

Park



1974 - Girls Softball Team, from the left, front row: Shelly Duff, Billie Jo Shuey, Dee Thill, Cheryl and Teri Klosterman, Lisa Dunham, Karla Knuth, Hope Clauson and Terri Shuey; Second row: Coach - Betty Dannen, Mary Clauson, Gayla Fallor, Mary Novotney, Kay Clauson, Trudy Bear, Lise Buck and Coach - Bob Gibbs.

executive board meeting was held for determining if the girls could have the same type program as the boys. It was decided to give the girls the same set-up as the boys. At this time they were also part of the Girls County League. Bob Gibbs and Betty Thill were the first coaches. This program has been very beneficial to our town and to our young girls, as it has given them a start on their high school softball.

The Ball Association has helped with the Bi-Centennial Celebration, sponsored an annual Easter Egg hunt for several years, worked with the town on the purchase of the park and has participated in all community activities. They plan to be active in our Centennial this year. The present officers of the Association are: Dick Ray, President; Betty Dannen, Secretary-Treasurer; Board of Directors; Glenna Weaver, Gary Buck, James Cowan, Paul Borton, Lyle Eldridge, Marvin Gibbs and Robert Blink.

*Submitted by
Norma Klaas and Betty Dannen*



Rhodes Community Park in February of 1983.

Rhodes Community Park

January 12, 1955, a meeting was called for all organizations and clubs in the community to discuss having a park in our town. There were twenty in attendance with the following officers elected; Mrs. Delight Ward, President; Mrs. Tom Malloy, secretary; and Mrs. Bernice Gray, treasurer.

In February of 1955, an auction was held and donations were given to the park fund.

August 1955, the Rhodes Council officially closed the street between the school grounds and the Charles Jackson property. It officially measured 300 feet north to south and 63 feet wide, with 48 feet on the east to be left free of trees and shrubs. The committee purchased two picnic tables, the town had water installed and the Rhodes Lumber Company donated a picnic table to the park.

Trees were purchased in 1957, a light pole was installed by the electric company and the Boy Scouts built fireplaces.

The committee became inactive in 1960, but in 1973, purchased and planted shrubs. The park fund donated to the Rhodes Ball Association enough money to cover their shortage for the purpose of erecting a chain link back stop at the ball field. The remaining funds from this park fund were later turned over to the town of Rhodes.

In 1971 the community of Rhodes and the Ball Association worked together to purchase, the block



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which lies directly east of the above original park, from the West Marshall School District. This property was needed for the ball program and to enlarge the park. All in the community dug deep into their pockets and donated enough money to purchase the ground and build a twenty by forty foot shelter house. All labor was donated in the raising of this building.

Also in 1971, Mr. and Mrs. Paul Trowbridge purchased the school buildings and donated the following playground equipment; jungle gym, swing set, teeter totters, slide and basketball boards from the inside of the gym, to the park.

Everybody's Everythings', which was a youth group in town, donated enough money to pour a concrete basketball court. There was also other donations such as; bicycle rack, Tom Borton; a picnic table, D and P Lumber; Flag Pole, Marvin Gibbs; playground-equipment and etc, Ball Association; two jumping animals, Community Betterment Committee; slide, Bi-Centennial Committee; and many hours of free labor by the people of the community.

Memorial gifts were received from; Chris Oxley, scoreboard; Maynard Jackson, two picnic tables and Paul Trowbridge, lights for the ball field.

All in all we have a very impressive park, one which our young children can play in all year round and is also a park which everyone in our community is and should be, very proud of.

*Submitted by
Norma Klaas*

Hendrickson Marsh

The marsh area is located in a relatively flat basin surrounded by moderately rolling uplands on the Marshall-Story County line two miles west of Rhodes. Well-known in the history of Story County, the area is commonly referred to as the old Kimberly Marsh. For years and years the area had been too wet to farm, although old timers can remember when wild hay grew abundantly in the marsh and was harvested.

The Iowa Conservation Commission purchased the land in the mid-1960's. Funding for land acquisition and development came from Pittman-Robertson funds (federal excise taxes on sporting arms and ammunition) and Iowa hunting license fees. A large earthen dam with concrete spillway and stoplog control structure was constructed on the extreme east end of the area in the fall of 1968. This created an impoundment area of approximately 250 acres at optimum water level. The total land and water area in state ownership is 601 acres at the present time.

The area was named in honor of the late Dr. George O. Hendrickson, a professor of fish and wildlife management of Iowa State University. Dr. Hendrickson was among the first in the country to teach courses in wildlife management. A dedication plaque is imbedded in a granite boulder near the north parking lot on the county line road. Dedication ceremonies in honor of Dr. Hendrickson took place on June 13, 1970.

