

A HISTORICAL STUDY OF MEN'S INTERCOLLEGIATE ATHLETICS  
AT BETHEL COLLEGE, NORTH NEWTON, KANSAS  
FROM 1900 TO THE SPRING OF 1960

---

A Research Project  
Presented to  
the Faculty of the Division of Health  
Physical Education, Recreation and Athletics  
Kansas State Teachers College  
Emporia, Kansas

---

In Partial Fulfillment  
of the Requirements for the Degree  
Master of Science

---

by  
Gerhard R. Buhr  
August 1962

## TABLE OF CONTENTS

CHAPTER	PAGE
I. THE PROBLEM AND DEFINITIONS OF TERMS USED . . . . .	1
The Problem . . . . .	1
Statement of the problem . . . . .	1
Importance of this study . . . . .	1
Definitions of Terms Used . . . . .	2
Intercollegiate athletics . . . . .	2
Formative years . . . . .	2
Graymaroons . . . . .	2
Threshers . . . . .	2
Organization of Remainder of the Research . . . . .	2
Organization of materials . . . . .	2
Limitations . . . . .	3
Assumptions . . . . .	3
II. THE REVIEW OF THE LITERATURE . . . . .	4
III. FORMATIVE YEARS--1900 TO 1920 . . . . .	9
Year 1907-1908 . . . . .	10
Unsponsored basketball and baseball	
Year 1908-1909 . . . . .	11
Years 1909-1911 . . . . .	12
Years 1911-1914 . . . . .	12
First out of town baseball game	
The new \$10,000 gymnasium	
Year 1914-1915 . . . . .	14
Bethel fields first football team	
Bethel wins intercollegiate basketball game	

## CHAPTER

## PAGE

Year 1915-1916 . . . . .	16
Awarding of the first varsity "B"	
Bethel granted membership in the KIAC	
Year 1916-1917 . . . . .	18
Henry A. Fast scores first official touchdown	
Bethel places second in KIAC basketball	
Baseball accident results in death of Hobart Niles	
Year 1917-1918 . . . . .	20
Student Council assumes management of athletic program	
Football discontinued	
Year 1918-1919 . . . . .	24
Track program organized	
Year 1919-1920 . . . . .	25
Tennis made Conference sport	
Letter Club organized	
IV. ATHLETICS AT BETHEL COLLEGE FROM 1920 TO 1930 . . . . .	28
Year 1920-1921 . . . . .	28
Arthur Darling new basketball coach	
Year 1921-1922 . . . . .	30
Gordon Bixel appointed director of physical education	
Joe Becker receives special recognition	
Year 1922-1923 . . . . .	33
G. A. Haury Jr. appointed athletic coach	
Football revived	
New quarter mile track constructed	
Year 1923-1924 . . . . .	36
Homecoming Day inaugurated	
Bethel places second in Conference basketball	
Kliwer and Unruh receive All-Conference recognition	
First award granted athletes	
Is Athletics overemphasized?	
Year 1924-1925 . . . . .	41
Bethel wins first Kansas Conference football game	
Year 1925-1926 . . . . .	44
Soccer team organized	
Regier named on all-state third team	
Spangler wins gold medal in state meet	
Campaign for cinder track initiated	

## CHAPTER

## PAGE

Year 1927-1928 . . . . .	49
Reorganization of Conference takes place	
Buller elected captain on All-KIAC five	
G. A. Haury resigns as athletic coach	
Bethel basketball record cited	
Year 1928-1929 . . . . .	53
Walter Miller new athletic coach	
Soccer team wins state championship	
Unruh and Morgan appointed athletic mentors	
Year 1929-1930 . . . . .	56
McPherson terminates basketball rivalry	
V. BETHEL ATHLETICS FROM 1931 TO 1940 . . . . .	59
Year 1931-1932 . . . . .	61
Year 1932-1933 . . . . .	63
Year 1933-1934 . . . . .	65
First winning football season	
Year 1934-1935 . . . . .	67
Bethel holds opponents to one touchdown	
Thrashing stone adopted as official symbol at Bethel	
Sunflower Conference organized	
A well-rounded program	
Year 1935-1936 . . . . .	70
One-third of Bethel's men in football uniform	
First annual Buffalo Barbecue inaugurated	
Year 1936-1937 . . . . .	74
First homecoming queen	
Year 1937-1938 . . . . .	76
Wheat Bowl Classic	
Year 1938-1939 . . . . .	79
Bethel admitted to Kansas Conference	
Eric Friesen establishes new track record	
Year 1939-1940 . . . . .	83
Galle Brothers rate KCAC first eleven	
Coach Unruh selects an all-time football team	
Bethel defeats Drake University	

## CHAPTER

## PAGE

VI. BETHEL ATHLETICS FROM 1941 TO 1950 . . . . .	86
Year 1940-1941 . . . . .	86
Bartel and Staerkel on All-KCAC football team	
Bartel and Staerkel break Bethel track records	
Year 1941-1942 . . . . .	88
Bethel chosen "Upset King" of the year	
K. U. stops Bethel in first Memorial Hall tilt	
Year 1942-1943 . . . . .	91
Balzer receives KCAC recognition	
Athletic program discontinued due to war conditions	
Coach Uhrh released to join Red Cross	
Years 1943-1945 . . . . .	93
Year 1945-1946 . . . . .	93
Intercollegiate athletic program after two years lay-off	
Graber and Kaufman appointed athletic coaches	
Board reintroduces football	
Year 1946-1947 . . . . .	96
Tully becomes athletic director and coach	
Year 1947-1948 . . . . .	98
V. Loganbill recognized on All-KCAC team	
Year 1948-1949 . . . . .	102
Milton Goering selected on All-Conference football team	
Loganbill Brothers receive Conference recognition	
Year 1949-1950 . . . . .	105
J. Millard Fretz appointed football coach	
Loganbill and Schroeder receive Conference recognition	
Track resurfaced	
VII. ATHLETICS AT BETHEL FROM 1951 TO 1960 . . . . .	109
Year 1950-1951 . . . . .	109
Lanoy Loganbill on All-Conference Five	
Year 1951-1952 . . . . .	113
Andrew Douglass appointed head football coach	
Loganbill and Harder receive special Conference recognition	

Year 1952-1953 . . . . .	116
Milton Goering returns as athletic assistant	
Harder sets new individual scoring mark	
Year 1953-1954 . . . . .	119
Gilbert Galle appointed athletic director and coach	
Don Penner to NAIA National Track and Field Meet	
Year 1954-1955 . . . . .	123
Milton Goering appointed head football coach	
Marian Ratzlaff selected All-Conference center	
Paul Harms ranks sixth in NAIA statistics	
Baseball dropped as intercollegiate sport	
Don Penner betters his discus and shot put records	
Year 1955-1956 . . . . .	127
Gerhard Buhr appointed head basketball coach	
Don Penner selected on All-KCAC eleven	
Bethel wins first Kansas Conference title	
Graber, Eck and Loeffler on All-KCAC team	
Penner sets new Bethel and KCAC records	
Golf added to athletic program	
Year 1956-1957 . . . . .	131
Bethel defends basketball title	
Loeffler and Dick receive All-Conference ranking	
Intercollegiate golf program inaugurated	
Goering breaks 880 yard run record	
Year 1957-1958 . . . . .	135
Buhr appointed head football coach	
Bethel stops Kansas Wesleyan after twenty-four games	
Kaufman and Penner receive national ranking	
Cross-country added to fall intercollegiate program	
Penner on All-Conference five	
Goering and Schrag set new track marks	
Year 1958-1959 . . . . .	140
Goering returns after a year's absence	
Wedel on All-KCAC first five	
Year 1959-1960 . . . . .	144
Penner receives All-Conference guard nomination	
KCAC becomes a ten-member Conference	
Tennis team takes second in Conference	
Track team second in Conference meet	
Bethel College track and field records	

	vii
CHAPTER	PAGE
VIII. SUMMARY, CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS . . . . .	150
Summary . . . . .	150
Conclusions . . . . .	151
Recommendations . . . . .	152
BIBLIOGRAPHY . . . . .	154
APPENDIX A   BETHEL COLLEGE ATHLETIC COACHES . . . . .	167
APPENDIX B   BETHEL COLLEGE LETTER CLUB ACTIVITIES . . . . .	170
APPENDIX C   ACCUMULATIVE RECORD OF GAMES PLAYED WITH KCAC OPPONENTS . . . . .	174
APPENDIX D   SUMMARY OF BETHEL COLLEGE ATHLETES WHO RECEIVED KCAC RECOGNITION . . . . .	175