

THE HISTORY OF THE ATHLETIC PROGRAM AT  
LINCOLN RURAL HIGH SCHOOL, LINCOLN, KANSAS

by

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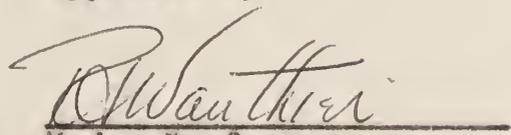
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## INTRODUCTION

The Lincoln Center School District No. 6 was started March 29, 1876, and the Lincoln High School, as such, was started in 1887 in this district. The first students graduated from this high school in 1891.

The first high school was located in what was referred to as the Central Building, a former grade school. This building was located at 304 South Fourth, Lincoln, Kansas. It was a two-story building of native rock with a basement. Each floor consisted of four classrooms. The basement contained two classrooms and a janitor's room. In 1921 this Central Building was condemned by authorities because of poor electrical wiring and an east wall that was pulling away from the building.

The present high school building was erected at 700 South Fourth in 1921-1922. The building was dedicated June 15, 1922, at ceremonies in the high school auditorium. The structure is of red brick and concrete. The only wood in the structure is in the gymnasium floor and in the doors of the classrooms. The building consists of seventeen classrooms and a gymnasium with adjoining locker rooms. The cost for purchasing the ground and the construction of the building was \$140,000.00.

In 1956 a bond issue for \$104,000.00 was passed for the purpose of adding a west wing to the present high school. In 1957 this wing was put in use for instrumental and vocal music and shop and industrial arts. A total of twenty-two rooms now exists in the present structure.

In 1960 Lincoln High School was organized into a separate rural high school district, thus increasing the valuation of the school district from \$6,366,827.00 to \$7,582,608.00.

During the 1963 session of the Legislature, House Bill No. 377 was passed. For clarification, it was called the School Unification Bill. This was an act to establish unified school districts in the state of Kansas to expedite the organization of public school districts of the state so as to establish a thorough and uniform system of free public schools whereby all areas of the state are included in school districts which maintain grades one through twelve and kindergarten where desired; and to have a wiser use of public funds expended for the support of the public school system of the state. Under the provisions of House Bill No. 377, the State Superintendent must approve the proposed unified district or districts before the recommendations of the planning board can be voted upon by the electors in the county.<sup>1</sup>

Following an intensive review the Lincoln County Planning Board recommended that its planning unit be divided into two unified districts. Following public hearings, the planning board submitted its recommendations to the State Superintendent for his approval. The proposed unified districts were approved by the State Superintendent before the deadline date May 1, 1964. An election was conducted in Lincoln County on June 2, 1964, at which time the planning board's proposal was submitted to an election of the people of the county.

The voters approved of the planning board's creation of two unified school districts within the county. Thus, July 1, 1966, Lincoln Rural High School will be officially known as Unified District No. 298.

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<sup>1</sup>"The Report of the Lincoln County Planning Board," Lincoln, Kansas, 1964.

## AIMS AND PURPOSES

The purpose of this study is to provide a record of athletics at Lincoln Rural High School. It is hoped that this study will be of assistance to the people of the school district, to those who have graduated, and to those who will graduate from Lincoln High School. It is also the intention of the author to provide in the introduction a brief and concise history of the school.

## MATERIAL AND RESOURCES

Material for this study was obtained from several sources. The city newspaper, The Lincoln Sentinel-Republican, and school yearbooks were used as the main source of information for this paper. School records obtained from the principal's office and interviews with former coaches and athletes provided this author with additional material.

## LEAGUES

From the beginning of athletics at Lincoln High School until 1928 an independent athletic schedule was played.

On October 19, 1928, the Solomon Valley League was organized. Members of this league included the following schools:

- (1) Minneapolis
- (2) Glasco
- (3) Beverly
- (4) Lincoln

Lincoln participated in this league for two years and then scheduled games on an independent basis from 1930 to 1939.

In March, 1939, Lincoln and Minneapolis were asked to join the North Central Kansas League to replace Junction City and Clay Center who withdrew from the league. The members of this league were as follows:

- (1) Beloit
- (2) Belleville
- (3) Concordia
- (4) Marysville
- (5) Minneapolis
- (6) Lincoln

In the year 1940 Mankato and Osborne were asked to join the league. Osborne remained in the league until 1942 and at that time dropped its league membership. Mankato dropped its league membership in 1948. In 1957 Smith Center became the seventh member of the North Central Kansas League.

In the fall of 1966 the North Central Kansas League will be composed of five schools. They are Marysville, Concordia, Abilene, Sacred Heart of Salina, and Chapman. The former members of the North Central Kansas League have formed a new league which will be known as the Northern Kansas League. The Northern Kansas League will begin operating with the year 1966. The following schools will be members:

- |                 |                  |
|-----------------|------------------|
| (1) Beloit      | (4) Smith Center |
| (2) Belleville  | (5) Osborne      |
| (3) Minneapolis | (6) Lincoln      |

## FINANCING

From the time that athletics were established in 1903, financing of athletics was through the collection of gate receipts. Gate receipts were and still are placed in a separate athletic fund which is not a part of the general fund. This continued until 1945 when a new school board policy was enacted in which each head coach turns in his budget requests for the coming school year. Gate receipts for the coming year are then estimated by the principal, and the difference is appropriated to the athletic fund by the school board.

Today all football, basketball, and track game and practice equipment, except for shoes, is furnished by the school through the athletic fund.

At the time of this writing the only equipment provided by the athletic fund in the minor sports, such as golf, is golf balls for the golf meets.

## FOOTBALL

E. F. Tinker (1912 through 1915)

Mr. E. F. Tinker was the principal of Lincoln High School and taught science and mathematics from 1912 through 1915. He was a graduate of Kansas Wesleyan University and received a salary of \$832.50.

In the fall of 1914 Mr. Tinker organized the first football team in the school's history. The city purchased some ground and created the Lincoln Athletic Field which was used for

football, baseball, and track. There were no showers nor dressing facilities in the high school. Each boy purchased his own football suit and equipment. On September 30, 1914, football suits were issued to fourteen boys out of a student enrollment of 135. Six games were played this first year. Lincoln won over Ada, Tescott, and Luray and lost to Beverly, Salina, and Barnard.

#### John H. Davies (1915 through 1916)

Since no coach was available to instruct the football team in 1915, Superintendent John H. Davies agreed to coach the team for one year. His salary for this year was \$1,440.00. During the 1915 season four games were played. Competition was provided by Luray, Tescott, Beverly, and the Lincoln Town Team. The high school team lost all four games that year.

#### W. E. Sheffer (1916 through 1917)

Mr. Sheffer was a graduate of Chicago University and taught history and mathematics at Lincoln High School. He received a salary of \$1,125.00. One hundred seventy students were enrolled during the 1916-1917 school year.

Lincoln High School played nine football games in 1916 winning three, losing five, and tying one. Victories came over Culver, Beverly, and Lucas. Losses were to Beverly, Barnard (twice), Tescott (twice), and a tie was played with St. John's of Salina.

### Len B. Herrod (1917)

Mr. Herrod was a graduate of the Kansas State Normal School and taught United States history, ancient history, economics and civics for a salary of \$900.00.

Eight football games were played in the fall of 1917 with fourteen boys reporting for the squad. Lincoln High School defeated St. John's of Salina and Beverly. Losses were to Barnard (twice), Lucas (twice), Beverly, and St. John's of Salina. Lincoln ended the season with two victories and six losses.

### No Football Coach (1918)

Because of World War I, no men teachers were available to coach football. Therefore, football was not played during this year.

### Byron F. White (1919)

Mr. White was the new principal of Lincoln High School and taught psychology, history, civics, and general science. Five games were played during the fall of 1919. Lincoln defeated Culver in their only win and lost to Minneapolis, Tescott, Beverly, and Sylvan Grove.

### K. O. Broady (1920)

Mr. Broady was a 1920 graduate of Washburn University and taught physics and science during his year at Lincoln High School. Under Mr. Broady the football team won four games and

lost four. Victories were over Culver, Sylvan Grove, Luray, and Tescott. Losses were to St. John's of Salina, Beverly, Ellsworth, and Wilson.

#### Earl S. Johnson (1921 through 1923)

Mr. Johnson was superintendent of Lincoln High School and was the coach for two years. He received a salary of \$2,160.00 during his two years as coach and superintendent. Enrollment during this two-year period was approximately 200 students.

Mr. Johnson compiled an overall record of eight wins, four losses, and one tie in his two years as football coach. In 1922 the Lincoln squad had its best year under Mr. Johnson, winning four and losing two. The highlight of this 1922 season was a 7-6 victory over Salina.

It was during Mr. Johnson's second year that a new high school was completed at a cost of \$140,000.00. This new school included a gymnasium and dressing rooms for athletic squads which had been non-existent before this time. A football field was laid out approximately fifty yards south of the high school building. This field is known today as the Lincoln High School athletic field.

#### John I. Sward (1923 through 1925)

Mr. John I. Sward, a Bethany College graduate, was the newly hired athletic coach for the 1923-1924 school year. He served two years as athletic coach and teacher of United States history and civics. His salary for both years was \$1,620.00.

Mr. Sward started the 1923 season with sixteen players and played a nine-game schedule. Under two years of his tutelage, Lincoln football teams won six games, lost six, and tied four.

#### George Cole (1925 through 1927)

For two years the athletic program was under the guidance of Mr. George Cole, a graduate of Sterling College. Mr. Cole taught science, government, and history while on the staff at Lincoln High School. Coach Cole received \$1,710.00 for his teaching and coaching duties.

In 1925 the football squad played eight games, winning two, losing four, and tying two. The two victories came at the expense of Barnard and Russell. Ellsworth administered Lincoln its most humiliating defeat in the school's athletic history by defeating the Lincoln Leopards 84-0. Other losses were to Luray, Beloit, and Wilson. Ties were recorded in games with Lucas and Kanopolis.

The 1926 football squad won four, lost three, and tied two. In 1926 twenty-one players reported for the squad. This figure represented a five-player increase over previous years.

#### Carroll Scott (1927 through 1933)

Mr. Carroll Scott coached six years at Lincoln High School. Mr. Scott was a graduate of Kansas Wesleyan University and taught agriculture, constitution, civics, and psychology during his tenure at Lincoln. Enrollment at Lincoln High School ranged from 225 to 260 during this six-year period.

Mr. Scott's salary ranged from \$2,000.00 in 1930 to \$1,350.00 in 1932. This drop in salary was accounted for by the depression of the early thirties.

Mr. Scott's football teams compiled a six-year record of twenty-nine wins, eighteen losses, and two ties. He is remembered by former players as one of the better coaches in the school's history.

In his six years as coach his football teams had four winning seasons. In 1928 and 1929 his teams won two Solomon Valley League football championships. These two teams were undefeated both years in league play. Perhaps his best team was his 1930 squad which won eight and lost one. Concordia was the only team to defeat the Lincoln squad and the only team to score on the Lincoln Leopards. The highlight of this season was perhaps the 68-0 victory over Ellsworth which was played before twelve hundred spectators.

#### Rudolph "Boots" Boxberger (1933 through 1935)

Mr. Boxberger was a 1933 graduate of Kansas Wesleyan University and taught American history and civics and coached all athletics at Lincoln for two years. Mr. Boxberger's salary was \$765.00 in 1933-1934 and \$850.00 in 1934-1935. This represents a 50 per cent cut over the 1932 salary of Mr. Scott, former coach. This was at the height of the depression. Under the guidance of Mr. Boxberger, Lincoln's football teams had a two win, six loss season in 1933 and a winning season with five victories, two losses, and two ties in 1934.

### Donald Long (1935 through 1937)

Mr. Long was a graduate of the College of Emporia in the class of 1934. Mr. Long taught social studies at Lincoln and was paid \$855.00 for the first year and \$945.00 the second year.

Mr. Long was greeted by thirty-five candidates for the first football practice. The first night football game was played under the floodlights of the Lincoln gridiron before six hundred spectators. The Leopards defeated Sylvan Grove 18-0. Other victories were over Beverly, Glen Elder, Luray, and Wilson. Losses were to Beloit, Lyons, Osborne, and Ellsworth. A tie was played with Minneapolis to bring the 1935 season's record to five wins, four losses, and one tie.

The 1936 football season was a very successful one with eight wins, one loss, and one tie. Victories came over Salina, Russell, Lyons, Luray, Osborne, Wilson, Minneapolis, and Sylvan Grove. The lone loss was to Beloit, and the final game of the 1936 season was a tie with Ellsworth.

During the 1936 season the first assistant coach was hired. Mr. A. V. Roberts, a graduate of Kansas Wesleyan University, served as the first assistant coach in the school's history. Mr. Roberts taught mathematics and physical education. He served in this capacity from 1936-1942.

### Stanley Herman (1937 through 1941)

Mr. Herman was a graduate of Kansas Wesleyan University and was contracted to coach all athletics and teach social studies. He served in this capacity for four years. His first year's

salary was \$900.00, and three years later he was receiving \$1,500.00.

Thirty-six candidates reported for football from a student enrollment of 267. Mr. A. V. Roberts assisted Mr. Herman all four years. Under his tutelage, Mr. Herman's football teams won twenty-three, lost eleven, and tied four. Mr. Herman's 1937 squad was, and is to this date, the only undefeated football team in the school's history. The team won five games and tied three. Team defeated were: Lyons, Luray, Beloit, Minneapolis, and Sylvan Grove. Ties were recorded with Russell, Osborne, and Beloit.

The 1938 squad showed an increased interest in the sport as forty-five candidates reported for practice from a student body of 292. The 1938 squad won six, lost two, and tied one.

The 1939 squad was perhaps the greatest football team in Lincoln High School history. This was Lincoln's first year as a member of the North Central Kansas League, and the Leopards were undefeated in league play. This team was and still is the only football team to win a North Central Kansas League football championship. This championship team of 1939 ended the season with nine wins and one loss. The only loss was suffered in the season's opening game with Stafford. The Leopards were defeated by a score of 6-0.

The 1940 squad played nine games, winning three, losing five, and tying one. This was Mr. Herman's only losing season as head mentor of football. The Leopards finished third in their second season in the North Central Kansas League. The

highlight of this season was playing Lawrence at Lawrence with Lincoln's losing 20-6.

#### Robert Innes (1941 through 1942)

Mr. Robert Innes became head football coach in the fall of 1941. Mr. Innes was a graduate of Emporia State and taught history and civics at Lincoln. His salary was \$1,560.00.

Mr. Innes' lone season was somewhat dismal as the Leopards won two games and lost seven.

#### Glenn Mitchell (1942 through 1945)

Mr. Glenn Mitchell, a graduate of Kansas Wesleyan University, was employed for three years as head coach and teacher of mathematics. His starting salary was \$1,500.00 and was increased to \$2,200.00 during his third year.

Mr. Mitchell's three year record showed sixteen wins, nine losses, and one tie. His 1943 squad took third place in the North Central Kansas League and his 1944 football team was his best, winning seven and losing two. This team finished second in the North Central Kansas League, losing only to the league champion, Belleville.

#### Jim Mettner (1945 through 1954)

Mr. Jim Mettner, a graduate of Bethany College, was hired in 1945 to coach and teach mathematics and physical education at Lincoln High School. His starting salary was \$2,900.00 and each year, with the exception of one, Mr. Mettner received an increase

in salary. His ninth year, which was 1954, he was earning \$4,200.00. After 1954 Mr. Mettner moved into the field of school administration.

Mr. Mettner's nine-year record shows forty-two wins, thirty-seven losses, and nine ties. In his nine years as head football coach, Mr. Mettner had six winning seasons and three losing seasons. His 1947 squad tied for second place in the North Central Kansas League with six wins, two losses, and two ties. His 1951 squad finished third in the league. Both his 1952 and 1953 squads finished second in the North Central Kansas League. Mr. Mettner had his best teams during his last two years at Lincoln. His 1952 squad won seven, lost two, and tied one. His 1953 squad won eight, lost one, and tied one. Mr. Mettner's squads numbered between fifty and sixty boys.

From 1962-1966 Mr. Jim Mettner served as principal of Lincoln High School and next year he will be the new superintendent of Unified District No. 298, as Lincoln High School will be officially known.

#### Terry Wolfe (1954 through 1955)

Mr. Wolfe graduated from Pittsburg State Teachers College and taught mathematics and physical education at Lincoln for one year. Mr. Wolfe's salary was \$3,900.00. Mr. Wolfe's team won four, lost three, and tied two.

#### Elvin Brown (1955 through 1959)

Mr. Elvin Brown was a graduate of McPherson College and was

employed to coach football and teach mathematics. Mr. Elvin Brown received a salary of \$4,300.00 and three years later was earning \$4,900.00. Under the guidance of Mr. Elvin Brown, the Leopard football squads won fourteen, lost nineteen, and tied three.

Mr. Elvin Brown had only one winning season, that being the 1956 season when his squad won five, lost three, and tied one.

#### Harvey Shank (1959 through 1963)

Mr. Harvey Shank was a graduate of Emporia State Teachers College. Mr. Shank taught algebra, geometry, and advanced algebra. His starting salary was \$4,400.00, and three years later he was receiving \$4,900.00.

Under the direction of Mr. Shank, in four years Lincoln won six games, lost twenty-five, and tied two. There were no winning seasons in these four years. The best record was a three-five season in 1960.

#### Robert Els (1963 through 1965)

Mr. Robert Els was a 1961 graduate of Nebraska Wesleyan University. Mr. Els taught mathematics and physical education. His starting salary was \$5,250.00 and increased to \$5,550.00 his second year.

Under Mr. Els the 1963 football team suffered a dismal year, winning no games in eight contests. The 1964 squad won two and lost six.

### Marion "Skip" Florence (1965)

Mr. Marion Florence was a 1958 graduate of Emporia State Teachers College. Mr. Florence teaches mathematics and physical education at the Lincoln Rural High School.

The football season of 1965 was unsuccessful in terms of wins and defeats. The Lincoln squad won one game and lost seven. Mr. Florence's first year's salary at Lincoln was \$5,900.00. He will return next year as the head football coach.

#### Summary of Football Season Records

<u>Year</u>	<u>Won</u>	<u>Lost</u>	<u>Tied</u>
1914	3	3	0
1915	0	4	0
1916	3	5	1
1917	2	6	0
1918	No Football		
1919	1	4	0
1920	4	4	0
1921	3	2	1
1922	5	2	0
1923	4	3	2
1924	2	3	2
1925	2	4	2
1926	4	3	2
1927	2	6	0
1928	5	2	2

## Summary of Football Season Records (continued)

<u>Year</u>	<u>Won</u>	<u>Lost</u>	<u>Tied</u>
1929	5	2	0
1930	8	1	0
1931	3	5	0
1932	6	2	0
1933	2	6	0
1934	5	2	2
1935	5	4	1
1936	8	1	1
1937	5	0	3
1938	6	2	1
1939	9	1	0
1940	3	5	1
1941	2	7	0
1942	4	4	0
1943	5	3	1
1944	7	2	0
1945	3	6	0
1946	5	4	1
1947	6	2	2
1948	1	9	0
1949	4	5	1
1950	4	4	2
1951	4	4	1
1952	7	2	1

## Summary of Football Season Records (continued)

<u>Year</u>	<u>Won</u>	<u>Lost</u>	<u>Tied</u>
1953	8	1	1
1954	3	4	1
1955	3	5	1
1956	5	3	1
1957	4	5	0
1958	2	6	1
1959	3	6	0
1960	3	5	0
1961	0	7	1
1962	0	7	1
1963	0	8	0
1964	2	6	0
1965	1	7	0
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
TOTALS	191	204	37

In fifty-one seasons of football Lincoln High School has had twenty-one coaches with an average tenure of 2.4 years. Mr. Jim Mettner has the distinction of serving longer than any other football coach--nine years from 1945 to 1954. Of the twenty-one football coaches, seven or 33 per cent have served in this capacity for only one year. Nine of the twenty-one coaches came from two colleges--five from Kansas Wesleyan University and four from Emporia State Teachers College. During this fifty-one years, football coaches' salaries have ranged from \$765.00 in

1933 to \$5,900.00 in 1966.

Football teams over the years have had from fourteen to sixty boys participating in the sport. Of the 432 football games played in these fifty-one years, Lincoln High School has won 191 or 44 per cent, lost 204 or 47 per cent, and recorded 37 ties or 9 per cent. There have been twenty-one winning seasons and twenty-five losing seasons. In five of these seasons, football teams recorded equal won and lost records.

### BASKETBALL

Athletics was first started in the 1903-1904 school year. At this time athletics consisted only of the sport, basketball. This author was fortunate enough to obtain a photograph of the first basketball team from Lincoln High School. The members of this team were Paul Newlen, Burton Doolittle, Harlan Brant, Carl Woody, and Roy Mack. The first coach was Superintendent I. L. Mitchell, who coached basketball teams in this school from 1903-1907. There are no records available for these years.

When Mr. R. E. Long became superintendent and athletic coach in 1907, the southwest basement room of the Central building was equipped for physical training; however, this room was too small for playing basketball games. Basketball games were played in whatever building in town was vacant at the time. It was in 1907 that the first gymnasium, as such, was improvised in the town Opera House.

In 1908 basketball was played at the Rink, a building used primarily for roller skating. A 1908 annual, gleaned by the

writer, displayed a photo of the squad of eight players and their coach, Mr. R. E. Long. The Lincoln Sentinel, the city newspaper, in its March 31, 1910, issue, reports that the high school basketball team of 1909-1910 played fifteen games, winning thirteen and losing two. Losses were to the Denmark Town Team and to Clay Center. There were no records available for the team from 1910-1914.

Basketball was dropped as a school activity from 1914-1916, because there was no suitable place in town in which to play the games.

From 1917-1922 games were played in a building which had previously been used as a poultry house. In 1922 a new high school building was completed. This building included what seemed at the time a fine gymnasium. Imagine the elation and excitement of the team when it played its first game in this new building on a court which was seventy feet long and thirty-five feet wide with seats for 250 spectators. The community felt that the sport had come a long way from its outdoor court to this fine, new indoor gymnasium.

In 1949 a bond issue for \$285,000.00 was approved for the purpose of building a new grade school. This new building was completed in the fall of 1951 and is located at 304 South Fourth. This new building includes a gymnasium built for high school basketball practices and games. This gymnasium comfortably accommodates 1,500 persons. For seating these spectators there are 500 theater-type seats, and the remainder are folding bleachers. The dressing room facilities are excellent with

four dressing rooms, an equipment cage, and a coach's room.

Len Herrod (1917 through 1918)

The high school annual, The Periscope, reports that the 1917 team is the first basketball team in recent years. Lincoln High School played six games, losing the first three and winning the last three games. The three losses were to Tescott (twice) and Barnard. Victories were over Sylvan Grove (twice) and WaKeeney.

No Coach (1918 through 1919)

Because of World War I there were no men teachers available to coach the athletic teams. The boys did get together and formed a basketball team. Seven games were scheduled. The boys played three of these games, losing all of them--two to Tescott and one to Lucas. The remaining four games were cancelled because of an influenza epidemic. Due to this epidemic, Lincoln High School was closed for thirteen weeks, and students did their school work by correspondence. With this restriction basketball, of course, could not be effectively carried on in this manner.

Byron F. White (1919 through 1920)

Mr. White's 1919-1920 basketball team played eight games, winning six and losing two. Victories were over Sylvan Grove, Barnard, Vesper (twice), and the Lincoln Town Team (twice). Losses were to Tescott and Sylvan Grove.

Earl S. Johnson (1921 through 1923)

There were no records available for Mr. Johnson's 1920-1922 basketball teams. Mr. Johnson's 1922-1923 basketball team won seven games and lost three. In the first game played in that year Lincoln defeated Ellsworth 15-12. This was the first victory over Ellsworth in any athletic contest. This game was the first one to be played in the new high school gymnasium.

John I. Sward (1923 through 1925)

Mr. Sward's two-year basketball record shows eleven wins and fourteen losses. The 1923-1924 basketball team, composed of eight players, played a twelve-game schedule with six teams. Lincoln won five games and lost seven. The six opponents were Russell, Beloit, Ellsworth, Beverly, Sylvan Grove, and Minneapolis.

The 1924-1925 basketball team added to the previous schedule the teams of Concordia, Ada, and Wilson to complete a thirteen-game schedule. During this season Lincoln won six games and lost seven.

George Cole (1925 through 1927)

Under the leadership of Mr. Cole, the 1925-1926 basketball team played nine games, winning six and losing three. In his second season, which was not as successful, his team played thirteen games, winning five and losing eight. Although this team's record was not outstanding, this squad showed improvement

by winning the last four games.

### Carroll Scott (1927 through 1933)

Mr. Scott's 1927-1928 basketball team played a heavier schedule of nineteen games. This season was quite successful because this team won the first Lincoln County Basketball Tournament. In winning this tournament the team played three games in one day. The first game was played at 9:30 A.M. with Lincoln defeating Vesper 19-8. The semi-final game was played at 2:45 P.M. with Lincoln defeating Sylvan Grove 57-0. The championship game was played at 9:00 P.M. with Lincoln's taking the county championship by defeating Beverly 15-7. This team was defeated in the semi-finals of the regional tournament by Salina 25-13. The record for this team was thirteen wins and six losses.

Mr. Scott's 1928-1929 team suffered a losing season, winning only four games of a twelve-game schedule. Lincoln finished third in the newly formed Solomon Valley League.

The 1929-1930 squad played eighteen games, winning twelve and losing six. This year's team won the Solomon Valley League championship and also won the Lincoln County Basketball Tournament. Lincoln was defeated in the first round of the regional tournament at Salina by Asherville 25-22. An interesting side note from the author concerning this game was that his father played in this game for Asherville and scored nine points.

Mr. Scott's 1930-1931 basketball team was also quite successful as it won twelve games and lost only two. This team was

defeated in the semi-finals of the Class A Tournament at Salina after defeating Abilene 20-18. The semi-final tournament loss was to Lindsborg 20-13.

The 1931-1932 basketball team played thirteen games, winning seven and losing six. This team lost its first round game in the Class A Tournament at Salina to Abilene 23-20.

Mr. Scott's last basketball team at Lincoln played only eleven games and was victorious in only four; the team lost seven games. This team participated in the Class A Tournament at Abilene, losing in the first round of tournament action to Abilene 37-23.

Under the tutelage of Mr. Scott, Lincoln won fifty-two games and lost thirty-five in his six years at the helm. His teams had four winning seasons, won two county championships, and one Solomon Valley League title.

#### Rudolph "Boots" Boxberger (1933 through 1935)

During Mr. Boxberger's two years as basketball coach at Lincoln High School, his teams won six games and lost twenty-three. The first season was somewhat dismal as Lincoln defeated only Wilson. The second year his team won only five games and lost eleven.

#### Don Long (1935-1937)

Under Mr. Long twenty-four boys participated in basketball. The 1935-1936 squad won five games and lost thirteen. The highlight of this season was the winning of the Beverly Tournament.

The 1936-1937 squad had a winning record, winning eight games and losing six. This team was defeated by Beloit 32-14 in the first round of the regional tournament at Concordia.

Stanley Herman (1937 through 1941)

Mr. Herman's first basketball team was quite successful in winning fifteen games and losing only six. The highlight of this season was their winning second place in the Class A Regional Tournament at Hays. The Leopards defeated Hoisington 35-20 in the first round and in the quarter-finals defeated St. Joseph's of Hays 26-24 in an overtime. In the semi-finals Lincoln defeated LaCrosse 41-19. In the regional finals the Lincoln team was defeated by Hays 33-16.

During this 1937-1938 season the Lincoln High School purchased a new electric scoreboard from the Snowden-Mize Athletic Goods Company for \$144.79.

Mr. Herman's 1938-1939 squad was also successful in winning fourteen games of a nineteen-game schedule. This team lost to McPherson by a score of 41-33 in the first round of the regional tournament at Salina.

The 1939-1940 season was Lincoln's first year as an organized member of the North Central Kansas League. This team was victorious in thirteen of the twenty games played. This team placed second in the North Central Kansas League and lost to Manhattan by a score of 31-25 in the first round of the Class A Regional Tournament at Salina.

The 1940-1941 squad gave Mr. Herman his only losing season

in four years as Lincoln's basketball mentor. This squad won only five games and lost thirteen. Under the four years of Mr. Herman's guidance, Lincoln's basketball teams won forty-seven and lost thirty-one games.

Robert Innes (1941 through 1942)

During Mr. Innes' one year as basketball coach, his squad won only three games and lost fourteen. The victories were over Concordia (twice) and Belleville.

Glenn Mitchell (1942 through 1945)

During Mr. Mitchell's three years as basketball coach, his squads won fourteen games and lost thirty-two. His best season was in 1943-1944 when his squad won seven games and lost nine. The 1944-1945 basketball team won only two games and lost sixteen.

Jim Mettner (1945 through 1947)

Mr. Mettner taught and coached at Lincoln High School nine years. His first two years he served as both head football and basketball coach. During his third year, he remained as head football coach and, for the first time, the school hired a separate head coach for basketball. In the two years as head basketball coach, Mr. Mettner's squads won four games and lost thirty-one.

### Don Newell (1947 through 1948)

After the board of education had decided to separate the football and basketball coaching duties, Mr. Newell became the first head basketball coach in the school's history. Previous to this time, one coach had performed both duties.

Mr. Newell taught commerce courses at Lincoln High School and was a graduate of Kansas Wesleyan University. His salary was \$3,500.00. He remained at Lincoln only one year and his basketball team won two games and lost eighteen.

### Grover Perkins (1948 through 1950)

Mr. Perkins was a graduate of Emporia State Teachers College and taught industrial arts at Lincoln High School for \$3,700.00. His two-year coaching record shows two wins and thirty-five losses.

### William Cornwell (1950 through 1953)

Mr. Cornwell was a graduate of Kansas University and was a teacher of social studies while at Lincoln. His salary was \$3,100.00 for the 1950-1951 school year, and during his last year he received \$4,100.00. Mr. Cornwell was most fortunate in that he was the first to coach in the new gymnasium in 1951.

In Mr. Cornwell's three-year tenure at Lincoln, his teams had losing seasons. The 1950-1951 squad won four and lost fourteen. The 1951-1952 team won four and lost sixteen. The 1952-1953 team won five and lost seventeen. His 1952-1953 team

took fourth place in the Class A District Tournament at Beloit.

#### H. Don Unruh (1953 through 1957)

Mr. Unruh served as head basketball coach at Lincoln for four years. Mr. Unruh was a graduate of McPherson College and taught history and government. His starting salary was \$3,900.00 and this was increased to \$4,600.00 his last year at Lincoln. Mr. Unruh's four-year record at Lincoln shows sixteen victories and fifty-seven defeats. In 1953-1954 his team won five and lost sixteen. During the 1954-1955 season his squad won four and lost twelve. In the 1955-1956 season the team experienced four wins and fifteen losses. During his last season the basketball team won three and lost fourteen games.

#### Clinton Brown (1957 through 1962)

Mr. Clinton Brown was a graduate of Kansas State College at Pittsburg and taught social studies and physical education for five years. His starting salary was \$4,525.00, and by his fifth year his salary had increased to \$5,225.00.

Mr. Clinton Brown's five-year record shows twenty victories and sixty-four losses. His best season was in 1957-1958, his first year at Lincoln, when he won seven games and lost eleven. In 1958-1959 the record was two wins and eighteen losses. During the 1959-1960 season, Mr. Clinton Brown's team won three and lost seventeen games. The 1960-1961 squad won four and lost fourteen games. During Mr. Clinton Brown's fifth and final year at Lincoln as head basketball mentor, his team won four games

and lost fourteen.

### George Stephens (1962 through 1966)

Mr. Stephens was a 1959 graduate of Kansas Wesleyan University. He teaches social studies and physical education at Lincoln High School. His starting salary was \$4,925.00 and he is now receiving \$6,075.00.

In the four seasons that this writer has been at the helm, the basketball teams have won forty-four games and lost forty. During these four years, approximately forty boys participated in basketball each year. The 1962-1963 squad was the first winning basketball team in twenty-two years of Lincoln's athletic history. This squad won thirteen games and lost ten. This team took third place in the North Central Kansas League and placed second in the Class B District Tournament. The Leopards were defeated in a double overtime in the first round of the Class B Regional Tournament at Moundridge by Moundridge 66-70.

The 1963-1964 squad was this writer's only losing team in his four years. This squad won five games and lost thirteen, placing fifth in the North Central Kansas League.

The 1964-1965 squad won thirteen games and lost eight, giving them second place in the North Central Kansas League. This team placed third in the Class B District Tournament at Claflin.

The 1965-1966 basketball team placed second in the North Central Kansas League. They took second in the North Central Kansas League Tournament, losing to Marysville 60-47. Marysville

later went on to win the 1966 Class A State Tournament. This year's team placed third in the Class B District Tournament and finished the season with thirteen wins and nine losses.

#### Summary of Basketball Season Records

<u>Year</u>	<u>Won</u>	<u>Lost</u>
1909-1910	13	2
1910-1917	No records available	
1917-1918	3	3
1918-1919	0	3
1919-1920	6	2
1920-1922	No records available	
1922-1923	7	3
1923-1924	5	7
1924-1925	6	7
1925-1926	6	3
1926-1927	5	8
1927-1928	13	6
1928-1929	4	8
1929-1930	12	6
1930-1931	12	2
1931-1932	7	6
1932-1933	4	7
1933-1934	1	12
1934-1935	5	11
1935-1936	5	13

## Summary of Basketball Season Records (continued)

<u>Year</u>	<u>Won</u>	<u>Lost</u>
1936-1937	8	6
1937-1938	15	6
1938-1939	14	5
1939-1940	13	7
1940-1941	5	13
1941-1942	3	14
1942-1943	5	7
1943-1944	7	9
1944-1945	2	16
1945-1946	4	13
1946-1947	0	18
1947-1948	2	18
1948-1949	0	18
1949-1950	2	17
1950-1951	4	14
1951-1952	4	16
1952-1953	5	17
1953-1954	5	16
1954-1955	4	12
1955-1956	4	15
1956-1957	3	14
1957-1958	7	11
1958-1959	2	18
1959-1960	3	17

## Summary of Basketball Season Records (continued)

<u>Year</u>	<u>Won</u>	<u>Lost</u>
1960-1961	4	14
1961-1962	4	14
1962-1963	13	10
1963-1964	5	13
1964-1965	13	8
1965-1966	13	9
TOTALS	<u>287</u>	<u>494</u>

In forty-eight years of basketball records there have been eighteen coaches with an average tenure of 2.7 years. Mr. Carroll Scott, who coached at Lincoln High School from 1927 to 1933, has the distinction of serving longer than any other basketball coach--six years. Four of the basketball coaches served only one year. Six, or one-third, of the eighteen basketball coaches graduated from Kansas Wesleyan University. During this forty-eight years of basketball history the coaches' salaries have ranged from \$765.00 in 1933 to \$6,075.00 in 1966.

Basketball squads over the years have numbered from five to forty players. Of the 781 basketball games played during this time, Lincoln has won 287 or 37 per cent while losing 494 or 63 per cent. Only fifteen of the forty-eight seasons have been victorious, i.e., won over half of the games played.

## BASEBALL

Baseball was played off and on in the early history of the high school but has not been a part of the athletic program since 1925.

## R. E. Long (1909)

Baseball was first played under Mr. Long in the spring of 1909. Lincoln played one game, defeating Sylvan Grove 11 to 3.

## Metzler (1912)

In 1912 Lincoln played two baseball games winning both games. The 1912 victims were Beverly and Barnard.

## E. F. Tinker (1914)

In 1914 Lincoln played four baseball games, winning two and losing two. Lincoln beat Lucas and Beloit and suffered defeat from Wilson and Glasco.

## W. E. Sheffer (1916)

In 1916 the high school team also played four games, winning three and losing one.

## Earl S. Johnson (1922 through 1923)

In the springs of 1922 and 1923 the Lincoln High School baseball team played one game each year. Both games were won over Beverly.

### John I. Sward (1924 through 1925)

Twelve players made up the baseball team and played four games, winning all four. Victories were over Beverly (twice) and Ada (twice). In 1925 the last baseball team in the school's history played four games with Lincoln's winning three and losing one. Victories were recorded against Barnard (twice) and Beverly. The lone loss was to Beverly in the last baseball game in the school's history.

### TENNIS

Tennis was first a part of the spring sports program in 1925. Two tennis courts were constructed on the grounds of the present high school in March, 1923.

### John I. Sward (1925)

In 1925 the high school tennis squad participated in the Sylvan Grove Tennis Tournament. Lincoln was defeated in the quarter-finals by Ellsworth. In the first round of this tournament Lincoln defeated Sylvan Grove 2-0.

### George Cole (1926)

In 1926, participating in the Sylvan Grove Tennis Tournament, the Lincoln tennis team was defeated in the semi-finals by Beverly 2-1. In the first round of this tournament Lincoln defeated Lucas 2-0. In the quarter-finals the Luray Town Team was defeated 2-0.

### Carroll Scott (1929 through 1931)

In the spring of 1929 the tennis squad played three dual matches winning all three. Two dual tennis matches were won over Sylvan Grove and the other was against Salina 4-2. In other matches Lincoln's Liggett and Parkhurst won the doubles tournament over Manhattan in the Salina Tennis Tournament. These two same individuals took second place in the doubles competition in the McPherson College Invitational Tournament. In the 1929 State Tournament at Emporia, Lincoln's doubles team of Liggett and Parkhurst took second place, losing to Hutchinson in the finals.

In 1930 the tennis squad played two dual matches, defeating Ellsworth 6-0 and Salina 4-2. In the McPherson Invitational Tournament of 1930, Liggett and Parkhurst won the doubles tournament. Sweazy of Lincoln took second place in the singles competition.

In the spring of 1931 Lincoln defeated Salina and Ellsworth in dual tennis matches. Miller and Sweazy of Lincoln took first place in the doubles competition at the McPherson Invitational Tournament.

### C. G. Lindgren (1932 through 1933)

Mr. Lindgren became the head tennis coach in 1932. Under his guidance the 1932 tennis squad won five, lost two, and tied one. Victories came over Salina, Beloit (twice), Russell, and Sylvan Grove. The ties were against Salina and Russell. The

lone loss was to Sylvan Grove.

Sweazy and Miller won the doubles competition and Sweazy won the singles championship of the McPherson College Invitational Tournament of 1932. In 1933 Mr. Lindgren's tennis team won a dual tennis match over Ellsworth and lost their first dual tennis match in five years to Salina by a score of 7-0. In the 1933 McPherson College Tournament, Jack Wicker of Lincoln took second place in the singles competition.

#### Don Long (1936)

Mr. Long's tennis team defeated Ellsworth in a dual tennis match 4-2 and lost a dual match to Salina. The tennis squad also took part in the Salina Invitational Tournament.

#### Melvin Clark (1939 through 1942)

Mr. Clark was the manual training teacher during his tenure at Lincoln and also the assistant football coach. Mr. Clark's 1939 tennis team played two dual tennis matches, winning both by defeating Beloit 5-4 and Wilson 6-3. In the springs of 1941 and 1942 three matches were played, one with Ellsworth, one with Minneapolis, and one with Beverly. Lincoln won only the Minneapolis match. The athletic records show that there were eleven boys participating, and four earned tennis letters in the spring of 1941. The 1942 squad had twenty-two participants with three earning tennis letters.

### Jack Carinder (1956 through 1957)

Participation in tennis resumed in 1956 under Mr. Carinder, who was also an assistant football coach at the time. In 1956 the Lincoln tennis squad played two dual matches, one against Concordia and the other against Beloit. They also participated in the North Central Kansas League Tennis Meet. In 1957 Mr. Carinder had nine boys participating in tennis. Dual matches with Concordia, Ellsworth, and Minneapolis were played. There is no record as to how these matches came out.

### Clinton Brown (1958 through 1960)

Mr. Clinton Brown, who was also the head basketball coach, guided the tennis squad for three years. Three dual matches were played in 1959. One dual was played against Ellsworth and the other two were played against Concordia. This team participated in the North Central Kansas League Tennis Meet.

In 1958 the tennis squad played two dual matches and lost both to Minneapolis. In 1960, the last year for tennis at Lincoln High School, the squad played three dual matches. Two dual matches were played with Ellsworth and one with Concordia. Because of a lack of interest on the part of the schools in the North Central Kansas League, tennis was dropped as a league activity. In the final league meet of 1960, Songer and Flaherty of Lincoln placed second and third, respectively, in the singles competition.

## GOLF

Golf was first introduced into the athletic program at Lincoln High School in the spring of 1941. Golf was played only during the years of 1941, 1942, and 1948, because of lack of interest in the North Central Kansas League schools. In 1951 the league again introduced golf and interest has been high every year since.

## A. V. Roberts (1941 through 1942)

Mr. Roberts' 1941 golf squad placed third in the North Central Kansas League Golf Tournament held at Lincoln on May 1, 1941. All seven schools in the league participated with Minneapolis winning the league championship.

In 1942 Mr. Roberts' golf squad placed fifth in the North Central Kansas League Golf Tournament which was held at Mankato. All seven schools in the league participated. Golf was dropped as a sports activity in the league until 1948 when a league golf meet was held with only four members of the league participating. Lincoln did not participate in this meet.

## Maurice Lysell (1951 through 1955)

In 1951 golf was reorganized at the Lincoln High School. During this year Lincoln participated in one dual golf meet at Minneapolis, the Concordia Invitational Golf Meet, and the North Central Kansas League Golf Meet held at Belleville.

In 1952 the golf squad participated in three dual matches.

Lincoln lost dual matches to Beloit and Minneapolis and defeated Minneapolis in the other dual golf match. This season's squad took fifth in the North Central Kansas League Golf Meet held at Beloit.

Mr. Lysell's 1953 golf squad participated in four dual matches, winning two and losing two. Victories were over Beloit and Minneapolis. Losses were to Beloit and Concordia. The golf squad placed third in the Concordia Invitational Golf Tournament. In the 1953 North Central Kansas League Golf Tournament held at Lincoln on May 6, 1953, Lincoln won the league championship. In the 1953 State Sand Green Golf Tournament held at Beloit, Lincoln's four-man team placed fourth.

In 1954 Mr. Lysell had eleven boys participating in golf. Three dual matches were played, two with Beloit and one with Concordia. The match with Concordia was the lone dual victory that season. The 1954 squad took third place in the Concordia Invitational Golf Tournament. In the North Central Kansas League Tournament at Belleville the Leopard squad placed third.

The 1955 golf squad played a schedule of six meets. Two dual matches were played with Lyons and two triangular golf meets were played, one at Lincoln and one at Concordia. The sixth meet was the North Central Kansas League Meet held at Concordia with Lincoln placing third.

#### Randall (1956 through 1958)

During Mr. Randall's two years as golf coach, Lincoln played four dual matches with Beloit and Lyons. They also

participated in the North Central Kansas League Golf Meets these two years. Only seven boys participated in golf each of these years. There was no record available to indicate how the team finished in the league or in the dual golf matches.

In 1958 the golf squad played a dual match at Concordia and a dual match with Beloit at Lincoln. They also participated in the Beloit Invitational Golf Tournament and the North Central Kansas League Tournament held at Lincoln in which Lincoln placed third.

#### Harvey Shank (1960)

Lincoln did not participate in golf in 1959 because of a lack of players. In 1960 Lincoln played three dual golf meets with Abilene, Plainville, and Beloit. They also participated in the North Central Kansas League Golf Meet.

#### Martin Isaacson (1961 through 1962)

Mr. Isaacson, who is the guidance counselor at the high school, revived an interest in the sport of golf at Lincoln. During these two years approximately fifteen boys participated in golf. His 1962 squad placed second to Marysville in the North Central Kansas League Golf Meet.

#### George Stephens (1963 through 1966)

In each of these four years Lincoln participated in three dual matches, the Lyons Invitational Golf Meet, and the Beloit Invitational Golf Meet. They participated in the Claflin

Invitational Golf Tournament two years and the Marysville Invitational Golf Meet one year.

Mr. Stephens' 1963 golf team and the 1965 golf team were North Central Kansas League champions. The 1964 golf squad placed second in the North Central Kansas League play. The 1966 squad placed seventh in the league tournament.

### TRACK

Track was introduced at Lincoln High School in the year 1915. Meets have never been held at Lincoln because of the inadequate track facilities. At the present time, Lincoln has no running track and all practices are held on the football field and around the edge of the field. This narrow running lane is only 330 yards long. It is the author's opinion that the interest in track would grow considerably if better track facilities were available.

In the spring of 1915, Mr. E. F. Tinker, the first football coach in the school, organized the first track squad. Ten boys reported for track and used the Lincoln Athletic Field for practice. In 1915 through 1917 the Lincoln track squad participated in only one meet, that being the Lincoln County Track Meet. There were no records of track teams or meets from 1918 to 1925.

#### George Cole (1926 through 1927)

In 1926 track was again resumed under the guidance of Mr. Cole when the Lincoln track squad competed in two dual meets, losing to Beverly and Luray. This year the Leopards

placed second in the Lincoln County Track Meet. They also attended the Northwest Kansas Track Meet at Hays. In 1927 they participated only in the Lincoln County Track Meet.

#### Carroll Scott (1931)

Track was again resumed in 1931 when Lincoln participated in a triangular track meet with Tescott and Culver. Lincoln won this meet. In the regional track meet at Salina, Lincoln had boys placing in the 880 yard run, 440 yard dash, and the medley relay.

Track was discontinued at Lincoln High School from the spring of 1932 through the spring of 1935.

#### Don Long (1936 through 1937)

In 1936 nine boys participated in track. This squad competed in three meets--the Concordia Invitational, Salina Invitational, and a dual with Ellsworth. This dual with Ellsworth was lost by a score of 88-30. The lone track meet in 1937 was a dual meet with Glen Elder.

#### Stanley Herman (1938 through 1941)

Mr. Herman probably did more than any other track coach in building up the sport of track at Lincoln High School. Before this, track was conducted mainly for the purpose of conditioning athletes for football and basketball. Thus, permanent records for the school and the various events were not kept until 1940 when Lincoln participated in the first North Central Kansas

League Track Meet. Mr. Herman's first squad numbered approximately twenty. As track interest grew under Coach Herman, his last squad in 1941 numbered approximately forty boys.

In 1938 the Lincoln track team won two dual meets over Ellsworth and Minneapolis. They also entered the Salina Invitational Track Meet and the Glen Elder Invitational Track Meet. The Leopards took fourth place in the Glen Elder Meet in which thirty schools were entered.

Mr. Herman's 1939 track team participated in two dual meets defeating Ellsworth 89-42 and losing to Beloit. Two invitational track meets were entered--the Glen Elder Invitational Track Meet in which Lincoln placed third and the Smith Center Invitational Track Meet with Lincoln placing second.

In the spring of 1940 Lincoln High School, for the first time, entered the North Central Kansas League Track Meet. Lincoln became the 1940 North Central Kansas League champions. The 1940 track squad also won the Glen Elder Invitational Track Meet and the Minneapolis Invitational Track Meet.

In 1941 Mr. Herman's track squad took second place in the Fort Hays Invitational Track Meet, third in the Glen Elder Invitational Track Meet, third in the Beloit Invitational Track Meet, third in the North Central Kansas League Track Meet, fourth in the Beloit Relays, and fifth in the Regional Track Meet at Salina.

Some of the track records set by Herman-coached boys at Lincoln High School were still recognized as late as 1954. These records are as follows:

<u>Event</u>	<u>Athlete</u>	<u>Record</u>	<u>Year</u>
Pole Vault	Hilgendorf-Stevens	11 ft.	1939
880 Yard Relay	Hilgendorf-Lewick, West, Lane	1 min. 36 sec.	1940
880 Yard Run	Doyle, Coatney	2 min. 3.2 sec.	1940
High Jump	Bob Hilgendorf	6 ft. $\frac{1}{2}$ in.	1940
Shot Put	Roy Sherrell	42 ft. 5 in.	1940
Discus	Delbert Hobbs	131 ft. $2\frac{1}{2}$ in.	1940
Javelin	Roy Sherrell	168 ft. 2 in.	1940
100 Yard Dash	John "Blackie" Lane	10.1 sec.	1941
440 Yard Dash	John "Blackie" Lane	51 sec.	1941
Broad Jump	John "Blackie" Lane	21 ft. $9\frac{1}{2}$ in.	1941
Mile Run	Eugene McMullen	4 min. 47 sec.	1941

Some of these track records are on the present record books. Those on the 1966 track and field record books at Lincoln High School are John "Blackie" Lane's 100 yard dash, 440 yard dash, and broad jump. Bob Hilgendorf's high jump record is still unbroken.

During World War II track was conducted mainly for the purpose of conditioning athletes for football and basketball as gas rationing made it difficult to attend many meets.

#### Jim Mettner (1945 through 1954)

Under the coaching of Mr. Mettner, Lincoln track teams participated nearly every year in the Sterling Relays, Kansas University Relays, Beloit Relays, and the North Central Kansas

## League Track Meets.

Some of the track records set by Mettner-coached boys at Lincoln High School were still recognized as late as 1954, which was Mr. Mettner's last year. These records are as follows:

<u>Event</u>	<u>Athlete</u>	<u>Record</u>	<u>Year</u>
High Hurdles	Dick Stevens	15.4 sec.	1946
Mile Relay	Rasmussen, Walters, Rediker, Wolting	3 min. 41 sec.	1950
Javelin	Virgil Walters (Class A State Champion)	168 ft. 2 in.	1950
180 Yard Low Hurdles	Ray Rasmussen	21.2 sec.	1951
220 Yard Dash	Erwin Aufdemberge	23.2 sec.	1953
Medley Relay	Berry, Stevenson, Jones, Gabelmann	3 min. 44.6 sec.	1954

Of these records only two remain on the 1966 track and field record books at Lincoln High School. These are Dick Stevens' high hurdle record, which has been tied, and Erwin Aufdemberge's 220 yard dash record, which has been tied.

### Terry Wolfe (1955)

Under Mr. Wolfe, Lincoln's track team lost a dual meet to Minneapolis and participated in the following meets: The Beloit Invitational Track Meet, Concordia Quadrangular Track Meet, the Beloit Relays, North Central Kansas League Track Meet at Beloit, and the State Regional Track Meet. No records were set during Mr. Wolfe's lone season as head track coach.

### Elvin Brown (1956)

Under Mr. Brown, Lincoln attended the following meets: The Minneapolis Quadrangular Track Meet, Concordia Quadrangular Track Meet, the Beloit Triangular Track Meet, the Beloit Relays, the North Central Kansas League Track Meet at Beloit, and the State Regional Track Meet. No victories were acquired or school records set this year.

### Dean Thompson (1957 through 1966)

The board of education decided in 1956 to create a position as head track coach. Previous to this time, the football coaches had always served as head track coach. Since the spring of 1957, there have been head coaches in football, basketball, and track.

Mr. Thompson was a graduate of Fort Hays State College. He teaches bookkeeping, business law, and driver's education. His starting salary was \$4,025.00 and after ten years he now earns \$6,225.00.

Track squads under Mr. Thompson have averaged approximately twenty-five boys. During Mr. Thompson's ten years at the helm, teams have participated in the following meets: Sterling Relays, State Indoor Track Meet at Manhattan, Hays Relays, Beloit Relays, Ellsworth Invitational Track Meet, North Central Kansas League Track Meet, and the State Regional Track Meet. This spring, 1966, is the first time that Mr. Thompson has failed to have at least one athlete qualify for the State Track Meet.

Mr. Thompson's first good track team was in 1958 when the team placed third in the North Central Kansas League Track Meet, and they placed sixth in the Class A State Track Meet at Manhattan. This track team set a new Class A State Track Meet record in the medley relay with a time of 3 minutes 39.4 seconds. They also won the 880 yard relay in the State meet with a time of 1 minute 32.2 seconds.

Perhaps Mr. Thompson's greatest track team was the 1963 squad which won the first Kansas Wesleyan Relays crown and placed fifth in the North Central Kansas League Track Meet. This track team won the State Class B Regional Track Meet at Russell. In the Kansas State Track Meet at Wichita the Lincoln track squad placed fourth in Class B. At the State meet Lincoln won the medley relay, took third in the 880 yard relay, and placed fourth in the pole vault. Following are the Lincoln High School records set by Thompson-coached athletes, which are on the track and field record books at the present time.

<u>Event</u>	<u>Athlete</u>	<u>Record</u>	<u>Year</u>
880 Yard Relay	Brown, Lyster, Chard, Opplinger (State Champions)	1 min. 32.2 sec.	1958
220 Yard Dash	Marlin Opplinger	23.2 sec.	1958
880 Yard Run	Marlin Opplinger	2 min. 1.5 sec.	1958
Medley Relay	Brown, Lyster, Chard, Opplinger	3 min. 38.6 sec.	1958
High Hurdles	Erick Rasmussen	15.4 sec.	1959
180 Yard Low Hurdles	Erick Rasmussen	21 sec.	1959

## Track and Field Records (continued)

<u>Event</u>	<u>Athlete</u>	<u>Record</u>	<u>Year</u>
Shot Put	John Isaacson	50 ft. 7½ in.	1961
Javelin	John Isaacson	189 ft. 3 in.	1961
Mile Run	Gordon Gorton	4 min. 39 sec.	1963
Mile Relay	Doll, Wollesen, Plinsky, Larsen	3 min. 32.3 sec.	1963
Pole Vault	Jim Brown	12 ft. 6 in.	1963
Discus	Ross Lessor	142 ft. 10 3/4 in.	1965

## CROSS COUNTRY

Dean Thompson (1965 through 1966)

Lincoln had its first cross country team in the school's history in 1965. This team participated in six meets, two dual meets with Belleville and Tipton and two invitationals--the Salina Invitational and the Hays Invitational. The other meets were the North Central Kansas League Meet at Concordia and the regional meet at Junction City.

## SUMMARY

The Lincoln School District No. 6 was established March 29, 1876, and the Lincoln High School was opened in 1887 in this district. The high school has been located in two different buildings, moving into the present structure in 1922.

Early athletics at Lincoln High School had a difficult time. The early football squads had no shower or dressing

facilities, and each boy was required to furnish his own equipment and uniform. Early basketball teams furnished their own equipment and played some of their games on outdoor courts. The basketball teams from 1907 to 1922 really knew no home court as games were played in the various buildings in town which were adapted for this purpose. At the present time, track facilities are poor; no track meets can be held at home for lack of a running track. Since the building of the new high school in 1922, football and basketball teams have had excellent facilities. In 1951 a new basketball auditorium was added to the school system, and many tournaments, including State District Tournaments and State Regional Tournaments, have been held in this gymnasium.

The interscholastic athletic program has mainly supported itself through the collection of gate receipts. The gate receipts are estimated for the coming year by the school's principal, and the difference has been appropriated to the athletic fund by the school board.

At the time of this writing, Lincoln High School has had thirty-five head coaches in the seven sports in which the school has competed. The school competes in only five of these sports at the present time. Baseball was discontinued in 1925. Tennis was discontinued in 1960. Cross country is a relatively new sport in the school's athletic program starting in the fall of 1965. There were no assistants in football, basketball, and track in the early history of these sports. At the present time, the head football coach is the assistant coach in basketball and track. The head basketball coach assists in football

and is the golf coach. The head track and cross country coach also assists in basketball by coaching the freshman team.

Lincoln High School has been a member of two leagues in its seventy-nine years of existence. Lincoln High School participated in the Solomon Valley League from 1928-1930. Prior to 1928 and from 1930 to 1939, Lincoln High School played an independent athletic schedule. In 1939 Lincoln joined the North Central Kansas League and has been a member of this league until the present time. In the fall of 1966, Lincoln will become a member of the newly formed Northern Kansas League, composed of six schools.

While a member of the Solomon Valley League, Lincoln High School won two football league championships, one in 1928 and one in 1929, and one basketball championship in 1930. As a member of the North Central Kansas League for twenty-six years, Lincoln has won five league championships. Of these five championships, one in football and one in track, were won in the 1939-1940 school year. The three other league championships were won in golf during the years of 1953, 1963, and 1965.

In the history of athletics at Lincoln High School the Leopards have played 432 football games, winning 191, losing 204, and tying 37. This record shows that 44 per cent of the games were won, 47 per cent were lost, and 9 per cent ended in ties. Of the 781 basketball games played in the history of the school, Lincoln has won 287 and lost 494. This record shows that the school has won 37 per cent of its basketball games.

The first athletic coach whose salary is known was

Mr. E. F. Tinker, who received \$832.50. During the depression the coach's salary dropped to an all time low of \$765.00 in 1933. Head coaches' salaries in 1965-1966 averaged \$6,060.00. Individual salaries for the 1965-1966 year were based on the school's salary schedule. This schedule includes the base pay of \$4,700.00 with yearly increments of \$100.00 for the first three years and \$150.00 each year thereafter until a maximum of ten years is reached.

In addition, head coaches in football and basketball receive an additional \$400.00. The head track coach receives an additional \$200.00. Athletic assistants in football, basketball, and track, and head coach of golf and cross country receive an additional \$100.00.

At the time of the writing of this master's report, Lincoln Rural High School is in the process of unification. Beginning with the 1966 school year, the high school will be known as Unified District No. 298. Students from Beverly Rural High School and Bernard High School will transport students into the unified district school which will be located in Lincoln.

## ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

The writer wishes to acknowledge the assistance of Mr. Jim Mettner, Lincoln High School principal, for help in obtaining material and records which are contained in this report.

The writer also wishes to acknowledge the assistance of the editors of the Lincoln Sentinel-Republican, the city newspaper, who allowed me the freedom of using their newspaper files. I would like to acknowledge Miss Dorothy Terrance, County Superintendent of Schools, for the use of the files containing early school history, teacher information, and bond issues.

Yearbooks not available in the principal's office were furnished to the author by Mrs. Dorothy Hansen, Mr. Saul Curtis, Mrs. Lillian Williams, Mrs. Jenny Wright, and Mr. Virgil Bloyd.

The writer would like to thank Mr. Raymond Wauthier and Mr. T. M. Evans for their time and aid given to this writer in the preparation of this report.

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THE HISTORY OF THE ATHLETIC PROGRAM AT  
LINCOLN RURAL HIGH SCHOOL, LINCOLN, KANSAS

by

GEORGE EUGENE STEPHENS

B. A., Kansas Wesleyan University, 1959

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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

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