## FINANCING THE ATHLETIC PROGRAM

The athletic program at Sacred Heart High School has been self-supporting through the sale of season tickets, student activity tickets, and the gate receipts. During the first fifteen years, if the sale of gate receipts was not sufficient to pay expenses the remainder was taken out of the general school budget.

The sale of season tickets and gate receipts from football and basketball are placed in a separate athletic fund. These have totalled approximately \$9,000.00 annually over the last ten years. The Athletic Director has control over these athletic funds, and a certain amount is budgeted to each sport for the next year.

There are no available records to indicate the salaries of the various coaches throughout the history of athletics at Sacred Heart. This was a verbal agreement between the Monsignor and the various coaches in the earlier years and no records were kept.

The first basketball coach at Sacred Heart High School told the author that he received \$33 a month for the first ten years of coaching. In 1962, head coaches received \$300 for coaching, plus individual salary based on the school's salary schedule. In 1966, head coaches in football and basketball will receive an additional \$500 and assistants will receive \$300. Head coach in track will receive \$300 and in golf and cross country, \$200. All four coaches at Sacred Heart High School at the

present time hold a head coaching position.

All game and meet uniforms are furnished by the school. Students furnish their own shoes and practice uniforms. During the football season, practice uniforms are furnished by the school. For the past few years seniors have donated their track and cross country shoes to the school. The golf balls used in a match are now also furnished by the school. For many years it was the practice of the school to have the members of the golf team furnish golf balls for all matches.

Each student participating in the football and basketball phase of the athletic program pays a three dollar fee. This helps defray the cost and laundrying of towels and the cost of soap used during that sport.

## BASKETBALL

## Anthony Zamrzla 1921-1922 Through 1922-1923

In the fall of 1921, Anthony Zamrzla was employed to organize a basketball team at Sacred Heart High School. Anthony Zamrzla started a winning tradition that has grown continually until the present time. Sacred Heart had no gymnasium in which to practice or play their games. During the first thirty seasons of basketball, games and practices took place wherever a place was available. This ranged from goals located out of doors to any available facility indoors where space could be found.

During the first two years of basketball at Sacred Heart High School under Coach Zamrzla, the Knights won thirteen and lost twelve.

## Humphrey Jones 1923-1924 Through 1924-1925

After two years of coaching the Knights, Coach Zamrzla resigned to complete his college education at Kansas Wesleyan University. Humphrey Jones took over the reins for two seasons. Under his leadership, Sacred Heart won twenty-seven and lost eight. This fine record was only the beginning of the Sacred Heart winning tradition. After a nineteen and two record in 1925, Coach Jones resigned to accept a different position within the state.

### Jack McLean 1925-1926 Through 1927-1928

With the resignation of Coach Jones came the hiring of Jack McLean. Coach McLean immediately experienced success. The first year under his tutelage, the Knights won the silver cup in the district basketball tournament. The season record in 1926 was fourteen wins and only one loss. Sacred Heart was the first Catholic high school to play in the district basketball tournament in the state.

In 1927, Sacred Heart again proved to be a very powerful opponent. Under the guidance of Jack McLean, the basketball team finished the season winning the silver cup in the district tournament and a season record of nineteen wins and three losses. The third season under Coach McLean proved to be the most unsuccessful one in terms of wins and defeats for the 1928 squad. With a squad hit hard by graduation, Coach McLean attempted to rebuild a once powerful team with underclassmen. The final result was the winning of three games while losing nine encounters.

### Anthony Zamrzla 1928-1929 Through 1962-1963

With the completion of his college education at Kansas Wesleyan University and one year of coaching experience at Grainfield, Kansas, Anthony Zamrzla came back to teach and coach basketball at Sacred Heart High School in 1928. It was here at Sacred Heart High School that his squads in basketball won 550 games and lost only 272 games over a thirty-seven year reign.

Included in this record are four state championships, nineteen district championships and sixteen regional championships. Coach Zamrzla has won more basketball games in the state of Kansas than any other coach.

In 1929, Sacred Heart was still in the rebuilding stages and only survived with a five wins and five losses. Included on the schedule that year were Tescott, Culver, Smolan, Soloman, Marquette, Kipp, Bennington, Bavaria, and Brookville. In 1930, Assaria, Kanopolis, Lincoln, St. John's, and Sylvan Grove were added to the schedule, and the record dipped to eight wins and twelve losses. The Knights dropped the first game of the district to St. John's, seventeen to sixteen. The rebuilding years were completed in 1931 and the Knights started what was to become later one of the top teams in the state of Kansas for many years. This season of 1931, the Knights won fourteen games and lost seven, losing to Bavaria in the finals of the district tournament.

During the 1932 season, many new schools appeared on the Knights basketball schedule. Abilene, Hays Cadets, Ward of Kansas City, Cathedral of Wichita, and Hayden of Topeka proved to be able competitors against the Knights. Chapman, Moundridge, Buhler, and Russell were added to the schedule in 1936. Beginning with runners-up in the district tournament in 1932, the Knights advanced to district, regional, and state championships in both 1933 and 1934. The Sacred Heart Knights were district champions and regional runners-up in both district and regional tournament play in 1935. District champions and

regional runners-up marked the 1936 season with a return to three-fold championship in 1937. In 1938 the Knights were the district and regional champions and fourth among the 675 Class B schools in the state. During this span of six years, Sacred Heart teams won 143 games while losing a total of twenty-five.

Setting a new state record, the Knights entered the state tournament for the sixth successive year--in three of which they carried first honors. Sacred Heart defeated the defending state champions, Buhler, in 1933 by the score of twenty-two to eighteen, ending the season with a twenty-three wins and two losses record. Sacred Heart team members named to the All-State team were James Schwartz at forward and Eugene Pfanenstial at the guard position. In 1934, Sacred Heart overpowered Sterling High School twenty-seven to twenty-four for the state championship and a season record of twenty-five wins and three losses, losing only to Ward of Kansas City and Buhler. Sacred Heart won not only the prized first place trophy, with individual medals for the nine boys on the championship squad, but had in Jimmy Schwartz the high point scorer of the tournament with fifty points, including a twenty-point total in the semi-final game. Eugene Pfanenstial, the bulwark of the Sacred Heart defense, shared with Schwartz the distinction of repeating as a first team player on the All-State selection, while Larry Geis, for the second year in succession, rated on the second team at forward.

In 1937, the Knights defeated Downs twenty-seven to twenty-five for their third state championship. This season marked the

first time Sacred Heart had produced an undefeated team. The Knights ended with twenty-seven wins and no losses. At this time, Sacred Heart held the record for the most tournament games played and the most games won and the most all-state players produced by any basketball team in the state.

Sacred Heart made a challenge in 1938 to win the state championship two years in a row. Corning defeated Sacred Heart in the semi-finals, and Cullison defeated the Knights for third place. Still the Knights ended a fine season with a record of twenty-three wins and nine losses for the year. One of the highlights of this season was the thirty-two to twenty-nine win over the Kansas Wesleyan University B team. Leading the Knights both in scoring and defensive work were Duke Sullivan and Bert Gagnan.

Again in 1939, the Sacred Heart squad advanced through the district only to fall to a strong Geneseo five in the second game of the regionals. A young freshman, John Ritter, an offensive threat, showed signs of becoming an all-stater. After an eighteen and eight record in 1939, the Knights captured the district and regional tournament only to lose to Almena in the opening round of the state tournament, fifty-one to thirty-three. The Knights, led by John Ritter, Les Jilka, and Tom Brungardt, ended another winning season of twenty-four wins and five losses in 1940.

The next year, 1941, Sacred Heart moved into a new classification. In the past, Sacred Heart with less than 200 enrollment fell into Class B but with the new enrollment limitations

moved up to Class A. Sacred Heart's schedule included all Class A schools but Smolan and Soloman. This schedule did not seem to handicap the Knights as Charley Fiffe, Larry McDonnell, and Bill Sullivan provided the needed punch this season as the Knights went on to win sixteen games and lose eight. The Knights were eliminated by Seaman of Topeka, thirty-two to twenty-seven, in the second round of the state tournament. The B squad also ended an undefeated year with their forty-fifth straight win over a three-year span.

The Chapman's Irish handed the Sacred Heart Knights a sound thirty-four to twenty-six spanking in the Class A regional finals in 1942. Earlier in the season the Knights had defeated this same team thirty-four to thirty-three. The Knights closed the season with a thirteen and three record.

Coach Zamrzla was one of the first coaches in this area to scrap the set play style of basketball. In fourteen seasons, Sacred Heart never scored a basket through a set pattern but had practiced the Zamrzlan creed that hustle, drive, cut, rebound, and shoot when you get a shot will win ball games. Anthony Zamrzla's clubs have won the awe and the envy of every rival coach because of the fire of their hustle, their ability to out-jump, out-shoot, and out-defend teams which appeared their superiors in personnel.

In 1943, the Sacred Heart Knights found themselves in the state tournament, only to lose to Osborne, thirty-six to thirty-five, in the first round. This loss was only the second defeat of the season for the Knights. The following year, 1944, the

Knights captured second place in the regionals, ending with an average season record of eleven wins and seven losses.

Sacred Heart defeated Clay Center in the final game of the 1945 season but could not repeat this feat in the regionals. This loss gave the Knights a twelve and six record. The following year, 1946, Sacred Heart accomplished a twelve and seven record, losing to Wamego in the semi-finals of the state tournament. The Knights captured third place behind the shooting of All-Stater, Rich Evans.

The following two years, 1947 and 1948, were again rebuilding years for the Knights. In 1947, the squad won six and lost ten and in 1948 won ten and lost nine, the final loss being to Beloit High School in the finals of the regionals. After completing twenty-two years as basketball coach of the Sacred Heart High School Knights, Coach Zamrzla was given a dinner in his honor with fifty guests present. A new 1948 plymouth was given as recognition to Coach Zamrzla in appreciation for the time and guidance he had given to the athletes as well as the many years of service to Sacred Heart High School.

The Knights placed fourth in the state in 1949, winning eighteen and losing six. The following year, 1950, the Knights were defeated the first game in the state tournament. After a few years of average success, the Knights experienced a good season in 1953, winning fifteen and losing eight. The next year the state championship returned to Sacred Heart High School. The Knights defeated a previously undefeated team, Pratt, in the finals, fifty-three to forty-nine, giving the Knights a season

record of twenty-four wins and three losses, losing only to Sumner of Kansas City twice and Russell once.

In 1957 and 1958, the Knights won the district but lost in the second round of the regionals. In 1957, Clay Center defeated the Knights fifty-two to forty-two, and the following year Sterling won forty-three to forty-two. In 1959, the Knights won the district and regional but ran into a strong Osage City team in the opening round of the state tournament. Gary Marriott and his teammates defeated the Knights fifty to forty-six, giving the Knights a seventeen and six record for the year.

The last four years of Mr. Zamrzla's reign as coach of the Knights proved to be unsuccessful in the won and loss column. During this span, the Knights won twenty-five and lost fifty-four games. During these four years the Knights managed to win two district games while losing six times.

Following the 1963 season Coach Anthony Zamrzla resigned as basketball coach at Sacred Heart High School with a record so great that many coaches would be content to reap only half as much success. During the thirty-seven years of coaching, Mr. Zamrzla's Knights played a total of 113 different teams from throughout the state of Kansas. Class AA schools included in the 113 teams were St. Agnes of Kansas City, Sumner of Kansas City, Haskell of Lawrence, Kaupan of Wichita, Junction City, Hays, Russell, and the Hays Cadets.

Anthony Zamrzla, quiet, retiring, and blunt, was a man who let his coaching deeds speak any word which needed to be spoken in his behalf. The Sacred Heart mentor, winding up his thirty-

seventh season of coaching at Sacred Heart, sat with sphinx-like calm during game play. He was so retiring that he still flushes three shades of red when asked to address any group larger than his basketball team. During the last ten years of coaching the Knights, Coach Zamrzla's basketball teams remained in the center of the court during time-outs. A philosophy of Coach Zamrzla was that a coach should do his coaching during the week and not the night of the game.

Teaching Social Studies and Physical Education during most of his years at Sacred Heart, Anthony Zamrzla was also available for advice at any time to any of the students and faculty members.

During Coach Zamrzla's first thirty-two years of coaching, there was no need for any assistants. In 1957 and 1958, Bob Esterl worked with the junior varsity. The following two years Mr. Jim Frazier was employed to assist Anthony Zamrzla in the basketball program. With the moving to the new school, Bernie Johnson was employed to assist for one year. The following year, Bernie Schroeder took over as assistant basketball coach at Sacred Heart High School.

#### Bernard Schroeder 1963-1964 Through 1964-1965

Sacred Heart's basketball program entered a new era in 1963 with a new coach for the first time in more than three decades. The new coach served as B team skipper under Coach Zamrzla for two years. Bernie Schroeder was head coach at Subiaco Academy in Subiaco, Arkansas, a Class AA school, and

also head basketball coach in Seneca, Kansas, before coming to Sacred Heart.

During the first year, 1963, under the guidance of Coach Schroeder, the Knights won nine and lost ten. One of the highlights of this season was the opening game of the season when the Sacred Heart Knights defeated Buhler, thirty-eight to thirty-seven. Buhler later became the state champions with only one loss, that being to the Sacred Heart Knights. The Knights were defeated by Chapman in the opening round of the regional tournament.

The following year, 1964, the Knights finished the season with their first winning season in six years. Lead by All-Staters, Larry Thummel and Micky Breault, the Knights went on to capture third place in the regional. After losing thirteen straight games over a period of six years to the Hays Cadets, the Knights bombed the Cadets eighty-seven to seventy-two in the annual homecoming game. The Knights ended the season with eleven wins and ten losses. With the completion of this season, Coach Schroeder resigned to devote more time to the track program. Coach Schroeder's overall record for the two years was twenty wins and twenty losses.

Besides his coaching duties, Coach Schroeder taught American History, Health and Physical Education. With the addition of Advanced Physical Education, his assignment now includes all of the classes in boys' Physical Education and Health.

### Larry Muff 1965-1966

Advancing from the junior varsity, Larry Muff took over the reins in 1965. This season proved to be a rebuilding year for the Knights. With only two seniors on the squad, the Knights experienced one of the poorest seasons on record. The Knights ended the 1965-1966 season with a season record of four wins and sixteen losses. With many returning lettermen in 1966, the Knights are anticipating a successful season next year.

In addition to his coaching duties, Larry Muff teaches Bookkeeping I, Bookkeeping II, Business Law, and Economics.

### BASKETBALL RECORDS AT SACRED HEART HIGH SCHOOL

<u>Year</u>	<u>Won</u>	<u>Lost</u>
1922	7	7
1923	6	5
1924	8	6
1925	19	2
1926	14	1
1927	19	3
1928	3	9
1929	5	5
1930	8	12
1931	14	7
1932	19	2
1933	23	2
1934	25	3

## BASKETBALL RECORDS AT SACRED HEART HIGH SCHOOL (CONTINUED)

<u>Year</u>	<u>Won</u>	<u>Lost</u>
1935	23	5
1936	22	6
1937	27	0
1938	23	9
1939	18	8
1940	24	5
1941	16	6
1942	13	3
1943	15	2
1944	11	7
1945	12	6
1946	12	7
1947	6	10
1948	10	9
1949	18	6
1950	11	12
1951	6	14
1952	13	10
1953	15	8
1954	24	3
1955	16	5
1956	17	5
1957	16	8
1958	17	5

## BASKETBALL RECORDS AT SACRED HEART HIGH SCHOOL (CONTINUED)

<u>Year</u>	<u>Won</u>	<u>Lost</u>
1959	17	6
1960	8	11
1961	7	13
1962	7	14
1963	3	16
1964	9	10
1965	11	10
1966	4	16
	<hr/>	<hr/>
Totals	624	317

Over a period of forty-four years, Sacred Heart High School has won a total of 624 basketball games and lost 317. Included in these 624 victories were four state championships. Five different coaches shared in the above record. The following are the coaches and their records while at Sacred Heart: Anthony Zamrsla, 537 wins and 260 losses; Humphrey Jones, 27 wins and 8 losses; Jack McLean, 36 wins and 13 losses; Bernard Schroeder, 20 wins and 20 losses; and Larry Muff, 4 wins and 16 losses.

## FOOTBALL

## Humphrey Jones 1923-1924 Through 1925-1926

Athletics became a burning question in 1923, and football was attempted with little success except to show that Sacred Heart did not have the material for the gridiron. The good spirit did much to develop a good basketball team for both boys and the girls. With fifteen boys reporting this first year, Coach Jones fielded a respectable team but failed to reach the win column. After the 1925 season, football was dropped by the school because of lack of interest and finances.

## James Johnson 1960-1961 Through 1961-1962

With added interest, Sacred Heart again added football to its program in 1960. Boosters of Sacred Heart gathered and decided that with the construction of the new school and the growth of the school enrollment, this added sport would help round out the athletic program. James Johnson, football coach at Andale High School, Andale, Kansas, was employed to help reactivate football. With the purchasing of all new equipment, interest built up quickly. Thirty boys reported the first day to Coach Johnson and his assistant, Bernie Johnson. The first year's schedule consisted of six games with the B teams of surrounding schools. One of the highlights of this team was the scoring of a field goal on St. Peter and Paul High School in Seneca, Kansas. These three points were the only points scored on the Seneca team that season.

In 1961, two new assistants were added. Joseph Hammerschmidt was employed to coach the first freshman team and Bernie Schroeder replaced Bernie Johnson. Newer and larger schools were added to the schedule. Forty boys reported for the squad. Sacred Heart finished the season with a three and six record.

In addition to his coaching, James Johnson taught two hours of Physical Education and two hours of Remedial Reading.

#### Mark Flynn 1962-1963 Through 1966

In 1962, Mark Flynn replaced James Johnson as the new head football coach. Under four years of his tutelage, Sacred Heart football teams won eleven and lost eighteen while tying five. The addition to the schedule of larger schools, such as Sumner of Kansas City, proved to be too much for Sacred Heart during the past season.

Larry Muff was employed to replace Joe Hammerschmidt in 1963. Coach Muff became the assistant in football and Bernie Schroeder took over the freshman squad. The number of men out for football averaged around fifty. This represented an increase over the previous years.

Besides being head football coach, Mark Flynn also teaches two classes of American Government and is one of the school counselors. At the time of this writing, Mark Flynn is still football coach at Sacred Heart High School.

## FOOTBALL RECORDS AT SACRED HEART HIGH SCHOOL

<u>Year</u>	<u>Won</u>	<u>Lost</u>	<u>Tied</u>
1923	(No Records)		
1924	(No Records)		
1925	(No Records)		
1960	2	4	
1961	3	6	
1962	1	5	2
1963	6	1	1
1964	3	6	
1965	1	6	2
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
Totals	16	28	5

Since football was reactivated at Sacred Heart High School, the Knights have won 16 and lost 28 while tying five games. Humphrey Jones coached the Knights during the first three years but no records are available. James Johnson coached the 1960 and 1961 seasons resulting in a 5 win and 10 lost record. Mark Flynn has coached the Knights the last four years with a record of 11 wins, 18 losses, and 5 ties.

## TRACK

## James Johnson 1961 Through 1962

With the introduction of football as an interscholastic activity, it was imperative that a program be started which would help develop the needed skills of these young men for improving football and basketball. With this objective in view, track was started in the spring of 1961 by James Johnson, head football coach. Bernie Johnson again assisted Coach Johnson with track. Sacred Heart participated in five meets but did not capture first place in any of these meets.

The following year Bernie Schroeder took over as assistant, handling all the sprinters and relays. Sacred Heart made improvements in all phases but still managed to score only one point in the regional. The concept that track was only a conditioner for football and basketball had slowly decreased.

## Bernard Schroeder 1963 Through 1966

After serving one year as assistant under Coach Johnson, Bernie Schroeder took over the track program in 1963. Joe Hammerschmidt was appointed assistant and handled the weight men. Coach Schroeder worked with the sprinters, hurdlers, and distance men. With this combination, track became an important part of the athletic program. Track no longer served as a conditioner for football or basketball, but a means to prepare each individual for personal competition which he will meet in later life.

In 1964, Thomas Rupp was appointed to handle the distance men and Larry Muff worked with the weight men. Sixty boys reported for track this season and interest in track took hold. Sacred Heart entered fifteen boys in the regional and placed four either fourth or fifth. An encouraging factor was that all were underclassmen.

The following year, 1965, Sacred Heart became one of the top track squads in the state. With the fall cross country state champions performing on the squad, the team scored heavily in the distance races. Sacred Heart also had one of the top hurdlers and javelin throwers in the state.

Sacred Heart captured first in two large meets and third place three times. Thirty boys qualified for the regionals and nine for the state meet in Wichita. In the state meet, Sacred Heart placed fifth in the state. One of the highlights was the establishment of a new state record in the medley relay.

In the spring of 1966, Sacred Heart placed three men in the first three places at the regional. These three men represented Sacred Heart High School in the state meet the following week on the Kansas State University campus in Manhattan. James Neihouse placed first in the mile in Class A giving the Knights a tie for sixth place in Class A.

## GOLF

## Mark Flynn 1964 Through 1966

Golf was added on a small scale in 1964 with Mark Flynn as coach. The Elks Country Club was used as a course for both practice and for the matches. About ten men took part in the golf program that year. Interest is slowly building up but the small number who can participate in matches discourages many boys from taking part.

In 1965, Sacred Heart placed fourth in the regional against all classes of schools. All but one member of this squad were underclassmen. In 1966, the Knights managed to win one match and placed seventh in the regional. There were no seniors on this 1966 squad.

## CROSS COUNTRY

Thomas Rupp 1963 Through 1966

Interscholastic competition in the sport of cross country began in the Fall of 1963. In that year the Knights competed in eight meets finishing no better than third in any of them, that being in the state regional at Hays. The Knights thus finished with a seventh place in the state cross country meet in the inaugural season at Sacred Heart.

The second season of competition, 1964, saw the Knights go through a great season of eight wins and one loss and winner of the state Class A cross country championship. Of the seven men competing for the Knights in this meet, two were seniors, three were juniors, and two were sophomores.

Coach Tom Rupp expected another fine season in 1965 and it was indeed that. Two of the men expected to return to the team chose instead to take jobs, and a rebuilding season was in order. The team took part in eight large meets (ten to twenty teams competing) finishing second, third (four times), fifth, tenth, and thirteenth. For the third consecutive year the Knights made it to the state finals and finished fifth in a field of twelve teams. The team consisted of one senior, two juniors, three sophomores, and one freshman. With some great distance prospects, it is expected that the 1966 season should be the best ever at Sacred Heart High School.

Cross country is indeed developing as a major area of competition and achievement for the young men at Sacred Heart High

School. Thus far there have been fifty-two young men participate in the sport. Twenty-six have earned their varsity letters. The total cost of the program since its inception has been in the vicinity of \$1,000.

The program is a definite asset to the school and one of which those connected with Sacred Heart High School are exceptionally proud.

## SUMMARY

Sacred Heart High School was founded in 1908 as a parish high school. It was reorganized in 1959, at 230 East Cloud, to serve all the Catholic parishes of Salina. This school is staffed by the Sisters of St. Joseph of Concordia, diocesan priests, and lay teachers. The first lay teacher, Mr. Zamrsla, was hired in 1920. Sacred Heart High School was added to the list of high schools accredited by the State Department in 1912. It has been a member of the North Central Association since 1924.

The athletic program at Sacred Heart High School has been self-supporting through the sale of season tickets, student activity tickets, and gate receipts. Athletes furnish their own clothing and shoes for practices and games. Each student taking part in the football and basketball phase of the athletic program pays a three-dollar fee to cover laundry expense.

Sacred Heart has operated as an independent school for fifty-eight years. In 1965, Sacred Heart was admitted into the North Central Kansas League. This new league will begin operation in 1966.

At the time of this writing, Sacred Heart has had eight different head coaches in the five sports in which it has competed. The enrollment increase from thirty in 1920 to 310 in 1966 has made it necessary to increase the number of assistant coaches in three sports. There were no assistants in basketball until 1957, and in football during the first two years. At this time there are two assistants in football, basketball, and track.

Golf and cross country have never been assigned an assistant coach.

All athletic practices are conducted after school hours. During the last three years, head coaches in football, basketball, cross country, and track have been given the last class period free to prepare for practices.

Sports coverage of the school's athletic events is provided by the Salina Journal, KSAL radio station, and KSLN television. With the help of the Salina Journal newspaper and the school's newspaper and yearbooks, every score for each athletic event which has taken place at Sacred Heart High School is available.

Sacred Heart High School has won five state championships over the forty-six years of interscholastic competition. The first four were won in basketball and the last championship won by Sacred Heart was in cross country in 1964.

Mr. Zamrzla, the first coach at Sacred Heart High School, received \$33 a month for his first ten years of coaching. In 1962, when Mr. Zamrzla resigned, he received \$300 for coaching, plus his individual salary based on the school's salary schedule. Head coaches in football and basketball receive an additional \$500 and assistants receive \$300. Head coach in track receives \$300 and in golf and cross country, \$200. All four coaches at Sacred Heart High School at the present time hold a head coaching position.

## ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

The writer wishes to acknowledge the assistance of Anthony Zamrzla, former coach at Sacred Heart High School, for his help in obtaining about 80 per cent of the material contained in this report on basketball. Personal interviews with former Sacred Heart coaches, Anthony Zamrzla and James Johnson, and present coaches, Larry Muff, Mark Flynn, and Thomas Rupp, also furnished much needed information.

The writer also wishes to acknowledge the assistance of Mr. Bill Burke, Sports Editor of the Salina Journal, for his help in verifying from microfilm, a large part of the material contained herein.

Yearbooks and scrapbooks not contained in the school's library were loaned to the writer by former players and boosters of Sacred Heart High School.

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THE HISTORY OF INTERSCHOLASTIC ATHLETICS AT  
SACRED HEART HIGH SCHOOL, SALINA, KANSAS

by

BERNARD F. SCHROEDER, JR.

B. S., St. Benedict's College, 1958

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AN ABSTRACT OF A MASTER'S REPORT

submitted in partial fulfillment of the

requirements for the degree

MASTER OF SCIENCE

Department of Physical Education

KANSAS STATE UNIVERSITY  
Manhattan, Kansas

1966

Sacred Heart High School, located at 406 West Iron, in Salina Kansas, was founded in 1908 as a parish high school. The school was reorganized in 1959, at 230 East Cloud, to serve all parishes of Salina. With this reorganization came the formation of an interparish school board, known as the Council of Administration. The Council of Administration, composed of the pastors and laymen of the three parishes, serves as the policy-making board for the four-year high school.

Sacred Heart High School is staffed by the Sisters of St. Joseph of Concordia, diocesan priests, and lay teachers. From the time the first lay teacher was hired in 1920, the number of laymen has gradually increased to twelve of the present staff of twenty-four teachers.

Sacred Heart High School was added to the list of high schools accredited by the State Department of Public Instruction in 1912. It has been a member of the North Central Association since 1924.

This private church school has operated as an independent school in athletics for fifty-eight years. In 1965, Sacred Heart was admitted into the North Central Kansas League. This new league will begin operation with the football season of 1966.

At the time of this writing, Sacred Heart has had eight different head coaches in the five sports in which it has competed. The enrollment increase from thirty in 1920 to 310 in 1966 has made it necessary to increase the number of assistant coaches in three sports. Assistants were not necessary in

basketball until 1957, and football had its first assistants in 1960. At this time, there are two assistants in football, basketball, and track. Golf and cross country have never been assigned an assistant coach.

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Mr. Zamrzla, the first basketball coach at Sacred Heart High School, received thirty-three dollars a month for his first

ten years of service. When Mr. Zamrzla resigned in 1963, he received \$300 for coaching, plus his individual salary based on the school's salary schedule. Head coaches in football and basketball now receive an additional \$500 and assistants receive \$300. Head coaches in track receive \$300 and head coaches in golf and cross country receive \$200. All four coaches at Sacred Heart at the present time hold a head coaching position.