

# Crocker basketball Teams Have History Of Being Successful

## CROCKER BOYS' BASKETBALL 1914-15

The most successful basketball team in Crocker High School's early history was the 1914-15 squad. Although the boys played an extremely light schedule of just five games, they convincingly won three of the contests and won a squeaker as well.

Crocker's wins were 20-to-5 over Ulman, 22-to-5 over Dixon, and 27-to-9 over Dixon. Richland proved tougher, but fell by a 7-to-5 score. The Crocker boys' only loss came to Steelville on the Rolla School of Mines Court by a 20-to-19 margin.

"This was mainly due to the fact that the Crocker team had never played on an indoor court while the opposing team was fully accustomed to one," explained the Crocker News on May 13, 1915. "The game was only lost by an accidental foul made by one of the forwards in making a free throw. This game decided the South Central Missouri championship."

This loss was only the third time the Crocker boys had suffered defeat in the four years they had been playing together as a team.

The regular lineup consisted of Nealy Burgess as right guard, Robert Hawkins as left guard, Lawrence Tutt as right forward, George Hoops as left forward, and Rufus Neal as center. Members of the second team were Harry Martinson, right guard; Homer Page, left guard; Clarence Underwood, right forward; Bland Tutt, left forward; and David Bear, center.



## CROCKER GIRLS' BASKETBALL 1914-15

The Crocker girls also enjoyed a successful season in 1914-15, but played an even lighter schedule than the boys.

"We, the girls of the Crocker High School Basket Ball Team, played a very exciting game with Ulman at Iberia last October, defeating them by a score of 30-to-9," wrote team member Gertrude Newcomb, who played center. "Our game with Richland last December was also a victory for us, the score being 9-to-7. We played a return game with Richland on April 10th, Richland winning the game by a score of 13-to-7."

Other members of the first team included Vannie Wilkes, Zelpha Carmack, Clara Bort, Edith Mc Farlane, Leah Neal, and Ethel Mc Farlane.

Crocker High girls basketball team 1914-15. (Left to right) -- Miss Hotham, coach, Gertrude Newcomb, Leah Neal, Edith McFarlane, Clara Bort, Vanne Wilkes, Ethel McFarlane, and Zelpha Carmack. Photo courtesy of Mary Ann Kamins.



## Crocker Boys Basketball team 1914-15.

(Sitting, left to right) -- Robert Hawkins, George Hoops, and Nealy Burgess. (Kneeling, left to right) - Bland Tutt, Rufus Neal, and Lawrence Tutt. (Standing in back) --Prof. J.H. Trippe, coach.



1956 view of Skaggs' Minnow Hatchery. Photo courtesy of Cherie Rigsby.

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Crocker High School football team, probably in the autumn of 1915. Photo Courtesy of Mary Ann Kamins.

Crocker High School girl's softball team around 1915. Notice the larger than present day, more irregularly shaped ball on the ground between the feet of the fourth girl from the left. Photo Courtesy of Mary Ann Kamins.



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