

Reprinted from the Brown County History

After a lapse of twenty-five years, football was renewed at Mt. Sterling High School in 1950. The original plans had been for six-man football. Inability to schedule games caused a change-over to eleven-man football. Although experience was lacking, the Hornets still packed enough sting to make a fine record of five wins and one loss.

The Hornets first traveled to Industry where inexperience caused them to drop a 32-6 decision in favor of Industry. But the game brought enough hope to Coach McKinney and showed the Hornets fast, rugged and willing.

In succession the Hornets disposed of the Rushville B squad, 33-6; Jacksonville B team, 13-8; Winchester B Squad 19-0.

Two six-man games were played as scheduled. Both were runaways. The Hornets spoiled Bluffs Homecoming by a 59-12 victory and closed the season by walloping Chandlerville 52-6. So the Hornets were defeated only once in twenty six years.

Football in the coming years looks bright says Coach McKinney, because the boys are willing, enthusiastic, and love hard work. The students and local fans promise loyal support. A tough schedule faces next year's squad, but the Hornets anticipate success through courage and hard work.

1951 Brown County Football Team Picture



1951

First Row: Jim Grover, Manager; Franklin Garrison, Wayne Shepard, Tully Huebner, Dick Butler, Duff Tucker, Manager. Second Row: Ed Norvell, Larry Patterson, Emmett Dobby, Dick Hadley, John F Fry, Stan Walker, Gordon Bryant, Clarence Parker. Third Row: Coach McKinney, Jim Howard, John R Fry, Tom Crane, Charles Queen, Marlin Robins, Bob Patterson, Darrell Parker, Mervin Sorrells, Bryce Sides, Roger Quinn, Bob Root, David Fry, John Rodolf, David Mobley.

1952 Brown County Football Team Picture



First Row, left to right: Stan Walker, Bob Clark, Larry Patterson, George Clark, Ed Norvell, Roger Quinn, Don Newton, Gordon Bryant, Bob Root, Dave O'Connell, Darrell Parker, Bob Walker, Don DeWitt, John Fry, Coach McKinney. Second Row, left to right: Manager Wayne Norton, Ted Hollembeak, Mick Brown, Noah Branscum, Dave Fry, John Rodolf, Martin Robins, Tom Coulson, Bob Patterson, John Norvell, Gerald McClelland, Dick DeWitt, Maurice Root, Bob Wags, Leon Urven, manager, Jim Prillmayer.

1952 Injuries and inexperience plague team

Eighteen inexperienced boys greeted the coach on the 27th of August for practice. With such a small squad things didn't look bright. However, as the season progressed, more boys responded.

With a tough schedule ahead, the boys worked with grim determination. Long, hard hours in the hot weather soon gave results. They traveled to Winchester on September 14. The boys were physically fit but fundamentals and finer points of the game were weak.

The season casualty list included Ed Norvell, with a sprained ankle; John Rodolf, Ted Hollembeak and Don DeWitt sustained collar bone injuries which kept them out for the rest of the season; Bob Clark, a sprained wrist; and Don Newton broke a bone in the lower part of his leg while playing against Hamilton.

Although injury-laden and inexperienced, the team won the admiration of the school and community by playing rugged football: giving everything they had. Home games were played on the new athletic field east of the school.

As evidence of the Hornets' potential power on the gridiron, three members of the squad - Gordon Bryant, Larry Patterson, and Stan Walker – received honorable mentions on the little all-state team. This was an honor for the team, coach, and school.

1953 Brown County Football Team Picture



First Row: Leroy Hall, Leon Urven, Larry Fry, Ramon Hufnagel, Jerry Starhahn, Gary Drake, Richard Belymer, Leo Vance, Gail Shinnbarger. Second Row: Ivan Shepard, Carl Childers, Stanley Ballard, Dale Law, John Norvell, Danny Perry, Jim Norvell, Lyle Leverton, Dick DeWitt, Coach McKinsey. Third Row: Bill Prillmayer, Martin Robins, Bob Patterson, Ted Hollebeak, Mick Brown, David Fry, John Rodolf, George Clark, Darrell Parker, Bruce Butler.

1953 Few players turnout- but fans remain loyal

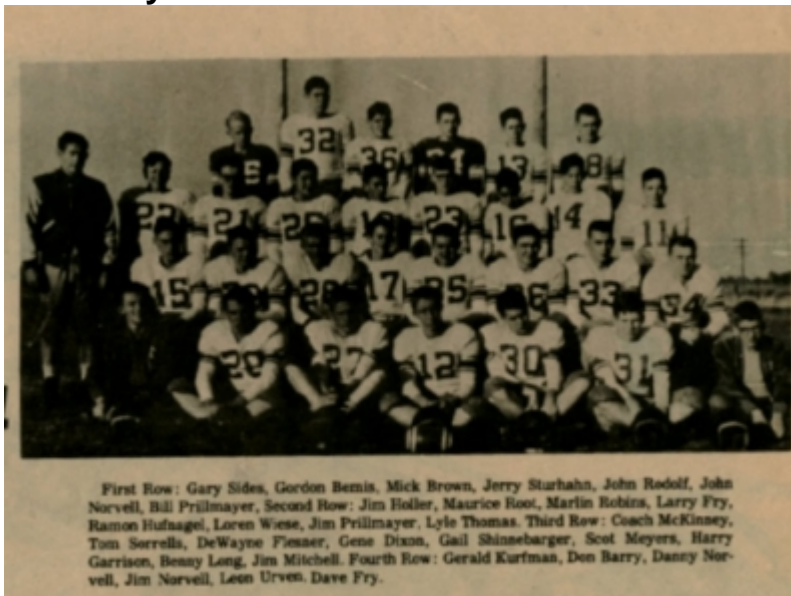
On August 24, 1953 the first practice for the football season was held with only about twenty-two boys showing up for practice. Only four returning lettermen were present.

The Havana game in mid-season brought out some of the best playing of the season for the team. The game produced two touchdowns for the Hornets with another being called back.

The Hornets came through the season with only a few casualties. The coming years should become brighter for football with several good prospects among the underclassmen.

All but two games were played at home with good crowds in attendance. The season ended 0-6.

1954 Brown County Football Team Picture



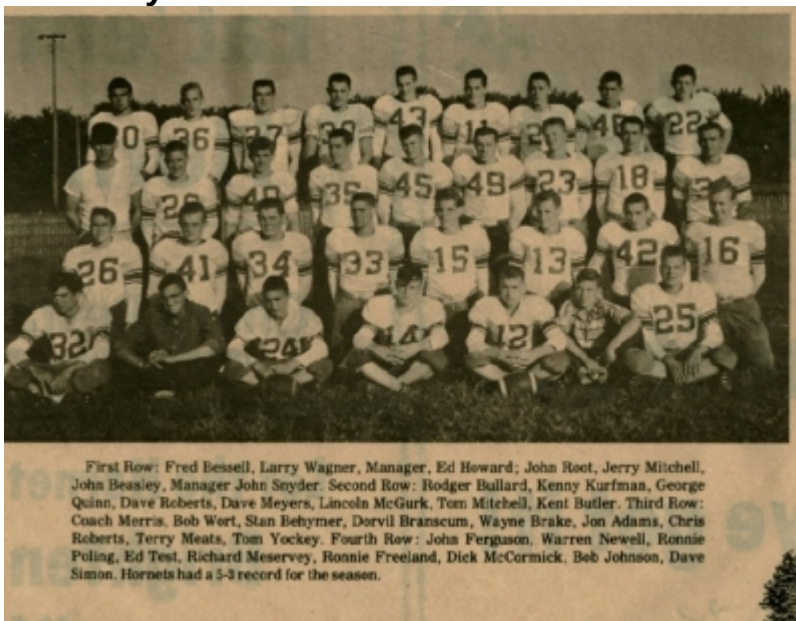
First Row: Gary Sides, Gordon Bemis, Mick Brown, Jerry Starhahn, John Rodolf, John Norvell, Bill Prillmayer, Second Row: Jim Holler, Maurice Root, Martin Robins, Larry Fry, Ramon Hufnagel, Loren Wiese, Jim Prillmayer, Lyle Thomas. Third Row: Coach McKinsey, Tom Serralla, DeWayne Fiesner, Gene Dixon, Gail Shinnbarger, Scot Meyers, Harry Garrison, Benny Long, Jim Mitchell. Fourth Row: Gerald Kurfman, Don Barry, Danny Norvell, Jim Norvell, Leon Urven, Dave Fry.

1956 Brown County Football Team Picture



First Row: Dave Roberts, Dave Phillips, Lyle Thomas, Jon Adams, Alan Freeland, Ramon Hafnagel, DeWayne Flesner, Eugene Meyers, Ed Test. Second Row: Gail Shinnbarger. Third Row: Glenn Parker, Jerry Sturbahn, Danny Norvell.

1958 Brown County Football Team Picture



First Row: Fred Bessell, Larry Wagner, Manager, Ed Howard, John Root, Jerry Mitchell, John Beasley, Manager John Snyder. Second Row: Rodger Ballard, Kenny Kurfman, George Quinn, Dave Roberts, Dave Meyers, Lincoln McGurk, Tom Mitchell, Kent Butler. Third Row: Coach Merris, Bob Wert, Stan Behymer, Dorvil Branscum, Wayne Brake, Jon Adams, Chris Roberts, Terry Meats, Tom Yockey. Fourth Row: John Ferguson, Warren Newell, Ronnie Poling, Ed Test, Richard Meservey, Ronnie Freeland, Dick McCormick, Bob Johnson, Dave Simon. Hornets had a 5-3 record for the season.