

Introducing The Rinky Dinks

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by

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Prophetstown Area Historical Society
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Introduction

Years ago many towns had their “home town” teams, usually softball, baseball or basketball. My home town, Miles City, Montana, had such a baseball team and a basketball team. These teams were made up of adults who were beyond high school. I was fortunate to be on our city baseball team after my high school graduating in 1956. These teams played other home town teams or sometimes traveling teams like the Globe Trotters or the House of David. In our case we also played against teams from military bases in our area.

Prophetstown had a number of such teams. One was called the Rinky Dinks, made up of Lawrence Kiner’s Sunday School boys. You will see their name spelled like this, Rinkey, or like this Rinky. I prefer the latter since it is what appears on their basketball.

This is what we know about them and our other “home town” teams.

Note – you will, most likely, be shocked at the scores.

The Rinky Dinks



Rinky Dinks Basketball team: Back Row Left to Right: Gail Johnson, Jack Greene, Charles Emery, Lawrence Kiner, Coach; Front Row Left to Right: Lester Peterson, Forrest Rollo, Robert McNamera Max Mabel and Kermit Peterson

The Rinky Dinks in 1927.

Two Games Here

Rinky Dinks and Prophets Both Were
Victorious Over Sterling Teams Last Night

From the *Echo*, December 1, 1926.

Two more wins were chalked up for local teams in basketball last night when the Prophetstown Prophets and the Rinky Dinks each won their games with teams from Sterling Baptist Sunday School at the Congregational gym.

The Rinky Dinks played first and won a listless game without any trouble from the opponents by a score of 10 to 5. Not many fouls were called, but the game seemed to lack the pep that the Rinkys usually put into their playing.

The line-up included Charles Emery, Kermit Peterson, Robert McNamara, Lester Peterson and Gail Johnson with Max Mabel in part of the game.

Kermit Peterson was the lucky shot at the basket this time as he got three field goals. McNamara got a field goal.

Yes, the Congregational Church had a gymnasium.
Our high school was not built until 1928-29, so the Congregational gym was used.

BOYS WILL PLAY

Two Local Basketball Teams to Open Season Here Friday Night

The local basketball season will begin Friday night at the Congregational gym when two Sunday school teams will meet two teams from Rock Falls. The Rinkey Dinks, which is made up of members of Lawrence Kiner's class will play the Rock Falls Methodist Midgets.

The Prophetstown Prophets will play the Rock Falls Methodist high school boys. This team is made up of members of M. E. Halling's class and will virtually be the team that would represent the high school if it was engaged in athletics this winter.

The first game, which will be between the Midgets and the Rinkey Dinks, will begin at 7:30 p. m. The second game will follow.

Those who will start for the Rinkey Dinks are George Rollo at center, Robert McNamara and Kermit Peterson at forward, and Jack Greene and Lester Peterson at guard.

Kenneth Gould will play center for the Prophets, Lester Burdsall and Harry Mabel, forwards, and Howard Lancaster and Clarence McNamara, guards.

December 9, 1925

FIVE TEAMS TO PLAY IN CITY TOURNAMENT

Local Basketball Season to Wind Up With Scramble Between Five Teams for Championship

An "All City" basketball tournament is to be held Friday at the Congregational gym and offers to all local basketball fans a chance to see practically every local player in action. The games promise to be both amusing and entertaining.

The first game will be called at 4:15 p. m. Friday. It will be between the Rinkey Dinks and the Kittens, who are the second team of the Prophets.

On the Rinkeys' team will be Charles Emery, George Rollo, captain, Jack Greene, Robert McNamara, and Kermit and Lester Peterson.

For the Kittens, Lyle Sholes, captain, Kenneth and Cecil Clark, Richard Poulter, Glenn Hotchkiss, and Spencer Johnson will play.

There will be a second game before supper and it will be between the Prophets and the Just Was, which team is made up of alumni of the Prophetstown high school.

On the Prophets team will be Lester Burdsall, Harry Mabel, Kenneth Gould, captain, Clarence McNamara, and Howard Lancaster.

The Just Was team will be made up of Clayton Fadden, captain, Arnold Waite, Roland Clark, Vernon Gibson, Conrad Johnson, and John Adams.

The next game will be played at 7:30 p. m. and will be between the winners of the first game and the Owls. The name of this team refers to the years of wisdom which the players have acquired. They are Lawrence Kiner, Wayne Lyon, captain, Raymond Larson, Valfred Johnson, and M. E. Halling.

The winners of the second and third games will then play, followed by another game between the two winning teams.

R. L. Hennigar will referee all the games. He is from the University of Iowa and came here this winter to manage the Swift Cream station.

The city basketball tournament played Friday at the Congregational gym was won by the Owls, the oldest, most experienced team entered in the tourney, but who had never played together before. They won the final game over the Prophetstown Prophets by a score of 30-27, in what was by far the most exciting of the four games played.

March 1926

Independent Teams Win and Lose Games

Clinton Turners Prove Too Much for Boys But Are Defeated by Red Streaks

From the *Echo*, 1936

Prophetstown basketball teams played two games at Clinton Saturday night losing one and winning one.

The Independents lost to the Turner Club by a score of 19 to 20 and the Rock River Red Streaks won by a 14 to 10 score from the Turner Club women's team. Both games were played at the Turner Club gym at Clinton in the Turner building.

The first game was played by the women. It started rather slowly and didn't gain much speed until the last half. During the first half girls' rules were used and this part of the game was refereed by Miss Louise DeGarfe, former high school teacher and coach, but who is now teaching in the Keokuk, Ia, high school

The second half was played according to boys' rules and was faster than the first half. Irma Morrill, forward on the team, did not enter the game until the second quarter as she was late in reaching Clinton due to car trouble.

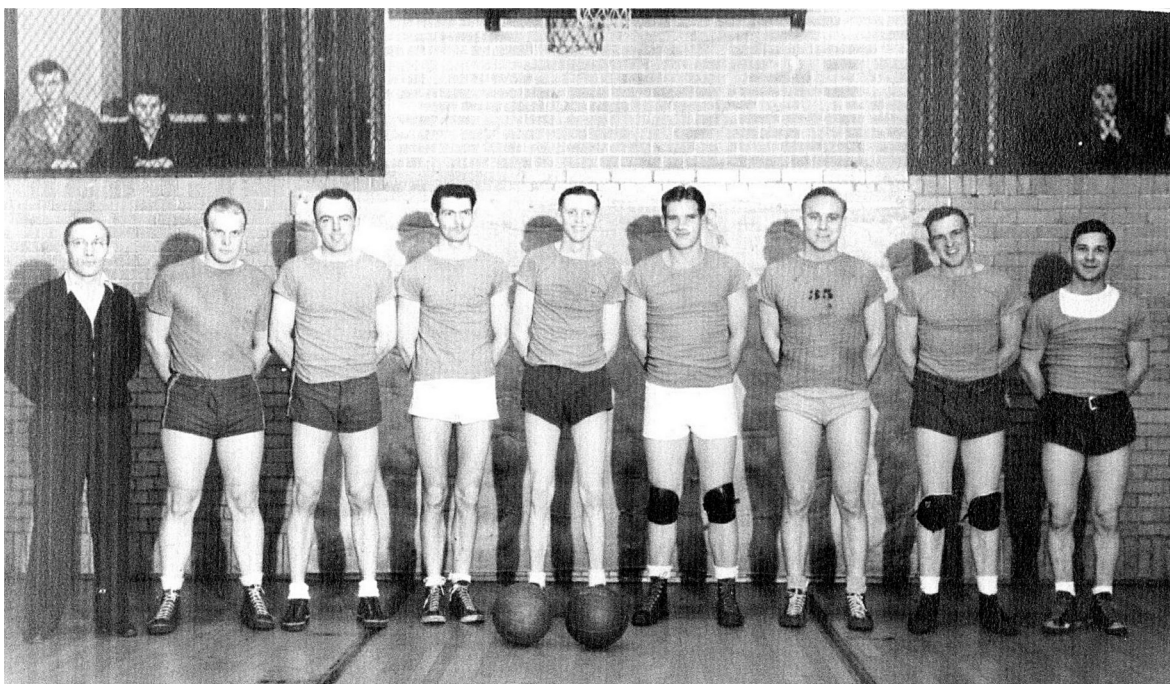
The game between the Independents and the Turner Club team was a thriller to the crowd of spectators, as the score was tied during most of the game. One lucky shot at the basket near the end of the final quarter gave the two necessary points to Clinton. Five men were used by Prophetstown during the game while Clinton used eight.

Seven fouls were called on Clinton while only two were called on Prophetstown. Chatterton of Clinton was the referee.

Frank Olson was the outstanding shooter of the game. He made several pretty baskets from the center of the floor. He succeeded in putting in four field goals. Elmer Olson put in two. Howard Burdsall put in one field goal and one free throw. Arnold Waite made one free throw and Charles Chamberlain made a field goal.

The line-up was as follows: Frank Olson and Howard Burdsall, forwards; Elmer Olson, center; Arnold Waite and Charles Chamberlain, guards.

It is probable that return games between the two teams will be played here sometime in the next month.



The Stags Basketball Team

L/R Bob Roman, Jim Anderson, Charles Wheat, Norm Fredericks, Bill Morris, Dick Sommers,
 ? Templeton (Dad owned the Tampico Tornado), Jim Fisk, Jim Mathis,
 March 10, 1939

Clinton Y Bombers Take Prophetstown

The Clinton Y. Bombers paced by Peterson and Kitchen with 12 points each, and Gustafson and Cavanaugh with 11 each, were too much for the Prophetstown Chiefs and won 68 to 43 at Clinton.

Reichard with 13 points. Sommers with 10 and Wheat with nine set the pace for the Chiefs.

The Chiefs were long on free throws, but weak on field goals.

Prophetstown			Clinton		
B	F	P	B	F	P
Gibson	0	1	Price	2	2
Reichard	2	9	Peterson	4	4
Wheat	2	5	Kitchen	6	0
Johnson	0	0	Gustafson	5	1
L'wrence	1	2	Cav'auqh	4	3
Gorzney	2	0	Kame	4	5
Maxfield	0	0	Wooten	1	0
Sommers	2	6	Mohr	1	2
Du'mett	1	0	Stoik	1	0
Totals	10	23	Totals	28	12
Prop-town		8		12	13
Clinton		15		17	20

February 12, 1951



Florence Holder
Cowgirl Captain

Basketball

ALFALFA DAIRY

vs.

TEXAS

COWGIRLS

SAT., Nov. 27

Preliminary at 7:30

GRADE SCHOOL GYM

PROPHETSTOWN

One of the nation's outstanding girls' teams, the Cowgirls have beaten many high rating men's teams, playing under regular men's rules. Don't miss this chance to see them in action against the Alfalfa Dairy boys!

ADMISSION. School children
50c, Adults \$1.00.

Rated as one of the best of the traveling girls' basketball teams, the Texas Cowgirls will come here Saturday night, Nov. 27, to meet the Alfalfa Dairy, Prophetstown's only independent team this year, in a game at the grade school gym. The Cowgirls have been in existence the past five years and have traveled an average of about 60,000 miles and played about 170 games per season, meeting men's teams and playing under regular men's rules. In addition to having a bag of tricks which provides a lot of fun, the girls play an excellent brand of basketball, claiming to have won 80% of their games, and they will undoubtedly give the dairy boys plenty of competition.

The locals have been practicing for some time and are looking forward to an active season, having a number of former high school and independent stars in their lineup. Included are Dick Sommers, Jim Waite, Jim Maxfield, Douglas Jensen, George Taylor, Dale Bull of Morrison, and Ronnie, Roger, Larry and Darrell Thicksten, with Darrell acting as business manager.

Saturday night's game will be preceded by a preliminary which will get under way at 7:30 and will bring together two teams of business men captained by Charles Mulcay, who will lead men from the west side of Washington Street, and Don Scott, who will head the eastiders.

November 27, 1954

Indee Basketball Standings Listed

Jan 15, 1958

Final standings in the independent basketball league's first round of play are listed below. Four games will be played next week with Lyndon playing Prophetstown and the Chiefs meeting Erie on Monday night and the Chiefs meeting Prophetstown and Lyndon playing Erie on Wednesday night.

All the games are open to the public at no admission. The contests are played in the Lyndon High School gym.

Scoring	Total	Ave.
P'town Inde.	341	56.8
Erie	344	57.3
P'town Chiefs	289	48.2
Lyndon	291	48.8

Leading Scorers				
Name	fg	ft	tot.	ave.
Null	54	20	128	21.3
Ricketts	41	20	102	17
Kilberg	42	11	95	15.8
Howlett	29	15	73	12.3
*Majeski	24	17	65	10.8
*Maxfield	24	15	63	10.5
Anderson	26	9	61	10.2
Country'n	20	21	61	10.2
*Played five games.				

THE STANDINGS

Team	W	L
P'town Independents	5	1
Erie	3	3
P'town Chiefs	2	4
Lyndon	2	4

Points Scored by Opponents

	Total	Ave.
P'town Inde.	274	45.7
Erie	346	57.7
P'town Chiefs	332	55.3
Lyndon	325	54.2

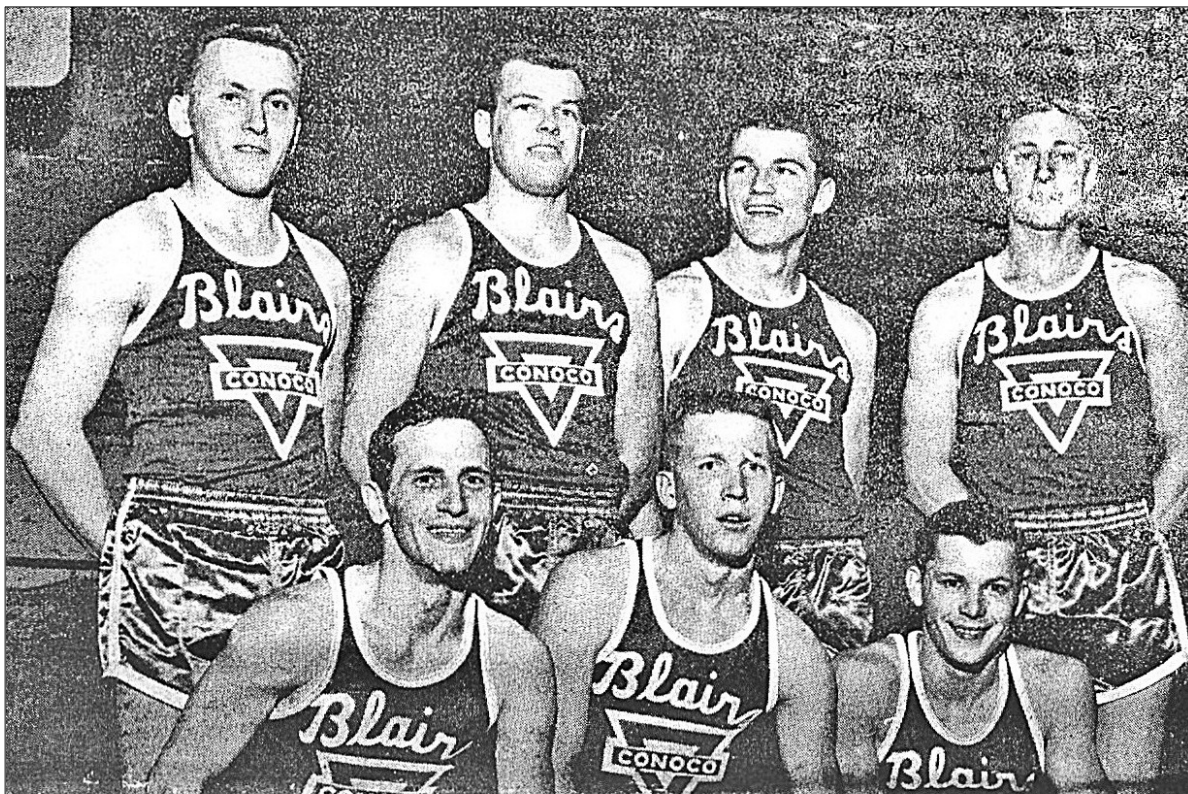
Chiefs Win and Lose

Prophetstown's Chiefs, independent basketball team, won from Princeton 82 to 53 in a league game at the grade school gym Thursday evening, holding a wide lead throughout the game. Saturday night they lost to Waterman, a strong outfit which has won 18 games this season and lost none to date. The Waterman game was close, ending 82-71, but the visitors held a narrow lead at the end of the first quarter and the locals were unable ever to overcome this original advantage although Hammer of the Chiefs was high point man of the games, scoring 23.

The boys will play a league game here Saturday night with Clinton.

A benefit basketball game was being planned between the Main Street "Has-beens" and the H.S. Faculty. Playing on the "Hasbeen's" team was Don Scott, Deane Frary, Cal Schuneman, Chuck Mulcay, Bob Jackson, Dudley Drummet, Dean Pierceson, Gordon Meier, Larry Thicksten, Craig Finnicum, John Roman, Joe Reichard Jr., Dick Sommers, Don Brooks and Howard Thompson.

The faculty team consisted of Walter Holmberg, Jim Fouts, Hohen Lord, Dwight Stokes, Pat Brady, Jim Mercer, Jack Heaton, Richard Hardwick and Ted Gapinski.



Plan March of Dimes benefit 1-17-62

The above boys, team members of the Sunday night independent basketball league, will play a basketball game Thursday, Jan. 25, for the benefit of the March of Dimes in the Prophetstown Grade School gymnasium.

The players are: left to right, Keith Blackert, Clarence Reiley, Jesse James, Dave Roman, Irvin Sanderson, Chuck Calderone and Douglas Peterson.

The game will start at 8 p.m. A donation of 50

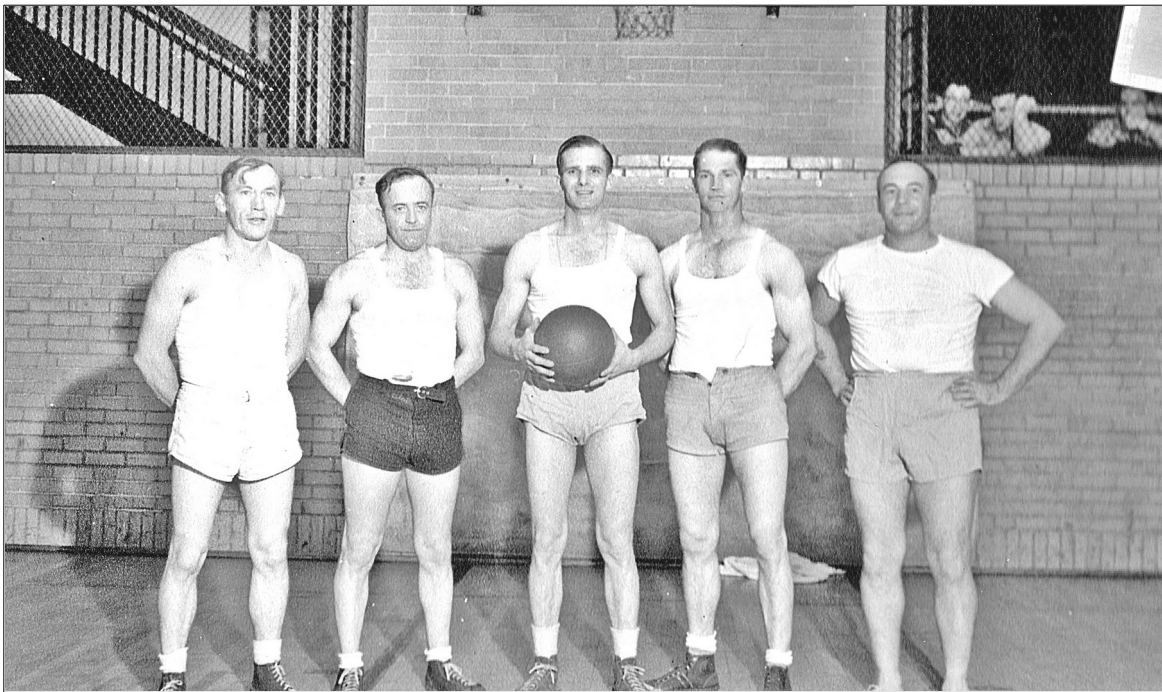
cents will be asked of those attending the game and all the proceeds after expenses will be turned over to Mrs. Grant Mulcay, Prophetstown chairman of the March of Dimes. The local team, sponsored by Blair's Conoco Station, will play a team sponsored by the Tampico merchants.

The benefit game was the idea and work of Jesse James and Doug Peterson, members of the team.

This is all of the information we have about these two Independent teams.



The Bear Cats



The "Mohawks"
 Bob Roman, Forrest Roller (Plunk), Aill Morris (Plats), Pee Wee Ligon, Marvin Hunt