

# A Chronology of Bearcat Swim Teams

*From 1927-1943 the IHSAA conducted Men's state championship swim meets. There is little to no evidence that Muncie Central played a part in this series. In 1950 the IHSAA resumed a state championship series. Evidence shows that Central teams competed as an intramural program that eventually swam against rival Muncie Burriss, a state power in swimming in the 50's. 1954 also appears to be Muncie Central's first state competition, but scant record exists of this.*

*The years 1958-1960 also appear to be a mystery. A consistent record of participation begins in the 1960-1961 season. The Bearcats swam at the downtown YMCA until 1970. The Cats practiced at the 'new' Muncie North pool 1970-1972. The Cats' moved to their own natatorium in 1973.*

*The Bearcats, like all successful high school programs, have been aided by strong "feeder" programs. The YMCA, Oceanus, Cardinal swim clubs and Muncie neighborhood pools like Catalina and Halteman have always had a strong influence on Bearcat swimming success. Northside Middle school is also shaping future Bearcats with their competitive swim schedule.*

*The following is a photo record of those Bearcat swim teams.*

## 1949



1953

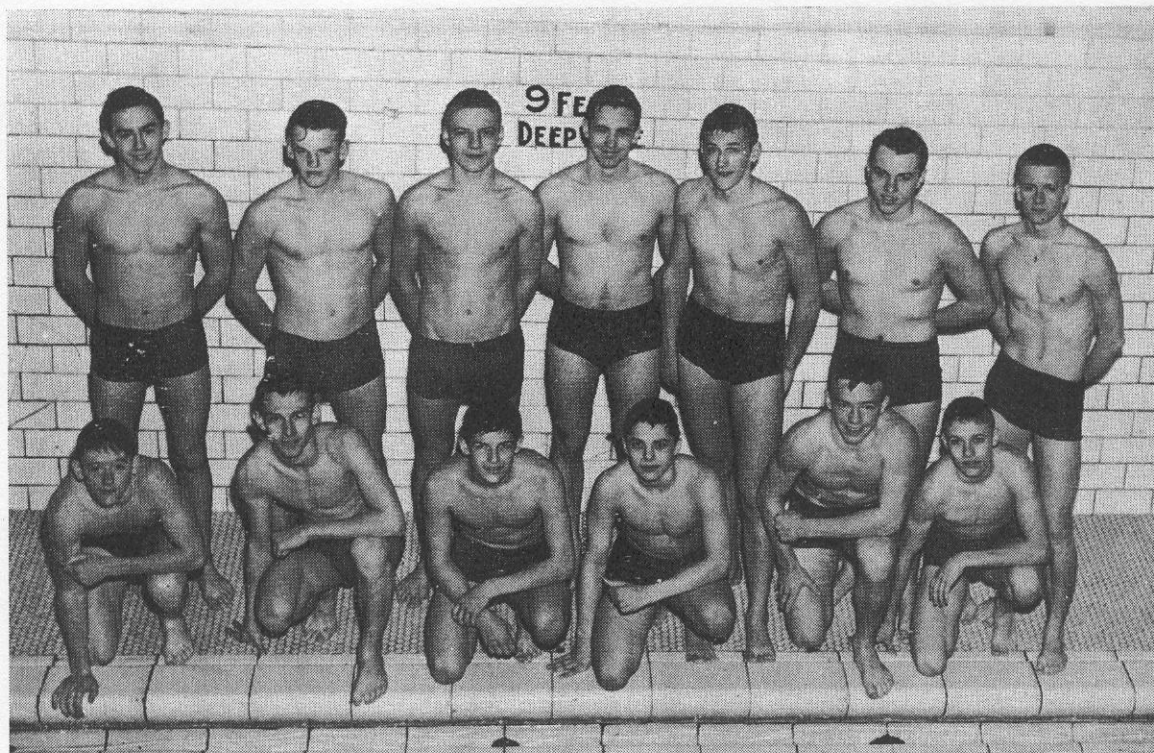


### BEARCAT SWIMMING SQUAD

*Front row, left to right—Bruce Huxhold, Bob Whitney, Jim Townsend, Lee Paul, Jerry Crow, Bill Wright, Bob Staker, Ronald Dowd, Neil Stewart.*

*Second row—Ronald Jones, Don York, Ronnie Lindstrom, Don Risk, Hal Hoffman, Carl Baney, Larry Rice, Freddie Hamilton, Aubrey Hickey.*

## CENTRAL SWIMMING TEAM



*Row one* — Kenneth Carnahan, John Wilhoite, Phil Wright, Hal Hoffman, Gene Alberson, Neil Stewart.  
*Row two* — Bob Whitney, Lee Paul, Tom Rector, Ronald Dowd, David Davis, Phil Spears, Jerry Crow.

## 1954 SWIMMING RECORD

January 7 — Ball State Pool		
Central 34	Burriss	41
February 3 — YMCA Pool		
Central 33	Burriss	42
February 15 — Ball State Pool		
Central 26	Burriss	22
	South Bend Adams	35
February 20 — Purdue University		
IHSAA State Swimming Meet		

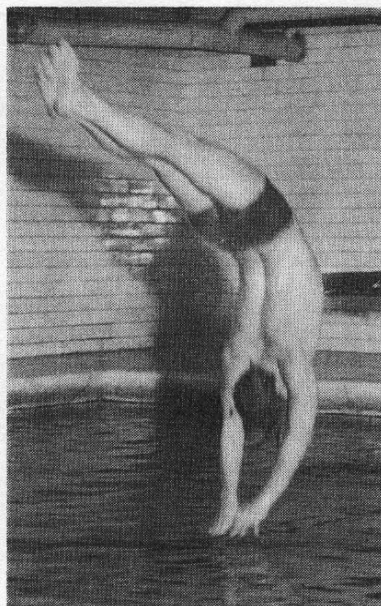
## BEARCAT SWIMMING TEAM



*Row one* — Terry Barlow, Kenny Benbow, Hoyt Thompson, Dewey Collis, Ronald Getz, James Rahe.

*Row two* — Phil Wright, Phil Spears, Tom Johnson, Dave Patterson, Gene Rector.

*Row three* — Robert Whitney, Gene Alberson, John Wilhoite, Lee Paul, Eddie Benbow, Coach Mel Wilson.



Hoyt Thompson

## SWIMMING SCORES

December 6	Here	Interclass Meet	
		Seniors	37
		Juniors	33
		Sophomores	15
December 16	Triangular Meet		
		Central	23
		Burris	46
		Jeff. Lafayette	15
January 25	There	Dual Meet	
		Central	25
		Burris	50
February 12	Purdue	State Meet	
		Central	10th

## Bearcat Swimming Team



Row 1—Jeffrey Dowd, Stanley Wilkins, Mike Williams, Jerry Miller, Jim Harper.  
 Row 2—John Phillips, Mike Austin, Glen Cunningham, Larry Blaesing, Alan Reese, Jack Gates.  
 Row 3—Gary Brown, Jim Wilhoite, Phil Spears, Coach Mel Wilson, Dave Patterson, Tom Johnson, James Rahe.

### SWIMMING SCORES

December 2	H	Interclass Meet	
		Seniors	46
		Juniors	15
		Sophomores	15
January 16	H	Central B	39
		Burriss B	36
January 18	H	Central	16
		Burriss	61
January 25	T	Central	31
		Burriss	46

# Central Swimming Team



Row 1 — Larry McCaffrey, Joe Simmons, Cyril Gibson, Robert Broyles, John Bayman.  
 Row 2 — John Phillips, Larry Blazing, David Routh, Alan Reese, Mickey Miller.  
 Row 3 — Jim Rahe, Len Pittenger, Chester Taylor, Pete Pippen, Jim Wilhoite, Joe Mansfield.

## SWIMMING SCHEDULE

December 19	H	INTERCLASS MEET					
		Seniors	41	Juniors	31	Sophomores	23
January 21	H	Central	30	Muncie Burris			47
January 23	H	Central B	32½	Burris B			43½
January 26	T	Central	10	Columbus			67
February 5	T	Central	37	Columbus			40
February 18	H	Central	31	Burris			46
February 23	T	State Meet at Purdue University.					
		Central 5th in Medley Relay					

*The downtown YMCA was home to the Bearcats up until 1970.*



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