

Wampus Cat Memorabilia Donated to Lincoln High School

Wednesday, November 18, 1998 Western Wayne News

Revised 11/25/2014



Front: Mick Fowler, Lenny Swim, Raymond Carpenter, Al Chapman, Dave Heywood and Gerald Lower.

Back: Willard Beale, Paul Wessler, Gerald Swim, Howard Alexander, Frank Callis, Raymond Funk, Assistant Coach Jack Copeland, Head Coach "Butch Peters."

Many in the community are aware of the beautiful lighted display cases which were custom built in the Lincoln cafeteria, but perhaps some of you are not. If you are the proud owner of some Wampus Cat treasures, perhaps stored in an attic or thrown in a drawer you might be willing to share them with the community by donating these treasures to the school. They will be displayed for all to see and enjoy. Some items will be on permanent display while others will be rotated for various events held in the cafeteria.

The newest addition to the collection on display is a picture of the 1950-51 Wampus Cats which won the Sectional tournament. There is also a picture taken at the regional that year which has the cheerleaders in the foreground and several folks you probably will recognize in the crowd. (Olivia Fowler and Lorena Gromer plus othersⁱ I'm not sure of.)

Also new to the display is a Wampus Cat Bannerⁱⁱ which was donated by Calvin Duff, one complete uniform from the 50-51 sectional team and three basketballs. One from the 1929 - 1930 season where the Wampus Cats were runners-up; one from the 1926 - 1927 season from the Liberty Invitational tournament they won; and one from the 1928 - 1929 team which was runner-up at the Centerville tourney.

You'll also find two trophies - one for being 1952 Hagerstown Tournament Champs and one for 1960 when they were Union City Invitational Champions.

These items will be on display during the Thanksgiving Dinner, Sunday for the Senior Citizens. Be sure you travel down memory lane if you are attending the dinner.

Through the years, some of the memorabilia which the school had was lost during the building process. No one seems to know where it went. The locked display

cases were installed in attempt to preserve and display the history of each school which was combined into the Western Wayne School System. Would you like to add

something to the display? If so, please call the administration building at 478-5375.



Cheerleaders (L-R): Mary Lou Doniker, Shirley Seelig and Joan Maloney. They brought the wooden Wampus Cat on wheels to the Regional Tournament. it was made by the shop class of the high school.

ⁱ Right behind Mary Lou and next to the boy is Hettie Bliss, Class of "53" who also became a cheer leader. She was killed in an auto accident in 1955.

ⁱⁱ I took a picture of that banner to make the Wampus Cat logo that I use with my signature, as a watermark, and gave to Soozie (Darter) Griffin that she made into a large banner for her annual open house.