

1972-73

Expanded athletic offering includes girls sports

FACTS & FIGURES

Final records

FALL '72

Football	5-4
Golf	0-3
Cross Country	0-7
Girls basketball	0-4

WINTER '73

Boys basketball	4-17
Wrestling	1-10
Volleyball	1-6

SPRING '73

Baseball	8-11
Track	2-4

MVPs

Football: Mike Steffen
 Basketball: Darrell Kirby
 Baseball: Carlos Vasquez
 Track: Darrell Burch

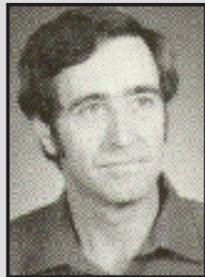
River Raisin Conference

CHAMPIONS

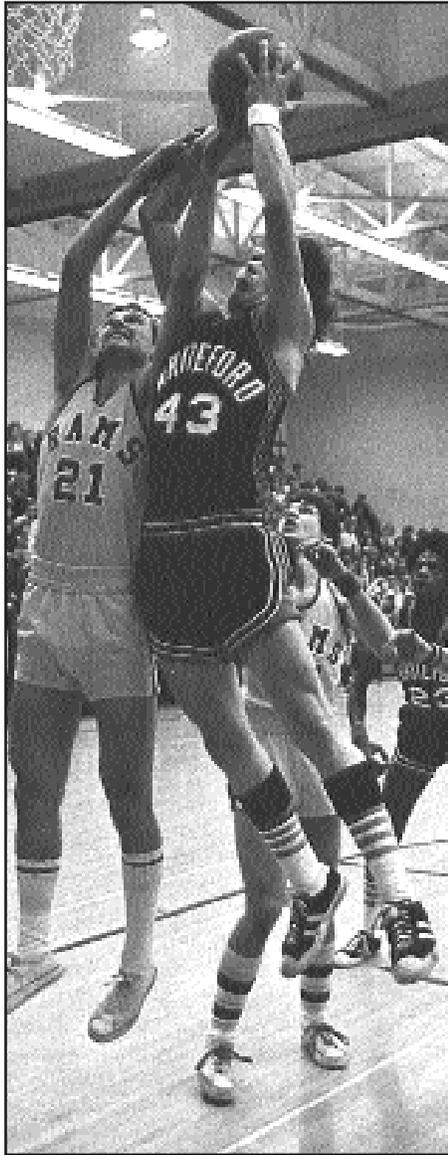
Football: Ida & Erie Mason
 Basketball: Erie Mason
 Baseball: Erie Mason
 Track: Erie Mason

All-State

Mike Steffen, football, HM (AP)



Mel Hartsel (above) ended his varsity basketball career with 81 victories and one league championship.



BOBCAT HEADLINES

- The River Raisin Conference broke up after the 1972-73 season as the league's eight teams split into Michigan-Ohio Border Conference and the Tri-County Conference
- The Bobcat football team had another winner with a 5-4 final grid record. After being shut out in three of its first four games, Whiteford came back for a winning season under coach Paul Palka
- Mel Hartsel coached his final season for Whiteford varsity basketball team, which lost its final seven games of the year.
- Wrestling MVP Tom Long and Romaro Flores took thirds at Regional tournament in first year for the sport
- Whiteford's first-ever varsity wrestling match took place during school, at an assembly, in front of the entire student body. The Bobcats lost to Maumee Valley Country Day, 37-18. Romaro Flores picked up Whiteford's first win.

WHITEFORD TRIVIA

Q - Who was the low-scorer for Whiteford in its first-ever varsity golf match?

Kevin McNulty (left) scored more than 700 points in his Whiteford career, including an average of 9.2 during the 1972-73 season.

NUMBERS, NOTES & QUOTES

FOOTBALL: Whiteford barely kept its distinction of never having a losing season with a four game winning streak late in the season to finish with five wins. The victory total came despite the fact Whiteford was shut out three times.

Sophomore Steve Fowler had a solid season at his quarterback slot while Mike Steffen, named team MVP, was the rushing leader for Whiteford.

BASKETBALL: Underclassmen played the largest role for Whiteford, having only two senior letterman. Leading scorer Darrell Kirby was named the team Most Valuable Player after outscoring teammate Gary King by three points for the team lead.

Kirby also led the team in rebounding.

Other underclassmen Hartsel had to work with included Kevin McNulty and Dave Koppelman.

Hartsel's career ended with an 81-98 record as varsity coach over 10 seasons. The Bobcats tied for one league title during his tenure. Hartsel came to Whiteford in the fall of 1958 and became a coach quickly, guiding junior high teams for two seasons and the reserve basketball squad for three years before taking over the reigns as head coach. He had a record of 25-23 as JV head coach and also coached the varsity baseball team.

BASEBALL: Gary King's 13 RBI and Randy Appling's four wins on the mound helped the Bobcats to eight wins. Whiteford shutout Dundee in the District opener, but bowed out of state tournament with loss to state power Blissfield. The Royals went on to win the state Class C championship.

TRACK: Darrell Burch won the 100 and 200 at the RRC track meet, giving him five first-place finishes in three years.