

MPTHS Proud Of Its Fine Cage Teams

"ROARIN' 30s' BROUGHT STATE-WIDE REPUTATION IN BASKETBALL

Strong Teams In 30's Always Rated State Contenders.

(March 23, 1939)

A comprehensive record of the Mount Pulaski high school basketball teams, starting in 1932, when the local school, under the initiative of Coach George Dertinger, inaugurated the idea of playing what was then thought to be "suicide schedules".

The heavy schedule which was needed to give Mt. Pulaski teams the kind of competition that they were worthy of meeting and the fans would support, proved to be a big step forward in the basketball prestige of the local school. A glance thru the records that follow will be convincing evidence. Coaches Stanley and Halberg continued the heavy schedules.

The highlight of the period since 1932 was when the local colors were taken to the state with Dolph Stanley as the coach in 1936. The team won two games before losing 36-33 to Danville in the semi finals.

Sectional Competitor Since 1932

The team, since 1932, has gone to the sectional as a winner of the regional each year. They finished in the sectional, semi-finalists four times, were in the finals twice, and went to the state the other year and finished in the semi-finals.

The state tourney team of '35-'36 aggregation made 999 points in 33 games, while their opponents were getting only 655. This was an average of 30 points per game against their opponents 20 points. The 1934-35 team scored more points per game by a very small fraction, but played fewer games.

In the 10-year period from 1929 to 1939, the Hilltoppers played 260 games, winning 200 and losing 60.

Against Big Twelve competition 43 games were played since 1932, the Hilltop cagers winning 32 and losing 11.

1932 - 1933

Team—Blout, Beckers, Zimmermann, Waddell, VanHook. Reserves — Anderson, Connolley, Wagner, Schroth, Scroggin, H. Blout. Coach—Dertinger. Won 18, Lost 4.

Defeated—Athens (2), Springfield, Canton, Elkhart (2), Peoria Manual, Lincoln, Atlanta, Trinity (2), Decatur, Havana. Won District games from Hartsburg, New Holland, Williamsville, McLean.

Defeated Decatur in Sectional, 24-19, but lost to Springfield 25-14.

Last season games to University High (2), Decatur.

Won 5 games from Big 12 schools, Springfield, Peoria, Manual, Lincoln, Decatur (2). Lost to Decatur and Springfield.

1933 - 1934

Team — Anderson, Van Hook, Wagner, Connelly, Scroggin. Reserves — Stockton, Schroth, Martin, Zimmermann, Horn. Coach—Dertinger.

Won 21; Lost 3.

Scored 589 points to opponents 411.

Defeated: Athens (2), Canton (2), Trinity (2), Pontiac, Pekin (2), Decatur (2), University High (2), Lincoln, Havana. Lost to Mahomet 29-26.

Defeated Lincoln again in District, 37-17.

Won in Sectional from Feitschans, 27-16; Taylorville 30-13; Lost in finals to Charleston 28-20.

Lost to Quincy in Pontiac Tournament 23-13. (Quincy won state championship that year).

Won six games without a loss from Big 12 teams; Pekin (2), Decatur (2), Lincoln (2).

1934-35

Team — Stockton, Schroth, J. Connelly, Wagner, H. Martin, D. Staley, Kinert, Zimmermann, F. Connolley, Milner, H. Horn. Coach

Stanley.

Won 20; Lost 7.
Scored 824 points to opponents 553.

Defeated Athens (2), Trinity (2), Havana, Springfield, Mahomet, Williamsville, Lincoln, Canton, University High (2), Clinton, Pana, Kenney, Hartsburg, Athens, Rantoul, Pekin, Downers Grove. Lost to Havana, Athens, Clinton, Springfield, Cowden, Pekin, Elgin.

Sectional

Mount Pulaski 36; Athens 32.
Mount Pulaski 30; Pekin 32 (ot)

Pontiac Tournament

Mount Pulaski 39; Rantoul 13.
Mount Pulaski 25; Pekin 18.
Mount Pulaski 42; Downers Grove 25.

Mount Pulaski 20; Elgin 43.

Won three games from Big 12 teams, Springfield, Lincoln, Pekin. Lost 2, Pekin and Springfield.

1935-36

Team — D. Staley, Martin, Wilham, Stockton, H. Hahn, B. Hahn, Milner, M. Wilham, F. Connolley, G. Connolley. Coach, Stanley.

Won 26; Lost 7.
Scored 999 points to opponents 655.

Defeated: I.S.D., Pekin (2), Athens, Havana, Champaign, Normal, Litchfield (2), Trinity (2), Lincoln (2), Edwardsville, Jacksonville, Pana, Clinton, Hartsburg, Beason, Waynesville. Lost to Johnson City (2) Havana, Edwardsville and Canton.

Sectional

Defeated Rushville 30-17; U. High 41-17; Lincoln 32-17.

State Tournament

Mount Pulaski 22; Joliet 16.
Mount Pulaski 32; Fulton 18.
Mount Pulaski 33; Danville 36.

Lost to Johnson City in consolation game.

Won 6 games from Big 12 teams — Pekin (2); Champaign, Lincoln (3). Lost 1 to Danville.

1936-37

Team — D. Staley, B. Hahn, H. Hahn, J. Zimmermann, G. Connelly, J. Staley, F. Connolley, Wilham, Martin, Rentschler, Tendick, Ayers. Coach, Stanley.

Won 24, Lost 3.
Scored 720 points to opponents 421.

Defeated Hartsburg, Bloomington (2), Havana (2), Flora, Lincoln (2), Champaign Edwardsville (2), Canton (2), Rushville (2), Clinton, Litchfield (2), Jacksonville. Lost to Pekin, Clinton, and Springfield. Won all Regional games.

Regional Finals

Mount Pulaski 38; Lincoln 18.

Sectional

Mount Pulaski 25; Feitschans 16.
Mount Pulaski 20; Springfield 22.

Won 5 games from Big 12 and lost 2, Pekin and Springfield. Defeated Bloomington (2), Champaign, Lincoln (2).

1937-38

Team—J. Staley, Connolley, B. Hahn, Connelly, Kolp, Rentschler, Ayers, Tendick. Reserves: McCullough, Martin, Jones, Carter. Coach—Halberg.

Won 15, Lost 11.
Scored 620 points to opponents 621.

Defeated Bloomington, Atlanta (2), Springfield, Rushville (2), Taylorville, Havana, Normal (2). Lost to Athens (2), Joliet, Champaign, Taylorville, Bloomington, Lincoln (1 point), Clinton (2), Havana.

District Games

Mount Pulaski 29; McLean 24
Mount Pulaski 32; Hartsburg 29
Mount Pulaski 30; Elkhart 24.

Sectional

Mount Pulaski 30; Feitschans 20
Mount Pulaski 39; Monticello 37
Mount Pulaski 25; Decatur 31.

(Finals)

Won 2 games from Big 12 and Lost 3. Defeated Bloomington and Springfield and lost to Champaign, Bloomington and Lincoln.

1938-39

Team — J. Staley, R. Connolley, N. Kolp, B. McCullough, Carter, Jones, Martin, Berton, J. McCullough, Ross. Coach, Halberg.

Won 19, Lost 8.



DISTRICT CHAMPIONS IN 1923. This group of basketball players represented Mount Pulaski Township High School in 1923 and won the district championship at Lincoln, going to Decatur for the finals. They lost a heartbreaker to Villa Grove by one point in the final game, thus losing their chance to enter the state tournament. A special train to Decatur carried rabid fans to

the game and it was a sad "cortege" that returned that night. Front Row, left to right: Otto Ey, J. Foster Morris (deceased), Keith Tomlinson, of Springfield; Roman Romer, Dee Ward (deceased). Back Row: Ira Wrigley, principal (deceased); Tom Witt, Pender, Nebr.; Robert Keck, and Earl Beebe, coach, San Marino, Calif.

Scored 879 points to opponents 712.

Defeated, Athens (2), Bloomington (2), Taylorville (3), Atlanta (2), Monticello (2), Normal (2), Lincoln (2), Champaign, Lanphier, Havana, Hartsburg. Lost to Clinton (2), Rushville (2), Saybrook, Feitschans (2), Divernon.

Regional Scores

Mount Pulaski 35; Atlanta 18
Mount Pulaski 47; Hartsburg 25
Mount Pulaski 38; Lincoln 32.

Sectional

Mount Pulaski 40; Taylorville 35
Mount Pulaski 21; Divernon 40;

Won 5 games from Big 12 teams. Lincoln (2), Big 12 Champs; Bloomington (2), and Champaign.

HILLTOP CAGE RECORD

1929-1939

Year	Won	Lost
1929-30	21	6
1930-31	15	6
1931-32	21	4
1932-33	18	4
1933-34	21	3
1934-35	20	7
1935-36	26	7
1936-37	24	4
1937-38	15	11
1938-39	19	8

Totals 200 60

Percentage — .769.

Mt. Pulaski's

Big 12 Standing

1932-1939

Year	Won	Lost
1932-33	5	2
1933-34	6	0
1934-35	3	2
1935-36	6	1
1936-37	5	3
1937-38	2	3
1938-39	5	0

Totals 32 11

Played 43 and lost 11 for a .744 standing.

JOHN WEST PITCHES NO-HIT GAME

(June 1, 1944)

John West, senior at Mount Pulaski high, set a new record for the baseball annals of the local school as well as entered baseball's Hall of Fame, when he pitched a perfect game against San Jose in the sectional tourney play at Bloomington Thursday of last week, winning 4-0.

1923 HIGH SCHOOL CAGE TEAM RATED AS ONE OF SCHOOL'S BEST

(April, 1923)

The Mount Pulaski Township High School basketball team made the best record this year of any team the school has ever had. In fact, they made the best record that has ever been made by a basketball team of any high school in Logan county. They not only won the State District tournament, but lost by only one point to Villa Grove in the championship game of the sectional tournament, which team later won the state championship.

Below is given a list of games played this year and the scores made; 16 wins, 3 losses:

Mount Pulaski 56; Niantic 11
Mount Pulaski 26; Atlanta 10
Mount Pulaski 26; Williams-

ville 6
Mount Pulaski 24; Athens 28
(overtime)

Mount Pulaski 50; Hartsburg 25

Mount Pulaski 26; Maroa 32
Mount Pulaski 19; Lincoln 15
Mount Pulaski 30; Morrison-

SUMMARY OF BIG TWELVE GAMES

A short summary of the opening years of this epoch will be of interest.

In 1932-33, the Hilltoppers, under George Dertinger, won 4 of their 5 games against Big 12 competitions:

Springfield 20, Mt. Pulaski 28
Peoria Manual 20; Mt. Pulaski 30

Lincoln 20, Mt. Pulaski 27
Decatur 18, Mt. Pulaski 25
Decatur 26, Mt. Pulaski 24

1933-34 Season

Pekin 15, Mt. Pulaski 24
Decatur 16, Mt. Pulaski 24
Lincoln 16, Mt. Pulaski 24

Decatur 16, Mt. Pulaski 26
Pekin 12, Mt. Pulaski 30

In the 1934-35 season, under Coach Dolph Stanley. The season's record was 18 wins and 13 losses. They won 3 out of 5 from Big 12 competition:

Springfield 13, Mt. Pulaski 18
Lincoln 21, Mt. Pulaski 25

Pekin 18, Mt. Pulaski 25
Springfield 20, Mt. Pulaski 13
Pekin 32, Mt. Pulaski 30 OT

ville 9

Mount Pulaski 43; Atlanta 23

Mount Pulaski 50; Hartsburg 9

Mount Pulaski 23; Maroa 13

Mount Pulaski 30; Lincoln 26

District Tournament

Mount Pulaski 19; Lincoln 12

Mount Pulaski 25; Clinton 12

Mount Pulaski 17; Waynesville 16

Mount Pulaski 47; Beason 8

Sectional Tournament

Mount Pulaski 22; Bement 20

Mount Pulaski 20; Bloomington 17

Mount Pulaski 16; Villa Grove 17.

Total points Mount Pulaski, 588; opponents 309.

Team Members

The members of this team were: Foster Morris, guard; Keith Tomlinson, Captain, forward; Roman Romer, forward; Dee Ward, guard, all seniors; Otto Ey, center; Tom Witt, Robert Keck, juniors. Earl W. Beebe was the coach and Ira M. Wrigley was principal.

Congratulations to the members of the team, to Coach Beebe, to Principal Wrigley, and to the many supporters of the team from the Mount Pulaski community.

—Lo. Co. School Messenger

A. C. Wacaser Assistant County Supt. of Schools

(April, 1916)

A. C. Wacaser, principal of the Emden school, has been selected assistant county superintendent of schools, and will assume his new duties in May.

Mr. Wacaser's home is in Mt. Pulaski and he is a graduate of the high school of that place. He has had further training for the teaching profession at Valparaiso University in Valparaiso, Indiana.

His teaching experience includes two years in the rural schools of the county, two years as principal of the Chestnut school, two years as principal of the grade school at Mt. Pulaski, and two years as principal of the Emden school, thus he is well prepared for the work of the office.