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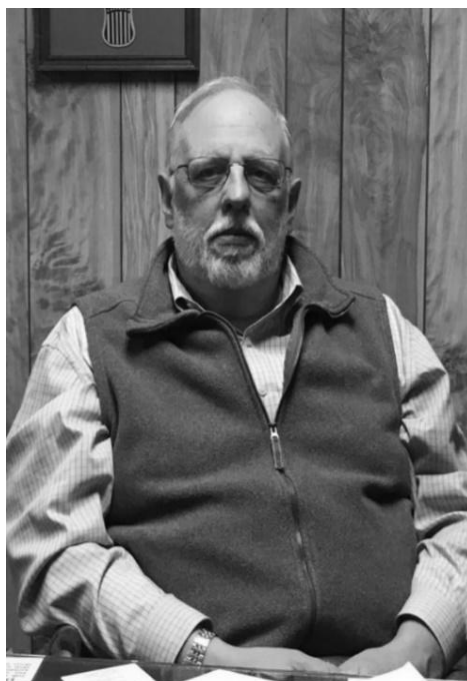
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IHSBHS has a new Secretary

Donald Stuckey was born in Fort Wayne, Indiana, and graduated from Leo High School in 1967, Indiana University in 1971, and Notre Dame Law School in 1974. Has practiced law in Auburn, Indiana, since October of 1974. Currently of-counsel with Mefford & Weber, P.C., 130 East Seventh Street, Auburn, Indiana 46706. As a long-time collector of

Indiana High School Basketball memorabilia, Don was immediately sold on IHSBHS after being introduced to the organization by Harley Sheets. Harley and Don remain friends and get together a few times each year to discuss postcards and Indiana High School basketball. Don can be contacted for IHSBHS matters at djstuckey@gmail.com (260-925-1966).



Don Stuckey, IHSBHS Secy.

Message From the President

This issue will introduce our new secretary, Don Stuckey, who has graciously volunteered to fill this need. The secretary's job is to maintain a current roster of phone numbers, email addresses, and high school affiliations of the membership. PLEASE take a moment and email him that information - djstuckey@gmail.com

Please include both your landline and cell phone numbers. If you are not computer literate, do not fret, we still love you. Just send the data by snail mail to him at 130 E. 7th St, Auburn, IN or phone him at 260-925-1966. If you have a printer you might want to print this out and keep it in a safe place that you, of course, will forget. A membership roster is important to contact members about mailing and billing errors and in soliciting stories for the editor. Please help us keep the roster current.

If you wish an electronic copy of the BOXSCORE, e-mail the Treasurer with your request. For the foreseeable future that will involve receiving both an electronic and a hard copy.
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Thank you! R.F.Robison

Lawrence County Basketball Hall of Fame Inducts First Class

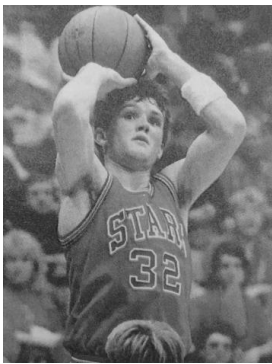
By Jason Flinn

The “Lawrence County Basketball Hall of Fame” was organized in January 2023 in an on-line format. You can visit or JOIN on Facebook. Just enter our name in the search field and you can dive into our rich basketball history of legendary players and coaches!

On March 24th, 2023, we proudly announced our inaugural inductees, the “Class of 2023.”

- Damon Bailey, BNL Stars
- Clarence Brown, Bedford Stonecutters
- Danny Bush (Coach), BNL Stars
- Ralph Holmes (Coach), Bedford Stonecutters
- Marla Inman, BNL Lady Stars
- John Morris, Shawswick Farmers
- Austin “Pete” Pritchett (Coach), BNL Lady Stars

In the days that followed, we shared these individual profiles for each of our inductees.

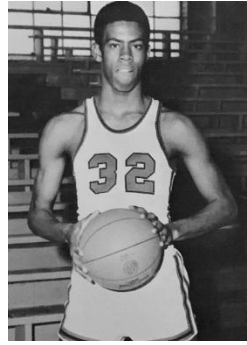


Damon Bailey, BNL Stars ('90)

Damon Bailey was arguably the biggest star in the long history of

Indiana high school basketball. His basketball journey began at Heltonville Elementary and then at Shawswick Junior High, where even though playing up in age he was always the best player on the floor by a wide margin. His growing legend went into over-drive with the inclusion of Bob Knight's trip to scout Bailey while still an 8th-grader at Shawswick in John Feinstein's national best-selling book “A Season on the Brink.” Prior to his freshman season at BNL, Sports Illustrated magazine named Bailey as the top freshman basketball player in the country. Huge crowds followed Bailey and the BNL Stars, at home and away, throughout his high school career. Away games were often moved into larger venues in an attempt to accommodate the demand for tickets. And incredibly, Bailey ensured that the crowds of fans were never disappointed. He produced at an extremely high level throughout his entire career, confirmed by his being named First-Team All-State each year from 1986-87 through 1989-90, and being named as Indiana's Mr. Basketball at the conclusion of his senior year. Bailey's skill, determination, and durability resulted in 3,134 career points, still an Indiana state record 33 seasons after his graduation. But Bailey's greatest accomplishments were those he achieved with his teammates. During his four-year career, the BNL Stars had a combined record of 99 wins against only 11 losses, a win percentage of .900. This included four sectional championships, three regional championships, three semi-state championships, and the 1990 State championship in front of a world-record high school basketball crowd of over 41,000 fans at the Hoosier Dome in Indianapolis.

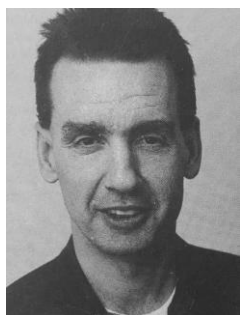
**Clarence Brown,
Bedford Stonecutters
(‘73)**



Clarence Brown starred for the Bedford

Stonecutters from the 1969-70 season through 1972-73. He was a dependable scorer throughout his career, evidenced by the fact that he surpassed 1,000 career points while still in his junior year! In addition to his scoring, he brought excitement and a confident bravado to every Stonecutter basketball game. Especially at home games in The Quarry, playing in front of his many hometown fans! In December of 1972 during Clarence's senior season, the New Albany Bulldogs were one of the top teams in the state when they visited Bedford. The Bulldogs entered the gym with pure swagger, expecting another victory. Clarence and his Stonecutter teammates had other plans. New Albany shot out of the gate fast, shooting a blazing 67% from the field in the first half, holding a 47-38 lead at the break. At the end of three quarters, the Bulldog lead had pushed to 11, leading 57-46. Those in attendance will tell you that the Quarry was never louder than it was in that fourth quarter as Clarence led a comeback win for the ages! He finished with a team-leading 25 points on 10 of 18 shooting from the field, and 5 of 8 from the foul line in the Stonecutters 72-70 victory! The Bulldogs rebounded from the loss and went on to win the state title later that season. But on that one memorable night, when the Bulldogs made their way out of The Quarry,

they were beaten and humbled with shoulders slumped! Clarence averaged over 22 points per game during his senior season, finishing his career with 1,583 points. It was a new Stonecutter and Lawrence County high school scoring record that stood for 15 seasons until broken by Damon Bailey! Clarence and the Stonecutters also proved to be tough in postseason, notching consecutive Sectional championships from 1971 to 1973.

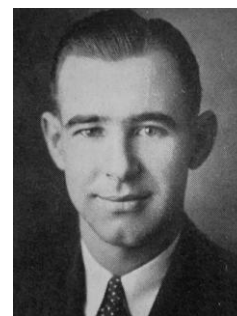


Dan Bush, Head Coach, BNL Stars (1981-93)

Dan Bush was head coach of the BNL Stars for 12 seasons, from 1981 to 1993. Upon accepting the BNL head coaching position, Coach Bush promptly led the Stars to the semi-state in the 1982 State Tournament! It was BNL's second semi-state appearance, and the first since 1976. The BNL Stars under Coach Bush became known for their hard-nosed defensive play, their willingness to scrap and fight for every loose ball, and their commitment to play unselfishly and under-control on offense. The next three seasons each resulted in 14 wins, and all of those teams were crowned as sectional champions! As a matter of fact, when counting the three sectional championships under Coach Mike Sorrells from 1979 - '81, and the next four under Coach Bush, the BNL Boys Basketball program had reeled off seven consecutive

sectional championships! Those seven consecutive sectional championships remain as the longest streak in BNL Boys Basketball school history. Although the Stars of 1985-'86 failed to add another sectional title, they did pick up 17 wins, with several underclassmen who would figure prominently on upcoming state finalist teams showing their potential and promise. The addition of All-State First-Team freshman Damon Bailey to a solid nucleus of returning players resulted in 23 wins against only 4 losses, and a berth in the 1987 State Finals. Although the Stars fell to the mighty Marion Giants in a close game in the semi-final match-up, it was just a glimpse of what was to come for BNL. Coach Bush and the Stars produced a 26-2 record and returned to the State Finals in 1988, but once again fell in the semi-final contest, this time to a powerful Muncie Central team. The Stars fell in the Regional round of the 1989 state tournament to the Floyd Central Highlanders, finishing with a record of 21-3. The Stars bounced back in 1989-90, as Coach Bush and his BNL Stars won the State Title over the previously unbeaten Concord Minutemen. The Stars, who finished with a 29-2 record, played in the state finals before a high school world-record crowd of over 41,000 fans at the Hoosier Dome! As an encore, Coach Bush may have delivered his greatest coaching performance in 1990-91. Following the loss of Indiana Mr. Basketball Damon Bailey to graduation, the new and returning players refused to relinquish their position as an elite program. The Stars finished the regular season with 19 wins and only 1 defeat. One special victory during that season came at BNL Fieldhouse against the #1 ranked Martinsville Artesians as

senior Chad Mills sank the game-winning shot in the final seconds. Although Coach Bush and the Stars bowed out in sectional play, it was yet another fantastic season. The Stars of 1991-92 completed their season with a fine record of 17-5, and the 1992-93 team finished at 16-6. Coach Dan Bush won 226 games and lost 70 over his 12 seasons, including 45 wins in the state tournament. He had an overall win percentage of 76%, and an even better 80% in state tournament play! Mr. Bush coached the BNL Stars to 8 sectional championships ('82-'85, '87-'90), 4 regional championships ('82, '87, '88, '90), 3 semi-state championships ('87, '88, '90), and 1 state championship (1990). Coach Bush was also named the head coach of the 1990 Indiana All-Star team. 30 years after his retirement from coaching, Dan Bush is still the BNL Boys Basketball coach by which all others are measured.



Ralph Holmes, Head Coach, Bedford Stonecutters (1940-1955)

Ralph Holmes, a native of Greene County and graduate of Indiana State Teachers College came to Bedford High School in the fall of 1933. In his first year he became coach of the BHS basketball reserve team and assisted with the Varsity. For the 1940-41 season, Holmes moved up to the varsity head coach position. What followed in the 1940's was the longest sustained run of success in

the history of Lawrence County. Beginning with the team of '41, the Stonecutters won 7 consecutive regional championships, advancing to the Sweet 16 every season through the 1946-47 campaign! After a loss in the '48 regional, Coach Holmes and the Stonecutters once again reached the semi-state in the 1948-49 season. The team of 1942-43 reached the state finals in Indianapolis with unanimous All-State big man John Brennan leading the charge! Many picked the team of '48 to return to the state finals with future NBA-player Jack Turner. However, they were the victims of a regional upset that year. Coach Holmes' final season came in 1954-55. He finished with 214 wins and 123 losses as head coach. Mr. Holmes passed away in 1964 at 57 years of age. His obituary stated that "Ralph D. Holmes, 57, who helped put Bedford basketball on the map in the 1940's as coach of the Stonecutters, died suddenly at his mother's home in Sandborn, Indiana."



Marla (Inman) Eltrevoog, BNL Lady Stars ('92)

Winner. That word may be the best to describe 5'6" sharpshooter Marla Inman! The combination of Marla's considerable skill, tenacity, and hustle equated to nothing short of pure domination throughout her 4-year BNL Lady Stars career. In a

program that counts more 4A state titles and championship game appearances than any other, the Inman-era stands with the McBride-Allen-Bailey era as the most dominant in program history. Consider this. Freshman year (1988-89), 24-1. Sophomore year (1989-90), 25-1. Junior year (1990-91), 29-0. Senior year (1991-92), 26-1. That's a 4-year record of 104-3! A winning percentage of over 97%! And the Inman era accounts for nearly all of the Lady Stars Indiana high school basketball record of 89 consecutive regular season wins! Inman was the team-leading scorer as a sophomore (17.2 ppg), junior (17.9 ppg), and senior (22 ppg), and graduated as the Lady Stars all-time scoring leader with 1,658 points. Inman was a state champion ('91), a 2-time state finalist ('90, '92), and the winner of the Mental Attitude Award ('92). She was also named Indiana First Team All-State, voted as Indiana's Miss Basketball for 1992, and has been inducted into the Indiana Basketball Hall of Fame.



John Morris, Shawswick Farmers ('53)

In the fall of 1949 when 6'3" freshman John Morris laced up his sneakers for his first high school basketball game, his Shawswick Farmers had never won a sectional championship. More than that, NONE of the small county high schools had won a sectional. The Bedford Stonecutters and Mitchell Bluejackets had the advantages of their higher enrollment, and that usually

translated into more good players, more size, more depth, and a more battle-tested roster - having faced tougher schedules throughout the season. In addition, the sectionals were almost always played on Bedford's home court, The Quarry, or on a few occasions at Mitchell's Emerson Gym. For any of the county schools, overcoming these advantages would require a talented and well-coached roster. By 1951, Coach Knofel Fortner's Shawswick Farmers were becoming that kind of team. And their best player and leader was their now 6'5" and powerfully built center, Big John Morris. The Farmers of 1951-52 put together an outstanding regular season, highlighted by their county tourney victory over a strong Oolitic Bearcats team with their own high-scoring big man, Austin Pritchett. The Farmers entered the sectional with a record of 17-4, and then won in convincing fashion over Campbellsburg, Fayetteville, Mitchell, and Orleans to claim the first sectional championship by any of the county schools! A week later, the Farmers season came to an end in a close loss to the Jeffersonville Red Devils. For the 1951-52 Shawswick Farmers, John Morris had been their difference-maker, and he only got better in his senior year of '52-'53! Shawswick continued to pile up wins, including another county tourney victory, and Big John Morris piled up the points. In 24 games, Morris scored 616 points, an average of 25.7 ppg! By mid-season, he surpassed Austin "Pete" Pritchett as the top scorer in the history of Lawrence County, finishing with a final total of 1,385 points. Over 70 years later, he still ranks among Lawrence County's top 10 in scoring. Shawswick was upset by a good

Orleans team in the 1953 sectional, but among Shawswick Farmer alumni, the memories of 1952 and '53 - and Big John Morris - continue to live on!



Austin "Pete" Pritchett, Head Coach, BNL Lady Stars (1982-94)

When "Pete" Pritchett took the reins of the BNL Lady Stars basketball program in 1982, he inherited an experienced roster that included Kelly Fitzgerald, Tina Boruff, Bobbi Jo Lovell, Luanne Sargeant, and Cherie Farrell. The Lady Stars had won the sectional the prior season, but the program had never advanced beyond the regional. That changed, and then some, in year one of the Pritchett era. The Lady Stars advanced all the way to the Final Four in Indianapolis, and then proceeded to take down Indianapolis Howe and Crown Point to win the 1983 State Championship!! Five of the next six seasons, the Lady Stars were crowned regional champions, but then stalled in the semi-state, unable to get back to Indianapolis. That changed in the 1989-90 season as a stacked roster that included Marla Inman, Shannon Cummings, Amy Walker, and Carrie Mount advanced all the way to the state championship game, ultimately coming up just short against a tough Huntington North team. It was the Lady Stars' only loss of the season. Coach Pritchett had perhaps his

greatest team the following season as the 1990-91 Lady Stars went wire-to-wire for an undefeated championship season! The trio of Inman, Walker, and Mount, with Coach Pritchett at the helm, had proven to be unbeatable. As an encore, Coach Pritchett guided the 1991-92 Lady Stars back to Indianapolis, and for the third straight year - with a perfect record! Although they fell just short in the final game, losing to Kokomo by 3 points, Coach Pritchett and the Lady Stars had produced what is arguably the greatest 4-year run in the history of Indiana girls basketball. The 1993-94 season would be his last on the sidelines, and he walked away not only as a 2-time State Champion, but also as a living monument to coaching greatness! His 12-year record as head coach of the Lady Stars included 12 sectional championships, nine regional championships, four semi-state championships, and the 1983 and 1991 State Championships! Coach Pritchett guided the Lady Stars to 55 consecutive victories, and a state record 89 consecutive regular season victories! He coached three Mental Attitude award winners (Cummings, Mount, Inman) and a Miss Basketball (Inman)! Coach Pritchett was also selected as the head coach of the 1985 Indiana Girls All-Stars. His final record included 271 victories, against ONLY 25 defeats! That's a career winning percentage of over 92%! Coach "Pete" was revered as a gentleman, mentor, and friend. Legend is a word that's often overused, but Austin "Pete" Pritchett is a truly legendary figure in the history of Indiana basketball. In 2007, Coach Pritchett was inducted into the Indiana Basketball Hall of Fame.

Book Review – Their Times in Indiana, by Ed Snyder

Editor's note: I became aware of this book through a mutual friend, Steve Gretencord, who assisted on many of the interviews. Ed was able to interview well over a hundred athletes, and selected 44 of the best, who tell their stories of growing up in Indiana and falling in love with the game.

In Ed's words, "Basketball in Indiana has a heritage and history unlike anywhere else. The game was a part of the fabric of the state far before it became a national and international phenomenon. This book celebrates stories that make that history come back to life. The players, coaches, schools and towns of Indiana grew the game of basketball in its state's communities from the ground up. With that in mind, "Their Times In Indiana" and the players featured in it embarked on this project with the goal of giving back the proceeds generated by the book to programs that support today's Indiana youth." All proceeds from this book are donated to YMCA's across Indiana.

The book is only available through www.authorhouse.com. If you'll go there and search for Ed Snyder, you'll find the book. In 654 pages, "Their Times In Indiana" allows the reader to once again feel the passion that gripped the state every winter as thousands of Hoosiers packed high school gymnasiums to watch the games that made Indiana the place where basketball became great.

An excerpt regarding Alan Henderson follows:

Red Taylor, the great coach of the Municipal Gardens AAU team, was one of the coaches who made you feel like you could do anything on a basketball court. He was the first and only coach I ever had who said, "Hey Alan, I'm going to put you out there at 2-guard."

When I asked, "2-guard? Really?" He replied. "Yeah! Go on out there and play 2-guard. You can do it!"

It wasn't that I needed convincing that I could do it. I always thought that I could do anything on a basketball court. I was just surprised to hear it when we were competing in a national tournament. But that was Red.

Red was the type of coach who wanted his guys to learn THE GAME, to learn how to PLAY the game. So, he put you in situations and positions that forced you to learn and, while he was doing it, he gave you all the confidence you needed to know that you could succeed.

Red had a lot of confidence in me and, with that confidence, my game flourished.

I feel like it started in 7th grade. I was playing for the Indy Northside AAU team, separate from Red's Municipal Gardens team. His team had won the state and had qualified for the National AAU tournament and the rules were that he could add up to two players to his roster to take to the nationals.

One guy he wanted was me. Before we even knew each other, he was showing me that he believed in me.

Red taught me a lot of things, but one of the most important was how to play with and against other really good

players. When you joined his Municipal Gardens team, you were playing with many of the state's best players so no longer were you going to get every shot. You had to learn to play together as a team.

But everyone always bought in, and we won a lot of games.

He could definitely get on you, but the things he would get on you about weren't the typical things I was used to hearing from coaches.

For example, Red would get on you if someone threw you a pass that led to a bucket, but you didn't quickly point at them to acknowledge their pass. He'd let you hear it. He wanted everything to be about the team and it made for a great environment to grow as a player.

(Facebook users can find frequent pics and updates by searching for [TheirTimesInIndiana.](#))

2024 State Finals in Review

By Tim Puet

This year's boys basketball state finals, the 114th overall, were notable for a number of firsts.

There were four first-time winners – Fishers in Class 4A, Scottsburg in 3A, Brownstown Central in 2A and Fort Wayne Canterbury Christian in 1A – and two new counties – Jackson (Brownstown) and Scott (Scottsburg) – were added to the list of counties with at least one boys state champion, increasing that number to 46, or half of Indiana's 92 counties.

This also was the first year in which two counties had their first state boys

basketball champions. In 1999, the second year of class basketball, there were three – 3A Plainfield (Hendricks), 2A Westview (Lagrange) and 1A Tecumseh (Warrick).

Fishers won the 4A crown with a 65-56 victory over defending champion Indianapolis Ben Davis which was much closer than the score indicated.

Ben Davis appeared to have Fishers on the run, coming from a 36-30 halftime deficit and holding the Tigers scoreless in the final 3:47 of the third quarter to go up 48-47 at the break. The team's top regular-season scorer, Keenan Garner, threw down a dunk to start the fourth quarter, junior JonAnthony Hall followed with a pair of baskets to put Fishers up 53-48 and the Tigers never trailed again.

Ben Davis looked a little rattled at that point and Fishers expanded the lead to 60-52 with 2:23 left, going on to the championship in its first state finals appearance since 1922, a 102-year gap second only to Morristown's 107 years from 1911-2018. Fishers High School was closed for several years before reopening in 2007 because of the remarkable population growth in Hamilton County, but had not won as much as a sectional since then until this year.

Hall, a prized football recruit with offers from Indiana and Purdue, was a big surprise. He had only made eight 3-pointers all season, but hit a pair of 3's and scored 14 of his game-high 23 points in the first quarter as Fishers took a 19-16 lead at the break. Garner, who is from a military family and came to the U.S. 18 months ago after several years in Germany, had 21 for the Tigers.

The game was a rematch of the season opener, won by Fishers 74-61.

Fishers finished at 29-1, losing only to Carmel, which uncharacteristically lost its opening sectional game. Ben Davis (23-6) was paced by Mark Zackery with 14, K.J. Windham and Ramone Enis with 11 apiece and Mak White with 10. The Giants' Parker Perdue won the Trester award for mental attitude, continuing the unspoken tradition that this honor goes to a member of the losing team.

This was the seventh championship for a Hamilton County school, five of them by Carmel.

Scottsburg was a 67-57 victor. Like Fishers, the Warriors (25-5) won its championship with a strong finish, outscoring South Bend St. Joseph (20-10) 18-7 in the fourth quarter after trailing 50-49 entering the final eight minutes. Scottsburg trailed 57-56 but a 9-0 run put the game away for the Warriors.

Wyatt Zellers scored the key points in that stretch, with a layup with 2:26 left that made it 60-57, followed by a thunderous dunk at 1:50 and a slam by Jack Miller at 1:11 to increase the lead to 64-57. "Once Jack got that dunk, I thought my eardrums busted," Clancy said.

Miller's 32 led all scorers, with Kody Clancy, who was averaging 20.6 points per game, adding 20 and Zellers' 10 for Scottsburg. Junior guard-forward had 15, five below his average, with Trester award winner Jerry Barca adding 12 and Jayce Lee 11 for the Huskies, who were the Indians until this year. Contrasting statistics told a story. St. Joseph dominated the boards with a 35-17

rebounding edge, led by Konieczny with 11, but the Huskies led 16-4 in turnovers and the Warriors had a 23-0 advantage in points from turnovers.

Scottsburg won a girls title in 1989 in the pre-class era. That team was led by Renee Westmoreland, who was Miss Basketball that year. Her sister, Carla, a junior on that team, was a two-time all-stater and is Zellers' mother.

Scottsburg has an outstanding basketball history with 24 sectional titles and its fourth-year coach, Eric Richardson, is a graduate of the school. "I'm not sure I can put into words what winning (a state championship) means to me and to the town," he said. "When I became coach, I hoped to have a team like the ones we had in 1978 and '79 that made it to back-to-back semistates, and now we've gone beyond and completed the dream."

One other interesting thing about Scottsburg is that half of the Warriors' pep band members for this game were adults, including a pastor, a custodian and a judge. That's because the Scottsburg schools were on spring break at the time of the tournament, played a week later than usual because there were NCAA games at Gainbridge Fieldhouse the previous weekend.

Purdue commit Jack Benter, playing guard at 6-6, was touted as a Mr. Basketball candidate and didn't disappoint, scoring 25 points as Brownstown Central (28-4) won 55-36 in a matchup between the state's two top-ranked teams. Benter's 2,549 points rank 11th in state history.

Brownstown, No. 1 for most of the season, took control early, taking a 12-3 lead midway through the first quarter and leading 18-7 at the quarter stop and 31-14 at the half before letting Wapahani back into the game in the third quarter, which ended with the Braves up 38-28.

Jack's father, Dave Benter, has 477 wins in 26 seasons, all at Brownstown. This was his third state championship game, with the Braves losing in 2004 to Jimtown and 2009 to Fort Wayne Bishop Luers.

Brownstown's girls lost to Luers in the 2A championship game a month earlier, making the school the first in that classification to have its boys and girls teams reach the state title matchup in the same year.

Jack Benter had only six rebounds to go with his 25 points and notably drew seven fouls. I think he will need to bulk up more to withstand Big Ten play next season, but he showed what he's capable of with a 30-foot behind-the-back bounce pass to sophomore Micah Sheffer, who caught it and let fire for a 3. That drew lots of noise from the crowd and was the play of the day. His dad called it "one of those 'Oh no! Oh yes!' plays for a coach. He's had so many of those in four years."

Sheffer had 11 points and six rebounds and junior Chace Coomer, who at 6-5 did the most banging under the boards for the Braves, scored 13, including a trio of nice 3's early in the game that helped Brownstown take control.

Dave Benter said maybe he will be able to appreciate the accomplishment of being a champion now that the season's over. "Tournament time is the most miserable time of the year for a coach," he said. "The most rewarding but the most miserable. Every day you're so attuned to getting your team ready to play. It's good that I can be a dad now."

Brownstown's 55 points were about 15 fewer than the Braves usually score, but they were also about 15 more points than the 40.3 points given up per game by Wapahani, the state's top defensive team in 2A.

Isaac Andrews, Delaware County's all-time leading scorer with 2,151 points, won the Trester award and kept Wapahani's Raiders (26-3) in the game with 21 points. Wapahani is a consolidation of Selma and Center high schools near Muncie, and the Raiders' run provided a bright moment following an EF3 tornado on March 14 which was estimated to have damaged half of Selma's structures, but caused no major injuries.

Canterbury defeated Bethesda 48-41 for its first championship and the 11th for an Allen County team. John Parent, a 6-5 senior, led the Cavaliers, playing in their initial state championship game, with 22 points, followed by Devon Lewis with 12. Canterbury took control of the game by holding Bethesda scoreless for 5:12 late in the third and early in the fourth quarters.

Unranked Canterbury finished 19-9, winning its ninth straight game, and

became the fifth state champion with nine regular-season losses (1935 Anderson, 1949 Jasper, 2003 Lafayette Central Catholic, 2013 Gary Bowman Academy). It was Canterbury's first boys championship, but the Cavaliers have won five titles in girls Class 1A.

The Ray Craft mental attitude award went to Luke Douglas, who led Bethesda with 13 points. The eighth-ranked Patriots, from Brownsburg, also were playing in their first state championship game and finished 23-8.

Canterbury coach Deric Adams, a coach's son, got quite emotional after the game, saying he was going to surprise his dad, William Adams, a longtime coach at Hillsdale (Michigan) High School, by presenting him with his championship medal.

William Adams was at the game and "I just looked at him and silently thanked him," his son said. "I never truly understood the investment he was making for me as a child" by coaching him. "He was incredibly tough on me. Umpteen times we wouldn't ride home together, even though we lived only a mile and a half from the school."

The coach was also a former member of the media, working for WANE-TV in Fort Wayne as a director until retiring a couple of years ago. "I never had the desire to coach after I saw what my dad went through," he said. "But once I got a taste of it, I fell in love with it. I'd work at the TV station from 3 a.m. to 1 p.m., then turned around and coached."

"That was the best part of my life, all the practices and games. I saw the opportunity to make a difference and wouldn't change any of it for the world."

My thanks once again to Jason Wille of the Indiana High School Athletic Association for allowing me to have a media access pass to the state finals for the second time in three years. (I was recovering from surgery in 2023). I covered many Ohio high school state tournaments and NCAA tournaments in 30 years as a sportswriter in Steubenville and Columbus, Ohio, and being in this atmosphere makes me feel like the proverbial old fire horse going to work again.

This Edition's Basketball Humor!

Q: How many NCAA basketball players does it take to change a lightbulb?

A: Only one. But he gets money, a car, and four credit hours for it!

Did you hear that next year, the Kentucky basketball coach is only dressing seven players? He has high hopes that the rest can dress themselves.

God and Satan arranged a basketball game between Heaven and Hell.

"I know for a fact we are going to win," said God. "We have all the best players up here... Wilt, Bill Russell, Moses Malone, Kobe..."

"I wouldn't count on that, God," said Satan. "You see, down here, we have all the referees."

How Girls Entered the Court of Play - Let's Hear it for the Gals

By Sharon Rosenburgh

Girls Basketball Head Coach,
Turkey Run HS 1974-76, Avon HS 1977-79,
Carmel HS Asst. 1980-81, Head Coach 1982-88
Past President of Indiana Coaches of Girls Sports
Association.

In today's culture of athletic participation, the history of girls basketball is extremely pivotal, interesting and warrants respect. The history books were written, statistics collected and preserved, to provide info, applaud accomplishments, and pay respect to the challenges of days past for the girls.

Girls who participated over 124 years ago paved the way for the Caitlin Clark phenomenon and others before her. The growth of the sport slowly made strides to become the magical, thrilling sport it is today. The sport continues to evolve and action on the court is improving, to be enjoyed by the fans.

Even though the game was invented in 1892 in Massachusetts, it is said it was made for Indiana. Crawfordsville boys and others in the immediate area got the ball rolling, as the first men's state tournament was played, in 1911.

All the while the girls were winning championships. In 1900 Indianapolis High School was declared state champions, after playing one game. In 1926 Mace High School was declared state champions. Teams like Bristol, Scipio, Paris Crossing, Freeland Park, and North Vernon were state champs and are to be congratulated as they helped form today's culture.

At the time there was no state governing association for the girls. Early championships were declared through YMCA's, or by local or area newspapers. Over seven decades after the first championship, the first

IHSAA sanctioned state tournament was held, crowning 22-0 Warsaw as the 1976 state champion over 20-1 Bloomfield. Judi Warren was selected as Indiana's first Miss Basketball.

Back in 1931, girls sports were organized through the League of High School Girls Athletic Association, later recognized as the G.A.A. The depression and WW II put a halt on girls participating in athletics. As the nation was recovering, girls basketball did not. The shortage of resources, rationing, limitations on gas, tires, etc. restricted the opportunity for girls.

Current female baby boomers, who initiated the comeback interest in girls sports in the 60's did not participate in interscholastic sports in high school. Females were never coached, never had the opportunity to compete and learn the game. If they were interested in sports they joined the Girls Athletic Association in high school, a club that met after school. If they went to college they majored in Physical Education and took courses on how to teach and how to officiate, but not how to coach. There were no teams to play on and no teams to coach. What a surprise to find out that the hiring of a female to teach was going to be based on what they were willing to coach regardless of experience. It wasn't unusual for one female to coach three varsity sports, along with the JV teams, as girls had no assistant coaches while still learning the game.

Up until the early 70's girls played with 6 players, with rules including two rovers, two guards, two forwards and unlimited dribbling. Soon after the push for the acknowledgement of the importance of girls sports, the game was played in the format we know today.

Although Title IX was passed in the early 70's it wasn't an instant influence. The pioneers of the 70's

shouldn't be recognized for what they endured, but appreciated for their passion to keep the sport improving to its current status. The stories of the early days of girls basketball evolving are entertaining. The resourcefulness to beat the limitations that came with the administration's hesitation to help the girls push forward is remarkable. However a bit of a cushion can be given to the school athletic administrators. The athletic directors did not have the experience of providing two sets of everything, including uniforms, practice times, travel, awards, posting of scores, making programs, etc. The girl's coaches did most of this while equity was taking baby steps. It took years to get close to equal with male counterparts. Salaries are still not equal, whether the coach is female or male. There are many moving parts on that controversy.

Unfortunately, the woman's lib movement didn't make it easier to get equality at a even status, because many women were over aggressive, demanding, and uncompromising, while using Title IX as a crutch. Some of what was wanted to be accomplished in the big picture took persistence, proving that women were serious about developing a basketball program, while leading young ladies to be quality citizens and student athletes. Demanding immediate changes put females in a bad light. Coaches who complained to players and made public displays of disgust did not help the equity cause. It doesn't mean that within the realistic persistence there wasn't sharing about inequalities and questions asked. However, there was certainly a difference if the girl's coach was a male. A male assistant had more clout in earlier days. A male assistant sent to the AD when something was needed would often get approval compared to females. Female coaches learned to get things done on their own so as to avoid conflict. There was a time and place

for everything as equity would eventually come.

As female baby boomers watched the glory days of boys basketball before girls were recognized as an IHSAA sport, they learned from what they experienced. They observed the boys playing and were involved with the small communities coming together to support their teams. The stories of the girls getting started, both in 1900 and 1970, are entertaining and interesting. The pioneers in the early 70's celebrated the addition of girls to Hoosier Hysteria, while appreciating the century of development and progress prior to joining in. They observed the boys having small school dreams, shooting baskets at the barn hoops, and playing ball because that was all there was to do. Once the serious interest for girls basketball resurfaced, they could build on their observations. The biggest challenge was to learn the game.

Consolidation of schools took the open tournament away in the mid 90's. The sport wasn't ruined, it just wasn't the same for those that experienced the original format. Today's format is about opportunity and a more level playing field. Players today were not alive when class basketball started.

Today there are many champions celebrating and competing with schools more their size. New special moments are created as progress is made for both girls and boys. The excitement still exists.

The current system provides thrills and celebration for the girls and boys. The same thrills that were experienced by the girls of Indianapolis High School (later, Shortridge) in 1900, Mace High School in 1926 and all in between still exist today. A shout out to all those early champions and their descendants. The early 20th century gals are the ones who endured the

challenges over a century ago. A shout out to them and their vision. They didn't know it, but they were the start of girls Hoosier Hysteria that we continue to enjoy today. Let's hear it for the gals!

Credits:

Lisa Trigg -Author of
Girls Basketball History
Leigh Evans - Hickory Husker
Tribune Star - History of Girls Sports
Phillip M. Hoose - Author of
Hoosiers - The Fabulous Basketball
Life in Indiana

Indiana HS Boys' Basketball State Tournament Brackets 1911-2021

Daniel Symonds has written a book in which you can find exactly what the title suggests, and scores, starting with sectional champions. The book is available on ebay and Amazon.

An excerpt from his preface:

When I was a young boy growing up in Indiana, I paid a great deal of attention to high school basketball and more specifically to our state tournament. The tournament consisted of 64 sectionals throughout the state with the winner of each sectional championship crowned normally on the last Saturday in February. Schools were assigned to a sectional in their area, and depending on the number of schools in the area, could consist of upward to sixteen teams.

On the following Saturday, four sectional champions would meet in each of 16 regionals with the winners of the afternoon games playing that evening to determine what schools would advance to the "Sweet Sixteen". Those 16 teams would then advance to the semi-state at four locations the following Saturday to determine the four teams that would move on to the state finals the next

Saturday in Indianapolis. The three game state finals would result in a state champion being crowned.

The tournament format changed drastically beginning with class basketball in 1998. Beginning then, 16 sectional champions were crowned in each of four classes, and the tournament proceeded until there was a state champion in each class.

I grew up in New Haven, Indiana, in the 1960's and graduated from its high school without ever seeing my school win the Fort Wayne sectional. This was not unusual. The sectional tournament was basically a race every year among Fort Wayne's three biggest schools - Central, North Side and South Side. At the time no out of county school had ever won the Fort Wayne sectional other than three of the first four sectionals in the early 1920's, and once in the early 1930's.

Starting in 1966, Fort Wayne was assigned two sectionals each year, yet the city schools still prevailed including and in addition to parochial schools Concordia and Central Catholic. Finally in 1979 Harding, like New Haven, a part of the East Allen County School System, won one of the sectional tournaments. They repeated in 1982 and 1985. Another E.A.C.S. school, the Woodlan Warriors won in 1986 and 1990. Finally my New Haven Bulldogs won their first sectional in 1991. Homestead a Southwest Allen County school was the last non-Fort Wayne school under the old format to win, doing so in 1992.

Years ago at tournament time, brackets of the 64 sectional winners would be posted in butcher shops, barber shops, gas stations and other

places around the state noting the advancement of the teams throughout the tournament. You could also find the brackets in major city newspapers. Whatever happened to those brackets? I contacted a number of Indiana high school basketball web sites to see if anyone knew where I could find those brackets. I came up empty handed. So I decided to do something about it.

I researched the tournament draws covering the years in old newspapers, found the schools which won every sectional tournament, placed them in the proper bracket and recorded the scores of the games played in the regionals, semi-state and state finals. For the most part, the scores came from Bill May's book, Tourney Time and from the archives of the IHSAA web site. I have divided this book into three parts. Part I is basically a summary of the State Champions from 1911-2021. Part II covers the single champion era from 1911-1997, and Part III covers class basketball starting in 1998.

Daniel may be reached at 313-530-3041, or at symonds414@gmail.com



A reminder that IHSBHS wishes to support the Indiana Basketball Hall of Fame as often as possible. If you're considering joining, please visit their website, www.hoopshall.com, and click on the appropriate links.

An IHSBHS Meeting....

In Person!!!

By Dan McNally

May 4, 2024, was a special day for many of us, as a face-to-face meeting of IHSBHS Board of Directors (and a few others) was held at the Sugar Creek Twp. Historical Museum, home of the 1915 Thorntown state champion's basketball memorabilia.

In attendance were Don Stuckey, Kermit Paddock, James Rich, Dave White, Curtis Tomak, Dan McNally, Jim Brandyberry, Past President John Ockomon, Co-Founder Harley Sheets, and current President AND treasurer Roger Robison.

Many items of importance were discussed, including the need to find a new secretary and a new treasurer. Luckily, Don stepped up to the plate and accepted the secretary position on the spot! Roger would prefer that his successor(s) could be found soon. We need some members to take on a more active role, as we all hope to continue IHSBHS's viability long into the future. Contact Roger at Hotdog@compuserve.com with your interest.

After a thorough investigation of the costs involved publishing and mailing BOXSCORE, it was decided that our beloved document will from now on be limited to 12 pages. Many of you have kindly sent articles for us to print, and now you'll sometimes have to be patient as there were 16 pages in the last edition, and enough articles were sent to fill another 16 pages this time. KEEP SENDING ARTICLES.... much appreciated!!

Other important ideas were also shared and discussed, such as reminding us that IHSBHS was founded for the purpose of correcting records, tactics for increasing membership, ways to amplify our relationship with the Hall of Fame, and celebrating Ockomon having paid his IHSBHS dues.

Having extinguished such exciting discourse, we then repaired to Stookey's Steakhouse for some of the very best onion rings this writer had ever experienced.

Naturally, further discussions ensued, many of which involved a special guest, Dave Schellhase. As many of you know, Dave was a two time All-America forward at Purdue, averaging 32.5 ppg his senior year, 1966. He was selected 10th in the first round of the NBA draft by the Chicago Bulls.

After his playing days, Dave had several coaching stops, including Head Coach at Moorhead State and Indiana State. He was acclaimed NSIC Coach of the Year in 1981 and 1982.

More recently, Dave has written a book, The Schellhase Story, which is subtitled "Rise, Fall, Redemption".

From Dave's brochure:

"Walk alongside Coach Schellhase as he unfolds the chapters of his life's journey, offering profound insights into the realms of playing, coaching, and the resilient journey to sobriety."

Anyone in attendance who had already read the book had glowing recommendations for it. Harley noted how tough it was to put the book down. Several copies were purchased by attendees, and you can get your own copy from Dave by calling 765-404-7932, emailing him at davidgenejr@gmail.com, or tracking him down at 862 Walnut Ridge E, Logansport, IN 46947.

Thanks for reading BOXSCORE, and thanks for your support of IHSBHS. Now, before you forget, go send your info to Don Stuckey!!!