

THE CATSPAW

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This issue of "The Catspaw" will continue a series of brief descriptions of teams that have been inducted into the Rector High School Sports Hall of Fame (RHSSHOF). The order in which they are presented will be the order in which they were selected and inducted. The second team that was selected and inducted was the 1965 Rector High School (RHS) basketball team which was inducted in 2010.

RHS BLACKCATS FINISH #2 IN THE STATE

With a 33-5 overall record, the 1964-65 Rector Blackcats basketball team finished second in the State tournament.

The five (5) losses were to four (4) different teams: Valley Springs by one point at Valley Springs; Harrison by one point at Harrison, Trumann by one point, Bay by two points, and Bay by 12 points. During that season, Rector beat Trumann by 20 points and Bay by two (2) points and also by 23 points. Brian Schisler, the Coach of Bay, is quoted as saying, "AT THEIR BEST, RECTOR IS BETTER THAN WE ARE AT OUR BEST"

At one point in the season, the team had 16 consecutive wins. For the season, the team averaged 73.7 ppg (before the three-point line); shot 50% from the field; shot 72% from the free-throw line; scored 2,799 points.

In the NEA tournament, Rector defeated Nettleton 62-49 in the opening round. In the second game, Rector defeated Marianna 60-46. In their third game Rector lost to Bay 67-69.

In the District tournament, Rector's average margin of victory was 33 points. The team defeated Hoxie 93-44 in the first game, Osceola in the second game 70-50 and Piggott 82-52 in the final game.

In the State tournament, Rector defeated Lavaca 84-74, Marianna 55-41, Green Forest 60-50 and fell to Bay 69-81.

The State Championship game was the only loss for the team by more than two (2) points. Three losses were by only one (1) point. According to the 'Jonesboro Sun', with reference to the State Tournament in 1965, "Observers have termed this the best field ever assembled for a class 'A' event"!



Front: Mike Linam, Wes Stallcup, Jimmy Don Wagster, Ronnie Stahl, Ricky Gatewood, Allen Pruett. Back: Sammy Cossey, Garvin Gatewood, Marvin Gatewood, Allan Williams, Billy Cossey, Bobby McKeel, Teddy Glaub.

