

# ORIGIN OF ARCHER

The year South Side High School opened in 1922, a senior, whose name was Paul Hahn, wrote the school song\*, picked out the colors, green and white, and decided that the athletes should be called "Archers". The movie "Robin Hood" was released in 1922 starring Douglas Fairbanks\*\* which was where Paul Hahn got the idea of archers. However, the Principal, Robert Harris, wanted the athletes to be called Eagles. So, it was decided to use neither as a mascot. Instead the athletes were referred to as "Green Clad", "Green Men", or Kellys by the news media both in the school and in Fort Wayne. During the next few years when the school song was sung, the students would mockingly sing, "To the school that has no eagle", instead of "To the school that has no equal". After Robert Harris was replaced by R. Nelson Snider in 1926, the athletic director, Ora Davis, bought green hooded sweatshirts for the football team. An observer from the cafeteria which was on the second floor on the north side of the building just opposite of the stadium, stated that the football players looked like a bunch of archers. With the principal's approval, on December 7, 1928, the whole school population voted by ballot for the school mascot. The choices were \_\_\_Archer, \_\_\_Eagle, or \_\_\_Neither. ARCHER won. Interestingly, during that school year the football players were referred to as Green Clad, and the basketball players were referred to as archers. From that time through the present, all the students are referred to as "South Side Archers".

- **Paul's father was the Music Director at Emmaus Lutheran Church located at the west end of Creighton Avenue. Paul picked out the melody on a xylophone in his living room and his father helped him with the harmony. This song was published in the first yearbook called the Totem.**

**\*\* His outfit in the movie was the inspiration for the outfit of the archer emblem still used today.**