

Agnes Gibson
Class of 1941 – Female Athlete Inductee
Athletic Hall of Fame – Class of 2016

An active student athlete, in a time prior to Holton's participation in conference affiliated athletics, Agnes Gibson was active in all sports, with an exceptional talent in softball and basketball. Gibson was also actively involved in school, serving as the vice president of her class, among having participated in many other activities throughout school. Gibson and school classmates Lucylle Rossiter, Doris Gibson, Jean Syers, and Evelyn Hendrickson, who were leaders on the women's basketball team of the time, were also instrumental in the composition and selection of lyrics to accompany the music selection (adapted version of the Illini Fight Song) that is now the school's song. At this time, the school colors of red and gray were selected; however, during this time, uniform procurement for women's basketball and football was often difficult due to the availability of gray, and thus the school colors have become red and white.

Gibson was a talented and gifted athlete that was dedicated to playing any type of sport. She has been described as being a physical athlete of her time that led the development of the game of softball at Holton High School. Playing without a coach, Agnes Gibson served as the pitcher of the softball team, and was described as the natural leader of the team. The softball team began playing non-conference games in 1939, 1940, and 1941, with Agnes leading the way to an undefeated season on the mound in her senior year of 1941. In addition to her success as a softball player, it has been noted that Gibson liked to play all sports and was an outstanding athlete in all that she competed in. Gibson also excelled in women's basketball and was a leader on that team as well.

Gibson and her teammates, which included Lucylle Rossiter, Evelyn Morrison, Grace Cripe, Marilyn Thill, Florence Hayes, Lillian Broderick, Barbara Stenberg, and Alice Trygstad, have been pioneers for women's athletics at Holton High School, led by Gibson herself.

