

Blue Springs

Schools

WHEN IT COMES TO YOUR HEALTH,
THE CARE YOU WANT IS RIGHT IN
YOUR OWN BACKYARD.

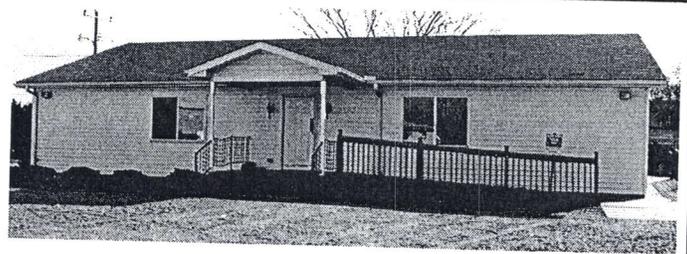


For Quality Care Close To Home,
Count on Community Memorial Healthcare



COMMUNITY PHYSICIANS CLINIC
COMMUNITY MEMORIAL HEALTHCARE
Your Community Health Connection

100 North 7th, Wymore, Nebraska 68466
TEL: (402) 645-3733 FAX: (402) 645-3127



Blue Springs Keno

**Celebrating Our
10th Anniversary in 2007!**

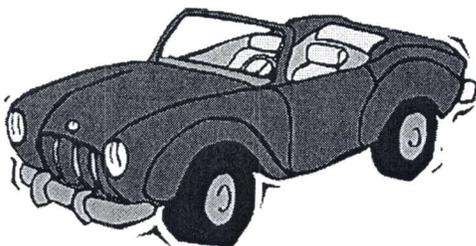
"Win Big"
at Blue Springs Keno
Lunch & Carry Out

619 West Broad

Morris Used Cars

In Business Since 1955

*Elwin "Fuzz" Morris, Ruby
Morris and Danny Bohlmeier*



610 South A – Blue Springs

**Call Danny at
645-8250**

Colgrove Automotive & Machine

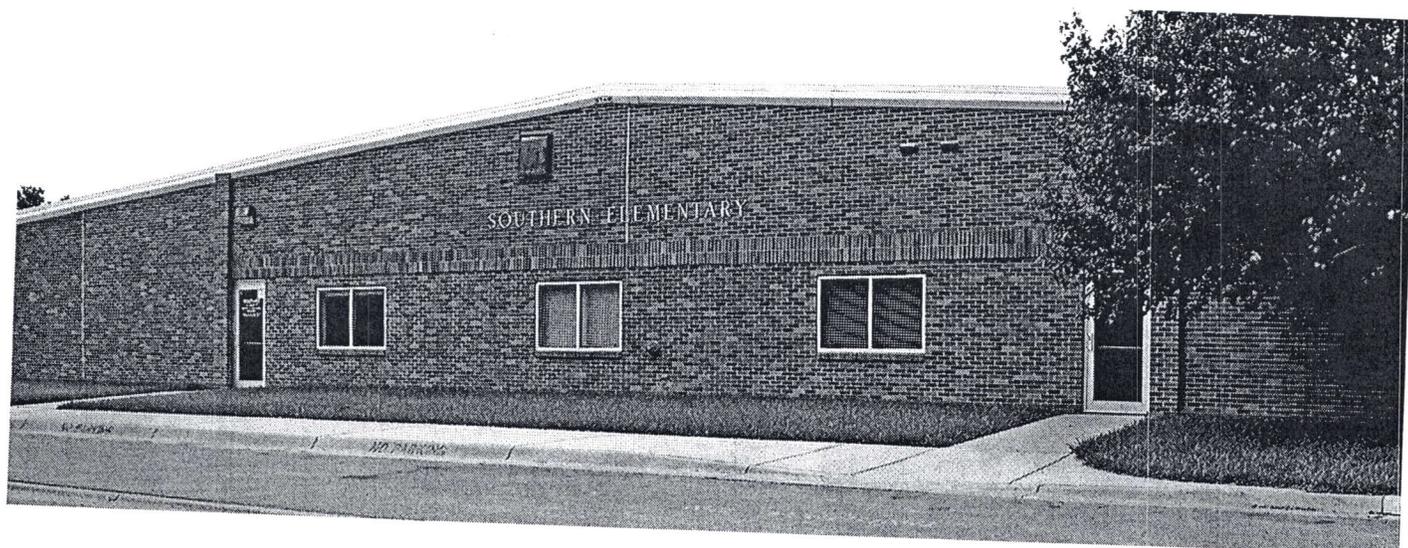


Fred Colgrove
Owner

*In Business Since
1979
In Blue Springs
Since 1980*

*We specialize in
complete engine
rebuilding and
automotive machine
shop work.*

**511 South A Street
Blue Springs
645-8285**



School History

The first school in Blue Springs was a Subscription School, started in 1861, and taught by Miss Lucy Johnson, a sister of the first man to arrive and bring his family. Later Maria Sargent taught a similar school in her own log cabin home. Twelve children attended this school.

In 1862, Miss Weltha Tinkham taught the first public school in the settlement. The following year her sister Margret taught a school of 16 pupils. From 1863 to 1875 we had very little record of any education, due to the war and Indian trouble.

The first school building, a two story frame building, was erected in 1875. Its location was two blocks south of the standpipe, and was known as the Bornegasser School. Later the primary department was moved into a one-room building one block north and one block west of the standpipe. This was known as Miss Perrigo's school.

Brick was the building material used in the school house, which was built in 1886. It was located on the present school grounds. This building was hit by a tornado in 1887, which did considerable damage. While the building was being remodeled, school was held in the Association Hall, two rooms being conducted in one with a curtain between. It was some time after this before all the rooms were finished off in the brick building and a vacant room was used as a gymnasium. The eleventh grade was as high as the course of study extended until 1898-1899, when the full four years were given and the second teacher was added to the high school teaching force.

The Alumni Association was organized in

1891, and since that time it had given a banquet every year honoring the graduating class.

In 1920 a new fireproof, three story building was built. It was built just in front of the former building, which was left standing until the new one was ready to be occupied.

The athletic program was active, with baseball and basketball for boys and volleyball for girls. The boy's athletic group was known as Blue Jays. Blue Springs had been served by many able and devoted teachers. Dear to the memories of alumni members were the names of Mrs. Laura Evans Rice, Miss Ethel Madison, Mrs. Viva Harms, John Webb, Fred Rickers and many others. Miss Anne Craig taught here for ten years before her long period in the Wymore schools.

In June of 1957 a petition was circulated to merge the school district with the Wymore School district.

The first day of school for the new merged district was Sept. 3, 1957. The first day of school saw the Blue Springs building being used as an elementary attendance center housing first through fourth grades. Kindergarteners, and fifth through 12th grades were to use the Wymore building as their attendance center. Union Center District also merged with the district that same year.

Another new feature of the school that year was the installation of a hot lunch program for both Blue Springs and Wymore buildings. The cost of the first meals were 25 cents for students and 35 cents for school employees.

The Wymore-Blue Springs school district continued to grow when, in 1967, representatives from Wymore, Holmesville, and five Class 1 dis-



(top) Sixth grade students celebrate Retro Day at Southern Elementary. (front from left) Shaylee Crawford, Kaitlyn Shepardson, Nicole Zvolanek, Jessica Carrillo and Whitney Acton. (back) Allee Meyer and Devin Meints.



(left) Helen Swanson's first grade class celebrates the 100th Day of School in 2007.

tricts met to form a steering committee to draw up a specific proposal for reorganization of several Gage County school districts.

On March 7, 1968 by a unanimous vote, the State School Reorganization Committee gave consent to the school proposal to merge Wymore, Holmesville, and five Class 1 districts into a new K-12 district to be called Southern School District #1.

With a staff of 73 people, School District #1 began its first year of operation Aug. 29, 1968 with kindergarten through 2nd grade at Blue Springs,

3rd through 6th at the Holmesville school building and 7th through 12th at Wymore.

With more students entering Southern #1 there was a need to expand their facilities. A bond issue for a complete new school was soundly defeated in December of 1973. A second bond issue for a new gymnasium and classroom building was defeated February of 1976.

Once again in October of 1976 a new elementary building sketch was presented to the public for discussion by Supt. Tom Barrett. The \$875,000 proposed elementary facility would be connected to the present Blue Springs building on the west side. The building would be a metal frame and roof with three brick walls and one block.

Included in the bond issue was a gym complex which would sit on the northeast corner of the Wy-more school building.

On Nov. 2, the school bond issue passed with a 965-456 vote with a favorable outcome in 7 of the 11 precincts involved.

Construction began the end of November on the new Southern Elementary building. Elementary classes started in their new building on Aug. 29, 1977.

In December of 1997, voters passed a bond issue for a 17,750 square foot addition to the 1977 facility, bringing the building up to fire and safety code as well as Americans with Disabilities Act

codes. At this time, the original 1920's building was demolished. The new addition houses nine regular classrooms, a library/media center, computer lab and additional storage areas. The new facility was available for use beginning the 1999-2000 school year.

Current enrollment as of the end of May, 2007 is 250 students.

The elementary staff consists of a full time principal, 21 classroom teachers and shares staff members with the secondary school in music, art, library, guidance and physical education. Services are provided for special reading needs and special education.



A ribbon cutting was held for the new walking track at Southern Elementary School.

Ribbon cutting for Walking track at Southern Elementary

A ribbon cutting ceremony was held at the Southern Elementary School for their new walking track.

The half mile track was completely paved and runs around the playground surrounding the elementary school. It is open for use of the students in their physical education classes during the day but is also available to the public. The Southern track team will make use of the track as an all-weather surface.

According to Southern physical education instructor Beth Willet, the project was the culmination of several years work. Willet said that former elementary principal Duane Arntt came up with the idea and pushed to have the project done.

The timing was right this year as the track paving was done at the same time as the street paving that had been going on in Blue Springs.

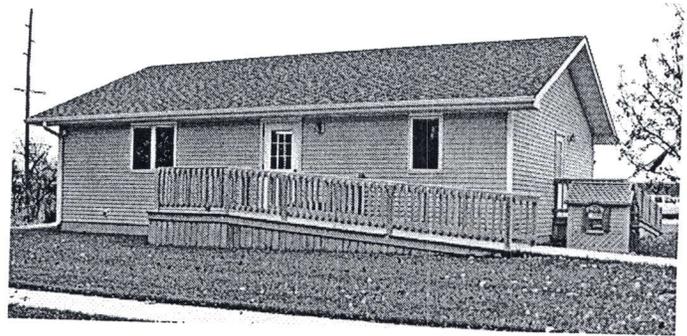
The cost of the project was \$29,000. The elementary students themselves helped raise money for the project. Last year elementary students raised over \$9,000 with the sales of cookie dough.

The funding came from the Special Building Fund for development of the property.



Demolition Underway

The 1920 Blue Springs School came down piece by piece. According to John Tucker of Brandt Excavating, the company doing the demolition. The school was 99 percent concrete, and was the first building he had seen in the 25 years he had been in the business with a full concrete pan roof. This was a benefit, he said, because the hardest part of the demolition was keeping debris from falling on the elementary school right next to the old building. Larry Humphrey said the demolition went smoother than he planned. He expected the demolition to take three or four days but the building was down in one.



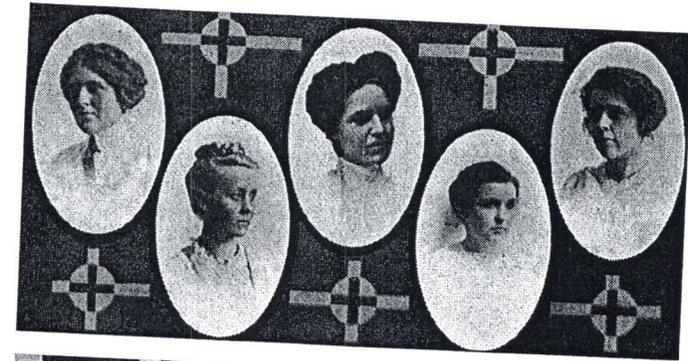
In 2002 a developmental preschool was built which is housed in a separate facility on the block north of elementary school. At the current time, the preschool serves nine students.



Demolition of the former Blue Springs school.



The school built in 1920. The school board pictured at that time (front from left) Arnola Zabokrtsky, Mrs. Mina Koch, Mrs. Helena Casebeer. (back) Melvin Ames, A.D. Rice.



(above) Blue Springs teachers from 1913.



Blue Springs football team – Bernard Maxwell, Ralph Rucher, Martin Mcquinn, Tom Lang, Stanley Fullwood, Walter Beldin, Dutch Cutshall, Ben Norris, Loren Davison, Ralph Chaffice, Art Benda, Everett Carter, Lloyd Jones, Wayne Marples, Edward Ackerman, Ted Shoff.



(above) Blue Springs children from 1933.

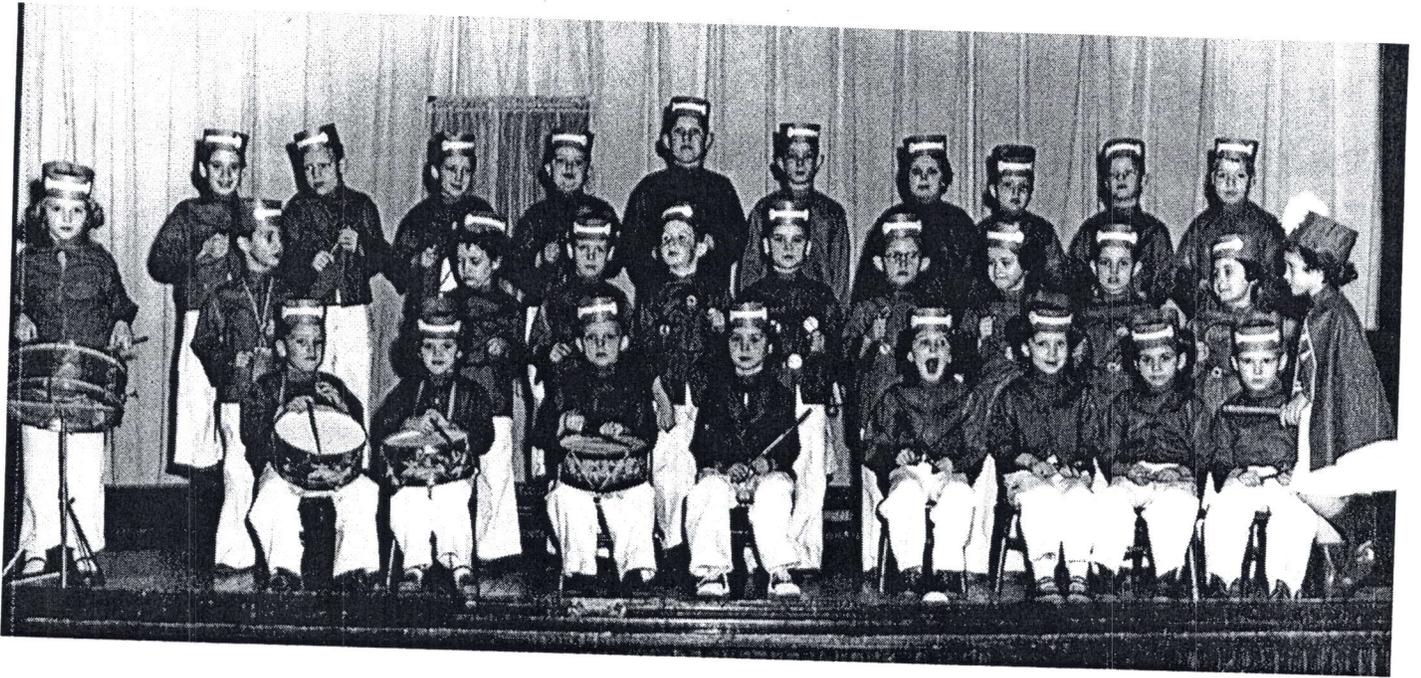


Blue Springs 50th reunion of the class of 1945. (front from left) Dorothy Forke, Mildred Trump. (back) Dee Schiermeyer, Don Shelton, Hubert Short, Loren Thoman, Elwin Trump.



Kids in the bandstand hunting eggs in the park.

(left) Blue Springs children from 1933. Miss Ethel Madison used them in a Playlet in 1933 or 1934. (from left) Arnola Wilson, Louise Hale, Lori Rene Gillham and Helen Davis.



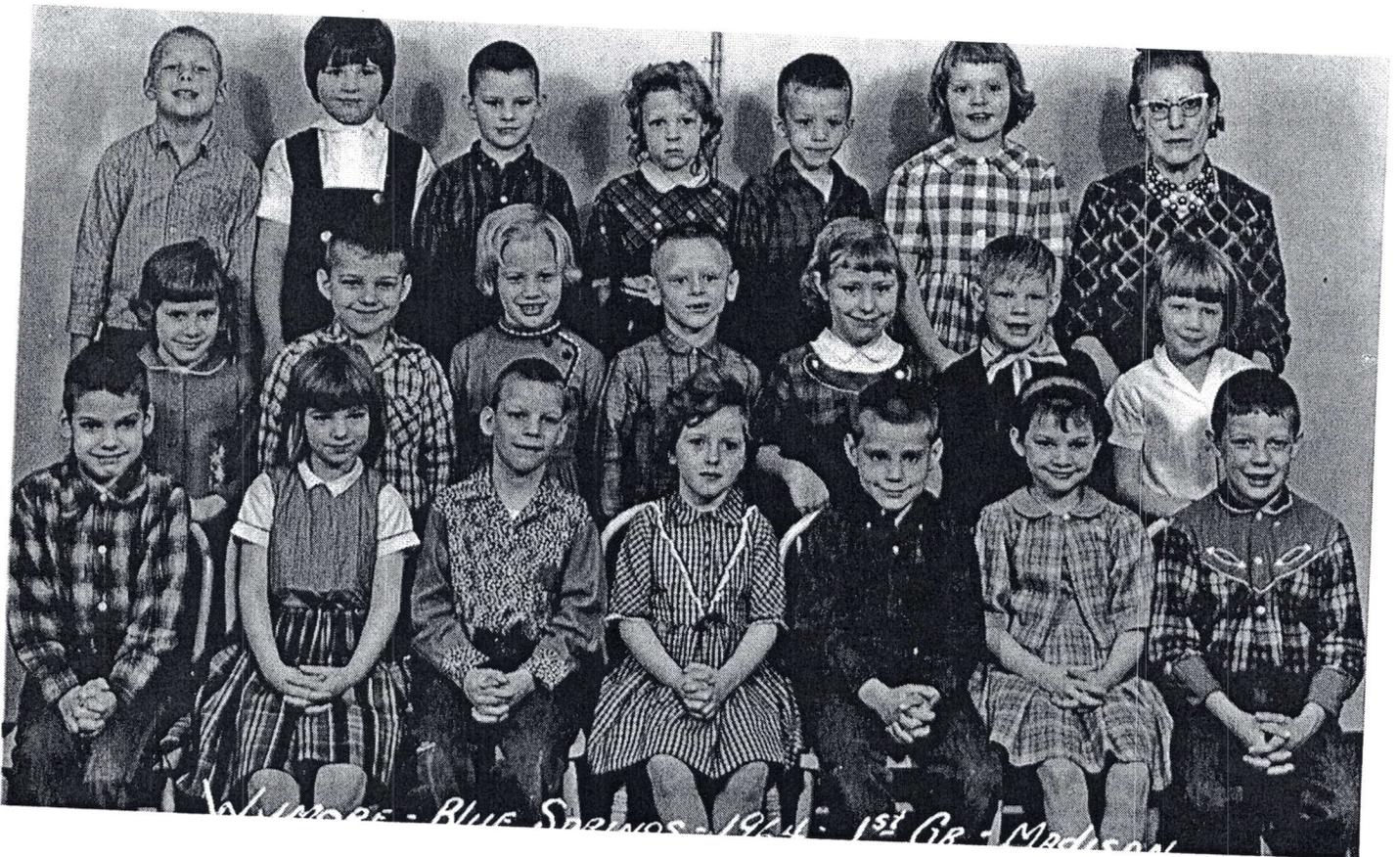
Blue Springs rhythm band 1957.



Hill Billie Play sponsored by Volunteer Firemen 1955.



Blue Springs first grade, 1961-1962.



Blue Springs first grade, 1963-1964.



Blue Springs first grade, 1967-1968.



(left) Blue Springs 1942 High School teachers. (from left) Fred Rickers, Supt.; William Saile, Vivian Harms Kinney and Winifred Pettit.



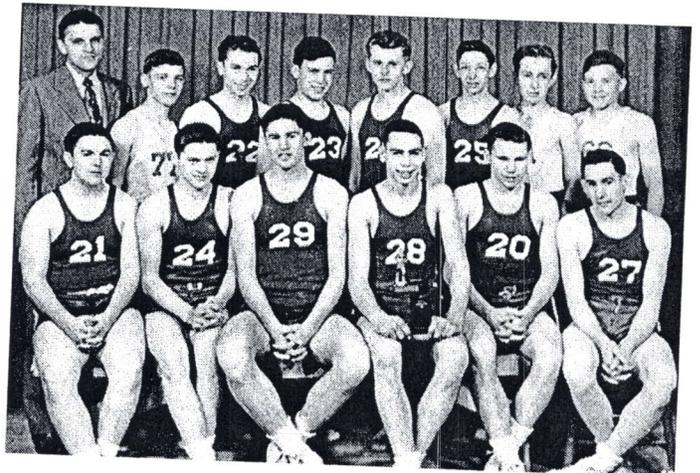
Blue Springs teacher, Miss Madison. Taught school for 67 years. Her last year was 1967. She died Jan. 2, 1974.



Photo was taken March 1911 of a basketball game between Wymore High School and Blue Springs High School. The game was played in the block north of the current Wymore school. In the background is the steeple of the former Catholic Church.



Arbor Day Planters, District #1 elementary students stand in line to receive their free trees from Margaret Casebeer (right) and Mrs. Ruby Morris (standing center). Green ash and hackberry were given to the children, who were asked to plant them in their yards.

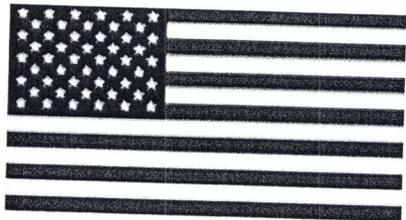


1951 Blue Springs Blue Jays Basketball team. (first) Bud Allen, Ken Schultze, Kay Schiermeyer, Chet Reedy, Dale Schultze and Bill Hofacre. (back) Mr. Hladik, Bob Whitehead, Paul Kaufman, Howard Colgrove, Tom Pedersen, Gary Vasey, Marion Gallentine and David Colgrove.

History of Blue Springs in 1866

R.A. Wilson and Wm. Tignor built the first dam across the Blue River, in Gage County. It was a log dam filled in with rock. Later this same dam was rebuilt and faced with cement. They build a burr grist mill, and a saw mill for making shingles and laths and sawing up lumber.

Wymore American Legion
Congratulations to
Blue Springs on their
150TH ANNIVERSARY



815 West D
Wymore, Nebraska
(402) 645-3895



Your source for news in
Southern Gage County

Proud to be the legal newspaper for
Blue Springs.

Look to us for pictures and results from the
Blue Springs Sesquicentennial celebration.

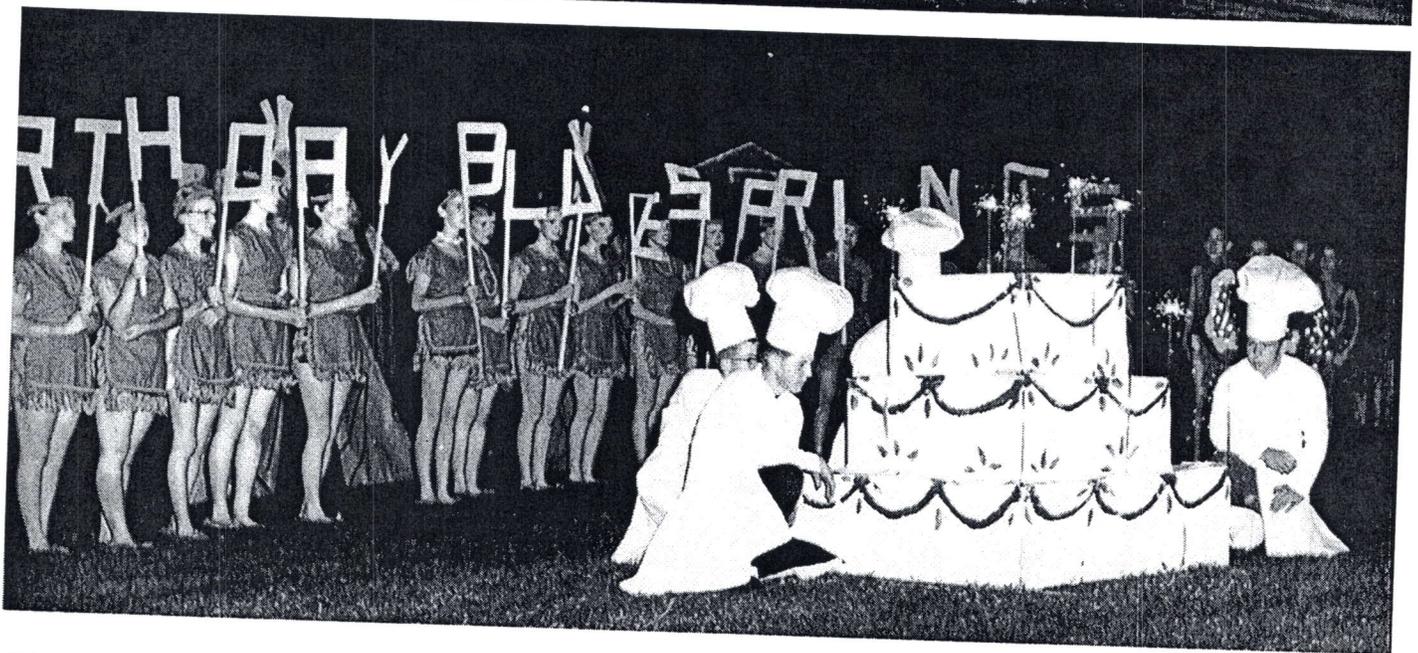
Wymore Arbor State

204 South Seventh Wymore, NE 68466 (402) 645-3344
Dale Crawford – Publisher

Blue Springs

Celebrations

CELEBRATIONS



Birthday Celebration Was Successful
(Taken from the Wymore Arbor State - written by Helena Casebeer, Arbor State Correspondent - June 27 - 28 and 29, 1957)

Blue Springs' 100th birthday celebration completed was a huge success, officials reported.

A throng of some 3,000 spectators lined the streets Friday evening from the Blue River bridge

to the west part of town to view the parade. It was presented at 2 p.m. Thursday and again Friday evening.

The Open Air Church service which was scheduled for Wednesday evening to open the Centennial Celebration was moved to the Evangelical church because of bad weather. A large crowd attended the service which had "The Church, Past,



The Blue Springs Centennial Ladies. (front from left) Marilyn Andrews, unknown, Shirley Connett, Linda Morris, Janet Forke, Norla Beal holding DeeAnn Schiermeyer, Barb Forke, Lois Andrews, unknown, Susan Forke, unknown, and Lestie Hevelone. (back) Betty Eisenhower, Lucille Morris, unknown, Vi Feit, Mary Lee Schiermeyer, Donna Thoman, Myrtle Swanson, Luella Beal, Darlene Agena, Chloe Beal, unknown, Delores Connett, and Mildred Andrews.

Present and Future" for a theme.

Participating ministers were E.E. Powell, E.A. McGill, Harvey Schwab, Darrell Cottingham, Sheridan Robbins and Leonard Birkin. Special music was presented by the Bethel Church quartette and Ralph Larsen. Harry Bell of Holmesville gave a reading.

Pageant Well Attended

The Pageant "Growing Up With Our Town" written and directed by Mrs. Luella Hunnicutt, was presented Thursday and Friday evenings before a full house. Narrator for the pageant was Darrell Cottingham, while Bill Owens played the organ music throughout the evening. Mrs. Hunnicutt expressed her sincere thanks to the cast of nearly 100 persons who participated in the pageant, and to all the committees who worked so diligently to make it a success.

Centennial Contest

A community picnic was enjoyed in the Blue Springs Park Saturday noon by a large number, after which the Centennial Contest was judged.

In the ladies division Mrs. Ruth Gribble and Mrs. Dale Reid of Beatrice served as judges. The following winners were selected:

Most authentic home-made costume, Mrs.

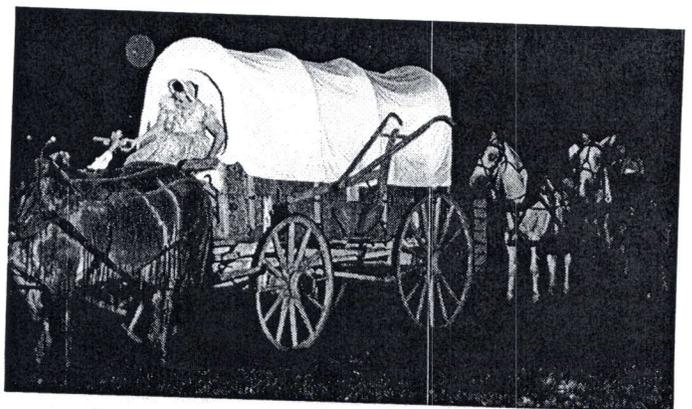
Luella Hunnicutt;

Most original old fashioned costume, Miss Carol Maguire; first, Willa Starlin, second;

Best old fashioned hat, Willa Starlin;

Best home-made hat, Mrs. Maude Boston, first; second place to a hat made by Cassie Wilson and modeled by Arnola Zabokrtsky.

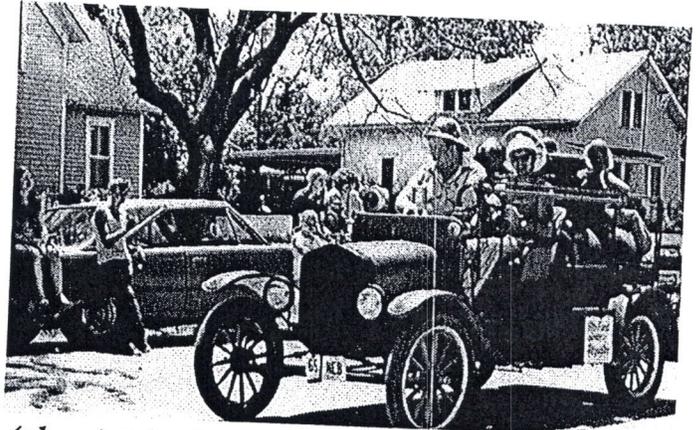
Special awards were presented to Mrs. Melvin Kechley and Sherry in the mother-daughter division and to Nancy Thoman for her appearance in baby clothes over 100 years old. Nancy is the infant daughter of Loren and Donna Thoman.



Centennial Wagon



Prize winners in the Blue Springs Fireman's bicycle parade were (foreground) Renie Novotny, 2; and Eddie Hatter, 9, with a centennial bicycle. Gary Trump stands on the right in a clown costume.



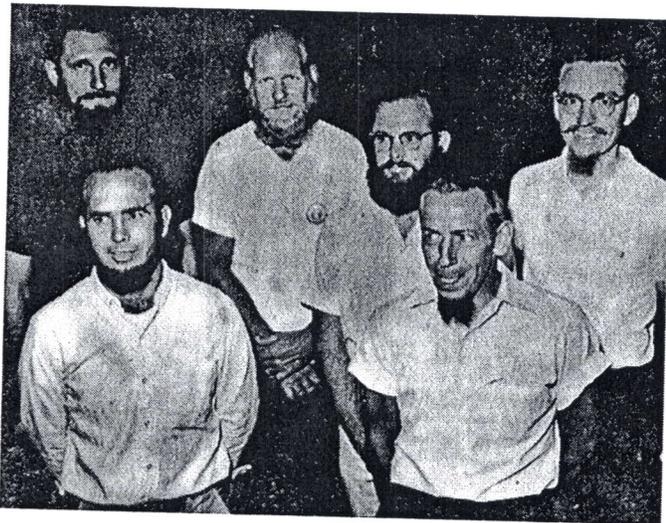
(above) John Feit and Bob Allen.
(left) Raymond and Betty Eisenhower in 1957.

In the Kitchen Band at the 125th Birthday Celebration in 1982 - (front from left) Karren Carpenter, Vicki Allen, Kellie Carpenter, Carolyn Mailahn, Juanita Leseberg, Ruby Morris, Courtney Marples and Jan Thoman. (back) Winnie Wignall, Carol Allen, Donna Thoman, Linda Hohensee, Kim Seachord, Cecelia Seachord, Connie Carpenter, Vi Feit, Beulah Scheele, Verona Neumann, Elinor Petersen.





1957 Brothers of the Brush. (front from left) Dan Hevelone, unknown, Joe Schiermeyer holding Bob Schiermeyer, Bob West, John Feit, Joe McKernan, Melvin Kechely, and Bob Chapman. (back) Albert Mettscher, Raymond Eisenhauer, Dee Schiermeyer, Frank Zabokrtsky, Swede Swanson, Harry Siebels, Lee Morris, Leonard Ekwall, Cory Richardson and Russel Wilson.



THE CHAMPION fuzzy fellows in the beard growing contest which finally ended at the Blue Springs Picnic were – (front from left) Harry McDaniel for best Abe Lincoln and grand champion and “Shorty” Campbell for the best goatee. (back) Leland Morris, left, had the most unusual beard; Harry Kruse, the best trimmed; Bill Allen, the best full beard and Bruce Campbell, the best Van Dyke.

Judges for the “Brothers of the Brush” were W. W. Foreman of Beatrice, Don Gillham of Lincoln and Sam Shoff of Wymore. Many entries in this division made this a hard choice, but the judges came up with the following selections:

Best full beard, Dale West; best trimmed beard, Jim McPheron and booby prize, Leland Morris.

Coming from the farthest distance to attend the Centennial celebration was Mrs. Basil Maine of Springfield, Ore., while J.W. Marples, 93, was the oldest one present.

Open house was held at the Log Cabin.



Bob Allen



Bill Allen

Blue Springs

Sports



THE BLUE SPRINGS HORNETS IN 1962 - Pictured are (front row, left to right) Terry Philippi, Dusty Cole, Roger Borgman, Jim Casebeer, Frank Swanson; (second row) John Cripe, Jim Scholle, Jim Philippi, Dennis Henrichs, Larry Ossowski, Coach Siebels; (back row) Tom Lattimer, Pat Lytle, Gary Hale, Bob Schiermeyer, Danny Philippi and Arnold Hale. Not pictured was Kenneth Wellensiek, Jay McKernan and Olen Ames.

Blue Springs Hornets Started In 1962

The Blue Springs Hornets was a group of boys from the Blue Springs-Wymore area, organized into a baseball team by the Blue Springs town barber, Harry Siebels, in 1962. It seems these boys were only warming up the bench in other baseball programs in the area, so Siebels said, "Boys, if you want to play ball, let's play."

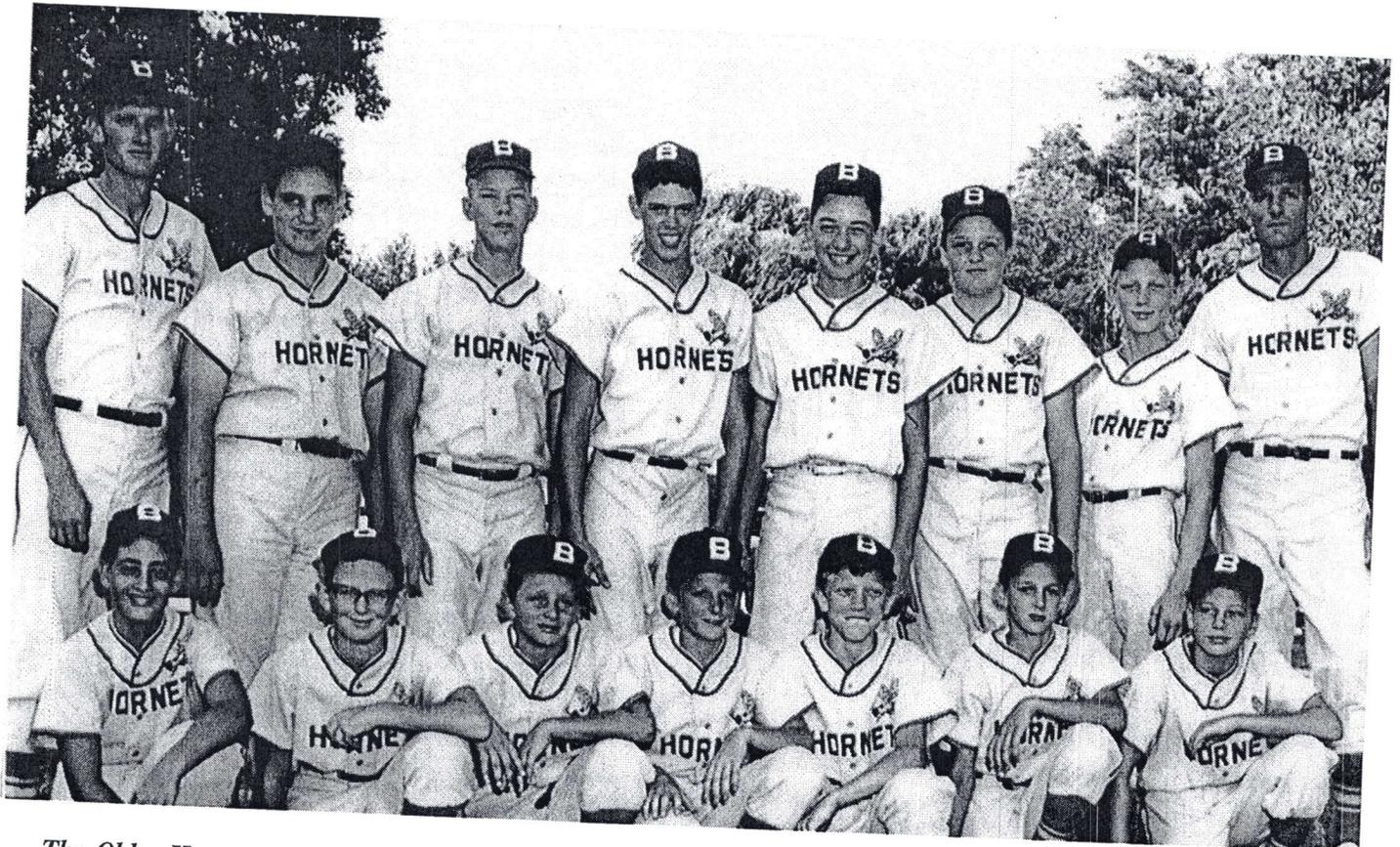
There were 16 who started the original team. Siebels coached the boys in 1962 and 1963. He was a man the boys respected. In 1964 the team was coached by Swede Swanson, assisted by Gerald Philippi and Sam Stevens. The team grew from 16

to 43 boys. The ages were eight years to 16 years. This same year the new back stop and lights were added on the field behind the schoolhouse. The money to do the project was donated out of the centennial money of the 100-year celebration of the sum of \$600. The boys used this field until the team was disbanded the fall of 1967.

The girls softball teams used this field until a new field was erected on the north edge of town. This field was built and maintained by the Blue Springs Volunteer Fire Department.

The Hornets were well-known in Nebraska and Kansas. In six to seven years these boys played and won five out of six Kansas-Nebraska baseball championships. The Hornets had a record of 29 straight wins, with scores from 1-0 to 35-0. They were a group of boys who loved to play ball. In one year they had scored 295 runs to 60 for their opponents.

The team, when originally started, was sponsored by Harry Siebels, and later by the Blue Springs Volunteer Fire Department.



The Older Hornets in 1963-64 – (back from left) Coach Gerald Philippi, John Dorais, Larry Ossowski, Ernie Robinson, Roger Borgman, Frank Swanson, Terry Philippi and Coach Gene (Swede) Swanson. (front) Jim Scholle, Dean “Dusty” Cole, Dave Mick, Gary Hale, Jim Philippi, Arnold Hale and Pat Lytle.



Hornets Baseball Reunion 1982 – (front from left) Dean “Dusty” Cole, Bob Schiermeyer, Dave Mick, Ken Wellensiek, Jim Philippi, John Dorais, and Coach Harry Siebels. (back) Coach Swede Swanson, Larry Ossowski, Sam Stevens.



Lee and Lois Borgman organized the Blue Springs girls softball team in 1968.

Girls Softball Teams

Lee and Lois Borgman organized the Blue Springs girls softball team in 1968. They joined the Nebraska-Kansas league with 8-10 other teams that year. They also played surrounding teams that year too.

In 1969, more girls came out and were divided into two groups; juniors, 12-14 years of age, and seniors, 15-18 years old. They played home games behind the Blue Springs school. The Borgmans coached from 1968-1973. Several trophies were won; they are displayed at the fire hall.

Other coaches include Danny Colgrove, 1973; Fracia Workman, 1977-79; Harriet Hall, 1980; Bruce Campbell, Julie Lienemann, Glennis McClure and Nancy Jurgens, 1981.

1981 was a banner year for junior softball as the team qualified in district play at Beatrice to go to the state tournament at North Platte. Only one out of three games was won there but it was a great experience for the girls and achievement for the team and their coaches.

The softball teams are now sanctioned with the American Softball Association and Nebraska Softball Association. They finished second place in the Kansas-Nebraska League Tournament. All the girls softball programs are funded and sponsored by the firemen.

Senior Softball

Fracia Workman took over the Senior Girls when Danny Colgrove resigned. Fracia had the girls for one

year. When Fracia decided to go to college Harriet Hall managed the team for one year and then Julie Lienemann managed them during the 1981 season.

Although the girls have never been to state, they have come close. In 1981 they lost to Tecumseh 7 to 5, which cost them their trip to state. 1982 could be a good year as they have most of their talent returning and some good prospective players moving up from



DEDICATION CEREMONIES were held for the new electronic scoreboard at the Blue Springs softball field, added with memorial funds for the late Lee Morris and matching funds from the Blue Springs Volunteer Fire Department. At the field, (from left) Loren Thoman, representing firemen, presented a plaque to Mrs. Lee (Lucille) Morris; her son, Lynn; and grandson, Kevin; in memory of Morris, a fire department member for 34 years. The new scoreboard features a public address system that played ten different tunes.

juniors.

Team members were: Lisa Morris, Kristi Niday, Melody Philippi, Phyllis Eisenhauer, Jeannie Warford, Mimi Roche, Lisa Pollman, Linda Wright, Sheri Campbell, DeDe Donovan, Judy Poutre and Bev Cullison.

The Blue Springs Fire Department had done a wonderful job in helping the girls in any way they can. The new softball diamond they made was played on the first time in 1981. Blue Springs had one of the better ballfields now in their league. Also, the department purchased new uniforms for the girls last year.

Blue Springs Ball Diamond Association "Dreams Come True Sports Complex"

May 1997 a group of coaches and parents decided to form the Blue Springs Ball Diamond Association, (BSBDA). The goal of the group was to find a way to build a new diamond to add to the current diamond built by the Blue Springs Fire Department in 1976. The BSBDA became a non-profit corporation in May 1998 and announced the beginning of the fund raising effort to build the Dreams Come True Sports Complex. The BSBDA leased land next to the firemen's diamond from the City of Wymore for the proposed new sports complex. The next year on July 10, 1999 the ribbon was cut and the first game was played on the first new ball diamond. Construction on the second new diamond also started in 1999. The 150 plus volunteers of the effort were recognized by the Nebraska Community Improvement Program with the Special Award in the Parks, Recreation and Forestry Division in the fall on 1999.

A new 575 square foot concession, restroom and storage building began construction in 2000. The brick building is located in the center of the complex. The concession building and the second new diamond were put to use in 2001. The same year the Southern High School started a girls fast-pitch program and began using the complex as their home diamond. The 2002 Nebraska State Amateur Association selected the Dreams Come True Sports Complex as the site for the area District Softball Tournament for the high school teams. Southern High School and the BSBDA have hosted the tournament for the last three years.

During the ten years of the Dreams Come True

project a hay field has been transformed into a sports complex with two ball diamonds with fences, lights and all-weather infields. The brick concession building is the center of activities eight months of the year. The BSBDA started fall elementary soccer and football. During the winter the BSBDA and Southern High School sponsor a Junior High girls basketball league. The complex has hosted concerts, lawn mower tractor pulls and other community activities.

Future plans of the BSBDA are to install playground equipment, another diamond and expand on their current programs. The goal of the BSBDA is to provide adequate and sufficient facilities in a safe and positive environment for all the youth and adults of our area.

FIELD OF DREAMS ... The third ball diamond in Blue Springs was finished just in time for the Sam Wymore Days softball tournament.

Another addition to the fields was an all-weather surface. Pat Dunning of Odeys Field Experts said the new fields could take two inches of rain and be ready for play within two hours. Southern softball coach Dennis Dodge said that he hopes the addition of the third field and the all-weather surface will help Blue Springs get conference and district tournaments in the year's to come.



Softball girls receive grant from Martha and Margaret Thomas Foundation.

BSBDA Receives Grants To Help Toward Facility Completion

The Blue Springs Ball Diamond Association

received a pair of grants which will go toward completion of a second field in the Blue Springs facility.

Currently the facility had one ball field that was completely finished and was being used for high school softball games. The field was completed with fencing and lighting.

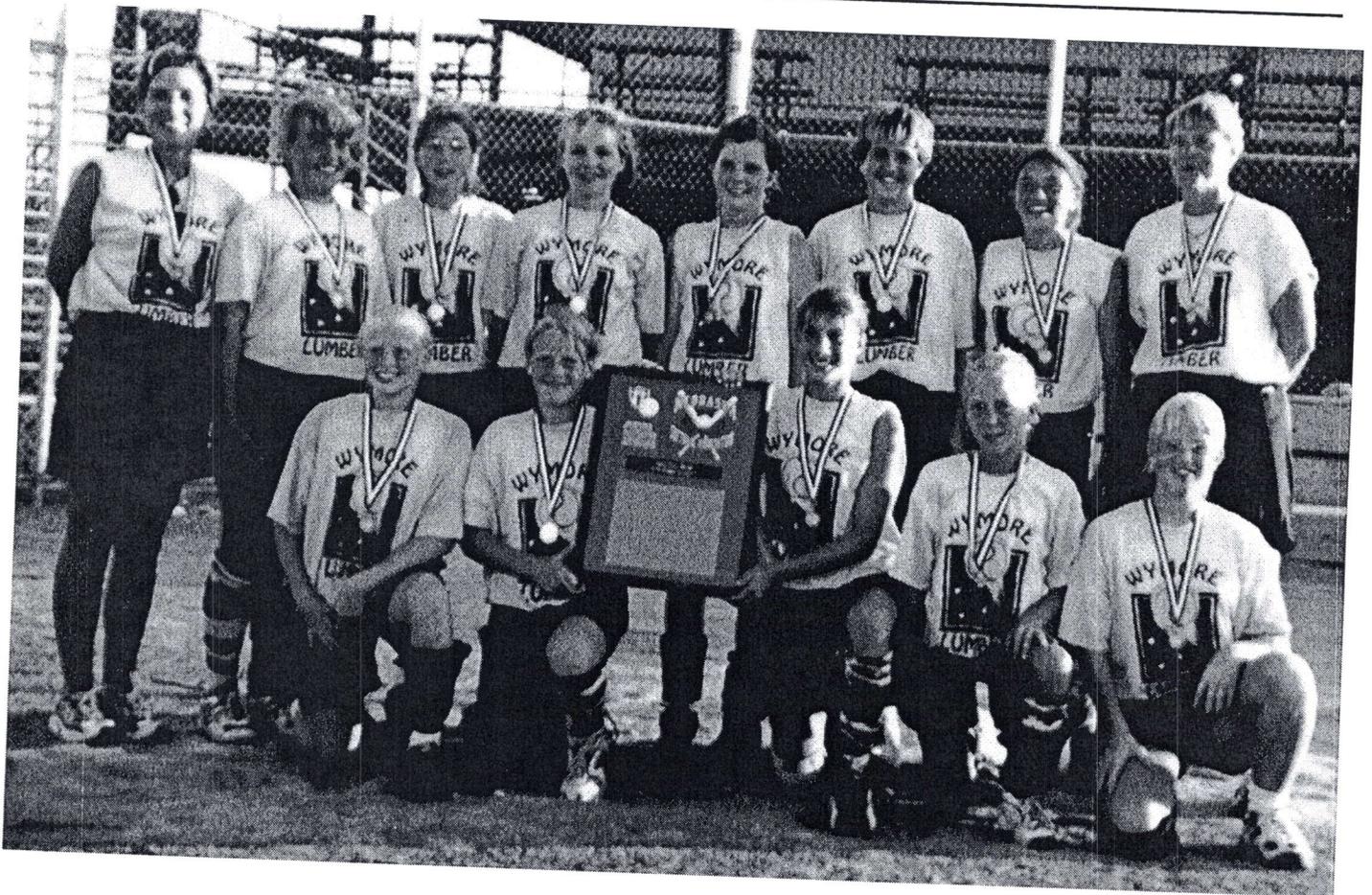
The work on the second field was still in progress. During the summer most of the fencing was set in place as well as the dugout benches.

A \$3,000 grant was received from the Gage County Foundation. This grant went towards the completion of the fencing and some work on the field.

The group received exciting news when they found out they were the recipient of a \$25,000 Grant from the Thomas Foundation. The Thomas Foundation was started by long-time Wymore residents Martha and Margaret Thomas. The Thomas sisters were present before the Southern High School game with Wilber-Clatonia to deliver the check for the grant.

The grant helped finish the new lights on the north field. The total cost for the lights on the new field was between \$32,000 and \$34,000.

The field to the east was finished but needs some general maintenance. That gave the complex three complete fields by the end of the season.



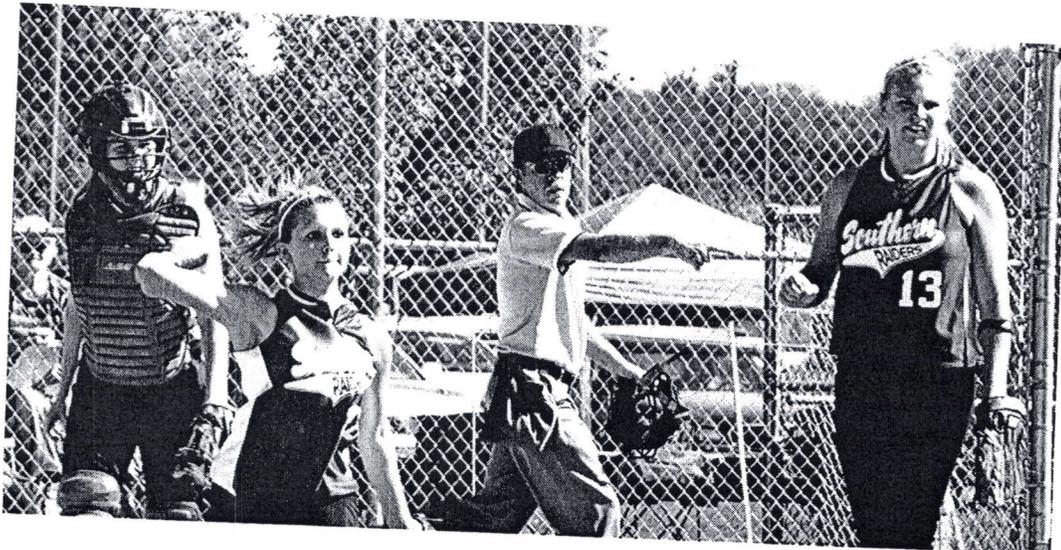
2000 Class C 12 and Under, Wymore Lumber, State Runner Up – The girls started off the tournament with an early win over Friend, 4-1. Then came back with another win over Plainview, 9-6. The girls had to face Stromsburg and came away with a quick win, 16-3, in three innings. Wymore Lumber faced off with Fairbury Lil' Blue, winning 9-6. They played Little J's of Fairbury, winning 4-3. In the championship game, Wymore Lumber met up with West Point, and were defeated 5-4, setting up a second game. This time the teams locked up 2-2 at the end of regulation. West Point scored twice to win the game but the Wymore Lumber team did a great job.

(front from left) Ashlie Merritt, Felicia Rutti, Brooke Pralle, Autumn Disney and Callie Rodgers. (back) Coach Kalynne Breunsbach, Aleece Coffendaffer, Bria Barrett, Mauri McClure, Whitney Breunsbach, Kandra Mick, Madison Bohlmeier and Coach Jolene Bartels.



Wymore Lumber Lightning – 2004 14 & Under State Champions – Don't tell the Wymore girls 14 and Under softball team lightning can't strike twice. For the second time in three years the Wymore Lumber Lightning softball team claimed a state title. Two years ago the same nucleus of girls claimed the 12 and under state championship. The state title finishes off an undefeated season for the team.

(front from left) Dani Michaelis, Danae Disney, Holly Mick, Kelsey Schiebur, Kenzie Percival, Chantal Leach, Melinda Phipps, Taylor Boyer, Courtney Shalla, Jess Elkins, Tiffany Griffith. Coach Pat Lytle, Coach Dennis Dodge, Kaylee Spier, Alecia Elliott, Emalee Oblinger, Coach Jeff Schiebur.



The Southern High School softball team plays on the ball diamond in Blue Springs.

Danae Disney is pictured throwing out a runner as teammates Jessica Elkins and Kelsey Schiebur look on in 2006.



2002 State Champions – Five wins through the State 12 & Under Softball Tournament in Hastings, 6-5 over McCook, 7-2 over Prague, 8-7 over Wakefield, 9-4 over Cedar Bluffs and 9-0 over West Point gave the Wymore Lumber Lightning the team title and the Blue Springs Ball Diamond Association it's first State Champions with a perfect 31-0 record for the season.

(front from left) Tiffany Griffeth, Alecia Elliott, Danae Disney, Kenzie Percival and Kaylee Spier. (back) Coach Dan Disney, Dani Michaelis, Kelsey Pralle, Kodi McFall-Borzekofski, Kelsey Schiebur, Holly Mick, Melinda Phipps and Coach Charlene Disney.

Pee Wee

Bruce and Sue Campbell formed a pee wee age team (8-11 year olds) in 1971. They traveled with the older girls in Kansas-Nebraska league play. In 1975, Fracia Workman formed four teams due to the increased interest in the sport. The teams took turns traveling.

In 1978, 43 girls had registered. Connie Carpen-

ter and Fracia Workman formed a Little League. The teams play intramural every week for six weeks. In 1981, 50 girls were involved in this program. The uniforms were sponsored by Wymore businesses and all ground upkeep and equipment was from the Blue Springs Fire Department.