

# BOXSCORE

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A Publication of the Indiana High School Basketball Historical Society

IHSBHS 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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Dues are \$7 per year. Dues runs from January 1 - December 31 and includes newsletters and full membership with voting rights. For a lifetime membership the cost is \$50.

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2009 Winter Issue

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### Happy Holidays

We of the IHSBHS Board would like to wish a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year to each of the IHSBHS members and their families.

Harley, John, Bill, Roger, Rocky,  
 Leigh, Jeff, Mike, Tim & Tom  
**Reminder!!!**

This is the last issue of *Boxscore* covered by your current membership for most of you. The Board has approved a \$1 increase in dues for next year, which brings the cost of your membership to \$7. Please mail your check to Rocky Kenworthy at the address listed in the above right Publication & Membership section. We hope that you will continue your membership in the coming year.

### A Note

For new members we offer the option of receiving *Boxscore* via e-mail. We have been remiss in offering this option to our longer-term members. If you would like to receive your copy by e-mail, notify Tom White at whitelitning@gmail.com.

### Message from the President by John Ockomon

Basketball, both girls and boys, is going full blast now across our state as you receive this newsletter.

Unfortunately, we don't have a membership meeting planned at this time. Please help us get one going by volunteering your town and we will help you make it happen.

Another update by Kyle Neddenriep in The Indianapolis Star on old gyms still standing came out recently. There are 92 old gyms listed on his Web site at [Indystar.com/gyms](http://Indystar.com/gyms). Check it out. I have been to 60 to 70 of these treasures, since this is one of my hobbies for the last 25 years.

One of my research projects several years ago was to determine which sectional held the record for the most teams. When the IHSAA went to 64 sectionals in 1925 that was the last year any sectional had more than 16 teams. So we go back to 1920 and 1922, where I found the five sectionals, which hold the record with 21(!!!) teams: 1920 at Rushville, and 1922 at Angola, Huntington, New Castle, and Logansport.

So the next question is: Has any team had to win five games to win the sectional?

The answer is "Yes!"

I have misplaced my notes, which showed several teams accomplishing this feat, but my recent quick research shows Anderson in 1922 and Milroy in 1920 won five games.

But, of course, this pales in comparison to the state finals in 1914, which had 77 teams. Oh, the good ole days.

### Notes from the Editors

Since last year's Winter issue was a 15-year anniversary issue, we have another theme-related issue this year. We have chosen to look at the 1940 final four teams because they were an odd mix, even for the state finals. Four of our contributing authors have taken each of the four teams, researched them, and written an article: Harley Sheets (Lapel), Rocky Kenworthy (Mitchell), Cliff Johnson (Fort Wayne South), and Tom White (Hammond Tech). I would like to personally thank the authors for their articles and for getting into the spirit of the theme topic. I promise not to solicit them for a particular article again (or as least until next year's Winter edition). We hope you enjoy the results.  
 Tom White

### Schedule of Boxscores

We try to send out *Boxscores* on the following schedule: March 15 - Spring; June 15 - Summer; Sept. 15 - Fall; and Dec. 15 - Winter. If you have not received your copy after about two weeks from the above dates, please notify us. You may have just fallen through the cracks.  
 Editorial Staff

### A New Addition

We thought you might like to know a little about the authors of the stories you are reading, so we included an "About the Authors" section. This contains "vitae" (brief histories or résumés) written by the authors about themselves. In the future we will try to include this column for each new author who appears in *Boxscore*.

Editorial Staff

### 1940 Final Four

If you were psychic and could predict the future, you could have made a lot of money predicting the final four of the Indiana high school basketball tournament in 1940. In the sixth annual poll of AP sportswriters, the "experts" seemed to think the final four would be South Bend Central, Washington, Anderson, and Fort Wayne South. But what do the experts know? Out of all the highly rated teams that might have made the final four, only the top-ranked Fort Wayne South Archers made it that far. Mitchell's Bluejackets defeated a highly regarded Washington team in the Vincennes Semifinals (semistate), 20-19. The Lapel Bulldogs, enrollment 219, defeated Anderson 24-23 in the Anderson Sectional and later slipped by a top 10-ranked Rushville 34-33 in the Anderson Semifinal. And finally there was the Hammond Tech Tigers, who had never won a sectional before that year, but made it out of "the Region" and through the Logansport Semifinal. The next four articles cover the teams and briefly cover the games in this odd year.

### Lapel Bulldogs, a Surprise Finalist by Harley Sheets

#### Some History and Background

The topic of advantages that larger schools, specifically most county seat schools with larger gyms, have over smaller schools has been discussed on unnumbered occasions. This theme eventually brought about Boxscore's interest in the final round of an Indiana state tournament that saw two small schools and another unlikely participant advance to the Final Four. It is my assignment to cover one of them - a kennel of Bulldogs from the small town of Lapel who had the audacity to terminate some larger schools on their journey to the final round in 1940.

Within the last 12 months, I have been involved in discussions with a couple of basketball aficionados on who the Final Four were in 1940. Champion Hammond Tech, Lapel, and Mitchell usually came to mind, but it was Ft. Wayne South, the largest school, that didn't. I had known that Southside had won the state in 1938, but didn't think the school had done anything much until winning the title again in 1958.

It is my belief that coming upon unusual or unexpected happenings is

what keeps Indiana high school basketball researchers energized as they meander through a plethora of microfilm. This energizing aspect has motivated me to be your guide on the Lapel Bulldogs' journey that took them to Butler's basketball ballroom, and almost to Shangri-La.

Beginning in 1933, Adolf Schicklegruber and his Nazis had started to gain power and were using it in an abusive manner. And even though ominous headlines of Germany's oppression of western Europe were appearing in newspapers all over the United States, most Americans remained oblivious to these circumstances as the 1940 tournament took place. It took until Dec. 7, 1941, for our nation to be shockingly awakened to the fact that a huge problem had been ignored and had to be dealt with. It was during this foreboding time period that the Lapel Bulldogs began their sojourn. Let's set the stage.

In attempting to win a sectional, Lapel's daunting task was to play every year in the Wigwam, the home of the Anderson Indians, the big county seat school. These mighty Indians, from the late teens through 1942, had been coached by three future Hall of Famers - Alva Staggs (one state title), Everett Case (four) and Archie Chadd (two). The Bulldogs' mentor, Herman Hinshaw, had been a sophomore sub on Lapel's first sectional championship team in 1925. He had become head coach at his alma mater in the 1937-38 school year after a couple of years as an assistant. In his first two years he went 13-12 and 14-8, losing in the sectional to Anderson by 15 and Elwood by eight.

#### The Regular Season of 1939-40

What was considered a really good regular season for such a small school turned into a really fantastic one. It started out with six straight victories, one by eight points over Markleville, which two weeks later would manhandle the Bulldogs 35-23 in the county tourney. The rest of the season was mediocre at 9-6 for an overall 15-6 tab. Two of the six losses were administered by Lebanon (48-37) and Muncie Burris (53-40). These two schools could be considered the only two bigger school powerhouses on the Bulldogs' schedule. The Lebanon Tigers had won three state titles and were coached by future Hall of Famer, Paul

"Butch" Neuman. Three years hence the Tigers, led by Pete Mount, would fall short of their fourth title by losing to Ft. Wayne Central (45-40) in the championship game. Burris, coached by another future Hall of Famer, Scott Fisher, was the dominant high school basketball entity in Muncie. The Owls were in the midst of winning six consecutive sectionals, with two Final 16 finishes in '41 and '44, a defeat in the first session of the state finals in '39, and a runner-up finish in '42. The last game of the regular season saw the Bulldogs beat the tough little Markleville team (37-35) that had, as previously mentioned, beaten them earlier by 12 points in the county tourney.

The starters for this pretty solid small school, with season-ending points in parentheses, were forwards Elmer Anderson (218) and Keith Barnhizer (244), center Trevor Whetsel (272), and guards Halfred Males (149) and Gene Mills (79). The sixth man was Wayne Jarrett (84) who filled in admirably for Mills when he was injured.

#### The 1940 Tournament Trail

Prior to the start of the tournament, Ft. Wayne Southside along with, of all people, Anderson, were the co-favorites according to an AP-poll. Others given a vote of confidence were Fort Wayne Northside, Gary Wallace, Kokomo, Marion, New Castle, Washington, which would win the next two championships, and South Bend Central, coached by John Wooden.

Of this year's final four, only Southside had appeared in the championship round. The Archers, although a co-favorite, may have been somewhat overrated because they had been champs in '38 and had an excellent team in '39 until little Ossian vanquished them in the regional. Hammond Tech had never won a sectional and was the third or fourth choice to win the Gary sectional. The two smaller schools, Lapel and Mitchell, were never rated and had six and five losses respectively, although Mitchell had defeated some fairly prominent schools.

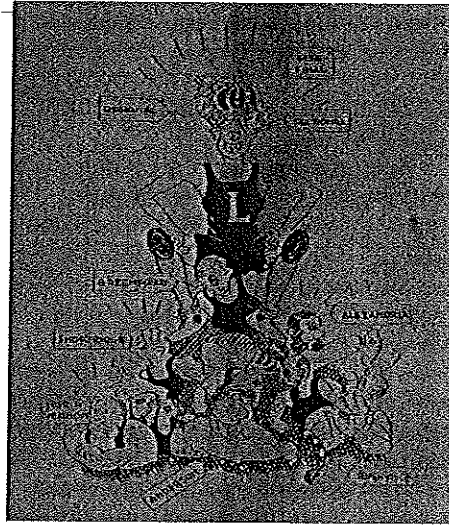
In the Anderson sectional, Lapel won three games by a total of five points. First came the Summitville Goblins (34-31), a team they had beaten by nine early in the season. Next came a one-point win over

Anderson (24-23), their first in 15 years. A 34-33 nail biter over Alexandria secured the Bulldogs' second sectional crown. If the Lapel fans' hair hadn't started turning gray or falling out during the sectional, it might have started doing so in the regional at Indianapolis Tech. In the afternoon game, the Bulldogs trailed the Greenfield Tigers 24-14 at the half and outscored the Tigers 12-2 in the fourth quarter, winning by two points, 37-35. In the title contest, the Bulldogs had another close call, but survived with a 39-36 victory against the Indianapolis Shortridge Blue Devils.

The Bulldogs caught somewhat of a break in the semifinals because they were going back to Anderson, a familiar place and very close to home, but Gene Mills sustained an injury. Fortunately, sixth man Wayne Jarrett filled in adequately in an afternoon one-point hair-raising victory over the Rushville Lions. Then with a surprisingly easy 42-25 blasting of the North Vernon Panthers, the Bulldogs moved on to the Final Four. Barnhizer, Males, and Whetzel earned all-semistate honors and more than 5,000 fans celebrated in Lapel.

Soon after Ft. Wayne South claimed its semi-state crown, Ben Tenny, sportswriter for the Fort Wayne News-Sentinel, claimed the Archers were prohibitive favorites to take home the bacon. The Hammond Tech Tigers, although a fairly large school, were just as much a surprise entrant at the Butler University basketball mecca as were Lapel and Mitchell. Especially surprising was the fact that the Tigers had survived their sectional. These finals were postponed a week because of Easter, which allowed NCAA tournament games to be scheduled on March 20 and 21 at Butler Fieldhouse.

When the tournament resumed, the first afternoon game saw Lapel hang tough against the husky Tech team. The first period ended in a tie. The Bulldogs trailed by two at intermission. The third quarter proved disastrous as the Bulldogs were outscored 14-4. Trailing 35-23, the people's choice wasn't about to throw in the towel. As in the Greenfield game, the Bulldogs staged a valiant fourth quarter rally, holding the eventual champs to three points, but they had waited too long - Hammond Tech 38, Lapel 36.



Taken from Lapel 1940 Yearbook

### Some Aftermath

Lapel placed forward Elmer Anderson on the All-State first five and Halfred Males on the second five. One newspaper story stated, "Saturday afternoon they [Hammond Tech] had to stave off a last quarter rally by Lapel to edge out the popular Bulldogs, 38-36."

When all was said and done, Hammond Tech had brought "the Region" its first state title in basketball. It was also noted that any team (which was the Mitchell Bluejackets) that could beat Fort Wayne South would take a terrific physical beating, and that apparently is what aided Tech in its easy victory over the Bluejackets. In the end, Mitchell gained a true accolade and some solace from this statement in a newspaper: "The outstanding player in the whole tournament was towheaded Roy Ramey. Standing only 5-feet-10 [and only a sophomore], he was a ball of fire against both Southside and Tech."

Herman Hinshaw, the mastermind of Lapel's fantastic achievement, moved over to Ben Davis for three years, taking the reins at Indianapolis Technical in the 1945-46 season. During his seven years there, he won four sectionals and two regionals and, in 1952, his last year of coaching, he led Tech to a runner-up finish. Muncie Central won the championship game, but Hinshaw's star, "Jumbo" Joe Sexson, was chosen Mr. Basketball. In 1995, Hinshaw was inducted into the Indiana High School Basketball Hall of Fame.

### Mitchell Bluejackets, a Southern Surprise Finalist by Rocky Kenworthy

As is often the case, Mitchell, Indiana's 1940 southern final four representative, built on a taste of success from their previous season. Paoli native Henry Polson had trekked northward a tad to Mitchell for the '38-'39 school year, after piloting his alma mater to back-to-back sectional titles. Polson's first Bluejacket contingent compiled a 15-6 regular season in 1939, with the six losses coming by a collective ten points. A late-season 38-23 pasting of highly touted and unbeaten Huntingburg gave Mitchell some statewide credibility. With sectional foe (and host) Bedford being abnormally weak, Mitchell copped a relatively easy 1939 sectional title, and appeared to be in line for more hardware. They had knocked off regional entrants New Albany and Seymour in the regular season, and had beaten their afternoon regional opponent Salem twice, both times by 11 points. But the old axiom, "it's tough to beat a team three times in the same season" reared its ugly head. Behind hot-shooting (and cocky, according to a crestfallen Mitchell scribe) Jim Bennett's 16 points, Salem upset Mitchell, 32-28.

With five of Mitchell's top seven graduating from the '39 club, heightened success wasn't a given in 1940. Leading scorer 6-4, 180 lb. Bill "Biff" Jones, a massive center for the time period, and 6-0 forward Duane Conkey, Mitchell's best defender, were the returning mainstays. The name Ramey, a basketball staple in Mitchell future and past, was represented by 6-0 sophomore Roy Ramey, who was quick, aggressive and a good shooter, and his older brother 5-10 Walter, a part-time starter. 6-0 captain Howard Hutton was described as the brains of the team, while 6-2 Wayne Bass, 6-1, 205 lb. Charley Lewis, and 6-0 sophomore Marvin York provided good support size for one of the bigger clubs in southern Indiana. The Cement City boys (a moniker derived from the town's largest employer of the early 1900's, Lehigh Cement Company, which is still operating today) started slowly, losing their first two contests, to Bedford and Oolitic. But they righted the ship, later reversing those two setbacks, along with defeating four eventual sectional champs in a 17-5 regular season. The host Bluejackets

breezed through their sectional, beating Williams 34-16, Bedford 27-13, and Springville 64-34 in the final. They would have to advance further without the services of all-sectional Walter Ramey, who lost eligibility after turning 20 on the day of the sectional final. The regional set up eerily like the previous season. Four 1939 sectional champs (Mitchell, Seymour, Salem, and New Albany) would return for a regional rematch. In 1940, this time at Bedford. Mitchell, as in '39, had beaten regional suitors New Albany and Salem (twice) in the regular season, and again drew Salem in the opener. In 1940, Yogi wasn't quotable, except to his parents, and mojo had yet to be identified. But when old nemesis Cocky Bennett paced Salem to a 17-12 halftime lead, it appeared to be déjà vu all over again. Plus, Salem's mojo was rising, when Bluejacket defensive ace Conkey fouled out in the second quarter, trying to stop Bennett. However, the second half would break the mold. With Roy Ramey (13 points) getting hot, and Howard Hutton slowing Bennett, Mitchell prevailed 29-24. The nightcap would pit the Bluejackets against New Albany. It was a classic size vs. speed, power vs. perimeter match-up. In this instance size prevailed, as the Bulldogs couldn't stop big Biff Jones inside. His 16 points paced Mitchell to their first, and to date, their only regional championship, 37-31.

The Vincennes Semistate loomed, but the availability of Roy Ramey was in question. He sprained an ankle late in the regional final, and was on crutches, and couldn't practice during the week. Mitchell would play another small school, Lynnville, winner of the Evansville Regional. The Flying Lindies were 24-5, and like Mitchell, were led by a big man, 6-3, 185 lb. Oran McKinney. In front of a sellout crowd of 5,337 at Vincennes Coliseum, McKinney committed the incredible feat of tipping a jump ball between him and Biff Jones into the bucket from the Lynnville foul circle in the first quarter. But it became evident quickly that the Lindies were overmatched. After a 16-7 lead at halftime, Coach Polson started substituting freely, saving his stars for the final. Notwithstanding, the Bluejackets widened their lead to 31-11 at the third quarter stop. Oddly enough, Roy Ramey, who was held out of action the first three quarters, entered the game in the fourth period,

presumably to test the ankle. Scoring 11 points in five minutes of action gave the sophomore star a convincing clean bill of health, as Mitchell rolled to victory, 47-27.

The semistate final would slate Mitchell against Washington. The Hatchets sported an 18 game winning streak, and had fashioned a 25-4 overall mark under second-year coach Marion Crawley's tutelage. They had the size to match-up with Mitchell, and were a consensus choice of the hoop experts of the period to be southern Indiana's final four representative before the tournament began. Four Hatchets would eventually star in college; Leo 'Crystal' Klier (Notre Dame), Jim Riffey (Tulane), Leroy 'Hook' Mangin (Indiana) and Art Grove (DePauw), plus stout 6-4 Rufus Arnold was their leading scorer. Washington's power would later show with back-to-back state titles in '41 and '42. But the intangibles were on the side of the Cement City crew on that fateful Saturday night in Vincennes. While Mitchell had breezed, and rested their regulars against Lynnville in the opener, Washington had the disadvantage of fighting a war in the second afternoon game. At one point trailing 20-9, The Hatchets had to pull out all the stops to nip underdog Bloomington, 32-30. The main rap on Washington's outfit was that they lacked depth. Only a few hours of rest, and a twist of fate would heighten that problem at night. Sophomore lead guard Art Grove became sick between sessions (later diagnosed as appendicitis). Contrary to several historical accounts which state Grove sat out the game, possibly costing the Hatchets what might have been the first of three straight state championships, he only sat out the first half, and actually did play ill the majority of the second half against Mitchell.

Fatigue was not a factor early, as Washington lead 9-3 at the first quarter stop, and 16-9 at halftime. But big Biff Jones took over for Mitchell in the second half, rebounding with a vengeance and knocking in seven straight points, knotting the score at 17-17. After a Howard Hutton hoop, Rufus Arnold's bucket, the Hatchets first fielder after a fifteen-minute drought, tied the contest at 19-19. With 30 seconds left, Mitchell's Duane Conkey was fouled, made his first free throw, and then elected to inbound the

ball, rather than attempt a second. The Bluejackets ran out the clock, winning 20-19.

Mitchell's opponent at the state finals would be Fort Wayne South. While the Washington win was a surprise, beating the #1 ranked 25-3 Archers would be an upset of epic proportions. It was. As Cliff Johnson adroitly details in his Fort Wayne South chronicle, both teams shot horribly. Whether it was a bad case of stage fright or Mitchell's good defense, South Side shot 7 for 71 from the floor. Comparatively, in their two semistate victories (Garrett and New Castle), the Archers shot a respectable (for the time) 32 percent for the day. In victory, Mitchell hit only 9 of 63, which incredibly was a bit better than they shot in the Washington upset (7 of 62). The 23-20 win was not one for the ages, but nonetheless put Mitchell in the championship game against Hammond Tech.

The set-up that Mitchell benefited from the week before contributed to their downfall in the final. Coming back less than four hours after winning the second afternoon game, the Bluejackets ran out of gas. After an 8-7 first quarter deficit, Mitchell would score only two field goals in the middle quarters, and the lead-legged Lawrence County crew committed a state final record (at the time) 18 fouls while chasing the fresher Tech quintet, and never seriously challenged. The 33-21 defeat drew the curtain on a 25-6 campaign, the finest season in Mitchell basketball history.

The Hammond Tech-Mitchell match stands nearly unique today. It pitted two schools making their only championship game appearance. In the 87-year history of the single class tournament, this happened only three times: 1915(Thorntown/Montmorenci), 1940 (Hammond Tech/ Mitchell), and 1947 (Shelbyville/TH Garfield). The 1932 New Castle-Winamac and 1997 Bloomington North-Delta games also qualify, but New Castle, Bloomington North, and Delta have appearances in four-class championship games. Another oddity is that both Mitchell and Hammond Tech never advanced past the regional round, except in 1940. Truly, a pair of one-hit wonders who charted in the same year.

### Fort Wayne South Side Archers, the Favorite by Cliff Johnson

Of the four finalists in the 1940 state tournament, just one had been anticipated by the news writers and the Associated Press to get there. Coach Burl Friddle's Fort Wayne South Side Archers had finished the regular season with a fine record of 17-3 against some of the toughest competition in the state. A one-half vote margin in the AP final poll eased South Side into the No. 1 ranking by Feb. 28, just prior to the sectionals. Anderson was half a vote behind at No. 2, so it was virtually a tie for the top spot. The other three entries in the finals came as a surprise to nearly everyone. They consisted of a Hammond Tech team (the ultimate champion) that was generally considered to be a rather average entry from the Western Division of a Calumet-area conference, and two small school underdogs—Lapel and Mitchell.

Small schools, by the way, have appeared in the state finals much more frequently than argued by those who later cited a chronic small-school absence in the finals to support their misguided notions about Indiana needing class basketball. Two small schools appearing in 1940 was a little unusual, but a single small school making the finals since then has not been rare. Batesville pulled it off three years later, and little Flora of Carroll County reached the finals in 1946. Had Flora not made it that year, it was widely believed that the Badgers' nearby rivals, Rossville, a little basketball juggernaut year after year in Clinton County, would have. In fact, Rossville had defeated Flora earlier and had completed its regular season undefeated under coach Larry Hobbs. Mighty-mite Milan not only won the 1954 tournament, but many fans seem to forget that the Indians also got there in 1953. As a junior in high school, I watched Milan play in the 1953 finals at Butler Fieldhouse. After 1954 Milan, there were Springs Valley, Cloverdale, Argos, and Shenandoah, each a small-school finalist before the acceleration toward wholesale consolidations in the 1970s and 80s.

Getting back to the 1940 South Side team, its toughest competition seemed to be local. Fort Wayne's other large schools, Central and North Side, were perennial powerhouses.

Central had reached the final four in 1936 and '37 while South Side won it all in 1938. South Side had gone through its regular 1938-39 schedule with two only defeats, but surprisingly fell to upstart Ossian in the regional. The 1939-1940 season was just as competitive in Fort Wayne. Each team finished with an enviable record, and each took its turn whipping the others during the regular season. Northside was ranked eighth in the AP final poll, but barely survived a battle with Central by three points in the sectional before losing to South Side 32-27 for the sectional championship. Even Fort Wayne Central Catholic had an outstanding team (25-6), winning the national Catholic school championship for the second straight year. The Irish defeated St. Michael's of Santa Fe, N.M., in a thrilling final contest, 35-33. Though Catholic schools had not yet been authorized by the IHSAA to participate in the state tournament (that would change at the beginning of the 1942-43 season), they could schedule IHSAA member schools during the regular season. In fact, a Central Catholic vs. South Side tussle had been staged to a packed house in the South Side gymnasium on Dec. 27, 1939. South Side managed to squeak through to a 34-32 overtime victory. Ralph Hamilton assumed that night's role of hero by sinking both the tying and winning field goals in the extra period.

The 1940 Fort Wayne sectional was a knock-down, drag-out battle, with every ball possession seemingly the key to a victory or defeat. After all the smoke had cleared, South Side had won this hotly contested sectional. By comparison, the Archers' regional and semifinal challenges, apart from one game, proved to be cakewalks. The team had to strain somewhat only against No. 7 AP-ranked New Castle in the finale of the semis, 39-37. Four teams remained as candidates for the state crown, and South Side, as the only ranked team of the four, appeared to be in the driver's seat.

Strange as it might seem, this powerful South Side aggregation, rated No. 1 in the state, had just one starter left over from the previous year. Don Hire was a 6-foot guard who was a member of the 1938 champs, but didn't start until '38-39. Lost from the '38-39 team were stalwarts Bob Bolyard, the school's leading scorer; Jim Glass, the 6-8 center who

dominated the backboards and was second in scoring; Carl Hall, a superlative shooter from the sidelines; and driving Don Beery, who also scored from close in and was the team's defensive ace. In spite of those personnel losses, coach Friddle was high on the team's prospects right from the start of the new season. One of his talents was 5-11 guard Ralph Hamilton, who later went on to lead the Big Ten in scoring while playing for Branch McCracken at I.U. Ralph was voted a consensus All-American. His cousin was Dale Hamilton, a key member of the 1938 South Side champions. Dale and Ralph played professional ball in the '40s. Besides Hire and Hamilton, Friddle had 6-2 forward Carl (Blackie) Braden, 6-2 center Bob Hines, and 6-2 Keith Spiker. That was a plethora of height for those days. His bench was deep, as well, and he freely substituted 6-2 Dick Doermer, 6-0 Ralph Shimer, 6-2 Gus Feistkorn, and 5-8 Leroy Cook and Bryce Augsburg from game to game.

The green-and-white-clad Archers appeared to be primed and ready to meet the final four challenge at Indianapolis on Saturday, March 30. South Side was to play the afternoon's second game against Mitchell, a southern town with a population of around 3,000 in 1940 and with a high school enrollment of 357. The Bluejackets had compiled a record of 24-5 and were led by 5-11 guard Roy Ramey and Bill Jones, a 6-4 center. Duane Conkey, Ramey's 6-foot running mate at guard, was also outstanding and was destined to win the tournament's sportsmanship award. The team was experienced, with strong reserves. Most of its members had won letters for three straight seasons. Their style of play could vary from fast-paced to slow-paced with set plays. Their passing game was generally regarded as one of the best in their part of the state. Still, it was thought they would be no match for the green giants from Fort Wayne.

By now, the Archers' record was 25-3 against major competition from all over the state. Mitchell's regular season games had been essentially limited to teams in their area, such as Huntingburg and Jasper, who were never patsies for anyone. Coach Friddle scrimmaged the Archers hard every evening Monday through Thursday at the Northside gym. A Friday break would serve as needed R-

&-R for the team and have it refreshed for Saturday play. Sounded like a good plan.

Saturday arrived, and after Hammond Tech dropped Lapel 38-36 in a tense nailbiter in the first game, the Archers and Bluejackets took the floor around 3 p.m. From the opening tipoff, each team seemed not to be playing the game it wanted. Mitchell was the first to score on Marvin York's one-handed push shot, but both teams were turning the ball over frequently without scoring during the first quarter. Braden and Spiker each managed a tip-in goal for the Archers on missed shots and Hamilton plunked in one long left-handed basket in the midst of several other field goal attempts, but that was about all the action that spectators saw. The first quarter ended quietly with the score 6-2 Archers and with the crowd puzzled by the lack of quality in the play. The second quarter got even worse. The Archers fired 20 times at their goal without success. Hamilton's four free throws were their only points, while Conkey and Jones combined for a similar four points for Mitchell. The half ended at 10-6, with Fort Wayne still ahead but baffled by the inaccuracy of its shooters. Mitchell seemed lackadaisical on offense and was also missing whatever shots it attempted.

In this bewildering game, the score narrowed to 15-14 Archers at the end of the third period, with Ramey scoring a brace of fielders for the Jackets and Jones connecting once, with two free throws added. The Archers remained cold, but Hamilton and Braden scored to keep them leading by a single point. During the fourth quarter, Bass, Conkey, and Jones all scored for Mitchell, while the Archers remained ice-cold from the field in spite of grabbing most of the rebounds. It was 21-15 Mitchell with time running out. Braden and Hamilton sank field goals and Hines made a free throw, but Mitchell countered with free throws by York and Wayne Bass, and it was all but over. Hire and Braden each put up desperate shots before the gun, but neither registered. The final score was 23-20 Mitchell.

This game was a disappointment to most spectators and essentially a display of shooting ineptitude by both teams. The Archers connected on only seven of 71 field-goal attempts (less than 10 percent accuracy), while

Mitchell didn't scorch the nets either, ringing up nine of 63 (14 percent). Mitchell's shooting floundered again in the final game with Hammond and the Bluejackets lost 33-21.

The South Side Archers were in the final four again in 1958 (state champions) and 1967.

### **Hammond Tech Tigers and the Benefits of a Favorable Draw by Tom White**

By the end of the 1939-40 season, if you told anyone that Hammond Tech would make it to the final four, you would have been laughed out of "the Region" and probably out of the state. They weren't even one of the top four teams in the Region. They were tied for third with four other teams in the 10-team Western Division of the NIHSC (Northern Indiana High School Conference).

#### **NIHSC Standings**

Western Division	W-L
Gary Lew Wallace	11-4
EC Washington	11-4
Gary Froebel	9-6
Gary Emerson	9-6
Whiting	9-6
Hammond Tech	9-6
Valparaiso	7-8
Gary Horace Mann	6-9
Hammond	4-11
EC Roosevelt	0-15

Hammond Tech started the season with victories over three not-too-tough opponents - Gary Roosevelt, Thornton Fractional, and Hammond High. The Tigers then dropped four in a row to Whiting, EC Washington, Gary Wallace, and Gary Emerson. They defeated Valparaiso by a point, and that sent them off on a seven-game winning streak, with victories over EC Washington and Gary Froebel, two of the top teams of the Region. Toward the end of the year, Froebel pounded the Tigers 49-35, and after defeating South Bend Washington and Hammond, Tech ended the season with a one-point loss to Gary Mann and a record of 12-6.

Hammond Tech generally had a seven-man rotation that switched to six during the tournament. The bulk of the scoring was done by Robert Kramer, 6-foot forward; Stanley Shimala, 6-3 center, and Mike Bicanic, 6-1 guard. John Gaul, 5-9 forward, and John Thomas, 5-11 guard, rounded out the starting five. They

were coached by Lou Birkett, who had moved over from Hammond Clark a couple of years earlier.

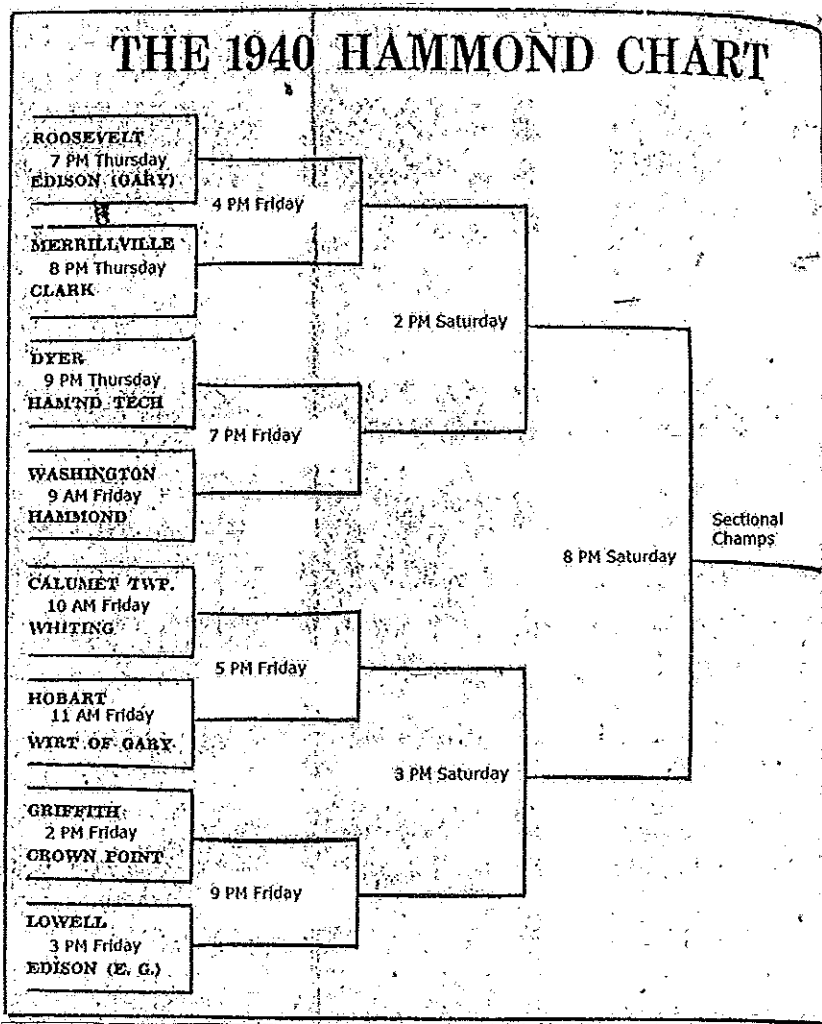
Hammond Tech was not the favorite to win the Hammond sectional. The Tigers had never won a sectional since they started playing in the tournament in 1928, so why expect them to win now? EC Washington was the favorite, but Whiting, Tech, Hammond, and Hammond Clark were also potential winners. EC Washington had the worst draw of the sectional (see chart, next page). They had a 9 a.m. Friday game against Hammond, their perennial tournament rival regardless of the records, and a 7 p.m. Friday night game against Thursday night's Hammond Tech/Dyer winner. After playing a close game 24-23 against Hammond, EC Washington didn't have enough gas left in the tank to defeat Hammond Tech and lost 36-28 that same night. Hammond Tech edged Hammond Clark 31-29 in the early Saturday game and Whiting 40-35 Saturday night to win the Hammond Sectional.

In the Valparaiso Sectional, Gary Froebel defeated Gary Wallace in the Saturday afternoon game 29-21 and Gary Mann in the championship game, 17-15. So one of the top two teams from Gary went on to the regional round.

In the Michigan City sectional, LaPorte, a top-5 ranked team, waltzed through three opponents before narrowly defeating Michigan City 36-34 in the championship game.

In the Mishawaka Sectional, which fed into the Plymouth Regional and then into the Logansport Semifinal, Mishawaka and South Bend Central were the heavy favorites. Mishawaka lost in an early round and South Bend Riley edged Central in the championship game 33-31, so Riley emerged as the surprise victor.

The Gary regional contained the Hammond Tech Tigers (16-6), the Gary Froebel Blue Devils (19-7), the LaPorte Slicers (22-4), and the Brook Purple Aces (22-3). Brook was a small school from the Rensselaer sectional. Tech was not favored to win the Gary regional, either. The winner of the Froebel/LaPorte game was the favorite. Froebel pounded LaPorte with relative ease 46-29 while Hammond Tech edged Brook 44-41. In the championship game Davage Minor, starting guard for Froebel and leading scorer with 41 points at the Valparaiso



upset Fort Wayne South 23-20. In the championship game, Tech played exceptional defense (or maybe Mitchell's poor shooting just continued) and took a 15-9 halftime lead to 21-11 after three quarters. Mitchell was never able to close that gap and lost 33-21. Hammond Tech became the first northwest Indiana team to win the state championship.

So with favorable draws in the sectional and regional, a timely injury in the regional, and a couple of semifinal and final upsets that fed into Tech's slot in the brackets, Hammond Tech becomes the state champions. Lucky or not? You be the judge.

*(Author's Note: Herb Schwomeyer in "Hoosier Hysteria" listed Hammond Tech's record at 25-6, whereas I've listed it at 22-6. The difference is that Mr. Schwomeyer listed a Hammond City Tournament with three additional Tech victories, whereas I couldn't find any evidence that the city tournament took place in 1940. The corrected record is on page 9.)*

### Polling

There was remarkably little polling information reported in the newspapers in 1940. I was able to find one poll about a month before the end of the season.

#### February 1, 1940 AP Poll

	W-L
1 FW South	14-1
2 LaPorte	14-3
3 Rushville	13-3
4 Huntington	13-3
5 FW North	10-3
6 Auburn	10-3
7 Martinsville	13-4
8 Washington	13-4
9 Muncie Burris	13-4
10 EC Washington	9-3

In the sixth annual AP poll the sportswriters voted on who they thought would be the state champion. Their voting was as follows.

	Votes
FW South	9.5
Anderson	9.0
Marion	6.0
Washington	3.0
SB Central	1.0
Gary Wallace	1.0
Kokomo	1.0
New Castle	1.0
FW North	0.5

Sectional, sprained his ankle early in the second quarter and scored four points as Tech edged Froebel 26-25.

Hammond Tech, now 18-6, made it to the Logansport Semifinal where the Tigers were the slight favorite. Their first game opponent was the South Bend Riley Wildcats, at 19-7 a surprise winner from the Mishawaka Sectional, who had also won a relatively weak Plymouth Regional. Tech dispatched them 33-23. The other two teams of this weak semistate were the Logansport Berries, at 16-11, coached by Cliff Wells, and Lafayette Jefferson at 15-8. Logansport defeated Lafayette 31-30 and Tech beat Logansport 39-33 in the championship to put Tech into the final four.

In the other three semifinals, there were two major upsets and the tournament favorite advanced to the final four. At the Vincennes Semifinal championship game, the Mitchell Bluejackets (22-5) upset the highly regarded Washington Hatchets (22-4), coached by Marion Crawley, by a score 20-19. Crawley lost the services for

most of the game of starting guard Art Grove to appendicitis. In the Anderson Semifinal, small school Lapel (20-5) edged a strong Rushville (21-4) team 34-33. Lapel then beat North Vernon 42-25 in the nightcap to make it to the final four. The Archers had a relatively easy game with Garrett, winning 45-35, but had a more difficult time with New Castle in the championship game, skimming by, 39-37.

The stage was now set: Hammond Tech (20-6) vs. Lapel (22-5) in the first game with Fort Wayne South (25-3) vs. Mitchell (24-5) to follow. By a break in scheduling, Tech got the small-school opponent, Lapel, in much the same way as the Tigers got the small-school opponent, Brook, in the Gary Regional.

Tech extended its 21-19 halftime lead to 35-23 after three quarters. Lapel was down 38-31 with two minutes left, but after a field goal and three free throws, the Bulldogs got within two, only to lose 38-36.

In the second game with both teams shooting horrendously, Mitchell

Team Rosters & Photos

**Lapel Bulldogs**

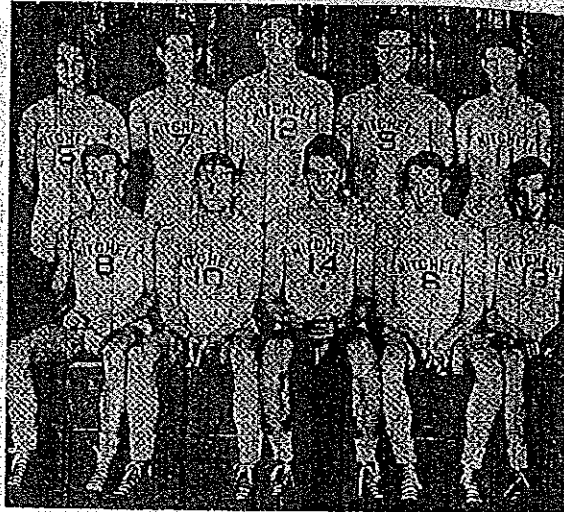
Coach: Herman Hinshaw		enroll. 219		
	Pos.	Ht.	Wt.	Cl.
Elmer Anderson	F	6'	173	Sr.
Keith Barnhizer	F	6'	163	Sr.
Trevor Whetsel	G	6'2"	165	Sr.
Halfred Males	G	5'7"	125	Jr.
Gene Mills	G	5'11"	165	Jr.
Wayne Jarrett	F	6'	155	Jr.
Ward Shetterly Jr.	F	5'8"	144	Jr.
Junior Burke	C	6'1"	178	So.
Robert Lewis	G	5'11"	155	Fr.
Delbert Hershberger	G	5'9"	160	Sr.



Lapel Bulldogs  
 Back Row - Coach H. Hinshaw, K. Barnhizer, E. Anderson, T. Whetsel, D. Hershberger, G. Mills, Asst. Coach M. Williams  
 Front Row - H. Males, W. Shetterly, R. Lewis, W. Jarrett, J. Burke

**Mitchell Bluejackets**

Coach: Henry V. Polson		enroll. 357		
	Pos.	Ht.	Wt.	Cl.
Howard Hutton	F	6'	158	Jr.
Martin York	F	6'	155	So.
Bill Jones	C	6'4"	178	Sr.
Roy Ramey	G	5'11"	155	So.
Duane Conkey	C	6'	158	Sr.
Kenny Burton	F	5'10"	160	So.
Wayne Bass	F	6'2"	170	Sr.
Charles Lewis	C	6'1"	205	Jr.
Bryan Ellis	G	5'11"	156	Jr.
Howard Sanders	G	5'10"	160	Jr.



Mitchell Bluejackets  
 Front Row - K. Burton, R. Ramey, B. Jones, D. Conkey, M. York  
 Back Row - H. Sanders, H. Hutton, W. Bass, C. Lewis, B. Ellis

**Fort Wayne South Side Archers**

Coach: Burl Friddle		enroll. 1917		
	Pos.	Ht.	Wt.	Cl.
Keith Spiker	F	6'2"	165	Sr.
Carl Braden	F	6'2"	156	Sr.
Bob Hines	C	6'2"	172	Jr.
Ralph Hamilton	G	5'11"	155	Sr.
Don Hire	G	6'	180	Sr.
Ralph Shimer	F	6'	172	So.
Dick Doermer	F	6'2"	172	Sr.
Bryce Augsbürger	F	5'8"	142	Jr.
Gust Feistkorn	C	6'2"	165	Jr.
LeRoy Cook	G	5'8"	168	Sr.



Fort Wayne South Side Archers  
 A Wearin' of the Green  
 Top Clover Leaf - L. Cook (L), R. Hamilton (C), R. Shimer (R)  
 Left Clover Leaf - B. Hines (TL), D. Doermer (BL), C. Feistkorn (R)  
 Right Clover Leaf - K. Spiker (TR), D. Hire (BR), B. Augsbürger (L)  
 Center - C. Braden  
 Bottom - Coach B. Friddle

**Hammond Tech Tigers**

Coach: Lou Birkett		enroll. 1397		
	Pos.	Ht.	Wt.	Cl.
Stanley Shimala	C	6'3"	180	Jr.
Robert Kramer	F	6'2"	15	Jr.
John Thomas	G	5'11"	155	Sr.
Mike Bicanic	F	6'2"	170	Sr.
John Gaul	G	5'9"	147	So.
Richard Haack	F	6'2"	180	Jr.
Joe Abatie	G	5'11"	160	Jr.
Robert Haack	C	6'1"	165	Sr.
Richard Smith	F	6'	165	Sr.
John Kielbowicz	G	5'10"	160	Sr.



Hammond Tech Tigers  
 Front Row - J. Thomas, Richard Haack, S. Shimala, Coach L. Birkett, R. Kramer, M. Bicanic, J. Gaul  
 Back Row - Principal Benson, J. Kielbowicz, R. Smith, Bob Haack, J. Abatie, Faculty Mgr Zimmerman



## Team Schedules &amp; Records

<b>Lapel Bulldogs</b>		<b>Mitchell Bluejackets</b>		<b>Fort Wayne South Archers</b>		<b>Hammond Tech Tigers</b>	
Middletown	41 - 21	Bedford	21 - 23	Kendallville	34 - 25	EC Roosevelt	32 - 18
Wilkinson	44 - 18	Oolitic	13 - 15	Bluffton	34 - 24	Thornton Fractional (IL)	36 - 25
Summitville	35 - 27	Bloomington	26 - 21	Vincennes	24 - 20	Hammond	36 - 33
Pendleton	29 - 19	West Baden	31 - 9	Connersville	39 - 23	Whiting	16 - 24
Fortville	58 - 30	North Vernon	26 - 23	Muncie Burriss	39 - 26	EC Washington	25 - 30
Markleville	28 - 20	Jasper	29 - 31	Gary Horace Mann	36 - 22	Gary Lew Wallace	32 - 37
Muncie Burriss	40 - 53	Petersburg	34 - 28	FW Central Catholic	34 - 32	Gary Emerson	38 - 45
Morristown	37 - 29	Salem	31 - 25	FW North	33 - 30	Valparaiso	30 - 29
Alexandria	39 - 45	Bedford	31 - 24	Gary Froebel	26 - 24 ot	Gary Horace Mann	32 - 29
Yorktown	56 - 39	Orleans	35 - 23	Hartford City	50 - 19	EC Roosevelt	47 - 34
<b>* Madison County Tournament</b>		<b>*Tourney</b>		Auburn	41 - 25	Hammond Clark	31 - 21
* Markleville	23 - 35	*Martinsville	34 - 29	FW Central	47 - 37	Gary Froebel	26 - 21
Pendleton	25 - 29	*Bloomington	41 - 33	Connersville	36 - 32	EC Washington	35 - 32
Middletown	29 - 27	Paoli	39 - 25	Elwood	26 - 28	Valparaiso	41 - 31
Frankton	53 - 30	Seymour	30 - 32	Huntington	59 - 23	Gary Froebel	35 - 49
Lebanon	37 - 48	French Lick	40 - 18	FW North	34 - 38	SB Washington	45 - 39
Monrovia	45 - 40	Oolitic	25 - 21	Kokomo	30 - 23	Hammond	29 - 25
Yorktown	45 - 42	Paoli	35 - 22	FW Central	44 - 33	Gary Horace Mann	27 - 28
Fortville	29 - 31	Huntingburg	34 - 40	New Albany	40 - 22	<b>Hammond Sectional</b>	
Noblesville	41 - 31	New Albany	24 - 19	Jeffersonville	13 - 16	Dyer	37 - 21
Anderson St. Marys	43 - 41	Orleans	35 - 24	<b>Fort Wayne Sectional</b>		EC Washington	36 - 28
Markleville	37 - 35	Salem	29 - 22	Lafayette Center	58 - 33	Hammond Clark	31 - 29
<b>Anderson Sectional</b>		Terre Haute Wile	33 - 19	Monroeville	52 - 14	Whiting	40 - 35
Summitville	34 - 31	<b>Mitchell Sectional</b>		Leo	44 - 28	<b>Gary Regional</b>	
Anderson	24 - 23	Williams	34 - 16	FW North	32 - 27	Brook	44 - 41
Alexandria	34 - 33	Bedford	27 - 13	<b>Fort Wayne Regional</b>		Gary Froebel	26 - 25
<b>Indianapolis Tech Regional</b>		Springville	64 - 34	Portland	34 - 26	<b>Logansport Semifinal</b>	
Greenfield	37 - 35	<b>Bedford Regional</b>		Huntington	30 - 24	SB Riley	35 - 23
Indpls. Shortridge	39 - 36	Salem	29 - 24	<b>Muncie Semifinal</b>		Logansport	39 - 33
<b>Anderson Semifinal</b>		New Albany	37 - 31	Garrett	45 - 34	<b>Finals at Butler Fieldhouse</b>	
Rushville	34 - 33	<b>Vincennes Semifinal</b>		New Castle	39 - 37	Lapel	38 - 36
North Vernon	42 - 25	Lynnville	47 - 27	<b>Finals at Butler Fieldhouse</b>		Mitchell	33 - 21
<b>Finals at Butler Fieldhouse</b>		Washington	20 - 19	Mitchell	20 - 23		22-6
Hammond Tech	36 - 38	<b>Finals at Butler Fieldhouse</b>			25-4		
22-7		FW South	23 - 20				
		Hammond Tech	21 - 33				
		25-6					

### Next Year's Winter Boxscore

We apologize for disrupting the flow of your reading, but this was about the only free space to be had in the entire document.

The Winter edition of Boxscore has evolved into a single-topic issue. Last year it was the 15-anniversary issue and this year it's the 1940 final four. We would like to maintain this tradition next year, so we are soliciting the members for ideas for next year's issue. If you liked this issue, suggest another year. Or hopefully you might have another idea that falls into this single-topic category.

It should be noted that by contributing an idea you are affectively volunteering a contribution by you to that idea. I (Tom) have a couple of

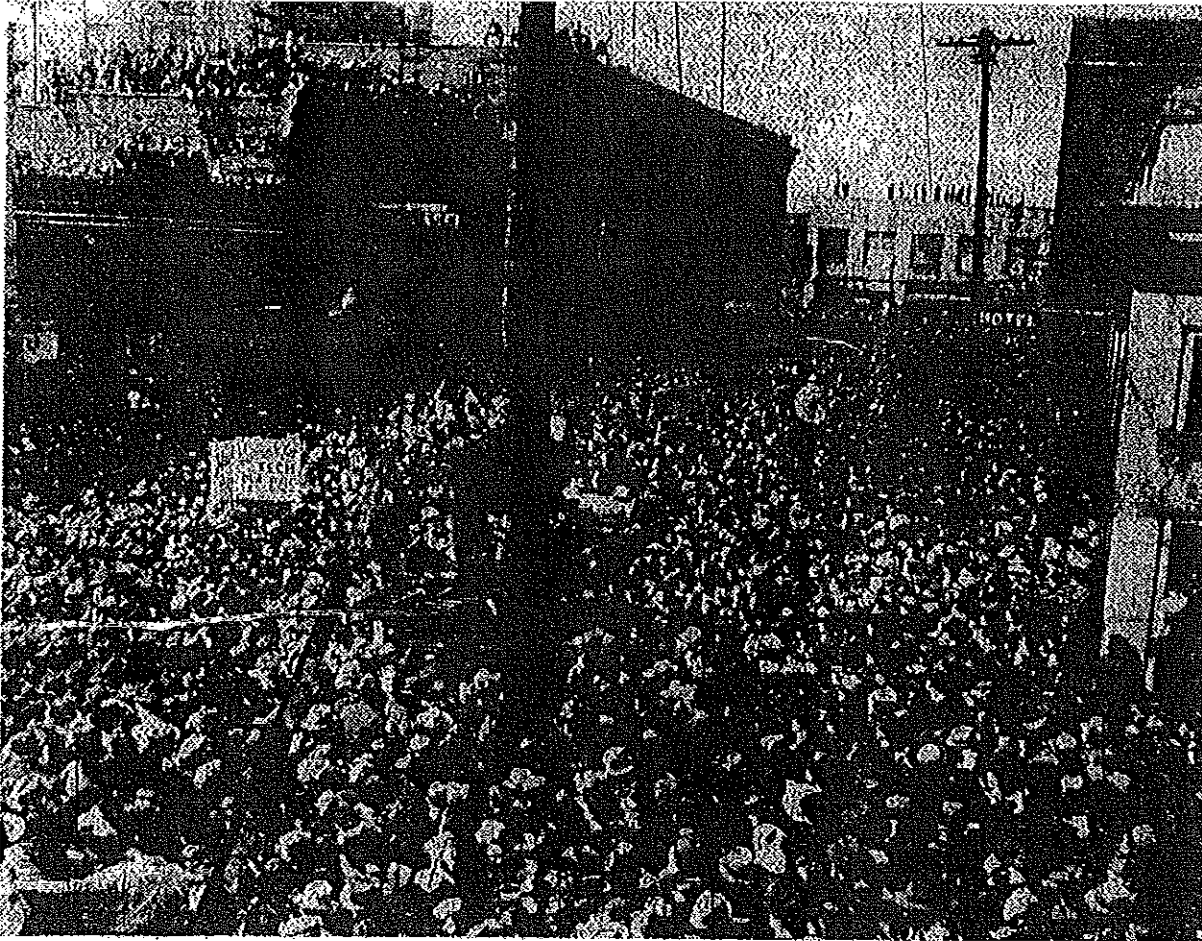
ideas of my own, but would prefer hearing from the membership.

If you have any comments on this issue or any ideas for next Winter's issue, drop us a line. All ideas and comments are welcome.

Tom & Jeff

**Hammond Crowd Photos**

(Note the fans on the rooftops.)



Just a small part of the crowd of more than 50,000 wild and maddened fans who jammed Hammond's downtown area yesterday afternoon is pictured here around the Monon railroad station awaiting the homecoming of those victorious Tiger of Tech. A few minutes after this "shot" was taken the "Tigers Special" rolled in, touching off the biggest and wildest celebration in Hammond since the signing of the armistice. (Photo from the Hammond Times)



Down Hammond's "main drag" atop the city's newest hook and ladder truck go triumphant Tigers of Tech, new Kings of Hoosier prep basketball. For two hours the conquering heroes were paraded before their idolizing and rabid fans, touring every part of Hammond before being whisked away for several hours of peace and quiet and another hearty meal. Most of the players' backs are turned to the camera but looking directly into the lens are Stanley Shimala, left, and Bob Kramer, two of the big guns in Tech's victory march. (Photo from the Hammond Times)

### Mystery School Photo

From the 2009 Fall Issue Mystery School Photo Contest, we have no winner. The school shown was Milford.

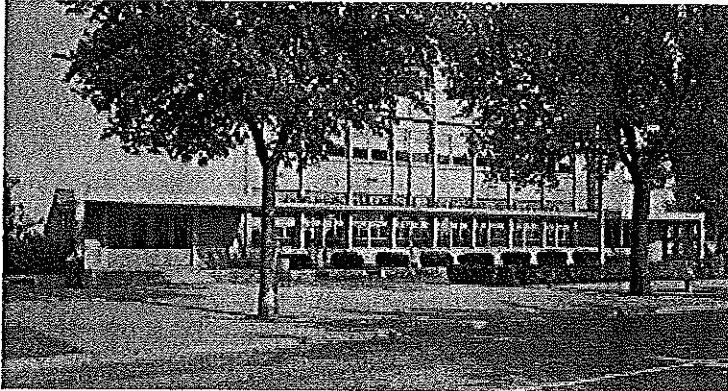
Because of the theme of this issue we have changed the Mystery School Photo Contest. All the Final Four schools are shown on this page. To win, match each school with their designations (TL means Top Left, TR ... Top Right, BL ... Bottom Left and BR ... Bottom Right). Enter the designation and the school and send it or e-mail it to the addresses shown at the right.

In many issues of *Boxscore*, there has been a high school photo (usually from Harley Sheets' postcard collection) for members to attempt to identify. The first person that correctly matches the schools will win a copy of Harley's *Where in the World*, which lists interesting tidbits and all consolidations as of 1983.

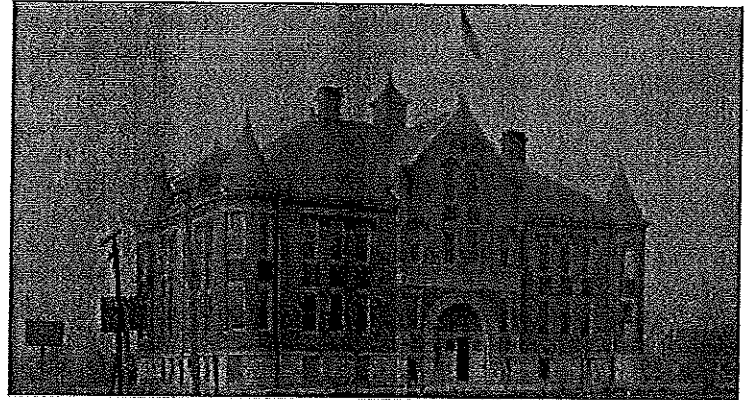
Send guesses to  
**rock2@tds.net** or  
 IHSBHS Mystery Photo  
 710 E. 800 S  
 Clayton, IN 46118

### Thank You

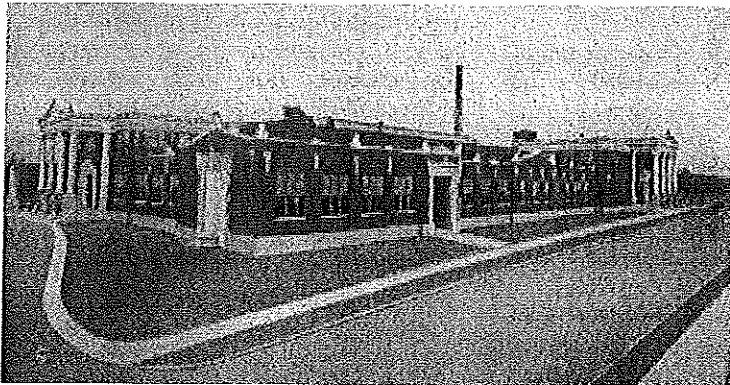
We would like to thank the sportswriters in the following publications for their words, without which most of this issue would have been impossible. Gary Post Tribune, Bedford Times, Hammond Times, Fort Wayne Sentinel, Mitchell Tribune, AP, UP, Fort Wayne Journal-Gazette, and the Anderson Herald Bulletin. We would also like to thank Herb Schwomeyer for "Hoosier Hysteria" and the student editors for the 1940 Lapel Yearbook.



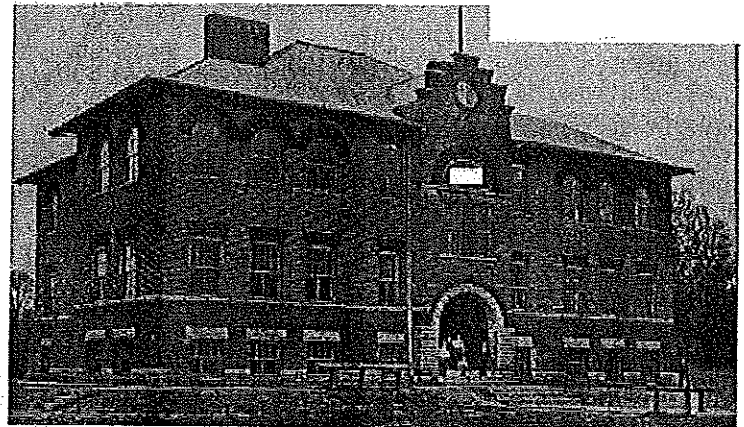
TL



TR



BL



BR

### Long-Time Director of the Basketball HoF Retires by Cliff Johnson

Roger Dickinson, the congenial and ultra-active executive director at the High School Basketball Hall of Fame in New Castle, retired on June 22, concomitant with the Hall of Fame board's spring meeting. Roger had held the top executive position at the hall for 10 years. His everyday presence there will be missed by the Indiana High School Basketball Historical Society (IHSBHS) and many other organizations and individuals who have benefited from the many contributions he made to Indiana's

high school basketball heritage—its history, awards, honors, and other forms of recognition and publicity to which he attended himself and promoted for the past decade. Many of his operational and administrative skills were honed via an earlier career in public education as a teacher, administrator, and district superintendent. It came as no surprise that he was able to transfer those skills to the HoF directorship and serve the position so well.

Roger's prolific and always-interesting composition efforts for the Hall's quarterly history magazine were among his hallmarks. His writing style

and mastery of story-telling always kept readers entertained and informed. He also was adept at encouraging others to write and submit their own stories to the Hall for publication. And if you needed assistance in digging up obscure basketball information from HoF files or archives for your own use, Roger was the first one there for you and ready with a shovel. Aside from his contributory efforts and quality attributes, Roger was a respected, self-styled, refined administrator. Our best wishes, Roger, for some well-earned years in comfortable retirement.

### About the Authors

#### Harley Sheets

Was born in Lebanon, Indiana. Lived there until my mother took me with her to Detroit to work in the war effort during WWII. While in Michigan I became interested in baseball and became a Detroit Tiger fan, thus a Yankee hater. My favorite baseball player is Al Kaline. After the war, I returned to Lebanon with very little interest in basketball. However, I was practically forced to play the game. Soon I realized it was the Hoosier thing to do. I worked my way through the system and was able to be a two-year starter in baseball, basketball and football. I consider my two seasons as a varsity basketball player for the Lebanon Tigers as two of the most enjoyable years in my life. I then attended Ball State for two years before flunking out because of some immaturity issues. I wanted to teach geography and history. Therefore, not applying myself to the task at hand and not achieving this goal has been a big disappointment. Soon thereafter I served in the Marine Corps.

English has never been a favorite subject. I certainly would have paid more attention, had I have known that I was going to be writing stories in Boxscore. Thank goodness for computer word processing, spell checking, et al. On the other hand, I am not an electronic age person. I have a computer, but no cell phone, cable TV, iPod, or other such gadgets.

Things I like. My favorite two movies are "Casablanca" and "Mrs. Miniver". My favorite song is "As Time Goes By". I'm not that musically inclined. The only musical instrument I can manipulate is my player piano. For some reason I like dancing. My favorite music genres are swing and Dixieland (I despise rap). My favorite bandleader is Lawrence Welk. I watch him every Saturday night. My favorite food is spaghetti, pizza and my wife's peach cobbler. Winston Churchill, Franklin Roosevelt and Harry Truman are my favorite statesman. Two of my favorite quotations come from two of them. During a dinner party an uppity English lady sarcastically said, "If I were your wife I'd poison your soup". Winston replied, "Madame, if you were my wife I'd eat it". A young man once urged Truman to, "Give 'em hell!" Truman's retort, "I don't give 'em hell, son. I just tell the truth about them and they think it's hell!!!"

#### Rocky Kenworthy

I live with my beautiful wife Dorene in the country, south of Clayton and north of Hazelwood. I farm in Hendricks and Morgan Counties, largely because I'm not smart enough to do anything else. I think I owe my love of the game of basketball, and basketball history to my father, who could tell you who made the third basket in the Monrovia/Gosport game in 1932. I think my mind works similarly. Most winter Friday and Saturday nights, I'm at a gym somewhere in Indiana, because you never know when or where you might find the perfect high school basketball game.

#### Cliff Johnson

Clifford Johnson is a retired university administrator and astronomy lecturer who occasionally writes articles concerning the history of Indiana high school basketball and of major college sports. Cliff was active in sports at Western High School in Howard County and graduated in 1954 as the school's all-time leading scorer in basketball with 932 points. Following the 1997 season he was still ranked fifth on the Panthers scoring list.

Purdue University, a short 35 miles west of Johnson's hometown of Russiaville, was his choice for a degree in higher education. While there, he participated with the Boilermakers' varsity basketball and track teams. In January 1960 he was awarded a bachelor's degree in science and economics.

Following graduation, Johnson was hired by his alma mater for a few years as a business administrator. Concurrently, he worked on advanced degrees. In 1966 he moved west to assume administrative and teaching responsibilities with the University of California at Davis and California State University. In 2003, he retired with honors from a 43-year career in higher education.

Since then, Cliff has remained active in academic and athletic history pursuits, keeping abreast of the latest developments in astronomy while also doing volunteer work for the NCAA, IHSBHS, and the Indiana HoF. While enjoying the high desert of southern California in retirement, he still recalls with fondness his earlier years in Indiana. He is an outspoken critic of class basketball but is dedicated to continuing research on Indiana basketball's golden age. Through his connections with IHSBHS and the HoF,

Johnson hopes to help preserve the history and tradition of Indiana high school basketball as it once was.

#### Tom White

If you asked my friends about me, they would tell you that I think too much, I am opinionated, but I care about them and the topics I write about. Guilty on all counts. The topics I'm drawn to are certain aspects of Indiana basketball: the class system, charter schools, tournament structure, tournament attendance drop, rivalries and what type of tournament I would create if given the opportunity. Since most of these require a fair amount of analysis, they fit perfectly into my analytical nature. I think intuition is an important aspect of analysis and I use it extensively. I enjoy conversations (or e-mails) with those who have different opinions than mine. I'm not competitive, just analytical. I'm not averse to expressing a contrary opinion, but I find it difficult to express myself with words as a general rule. This comes from the fact that I have more of a mathematician's mind than that of a writer. I believe in the value of education and in common sense. I have always been basketball-handicapped, but have always loved Indiana high school basketball.

#### Bill Tosheff

(See "Recollections" on page 13)

Bill Tosheff was born on June 2, 1926, and graduated from Gary Froebel in 1944 as a four-sport star playing basketball, football, baseball, and track. He enlisted in the Army in '43, but was allowed to finish high school. He was in the service from 1943-1947 with the Army Air Corps B-17's. After he got out, he had a couple of scholarship offers in different sports but was a walk-on at Indiana University through the GI Bill. Bill played for Branch McCracken's Hurryin' Hoosiers from 1949 to 1951. He was drafted in the 4th round by the Indianapolis Olympians (NBA) in 1951 and was co-rookie of the year in '52 before ending his career in 1954 with the Milwaukee Hawks. While playing for the Olympians, he signed with the Indianapolis Indians AAA baseball club. He played seven seasons of baseball in the American Association, Southern Association, Texas League, Big State League, and International League (which included Havana, Cuba). Bill was CEO of a non-profit organization that obtained pension parity for three-

and four-year pre-1965 NBA veterans without pensions, thus eliminating a hole in the NBA's pension plan. (For those interested in the details see "www.xnba.com"). And finally, Bill was elected to Indiana Basketball Hall of Fame in 1998.

### Recollections in Hoosier Hysteria by Bill Tosheff

(Note: The following was extracted from an e-mail Bill sent to me and I thought it so interesting I included it.

For the past three months, I have been dialoging with Dr. Norm Jones. After reading his segment about Indiana vs. Kentucky All-Star series, I thought it might be of interest to add some additional information to his segment. First, while a member of the Indianapolis Olympians-NBA, 1952, I was asked to officiate the All-Star game at the Butler Fieldhouse. The key men were longtime official Dr. Silver...I think...a dentist, who worked many high school games, and Bruce Hale, once a member of the Olympians. I was instructed to wear grey trousers with a shirt that would be provided... stripes, zebra style. My grey trousers were wool and the temperature inside was almost 90 degrees. Hot? You bet!!! I made a call during the game where Kentucky's coach went ballistic. The call was a 10-second violation on advancing the ball across the centerline. I keep thinking the coach was Adolph Rupp, but perhaps it was

Ed Diddle of Western-Kentucky. I threatened a technical foul call on the coach if he didn't set his body back down on the bench...he complied. Indiana won...and why not!!! History relates that the first All-Star game was in 1939 between players from Frankfort High School and a collection of All-Stars with the first Mr. Basketball, George Crowe. Here's the interesting part. George Crowe, is the brother of Ray Crowe, coach of Crispus Attucks High School, with the great Oscar Robertson. Later, after 1951, Bill Garrett, my Indiana University Hurryin' Hoosiers teammate, succeeded Ray Crowe and won another state championship. A book written by Tom Graham and daughter Rachael, titled, "Getting Open", the story of Bill Garrett, the first Negro to play in the Big Ten Conference, is now on sale. Back to George Crowe. George is still alive, 88 years old, and living just outside of Sacramento, California in Gold River. In the final shooting of a documentary titled, "On the Shoulders of Giants," written by Kareem Abdul-Jabbar, with B-Train Films of New York City, I found George Crowe and started to dialog with him. He was one hell of an athlete not only in basketball, but baseball as well -- a pro in the Cleveland Indians baseball system ... first baseman ... even played for the Indianapolis Indians of the American Association. Jabbar's story is a historical experience of the first all

black pro basketball club based in Harlem, New York City, called the New York Renaissance-The Rens. In the first World Basketball Tourney in Chicago in 1939, founded by the Chicago Herald American newspaper, the Rens defeated the Oshkosh club for the championship. The last year of the tournament saw George Crowe playing for the Rens. He also made appearances later with the Harlem Globetrotters. In summation, George and I were filmed as part of the documentary, which will be released in November 2009. Even more bizarre, is the fact that at the age of 14½, living in Gary, Ind., I often played pickup basketball on Saturday mornings at the 11<sup>th</sup> & Madison Street National Guard Armory. The winter of 1939 was brutal. In March of that year, a Saturday morning, cold with snow flurries, I once again went to the armory. This time, a group of all black players were running through plays at one end of the court. One of the players asked if I wanted to "run" against their club...why not. They played a style known as "hot potato" where there was no dribbling, just passing the ball all over the court. These were the Rens, who practiced for the next day's game, Sunday in Chicago...which they won beating the Oshkosh team in the finals. Funny how things develop in life, all because of Indiana's national game.

### The Statistical Corner

by Leigh Evans

#### Most Points Scored in a Quarter by Individual Player

(B)	32 Ed Chickadaunce - Prairie Creek vs. Jasonville 1959-60
(B)	32 Don Strong - Lima Twp. vs. Flint 1956-57
(B)	27 Leroy Gamble - Gary Froebel vs. Hammond Clark 1956-57
(B)	25 Tyler Koch - Winchester vs. Tri 2008-09
(B)	25 Jeff Williams - Logansport vs. Kokomo Haworth 1976-77
(B)	24 Tyler Zeller - Washington vs. Vincennes 2007-08
(B)	23 Larry Stone - Howe vs. Gary West 2007-08
(B)	23 Joe Zimmerman - Gary Wallace vs. Valparaiso 1952-53
(B)	22 Bruce Grimm Jr. - Rochester vs. Whitko 2008-09
(B)	22 Jack Werremeyer - Holland vs. Dale 1971-72
(G)	37 Tina Potter - Tri vs. Morton Memorial 1976-77
(G)	22 Leslie Wade - Loggootee vs. Rivet 1990-91
(G)	21 Kylee Hamilton - Indian Creek vs. Speedway 2006-07
(G)	21 Skylar Diggins - SB Washington vs. Elkhart Cent. 2008-09
(G)	20 Skylar Diggins - SB Washington vs. FW Luers 2008-09
(G)	19 Mandi Johnson - Crawfordsville vs. Danville 2008-09

#### Most Points Scored in a Quarter by Team

(B)	47 Arlington (Rush Co.) vs. Laurel 1957-58
(B)	46 Columbus N. vs. Bloomington S. 2002-03
(B)	45 White's vs. Huntington Catholic 1984-85
(B)	44 Jeffersonville vs. Floyd Central 2008-09
(B)	44 West Lafayette vs. Frontier 1987-88
(B)	43 Bosse vs. EV Christian 1985-86
(B)	43 Holland vs. English 1969-70
(B)	42 Pike vs. Decatur Central 2000-01
(B)	41 Floyd Central vs. Seymour 1970-71
(B)	40 Borden vs. Henryville 2006-07
(B)	40 Jeffersonville vs. Clarksville 1992-93
(B)	38 Cascade vs. Southmont 1984-85
(G)	49 Martinsville vs. New Castle 1997-98
(G)	48 Kokomo vs. Tipton 1992-93
(G)	40 Jeffersonville vs. Jennings Co. 2005-06
(G)	39 Jeffersonville vs. North Harrison 1991-92
(G)	39 Wabash vs. Fairmount 1929-30

If you know of any instances of larger quarter scores, contact Leigh Evans at [HickoryHusker@sbcglobal.net](mailto:HickoryHusker@sbcglobal.net).

### — Doctor's Orders by Roger Robison

A quartet of books, published from 1978 to 2006, recount the golden age of single-class basketball 50 years ago. These may be available at your local library and all can be purchased at amazon.com for \$2 to \$15 + S & H, used.

(1) "The Golden Age of Indiana H.S. Basketball (1945-59)" by Gregg Guffey, 2006, is a marvelous recapitulation of the tournaments, and especially the sweet 16, from 1945-59. It is loaded with pictures of small-town teams, not just the perennial powers. In addition to the small schools making the sweet 16, there are team pictures of schools winning their first and only sectional. Featured are the 1951 Glenn Pirates with the Session brothers; the 1954 Montezuma Knoblett brothers; Flora's Final Four in '46; South Bend Riley's runner-up in '45; Winslow's Eskimos going 83-8 with Dick Farley (1947-50); Auburn's Jim Schooley ('49) and their four trips to the sweet 16 in 1949-52; Lloyd Bateman at Plainville in '58 setting the scoring record; Sharpie and the Black Cats 1953-57; Pat Klein at Marion '50; Jumping Johnny Wilson at Anderson '46; Entee Shine at S.B. Central in '49 & '50; Ernie Hall & Bob Masters at Lafayette '48, and more. Text and great pictures detail the sweet 16 "peoples choices" during this era: Oxford, Hope, Linton, Gas City, Portland, Culver, Brookston, Chester Twp., Richland Center, Edinburg, Mississinewa, Sheridan, Switz City, Rossville, N. Judson, Tell City, Odon, and Bainbridge. A ton of memories for old timers (\$10+ used).

(2) Guffey also penned "The Greatest Basketball Story Ever Told: The Milan Miracle (1953 & 1954) Then and Now," 1993 (\$5.26+ used). A great account of everyone's favorite argument for single class basketball, another lost cause for people protesting Interstate 69 and fluoridated water. Milan had a population of 1277 in 1953-54, a 1,000-seat gym, and 50 boys trying out for the team.

(3) A similar story is found in Hebron, the 1952 Illinois state champions. Hebron had an enrollment of 98, with 42 boys total. They were 26-2 in '51 and 35-1 in '52. After taking the title, the Judson twins (Paul and Phil) played at the University of Illinois. Bill Schulz and Ken Spooner

played at Northwestern, while Don and Jim Wilbrandt went to Valparaiso.

The Hebron story is well told in the book "Once They Were Giants" by Scott Johnson and his wife, Julie Kistler, 2002. This book makes for a great comparison to the Milan Miracle and is highly recommended (\$2.00+ used).

(4) "The DuSable Panthers, The Greatest, Blackest, Saddest Team from the Meanest Street in Chicago" by Ira Berkow, 1978 (\$15.00+ used). This is also a companion book for the Milan Miracle, as it details the 1954 Illinois tournament. I.U. coach Branch McCracken always tried to recruit Indiana boys first and foremost; especially after the 1953 NCAA champs were all Hoosiers (see Mac's Boys by Jason Hiner). However, in 1954, he recruited three Hoosiers and three "Suckers." The latter was a 19<sup>th</sup>- and early 20<sup>th</sup>-century Illinois nickname (see Google), as mysterious as "Hoosier" in origin. The 1954 "Suckers," my classmates at I.U. in 1954/55, were Archie Dees from Mt. Carmel and Chicago's Sweet Charlie Brown and Paxton "Sugar" Lumpkin from DuSable. The DuSable tale makes the Milan Miracle seem like a nursery tale/bedtime story.

Much like the 1951 Attucks team, DuSable was the first major all-black squad to advance in the state tourney. Then, suddenly, here they were in the final game. Add in an ex-con gambler and referee, John Moore, who was able to buy his own tavern in 1955 and was later disqualified as a ref in 1956, and you get a hint of the story line. Mt. Vernon won after DuSable "fouled out." Back home in southern Illinois, their star player and only black, Al Avant, went to the local drug store for a milkshake. He was politely told, "Now, Al, you know we don't serve coloreds here." It was Avant who eliminated Mt. Carmel and Archie Dees in the tournament when he hit two free throws after the game had ended. Neighboring Salem and Benton were some of the infamous "sundown" towns of southern Illinois and Indiana: "all blacks out by sundown." A black man was once arrested in Benton, but rather than keep him overnight in the local jail, he was moved to more tolerant Mt. Vernon! A good read, a great story, and a bargain if you can get a copy.

### Tidbits from Here and There by Harley Sheets

Kyle Neddenriep continues to impress me with his basketball articles in The Indianapolis Star. In the November 21 edition (front page) he reprises Crawfordsville's first and only state championship - also Indiana's first. The article entitled, "A Crowning Achievement" helps to commemorate the 100th year of our Hoosier obsession. Another story that appeared on the front page (October 1) was titled, "Are Sports Powerhouses On the Way?" It delves into the problems confronting the IHSAA concerning charter schools. Quite thought-provoking. I called this to the attention of Boxscore Editor Tom White, and I'm almost certain we'll be hearing more from him on this subject. Then there is the "Revitalizing of Peru's Old Gym" (October 27, page B2). This tells us that the Peru community has made a commitment to prepare and allow the Peru Tigers to play a game in the old Tig-Arena in conjunction with the 100-year celebration. I tried several years ago to get Lebanon High School to do this but to no avail. Now I have recently heard that they are going to do the same thing in old Memory Hall, and I will definitely attend.

Three books that Roger Robison has reviewed in his column have companion stories reprised in previous Boxscores. In a story titled "Three Little Giants" in the Spring 2001 issue, comparisons are made of Milan (IN), Hebron (IL) and tiny, tiny Brewers (KY) on their way to state titles. In the Summer 2003 edition, the controversial Illinois state title game between Mt. Vernon and Chicago DuSable is covered under the title of "Racism In Indiana-Part II." See subheading "Trouble In Illinois."

Another tidbit I noticed was that two of the three defeats Fort Wayne Southside suffered during the regular 1939-40 season came at the hands of Elwood and Jeffersonville. The irony of these two defeats comes from the fact that "Hunk" Francis had coached at Jeffersonville during the 1935 catastrophe that led to his hurried departure. Five years later, he was mentoring the Elwood Panthers, who were participants in the Anderson sectional that the Lapel Bulldogs won on their way to the 1940 Final Four. The unfortunate story of Mr. Francis is told in the Fall '98 issue of Boxscore.