

1961-1962: 0-6; First Full Season

Swimmers Proved That Cats Do Like Water

SWIMMING TEAM: (Row 1) Jim Staten, George McCoy, John Buffalo, George Horning, Kenton Miller. (Row 2) Mike McDonald, Gary Dawkins, Jack Keppler, Joe Willoughby, Andy Penrod. (Row 3) Rick Reed, Harold Harper, Tom Penrod, Tom Kellum, Jim Bob Harrold, Doug Church, Don Taylor, Pete Schranz, Coach Ernst Sutton.



Swimmers fight for the lead in the Southport meet.

Faced with top swim competition, Coach Sutton's loyal swimmers failed to win in any dual meets. The team finished second in the Burris three-way meet, eighth in the Bunker Hill Invitational, and sixth in the Burris Invitational meet.

1961 SWIMMING SEASON RECORD

'Cats 22, Southport	63
'Cats 30, Kokomo	65
'Cats 35, Burris	60
'Cats 19, Kokomo	76
'Cats 8th in Bunker Hill Invitational	
'Cats 57, Burris	73; Lafayette Jeff
'Cats 32, Southport	54
'Cats 8th in Burris Invitational	
'Cats had no qualifiers in State Meet	

1962-1963: 4-4 ; Columbus Relays Champions



(Left) 'Cat tankmen Phil Johnson, Carl Benham, George McCoy, and Page Gifford are at postside with Central's first swimming trophy won at the Columbus Relays. These four splashers set a pool record in the 100-yard freestyle relay. (Below) Phil Johnson displays his prowess in the freestyle stroke. This tankner was one of the best in the state in this event.

9 Splash Marks Set

Breaking nine school records during the '62-'63 season, Coach Ernie Sutton's swimming squad posted a 4-4 record for dual meet competition.

Records set with their times are 50-yard freestyle, :23.5 and 100-yard freestyle, :51.5, Phil Johnson; 200-yard individual medley, 2:26.5, George McCoy; 100-yard butterfly, 1:02.7, Carl Benham; 400-yard freestyle, 4:39, Joe Wilhoite; 100-yard breaststroke, 1:10, Robert Morgan; 200-yard medley relay, 1:52.9 and 160-yard medley relay, 1:25.8, Fred Ramsey, Morgan, Benham, Mike Jack; and 200-yard freestyle relay, 1:40.6, Marshall Huffman, Dick Teaters, Jack, McCoy. Johnson and Morgan won second and sixth respectively in the state swim meet.

SWIMMING RECORD

'Cats 41, Southport	54
'Cats 54, Kokomo	61
'Cats 40, Burriss	55
'Cats 74, Carroll	21
'Cats 37, Southport	58
'Cats 63, Anderson	32
'Cats 71, Bloomington	24
'Cats 66, Anderson	29
'Cats 62, Southport 70, Bloomington	23
'Cats 60, Barris, 68, Lafayette Jeff	47

1963-1964: 3-1



SWIM TEAM: (On Diving Board) Jerry Green, John McClellan, Henry Schroeder, Carl Benham, Ship Lank, Tim Botkin, John Vineyard, Dennis Gudgel, Dave Finnegan. (Bottom Row) Rick Rodeffer, Page Gifford, Jim Hill, John

Swain, John Oesterle. (Row 2) John Hayden, Bill Barefoot, Larry Cook, Jack Lewis, Dave Barnett, Terry Condon, Dennis Zimmerman. (Row 3) Pete Geckler, Bill Wessendorf, Mike Jack, Mike Abrell, Clark Crouse, Bob Snider.

Tankers, Led By Benham, Set Six Splash Marks

Five school records and a Columbus Relays record were set this year by Coach Ernest Sutton's mermen.

At the Columbus Relays, Carl Benham, Mike Jack, Dick Teters, and Page Gifford swam the 100-yard freestyle relay in :44.8. They broke the record set by another Central relay team at last year's Relays.

During the season Benham contributed three school records. He set new marks in the 200-yard freestyle, 1:59.6; 100-yard breaststroke, 1:08.4; and the 100-yard butterfly, :57.1. Jack Lewis broke the 400-yard freestyle record in 4:30.4. Rounding out the record-breaking performances was a 200-yard free-

style team composed of Jim Hill, Gifford, Teters, and Jack.

Several of these records were lowered and re-lowered many times during the year. In the intrasquad swim meet at the end of the season Lewis broke the 200-yard freestyle, but the time stood for only a few minutes. Benham recorded an even better time.

SWIMMING SCOREBOARD

Central 40, Kokomo	55
Central 65, Anderson	30
Central 64, Burriss	31
Central 65, Carroll	28

1964-1965: 6-1



SWIMMING TEAM: (Row 1) Dave Barnett, Mike Jack, Steve Enslin, Jack Lewis, Bill Wessendorf. (Row 2) John McCallan, Clint Tuder, Steve Castwright, Chuck Turner, Paul LaBertaux, Terry Coadin. (Row 3) Jerry Green,

Steve Page, Jack Vineyard, David Phyll, Jim Webb, Rick McGinnis, John Webber, Chris Southwick, Bob Swanson, Bill Fuhon, Mike Abrell, Clark Crouse, Eric Sutton, coach.

Tank 'Bests' Fell as Splashers Posted 6-1 Mark

A 6-1 season and several new school records were highlights of this year's swimming squad. The 'Cat splashers made a fine showing in the Harris Invitational as they were third in a meet that is a "steak preview" of the state championships. In this meet Central swimmers placed consistently against later high placers in the state and North Central Conference meets.

Coach Sutton's Bearcats finished third in the NCC meet, which was won by Kokomo, who later placed second in the state with several individual winners. Second in the NCC was a Lafayette team that also had several high finishers in the state.

The 'Cats placed third in the sectional meet and qualified five swimmers for the state meet. Mike Abrell and Jack Lewis placed seventh in the state 200-yard freestyle and the 100-yard backstroke, respectively. A medley relay team of Clark Crouse, Mike Abrell, Mike Jack and Paul LaBertaux, placed sixth but was disqualified.

Breaking school records was a habit with this year's squad, as four old marks were cast aside. Jack Lewis broke his own record in the 200-yard freestyle with a 1:58.4, and set a new mark in the 400-yard freestyle with 4:30.4. Mike Abrell set a record of 1:01.4 in the 100-yard backstroke. The same medley relay team that was disqualified in the state, broke the old school standard with a 1:50.2 clocking.

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1964-65 SWIMMING SCOREBOARD

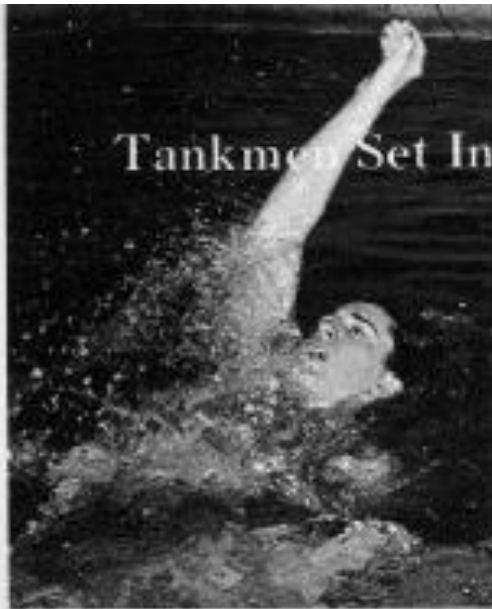
Central 61, Anderson	34
Central 64, Carroll	31
Central 88, Davis	37
Central Inv, NCC Meet	
Central 56, Franklin	39
Central 79, Southport	65
Central 81, Frankfort	34
Central 85, Anderson	39
Central Inv, Harris Invitational	
Central Inv, Sectional	



ABOVE: Mike Abrell, state finalist and school record holder, strikes in a fast trip in the Harris Invitational. BELOW: Jack Lewis uses flip turn in 400-yard freestyle.



Tankmen Set Individual, Team Records



Coach Ernie Sutton's tankmen completed the finest season in history.

Losing only to third-ranked Southport (by one point!), the Cats finished 8-1. Placing second in both the Conference and Sectional, fourth in the Columbus Relays, and ranking eleventh in the State, the swimmers broke ten previous school records.

Individual record holders were Mike Ahrell, Paul LaBerteaux and Tom Perrin. These boys were also members of multiple record setting relay teams, as were Clark Crouse, Jim Webb, and Bill Fulton.



1965-66 VARSITY SCOREBOARD

Central 75; Anderson	22
Central 68; Franklin	35
Central 4th; Columbus Relays	
Central 53; Lawrence Central	42
Central 67; Marion	28
Central 64; Burns	31
Central 2nd, NCC Meet	
Central 53; Frankfort	42
Central 47; Southport	48
Central 79; Anderson	16
Central 71; Burns	24
Central 2nd, Sectional	
Central 11th, State Finals	

ABOVE: Senior Mike Ahrell shows the form needed for a record backstroke timing. LEFT: Soph Tom Perrin breaks another record in the butterfly.



Swimmers, take your mark! BANG! State finalists get ready to spring into action. Frontiers by student Dan Dawson, backstroke; Paul LaBerteaux, freestyle; Jerry Green, freestyle; Mike Ahrell, backstroke; Bill Fulton, backstroke; Clark Crouse, backstroke; Jim Webb, freestyle; Tom Perrin, individual medley; Steve Page, medley; Ed Becker, freestyle.

SWIMMING TEAM: (Row 1) Greg Wagon, Eric McGinnis, Mark Mason, John Vasilakis, Randy Beavers, Dennis Glasco, Dan Dawson. (Row 2) Trent Tomlinson, Hal Lawrence, Ray Cross, Doug Lacey, Kris Pherson, Jim Crockett, Clint Taylor, Coach Ernie Sutton. (Row 3) Jim Webb, Ed Becker, Jerry Green, John McChesin, Steve Page, Tom Perrin, Paul LaBerteaux, Terry Gaudin, Clark Crouse, Bill Fulton, Mike Ahrell.



1966-1967: 8-2; 8th Place in State



Coach Ernie Sutton announces results of a swimming meet. Sutton was well pleased with the squad's performance this year.

The 1966-67 swimming season was characterized by both outstanding team and individual performances.

The squad finished the dual meet season with an 8-2 record and placed second in the NCC and Sectional meets. For the first time in the school's history a Central tanker won a gold medal in the state championship meet. Tom Perrin, junior, won the 100-yard butterfly in a time of 54.5. The 200-yard medley relay composed of Tom Perrin, Hal Lawrence, Eric Hughlett, and Dave Gudgel tied for fifth in the state finals. The time of 1:47.7 also established a new school mark. Eric Hughlett broke the school record in the 100-yard breaststroke. Hard-working Perrin smashed the existing school's best in the 100-yard freestyle, 100-yard butterfly, 200-yard freestyle, and 200-yard individual medley.

The squad's eighth-place finish in the state finals was a highlight of the year.

SWIMMING TEAM: (Row 1) Chris Tudor, Chris Pherson, Ray Crum, Randy Beavers, Dennis Glancy, Paul Teoxell. (Row 2) Dana Shultz, Doug Lacey, Mark Logan, Gary True,

Don Cline. (Row 3) John Lewis, Rick McGinnis, Tom Perrin, Eric Hughlett, Dave Gudgel, Hal Lawrence, Jim Crookston, Ron Wierks.





Outstanding form in the butterfly is displayed by Tom Ferrin. Tom broke a total of five school records during this season.



Senior Eric Hughlett seems to be "taking a breather" - during swimming competition. Hughlett was NCC champ in breaststroke.

SWIMMING-SCOREBOARD

	CHS	Opp.
Anderson	51	44
Franklin	53	42
Lawrence Central	38	57
Marion	59	36
Barris	55	39
Richmond	60	35
NCC Meet	(Central	Second)
Frankfort	54	41
Southport	38	57
Richmond	50	41
Barris	52	43
Sectional	(Central	Second)
State Meet	(Central	Eighth)

1967-1968: 7-4; 10th in State

Tankmen saw State action; Perrin set record



Senior Hal Lawrence perfects his backstroke in a practice session in the "B" pool. Hal's effort earned him a berth in the State meet.

As basketball dominated the winter sports scene, a determined squad of swimmers directed by Coach Ernie Sutton broke records and won seven dual meets to four lost, in their usual top pool performances.

The Bearcats won the 100-yard freestyle relay event at the Columbus Relays and were second in the medley relay. They placed second in the North Central Conference meet with 44 points, behind Kokomo.

Rounding out the season, the Central tankmen qualified for third place in the Sectional and tenth in the State meet with two swimmers—Tom Perrin in the 100-yard butterfly and 50-yard freestyle, and Hal Lawrence in the 100-yard backstroke.

Tankmen were led with outstanding performances by Tom Perrin, who swam in record time whenever the coach needed him. Tom broke four school records and one state record on his way to the State. His strongest stroke was the butterfly, in which he broke the old State IHSAA record of :54.4 in the 100-yard event, and set a new mark of :53.9.



Above: Explaining some of the finer points of swimming strategy to Tom Perrin and Hal Lawrence is Coach Ernie Sutton. Below: Tom Perrin propels himself into the air as he completes the final leg of a relay race.



1968-1969: 6-5; First Time Sectional Champions



1968 BEARCAT SWIMMING SQUAD: (From Row) Don Daugherty, Gary Ferris, Jerry McCallough, Dan Brown, Larry Eschler, Rocky Sims. (Row 2) Bruce Stables, Tom Clark, Bob Murray, Jeff Hosen, Joe Egan, Mike

Wets, Bill Alexander. (Row 3) Dale Malton, Tom Lewis, Jim Egan, Mike Landford, Doug Schaefer, Chris Tuley, Mike Moore, John Leslie. Not pictured: Don Katz.

Completing a breaststroke pull, Jim Egan shows correct form during entry into the water.

Hard work by the swimming team was rewarded this year when the Bearcats won their first sectional trophy which Captain John Leslie presents to Mr. Huffman at an honors convocation.



Sutton led his '68-69 tankmen to Sectional win

The capturing of Central's first Sectional swimming championship highlighted the 1968-69 swimming season. The Bearcat swimmers compiled 69 points to capture Anderson Sectional honors. Individual titles were won by John Lewis, Gary Ferris, and Jim Egan. The 400-yard freestyle relay team of Gary Ferris, Bob Murray, Dale Malton, and John Lewis also won first in the Sectional.

Captain Ernie Sutton's squad compiled a 6-5 record in dual meets, swimming to convincing victories over Barrie and Marion. In January the Bearcats captured third in the North Central Conference meet at Anderson. Six Bearcat tankmen participated in the State.

1968-1969 SWIMMING SCOREBOARD

Opp.	WTS
Anderson	69
New Castle	52
Richmond	38
Lafayette Central	37
Madison	28
Burke	20
Franklin	18
NCC (Central third)	14
Southport	11
Richmond	10
Burke	10



Against tough sectional competition, Jim Egan heads for a turn. His performance earned him a berth at the state meet.

Coach Ernie Sutton starts to shape Bearcat

Swimming tradition in the 1960's by going 42-24, a sectional championship and a two time state Champion in Tom Perrin. By the end of the 1960's the Muncie Community School Board was looking to build a high school on the north side of Muncie. That decision would have a major effect on Muncie Central swim fortunes for the next two decades.