

The Time Machine  
**Happy New Year!**  
Article #21

Welcome to 2024. There is a lot for which to be thankful, and a lot for which to be forward looking.

I am thankful to have great support at the Wadena County Historical Society from the director, Lina Belar, and her staff Nedra, Brian, and Annette. I am also fortunate to have access to the WCHS's invaluable resources available for my research.

I am thankful to a few folks at Wadena-Deer Creek public schools as well. Activities Director Norm Gallant and two others that have too many job titles to mention, Kyle Gylsen and Katie Polman.

I am looking forward to a mutually beneficial collaboration between the WCHS and the WDC school. After about four years of research and documentation of WHS football and basketball sports history, covering 1900-80, I ended up with six "Scrapbooks." Two for basketball and four for football. From when I started, and leading up to today, my vision has been modified frequently. Over the last four years, at some point, I realized that these "Scrapbooks" needed to be easily accessible to anyone that might be interested in them. At this moment all six "Scrapbooks" are available on the WDC website! This was made possible because of Norm, Kyle, and Katie.

If interested go to the WDC website, click on "Athletics/Activities," scroll down to "Wolverine History," and there are the "Scrapbooks," over 600 pages in all. Viewing these electronically has many advantages over viewing a hardcopy. However, if you prefer hard copies, you have two options. You can download and print out a copy, or you can go to the WCHS and buy (tax deductible donation) as many as you wish. Remember though, the inventory at the WCHS is limited, and now that the "Scrapbooks" are available online I won't be spending my money to produce more copies.

One more thing. The "WHS Basketball History 1900-59" was my first one. I knew very little about improving picture quality with the different software applications I would be using. I learned as I moved forward. It took a long time before I got good at it. The last book I just recently completed, the "WHS Football History 1970-80," is as good as it can be in terms of picture quality. So here is my current project before I move on to the other WHS sports that I intend to research and document. I am going through the other five "Scrapbooks," in chronological order, to make sure all pictures that can be improved will be improved. Sorry Katie! I will send them in as they are completed, and they can replace the originals.

Of course, I will continue to use "The Time Machine" as a platform for sharing interesting stories that are imbedded in the six "Scrapbooks." My next subjects will focus on individual decades and also on individual seasons.

See you soon!