

BOXSCORE

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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2025 FALL ISSUE

EDITORIAL POLICY

The opinions expressed in *Boxscore* by individual authors do not necessarily reflect the views of IHSBHS as an organization. Editors reserve the right to edit submissions.

Our IHSBHS website address is Indianabasketballhistory.com.

You can also enter IHSBHS or "BOXSCORE" on any search engine.

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PRES SEZ We hope you all will attend our annual meeting at Thorntown Oct. 4, 2PM at the Museum at 124 W. Main St. I will round up the few remaining

copies of my 2020 book about the first ten state tournaments: 1911-20. The cost is \$20.

I will bring my research materials from those years to give away if anyone is interested. Lots of old newspaper stories copied from microfilm, free.

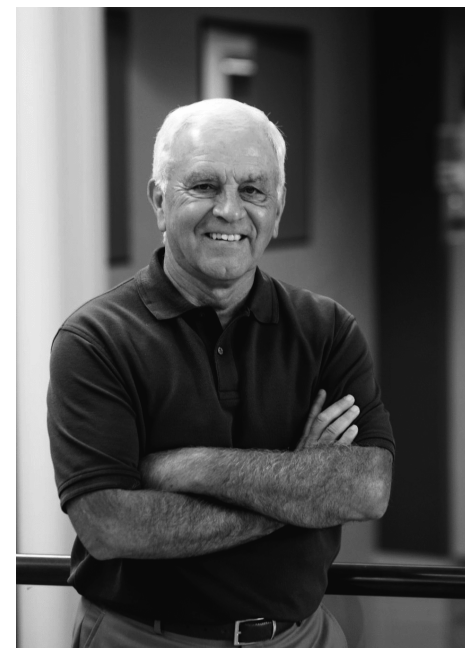
See you in beautiful downtown Thorntown, the home of the 1915 State Champion Kewasakees! IHSBHS will buy late lunch, but the drinks are on you.

INTRODUCING THE NEW TREASURER OF IHSBHS!

Editor's note: When asked for a bio, Mike Caldwell provided the following

I graduated from Lebanon High School in 1967, where I began playing varsity basketball as a sophomore during the notable Rick Mount era. As the other starting guard alongside Rick, I had the privilege of contributing to one of the

school's most competitive teams. During my junior year, we advanced to the final game of the Semi-State, narrowly losing to East Chicago Washington by one point—just missing the opportunity to play in the Final Four. This was prior to the introduction of class basketball in Indiana, making the loss particularly difficult.



Individually, I was among the top 10 scorers in Boone County as a junior and led the county in scoring my senior year. I earned a basketball scholarship to the University of Pittsburgh, where I played all four years. I led the team in scoring during both my freshman and sophomore seasons and was named co-captain my senior year.

One of the memorable highlights of my high school career was making a 79-foot shot in the final game of the sectional tournament, which secured a one-point victory. At the time, it was the longest recorded shot in IHSAA history, later surpassed by just one foot.

During my college career, I had the opportunity to play against several legendary figures in the game, including teams coached by Bob Knight (then at Army, where Mike Krzyzewski was one of his players), and John Wooden at UCLA. I also played against one of my former high school teammates, Jeff Tribbett, who was the backcourt partner of "Pistol" Pete Maravich.

In 2021, I was honored to be inducted into the Boone County Basketball Hall of Fame and currently serve as Treasurer of the organization. My brother, Bob, who coached both boys and girls basketball at Greenfield

Central during the 1960s, was also inducted. Sadly, Bob passed away at the age of 42.

In recent years, I set a personal goal to attend a basketball game at every college and university in Indiana—a project I successfully completed. I am now working on visiting every high school gym in the state.

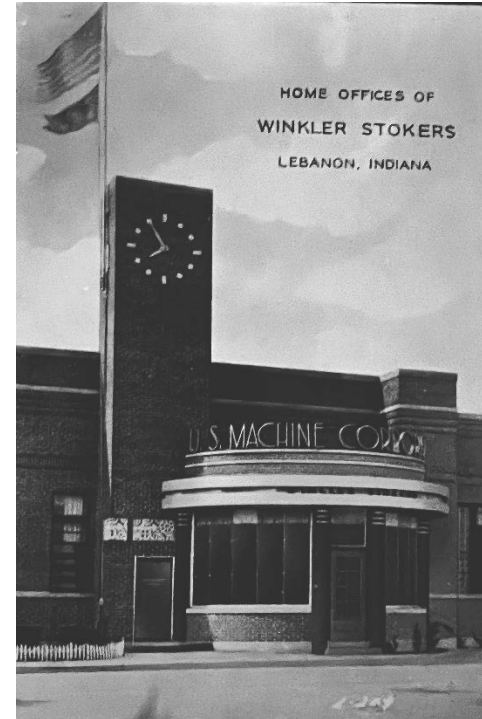
Professionally, I continue to serve as Director of Estate and Gift Planning for United Way of Central Indiana.

WITTICISMS AND TRIVIA

By Harley Sheets

While recently going through some of my prodigious basketball research and Boone County memorabilia I happened across some forgotten paraphernalia that I think is somewhat hilarious and would also be of interest to basketball enthusiasts. We'll do it in two parts. First the humorous.

In Lebanon my hometown, in the past, were two major manufacturing firms – the Hicks School Bus Body Corporation and the Winkler Stoker Company, later changed to the U. S. Machine Corporation. Winkler's always published a monthly newsletter, "The Survey".



Sometime in the past I obtained several Surveys published during the Second World War. In each appeared a section called "Shrapnel" which contained witticisms and jokes to help lighten the mood during the war. Following are a few. (1) A friend asked his buddy if he'd like to see a model home. The friend replied, "Sure, what time does she get off of work." (2) Why did the moron build his bed in a fireplace? Answer: so, he could sleep like a log. (3) One day a person was watching a beautiful Navy nurse holding a sailor's hand and stroking his hair and expecting his temperature to go down. And (4) across the way in another room were ladies making things for the war effort. One beautiful and well-formed gal was doing something on a sewing machine. Someone asked her if she was making a sweater for a soldier. She said no I'm making myself a bathing suit.

Now for some basketball history and trivia. (1) Name the only school that has played in every state tournament? (2) What county has won the least number (5) of sectionals? (3) What high school has won the most sectionals (54) without winning a state championship? (4) Which one of the following schools was not a charter member of the North Central Conference? Lebanon,

Rochester, or Marion? (5) Which county has won the most sectionals (108) and never won a state championship? (6) There are two schools in Allen County other than those in Ft. Wayne, that have won a state championship. Homestead is one. Name the other. (7) Name the only school in Carroll County that has made it to the final four. And (8) Name the only Fayette County high school other than Connersville that has won a sectional.

(answers on page 7)

OBITUARY –

BILL SPRINGER

On Saturday, August 2, 2025, William "Bill" James Springer passed away peacefully at the age of 90. Born in Indianapolis on December 1, 1934, to James and Mildred Springer, Bill met the love of his life, Carolyn (Hickman) Springer, at Indianapolis Washington High School. The couple later married in 1955 and spent the next 70 years building a life together, raising a family, and serving the Lord.

A devout follower of Jesus Christ, Bill had been an active member of Greenwood Christian Church where he served as an Elder and taught Sunday School for several years. His relationship with Christ fueled his passion for basketball,

giving him the gift of teaching and coaching.

He had the privilege to work at Linden, Seeger, Brazil, Shortridge, Bloomington South, and Southport High Schools. He was chosen to coach the Indiana All-Stars in 1990, and his 1990 team at Southport played in the highest attended high school basketball game in the country in the Final Four state championship held at the then named Hoosier Dome.

His career afforded him the opportunity to be inducted into several halls of fame including his high school, college (Hanover) and the Indiana Basketball Hall of Fame. He had an impact on many lives sharing his love for Christ and basketball.

Bill is survived by his children, Tony (Sue), Mike (Debbi), Debbie (Dave), Beth Ann (Kevin) and John (Kate); 19 grandchildren, 13 great grandchildren; his brother Jack (Judy) Springer of Venice, FL; and nieces and nephew. Bill will be laid to rest in the Prayer Garden in Forest Lawn Memory Gardens. In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to Greenwood Christian Church or the Indiana Basketball Hall of Fame.

(The complete obit is at www.ghherrmann.com)

RITA WILLIAMS UPDATE

In the fall of 2023, I started a quest to find and preserve the fight songs of Indiana high schools that were closed due to consolidation. I started with a list of 718 schools and have found 643 songs. This wasn't accomplished without the help of many, many Hoosiers. I have compiled the songs in a book titled "Echoes From the Gym" and had it printed with Barnes and Noble Press. Many of the people with whom I communicated wanted to know when I completed a resource with the songs. The book is now available on the Barnes and Noble website. You can order online or have a Barnes and Noble store order one for you. I loved this project and I hope you enjoy the final outcome. Thanks to everyone who contributed.

BRAIN SEWAGE submitted by Doug Bradley

PRETEST Can you answer even one of these three questions correctly? (Contrary to Bob Hammel's rebuttal to the original BS, facts, not feelings, are important in finding correct answers.)

1) The six highest years of IHSAA tournament attendance were all in the:

1950s?

1960x?

1970s?

2) "The tournament was dying even before the Finals left Hinkle Fieldhouse."

True or False

3) Highest tournament attendance ever was 1,554,454 in 1962.

True or False

Brain Sewage

Immediately after I received my copy of the 2023 Summer Issue of "Boxscore," I sent Cliff Johnson a message. I told him it may not be illegal to send sewage through the mail, but it should be. And at any rate, it's certainly immoral.

He knew right away that I was referencing the keynote article in the latest issue, "A Deep Dive into the History, Facts & Fiction of Class Basketball" by Matthew Werner and Richard Penlesky.

Werner and Penlesky claimed to have studied the situation, and decided the four "quarter-tournaments" may well have saved the Indiana high school basketball tournament. Cliff said he disagreed with the authors' assertions but didn't find the article objectionable otherwise. To this day I find it hard to believe anyone could read that article and not be thoroughly disgusted. It was a study, all right. It was a study in ignorance.

By the time Cliff told me that he had enlisted Bob Hammel to write a rebuttal to the nonsense, I was beginning to see that Indiana basketball fans largely believed the ignorance Werner and Penlesky touted as facts. Then Hammel's rebuttal convinced me. His rebuttal was Brain Sewage nearly as bad as the original article. He talked about feelings and how the tournament should be conducted the way Huntington did it when he was a kid so we could all feel good about the tournament. He seems not to understand that Huntington had nothing to do with planning the Huntington Sectional. The schedule for Huntington was the same as every other 15-team sectional in the state.

Hammel also said that statistical charts can't be used to compare the worth of the tournaments. The danger of the ignorance of that statement is twofold: first, a chart IS the more effective way to compare tournaments; and second, he implies that the chart used by Werner and Penlesky contains VALID information.

We're coming to the point. If you don't understand this, then you probably shouldn't go to Thorntown Oct. 4. The foundation for everything assertion by Werner and Penlesky is their statement that "tournament attendance peaked in 1962." If you know

the answers to the PRETEST, then you know that is BS.

PRETEST answers:

1) The highest years for tournament attendance were 1972, 1973, 1971, 1975, 1970, and 1976, respectively--see the first attachment.

2) False. This was one of the important lies used in 1993 by THE GANG OF FIVE who I call THE FIVE FACES OF THE DEVIL (but that's another story). The last year the Final was at Hinkle was third-highest ever. The two best years finished with Finals at Assembly Hall.

3) False. As the chart in first attachment shows, from 1962 to 1972 attendance had actually gone up 15 percent, not down 15 percent as Werner and Penlesky had asserted.

The chart in the second attachment shows the ignorance of Werner and Penleky's statement that "as attendance declined, giant gymnasiums continued to be built." From the first page you can see that all of those gyms except Richmond and East Chicago Central were instrumental in establishing IHSAA attendance records. Even Richmond and ECC at least partially paid for themselves by bringing Regional tournaments to town.

The second page of "7000+" shows the other gyms opened at the height of the IHSAA's record attendance years.

Editor's note: Doug attached two pages of data for which BOXSCORE had no room. Doug can be reached at 239-246-0239 if you would like more info.

In 1993, I, too, was ignorant of the fact that 1962 was not the greatest year for tournament attendance. By 1996, though, I knew that per session attendance was the proper way to look at the numbers. I was simply too lazy to do the simple arithmetic until the IHSAA digitized the Handbooks in late January 2017. I had always believed "the tournament was dying long before the Finals left Hinkle Fieldhouse." I didn't expect the attendance per session to show that the arguments of 1993 were based on lies, but that's exactly what it shows.

When you look over the first attachment, you will see a natural break between 1945-1997 all being above 2700 and every year in bold, the quarter-tournaments, all being under 2500.

The clearest rebuttal to the assertion that class basketball saved Indiana basketball comes from the average attendance during the last six years of the single tournament (when all

sectionals had six teams) and the first six years of the quarter-tournaments. For 1992-1997, attendance per session was 3467. For 1998-2003, attendance per session was 2008. Class basketball saved us from 42 percent of our interest in the tournament and 42 percent of the resultant \$\$\$ participating schools could have had without the idiotic vote of 1996.

OBITUARY – BOB HAMMEL

Robert Dale (Bob) Hammel, 88, passed away July 20, 2025 at Bell Trace.

Hammel, a lifelong Indiana resident, was a 52-year newspaper journalist. He spent 40 years with the Bloomington Herald-Telephone and Herald-Times, 30 as sports editor.

He was born in Huntington, Ind., Oct. 6, 1936, to Dale T. and Beatrice M. (Betty) Hammel. He married Julie Sowerwine June 22, 1958, in Huntington. She survives.

Bob won 21 Indiana Sportswriter of the Year awards. He was inducted into the Indiana Journalism, U.S. Basketball Writers Assn., Football Writers Assn. of America, the Indiana Sportswriters and Sportscasters Assn., Indiana University Athletics and Monroe County Sports Halls of Fame. He served terms as president of the USBWA, FWAA and the National Sportscasters and Sportswriters Assn. He is listed in the Naismith International Basketball Hall of Fame (as a

recipient of its Curt Gowdy Media Award) and College Football Hall of Fame (for receiving the FWAA's Bert McGrane Award).

He covered five Olympic Games, 23 NCAA Final Fours, and 29 Indiana high school basketball tournament championships, among other major events. He authored or co-authored 14 books, and he received many state and national awards for game stories and columns. In 1996 Gov. Evan Bayh gave him the state's Sagamore of the Wabash award.

He retired from sportswriting in 1996.

A 50-year member of United Presbyterian Church in Bloomington, he delivered the church's Father's Day message for 25 years (1993 through 2017). With personal contributions augmenting his share of income from a 1966 Bloomington Press Club roast in his honor, he endowed three continuing annual IU scholarships given to incoming freshmen.

In lieu of flowers donations in Bob's memory can be given to the United Presbyterian Church 1701 E. Second St. Bloomington IN 47401 or Hoosier Hills Food Bank P.O. Box 697 Bloomington, IN 47402 <https://secure.ggiv.com/form/hoosierhillsfoodbank/>

Send memories of Bob and condolences to his family to www.thefuneralchapel.net

BASKETBALL HALL OF FAME PRESENTATION DRAWS LOCAL MEMORIES Submitted by Roger Robison

A presentation on Indiana's basketball heritage brought history and humor to the Joseph Boggs Society for Historical Preservation's quarterly meeting. Noah Dahlquist, publications coordinator for the Indiana Basketball Hall of Fame, spoke about the state's basketball legacy and recent expansions at the Hall of Fame Museum in New Castle. Dahlquist, who wrote his masters thesis on Indiana high school basketball history, described his position as "a little bit of a dream job."

He highlighted Indiana's famous gymnasiums, including New Castle's record-setting fieldhouse and Seymour High School's 8,000-seat arena. "Of the top 11 largest high school gyms in the United States, 10 are in Indiana, the only other one is a multi-use facility in Texas," Dahlquist said.

When Dahlquist's slideshow included a photo of Shelbyville High School's gymnasium, the crowd good-naturedly responded with boos. He laughed and quickly backtracked: "I also included that picture just because it is beautiful. I didn't include anything more about Shelbyville in this

presentation," he said. "But it is a beautiful gym."

The program also connected to Shelby County basketball traditions. Dahlquist brought the very first Victory Bell, now preserved at the Hall of Fame, back for local viewing. Reading from a 1954 article, he explained: "It is such a cherished ornament that it is doubtful if the custom of passing it along ever will die. 100 years from now, if they still play basketball in Shelby County, the Victory Bell might still be making its sound of music on the hardwood courts of the county."

Artifacts on display included two of five basketballs signed by Indiana's Mr. and Miss Basketball players, part of a collection started by the late Tom Howley and his wife Sandy, and continued by their children, Lynn and Jerry. "My brother and I made a commitment that we would continue getting the signatures every year," said Lynn Howley. "It's cool to watch that tradition play out every year."

The presentation carried special significance for the Boggs Society. Charter member Bud Mendenhall, who served as assistant coach on Triton Central's undefeated 1964-65 team, attended and joined in the discussion of county basketball history. Members swapped stories about

players, rivalries, and local legends, a reminder of the game's lasting hold on Shelby County communities.

"The great thing about Indiana high school basketball," Dahlquist reflected, "is that while the history lies with the big schools, it also lies here in the small towns. I fell in love with it through stories like yours."

HARLEY'S ANSWERS

- 1 Lebanon
- 2 Brown
- 3 Valparaiso
- 4 Marion
- 5 Greene
- 6 Harding
- 7 Flora
- 8 Everton in 1947

CHUCKLE CORNER

Q. What do you call a guy who misses a dunk?

A. Alley Whoops

Q. What do you call a shrimp that is good at basketball?

A. LePrawn James

Q. Why did Oscar Robertson always use pay phones?

A. He loved dropping dimes

Q. Why are ghosts good at defense?

A. It's easy to get through screens

HOOSIER HYSTERIA CERTAIN INSIDE TYSON AUDITORIUM

Used by permission of Kyle Neddenriep, IndyStar, 8/10/25

VERSAILLES – Rob Moorhead does not have to close his eyes to feel the memories. He can look around Tyson Auditorium and see them like the chapters of his life.

As a kindergartner, Moorhead carried the homecoming crown to the court to South Ripley basketball player and King Kelvin Comer. He can point to the spot where he sat in the front row behind the basket as an elementary kid in the 1970s, hoping the ball would roll to him so he could pounce on it and hand it back to the referee. He can hear "Sweet Georgia Brown" blaring from the corner of the gym where the South Ripley band — led by director Gary Holdsworth and wife Patsy — as he floated up the ramp from the locker room to the court for the first time as a freshman.

"That gave me chills," Moorhead said. "It still gives me chills when I think back to it."

Tyson Auditorium was a magical "palace" for Moorhead and hundreds of others from the night it was dedicated on Nov. 1, 1950, with a game against rival Milan, to its current state as an activity center 75 years later.

"Whether I come in here and watch the little kids play or for a reception, whatever it is, you can almost smell the popcorn, you can almost hear the band playing," said Bob Meyer, a coach and administrator at South Ripley for more than 30 years. "It's a place where the community would gather — and not just our community but all the communities in Ripley County — to gather and watch basketball on Friday and Saturday night. This place was just awesome. This was 'Hoosier Hysteria.'"

Moorhead had more of a personal connection to Tyson Auditorium than most. His father, William "Gus" Moorhead, came to Versailles right out of Hanover College in 1951. The Versailles basketball program, known as the Frenchies until the students voted in 1950 to change the name to Lions, had previously played in the wood frame community building built in 1924.

Versailles hosted — and won — the sectional championship in 1928. But two years later, the gym was already too small to host the sectional tourney. A sparkling new gym was built in 1950 at a cost of \$178,000 and with a seating capacity of 2,200. More than half of the of the cost was covered through the trust fund of Versailles native James Tyson, one of the founders of the Walgreens stores.

The capacity of the gym more than doubled the population of the Ripley County community when it was built in 1950 (about 900 residents at the time). But Gus Moorhead's arrival signaled a change in fortune for Versailles basketball — even if the Lions were not the most famous team to play in their own gym.

The underdog Milan team that inspired the movie "Hoosiers" was a county rival of Versailles. At the end of the 1952-53 season, Milan defeated Osgood, Holton and Batesville at Tyson Auditorium to win the sectional championship. Bobby Plump, Ray Craft and the rest of the Indians then shocked the state by winning the regional and semistate, making it all the way to the state finals at Butler Fieldhouse.

"We'd never won a regional game in the history of the school and there we were all of a sudden with a new coach (Marvin Wood), 25 years old, and we were going to

the Final Four,” Plump said in 2014.

With most of its players returning, the buildup for the 1953-54 season caused Milan to move its home games to Tyson Auditorium. Milan won the sectional there again, defeating Cross Plains, Osgood and host Versailles in the championship to start its famous run to the state championship that ended with Plump’s last-second shot to beat Muncie Central.

Plump later joked that Moorhead told him he was “damn sorry he loaned us that gym.” Plump thanked him for the homecourt advantage.

But Moorhead enjoyed a significant homecourt advantage at Tyson in the ensuing years. After demoralizing sectional championship losses to Milan in 1955 and ’56, the Lions won the 1957 sectional championship at Tyson — its first in 29 years. Versailles went on to win sectional titles the next three years, forever solidifying Moorhead’s coaching legacy at the school. He coached at Versailles until it consolidated to form South Ripley in 1966, then coached the new school for two more years before becoming the school’s principal for 23 years until his retirement in 1991.

Consolidation originally brought the schools of Versailles, New Marion and Cross Plains together in 1966. When the nearby Holton Warhorses were absorbed in 1969, the combination brought a magical undefeated season.

Coach Dale Ricketts, a member of the 1959 Versailles team, returned five starters that season and brought on three more from Holton, including leading scorer Comer. South Ripley knocked off Batesville in double overtime in the sectional championship at Batesville, then defeated North

Decatur and Lawrenceburg to win the regional. The road ended there with a loss to Crispus Attucks in the first game of the semistate at Hinkle Fieldhouse, but the 25-1 season and tournament run by a school of 418 students at the time is still remembered fondly.

“The Holton people sat close to the bench, the Versailles people sat here on the end and the Cross Plains and New Marion people sat over here,” Meyer said, pointing to different sections of the bleachers. “... The thing to do at South Ripley was to go the basketball games.”

By 1981, the sectional had moved to East Central. But there was more magic that season. IndyStar reporter Bob Williams called “old Tyson Auditorium one of Southern Indiana’s best known hardwood arenas” in his report on South Ripley after the Raiders knocked off Greensburg and Lawrenceburg — two teams that beat them during the season — by a combined three points in the Connersville Regional. After the 63-62 win over Lawrenceburg, Tyson was packed with celebrating fans.

Coaching against South Ripley in Tyson Auditorium could be a nightmare for opposing coaches. Rob Moorhead experienced the other side as the coach at South Dearborn in the early 1990s. In late January of 1987, undefeated East Central visited South Ripley with a 14-0 record and state ranking. It left with a 47-41 loss in Meyer’s second season as coach.

“I’m standing over here and (East Central coach Steve Bruner) walked by me and he said, ‘I just hate this place — I can’t win here,’” said Meyer, who played in the gym as an opposing player at Aurora. “And they didn’t win that night either. Area coaches loved to play here, even though they said they didn’t. They didn’t because they knew they were probably going to walk out of here with a loss.”

South Ripley continued to play its games at Tyson Auditorium through the 2007-08 season before moving into a new gym at the high school.

“They did a really nice job of sending Tyson out in style,” Moorhead said. “They had several nights where they recognized past teams that had played here that won sectional championships. A lot of us were back for the final home game here. It was bittersweet, but I think people realized this place had served its purpose for our schools for a number of years ... but the nostalgia and the memories here at Tyson just can’t be replicated”

Tyson — a gym Plump once called “one of the marvels of the world” — mostly sat empty in the ensuing years. It was named one of Indiana Landmarks’ “10 most endangered historic places in Indiana.” But a group of three couples, led by Jeff and Aimee Cornett, started a non-profit called the Tyson Community Advancement Foundation after purchasing the gym from the school and renamed it the Tyson Activities Center.



Tyson Auditorium was built in 1950 as the new home for Versailles

Jeff Cornett, a 1991 South Ripley graduate, said the gym has served many purposes for the past decade-plus, including camps, parties, weightlifting, volleyball and various other community events. In 2021, high school basketball returned to Tyson Auditorium for the 'Ol' Coach Classic', a junior varsity tournament in honor of Gus Moorhead, who was inducted into the Indiana Basketball Hall of Fame in 1980. Two of the JV teams were coached by grandsons of the former coach — Brad Moorhead of Edgewood and Trent Moorhead of Hauser.

"A lot of the older folks that I remember going to games love to come in here," Cornett said. "It's a joy to see them in here. It's a joy to see the young kids in here, too, because they are going to experience a little bit of what it was."



A reminder that IHSBHS wishes to support the Indiana Basketball Hall of Fame as often as possible. If you're considering joining, see www.hoopshall.com.

INDIANA HIGH SCHOOL HOOPS DEEMED ESSENTIAL DURING 1946 COAL STRIKE

Contributed by Leigh Evans, HickoryHusker.com

INDIANA -- A nationwide coal miners strike in 1946 had far-reaching implications. Activities around the country ground to a halt, and a coal-reliant Indiana was hit especially hard. Virtually all public gatherings nationwide were banned in an attempt to conserve energy. Virtually all... except high school basketball in Indiana.

The post-war coal miners strike of 1946 resulted in ground breaking changes for workers including higher wages, a five day work week, medical benefits, and pensions. However, in the short term, it was hell on Indiana communities. Still, these snapshots of newspaper accounts from across the State attest that Hoosiers had their priorities. Indiana high school basketball games would not be interrupted..

SOUTH BEND, Ind. -- South Benders took in a last movie, said goodbye to their favorite bartender, took their last book out of the public library and prepared to sit out the blackout on non-essential activities. South Bend and Mishawaka high school basketball games will be played tomorrow night.

HAMMOND, Ind. -- How much electric power does the Hammond Civic Center use during the three hours necessary for a basketball double-header? Will all those 5000 plus fans who attend tonight's Tigers-Wildcats game leave all the home lights burning while they're away? If as many as a thousand homes turn off a floor lamp or two while the occupants are at the Civic Center, we're actually saving, not wasting, electricity.

UNION CITY, Ind. -- National shortages of many staple products including paper continue to be aggravated by the crushing coal shortage. Nearly all aspects of daily life have been impacted. Winchester freshmen defeat Union City, 32-27. It is the plan to continue freshmen games with other schools in order to give the first-year boys experience.

LOGANSPORT, Ind. -- All night activities except high school basketball in Logansport schools were banned tonight by Carl Zimmerman, city school superintendent. He said the action was required by the coal shortage.

INDIANAPOLIS, Ind. -- Ramifications of the coal strike commanded more attention today in Indiana high school basketball than what happened in top games Friday night. All of the top state's prep fives got through Friday night's card without a cancellation, but the coal shortage forced some schools to play in unheated gyms.

ELKHART, Ind. -- A major northern Indiana industrial city is now under an emergency order. Elkhart has ordered all public gatherings cancelled and "froze" coal supplies at midnight. Elkhart's Blue Blazers will travel to Warsaw Friday night for their annual grudge match.

INDIANAPOLIS, Ind. -- Virgil Stinebaugh, superintendent of Indianapolis schools, tonight ordered all night activities in school buildings cancelled because of coal shortage. The ban went into effect immediately on everything but high school basketball games. Stinebaugh said the order was necessary if essential school functions were to be maintained until the Christmas holidays begin December 20.

SUMMITVILLE, Ind. -- Massive shortages of iron and other materials are now being blamed on the coal strike. Resources of every variety have been affected. The annual basketball tournament at Summittville is one of the outstanding basketball meets of the year and attracts a capacity attendance at all games. The first game will be played at 7 o'clock, with Fairmount and Gaston meeting, and this game will be followed by the Sweetser-Goblins game at 8:15 o'clock.

MUNCIE, Ind. -- Seven Delaware County games carded despite

shortage of coal as the sector teams wind up one of the busiest weeks on the winter's schedule. The current coal shortage resulted in the closing of Dunkirk schools. The Speedcats home games have been moved to Royerton.

MARTINSVILLE, Ind. -- Indiana Red Cross is preparing to house coal-bereft families in public buildings and hospitals. Meanwhile Evansville officials are predicting an industrial blackout within the next few days. An inter-county tilt will be staged at Eminence tomorrow night as the Paragon Panthers invade the goalery of the Eels.

COUNTERFEIT TICKETS

Submitted by Tom Kenley,
Noblesville Class of 1970

One Saturday afternoon in March of 1964 while riding to the Carmel sectional in the backseat of an old four door sedan loaded with 4 older boys, the driver Dan Weldy yelled to me "Now Tommy, I told you to shut up and let the adults talk or I'll stop and kick you out on the road and then you'll miss the game. How would you like that?" My brother brought me as a tag-along and had not told Dan. I was an uninvited 12-year-old passenger on my way to the biggest game on the face of the earth, the Noblesville Millers and the Tipton Blue Devils, and I was all pumped up! Dan, who later became a lawyer, realized it was the only threat that would work. He was correct. I wasn't going to miss that game for anything! I shut up.

The Millers and Tipton both won their opening game setting up the match for who would certainly become the eventual sectional champ. The undefeated #2 ranked Blue Devils had beaten the Millers by 6 at Noblesville earlier in the

season, and were led by future Indiana All-Stars Dick McIntosh and Donnie Curnutt. The Millers had improved all season long and rugged 6'6" senior C.A. Core was becoming a force for any team to reckon with.

A limited number of single game tickets went on sale to high school students later in the week. I begged my older brother David to see if he could get me one. He said he would try. They wouldn't let him buy another ticket since he was marked down as already having purchased one. I was fit to be tied. Unfair! I bought a ticket to every home game. I was being discriminated against just because I was in grade school. My ticket was probably being sold to some girl who didn't even know the rules! Kind as my brother was, he said he would ask around to see if someone couldn't go, and he would buy their ticket for me. Lo and behold David came through!

He said there were some tickets being sold at school, but he didn't really know where they came from. My ticket was a little less shiny than his but otherwise identical. As we approached the ticket gate to the Carmel gym, I dropped back a little since David's buddies wanted to look cool and really didn't want to be seen with a disgusting scrawny little sixth grader. David asked if I was ok with me to go on my own and we would meet after the game? I said it was, especially since it was obvious Dan wanted me to bug off.

I handed my ticket to the taker, then the lady turned and shouted, "I think we got one of those." A stern looking man came over and said "Yeah that's one. Wait here, we need to ask you some questions." I looked for David. He was about 30 feet away talking and laughing with his buddies and I yelled at him to come back. The place was crammed with people so

he couldn't hear my pleas and soon they disappeared.

A deputy sheriff grabbed me by the wrist and led me to a waiting room on the opposite side of the gym. I was scared white by now. The deputy sat me in a chair with other adults around giving me the evil eye. The deputy left and came back with a state policeman. They began asking questions about where my ticket came from. I told them my brother sold it to me, which he did. I'd paid him \$3 before he let me have it and I wanted to go watch the game because I didn't do anything wrong.

It wasn't long before David appeared, and the police started asking him questions. After about 10 minutes they came over and had David tell me that he accidentally bought a ticket that wasn't real and since I didn't have a real seat I would have to stay in the room until the game was over, or my parents could come to pick me up. The police had already established by my prior behavior that telling me that I wasn't going to get to see the game might be explosive. It was! David firmed up and told me I had to do whatever the police told me. He said he would talk to Mr. Dellinger, Noblesville teacher and cheer block leader, and that maybe he could do something. Richard Dellinger was a very intelligent and well-respected government and economics teacher. He later served 20 years as a state representative. Mr. D had a silver tongue. Dick told the police and school personnel that he knew my parents well and that he had taught several of my brothers and sisters and that they were all good students. He said that he knew me too and that it might be a lot easier on everyone if they just let me sit in the top row of the cheer block next to the aisle and he would keep an eye on me and make sure that I got home safe. They readily agreed.

Three cheers and a bottle of wine for Dick Dellinger!

Noblesville won the game, an overtime thriller, 78-75. Strongman Charlie Core scored 25 points and pulled down 19 rebounds. Tipton was picked by Tom Carnegie to be state champs in 1964, dubbing them the next Milan. He was there to watch the game and WRTV filmed much of the game for a special to be aired the next week. They ran the show anyway and gave credit to the Millers for a tremendous upset. Noblesville lost to Kokomo at Kokomo 68-66 in the regional. Lafayette Jeff beat Huntington 58-55 for the championship behind Mr. Basketball Dennis Brady and All-Star Terry Stillabower.

As for the final investigation into the ticket scandal, no one was ever charged. The state police quickly turned it over to the Hamilton County Sheriff's Department. The department only had 8 deputies at that time and little interest in solving the case. Some evidence led to the preferred local barber shop and the printing press next door. Fifty years later I spoke to a barber who worked at the shop who admitted nothing. He said from what he heard the idea was not to make money but to put more Noblesville fans in the gym than Tipton fans. Around 100 tickets were allegedly printed. I had one. Further investigation completely cleared David and Tom Kenley of any wrongdoing. Case closed.

NEW FEATURE –

NOTES AND QUOTES

The Editor invites readers to submit their thoughts and suggestions regarding BOXSCORE, its content, and its layout. Selected comments will appear in future issues.

Tom H. from Shelbyville wrote:

“When was the last time you published anything from Shelby Co.? I'm sick and tired of seeing article after article about Montgomery Co!”

Ralph W. of Bath ME wrote:

“Really enjoyed the article on Charlie Core, a childhood idol of mine. I grew up to wear the same number he did, according to my older sister. I hope Kenley writes more stories told from the eye-witness perspective.”

Johnny O. of Markleville wrote:

“I often get bored with the long stories. Hard to pay attention for too long. Also, perhaps you could expand coverage to those Indiana HS players who had obscure but interesting college careers.”

REMINDER!!

Plan to attend the next IHSBHS meeting! It's Saturday October 4, at 2PM, at the Thorntown Heritage Museum, 124 W. Main St, in Thorntown.

IHSBHS will buy your late lunch (although drinks are on you)

This is your chance to have some say in the future of IHSBHS, as well as meet some of the founders and charter members who have served the organization so well for so long.

If anyone knows how to contact Oscar Robertson for an interview, please send that info to Dan at BCHSTennis@aol.com

BOXSCORE doesn't exist without your participation!! Please consider submitting something you've written. OR write a story about something you have researched or something you've lived through. OR send in stories from other sources that you would like to share with readers, and we'll see if we can get permission to reprint them. Involved members help this organization to remain vital



IHS-BHS

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Subscribers: Please note the date after your name. This is the expiration date for your membership dues. Please remit your dues, change of address, complaints, death threats, etc. to the treasurer, R. Robison, at the above address.