

BOXSCORE

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Boxscore is the quarterly publication of The Indiana High School Basketball Historical Society, which was founded in 1994 by A. J. Quigley, Jr. (1943-1997) and Harley Sheets for the purpose of documenting and preserving the history of Indiana High School Basketball.

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In Coming Issues: The Human Frog - More on the evolution of high school basketball (Part II: Indiana's Basketball Roots)

From President, Bill Ervin

Spring is the time for the election of officers. A healthy group always needs a regular influx of new leaders, as well as a new members. We have plenty of members who are proven leaders, but need new ones to infuse the organization with their talents and ideas. Step up!

The contribution of time and energy is not substantial, but the need is ever present. The term is for two years. Call me at 317-251-4454 or e-mail at wervin@Butler.edu.

Harley Sheets and I met on 2/6/02 with Roger Dickinson, and the committee for reevaluating inductee credentials at the Hall of Fame and reached an agreement for the IHSBHS to submit research on coaching records. The purpose is to help refine Hall of Fame records with well-documented research conducted by members of the IHSBHS, such as Harley, Roger Robison, Doug Bradley.

The effort is underway beginning with Everett Case. This is a great opportunity for us.

I look forward to seeing you at the basketball finals and/or the meeting between sessions. See meeting information on this page.

A Valued Friend

It has recently come to my attention that our good friend and long time member, Don White, has gone through some tough times this winter and has been hospitalized at times.

The Whites were instrumental in helping the IHSBHS to adopt its original bylaws. With the exception of cofounder Joe Quigley doing the minutes on a couple of occasions, Don's wife Ruth has continually served as our secretary. They have printed the labels for this newsletter's mailings, refusing to be reimbursed. They have also been diligent attendees at meetings.

Enough can't be said of their value to the Indiana High School Basketball Historical Society. At present Don is in St. Elizabeth's Hospital in Lafayette and according to Ruth, isn't to happy about not being able to attend tournament games. Let's hope and pray that Don overcomes. HBS.

Next Meeting

The spring meeting as has been our custom, will be held in connection with the Indiana state high school basketball tournament finals in Indianapolis on March 23, 2002. The Columbia Club on Monument Circle had been our first choice, but it turned out to be too expensive. So again we will be meeting at the Indianapolis Athletic Club (350 N. Meridian). The club is located four blocks north of Monument Circle on the southwest quadrant of North Meridian and Vermont.

Roger Robison has reserved the entire restaurant, the Vermont Street Pub, on the 3rd floor, but there will be no food service. However, snacks and soft drinks for twenty people has been arranged. Roger requests that if you plan to attend, please email him (hotdog@compuserve.com). This way if more than the 20 plan to attend, additional tidbits can be arranged for in advance. The snacks are not a meal so each individual should make their own arrangements to eat.

The restaurant includes two TVs (for viewing NCAA games if you wish), plenty of tables & chairs, a pool table and a nice view of downtown Indy.

Following is the state tournament schedule:

1A game 10:30
2A game to follow 1A game

INTERMISSION

3A game 6:30
4A game to follow 3A game

It is assumed that the 2A game will conclude around 2:30, therefore the restaurant has been reserved for 2 pm - 6pm. A short business meeting will be conducted, which will leave an adequate time for snacking, basketball chatter and dinner prior to the second session.

Topics for discussion will be:

- (1) Election of officers (always looking for new applicants).
- (2) Future meetings and how many and what kind to have.
- (3) Possible funding for sign where first game was played
- (4) Motor pool to Kokomo.

Future Meeting

Thanks to Gene Parks, who previously hosted a meeting at Western High School (Howard Co.), our summer meeting will be held at the Memorial Gym in Kokomo on Saturday, June 29th at 1:30 PM.

Gene conveys that Carl McNulty, Ken Craig, Jim Callane, Jack Colescott and member Basil Mawbey have consented to speak. Gene's friend and new member, Cliff Johnson plans to attend and has volunteered to fill in if needed.

Gene asks for any suggestions that members may have for the betterment of the program. His address is 201 S. West Street, Russiaville, IN 46979. Phone: (765)883-7037

As a frequent meeting attendee, I have found that local newspapers are a great source of notoriety and an avenue to people interested in high school basketball, hence interested in the IHSBHS. HBS.

The Evolution Of Indiana High School Basketball

by Harley Sheets

Part I: A History Lesson (1875-1914)

The Steel Age

As most know, basketball had its inception at Springfield, Massachusetts (1891). Was introduced to Indiana by the Reverend Nicholas McKay (1893). And was first played in Crawfordsville (1894). Yes! This was the first glimmering of what was to become our passionate pastime, but let us return to some even earlier days of yesteryear.

After the Civil War and a decade of "Reconstruction", the "Industrial Revolution" that had earlier taken hold in Europe came to the United States of America, a country which had been primarily an agrarian society. Most likely, the chief stimuli of this new age was the Bessemer converter furnace, invented in the 1850s. Henry Bessemer, an Englishman, had developed a way of removing impurities from iron, a process which made it extremely economical to manufacture steel. Soon thereafter, the country became a land traversed and interwoven with a vast railway system.

Due to this "Age of Steel" (1860-1914 according to Compton's Encyclopedia), President Chester Arthur's administration (1881-85) saw the construction of two engineering marvels - the Brooklyn Bridge (1883) and the 10 story Home Insurance Building (1884) in Chicago - the first skyscraper. President Arthur also became known as "the father of the American Navy" by promoting legislation to build the first all steel warship flotilla, which became known as "The Great White Fleet". This new innovation was, in no small way, a reason for a quick conclusion to the Spanish - American War (1898). This, almost overnight, established the United States as a world power.

The unprecedented prosperity of the steel era is what produced the so called "Robber Barons", chief among them, Andrew Carnegie (steel) and John D. Rockefeller (oil & railroads). Others accumulated enormous fortunes in merchandising, utilities and financing.

Eventually, the Sherman Anti-Trust Bill was enacted by Congress in 1890 to prevent huge conglomerates from strangling smaller competitors. However the controls henceforth implied

were not implemented until several years later. There must have been lobbyists even then.

Why History ?

At this point or even earlier, one might ask, "why all of this history in a basketball publication?" My opinion is that, in ardent pursuit of our favorite sport, sometimes tunnel vision is developed and we fail to attach important world events to the great things that our favorite schools might have accomplished, especially in the distant past.

Research is a big part of what the Indiana High School Basketball Historical Society is all about, and looking into the past can bring these comparative sequences together. Let me give you a personal example. While Wingate High School was becoming Indiana's first back-to-back basketball champion (1913 & 1914), World War I was in its initial phases. As my alma mater, Lebanon, was mimicking Wingate in 1917 and 1918, the world's greatest calamity, up to that time, was coming to a close. Then in 1943 when Lebanon High School fell just short of a fourth state title, the country was in the midst of World War II, the greatest conflagration in history!

As a student, I was aware of the shields and trophies of these euphorically sad days. They were on display in the hallways at L.H.S. However, I never got the full prospectus until years later.

One will be amazed at the unique insight to be gained by looking into the past. For example, while acquiring information for my Lebanon Tiger basketball book, I found that Professor James B. Garner (not to be confused with actor, James Garner), an 1889 graduate of Lebanon High School had invented the gas mask. What a revelation! Why had I not learned this as a student?

Fact. To much history is lost to antiquity, especially on the local level, henceforth this history lesson. The point I hope I have made is that research can be fun and very enlightening. Try it. A plethora of lost knowledge awaits those who seek. Back to the history lesson.

The Interurban and Basketball

It is in all probability, because of

the "Steel Age" and the development of the vast railway system, that the idea for the interurban was conceived. The interurban developed into a way of quickly transporting individuals from city to city, town to town and hamlet to hamlet. The railroad originally was used primarily for commercial transport of goods over long distances.

Eventually Indiana became the epicenter of the interurban business. Not only did the "Hoosier State" have the best network of tracks, but 205 companies were involved in running the state wide transit. Three ran through Lebanon, the main one was the THI&E (TerreHaute-Indianapolis & Evansville).

This afforded high school teams an excellent means to their venues. This is evidenced by the distances traveled by schools in the 20s and 30s. The interurban station in Bloomington must have been a veritable beehive in the early years of the state tournament at Indiana University, especially in 1914 when 77 teams congregated for 76 games in four gyms in two days.

All of this history should be deemed truly important to basketball buffs. Prior to the "Industrial Revolution" transportation moved at a snail's pace and communication was somewhat pathetic. Traveling was by foot or the original horsepower, the horse. Therefore, few people traveled extensively, so communication was by mail, basically postcards and letters, delivered by horse drawn wagons.

Most of the years of the "Industrial Revolution" and transportation's infancy coincide with the "Postcard Craze" era (1890-1920). To show how inept movement, at this time was, people communicated by the mail medium between towns as little as 5 miles apart. Therefore, today's basketball junkies, as well as those of the early 20th Century, owe a huge debt to Henry Bessemer and the "Industrial Revolution".

Congratulations to member Brian Williams on coaching Winamac to its second consecutive sectional championship.

Next Meeting - March 23, 2002
Indianapolis Athletic Club
350 N. Meridian Street
Between sessions of the State Finals

The 500 Club According To The IHSBHS

In the last 3 issues we have documented the resumes of the winningest coaches in Indiana high school basketball. Listed were the top eleven - Jack Butcher (791), Howard Sharpe (723), Bill Stearman (714), Marion Crawley (644), Bill Harrell (632) and Jim Miller (607), Norm Held (586), Pat Rady (584), Cliff Wells (581), Jim Jones (578) and Ward Smith (553).

The IHSBHS is sure that these figures are close to perfection. If anyone can give proof of an error we welcome it. These totals are thru 2000-2001.

Following are numbers 12 - 15.

No. 12 - Bill Springer - 40 yrs. - 540 wins

Although unverified by the IHSBHS it is believed that Mr. Springer's record is, most likely, quite accurate since his varsity coaching career did not begin until 1960. Basketball coverage was pretty adept by this time.

The IHSBHS will print his entire coaching log if anyone takes the time to verify it.

Linden	1960-61
Seeger	1962-63
Brazil	1964-70
Ind. Shortridge	1971-72
Jennings Co.	1973-75
Bloom. South	1976-82
Southport	1983-99

Bill Patrick - 32 years - 72.6 winning %
No. 13 (526-199)

Sidney	
1964	13-09
Was not a varsity coach	
1965-67	
South Whitley	
1968	16-08
1969	17-04
1970	18-05
1971	14-07

Whitko	
1972	11-10
1973	15-07
1974	14-09
1975	15-06
1976	17-07
1977	14-07
1978	13-09
1979	21-02
1980	21-01
1981	21-03

1982	14-07
1983	19-05
1984	19-03
1985	14-08
1986	16-07
1987	20-04
1988	13-09
1989	20-04
1990	21-04
1991	17-09
1992	15-07
1993	15-09
1994	18-05
1995	17-05

Was out of coaching 1996-98

Tippecanoe Valley	
1999	14-07
2000	19-06
2001	15-06

Mr. Patrick has accumulated 32 consecutive winning seasons, tying him with Marion Crawley for that honor among Indiana high school coaches. If he registers a winning record in 2002, he will tie Jack Butcher for the most, ever.

Gunner Wyman - 29 years - 71.1 winning %
No. 14 (526-214)

Wingo, KY	53-12
1953	
1954	
South Hopkins, KY	88-32
1955	
1956	
1957	
1958	

Teil City	
1959	15-11
1960	19-09
1961	20-08
1962	22-02

Hammond	
1963	12-10
1964	12-09
1965	15-10
1966	20-05
1967	16-05

Vincennes	
1968	24-03
1969	27-01
1970	12-11
1971	15-08
1972	21-04
1973	19-04
1974	13-10
1975	17-06
1976	13-09
1977	10-10
1978	07-17

1979	14-09
1980	16-07
1981	26-02

The number of games played in Kentucky by Mr. Wyman's teams in his six years of coaching there, average out to 30.8 games per year. South of the Ohio this may have been the situation at the time. The IHSBHS is accepting these totals. However, if anyone ever verifies these totals please let us hear from you.

John Adams - 24 years - 73.9 winning %
No. 15 (524 - 185)

Smithville 96-24

1916	
1917	
1918	
1919	
1920	

Vincennes	
1921	35-06
1922	38-01
1923	34-01
1924	17-09
1925	29-05
1926	20-11
1927	22-11
1928	24-10
1929	21-11
1930	18-12
1931	17-11
1932	24-06
1933	19-12
1934	18-09
1935	19-08
1936	19-09
1937	19-07
1938	17-10
1939	18-12

As previously mentioned at the beginning of this page, these totals are as of the 2000-2001 school year. However, the current season has seen Jack (Clyde Beatty) Butcher set a new standard for Indiana high school basketball coaches by guiding this year's pride of Loogootee Lions to his 800th victory and then some.

Other active 500 win coaches adding to their totals this year are Bill Harrell, Pat Rady, Jim Jones, Bill Patrick, Basil Mawbey, Jim East and Joe Hinton.

Active 400+ coaches striving for 500 are Jack Keifer, J. R. Holmes, Jack Edison, Gene Miiller, Jim Matthews and Steve Brunen.

Member Profile (Albert Hendrix)

I had known of Albert Hendrix from his birth, but had never really gotten to know him until my return to Indiana in the early 80s. His father, Jim, was two years ahead of me in high school and we had associated off and on for years.

It was during my sabbatical in Michigan that Albert's named came to light. I had heard that the Hendrix family had moved to Frankfort, the arch rivals of Lebanon, after his sophomore year. Lo and behold, Albert started for the hated Hot Dogs in both his junior and senior years, playing for Hall of Fame coach John Milholland. Now that's an entire story in itself. See the next issue of Boxscore.

After graduation from Frankfort, he went to a junior college, but this was of a short duration. Soon thereafter, Officer Hendrix was patrolling the streets of Lebanon for the police department. In June of 1994 he transferred to the Boone County Sheriff's Department where he remains today, having worked burglaries, rapes and homicides. Lieutenant Hendrix is now a detective working narcotics.

His secondary vocation has been as a middle school coach in the Lebanon School Corporation.

7B (1 yr.) 06-05
7A (1 yr.) 11-05
8A (19 yrs.) 194-68
(211-78, .73 winning %)

Al has a daughter, Haley and a son, Trey. If Trey was named in hopes that he would be able to shoot the three, then Al did

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Dues - \$12 for 2 years, \$17 for 3 years. Dues include newsletters, a yearly membership roster and full membership with voting rights when in attendance at regular meetings. All meetings are published within (place-time-date) and prior to each meeting.

Send dues to IHSBHS (c/o Roger Robison), 304 South Ninth Street, Vincennes, IN 47591. Include name, address, telephone number, school and year of graduation. email if you so desire.

Inquiries: All inquiries or notification of error should be directed to Editor, Harley Sheets, 635 South State Road 39, Danville, IN 46122. email: harleysheets@yahoo.com. Phone: 317-745-6788.

it right. This soon-to-be third grader can not only do that, but is already pretty adept at the other facets of the game.

Al remembers his father taking him to his first high school basketball game in 1965-66. Rick Mount was a senior and Lebanon opened the season with Otterbein. But the basketball game that stands out most in Al's mind was a 2000 Pacer's play-off game with the Los Angeles Lakers.

Rik Smits, the Pacer's center, owned a home in Boone County. Rik was having an alarm system installed. The county procedure is to have the sheriff's department have oversight on such projects. Albert was assigned to the Smits installation.

Shortly thereafter, Al received a call from Rik's wife thinking it to be of a police nature. However, she had called to offer him two tickets to the aforementioned game. Al took his son and it proved to be quite an experience, based on the fact that the tickets were right under one of the baskets. Al said, "Only then did I actually comprehend just how huge Shaquille O'Neal was. And it was a fantastic experience for Trey".

Al's favorite actor is Tom Cruise and favorite movie, Top Gun. Favorite TV programs are The Practice and NYPD Blue. His likes are basketball, coaching and teaching. Dislikes are class basketball and politics.

Albert's most memorable game was one he played in (1978). It was in his first year at Frankfort after leaving Lebanon. With Al at point guard, the Hot Dogs beat the Lebanon Tigers 65-58 in the regional with Al scoring 13 points. These Hot Dogs advanced to the championship game of the semi-state before bowing to Merrillville.

Lieutenant Albert Hendrix is now attending IUPUI to complete his degree and hopes to, someday soon, become a varsity coach, thus emulating the one living individual who is Al's roll model - his basketball coach at Frankfort, Hall of Famer, John Milholland. HBS.

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The End
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Obituary

Chet Francis, an Avon High School grad and brother of Janis "Hunk" Francis who was profiled in the Fall 1998 issue of Boxscore passed away in Vincennes on January 23, 2002.

Chet, shortly after graduating from I.U., became head coach at Vincennes. In his years (1948-57) there, he went 130-126, winning 7 sectionals and 2 regionals.

He was a Marine Corps veteran of World War II, awarded the Sagamore of the Wabash in 1980 by Governor Otis Bowen and in 1990 by Governor Evan Bayh.

The IHSBHS extends its sincere condolences to the Chet Francis family.

Notes & Quotes

From Lanny Sigo:

I wanted to inform you that I had breakfast with John Wooden (2/16/02). I developed a friendship with present UCLA coach Steve Lavin when he was an assistant for Gene Keady here at Purdue. A buddy and I went and it was arranged by Lavin's office. We went to the V.I.P. Restaurant in Encino, California. Mr. Wooden was there with his son-in-law. He shared his dislike for class basketball. I had always heard that when he was at Indiana State he was just waiting in the wings for the Purdue job to open. When Ray Eddy was hired did he feel rejected and motivated to coach elsewhere? "Not exactly!", he replied. Purdue did approach him about the job, but he was not happy about the way Purdue had treated Mel Taube and rejected their offer. In later years Purdue approached him again. He was very interested this time and he let the UCLA administration know. However, they reminded him that they had given him a 3 year contract initially when they had only wanted to give him 2 years and they felt he owed them. Wooden relented and agreed to stay at UCLA. The rest is history, as they say. It's notable that Wooden was at UCLA 15 years prior to winning his first National Championship.

Hope you enjoy this story. It was absolutely a chance of a lifetime. He's 91 and looks great. Is still very active and goes to every UCLA home game. Admirers lineup as soon as he sits down four rows behind the Bruins bench for a handshake, autograph or picture. This continues at every break in the action. He loves every minute of it!

See you in Kokomo in June.

New Members

Jack Colescott (Gas City '48)
1607 Longbranch Court
Gas City, IN 46933
Phone: 765-674-2465

Earl Wolfe (Ellettsville '44)
115 Bentley Road
Vincennes, IN 47591
Phone: 812-882-2090

Brian Hill (Coalmon't '61)
2060 Broadway
Quincy, IL 62301

Other Additions And/Or Corrections To The Roster

Albert Hendrix
1901 Lafayette Road

Roger Dickinson
60 Prairie Noll

Bob Fraley
303 N. Center

Jerry Harshbarger
Fountain Central '66

Here & There, This & That**Bevo**

Forty-eight years ago on Feb. 2, 1954 Bevo Francis (remember him) scored 113 points for little Rio Grande College in a game against Hillsdale (Mich.). Frank Selvy is the only other collegian to do this, scoring 100 points for Furman against Newberry 11 days after Bevo's feat. Many of Bevo's points came as a result of screens from his teammates near what would be today's 3 point arc. He hit 38 of 70 from the field and 37 of 45 from the line.

Capitalizing on Bevo's notoriety, the following year Rio Grande played at Madison Square Garden and scheduled big name universities such as Providence, North Carolina State and Miami (Fla.). Francis averaged 46.5 points while leading Rio Grande to a 21-7 record.

Shanna

Congratulations to Shanna Zolman on becoming the first girl in Indiana high school basketball history to reach the 3,000 point plateau. Unfortunately, her team was beaten in the sectional, so her quest to top Damon Bailey as the all-time career scorer in Indiana was stopped short.

Morton Memorial

It looks like Morton Memorial (Soldiers & Sailors Home) High School, led by the coaches son, Kevin Jones, Jr. has a chance to win their first sectional since 1953.

Back in 1953 Morton Memorial featured Roy Wheeler (then a junior), who would end his career as the school's all-time leading career scorer. A feisty Morristown team seems to be their main obstacle. In 1953, after winning their first and only sectional, who did Morton come within an eye lash of eliminating in the regional? Answer next issue.

The Only Two

Dean Foster (Elkhart Central 1998-Penn 1999, 2000, 2001) and Jeff Moore (Sullivan 1998, 1999, 2000, 2001) are the only two coaches that have won a sectional in the first four years of class basketball. But these two men weren't satisfied with sectional championships. Coach Foster didn't do anything after his sectional win at Elkhart, but in 1999 and 2000 he took Penn to the Final 8. Then in 2001 Penn was runner-up to Pike in 4 A.

Coach Moore took Sullivan to the Final 8 in 1998, 1999 and 2001. The Final 16 in 2000.

The One and Only

Lewis Cass, coached by IHSBHS member Basil Mawbey became the only regular season unbeaten in the Indiana high school ranks with an 11 point win over Tipton on February 19th.

He's Been Around

The editor got to meet new IHSBHS member Jerry Snapp at the Wabash Valley Classic. While I was sitting at Dean Kendall's Wabash Valley book table in the Terre Haute North gym, Jerry introduced himself. He is presently the principal at Bloomfield, the team I most enjoyed watching play. They play the game the way it was meant to be played. After a win over Shakamak, they lost to Sullivan. Then beat Terre Haute South and West Vigo.

During our conversation, I was able to fill in the gaps of his coaching and administrative career. Jerry played for Bob Swihart at Noble Twp. (Wabash Co.) in 1962 when that school won its first and only sectional. A dear friend of the IHSBHS, Bill Rogge who has since passed away, was the assistant coach. After high school Jerry graduated from Huntington College in 1967. Following is his resume.

South Whitley

(asst to Bill Patrick)	1968-71
Marion Bennett	1972-73
Lake Station (asst.)	1974-75
Wash. Twp. (Porter Co.)	1976-79
Fountain Central	1980-83
Monroe Central	1984-85
Sullivan	1986-87
S'western (J) asst. prin.	1988-96
Bloomfield principal	1997-

Sectionals won (1980-1981-1987).

The Omission of Jack

On page 6 of the Winter 2001 edition where the editor listed the coaches who have won the most consecutive sectionals and the most sectionals overall in a career, Jack Butcher was inadvertently omitted in the latter. Coach Butcher has won 17 sectionals in the one class system and an additional 3 (1998-2000-2001) in the 4 class era.

The thing that amazes me about this omission is that no one has notified me of this unpardonable oversight. Where are my monitors. Remember members, we're all in this together. Accuracy! accuracy! accuracy! should be our motto.

Two addendums to Jack's career needs to be addressed. One was called to my attention by Jack's wife, Rita and the other by member Randy Messell.

As you add Butcher's name to the list on page 6, examine that list closely. Does any one thing jump out at you? This is what seems very clear to me. A majority of sectionals won, were at larger schools. Most coaches after some success at smaller schools were able to move up to the larger schools where the majority of their sectionals were won, with most on home courts. In other

words, most of these upper echelon coaches won very few sectional titles at smaller schools, playing away from home. But Jack Butcher, having spent his entire career at a small school was never blessed with being able to play any sectionals, under the one class system, at home. So for any skeptics that might remain, because of Jack having coached at a small school, I'm convinced that his 17 sectional titles on foreign floors in the one class system is a record to be highly revered and will never be surpassed. Add to that the fact that he also won six of these consecutively from 1970-75. Has any other coach in Indiana topped either of these gargantuan feats? My guess is no.

Patrick On The Move

On page 1 of the Spring 2000 issue of Boxscore, in an article entitled "A Salute To Bill Patrick", I alluded to the fact that Patrick, the current coach at Tippecanoe Valley had registered 31 winning seasons in 31 years as a head basketball coach in Indiana. I posed this question. "Is this a record for number of consecutive winning seasons?" After scrounging around I found that it wasn't. Marion Crawley had registered 32 and Jack Butcher had 33.

Jack now has company. Coach Patrick with a slate of 15-6 in 2001 and a 2002, 16-3 mark, as of this printing, has tied the all-time winningest Hoosier high school basketball coach for this lofty standard.

A hardy congratulatory salute to Coach Bill Patrick!

Shaquille, Meet Scott

Scott Colclasure set a national standard as a junior in 2000-2001 by hitting an astounding 97.7% of his free throws.

Get Well Vic

Lanny Sigo has informed the IHSBHS that member, Vic Klinker underwent open heart surgery on February 15 and asks that prayers be offered for a full recovery. We're all pullin' for you, Vic!!!!!!

55 Years Ago

On March 1, 1947 Tom Goldsberry, a virtual unknown at the time, coached Ellettsville to its first sectional championship. There have been many smaller schools that have won sectional titles and this one wouldn't have been so epic had it have not been for what happened in the regional the following week.

Ellettsville defeated even smaller Cory High school, which had won the only sectional title in that school's history. This matched Ellettsville against eventual state runner up Terre Haute Garfield and its 6-9 center Clyde Lovelette. Unbeaten Garfield prevailed by a single point even though 6-2 Ellettsville center, Ed Hudson outscored Lovelette, 19 to 5.

SOME RECOLLECTIONS OF BASKETBALL AT MY HIGH SCHOOL- THE GOOD AND THE BAD

By Harley Sheets

Part I

The Early Years

As some may know, the Lebanon Tigers were one of the elite high school programs in the pioneer days of Indiana high school basketball, winning state titles in 1912, 1917 and 1918. And in 1911, 1913, 1914 1915, 1916 and 1921 when the Tigers didn't prevail, they still topped the state champions of these years in the regular season. Lebanon was also runners-up in 1911 and 1943. Therefore it was a natural thing for the townfolk to be involved and get excited over their basketball team. Being born and raised there, basketball also became a part of my life. I became a "Hoosier Hysteria" addict.

An Imposition

I moved to Michigan in 1967, to Florida in 1979, but I would return.

When I moved away, I knew that I would miss high school basketball, but circumstances being as they were at the time, I knew it was an enigma that had to be born. To placate my habit, I would, on occasion ascend to the attic of my two-story home with my portable radio. On occasion I even got on the roof for better reception. Yes, at this point in time, WOWO (Ft. Wayne) carried all rounds of the tournament.

It was at this time that I first heard of Monti Towe. Later, I was to see him and his former North Carolina State teammate, David Thompson as Denver Nuggets. I was working for a drug wholesale company which was owned by a wealthy individual who had acquired the Detroit Pistons. Many times I was able to obtain free tickets to their games. This was because the Pistons weren't real good at this juncture, even with Dave Bing and Bob Lanier. John Mengelt of Elwood High School was also a Piston.

This was the way I stayed abreast of my favorite sport in my absence from Indiana. Early in the 80s I was back home. Here are some recollections of my school's better late models.

The 1970 Team

This one was deep and talented and made up of young men whom I had coached or coached against in the Babe Ruth League prior to leaving.

These Tigers after eliminating Pike and the unbeaten Darlington Indians by substantial margins, took out Brebeuf, 71-68 to win the sectional. They then faced a formidable task in the regional. The Tigers had earlier beaten North Putnam at home by 4 points, but now had to face the Cougars and their 7-foot center at Greencastle were North Put had won their sectional title. NP's coach was "Ike" Tallman who had guided Muncie Central to its fifth state title in 1963. The Tigers prevailed by eight in a hard fought game, but were stung by some deadly outside shooting of the Rossville Hornets, led by the Kamstra brothers - nephews of Hall of Famer, Phil Buck.

This Rossville team was no mirage. They had gone to the final-8, the previous year.

L. H. S. has had other devastating losses, but none have seemed to have been more scrutinized, discussed, dissected and debated than this one.

These 1970 Tigers were also no figment of the imagination. After two early losses, they had won 15 games in a row before their demise. This was second only to 17 in a row by Lebanon's 1917 state champions. They ended up third in the final Litkenhous ratings. They scored a school team record of 2,055 points and still to this day hold the record for average points (82.2) per game in a season. They dampened the dedication of the new Marion Crawley Arena by whipping the Lafayette Jeff Bronchos, 63-59. This edition of the Bronchos was a quality team. Their season ended with a 2 point loss the eventual undefeated state champs, the 28-0 East Chicago Roosevelt Roughriders.

The 1975 Team

Another Tiger quintet that caught my eye during my sojourn in the "Great Lake State" was the 1975 team. The Walker brothers (Steve and Brian) had moved in from Clinton Central in 1972. With their help the Tigers advanced to the "Sweet 16" in '73 and '74. With the addition of Kevin Smith from the Western Boone school district the Tigers looked formidable. Their only pre-tourney losses were to East Chicago Washington (62-68) and of all people, to the feisty Rossville Hornets (48-64).

The sectional was won by pummeling Pike and Zionsville. In the regional this edition of Tigers once more disposed of North Putnam and avenged one of their regular season losses by taking out their little school nemesis, the Rossville

Hornets (57-45). What a small school powerhouse! They still are to this day.

In the semi-state Michigan City (59-56) and Lafayette Jeff (59-50) were dispatched, but the end come the next week, as the Bengals ran into the Marion Giants with junior, Dave Colescott who was destined for the Mr. Basketball title in 1976. In the evenings championship match up, the Giants claimed their first of back-to-back crowns and their second overall (their first coming in 1926) by defeating Jack Butcher's Loogootee Lions.

Steve Walker became Lebanon's second mental attitude recipient by receiving the Trester Award.

The 1990 Team

This team's only noticeable loss was that of Richie Mount (son of Rick) Lebanon High School's second all-time leading career scorer. These Tigers were tall, deep and quick. Their only 3 losses (Carmel by 4, Harrison by 13 and arch-rival, Frankfort by 6) came while its big, 4-year starting center was serving a ten game suspension. After the suspension, the Tigers won 15 straight, before losing to Lafayette Jeff in the semi-state, 74-78. These 15 consecutive wins thus tied the '70 team for second in this school category.

However, before bowing to Lafayette, the Tigers who had trailed throughout the game by substantial margins, fought back to gain a tie and had possession of the ball with 45 seconds to go. They had the ball in the hands of their heady point guard, but he uncharacteristically telegraphed a pass which was intercepted. Jeff then scored a basket, but plenty of time remained. A shot was missed and Lebanon fouled, hence a 4 point lose.

By now I was back in Indiana and witnessed this game. The shock and disbelief was almost unbearable.

A side note to this game is that the Jeff player who had hit the Tigers with a three point barrage couldn't hit the side of a barn in the game against the Anderson Indians that evening.

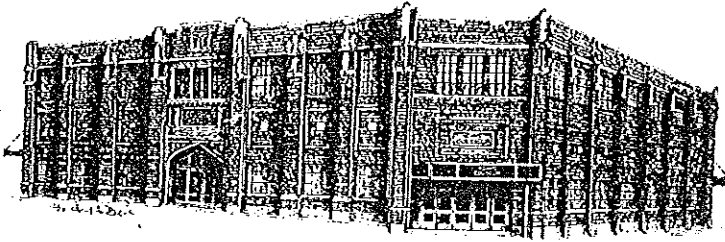
These Tigers didn't get much ink from around the state during the season, but had a break here and there have fallen into place, this was a team with the essentials to give Lebanon High School its fourth title. But it wasn't to be. This, instead, was the year of Damon Bailey. After all, in 1943 Lebanon had beaten Bedford to advance to the championship game. This year belonged to Bedford.

All About Vincennes

Remembrance

On January 30, 2002 Vincennes rekindled it's love affair with the John Adams Coliseum by gathering there for a game with Washington High School. Following are recollections from the past that appeared in the game program, compliments of Donald Hamilton and IHSBHS member, Bill Stedman.

Movement for a larger gymnasium began shortly after Vincennes won the state championship in 1923, when fans realized that the team was handicapped by playing conditions that were inferior to other teams. It wasn't until 1926 that a group of loyal Alice fans formed a committee that was later incorporated as the Vincennes Public School Athletic Association. One hundred twenty-eight individuals each pledged themselves to be financially liable for up to \$1,000 of the cost of the gym.



Adams Coliseum 75th Anniversary

January 30, 2002



Hatchets vs Vincennes Lincoln ALICES



ity had some unusual features including a four-row section of 414 theater (chair) seats where prominent boosters sat. There was a movable stage and the playing floor was of maple shipped in from northern Michigan. The new building also had a \$22,000 Moller pipe organ [donated by the Kiwanis Club] above the seats at one end. Another unique feature was an oval panel of bricks located on the lobby wall. [A local sportswriter asked fans from cities around the state to send bricks with engraved plates to commemorate what was to become the largest gym in the state]. In this panel are fifty-seven inscribed bricks from forty-seven towns and cities. William Henry Harrison's home, Monticello-Thomas Jefferson's home and the first state capitol in Corydon are among others represented. The bricks, though somewhat aged, can still be viewed in the lobby entrance directly under the 1981 State Champion picture.

On Friday, November 12, 1926 the Alices played their first game in the new facility against Mitchell High School. The price of admission, that evening found adults paying 60 cents and students 30 cents. General admission was 50 and 30 cents.

The evening started with an organ prelude and a dedication program. Area teams who had previously scheduled games canceled them so that players and fans could attend this auspicious occasion. Vincennes defeated Mitchell, 39-38.

The original seating capacity was 6,202 for basketball, but other seats could be added to bring the total to 7,500 for special programs. Over the years celebrities such as native son, Red Skelton, Will Rogers, Gene Autry, Dick Clark and his Caravan of Stars and the Harlem Globetrotters performed there.

The Vincennes Coliseum was renamed the Adams Coliseum to honor John Adams who coached the Alices to their first state title in 1923. The building served as the high school gym until February of 1988.

A Pretty Neat Thing

Another item of interest in the commemorative publication had to do with the Robert "Ace" Edwards Award which was instituted in 1961 by the Vincennes class of 1949. In the program Robert Edwards was profiled as an outstanding young athlete who made the ultimate sacrifice for his country during the Korean War. "Ace" was a spectacular player, a scrapper who loved his school and did his utmost to bring honor to its colors.

Due to a fund established by the 1949 class, the award is presented each year to a boy or girl who best exemplifies the qualities of Robert "Ace" Edwards.....competitiveness and leadership. The recipient has to have lettered in either football, boys/girls basketball and one other sport.

Not being from the Vincennes area, most of the recipients of this prestigious award were not familiar to me, but two that jumped out were IHSBHS members, Randy Westfall (1961) and Dr. William Vaughn (1975). HBS.

Commemorative Bricks

- 46 Cities & Towns
- Anderson
- Attica
- Bedford
- Bloomington
- Bluffton
- Brazil
- Buceville
- Charlestown
- Connersville
- Crawfordsville
- Decatur
- Decker
- Decker Chapel
- East Chicago
- Emison
- Evansville
- Frankfort
- Freelandville
- Gary
- Greensburg
- Indianapolis
- Jeffersonville
- Kokomo
- Linton
- Logansport
- Marion
- Martinsville
- Michigan City
- Mitchell
- Monroe City
- Muncie
- Oaktown
- Owensville
- Princeton
- Richmond
- Rushville
- Sandborn
- Seymour
- Shelbyville
- Sullivan
- Terre Haute
- Thorntown
- Tipton
- Union City
- Valparaiso
- Washington

9 Historical Sites

1 Publication

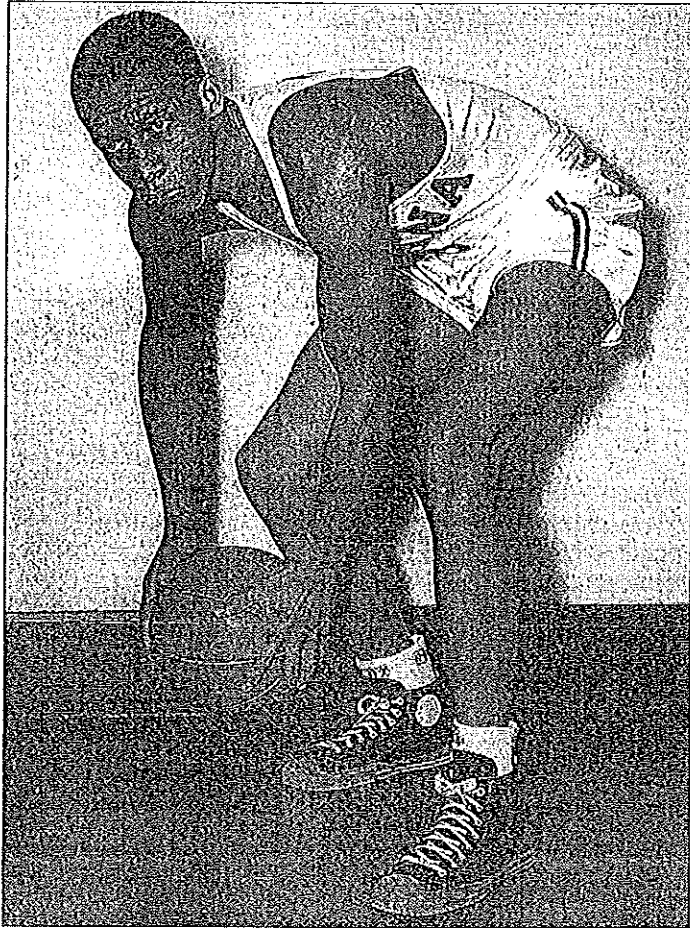
1 Parochial School

A Golden Bear - Bill Garrett

Back in the Fall '99 edition of Boxscore in an article entitled *Racism In Indiana (Part II)*, Bill Garrett and the Shelbyville Golden Bears were featured. It detailed some of the travails that Garrett and the team experienced on their way to the 1947 title. Following are excerpts from an article in the Bloomington Herald-Times by Stan Sutton, detailing some of his thoughts and information on a long overdue book.

Bill Garrett is a man I never met and never stopped idolizing. Fifty years ago he was an All-American at I.U., the first African-American to play in the Big Ten.

He also is a central figure in one of the great games played in Indiana. At 6-foot-2, Garrett outdueled 6-9 Clyde Lovelette of Terre Garfield as Shelbyville won the 1947



Indiana's Bill Garrett was the first African-American to play Big Ten basketball. COURTESY PHOTO

Indiana high school championship, 68-58.

That game would be less significant if I hadn't graduated from Shelbyville High 10 years later. Every walk into Paul Cross Gym resulted in a glance at the IHSAA trophy and another toward the upper wall where a team picture, dominated by Garrett, hung in all of its Hoosier splendor. Unfortunately, Garrett died in 1974. Named to IU's All-Century team last summer, his legacy has dulled over the years. This brings us to a new book, *Net Prophet, The Bill Garrett Story*, recently released by Sugar Creek Publishing.com and written by Shelby County native, Hetty Gray. The book is not so much about basketball as it is about Garrett, who coached Indianapolis

Crispus Attucks to the 1959 state title. Like myself, Gray developed an early curiosity about Garrett that delves deeply into the character of the man. *Net Prophet* tells of an era dominated by white athletes and outlines some obstacles Garrett faced upon coming to IU as the state's Mr. Basketball. That road was paved by a small number of people, including former IU president Herman Wells and Shelbyville basketball official Nate Kaufman, who approached Wells in support of Garrett. Gray quotes Wells as saying, "At that time there was an informal understanding among coaches that now seems incredible. It was some kind of mumbo-jumbo about the fact that the sport included too much bodily contact to make it feasible to mix the races. Wells went to then coach, Branch McCracken who is quoted as saying, "I'll probably be ostracized by my fellow Big 10 coaches if we take him." Wells, said "Let's take him, and if there's any conference backlash against it, then I'll take responsibility."

So the soft spoken Garrett came to IU. and as McCracken's widow, Mary Jo, later stated, "Everyone in Bloomington fell in love with him."

Garrett's I.U. roommate, Bill Toshoff, describes him this way. "At 6-foot-2, he was quietly lethal on the court. He wouldn't say much but could he ever fly. Garrett worked as our center in the system but we were always in transition and I would tell him if they score on us you take off. Being a low hurdles champ, I'd throw a football pass to him and he'd score in about three seconds."

Editor's Comments

For a long long time I have been associated with Indiana high school basketball, as a player, fan and historical researcher. However, during this year's sectionals I have come to this conclusion. I do not know a thing about the game. This isn't something new. Its been in the back of my mind for years.

I base this realization on two games in the 2002 tournament's first phase.

(1) I picked the #2 team in the state, Ben Davis to win the sectional at Indianapolis Tech. They got beat. So what you say, there are always upsets. But by 29 points and allowing its opponent to score 105 points. Then Ben Davis' conqueror, Indianapolis Northwest, scores a measly 37 in a 14 point loss to Avon who thus wins the second sectional in that school's history, the first coming way back in 1978.

(2) Being a fan of a certain class 3A team, I had to see Brebeuf (6*) play, to see if my school or any other school had a chance in the 3A class tournament. I went to the semi-finals of the Marion County tournament. In four encounters 3A Brebeuf dispatched in order, 4A Franklin Central (51*), 4A Perry Meridian (13*), 4A Pike (4*) and 4A Ben Davis (2*) for the title.

Brebeuf, in my estimation, was truly a team to be reckoned with. They had two extremely athletic 6-5 big men, a heady point guard, the ability to shoot the three and a fairly deep bench. On top of that they were well coached and some of the players had gotten some good experience from winning the 3A title in 2000. The semi final game that I saw was a win over Pike (4*) and I came away with this perception. It would take an almost perfect game by an opponent to have a chance. Brebeuf, to me, was a 95% shoo-in for the 3A crown.

So what happens? Beech Grove a 10-10 team going into the tournament with a less than awesome schedule and only two sectional titles in the history of the school, eliminates this fine Brebeuf team in the first game of the tournament.

There are other facets of the tournament worthy of discussion and we're just getting started. Even with this class thing it's still a great event.

*Sagarin Power Ratings

+++++

In all past newsletters I have tried to be diverse in writing articles, but in this issue I have intentionally given a lot of attention to my alma mater, Lebanon. I can write continually on the basketball history of Boone County and Lebanon because I've done the research. Bob Whalen can do the same for Montgomery County. Roger Robison for Frankfort and so on.

Not everyone is from Crawfordsville, Frankfort and Lebanon. So not everyone wants to regularly, read about them. Since IHSBHS members are so diversified geographically, it would be great to be able to publish epic high school basketball events which have taken place in all areas of the state. For example, most of you have read the "One Hit Wonder" columns on teams that have won only one sectional in school history. There are at least a hundred more of these stories to be told. Sure it takes a little work and research, but isn't this what the IHSBHS is all about? Let us see what kind of story tellers are in this group.

Remember, there are only 5 or 6 people doing all of the work. We are dues paying members ourselves. Let's all work together and share the load. That way you won't constantly be reading about Lebanon, Frankfort and Crawfordsville.