

Volleyball team serves up another TCC crown

FACTS & FIGURES

Final records

FALL '96

Football 4-5
Girls basketball 11-11

WINTER '97

Boys basketball 5-17
Volleyball 21-6-4

SPRING '97

Baseball 15-10
Softball 17-12
Boys track not available
Girls track 0-6

MVPs

Football: Rusty Rust
Girls basketball: Rae Koppelman
Boys basketball: Eddie Sharpe
Volleyball: unknown
Baseball: Justin Billau
Softball: Rae Koppelman
Boys track: Chris Swaney
Girls track: Shannon Crigger

Tri-County Conference

CHAMPIONS

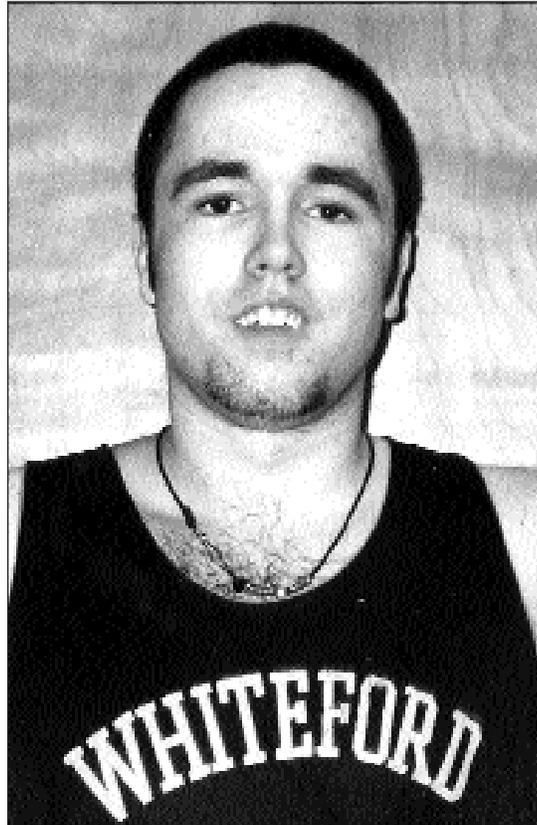
Football: Morenci
Girls basketball: Britton
Boys basketball: Sand Creek & Deerfield
Volleyball: Whiteford
Baseball: Summerfield
Softball: Summerfield
Boys track: Sand Creek & Whitmore Lake
Girls track: Whitmore Lake

All-State

Eddie Sharpe, basketball, first team (AP)
Justin Billau, baseball, 1st team
Lori Adkins, softball, HM

BOBCAT HEADLINES

- Shannon Crigger placed 10th at Class D state cross country meet
- Justin Billau's .513 average was best batting average in the Region
- Eddie Sharpe repeated as the Region scoring leader and was an All-State choice
- Chris Swaney qualified for the state meet for the third time
- The volleyball team went undefeated in the TCC



Eddie Sharpe earned first team All-State honors in 1997, the first of two seasons he made the Associated Press Class D team. Sharpe would go on to become the greatest scorer in Tri-County Conference history and when his career ended he was the all-time leading scorer in Monroe County Region history, passing Milan great Stan Joplin.

NUMBERS & NOTES

FOOTBALL: Despite winning only four games, the Bobcats just missed the state playoffs. Joe Foti led the squad in rushing with 569 yards while first-year quarterback Justin Billau led the team in scoring and passing. Rusty Rust was the defensive leader with 97 tackles while Jake Ray, named the team's best defensive player, had 43.

GIRLS BASKETBALL: Rae Koppelman led the Bobcats by averaging 14.2 points and pulled down 201 rebounds and Naomi Sullivan and Elaine Bauman also had big seasons for the 11-11 Bobcats.

BOYS BASKETBALL: Eddie Sharpe was super as a sophomore, but became perhaps the most decorated Whiteford player ever after his junior season, being named First Team All-State by the Associated Press and picking up Monroe County and Monroe Region player of the year honors as well as making a select team chosen by the Toledo Blade.

Sharpe's season was nothing less than spectacular, but it was not enough to propel Whiteford from the doldrums of a 5-17 record. Scoring 595 points (27.1 per game) made Sharpe the highest scorer in all of southeastern Michigan. He also averaged 11 rebounds a game and shot better than 50 percent from the floor in earning the heap of hardware. Overall, he scored exactly half of the team's points.

One highlight for the Bobcats was playing Ottawa Hills at the

Palace of Auburn Hills, home of the Detroit Pistons.

VOLLEYBALL: The Bobcats had a super season, winning the TCC championship. Rae Koppelman, Jenny Mock and Meredith Hartbargar were All-TCC players as the Bobcats went 14-0 in the league.

SOFTBALL: The Bobcats went 17-12 for the season, won District and Regional championships behind the hitting of Tiffany George (.444, 30 RBI), Lori Adkins (37 runs) and Jenny Mock (37 hits). Whiteford entered the District 13-11, but caught fire by sweeping the District and beat Pittsford and Grass Lake in the Regional. The Bobcats lost in the quarterfinal to No. 2 ranked Burr Oak. Adkins was an honorable mention All-State choice.

BASEBALL: Jack Luetke's Bobcats won 15 games but fell to Ann Arbor Gabriel Richard in the District final. Justin Billau batted .513 to lead the team and earn an All-State berth. He also had 10 doubles and 34 RBI. Brett Smith batted a .386 and also won five games on the mound while Matt Scott had six pitching victories and 76 strikeouts.

TRACK: Shannon Crigger placed 5th in the 1600 and Shana Farrell was 6th in the 400 at the state meet. Chris Swaney was 1st the discus at the Regional and 3rd in the 100, again qualifying for the state meet.