

THE BIGGEST GAME OF THE SEASON: BATAVIA BULLDOGS VS. GENEVA VIKINGS

CROSTOWN CLASSIC #103

November 2021

George H. Scheetz

Director, Batavia Public Library

DEDICATION

“The Biggest Game of the Season” is dedicated to Dennis J. Piron, Jr., head football coach, Batavia High School, in the 109th year of the rivalry (1913–2021), in grateful appreciation for his help with and support of this project.

Coach Piron, the fastest to 100 wins in Batavia football history (in 117 games), holds the further distinction of being the first coach in Batavia football history to compile undefeated regular-season records in his first two years as head coach (2011–2012) and, even more remarkable, undefeated conference records and championships in his first five years as head coach (2011–2015). In 2013, Batavia won its first-ever Illinois State Football Championship (Class 6A) and its second (Class 7A) just four years later, in 2017.

CONTENTS

Foreword (2018) by Michael J. Gaspari	2	Playing Fields, 1913—	
Preface	2	Batavia.....	15
Acknowledgments	3	Geneva.....	16
Introduction	4	School Colors	18
The Record Book, 1913–2021		Batavia.....	18
The Record Book.....	6	Geneva.....	18
Notes.....	10	A Note on Nicknames	
Supplementary Material		Introduction.....	18
Factoids	12	Batavia.....	18
Most Combined Points in a Game	13	Geneva.....	21
Least Combined Points in a Game	13	Athletic Conferences	22
Most Lopsided Scores	13	Combined... Competing for a Cause	23
Closest Scores	13	The Great American Rivalry Series®	24
Longest Winning Streaks	14	Sources Consulted	
Most Shutouts	14	Books, Manuscripts, and Articles.....	24
Longest Shutout Streaks	14	Big Seven Conference:	
Most Common Scores	14	Batavia’s Application for Admission.....	24
		Little Seven Conference:	
		The First Year.....	27
		Yearbooks.....	32
		Newspapers.....	32
		Web Sites.....	33
		Historical Archives.....	33



Version 10.02

Copyright © 2012–2021 by George H. Scheetz

All rights reserved. No part of this work may be reproduced or used in any form or by any means—graphic, electronic, or mechanical, including photocopying or information storage retrieval systems—without written permission from the copyright holder. Contact the copyright holder at VivaBatavia@gmail.com.

FOREWORD FROM “THE CUSP OF THE CENTURY GAME” (2018)

“MY REMINISCENCE OF THE BATAVIA–GENEVA FOOTBALL RIVALRY” BY MICHAEL J. GASPARI

I would like to begin by thanking George H. Scheetz, director of the Batavia Public Library, for his dedication to this project over many years, and most importantly, for his professionalism and kindness. “The Biggest Game of the Season” is an amazing recap of this legendary series.

I would also like to acknowledge the six men (and their coaching staff) with whom I had the opportunity to match wits throughout my tenure as a coach in this storied rivalry—Jerry Auchstetter, Don Sebestyen, Larry Davis, Mark Gould, Mike Ellberg, and Rob Wicinski.

Further, I am very humbled to have both coached and coached against so many tremendous young men who have made great contributions to our society—former athletes who continue to contribute to our world as fathers, doctors, nurses, teachers, police officers, fire fighters, lawyers, contractors, business executives, and more. Most importantly, these young men have moved forward with their lives to accomplish great things.

In my estimation the Batavia–Geneva rivalry brings out the absolute best in each community. There is motivation for, pressure on, and of course great focus within both programs. When I think of what makes a great rivalry, I think of three very important components:—

- Similarity between the rivals.
- Frequency: 100+ years says it all!
- Parity: You cannot get much closer than 43–51–5.

When these three ingredients combine, the outcome is ENERGY! Simply put, the very best is brought out in each school and community. We definitely do not thank each other enough for bringing out the best in one another. The rivalry has significant meaning and is among the most storied in the history of football in Illinois. As an example, many local residents viewed the 2006 state semifinal game as “The biggest sporting event in the history of Kane County.” This legendary series is simply the best!

Throughout the many years that I was fortunate to be involved in the rivalry, I witnessed great sportsmanship and integrity both on the field and off. This is the result of the leadership of both programs, school districts, and communities. Despite the fact that the outcome of the contest means so much to each town, I believe that we have always kept the rivalry in perspective.

I had the great joy of coaching with dedicated men who have accomplished extraordinary success. Dennis Piron, Matt Holm, Bill Kettering, and PJ White have been fixtures of Bulldogs football for nearly three decades. Their leadership was instrumental, resulting in two state titles and one state runner-up finish for the Batavia program—a monumental accomplishment given where we started in 1985.

The memories of this incredible rivalry take one on an historical journey filled with pageantry. The game involves huge crowds, intense pressures, adolescent showmanship, parental support, coaching strategy, and intense civic pride. The Batavia–Geneva rivalry is the embodiment of the true “American Hometown Experience.”

Congratulations to both communities on 100 games—a milestone marked by pride and loyalty!

PREFACE

I moved to Batavia in late December 2004, and it did not take long for me to discover that the annual Batavia–Geneva football game was a REALLY BIG DEAL in both communities. I caught the fever, and the 2006 season (and Batavia’s championship run) made the condition chronic.

This particular project was inspired by the work of Leslie G. “Les” Hodge (1924–1999), who is remembered for his coverage of Batavia High School athletics as a sportswriter for the *Batavia Herald* and *Kane County Chronicle*.

Hodge was elected to the Illinois Basketball Coaches Hall of Fame in 1989 for his writing and devotion to high school athletics. Batavia’s Les Hodge Invitational, a track & field and cross-country tournament—at which no team scores are kept and schools can enter as many athletes in as many events as they want—was named in his honor. Hodge was elected to the inaugural class of the Batavia Public Schools Hall of Honor in September 2015.

I spotted Hodge’s “Batavia vs. Geneva” chart in the *Daily Herald* on Friday, 23 September 2005, and observed several gaps in the all-time record. My research instincts were intrigued—frankly, the reference librarian in me cannot abide such a mystery—and “so began a fascinating yet often frustrating journey through ancient yearbooks, microfilm, and yellowed newspaper clips.”¹

The lack of historical resources made the task more daunting than anticipated. For example, Superintendent H. C. Storm discontinued publication of the Batavia High School annual beginning with the 1917–1918 school year—a move for which he later expressed regret²—so there are no Batavia yearbooks from 1918 to 1944.

Newspaper coverage was often spotty. Prior to the 1930s, the local weekly (or occasionally semi-weekly) newspapers—the *Batavia Herald* and the *Geneva Republican*—often did not cover high school sports with any consistency. However, the *Aurora Daily Beacon* (now the *Beacon News*) provided relatively good coverage of high school (and community) athletics in the Tri-City area back to the late 19th century.

Ultimately, I found a printed source contemporary to each game for every Batavia–Geneva football score in *The Record Book*. I am now working on compiling a complete record of interscholastic football in Batavia from its beginnings (ca. 1894) to date.

As a side note, I found no evidence that any game was played—or even scheduled³—in 1918, even though one later secondary source listed Batavia as the winner in 1918, while another listed Geneva as the winner.

The Biggest Game of the Season is updated annually. Corrections or additions are encouraged. Please contact the author at VivaBatavia@gmail.com.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

It is my honor (and pleasure) to acknowledge some of the many people who have supported this project (listed alphabetically):—

- Paul W. “Peeler” Bergeson, Jr. (1927–2018) (Class of 1945, Batavia), for his reminiscences of Batavia High School and Batavia athletics—in particular for his recollections of the origin of the Bulldogs nickname—and for teaching me “Slåss, Pojke, Slåss!”
- Michael J. Gaspari, Batavia’s legendary head football coach (1985–2010) and Citizen of the Year (2006), for his kind support of this project and, in particular, for clarifying the reasons for the rivalry’s one-year interruption in 1996.
- Allen F. Mead (1916–2012) (Class of 1933, Geneva), longtime editor and publisher of the *Geneva Republican* (1950–1986) and founding member of the Little Seven Conference Sportswriters Association, for graciously sharing his renowned knowledge of Geneva athletics with me.
- Stacey L. Peterson, Adult Services manager, Batavia Public Library, for her interest in and support of this project, and for her leadership in establishing Batavia’s award-winning local history Web site, www.BataviaHistory.org, in collaboration with the Batavia Historical Society.
- Dennis J. Piron, Jr. (Class of 1983, Batavia), to whom “The Biggest Game of the Season” is dedicated (see above), and for his support and friendship.
- Ronald L. Rawson (Class of 1975, Geneva), former archivist at the Geneva History Center, for his interest in this project—and for passing along newspaper articles and other source materials of interest to this project.
- Jeane S. Roberts (1915–2010) (Class of 1933, Batavia) for generously giving me her copy of the 1933 district basketball tournament program, in which Batavia was the only team with a nickname (Vikings!).

¹Long, “For Sheetz [sic], history comes one score at a time.”

²As reported to the author by Marilyn G. Robinson, she was told by her friend and fellow teacher, Lydia Jeane Stafney, that Dr. Storm “told her that one of his regrets about his years at Batavia was that he did not allow the students to have a yearbook.”

³*The Geneva Republican* reported, “The school had no team this year...” (Friday, 15 November 1918, p. 7).

- Alvin C. Sager (1918–2009) (Class of 1937, Batavia) for enthusiastically sharing his knowledge of Batavia history, in general, and Batavia athletics, in particular.
- Jeffery D. Schielke (Class of 1967, Batavia), a 6th-generation Batavian, Batavia mayor since 1981, co-author of *Historic Batavia*, and Citizen of the Year (2004), for always providing new (to me) stories of Batavia history, as well as for his interest in and support of this project.
- George F. Von Hoff (1921–2010) (Class of 1940, Batavia), an enthusiastic supporter of Batavia athletics who was recognized as “Fan of the Year” in 2003, for his reminiscences of Batavia High School and Batavia athletics.
- Kurt N. Wehrmeister (Class of 1975, Geneva), former director of communications and public affairs for Moose International and longtime public address announcer at Geneva Community High School, who, with the help of Coach Jerry Auchstetter, solved the riddle of Logan Field.

There are many others, too numerous to name, who have supported this project in some fashion. Thank you, one and all.

INTRODUCTION

East Batavia and West Batavia high schools united in athletics in 1909⁴ but did not play Geneva Community High School in football (except in a 1912 practice game) until 1913. 2021 marks the 108th anniversary—but the 109th year—of the rivalry.

Batavia and Geneva have not met every year—in fact, they did not play in 1914–1915, 1918, 1934–1936 (when Batavia dropped football for three years), and 1996 (when the schools were in different divisions of the Suburban Prairie Conference)—and the teams met twice in 2006 (both games won by Batavia), so Game 103 in the series took place in 2021.

The high schools fielded teams prior to 1913—West Batavia as early as 1894,⁵ when there were two high schools in two different school districts. Geneva reportedly played a game against Batavia—perhaps a union team composed of players from both high schools—in 1896 and against both East Batavia High School and West Batavia High School in 1908, while East Batavia regularly met West Batavia on the gridiron.

The latter rivalry probably would have grown in significance—not unlike the annual East Aurora and West Aurora game, which dates to 1893, the second-oldest but longest-running series in Illinois⁶—had the two Batavia districts not merged in April 1911.

Except for an unprecedented 19-year win-streak by Geneva (1967–1985) under Coach Gerald A. “Jerry” Auchstetter, the series has been remarkably even. Batavia has now won 47 games, lost 51, and tied 5. (The Illinois High School Association implemented tie-breaker rules in 1975, so ties are now a thing of the past.)

As noted in the 1924 *Gecohi* (Geneva’s yearbook), the rivalry is the “Biggest game of the season,” and strange things happen now and again. The 1960 game, won by Geneva, 13–12, had “probably the most bizarre TD in the history of the Little 7.” The 1981 game was won by Geneva, 6–0, on a “wild interception-fumble-touchdown play” in the fourth quarter. The 1958 game, a 6–6 tie, “featured ... a total of 12 fumbles.”

A total of 14 games were won by 5 points or fewer. The lowest score (other than two scoreless ties) was 2–0, won by Geneva in 1950. The most lopsided score was 64–0, won by Batavia in 1916. The most combined points in a game (80) occurred in 2011, won by Batavia, 46–34.

⁴“The two high schools were recently combined into one...” (*Aurora Daily Beacon*, 23 September 1909, p. 4); “... union high school team...” (*Batavia Herald*, Wednesday, 6 October 1909, p. 1); “In 1909 the first definite step toward union of the districts was taken. Mr. H. A. Bone was chosen as superintendent for both sides of the river. Although the classes met separately yet they united in athletics and considered themselves as one high school.” *Bee Aitch Ess* [Batavia High School yearbook], 1912, p. 24)

⁵The captain, Robert M. Shumway, was an 1896 graduate of West Batavia High School.

⁶The oldest rivalry (1889) is between Englewood and Hyde Park (Pruter, “The Greatest High School Football Rivalry in Illinois”). The longest-running series in Illinois is between East Aurora and West Aurora (Solarz, *Aurora’s East–West Football Rivalry*). See also: Schmidt, “A Century-Plus of Gridiron Thrills.”

These facts and others are found in The Record Book and the Supplementary Material, the latter of which runs the gamut from statistical highlights (such as “most lopsided scores”) to playing fields, and from athletic conferences to school traditions (school colors and nicknames).

Finally, for those readers who want to read further, a list of “Sources Consulted” appears at the end of this document.

THE RECORD BOOK, 1913–2021

Slåss, Pojke, Slåss! [“Fight, boys, fight!” in Swedish]
—Batavia yell, ca. 1940s

*Strawberry shortcake, Huckleberry pie,*⁷
V-I-C-T-O-R-Y
Are we in it? Well I guess,
Batavia High School, Yes yes yes!

B!
B-A!
B-A-T-A-V-I-A!
—Batavia yell, ca. 2010s

Year	W / L	Batavia	Geneva	W / L	Date of Game	Location	Coach (Batavia)	Coach (Geneva)	Notes
1912		PRACTICE GAME			Thu, 3 Oct 1912	{?}	William C. Westphal	Fr. Theodore B. McCormick	1, 2
1913	W	12	7	L	Sat, 22 Nov 1913	Batavia	Stanley Hill	Leonard C. Mead	3
1914		DID NOT PLAY			—	—	Edward “Eddie” Gillette	William H. Woolston	
1915		DID NOT PLAY			—	—	J. K. Fancher	possibly Charles C. Taggart	4
1916	W	64	0	L	Sat, 11 Nov 1916	Batavia	Leo L. Hoover	Jay W. Minnich	5, 6
1917	W	20	7	L	Sat, 6 Oct 1917	Geneva	George F. Veenker	Herbert E. McKellar	
1918		DID NOT PLAY			—	—	Millard Vandermeer	NO TEAM	7
1919	L	12	13	W	Sat, 11 Oct 1919	Batavia	Clarence O. Samuelson	Paul Harrison	
1920	L	7	13	W	Sat, 2 Oct 1920	Geneva	Clarence O. Samuelson	Walter R. “Whitey” Cannon	
1921	W	15	2	L	Thu, 24 Nov 1921	Batavia	Clarence O. Samuelson	Walter R. “Whitey” Cannon	
1922	W	15	0	L	Thu, 30 Nov 1922	Geneva	W. S. “Hap[py]” Collins	Walter R. “Whitey” Cannon	
1923	W	6	0	L	Sat, 17 Nov 1923	Batavia	Jesse A. “Chick” Peel	Walter R. “Whitey” Cannon	8, 9
1924	W	26	6	L	Sat, 18 Oct 1924	Geneva	Burns M. Franklin	Walter R. “Whitey” Cannon	10
1925	W	13	0	L	Sat, 17 Oct 1925	Batavia	J. A. Weir	Carl T. Nelson	
1926	Tie	6	6	Tie	Sat, 9 Oct 1926	Geneva	John W. “Johnny” Mauer	Carl T. Nelson	
1927	L	0	48	W	Sat, 1 Oct 1927	Batavia	Archie McKinney (or MacKinney)	Carl T. Nelson	
1928	L	0	13	W	Sat, 10 Nov 1928	Geneva	J. G. “Jerry” Sykora	Carl T. Nelson	
1929	L	0	14	W	Sat, 2 Nov 1929	Batavia	J. G. “Jerry” Sykora	Carl T. Nelson	
1930	L	0	6	W	Sat, 18 Oct 1930	Geneva	J. G. “Jerry” Sykora	Carl T. Nelson	
1931	W	6	0	L	Sat, 17 Oct 1931	Batavia	J. G. “Jerry” Sykora	Carl T. Nelson	
1932	W	12	0	L	Sat, 8 Oct 1932	Geneva	J. G. “Jerry” Sykora	Carl T. Nelson	11
1933	Tie	0	0	Tie	Sat, 30 Sep 1933	Batavia	J. G. “Jerry” Sykora	Carl T. Nelson	
1934		DID NOT PLAY			—	—	NO TEAM	Carl T. Nelson	12
1935		DID NOT PLAY			—	—	NO TEAM	Carl T. Nelson	

⁷“Strawberry shortcake, Huckleberry pie,” a widely used athletic cheer (which inspired a well-known jump-rope rhyme), dates to the 1920s—or earlier. The song, “Strawberry Shortcake (Huckleberry Pie),” written in 1956, was recorded by The Brother Sisters on Mercury Records.

1936		DID NOT PLAY			—	—	NO TEAM	Carl T. Nelson	
1937	L	12	37	W	Sat, 2 Oct 1937	Batavia	A. C. Bostic	Carl T. Nelson	
1938	L	0	39	W	Sat, 24 Sep 1938	Geneva	James A. "Jimmy" Cook	Carl T. Nelson	
1939	L	6	20	W	Sat, 4 Nov 1939	Batavia	James A. "Jimmy" Cook	Carl T. Nelson	
1940	W	7	0	L	Sat, 26 Oct 1940	Geneva	James A. "Jimmy" Cook	Carl T. Nelson	
1941	L	0	7	W	Sat, 18 Oct 1941	Batavia	James A. "Jimmy" Cook	Carl T. Nelson	
1942	L	7	20	W	Sat, 10 Oct 1942	Batavia	James A. "Jimmy" Cook	Carl T. Nelson	13, 14
1943	L	0	19	W	Sat, 2 Oct 1943	Geneva	Malvern Bland	Carl T. Nelson	
1944	L	0	13	W	Sat, 23 Sep 1944	Batavia	Howard J. Lester	Carl T. Nelson	
1945	L	0	14	W	Sat, 3 Nov 1945	Geneva	Howard J. Lester	Marcell H. Hall	15
1946	Tie	0	0	Tie	Fri, 25 Oct 1946	Batavia	Howard J. Lester	Marcell H. Hall	
1947	W	20	0	L	Fri, 24 Oct 1947	Geneva	Howard J. Lester	Marcell H. Hall	
1948	Tie	14	14	Tie	Fri, 15 Oct 1948	Batavia	Gordon D. McKenzie	Marcell H. Hall	16
1949	L	12	27	W	Fri, 7 Oct 1949	Geneva	Gordon D. McKenzie	Marcell H. Hall	
1950	L	0	2	W	Fri, 29 Sep 1950	Batavia	Gordon D. McKenzie	Marcell H. Hall	
1951	L	7	13	W	Fri, 9 Nov 1951	Geneva	Gordon D. McKenzie	Marcell H. Hall	17
1952	W	33	7	L	Fri, 31 Oct 1952	Batavia	Jerrold "Jerry" Linton	Marcell H. Hall	
1953	W	28	6	L	Fri, 30 Oct 1953	Geneva	Jerrold "Jerry" Linton	Melvin Johnson	
1954	L	0	7	W	Fri, 22 Oct 1954	Batavia	Jerrold "Jerry" Linton	Alex Naidenovich	18
1955	W	19	0	L	Fri, 28 Oct 1955	Geneva	Robert "Bob" Tipsword	Alex Naidenovich	
1956	L	6	27	W	Fri, 5 Oct 1956	Batavia	Robert "Bob" Tipsword	Alex Naidenovich	
1957	W	41	0	L	Fri, 20 Sep 1957	Geneva	Robert "Bob" Tipsword	Robert G. "Bob" Schick	
1958	Tie	6	6	Tie	Fri, 19 Sep 1958	Batavia	Robert "Bob" Tipsword	Robert G. "Bob" Schick	19
1959	L	7	12	W	Fri, 30 Oct 1959	Geneva	Robert "Bob" Tipsword	Robert G. "Bob" Schick	
1960	L	12	13	W	Fri, 28 Oct 1960	Batavia	Robert "Bob" Tipsword	Robert G. "Bob" Schick	20, 21
1961	W	7	6	L	Fri, 20 Oct 1961	Geneva	Robert "Bob" Tipsword	Robert G. "Bob" Schick	22
1962	L	14	27	W	Fri, 12 Oct 1962	Batavia	Robert "Bob" Tipsword	Robert G. "Bob" Schick	
1963	L	14	24	W	Fri, 4 Oct 1963	Geneva	Robert "Bob" Tipsword	Robert G. "Bob" Schick	
1964	W	14	0	L	Fri, 2 Oct 1964	Batavia	William "Bill" Day	Bill Owen	
1965	W	14	7	L	Fri, 24 Sep 1965	Geneva	William "Bill" Day	Bill Owen	
1966	W	41	6	L	Fri, 4 Nov 1966	Batavia	William "Bill" Day	Bill Owen	
1967	L	0	19	W	Fri, 27 Oct 1967	Geneva	Stanley Truckenbrod	Gerald A. "Jerry" Auchstetter	
1968	L	13	35	W	Sat, 19 Oct 1968	Batavia	Stanley Truckenbrod	Gerald A. "Jerry" Auchstetter	
1969	L	0	26	W	Fri, 10 Oct 1969	Geneva	Richard "Dick" Kelley	Gerald A. "Jerry" Auchstetter	

1970	L	12	41	W	Sat, 10 Oct 1970	Batavia	Richard "Dick" Kelley	Gerald A. "Jerry" Auchstetter	
1971	L	0	34	W	Fri, 8 Oct 1971	Geneva	Tuenis O. Tait	Gerald A. "Jerry" Auchstetter	
1972	L	11	15	W	Sat, 28 Oct 1972	Batavia	Tuenis O. Tait	Gerald A. "Jerry" Auchstetter	
1973	L	6	20	W	Fri, 19 Oct 1973	Geneva	Tuenis O. Tait	Gerald A. "Jerry" Auchstetter	
1974	L	0	33	W	Sat, 12 Oct 1974	Batavia	Tuenis O. Tait	Gerald A. "Jerry" Auchstetter	23, 24
1975	L	7	28	W	Fri, 3 Oct 1975	Geneva	Tuenis O. Tait	Gerald A. "Jerry" Auchstetter	25, 26
1976	L	12	21	W	Sat, 2 Oct 1976	Batavia	Tuenis O. Tait	Gerald A. "Jerry" Auchstetter	27
1977	L	0	27	W	Fri, 23 Sep 1977	Geneva	Tuenis O. Tait	Gerald A. "Jerry" Auchstetter	
1978	L	6	26	W	Sat, 4 Nov 1978	Batavia	Tuenis O. Tait	Gerald A. "Jerry" Auchstetter	
1979	L	18	34	W	Fri, 2 Nov 1979	Geneva	Tuenis O. Tait	Gerald A. "Jerry" Auchstetter	
1980	L	7	34	W	Sat, 1 Nov 1980	Batavia	Tuenis O. Tait	Gerald A. "Jerry" Auchstetter	
1981	L	0	6	W	Fri, 6 Nov 1981	Geneva	Tuenis O. Tait	Gerald A. "Jerry" Auchstetter	28
1982	L	14	34	W	Sat, 6 Nov 1982	Batavia	Tuenis O. Tait	Gerald A. "Jerry" Auchstetter	
1983	L	12	34	W	Fri, 4 Nov 1983	Geneva	Mike Rumble	Gerald A. "Jerry" Auchstetter	
1984	L	0	33	W	Sat, 3 Nov 1984	Batavia	Mike Rumble	Gerald A. "Jerry" Auchstetter	
1985	L	0	48	W	Fri, 25 Oct 1985	Geneva	Michael J. "Mike" Gaspari	Gerald A. "Jerry" Auchstetter	
1986	W	13	6	L	Fri, 31 Oct 1986	Batavia	Michael J. "Mike" Gaspari	Donald E. "Don" Sebestyen	
1987	L	16	19	W	Fri, 30 Oct 1987	Geneva	Michael J. "Mike" Gaspari	Larry Davis	
1988	L	0	20	W	Fri, 28 Oct 1988	Batavia	Michael J. "Mike" Gaspari	Larry Davis	
1989	W	21	14	L	Fri, 27 Oct 1989	Geneva	Michael J. "Mike" Gaspari	Larry Davis	
1990	W	14	7	L	Fri, 26 Oct 1990	Batavia	Michael J. "Mike" Gaspari	Larry Davis	
1991	W	23	0	L	Fri, 18 Oct 1991	Geneva	Michael J. "Mike" Gaspari	Larry Davis	
1992	L	14	34	W	Fri, 16 Oct 1992	Batavia	Michael J. "Mike" Gaspari	Gerald A. "Jerry" Auchstetter	29
1993	W	31	16	L	Fri, 29 Oct 1993	Batavia	Michael J. "Mike" Gaspari	Gerald A. "Jerry" Auchstetter	30
1994	L	15	18	W	Fri, 21 Oct 1994	Geneva	Michael J. "Mike" Gaspari	Mark Gould	
1995	W	17	14	L	Fri, 13 Oct 1995	Geneva	Michael J. "Mike" Gaspari	Mike Ellberg	
1996		DID NOT PLAY			—	—	Michael J. "Mike" Gaspari	Mike Ellberg	31
1997	W	35	0	L	Fri, 29 Aug 1997	Geneva	Michael J. "Mike" Gaspari	Mike Ellberg	
1998	W	41	0	L	Fri, 2 Oct 1998	Geneva	Michael J. "Mike" Gaspari	Mike Ellberg	
1999	W	49	6	L	Fri, 1 Oct 1999	Batavia	Michael J. "Mike" Gaspari	Robert R. "Rob" Wicinski	32
2000	W	34	6	L	Fri, 22 Sep 2000	Geneva	Michael J. "Mike" Gaspari	Robert R. "Rob" Wicinski	
2001	W	38	6	L	Fri, 21 Sep 2001	Batavia	Michael J. "Mike" Gaspari	Robert R. "Rob" Wicinski	33
2002	W	19	7	L	Fri, 13 Sep 2002	Geneva	Michael J. "Mike" Gaspari	Robert R. "Rob" Wicinski	
2003	W	4 OT 20	17	L	Fri, 24 Oct 2003	Geneva	Michael J. "Mike" Gaspari	Robert R. "Rob" Wicinski	34

2004	L	12	14	W	Fri, 22 Oct 2004	Batavia	Michael J. "Mike" Gaspari	Robert R. "Rob" Wicinski	
2005	W	33	13	L	Fri, 23 Sep 2005	Geneva	Michael J. "Mike" Gaspari	Robert R. "Rob" Wicinski	
2006	W	24	6	L	Fri, 20 Oct 2006	Geneva	Michael J. "Mike" Gaspari	Robert R. "Rob" Wicinski	35
	W	28	0	L	Sat, 18 Nov 2006	Geneva			
2007	L	12	14	W	Fri, 19 Oct 2007	Batavia	Michael J. "Mike" Gaspari	Robert R. "Rob" Wicinski	
2008	L	14	47	W	Fri, 24 Oct 2008	Geneva	Michael J. "Mike" Gaspari	Robert R. "Rob" Wicinski	
2009	L	0	23	W	Fri, 23 Oct 2009	Batavia	Michael J. "Mike" Gaspari	Robert R. "Rob" Wicinski	
2010	L	21	40	W	Fri, 1 Oct 2010	Batavia	Michael J. "Mike" Gaspari	Robert R. "Rob" Wicinski	36
2011	W	46	34	L	Fri, 30 Sep 2011	Geneva	Dennis J. Piron, Jr.	Robert R. "Rob" Wicinski	
2012	W	35	21	L	Fri, 7 Sep 2012	Batavia	Dennis J. Piron, Jr.	Robert R. "Rob" Wicinski	
2013	W	49	20	L	Fri, 13 Sep 2013	Geneva	Dennis J. Piron, Jr.	Robert R. "Rob" Wicinski	37
2014	W	26	20	L	Fri, 17 Oct 2014	Batavia	Dennis J. Piron, Jr.	Robert R. "Rob" Wicinski	
2015	W	24	14	L	Fri, 16 Oct 2015	Geneva	Dennis J. Piron, Jr.	Robert R. "Rob" Wicinski	
2016	W	21	7	L	Fri, 30 Sep 2016	Batavia	Dennis J. Piron, Jr.	Robert R. "Rob" Wicinski	
2017	W	49	0	L	Fri, 29 Sep 2017	Geneva	Dennis J. Piron, Jr.	Robert R. "Rob" Wicinski	38
2018	W	41	0	L	Fri, 28 Sep 2018	Batavia	Dennis J. Piron, Jr.	Robert R. "Rob" Wicinski	39
2019	W	42	0	L	Fri, 4 Oct 2019	Geneva	Dennis J. Piron, Jr.	Robert R. "Rob" Wicinski	40
2020		NO FALL SEASON			Fri, 9 Oct 2020	Batavia	Dennis J. Piron, Jr.	Robert R. "Rob" Wicinski	41
	W	42	0	L	Fri, 2 Apr 2021	DeKalb			42
2021	W	35	0	L	Fri, 8 Oct 2021	Geneva	Dennis J. Piron, Jr.	Troy J. "Boone" Thorgesen	

W	47		51	
L	51		47	
T	5		5	
	DID NOT PLAY		8	Note: The regular, fall-season game in 2020 (not counted as "DID NOT PLAY") was rescheduled to April 2021.
			103	Total Games—Note: Played 2 games in 2006.
			109	Total Years

Total Points	1,627	1,518	
		(109)	

— CONTINUED —

NOTES

1. 1912: As a practice game, this game does not count as part of the series and is included herein for informational purposes only.—“H. S. Foot Ball Team in Practice Game,” *Geneva Republican* (Saturday, 2 October 1912, p. 1); *The Aurora Daily Beacon* (2 October 1912, p. 1)
2. 1912: Rev. Fr. Theodore B. McCormick was pastor of St. Peter Catholic Church in Geneva. In addition to his primary role as a pastor and (in 1912) serving as Geneva’s football coach, McCormick, who played football at the University of Notre Dame, occasionally worked as a high school football official.
3. 1913: Leonard C. Mead was an attorney-at-law in Geneva. In addition to his primary role as Geneva’s City Attorney and (in 1913) serving as Geneva’s football coach, Mead occasionally worked as a high school football official.
4. The 1915 season (at least in Batavia) was cut short by a diphtheria epidemic, called “the dip” in the 1916 *Bee Aitch Ess* [Batavia High School yearbook].
5. 1916: In addition, Batavia defeated Plainfield in 1916, 145–0.
6. 1916: The first two games of Geneva’s season were cancelled when the high school was closed temporarily due to an outbreak of infantile paralysis (an early name for poliomyelitis, or polio).—“Public School Affairs: Foot Ball Games Cancelled,” *Geneva Republican* (Wednesday, 20 September 1916, p. 1)
7. 1918: Several games (for Batavia) were cancelled due to the 1918 influenza epidemic. There is no evidence that any game was played—or even scheduled—between Batavia and Geneva in 1918, and the *Geneva Republican* reported, “The school had no team this year...” (Friday, 15 November 1918, p. 7). However, one later secondary source listed Batavia as the winner in 1918, while a second listed Geneva as the winner.
8. 1923: The annual Batavia–Geneva game was described as the “Biggest game of the season” in the 1924 *Gecohi* [Geneva Community High School yearbook] for the 1923–1924 school year.
9. The 1923 game was originally scheduled for Thanksgiving day (Thursday, 29 November 1923).
10. 1924: Walter R. “Whitey” Cannon had an emergency appendectomy on Friday, 12 September 1924 (in DeKalb, Illinois), so his younger (and only) brother, Clarence R. “Boots” Cannon,⁸ served as coach for the first 1–2 games. However, “Whitey” Cannon was Geneva’s coach for the Batavia game.
11. Batavia was known as the Vikings, ca. 1932–1938. (For more information, see the section, “A Note on Nicknames.”)
12. Batavia dropped football (described as “retrenchment”), 1934–1936. At some point during this period of time, Batavia dropped the Vikings nickname.
13. Geneva adopted the Vikings nickname in 1942. (For more information, see the section, “A Note on Nicknames.”)
14. 1942: Geneva tied the series (for the first and, thus far, last time) at 11 games all.
15. Batavia adopted the Bulldogs nickname in 1945. (For more information, see the section, “A Note on Nicknames.”)
16. Geneva changed the name of its yearbook from *Gecohi* to *Viking* in 1948 (for the 1947–1948 school year).
17. The 1951 game “shall always be remembered as a tie” according to the 1952 *Echo* [Batavia High School yearbook].
18. 1954: Batavia’s Homecoming
19. 1958: “The game featured ... a total of 12 fumbles.”—*The Batavia Herald* (Thursday, 25 September 1958, p. 5).

⁸The *Geneva Republican* gave “Whitey” Cannon’s younger brother’s name as “George,” which was incorrect (“Walter Cannon Is Recovering from Operation at DeKalb,” Friday, 19 September 1924, p. 1).

20. 1960: The game featured "... probably the most bizarre TD in the history of the Little 7...."—"Bulldogs Lose by a Kick, 13–12." *Batavia Herald* (3 November 1960, p. 5)—The first paragraph of this article, written by one "Post Mortem," suggests the tone of the story to follow: "Ah, loyal followers of the pigskin in Batavia, it is a sad and battered typewriter that we pound this week as we bring you the story of that Batavia–Geneva football tragedy here last Friday night."
21. 1960: All-face protectors required
22. 1961: Geneva's Homecoming
23. 1974: Batavia's Homecoming
24. 1974: First year of IHSA playoffs
25. 1975: Geneva's Homecoming
26. 1975: IHSA implemented tie-breaker rules
27. 1976: Batavia's Homecoming
28. 1981: Won by Geneva on "wild interception-fumble-touchdown play" in the 4th quarter—*Batavia Chronicle* (Tuesday, 10 November 1981, Sports Section, p. 2).
29. 1992: Larry Davis began the season as Geneva's head coach, but resigned, effective Monday, 14 September 1992, due to complications from injuries suffered at a 1991 game. Jerry Auchstetter was coach for the Batavia game.
30. 1993: Jerry Auchstetter's only loss to Batavia in 21 career games as head coach
31. 1996: As reported to the author by Coach Michael J. Gaspari, Geneva's coach, Mike Ellberg, simply refused to schedule a game with Batavia in 1996, when the schools were in different divisions of the Suburban Prairie Conference.
32. 1999: Batavia's Homecoming
33. 2001: Batavia's Homecoming
34. The 2003 game went into four overtimes; there was no score at the end of regulation time. This is the only overtime game in the series. According to the Illinois High School Association (IHSA), this game is tied for 9th in the category, "General Records: Most Overtimes, Game."
35. In 2006, Batavia defeated Geneva in the IHSA Football Playoff (Semifinal Round) to qualify for the championship game in Champaign. This is the only time in the series that the teams played two games in the same season.
36. 2010: Batavia's Homecoming
37. 2013: Batavia won its first-ever Illinois State Football Championship (Class 6A).
38. 2017: Batavia won its second Illinois State Football Championship (Class 7A)—and first in Class 7A.
39. 2018: Game 100
40. 2019: Batavia, even though behind in total games, went ahead in total, cumulative points for the first time since 1968.
41. 2020 (Fall): Game (and fall season) cancelled due to the COVID-19 epidemic; game ultimately rescheduled to April 2021. The cancelled game (in October 2020) would have been Batavia's Homecoming.
42. 2021 (Spring): The DuKane Conference scheduled a unique, six-game, "compressed season" in March–April 2021.

FACTOIDS

- Batavia won the first three games and led the series until 1942, when Geneva tied the series (for the first and, thus far, last time) at 11 games all.
- Batavia’s overall record was 20–23–5 before Geneva’s infamous 19–0–0 streak (1967–1985).
- Batavia’s record since Geneva’s win-streak ended (1986–2021) is 27–9.
- The only overtime game in the tie-breaker era (1975—) occurred in 2003, a 20–17, four-overtime thriller won by Batavia.
- The Batavia–Geneva rivalry was featured in *Pro Football Weekly* in 2014.⁹
- Each year, NBC Sports Chicago (@NBCSDrive) follows one program. In 2018, Batavia was that team.
Selected Highlights:—
Episode 1 (Friday, 24 August 2018): <https://www.nbcsports.com/chicago/video/drive-batavia-episode-1>
Episode 2 (Friday, 31 August 2018): <https://www.nbcsports.com/chicago/video/drive-batavia-episode-2>—
features Bulldogs Unleashed
Episode 6 (Friday, 28 September 2018): <https://www.nbcsports.com/chicago/video/drive-batavia-episode-6>—
features the Batavia–Geneva rivalry
- On Friday, 3 September 2021, Coach Dennis J. Piron Jr. won his 100th game as head coach, the fastest to 100 wins in Batavia history (117 games).

⁹Schwab, “High school football.”

MOST COMBINED POINTS IN A GAME

Rank	Year	Points	Winner	Score
1	2011	80	Batavia	46–34
2	2013	69	Batavia	49–20
3	1916	64	Batavia	64–0
4	2008	61	Geneva	47–14
	2010		Geneva	40–21
6	2012	56	Batavia	35–21
7	1999	55	Batavia	49–6
8	1970	53	Geneva	41–12
9	1979	52	Geneva	34–18
10	1937	49	Geneva	37–12
	2017		Batavia	49–0

Note: Another 5 games with 48 combined points

LEAST COMBINED POINTS IN A GAME

Lowest scores, including tie games

Rank	Year	Points	Winner	Score
1	1933	0	Tie	0–0
	1946		Tie	0–0
3	1950	2	Geneva	2–0
4	1923	6	Batavia	6–0
	1930		Geneva	6–0
	1931		Batavia	6–0
	1981		Geneva	6–0
8	1940	7	Batavia	7–0
	1941		Geneva	7–0

MOST LOPSIDED SCORES

Biggest wins / worst losses; games won by over 40 points

Rank	Year	Spread	Winner	Score
1	1916	64	Batavia	64–0
2	2017	49	Batavia	49–0
3	1927	48	Geneva	48–0
	1985		Geneva	48–0
5	1999	43	Batavia	49–6
6	2019	42	Batavia	42–0
	2021 ¹⁰		Batavia	42–0
8	1957	41	Batavia	41–0
	1998		Batavia	41–0
	2018		Batavia	41–0

CLOSEST SCORES

Games won by fewer than 6 points, excluding tie games

Rank	Year	Spread	Winner	Score
1	1919	1	Geneva	13–12
	1960		Geneva	13–12
	1961		Batavia	7–6
4	1950	2	Geneva	2–0
	2002		Geneva	14–12
	2007		Geneva	14–12
7	1987	3	Geneva	19–16
	1994		Geneva	18–15
	1995		Batavia	17–14
	2003		Batavia	20–17
11	1972	4	Geneva	15–11
12	1913	5	Batavia	12–7
	1959		Geneva	12–7

¹⁰A highly unusual — in fact, unique! — spring game played during the 2020–2021 school year.

LONGEST WINNING STREAKS

Streaks of 4+ games

Rank	Years	School	Games
1	1967–1985	Geneva	19
2	2011–2021	Batavia	11
3	1995–2003	Batavia	8
4	1921–1925	Batavia	5
	1941–1945	Geneva	
6	1927–1930	Geneva	4
	2007–2010	Geneva	

Note: Another 6 winning streaks of 3 games each, including the first 3 games, were won by Batavia.

MOST SHUTOUTS

Games in which the opponent was held scoreless, including tie games

Rank	School	Games
1	Geneva	23
2	Batavia	22
Total Games		43
		41.7%

Note: “Total Games” was adjusted (–2) for two scoreless tie games.

LONGEST SHUTOUT STREAKS

Streaks of 3+ games in which the opponent was held scoreless, including tie games

Rank	Years	School	Games
1	2017–2021	Batavia	5
2	1927–1930	Geneva	4
	1943–1946	Geneva	
4	1931–1933	Batavia	3

MOST COMMON SCORES

Rank	Score	Games
1	6–0	4
2	41–0	3
	19–0	
	14–0	
	13–0	
	7–0	

Note: Another 18 scores of 2 games each.



PLAYING FIELDS, 1913—

BATAVIA

East Batavia High School and West Batavia High School united in athletics in 1909. There are references to early playing fields on the east side—including the “east side grounds” (1907)—and west side of Batavia—including the “northwest field,”¹¹ located north of McKee Street and west of Washington (now Lincoln) Street (1877); the “west side grounds on McKee street” (1909); and the “west end of Houston street” (1910)—as well as “on the Island” (1896), all of which were used by the community as well as the high schools for a variety of sports. The playing field “on the Island” was located on the site of the present Batavia Government Center (the former Appleton Manufacturing Company factory).

West Side Grounds, 1913–1924	The Batavia–Geneva game in 1913 was played at “the west side field in Batavia.”—“Geneva H. S. Eleven in Final Game To-Day,” <i>Geneva Republican</i> (Saturday, 22 November 1913, p. 1)
	There were various fields on Batavia’s west side, including a “west side grounds on McKee street” and another at the “west end of Houston street.” Based on maps of the era, the City of Batavia generally ended at Van Nortwick Street on the west side of town. This history of football fields in Batavia is not yet complete.
Batavia Field, 1924–1946 / Memorial Field, 1946–1968	In 1921, the Board of Education purchased about 9 acres of land from the McKee estate (for \$6,300) for a permanent athletic field.— <i>Batavia Herald</i> , Tuesday, 3 November 1921, p. 1
	Batavia’s new athletic field was developed for \$15,000 at Illinois Avenue and Jackson Street. Its dedication on Saturday, 27 September 1924, included a flag-raising ceremony, music by the East Aurora High School band, ¹² and a football game with Dundee, which was won by Batavia, 25–0.
	Batavia Field was renamed Memorial Field on 27 July 1946.—“Batavia dedicated the new Memorial Athletic Field in honor of her World War II veterans.”— <i>Batavia Herald</i> , Friday, 2 August 1946
	This site is now part of the Batavia Park District and known as Memorial Park.
Bulldog Stadium, 1968—	A new Batavia High School opened on the far west side of Batavia in 1966 and its athletic field opened in September 1968. Now called Bulldog Stadium, the name may have varied (it was called Batavia Stadium in some earlier sources).
	Lights (1985)—Lights were installed at Bulldog Stadium and the first night game was played on Friday, 30 August 1985.—“Campaign proves illuminating,” <i>Batavia Chronicle</i> , Wednesday, 4 September 1985, pp. 1, 3
	The playing field at Bulldog Stadium was converted in 2016 to FieldTurf®, an artificial turf system, featuring CoolPlay, an infill system composed of crumb rubber, sand, and extruded cork composite (ECC).

¹¹“Old Score Book Tells Story of Batavia Baseball Champions of 1877” (*Batavia Herald*, 23 October 1942, p. 9)

¹²The first student band at Batavia High School was started in 1927, under the direction of Paul C. Shelly, a student at North Central College (in Naperville, Illinois). The band first played at a football game in 1929.

GENEVA

There are references to early playing fields—such as “Mann’s field north of town” (1896), “the Wheeler grounds” (1897), “Richard’s pasture on South First Street” (1898), “field west of city” (1901), a new athletic field on a “portion of the Herrington farm, just north of the O’Brien place, on Anderson boulevard” (1902), “the Batavia avenue grounds” (1908), and “the new field on Anderson boulevard” (1910), “midway between” Geneva and St. Charles—which were used by the community as well as the high school for a variety of sports.

1913–1922	Until the development of Burgess Field, Geneva had at least two—and probably more—athletic fields in the era from 1913 to 1921 (see below). This history of football fields in Geneva is not yet complete.
“Anderson boulevard, just north of the Sanitary Cup factory” ¹³ (1916)	“The High School gridiron will be located in Anderson boulevard, just north of the Sanitary Cup factory.”—“Foot Ball Prospects Bright for High School,” <i>Geneva Republican</i> (Wednesday, 13 September 1916, p. 1)
Cory Field (1917) Cory Field was in active use from as early as 1910 to as late as 1919.	<p>The Batavia–Geneva game in 1917 was played at Cory Field in Geneva.—“Geneva vs. Batavia,” <i>Geneva Republican</i> (Wednesday, 3 October 1917, p. 1)</p> <p>“... the Cory field, at the corner of State street and Anderson Boulevard.”—“Between the Facts,” <i>Geneva Republican</i> (Wednesday, 3 August 1910, p. 1)</p> <p>“... the Cory Field in W. State Street.”—“Maroons Will Tackle the Aurora Greyhounds,” <i>Geneva Republican</i> (Saturday, 9 October 1915, p. 1)</p> <p>Cory Field was located north of the present location of the Geneva Country Club, on the former “fairground property,” which was purchased by Dr. John H. Cory in 1892.—<i>Geneva, Illinois: A History of Its Times and Places</i>. Edited by Julia M. Ehresmann. (Geneva, Ill.: Geneva Public Library District, 1977, pp. 329–330)</p> <p>The exact location of Cory’s property was south of the intersection of State Street and Kaneville Road, extending from the west end of James Street, which (in 1892) ended at Ninth Street, to the west line of Section 3, Township 39 North, Range 8 East of the 3rd Principal Meridian, and north of the Hiram McChesney property (now the Geneva Country Club).—<i>Atlas of Kane County, Illinois</i>. Chicago: D. W. Ensign & Co., 1892, p. 50</p>
Kelly Field (1920) Kelly (or Kelley) Field was in active use from as early as 1913 to as late as 1922.	<p>The Batavia–Geneva game in 1920 was played at Kelly Field in Geneva.—<i>Geneva Republican</i> (Friday, 8 October 1920, p. 1)</p> <p>Kelly (or Kelley) Field was located on the east side of Geneva, along the south end of Nebraska Street.—<i>Geneva Republican</i> (Friday, 6 August 1920, p. 1)</p>
Burgess Field [1], 1922–1974	<p>In 1921, the Board of Education purchased 4 blocks of land from Grote and Carlisle (for \$6,000) for a permanent athletic field.—“The Land Purchase by the High School,” <i>Geneva Republican</i> (Friday, 12 August 1921)</p> <p>A new athletic field was developed in the Pleasant View Addition to Geneva, north of Ford Street and west of McKinley Avenue, nestled between what is now the Geneva Community High School (opened in 1958 at 415 Logan Avenue) and the former site of Coultrap Elementary School (opened in 1923 as the old high school at 1113 Peyton Street; razed in 2013). The address of Geneva Community High School is now 416 McKinley Avenue.</p>

¹³The Sanitary Drinking Cup Company, completed in July 1912, was located at 318 Anderson Boulevard, Geneva, Illinois.

	<p>The field was dedicated on Saturday, 7 October 1922.—<i>Geneva Republican</i> (Friday, 13 October 1922)</p> <p>The new athletic field was named in honor of Frank A. Burgess, who passed away on Saturday, 13 May 1922. Burgess was the first president of Geneva High School District No. 149—which became part of Geneva Community Unit School District 304 in 1952—and founder of Burgess-Norton Manufacturing Company.</p>
	<p>Bleachers (1924)—Bleachers with a seating capacity of 400 were bought at a cost of approximately \$500 and installed at Burgess Field. “A nominal charge of 15 cents for a seat on the bleachers will be made until enough money is collected to pay off the loan.”—<i>Aurora Beacon-News</i>, Tuesday, 30 September 1924, p. 12; <i>Geneva Republican</i> (Friday, 3 October 1924)</p> <p>In 1936, Geneva Community High School used a “temporary field north of the regular high school gridiron which is being rebuilt and improved as a WPA project. The temporary field is just 100 yards long from goal to goal and the officials were obliged to set the ball back when either team reached the ten yard line.”—<i>Geneva Republican</i> (Friday, 9 October 1936)</p> <p>Bleachers (1942)—A donation by the Burgess-Norton Manufacturing Company provided a new 1,200-seat facility (“grandstand”), which was dedicated on 3 October 1942.—<i>Geneva Republican</i></p> <p>Additional Improvements (1946)—“The improvements which have been made this summer consist of a lighting system [designed by the General Electric Company], a public address system, and an enclosing wall to shut out the wind from the bleachers,” which were made possible by a \$7,000 gift from the Burgess-Norton Manufacturing Company.—<i>Geneva Republican</i> (Friday, 20 September 1946)</p>
Logan Field	<p><i>The Herald</i> reported (erroneously) that the Batavia–Geneva game in 1973 was played at Logan Field in Geneva.—<i>The Herald</i> (Wednesday, 24 October 1973, p. 26)</p> <p>Coach Jerry Auchstetter verified that all of Geneva’s home football games (through 1974) were played at Burgess Field [1].</p> <p>As reported to the author by Kurt N. Wehrmeister, longtime public address announcer for Geneva Community High School, the 33-acre site south of Gray Street, between Logan Avenue (to the east) and Maple Lane (to the west) was generally known as “Logan Field,” and was used for physical education classes until developed as athletic venues.</p> <p>Logan Field was the original name given to Burgess Field [2], as reported in the <i>Geneva Chronicle</i>: “New football facilities will be located at Logan Field.”—<i>Geneva Chronicle</i> (Wednesday, 26 February 1975)</p>
Burgess Field [2], 1975—	<p>Geneva’s new (and current) athletic field at 1450 Gray Street at Maple Lane was dedicated on Friday, 19 September 1975, and continued the name, Burgess Field.—“New Burgess Field Dedicated: Vikings Have Night Football.” <i>The Herald</i>, Wednesday, 24 September 1975, p. 1</p> <p>The playing field at Burgess Field was converted in 2012 to FieldTurf®, an infilled artificial turf system.</p>

SCHOOL COLORS

Earliest known references to school colors

Batavia	Crimson and Gold Earliest known reference (1911): “Its [sic] our team that made us famous Clad in sweaters of ‘Crimson and Gold.’”—from the poem, “What Made Batavia Famous?” by E.N.A. [Edith N. Abernethy], Class of 1912, in <i>Batavia School and Home Bulletin</i> (Wednesday, 15 March 1911, p. 1)
	Observation: Batavia’s school colors were established and clearly identified with its athletic teams even before the merger of East Batavia (District No. 101) and West Batavia (District No. 102) school districts in April 1911.
Geneva	Blue and White Earliest known reference (1901): “Foot ball colors blue and white” for the Geneva [community] football team.— <i>Twice-a-Week Republican</i> [Geneva, Ill.] (Saturday, 28 September 1901)
	Note: The community (or town) team, which played from 1898 to 1902, was a semi-professional team composed of “working or [high] school boys.”— <i>Twice-a-Week Republican</i> [Geneva, Ill.] (Saturday, 30 November 1901)

A NOTE ON NICKNAMES

INTRODUCTION

The phenomenon of athletic team nicknames (sometimes called “mascots”) for high schools probably started in the 1920s, though most high schools did not adopt nicknames until the 1930s and ’40s. Naperville and Wheaton, for example, became known as the Redskins and the Tigers, respectively, about 1939, while Freeport and DeKalb became known as the Pretzels and the Barbs, respectively, in the early to mid-1920s, if not earlier.

There are many stories in Illinois about sportswriters whose newspaper columns inspired high school nicknames, such as the Hoopeston Cornjerkers, the Centralia Orphans, the Monmouth Zippers, the Canton Little Giants, and the Fairfield Mules.¹⁴

One of the more famous examples of this phenomenon was Edwin N. “Eddie” Jacquin, sports editor of *The News-Gazette* [Champaign, Ill.], 1925–1942, who inspired such names as the Atwood-Hammond Rajahs, the Fisher Bunnies, and the Arcola Purple Riders. Jacquin was “said to have supplied most member schools of the old Okaw Valley Conference with their nicknames.”¹⁵

In the absence of formal nicknames, sportswriters often described high school teams by their colors—for example, “the blue and white” for Geneva (1919), or the Crimson for Batavia (1939–1944).

BATAVIA

Batavia’s famous bulldog first appeared in the mid-1940s, but Batavia High School had other nicknames as early as 1932.

Long before Batavia’s athletic teams were called the Bulldogs, they were the Vikings. (Yes: It’s true!) There is little doubt that the predominance of boys of Swedish descent on the football field and basketball court led to the Vikings nickname. The alliteration of the V in Batavia probably helped, as well, and the name may have been inspired by a Swedish fraternal organization that was (and still is) active in Batavia, the Independent Order of Vikings. The lodge in Batavia (Ring #18) was established on 6 March 1904.

¹⁴For further reading on this and related topics, please see Willman, *Why Mascots Have Tales: The Illinois High School Mascot Manual from Appleknockers to Zippers*.

¹⁵Hesse, “Local, Area Nicknames Shrouded in Mystery.”

The Vikings name was prevalent in the *Batavia Herald* and *Geneva Republican* beginning with the 1932–1933 school year. In a special edition of the *East High Auroran* (Thursday, 9 March 1933), which served as a program for the district basketball tournament, Batavia was the only team with a nickname: Vikings.

The Vikings name appeared less frequently after Batavia dropped football in 1934 (for three seasons) and, by the late 1930s, the *Batavia Herald* regularly referred to the team as the Crimson (1938–1944)—occasionally in combination with other monikers, such as Crimson tiger, Crimson tribe, and Crimson tide. The Batavia sportswriters clearly were trying out different names on their readers, an idea for which there is significant precedent (as noted in the Introduction to this section).

We can only speculate as to why the Vikings name fell out of favor. In an interview with the author, Alvin C. Sager, a 1937 Batavia graduate, suggested two possible reasons: East Siders—mostly *not* Swedish—probably disliked the name, and the lack of a yearbook, 1918–1944, probably hurt the cause.

Perhaps the last reference to the Batavia Vikings in the *Batavia Herald* occurred in 1938: “The monicker [sic] ‘Vikings,’ which for many years has been the label used by sportswriters when identifying Batavia athletic teams, is about as appropriate this year as the ‘Fighting Irish’ title is to Notre Dame Most of this year’s high school heavyweight football eleven was composed of students claiming German and English descent Arnie Stenman was the only ‘Viking’ to play a major role.”¹⁶ Ironically, the team was called the “Crimson tide” in the sports section of the same edition.¹⁷

Why Bulldogs? Paul W. “Peeler” Bergeson, Jr., a 1945 Batavia graduate—as well as football captain and class president—noted that Coach Howard J. Lester (1944–1948) had arrived in Batavia and desired a nickname. The Vikings name had fallen into disuse and was picked up by Geneva (circa 1942–1943). Peeler recalled that the Bulldogs name was chosen by a student vote, though no such records are known to have survived.

The first known reference to “Batavia bulldogs” occurred in the *Batavia Herald* on Friday, 16 February 1945. The name appeared for the first time in the 1946 *Echo* (for the 1945–1946 school year).

In November 1967, the bulldog was officially named Brutus in a contest won by Diane Schroeder, then a junior at Batavia High School.

prior to 1932	<i>No nickname</i>	
about 1932–1938, but apparently survived until 1942	Vikings	<p><i>Batavia Herald</i>; <i>Geneva Republican</i>, 6 January 1933, p. 1; 10 February 1933, p. 6</p> <p>In a special edition of the <i>East High Auroran</i> [East Aurora High School] (Thursday, 9 March 1933), which served as a program for the district basketball tournament, Batavia was the only team with a nickname: Vikings.</p> <p>The nickname, Vikings, appeared less frequently after Batavia dropped football in 1934 (for three seasons, 1934–1936). The last known use in the <i>Batavia Herald</i> occurred in November 1938. However, the <i>Geneva Republican</i> was still referring to Batavia as the Vikings as late as 1942.</p> <p>Ironically, by 1942, the <i>Batavia Herald</i> was calling Geneva the Vikings!</p>

¹⁶“Batavia Banter.”

¹⁷*Batavia Herald*, Friday, 11 November 1938, p. 9.

<p>1937–1944</p>	<p>Crimson and Gold</p> <p>Crimson</p> <p>Crimson tide</p> <p>Crimson tiger</p> <p>Crimson tribe</p> <p>Red Raiders</p>	<p><i>Batavia Herald</i>, 1937; 22 September 1944; 29 September 1944</p> <p><i>Batavia Herald</i>, 15 September 1939; 1 November 1940; 29 November 1940; 6 December 1940</p> <p><i>Batavia Herald</i>, 11 November 1938; 22 September 1939; 29 November 1940; 17 November 1944 (as Crimson Tide); 24 November 1944 (as Crimson Tide)</p> <p><i>Batavia Herald</i>, 29 November 1940; 6 December 1940 (as Crimson Tiger)</p> <p><i>Batavia Herald</i>, 6 October 1944, p. 5</p> <p><i>Batavia Herald</i>, 15 November 1940</p>
<p>1945—</p>	<p>Bulldogs</p>	<p><i>Batavia Herald</i>, Friday, 16 February 1945 (first known use); 25 October 1945; 1946 <i>Echo</i> for the 1945–1946 school year (but not in the 1945 <i>Echo</i> for the 1944–1945 school year)</p> <div data-bbox="829 697 1154 968" data-label="Image"> </div> <p>1949: Cover of a commercially produced student scrapbook, which was owned by a member of the Class of 1949</p> <p>Battlin’ Bulldogs: The earliest known use of the sobriquet “Battling Bulldogs” is September 1951.—<i>Batavia Herald</i>, 20 September 1951, p. 25</p> <p>In the modern era, “Battlin’ Bulldogs” appeared in the newspapers as early as September 1971.—<i>The Herald</i>, Wednesday, 1 September 1971, p. 14</p> <p>Robert J. “Bob” Hansen, owner of Funway Ultimate Entertainment Center, has suggested that Rudy Dubis (Class of 1970, Batavia) invented the name “Battlin’ Bulldogs.” One thing is certain: Dubis popularized it.</p> <p>Dubis began to announce Batavia basketball games in 1970 as a Batavia High School senior; he was inducted in the Illinois High School Basketball Hall of Fame in 1997 as a “friend of basketball.”—Heun, “40 years of Bulldog basketball,” <i>Daily Herald</i>, Tuesday, 30 November 2010</p> <p style="text-align: center;">— CONTINUED —</p>

		<p>Brutus: The bulldog was named “Brutus” on 10 November 1967—<i>Spectator</i> [Batavia High School], November 1967, p.1; <i>The [Kane County] Herald</i>, Wednesday, 6 December 1967, Section 1, p. 18</p> <p>A small, 17-inch high, crimson-colored fiberglass bulldog named “Minimus”—acquired as part of Bulldogs Unleashed in 2011—was renamed “Brutus” to honor tradition, and now represents the football team’s totem.¹⁸</p>
--	--	--

GENEVA

The early history of nicknames in Geneva is not yet complete.

prior to 1942	“the blue and white” Gecohi Blue and White	1919 <i>Geneva Republican</i> , 6 January 1933, p. 1 <i>Batavia Herald</i> , 1937
1942—	Vikings	By 1942, the <i>Batavia Herald</i> was calling Geneva the Vikings.— <i>Batavia Herald</i> , Friday, 16 October 1942, p. 9 The nickname began to appear in the <i>Gecohi</i> , Geneva’s yearbook, in 1944 (for the 1943–1944 school year) —but did not appear in the 1943 <i>Gecohi</i> (for the 1942–1943 school year). The <i>Gecohi</i> was renamed the <i>Viking</i> in 1948.

¹⁸Totem: an object (such as an animal or plant) serving as the emblem of a family or clan and often as a reminder of its ancestry; also: a usually carved or painted representation of such an object—Merriam-Webster

ATHLETIC CONFERENCES

Harold E. “Red” Grange was still in high school at Wheaton when the Little Seven Conference was organized. In his autobiography, he noted, “The winter of my senior year [1921–1922] a Little Seven Conference was organized. ... At our first annual track competition in St. Charles I won six events and made several marks that were to stand for almost twenty years.”¹⁹ The Little Seven Conference was organized during the 1921–1922 school year; however, football was not an official conference sport until 1922. The first basketball season opened on 9 December 1921 at Batavia.

Dates		Batavia		Geneva	
		<i>Early history not yet complete</i>		<i>Early history not yet complete</i>	
Before 1917 (dates unknown) ²⁰		Kane County Conference		Kane County Conference	
1917–1919 (football season of 1918)		Bi-County League		Bi-County League	
1919–1921 (football season of 1920)		<i>No league</i>		<i>No league</i>	
1921 ²¹		<i>Refused admittance to Big Seven Conference (May 1921)</i>			
1921 ²²		<i>No league; transition year</i>		<i>No league; transition year</i>	
1922–1995 (football season of 1994) ²³		Little Seven Conference ²⁴		Little Seven Conference	
1995–2006 (football season of 2005)		Suburban Prairie Conference		Suburban Prairie Conference	
	1995		Red Division		Red Division
	1996–1998 (football season of 1997)		Red Division		White Division
	1998–2003 (football season of 2002)		Red Division		Red Division
	2003–2006 (football season of 2005)		North Division		North Division
2006–2010 (football season of 2009)		Western Sun Conference		Western Sun Conference	
2010–2018 (football season of 2017)		Upstate Eight Conference		Upstate Eight Conference	
	2010–2018 (football season of 2017)		River Division		River Division
2018—		DuKane Conference ²⁵		DuKane Conference	

¹⁹Grange, *The Red Grange Story*, p. 15

²⁰According to Robert Pruter, there once existed a Kane County Conference, which included Batavia, Dundee, Geneva, and St. Charles, and which merged with Naperville, West Chicago, and Wheaton of the DuPage County League to form the Bi-County League (1917–1919), which broke up after two seasons.—Pruter, “West Suburban Leagues”

²¹For sources, SEE “Big Seven Conference: Batavia’s Application for Admission” in Sources Consulted.

²²In 1921, the Little Seven Conference was organized with the following members: Batavia, Crystal Lake, Dundee, Geneva, Marengo, St. Charles, and Sycamore. Conference play began with basketball; football was not an official sport until 1922 (though Marengo boldly, but incorrectly, claimed the football championship in 1921). Prior to the basketball season, Crystal Lake withdrew from the conference, school officials citing concerns that Crystal Lake had a “geographical disadvantage in traveling to other schools for games.” (For sources, SEE “Little Seven Conference: The First Year” in Sources Consulted.)

²³According to Illinois sports historian, Robert Pruter, two founding member of the Little Seven Conference—Naperville and Wheaton—were part of the DuPage County League from 1919–1921, then left in 1922 “to join the newly formed Little Seven Conference.”—Pruter, “West Suburban Leagues”

²⁴The name may have derived from that of the Big Seven Conference, which was organized in 1916 as the Northern Illinois High School Conference (a short-lived name), and included East Aurora, West Aurora, DeKalb, Elgin, Freeport, Rockford, and Joliet. The Little Seven Conference—Batavia, Dundee, Geneva, Naperville, St. Charles, Sycamore, and Wheaton—included smaller high schools (“lights”), while the Big Seven Conference included larger high schools (“heavies”). In comparison, the Little Eight Conference was organized in 1919 and included Plano, Hinckley, Paw Paw, Waterman, Rollo, Leland, Somonauk, and Sandwich—the “light schools in Kendall, DeKalb, and LaSalle counties” (*Geneva Republican*, Friday, 17 October 1919).

²⁵The DuKane Conference, which began with the 2018–2019 school year, was formed by four schools from the DuPage Valley Conference (Glenbard North, Lake Park, Wheaton North, Wheaton Warrenville South) and four schools from the Upstate Eight Conference (Batavia, Geneva, St. Charles East, St. Charles North)—and reunited four of the first-year members of the Little Seven Conference; that is, Batavia, Geneva, St. Charles (now St. Charles East), and Wheaton (now Wheaton Warrenville South).

COMBINED FOR A CAUSE | COMPETING FOR A CAUSE

The history of “Competing for a Cause” is not yet complete.

In 2015, the Batavia and Geneva football programs launched “Combined for a Cause”—which was changed to “Competing for a Cause” in 2017—their own version of athletic-event-meets-fundraiser, in which each school raises funds for selected charities. The respective student sections—Batavia’s Dog Pound and Geneva’s Blue Crue—sell t-shirts featuring graphic images from both schools.

In 2017, Geneva Athletic Director Dave Carli said, “While there certainly is passionate competition between Geneva and Batavia, this partnership is an opportunity for our two schools and communities to channel that energy into a very positive cause. Of course, this fundraiser won’t diminish the desire to win on the field, but it’s important to act as leaders for our communities and unite to help others in need.”

2015 (as “Combined for a Cause” on shirts)

T-Shirts (a “Pink Out” for both schools); 50/50 Raffle

Batavia and Geneva [pink shirt]—LivingWell Cancer Resource Center; Fox Valley Food for Health

Source: <https://kanecountyconnects.com/2015/10/fierce-rivals-geneva-batavia-fired-up-for-big-game-but-combine-for-a-cause-friday/>

2016 (as “Welcome to the Show” on shirts)

T-Shirts; 50/50 Raffle

Batavia and Geneva—Jay’s Hope

2017 (as “Competing for a Cause” on shirts, through 2019) →→→

T-Shirts; 50/50 Raffle

Batavia [crimson shirt]—CHIP IN Batavia; Bulldogs Unleashed

Geneva [blue]—Ava Warriors

2018

T-Shirts; “The Century Game” [book]; 50/50 raffle

Batavia [crimson]—Marklund Hyde Center & Day School

Geneva [blue]—Northern Illinois Food Bank

2019

T-Shirts; 50/50 Raffle

Batavia [black]—Cal’s Angels; Batavia Activity and Athletic Foundation

Geneva [blue]—LivingWell Cancer Resource Center

2020 → Spring 2021²⁶

2021 (as “Combined for a Cause” on shirts)

T-Shirts (\$10.00 each); 50/50 Raffle

Batavia [crimson]—Batavia Youth Athletics; Batavia Activity and Athletic Foundation

Geneva [blue]—LivingWell Cancer Resource Center

Source: “Batavia, Geneva high schools to ‘Compete for a Cause’ during Friday’s Crosstown Classic football game.” [online version] <https://www.shawlocal.com/kane-county-chronicle/news/local/2021/10/07/batavia-geneva-high-schools-to-compete-for-a-cause-during-fridays-crosstown-classic-football-game/> (*Kane County Chronicle*, Thursday, 7 October 2021)



²⁶“Competing for a Cause,” like the 2020 season, was cancelled due to the COVID-19 epidemic. For the unique Spring 2021 rivalry game, Batavia (only) sold “for a cause” shirts to raise funds for Batavia Youth Athletics and Batavia Activity and Athletic Foundation.

THE GREAT AMERICAN RIVALRY SERIES®

INTRODUCTION

“In 2004, the Great American Rivalry Series® was created to celebrate this uniquely American sport [football].... The Great American Rivalry Series® shines the spotlight on top high school football rivalries across the nation, where long-standing traditions are valued, expectations are sky high, and followers are passionate and loyal.

“Each year, select schools across the country are invited to participate in the Series—schools that have always had the BIG game, a traditional rivalry going back many years in which thousands of players, coaches and fans have participated. It is the game the entire community embraces, looks forward to and talks about all year long—the game where memories are made and then relived at high school reunions across America for years to come.”—Source: <https://GreatAmericanRivalry.com/>

PARTICIPATION

Batavia and Geneva brought “The Biggest Game of the Season” to the Great American Rivalry Series® in 2016. Batavia was awarded the Great American Rivalry Series® Championship Trophy.

SOURCES CONSULTED

BOOKS, MANUSCRIPTS, AND ARTICLES²⁷

[Abernethy, Edith N.] “What Made Batavia Famous?” [poem] by E.N.A. [Edith N. Abernethy]. *Batavia School and Home Bulletin*, Wednesday, 15 March 1911, p. 1.

Arbizzani, Dick. “From the Pressbox.” *Geneva Republican*, Thursday, 3 October 1963.—List of scores, 1920–1962 (several discrepancies in comparison to the chart in “The Biggest Game of the Season”)

Atlas of Kane County, Illinois. Chicago: D. W. Ensign & Co., 1892.

Bales, Beth. “Geneva: Geneva High School resurrects ‘Loyalty Song.’” *Daily Herald: Tri-Cities & Kaneland*, Sunday, 4 September 2005, Section 5, p. 1.

“Batavia Banter: The Monicker [sic] ‘Vikings.’” *Batavia Herald*, Friday, 11 November 1938, p. 8.

Big Seven Conference: Batavia’s Application for Admission (in chronological order):—

“Batavia Is Knocking Us: Fox River Team Says Big Seven Has No Right to Claim Superiority.” *The Daily Chronicle* (DeKalb, Illinois), Monday, 21 February 1921, p. 5.

Note: This article (in the DeKalb newspaper) was in response to a Batavia fan’s letter to the *Elgin Courier*, which was reprinted—with pointed commentary—by *The Daily Chronicle*.

“A Batavia fan writing to the *Elgin Courier* takes exception to the Big Seven’s existence without Batavia, Dundee and several other teams, and points to DeKalb’s [42] to 1 defeat [in Elgin] as a reason for eliminating this city [DeKalb].

“It hardly seems fair for the Batavia critic to pick out DeKalb as a shining example of inefficiency in an off year. DeKalb has given a good account of itself in other seasons and under ordinary conditions can play any Batavia team to death.”

As for the conference, “The Big Seven was formed as an association for athletic relations between schools in the more important cities of this end of the state and there was no question of superiority involved. If these schools want to get together in an association we fail to see where it is any of Batavia’s business.”

Then, reprinted from the *Elgin Courier*, “The Big ‘7’ high school conference comes in for a jolt today at the hands of a Batavia basketball rooter, ..., who signs himself as ‘One of the Five Hundred,’”

²⁷In addition, other sources are identified as in-text citations and/or in footnotes.

The Batavia fan “waxes eloquent” at great length; the following three excerpts are given to provide a sense of the anonymous correspondent’s point of view.

“Batavia, Ill., Feb. 16, 1921.”

(1) “As one of the five hundred or more of Batavia basket ball enthusiasts who saw the Elgin–Batavia games, . . . , I have also read with interest your clippings from the Rockford press pertaining to the so-called ‘Conference’ race. With all Kane county fans, I was glad to read of Elgin’s victory over Rockford for the so-called ‘Conference’ championship; particularly when this victory so closely follows Batavia’s double win at Elgin’s expense.”

Note: Batavia defeated Elgin, 29–14, on 29 January 1921 (at Batavia), and a second time (at Elgin), 28–26, in overtime, on 4 February 1921. According to the *Batavia Herald* and *The Beacon-News*, “special [railroad] cars” carried 500 frantic Batavia fans to Elgin, leaving from Wilson Street and Batavia Avenue.

(2) “Dundee, with its Casey Smith; Wheaton, with its Grange; Naperville; LaGrange, Dixon; Sycamore; Belvidere and Batavia would during the present season have class beyond comparison in the ‘Conference,’ except for Elgin and Rockford. Batavia was compelled to wait for ten years before given a game with West Aurora, and then forced to use its second-string men to keep the slaughter within 50 points, and Batavia has been in more semi-finals than any team in Northern Illinois since the year 1911, possibly barring Rockford.”

Note: Batavia defeated West Aurora, 40–9, in the week following its second Elgin victory.

(3) “. . . and let me ask of the best sport-sheet in northern Illinois the courtesy of its columns in this message for the teams that may represent smaller schools and smaller towns, but usually manage to get by with the greater number of victories.”

Note: And then, one month later, Batavia applied for membership in the Big Seven Conference, the same conference denigrated by a Batavia correspondent, “One of the Five Hundred” fans who traveled to Elgin to witness Batavia’s overtime victory.

“Batavia Seeks Entrance into Conference.” *The Daily Chronicle* (DeKalb, Illinois), Tuesday, 22 March 1921, p. 5.

“Batavia high school, through its [superintendent], H. C. Storm, has made application for admittance to the northern Illinois conference. . . .

“The matter will come up at the next regular meeting of the conference at the Big Seven track meet, held this year in Aurora, May 27.”

Note: At the time, John B. Nelson was in his second year at Batavia High School, teaching mathematics. He was first appointed as principal for the 1921–1922 school year.

“Aurora Fans for Batavia in Big Seven.” *The Daily Chronicle* (DeKalb, Illinois), Friday, 25 March 1921, p. 5.

“Aurora Beacon News: Aurora fans on both sides of the river have expressed their approval of admitting Batavia high school to a membership in the conference of which East High, West High, Rockford, Elgin, Joliet, Freeport, and DeKalb are charter members. On all hands the gist of local opinion seems to be that of a hearty welcome for the scrappy, though smaller school.” . . .

“May Take in Batavians: Board of Control on Conference Is Acting on Matter Today.” *The DeKalb Daily Chronicle* (DeKalb, Illinois), Friday, 27 May 1921, p. 5.

“Aurora Beacon News: Batavia high school’s admission for entrance into the Northern Illinois conference will be taken up at the annual meeting of the ‘Big Seven’ at the East High school building tomorrow afternoon. The sentiment of the various schools is divided on this question, it is thought. . . .

“... Supt. H. C. Storm of Batavia has promised that they will take an active part in all departments of athletics, and will devote all due attention to the autumn sport of football.” . . .

“Conference Heads Refuse Admission to Batavia High.” *Freeport Journal-Standard* (Freeport, Illinois), Tuesday, 31 May 1921, p. 8.

“Batavia high school was refused admittance to the Big Seven conference at the annual meeting of the organization at Aurora on Saturday. Alleged unsportsmanlike conduct at the state basketball tournament and the school’s inability to turn out football teams strong enough for competition in the conference were two arguments against accepting Batavia’s application.”—SEE ALSO “Batavia Gets the Cold Frozen Mitt” for a different perspective.

“Batavia Gets the Cold Frozen Mitt.” *Belvidere Daily Republican* (Belvidere, Illinois), Wednesday, 1 June 1921, p. 3. *Republican-Northwestern* (Belvidere, Illinois), Friday, 3 June 1921, p. 5.

“Batavia sought entry into the so-called ‘Big Seven’ high school organization and was turned down at the meeting on Friday. It is understood that Rockford, Elgin and Joliet voted against Batavia while DeKalb and the two Auroras favored them, but it takes two-thirds to vote a school in. Batavia has always been a keen rival of Elgin, and Rockford was sore over their meeting with Batavia at the state basketball tournament. Freeport was not represented.”

“N. Illinois Conference to Expand, Patterning after the [‘Big Ten’?]” *Freeport Journal-Standard* (Freeport, Illinois), Wednesday, 28 September 1921, p. 8.

“Rockford Register-Gazette: There has been considerable talk about the Northern Illinois conference as to expanding the high school circuit, known as the ‘Big Seven.’ Batavia, Belvidere, Mooseheart and other schools have applied for places, but for the present several seasons conference heads have been satisfied to keep the circuit intact.

“Charles A. Beyer of Rockford high school is one of those in favor of patterning the conference after the order of the ‘Big Ten.’ This would admit Belvidere, Batavia and Mooseheart. Rockford is in favor of Belvidere, and Aurora is boosting Mooseheart and Batavia.” ...

“Campaign proves illuminating,” *Batavia Chronicle*, Wednesday, 4 September 1985, pp. 1, 3.

“Capacity Crowd Sees Batavia Defeat Geneva: Gecohi Lights Nose Out Viking Ponies in Whirlwind Finish 20–19.” *Geneva Republican* Friday, 10 February 1933, p. 6.

Reference to Batavia Vikings: “Geneva heavyweights lost their seventh straight conference game last Friday night to Batavia before a capacity crowd after the lightweights had nosed out the Viking Ponies by one point [in] a whirlwind finish. | The heavyweight game following the usual custom in Geneva–Batavia battles was exceedingly rough.”

Druley, Kevin. “Football: Historian sets record straight about Batavia–Geneva rivalry.” [online version] <http://www.kcchronicle.com/2012/09/06/football-historian-sets-record-straight-about-batavia-geneva-rivalry/ab9lmxv/> (*Kane County Chronicle*, 7 September 2012).

Fitzpatrick, Jerry. “Looking back on special rivalry as Batavia–Geneva hits 100.” *Daily Herald: Fox Valley*, Thursday, 27 September 2018, Section 2, p. 7.

———. “No. 100 goes Batavia’s way.” *Daily Herald: Fox Valley*, Saturday, 29 September 2018, Section 2, p. 8.

Geneva, Illinois: A History of Its Times and Places. Edited by Julia M. Ehresmann. Geneva, Ill.: Geneva Public Library District, 1977.—Note: This edition was not indexed; however, an index was added to the “Sesquicentennial Commemorative Edition” (Geneva, Ill.: Geneva Sesquicentennial Commission, 1985).

“Geneva H. S. Took Fourth Place in Holiday Tourney.” *Geneva Republican*, Friday, 6 January 1933, p. 1.

Reference to Batavia Vikings: “... Thursday afternoon Geneva made it two in a row by taking her old rival Batavia into camp with a great second half rally. Batavia started swiftly and by the end of the half the Vikings were leading by a 15–6 score. ... ‘Nels’ Kluberg who won the individual scoring honors in the tournament led the Blue and White attack with twelve points.”

- Grange, Harold Edward, and Ira Morton. *The Red Grange Story: An Autobiography*. Foreword by Robert C. Zuppke. New Introduction and afterword by Ira Morton. (Illini Books.) Urbana, Ill.: University of Illinois Press, 1993. Reprint; previously published; New York: Putnam, 1953. ISBN 0-252-06329-5 (alk. paper).
- Helfgot, Mike. “Mike Helfgot on football: A history lesson in Batavia–Geneva rivalry” [online version]. http://articles.chicagotribune.com/2012-09-06/sports/ct-spt-0907-prep-foot-helfgot-blog_1_crimson-rivalry-high-school-football (*Chicago Tribune*, 6 September 2012)
- Hesse, E. W. “Local, Area Nicknames Shrouded in Mystery.” *The News-Gazette* [Champaign, Ill.], Sunday, 23 January 1983.
- Heun, Dave. “40 years of Bulldog basketball.” *Daily Herald*, Tuesday, 30 November 2010.
- . “Batavia–Geneva an oldie ... and still very much a goodie.” *Daily Herald: Tri-Cities & Kaneland*, Friday, 20 October 2006, Section 4 (Sports Extra), p. 1.—List of scores, 1955–2005 (“Batavia vs. Geneva”—“Courtesy of Les Hodge”) (one discrepancy)
- . “Talk of the Town: Friday night rivalry: Batavia and Geneva football teams gear up for 100th game.” *Daily Herald: Fox Valley*, Friday, 28 September 2018, Section 5, p. 1.
- . “Talk of the Town: What’s the score? Man gets to bottom of rivalry’s history.” *Daily Herald: Tri-Cities & Kaneland*, Sunday, 9 October 2005, Section 1, p. 3.
- “High School Football, Week 6: Batavia vs. Geneva: Their 100th Meeting” [photograph and caption]. *Daily Herald: Fox Valley*, Saturday, 29 September 2018, Section 1, p. 1.
- Hodge, Les. “Batavia vs. Geneva.”—List of scores (several discrepancies)—Posted on World Wide Web (no longer available online)
- . “Batavia vs. Geneva.” *Daily Herald: Tri-Cities & Kaneland*, Friday, 23 September 2005, Section 4, p. 1.—List of scores (several discrepancies)
- Little Seven Conference. “Day Book” [Financial Records], Spring 1922–Fall 1958 and Fall 1965–Spring 1966. [Location: Sycamore High School, Athletic Archives]—Note: The first leaf (pp. 1–2), covering most of the 1921–1922 school year, is missing.
- . Handbook for 1960–1961. [Location: Geneva History Center, Archives, Box 179.1]
- . Minutes, 30 November 1942–9 September 1958. [Location: Sycamore High School, Athletic Archives]
- . Minutes, 9 September 1958. [Location: Geneva History Center, Archives, Box 179.1]

Little Seven Conference: The First Year (in chronological order):—

“Seven Towns Combine for Athletic Meets.” *The True Republican* [Sycamore, Illinois], Saturday, 17 September 1921, p. [7].

“‘The Big [sic] Seven Athletic Association’ is the name of an organization formed of those live wire High schools—Sycamore, St. Charles, Geneva, Dundee, Batavia, Wheaton and Naperville.

“The organization was formed at a meeting held at Geneva on Saturday [September 10], which was well attended by the representatives of all the schools named. ...

“These schools are preparing to maintain foot ball, basket ball, base ball and track teams and present the ensuing season a series of high-class athletic events in these several towns.”

Note: By the time the Little Seven Conference was organized on October 29 (see below), the charter members were different, and did not include the DuPage County schools, Naperville and Wheaton, which were still members of the DuPage County League.

“New Big Seven Is Formed for Small Schools.” *The DeKalb Daily Chronicle* (DeKalb, Illinois), Monday, 26 September 1921, p. 5.

Note: As noted at the end, this article was reprinted from the *True Republican*, a newspaper published in Sycamore, Illinois.

“New Big Seven Is Formed for Small Schools.” *Geneva Republican* (Geneva, Illinois), Friday, 30 September 1921, p. 1.

Note: This article was evidently reprinted from *The Daily Chronicle*, a newspaper published in DeKalb, Illinois, without credit.

“Little Big Seven Form New Athletic Circuit.” *The Daily Chronicle* (DeKalb, Illinois), Saturday, 8 October 1921, p. 5.

“The Big [sic] Seven Athletic association was formed this week when representatives from Sycamore, Wheaton, Batavia, Dundee, St. Charles, Naperville and Geneva held a meeting and prepared football, baseball, basketball and track teams.”

“Back Towns in League: Smaller Centers to Form Athletic Organization in Near Future.” *The Daily Chronicle* (DeKalb, Illinois), Saturday, 15 October 1921, p. 5.

“Final plans in the organization of an athletic association composed of high schools of three counties, will be made at a meeting to be held in the near future. Representatives will be present from Batavia, Dundee, Crystal Lake, Sycamore, Wheaton and Naperville.

“The association was formed at a meeting held at Geneva three weeks ago, at which time preliminary plans were discussed and officers elected. The officers elected include Schlaifer of Dundee, president; H. M. Coultrap of Geneva, vice president; and C. O. Samuelson of Batavia, secretary and treasurer.

“At the next meeting, a title for the new league will be definitely decided upon and the list of members announced. In addition to this a basketball schedule will be arranged.

“The object of the new organization will be to protect and promote the athletic and scholastic interests of the high schools in the smaller cities, belonging to the association, and also to foster a spirit of unity between the schools. Football, basketball, and track will be included in the sport schedule. At the time of the annual track meet, contests may also be offered in reading, extemporaneous speaking, stenography and typewriting.

“... Other schools will be admitted to the association by a two-thirds vote of the members, not to exceed 12. Some of the fall football games may be counted in the conference standings if such plans can be worked out. However, basketball is expected to be the initial sport on the new league program.

...

“Fans in the various cities are enthusiastic over the plan.”

“Little Seven to Organize This Saturday.” *The Daily Chronicle* (DeKalb, Illinois), Thursday, 27 October 1921, p. 5.

“Thus far it is known that at least six schools will be represented in the conference including Sycamore, St. Charles, Geneva, Batavia, Crystal Lake, and Dundee. Marengo has also made application to enter the athletic league and this will be acted upon at the meeting to be held Saturday. It is probable that Wheaton will enter.”

“... basketball will formally open play in the new league.”

“Schedule Announced: Little Seven Prepares Its Basket Ball Dates for the Coming Season.” *The Daily Chronicle* (DeKalb, Illinois), Tuesday, 1 November 1921, p. 5.

“Nothing Officially Known of League.” *Belvidere Daily Republican* (Belvidere, Illinois), Monday, 7 November 1921, p. 3.

“Belvidere may be offered a place in the newly organized ‘Little Seven’ high school basket ball league. Teams at present in the league are Batavia, Sycamore, St. Charles, Geneva, Dundee and Marengo.

“Crystal Lake has refused a place in the league because school official of that place believe the school is located at a geographical disadvantage in traveling to other schools for games.

“No effort has been made by Belvidere to break into the league and Coach Grady had this to say on the subject today: ‘While I have read in some newspapers that Belvidere may be invited to join I am not sure that we want in. For the present I am not going to take any action in the matter.’”

Note: Belvidere applied for conference membership in 1954 and was admitted in 1959.

“Geneva Is Out After Little Seven Honors,” *The DeKalb Daily Chronicle* (DeKalb, Illinois), Tuesday, 8 November 1921, p. 5

Note: Football was not an official conference sport until 1922.

“Abraham Lincoln Center vs. M.C.H.” *Marengo Republican-News* (Marengo, Illinois), Thursday, 10 November 1921, p. 4.

Note: Marengo claimed (incorrectly) the first-ever football championship of the Little Seven conference while only playing one team in the new conference (or two, counting Crystal Lake).

“Marengo High Wins Little Seven Title.” *Marengo Republican-News* (Marengo, Illinois), Thursday, 17 November 1921, p. 1.

“Marengo defeated Geneva, which had been victorious over Batavia, St. Charles, Sycamore and Dundee, thus winning undisputed claim to the championship honors.” As noted in this article, “the Little Seven conference of Northern Illinois, composed of ... Batavia, Geneva, St. Charles, Dundee, Sycamore, Crystal Lake and Marengo.”

Note: Marengo’s logic was flawed, of course, since its record against conference teams was 1–0. Compare “Big Season Just Ahead” (September 1922), which stated, “Last season the conference was a tie between Dundee and Geneva.” Further, in 1921, Batavia defeated Geneva, 15–2.

“High School Notes: Little Seven Conference.” *Marengo Republican-News* (Marengo, Illinois), Thursday, 17 November 1921, p. 4.

“The Little Seven conference is composed of the following schools of Northern Illinois: Batavia, Geneva, St. Charles, Dundee, Sycamore, Crystal Lake and Marengo. This organization was formed to assure good athletic relations between schools of equal standing in regard to athletics. To be a member of this conference a school has to turn out football, basketball, and track teams and play at least two-thirds of the games scheduled. To the winner of the conference a shield will be given in any of the major sports. ...

“Football honors for the present season go to Marengo [sic] by defeating Geneva 14 to 7, Geneva having defeated the following schools: Geneva 14, Batavia 0; Geneva 13, St. Charles 0; Geneva 20, Sycamore 6; Geneva 6, Dundee 0.

“This gives Marengo undisputed championship of the Little Seven conference.”

Note: Marengo’s logic was flawed, of course, since its record against conference teams was 1–0. Compare “Big Season Just Ahead” (September 1922), which stated, “Last season the conference was a tie between Dundee and Geneva.” Further, in 1921, Batavia defeated Geneva, 15–2.

“High School Notes: Basketball Schedule.” *Marengo Republican-News* (Marengo, Illinois), Thursday, 24 November 1921, p. 5.

“The ‘Little Seven’ high school athletic conference was officially formulated at a meeting of superintendents, coaches, and managers of the different schools at Dundee high school. St. Charles, Batavia, Marengo, Sycamore, Geneva and Dundee signed up for entrance into the conference. Officials and sponsors of the organization are endeavoring to locate a seventh school.”

“Program of New Bunch.” *The Daily Chronicle* (DeKalb, Illinois), Monday, 28 November 1921, p. 5.

“Batavia Will Have Good Lot of Cage Stars.” *The Daily Chronicle* (DeKalb, Illinois), Monday, 5 December 1921, p. 5.

“This game will mark the opening of the Little Seven conference.”

“Baby Seven Start Now: Batavia and Sycamore to Stage the Opener of the New Conference.” *The Daily Chronicle* (DeKalb, Illinois), Thursday, 8 December 1921, p. 7.

“Batavia, Ill., Dec. 8—The first high school basketball game of the season will be played Friday night....

“Batavia is in the ‘Little Seven’ High School league, which includes the schools of Batavia, Sycamore, Geneva, St. Charles, Marengo, and Dundee.”

Note: Sycamore won the first Little Seven Conference basketball game, 18–17, on the road at Batavia (Friday, 9 December 1921).

“Sycamore Has One Mark Edge Over Batavia.” *The Daily Chronicle* (DeKalb, Illinois), Monday, 12 December 1921, p. 7.

“Staging a brilliant spurt in the final session, the Sycamore basketball quintet overtook a five point lead, defeating Batavia High, 18 to 17 in the opening game of the season at Batavia Saturday [sic]. The game, which marked the opening of the new Little Seven Athletic league, was witnessed by a crowd of 500 enthusiastic fans.” ...

“Sycamore the Leader of the Little Seven.” *The Daily Chronicle* (DeKalb, Illinois), Tuesday, 28 February 1922, p. 5.

Note: Sycamore won the first-ever basketball championship of the Little Seven conference.

School	Won	Lost	Pct.
Sycamore	8	2	0.800
Geneva	7	2	0.700
Batavia	6	3	0.666
Dundee	4	5	0.444
St. Charles	3	7	0.333
Marengo	0	10	0.000

Note: Batavia lightweights (“ponies”) won the junior-varsity championship.

“Little Seven Cans Marengo from Its List.” *The Daily Chronicle* (DeKalb, Illinois), Monday, 13 March 1922, p. 2.

“Wheaton and Naperville high schools were admitted as members of the ‘Little Seven’ athletic conference, at a meeting of the coaches and representative members of the association, held Saturday. Marengo was eliminated from the association, leaving seven members,....”

“The ‘Little Seven’ was originally intended to include Naperville, and has had only six teams the past season.”

“Sycamore High School Notes.” *The True Republican* [Sycamore, Illinois], Saturday, 18 March 1922, p. [1].

“A meeting of all the coaches and athletic managers of the schools in the Little Seven was held at St. Charles last Saturday. At this meeting it was decided to drop Marengo and take in Wheaton and Naperville, two very strong schools in athletics. It was also decided to order at once the shield that Sycamore won in the basket ball conference. This shield will belong to Sycamore High school permanently and will be placed along with our other trophies.”

“Local and Personal Brevities.” *The True Republican* [Sycamore, Illinois], Wednesday, 3 May 1922, p. [5].

“The ‘Little Seven’ baseball team won an exciting contest from the ‘Big Eight’ by a score of 9–5. The battery for the ‘Little Seven’ was Hoffman and Constable and for the ‘Big Eight’ Kendall and Kepple.”

“Sycamore High School Notes.” *The True Republican* [Sycamore, Illinois], Saturday, 6 May 1922, p. [1].

“The ‘Little Seven’ Track meet will be held at the Boys’ Home at St. Charles, Saturday, May 6.”

Note: The location of the meet was originally announced for Mooseheart.

“Wheaton Is the Winner: Takes 60 Points in Track Meet Held Saturday at the St. Charles School.” *The Daily Chronicle* (DeKalb, Illinois), Tuesday, 9 May 1922, p. 5.

	School	Points
1	Wheaton	60
2	Sycamore	24
3	Dundee	17
4	Geneva	13
5	Batavia	2
6	St. Charles	1

“Wheaton Wins Little Seven Track Title.” *Chicago Tribune*, Tuesday, 9 May 1922, p 19.

	School	Points
1	Wheaton	60
2	Sycamore	24
3	Dundee	17
4	Batavia [sic]	11

Note: Harold E. “Red” Grange won individual honors: 6 firsts.

“Big Season Just Ahead: Some Fine Football Is Looked for in the Coming Big [sic] Seven Season.” *The Daily Chronicle* (DeKalb, Illinois), Thursday, 28 September 1922, p. 7.

“... Last season the conference was a tie between Dundee and Geneva. [Football was not an official conference sport until 1922.] Sycamore won the honors in the basketball division.”

Long, Jeff. “For Sheetz [sic], history comes one score at a time.” *Daily Herald: Tri-Cities & Kaneland*, Sunday, 4 November 2007, Section 2, pp. 14, 13.

Mamminga, Marnie O. “The final season.” *Chicago Tribune*, Sunday, 28 May 1995, Section 18 (“TempoDuPage”), pp. 1, 7.—Note: A history of the Little Seven Conference; some of the historical information reported in the article is anecdotal in nature and differs from the official records. Mamminga, who lives in Batavia, reported (in 2007) that her research consisted primarily of interviews with Les Hodge and coaches. Hodge, a journalist and local sports historian, now deceased, covered the Little Seven Conference beat for 41 years for a variety of newspapers.

Nelson, Arthur S. “The 1927 Geneva High School Football Team” [reminiscence]. Geneva: n.d. Nelson was president of The State Bank of Geneva. [Location: Geneva History Center, Archives.]

“New Burgess Field Dedicated: Vikings Have Night Football.” *The Herald*, Wednesday, 24 September 1975, p. 1.

Oberhelman, Dave. “Batavia–Geneva hits 100-year milestone.” [online version] <https://www.dailyherald.com/article/20120905/sports/709059546/> (*Daily Herald*, 5 September 2012).

Pruter, Robert. “The Greatest High School Football Rivalry in Illinois: Englewood vs. Hyde Park.” In *Illinois H.S.toric*. Bloomington, Ill.: Illinois High School Association, n.d. [<http://www.ihsa.org/NewsMedia/IllinoisHStoric.aspx>]

———. “West Suburban Leagues.” Working paper, n.d.

- Sarkauskas, Susan. “Batavia High to get fake-turf field.” [online version].
<http://www.dailyherald.com/article/20160127/news/160129053/> (*Daily Herald*, Wednesday, 27 January 2016).
- . “Ready to Play” Batavia High’s first football game on new turf is Sept. 16.” *Daily Herald: Fox Valley*, Friday, 2 September 2016, Section 1, p. 3. Alternate Title (online version): “Batavia High ready to play on new field.” <http://www.dailyherald.com/article/20160901/news/160909929/> (Thursday, 1 September 2016).
- Scheetz, George H. “Batavia–Geneva 100th high school football game: Meaningful.” *The Voice* [Aurora, Illinois], 27 September 2018, pp. 1, 10.
- . *The Biggest Game of the Season: Batavia Bulldogs vs. Geneva Vikings—On the Cusp of the Century Game*. Batavia, Ill.: Postscript Books, September 2018. Limited Edition; Version 7.03. Illustrated.
- Schmidt, Ray. “A Century-Plus of Gridiron Thrills: A History of Illinois High School Football.” In *Illinois H.S.toric*. Bloomington, Ill.: Illinois High School Association, n.d.
[\[http://www.ihsa.org/NewsMedia/IllinoisHStoric.aspx\]](http://www.ihsa.org/NewsMedia/IllinoisHStoric.aspx)
- Schmit, Kevin. “DVC, UEC schools to form new eight-team conference.” *Daily Herald: Fox Valley*, Monday, 21 November 2016, Section 2, p. 6. <http://football.dailyherald.com/article/20161120/sports/161129939/> (Sunday, 20 November 2016).
- Schory, Brenda. “Coultrap demolition begins: ‘I have to accept that.’” *Kane County Chronicle*, Tuesday, 4 June 2013, p. 2. Alternate Title (online version): “‘The building can’t continue to stand’: Coultrap demolition begins in Geneva.” <http://www.kcchronicle.com/2013/06/03/the-building-cant-continue-to-stand-coultrap-demolition-begins-in-geneva/a54e018/> (Tuesday, 4 June 2013).
- Schwab, Jay. “High school football: Batavia vs. Geneva games mean everything to communities” [online version]. <https://www.profootballweekly.com/2014/09/25/high-school-football-batavia-vs-geneva-games-mean-everything-to-communities/ae2e6u4/> (*Pro Football Weekly*, 15 October 2014).
- Solarz, Steve. *Aurora’s East–West Football Rivalry: The Longest-Running Series in Illinois*. Charleston, S.C.; London: The History Press, 2014.
- “Vikings vs. Bulldogs, the series record.” *Kane County Chronicle*, Friday, 13 October 1995, p. B5.—List of scores, 1916–1994 (several discrepancies)
- Walker, Chris. “Batavia ‘D’ shuts out Geneva in 100th meeting.” *Kane County Chronicle*, Thursday, 4 October 2018, p 30.
- Willman, Fred. *Why Mascots Have Tales: The Illinois High School Mascot Manual from Appleknockers to Zippers*. Batavia, Ill.: Mascot Publishing, 2005. ISBN 0-9767701-0-5

YEARBOOKS

- The Batavia Spectator*, Senior Issue [Batavia High School newspaper], 1928–1933, 1936–1937.—Note: The “Senior Issue” of the school newspaper served as a de facto yearbook. Issues probably were published for other years.
- Bee Aitch Ess* [Batavia High School yearbook], 1912–1917.—No yearbook was published in Batavia, 1918–1944; see also *The Batavia Spectator*, Senior Issue
- [The] Echo* [Batavia High School yearbook], 1945—
- Gecohi* [Geneva Community High School yearbook], 1921–1925; 1940–1947.—No yearbook was published in Geneva, 1926–1939; see also *GeCoHi Life*, Senior Issue
- GeCoHi Life*, Senior Issue [Geneva Community High School newspaper], 1926–1939.—Note: The “Senior Issue” of the school newspaper served as a de facto yearbook.
- [The] Viking* [Geneva Community High School yearbook], 1948—

NEWSPAPERS

- Note: Other newspapers, including but not limited to the *Daily Herald*, *Batavia Republican*, *Batavia Sun*, and *Daily Chronicle* [DeKalb, Illinois], were consulted as needed. Particular articles are cited in “Books, Manuscripts, and Articles” (above).

Aurora Beacon-News [succeeded *Aurora Daily Beacon*] [title varies]
Aurora Daily Beacon [acquired *Aurora News*] [continued by *Aurora Beacon-News*]
Batavia Chronicle, 7 July 1976–2 March 1990 [succeeded *Batavia Herald*] [continued by *Kane County Chronicle*]
Batavia Community and Home Bulletin, 1916 [succeeded *Batavia School and Home Bulletin*]
Batavia Herald, 23 February 1893–30 June 1976 [other titles include *The Herald* and *The Kane County Herald*, the latter of which may have been a separate edition of *The Herald*] [continued by *Batavia Chronicle*]
Batavia School and Home Bulletin, 1910–1913 [continued by *Batavia Community and Home Bulletin*]
The Batavia Spectator, [Batavia High School], 1926— [title varies]
GeCoHi Life [Geneva Community High School], 5 November 1925–ca. 1970s [continued by *Insight-Out*]
Geneva Chronicle, 13 June 1973–1990 [continued by *Kane County Chronicle*]
Geneva Republican (also known as *Twice-a-Week Republican* for a time), 1847–2003
The Genevette [Junior Class, Geneva Community High School], 1924
Insight-Out [Geneva Community High School], ca. 1970s–mid-1990s [succeeded *GeCoHi Life*] [continued by *Viking View*]
Kane County Chronicle, 2 March 1990— [succeeded *Batavia Chronicle*, *Elburn Chronicle*, *Geneva Chronicle*, and *St. Charles Chronicle*]
The Moonet [Geneva Community High School], 1894–1895
The Spectator [Geneva Community High School], 1914
Viking View [Geneva Community High School], mid-1990s–n.d. [succeeded *Insight-Out*] [continued by *Voyager*]
Voyager [Geneva Community High School], n.d.— [succeeded *Viking View*]; <https://ghsvoyager.com/>

WEB SITES

Illinois High School Association [<http://www.ihsa.org/>]—and, in particular, the following pages:—

- “Records & History” section for “Boys Football” [<http://www.ihsa.org/SportsActivities/BoysFootball/RecordsHistory.aspx>]
- “Illinois H.S.toric” [<http://www.ihsa.org/NewsMedia/IllinoisHStoric.aspx>]

Illinois High School Glory Days [<http://www.illinoishsglorydays.com/>]

HISTORICAL ARCHIVES

Batavia Depot Museum, Gustafson Research Center

Geneva History Center, Historical Archives

Sycamore High School, Athletic Archives

