

BOXSCORE

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IHSBHS, c/o Rocky Kenworthy,
710 E. 800 S., Clayton, IN 46118. E-mail: rock2@tds.net
All proposed articles & stories should be directed to
Cliff Johnson: cliffjohns36@hotmail.com or P.O. Box 401335,
Hesperia, CA 92340.

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A CLASH FOR THE AGES IN MEMORIAL GYM

by Scott Spires, guest columnist,
Kokomo Tribune, Dec. 23, 2018

The 1972 Kokomo sectional championship featured Kokomo (17-4) vs. Haworth (17-5) along with two words: "Jack Crawford." The coach Carl McNulty-led Kokomo Wildkats' starters were Dirk Hankins, Brad McNulty, Hansell

Reese, Barry Moore and Tim Sisneros. Going into the sectional, Hankins had averaged 18 points per game, McNulty 17, and Sisneros 16. McNulty also averaged 10-plus assists per game. The Haworth Huskies were coached by a former Wildkats' star player, Harold Cox. Their starters were Jack Crawford, Dave Swihart, Don Wheeler, Mike McCool, and Mike Platt. Wheeler was the top scorer and coach McNulty once called Platt "one of the best true guards in Indiana."

If old man Memorial Gymnasium could talk, the 1972 sectional championship would have to be a big part of the conversation as it was one of the best games ever played in the gym. The atmosphere was past electrified. From start to finish, the sold-out crowd of 6,800 was hysterical. Every shot was filled with drama and the decibel level was beyond belief. It was so loud in fact, that many players could not hear the referees' whistles.

The first quarter went to the Huskies 18-14, but the Kats took a 37-36 lead into halftime. In the third quarter, Kokomo found its shots and the plays flowed for the Kats as they ended the third with a 58-51 lead.

Early in the fourth quarter, it appeared that the Kats might be able to put a safer amount of distance in the score. The Wildkats would have, if not for two words: Jack Crawford. He scored 23 points and gathered 19 rebounds for the Huskies that night. Crawford carried, then rallied, the Huskies. At the six-minute mark, with the Kats up 60-57, Haworth's Wheeler — a big, rebounding center at 6-foot-5 — fouled out, just as the Huskies were slowly closing the gap. The Kats again tried to put some distance back into the score. They led 62-57 with 5:00 left.



Mike Platt (with Mike McCool, left)

Crawford then scored and teammate Swihart hit two from the line. The Kats' lead was now 62-61. Off the bench, the Huskies' Don Hiatt was fouled and made both ends of a one-and-one and Haworth had the lead at 63-62. After Brad McNulty scored two of his 19 points for a 64-63 Kat lead with 2:40 left, Crawford scored on a layup and the Huskies took a 65-64 lead at 2:15. Following a Kat miss, Crawford was fouled and hit both from the line for a three-point lead. Sisneros, Kokomo's 6-7 center, always had a good jump shot and he scored with one, as Kokomo cut the Huskies lead to 67-66. Then, a potentially colossal turnover by Haworth with just :30 left gave Kokomo a chance to take the lead.

The Kats got off two shots around the rim before Haworth rebounded. The Kats had no choice, so they had to foul with just :10 left, putting Swihart at the line. Swihart, a forward with a frame more built for the gridiron or a boxing ring than the basketball court, was always focused. He canned both ends of a one-and-one and Haworth led 69-66. The Kats' Moore connected for two in the waning seconds, but the Kats had run out of time. And this one was history: Haworth Huskies 69, Kokomo Wildkats 68.

To borrow one of coach McNulty's musings: "Somebody's going to win tonight and somebody's going to lose." The Wildkats lost. And the season had ended way too soon. They finished the 1971-72 season with a stellar 17-5 record. Sure, it was a painful loss. But Haworth won, fair and square. Now the entire community turned its support to Haworth at the Anderson Regional. But unfortunately, the Huskies fell to a rugged Blackford Bruins team 56-54 during the opening round in another nail-biter. The 1971-72 Kokomo Wildkats and

Haworth Huskies were loaded with talent. Both teams took the train as far as fate allowed. They earned their accomplishments, celebrated their successes, and endured adversity and heartache, both as teams and individuals. And now almost 50 years later, it is etched in time but with fading memories. This was the story of the 1972 Kokomo sectional championship. In memory of Bruce Liggin, Tim Sisneros and Tom Underwood.

KOKOMO HAWORTH'S MIKE PLATT

by **Dave Kitchell, Kokomo Tribune.** This is a section of an article printed on Aug. 12, 2014, entitled "Howard County Sports Hall of Fame names new class."

Mike Platt was one of the most durable two-sport athletes ever at Haworth High School and the University of Evansville. Platt started in each of Haworth's 70 basketball games in 1971, '72 and '73, scoring 962 points (13.7) and graduating as the career leader in steals (153) and assists (200). The Huskies compiled a 44-26 won-lost record over those three years, winning the Kokomo Sectional in '72.

Also, as a second baseman on the Haworth baseball squad, Platt was a three-year starter on teams that finished 63-21 overall, winning the first two Olympic Conference championships ever contested, along with two sectional and one regional title. Platt was a two-time all-conference selection. He batted .341 as a senior on a team that finished 24-7, claiming conference and sectional championships. He was also a member of Kokomo's Post 6 American Legion baseball team that captured the 1972 state championship.

At Evansville, Platt was a three-year starter for the basketball squad,

playing in 109 of 110 games over four years as the Purple Aces amassed a 67-43 record. He was a two-time all-Indiana Collegiate Conference selection and graduated as the program's No. 13 all-time career scorer with 1,135 points. He was the team's MVP as a senior. An outstanding point guard, Platt led the team in assists in '75, '76 and '77.

Platt had an equally outstanding baseball career at Evansville as a four-year starter at second base. He played on ICC championship teams of '75 and '76 and was a three-time all-conference selection and team MVP as a senior. He graduated as the career leader in runs scored, triples and walks.



MIKE PLATT

Following graduation at Evansville, Platt was head baseball coach for one season. He continued his baseball career with the Kokomo Highlanders of the National Baseball Congress. His father, legendary coach Joe Platt, is also a member of the Howard County Sports Hall of Fame. Mike lives in Kokomo and has been a partner in the Jim Kitchell Insurance Agency. He has two daughters, Hillery and Natalie.

John Wooden's Birth Certificate Closes Case on Where He Was Born

by Curtis H. Tomak,
IHSBHS Board member

John Robert Wooden was an All-State basketball player at Martinsville High School in Indiana in 1927 and 1928, graduating in 1928. Afterwards, he went on to become a three-time All-American basketball player at Purdue University (1930-1932), and, according to the Registrar's Office at Purdue, he graduated from Purdue in 1932 with a degree in physical education. John became a fine high school basketball coach and then a tremendous college basketball coach whose UCLA teams won an incredible 10 NCAA national championships in a 12-year period (1964-1975). He is in multiple halls of fame, is widely considered to be the greatest basketball coach of all time, and has received innumerable honors and awards.

Wooden has written much about himself, and a great amount has been written about him by other people. I have researched him for a number of years using a wide variety of documentary sources and, based upon my research, have found that a number of things that are included in the standard account of his life are not true. This problem is complicated by the fact that the inaccurate information is commonly believed to be true and has been perpetuated for decades. Discussions of some of these inaccuracies and much new information pertaining to John Wooden's life are available in some publications I authored or co-authored (Tomak 2015; Tomak, Stuttgen, and Tomak 2010, 2012a, 2012b). John Wooden was born to Hugh and Roxie Wooden on October 14, 1910, in Morgan County, Indiana. But where was he born in

Morgan County? The following discussion provides the answer:

According to my research, one of the inaccurate beliefs about John Wooden's life is that he was born at the little town of Hall, which is a story that has been and continues to be repeated over and over. I have seriously researched John Wooden and his family for years, and, although John asserted that he was born in Hall, I have not found any evidence that supports that assertion. On the other hand, there is much evidence to show that he was born in Martinsville. That evidence is provided by his parents and by various documents, some of which were furnished by Wooden himself, as presented below.

In John Wooden's book *They Call Me Coach*, first published in 1972, John states that "I was born in a little place called Hall where my father worked as a tenant farmer. . . ." (Wooden 1972, page 21). In a later book (Wooden 1997, page 3), he states that "I was born on a Friday morning in a little place called Hall, Indiana." I had no reason to question the Hall birthplace story until 2010 when I began researching his life and his family. In conducting that research, I emphasized the use of primary records and related sources to find information and to fact-check information about the Woodens. When I began thinking about where I might find records pertaining to the Woodens, I remembered that the family had been members of the First Christian Church in Martinsville, so I thought there might be pertinent information in the church records. There was.

Upon checking the 1910 church membership directory, I discovered that John Wooden's parents lived at 460 North Jefferson Street in Martinsville in 1910, which is the year that John was born. I also found that this is the same address

that is given for them in the 1910 federal census. Additional research located many records specifying that John's parents had lived in Martinsville from 1907 to 1914, with various documents dated from October 1907 to September 1914. The documents specifically confirmed that they lived on North Jefferson Street.

The following residential sequence for the Woodens is well-documented by church records, census records, numerous items published in Martinsville newspapers of the time, various postcards sent during the time, records of the Knights of Pythias of which John's father was a member, school records, and real estate records. John's parents moved to Martinsville in June 1907 before they had any children. In October 1907 they began living at 460 North Jefferson Street in a house owned by John Rothrock (the father of John Wooden's mother). The move to North Jefferson Street is reported on page 2 of the *Martinsville Daily Reporter* for October 2, 1907, by an item stating that John Rothrock has bought a "cottage" on North Jefferson Street and that it will be occupied by his son-in-law, Hugh Wooden, and family. After seven years in Martinsville, the Woodens moved to Hall in September 1914 when John was almost four years old. That move is reported on page 4 of the *Martinsville Daily Reporter* for September 12, 1914, by an item stating that the Hugh Wooden family, who had been living at the Rothrock property on North Jefferson Street, had moved to Hall. The Woodens lived in Hall only one year before moving to Monrovia in Morgan County in 1915. They then moved to a farm at Centerton in Morgan County in 1917 and then moved back to Martinsville in 1925 where John's parents lived until they

passed away in the 1950s.

A significant result of the foregoing research is that it shows John Wooden not only living in Martinsville from 1925 until 1928 when he left to go to Purdue but that he also lived in Martinsville from 1910 (his birth-year) until September 1914 when the Woodens moved to Hall.

The discoveries that John's parents were living in Martinsville when John was born in 1910 and that they lived in Martinsville from 1907 to 1914 are significant, and, to my knowledge, that information had not been previously reported. Also, those discoveries made me think that John might actually have been born in Martinsville and that his birth had taken place at his parent's home at 460 North Jefferson Street (Fig. 1) since there was no hospital at Martinsville at the time and children were customarily born at home in 1910.



Figure 1

This is a photograph taken in 2010 of the house at 460 N. Jefferson Street in Martinsville. This is where John Wooden's family lived from October 1907 to September 1914 and, based on the evidence, is where John was born (Photo by Curtis H. Tomak, courtesy of Herbert A. Knieper and Florence Yvonne Knieper).

I checked newspapers and found that page 4 of the issue of the *Martinsville Daily Reporter* published on the day that John Wooden was born contained an

announcement of his birth. It reads: "Born to Mr. and Mrs. Hugh Wooden, North Jefferson Street, a son --- John Robert." Hall is not mentioned. In those days, if John had been born at Hall when the family was living in Martinsville, it almost certainly would have been mentioned in a newspaper. Furthermore, his father sent out postcards announcing John's birth (Fig. 2), and I have seen three of them. Two of the postcards have a space for the parent's address on the picture side of the postcard, and both of those postcards state that John's parents are "of Martinsville." One of the postcards was sent to John's grandparents at Hall and was postmarked at Martinsville at 8:30 AM on the day after John was born. It says that everyone is doing fine and invites the grandparents to come down and visit soon.

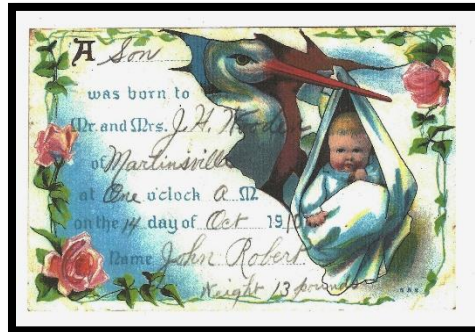


Figure 2

This is a postcard announcing John Wooden's birth. It was sent by his father and was postmarked at Martinsville at 8:30 AM on the day after John was born. It states that John's parents are "of Martinsville" (Permission granted by the owner for publication in this article).

Morgan County school enumeration records also provide evidence that Martinsville is John Wooden's birthplace. These are official records compiled by an enumerator (similar to a census taker) who interviewed parents of school-aged children in order to obtain information about those

children. The requested information includes place of birth, which is sometimes recorded in a general way as county or township or sometimes in a more specific way as town or community. The records that are available for John Wooden are for the years 1916-1924. None of the entries for John mention Hall or indicate Hall in any way; however, some of those records specifically state that Martinsville is his birthplace. If John had been born at Hall, one would think that his parents would have told that to the enumerator at least one of those years.

Importantly, there are also some official records that John completed which state that his birthplace is Martinsville. Those records include John's 1932 marriage application when he and Nellie were getting married and his 1941 Social Security application when he was coaching basketball at South Bend Central High School in Indiana. A copy of the former is at the public library in Martinsville, and the latter was provided by the Social Security Administration.

The evidence that has been presented so far in this article makes a very convincing case that John Wooden was born in Martinsville. If that is not enough, I have now seen a document that provides the exclamation point to Martinsville being his birthplace and closes the case. John's birth certificate states that his birthplace is Martinsville (Fig. 3).

According to the Hall birthplace story, John was born in Hall where the family was living and where his father was working as a tenant farmer. However, I have found no evidence to support that story. Instead, I have found a great amount of evidence that John Wooden was born in Martinsville at 460 North Jefferson Street where the family

was living. In addition, I found a 1910 newspaper item that indicates his father's occupation at the time of John's birth. That item was published just 10 days before John was born and states that his father is a clerk at the Hill-Sadler grocery store in Martinsville (*Martinsville Daily Reporter*, October 4, 1910; page 4).

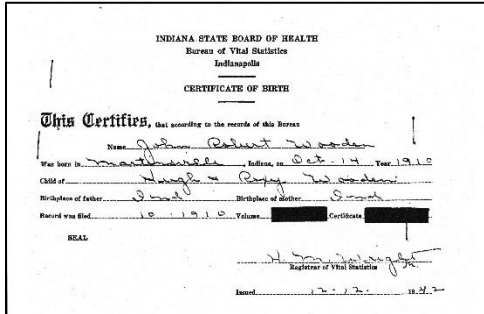


Figure 3

This is a certified Certificate of Birth for John Wooden issued by the State of Indiana. It states that his birthplace is Martinsville. Certificate numbers were redacted by the author (Permission granted by the owners for publication in this article).

I believe that the evidence is conclusive that John Wooden was born in Martinsville and that Martinsville should be recognized and accepted as his birthplace, replacing the inaccurate story that he was born in Hall.

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Huntington Co. Brief Sectional History Recap by

Brian Miller, IHSBHS member

At one time, Huntington County had 15 schools competing in the IHSAA sectional tournament: Andrews (Dallas Township), Banquo (Wayne Township), Bippus (Warren Township), Clear Creek, Huntington, Huntington Catholic, Huntington Township, Jefferson Township, Lancaster, Markle, Monument City (Polk Township), Roanoke (Jackson Township), Rock Creek, Union, and Warren (Salamonie Township). With consolidation in 1967, the number was pared to two (Huntington North and Catholic), and from 1986 to the present there has been only one county representative—Huntington North.

In 1915 and 1916, Huntington High went to the Bluffton sectional and was joined there in 1917 by Markle and Warren. The next year,

Andrews and Rock Creek went to the Hartford City sectional with the other three schools. From 1919 through 1964, all Huntington County schools played in sectionals held within their own county. In 1965, Warren returned to Bluffton for one year, then came back to Huntington for one year. The sectionals were hosted by Huntington every year but two until 1966. In 1927 and 1928, Warren had been the site. Huntington North then became the host from 1967 until 1997, with 1971 being the one exception. North and Catholic went to a sectional hosted by Eastbrook that year in the Marion Coliseum.

Since the advent of class basketball in 1998, Huntington North (HNHS) has hosted the sectional 13 times including the 2022 edition. HNHS has gone to Marion four times, Fort Wayne Northrop and Fort Wayne Wayne three times each, and Anderson and Columbia City once apiece. All in all, Huntington County schools have played at 10 different sites over the years.

Huntington High won 36 Sectionals (1918-26, '28- '34, '38, '40-'42, '45-'48, '50, '52-'54, '57, and '60-66). Huntington North has won 23 (1969-79, '82- '86, '93'- '96, '99, 2001, and 2019). Huntington Township (1944, '55, and '58) and Clear Creek (1927, '37, and '56) each advanced to the regional three times. Huntington Catholic (1949 and '59), Roanoke (1935 and '36), and Union (1939 and '51) each claimed the sectional trophy twice. Altogether, Huntington County schools have won 71 sectional titles.

Pre-consolidation (1967), the total sectional record of all the county's public schools was 526-515 (.515). Of those totals, Huntington High won 138 and lost 13 for a winning percentage of .914. The other county schools went 388-502 (.436). Clear Creek led the way with a 52-42

(.553) record. Union Twp. was next with a 50-41 (.549) mark. Roanoke was right behind at .548, going 51-42. Warren also posted a winning record at 45-43 (.511). Huntington Township was 39-40 (.494). Andrews was right behind at 38-42 (.475). Lancaster posted a 31-40 (.437) mark. Bippus was 23-36 (.390). Monument City finished with a 14-29 record (.326). Jefferson won 16 and lost 41 (.281). Rock Creek's 17-44 (.278) was very close to that. Banquo closed with a 10-32 (.238) mark. Markle won two games while losing 30 (.063). Huntington Catholic, which closed in 1985, posted a 29-45 (.392) record.

Since consolidation, Huntington North has gone 79-33 (.705) in the sectional. Since the IHSAA went to class basketball, the Vikings have had a record of 14-22 (.389) through 2022. Dating back to 1915, whenever schools in Huntington County have been in the sectional, they have all been together wherever the tournament was played--with the exception of 1965. How many other counties can make that claim?

Moving up the tournament trail, Huntington High won ten regionals, starting in 1921 and ending with a four-year run from 1961 through 1964. Huntington North has claimed two regionals, in 1969 and 1999. Huntington High won the semi-state twice, in 1945 and 1964. The latter team was the state tournament runner-up that year. In the pre-semistate era, Roanoke made the state finals in 1914, and Huntington High reached that plateau four times, 1918 through 1921.

That's pretty much how the Huntington County teams have fared in the state tournament, over the years.

INDIANA'S "SWEET 15" GYMS **by Doug Bradley**

Magic City (strip club) hasn't

lived up to its name much lately. But the rabbit's ready to pop out of the hat again Dec 3. That's when the granddaddy of Indiana's Sweet 15 is scheduled to host a Bearcat basketball game for the first time since a tornado blew it onto the disabled list, Nov. 5, 2017.

Normally, in basketball parlance, sweet precedes 16. In Indiana high school gyms, though, No. 16 never materialized. The Muncie Fieldhouse opened as the world's first 7,000-seat high school gymnasium in December 1928. East Chicago Central's Baratto Center became the 15th such venue in November 1987. Only 10 of the dozens of new and remodeled gyms opened since have seated more than 4,000. Of those, only Vincennes, new in November 1988 with just under 5,500 seats, and Princeton, in November 2012 with about 5,200, have topped 5,000.

With iconic Muncie recalled to life for the Fishers HS visit, it's time to update the tales of the entire Sweet 15:

1. Anderson Wigwam

Architect: Arthur Brandt Henning, Anderson

First IHSAA tournament, seats: 1962, 8,240

Highest IHSAA paid attendance: 8,871, 1966 regional

Seats today: 8,240

Even with a new roof and a lessening tax debt, the Wigwam remains in limbo. The 882 stage seats, new for the 1963 sectional, are still unsafe and chained to the wall, but the original dozen more seats than Seymour's total are ready for use. Anderson has the option to play in the Wigwam up to 12 times a year should it reopen soon.

2. Seymour Lloyd E. Scott Gymnasium

Architect: Everett I. Brown Co., Indianapolis

First tourney, seats: 1971, 8,422

Top attendance: 8,732, 1973 regional
Seats today: 8,228

When Seymour was awarded a regional in 1971, newspapers statewide reported that the gym was expandable to 9,600 seats. No temporary seats were used for the first regional, a sellout with 8,252 paid. Portable bleachers atop the concession stands were used for the next three regionals, expanding the capacity to "only" 8,900.

3. East Chicago Central John A. Baratto Athletic Center

Architect: Bittner & DeTella, East Chicago

First tourney, seats: 1988, 8,100

Top attendance: 7,341, 1991 regional
Seats today: 8,054

Glenn Robinson and Alan Henderson combined in 1991 to sell out the Hoosier Dome for the second and last time. As big a draw as Robinson and his Gary Roosevelt Panthers were for the state final, they were still about 600 tickets short of selling out the Baratto Center two weeks earlier.

4. Richmond Tiernan Center

Architect: Ron Maze of Jacobs/Maze Associates, Richmond

First tourney, seats: 1985, 7,886

Top attendance: 7,652, 1985 regional
Seats today: 7,886

Never sold out for an IHSAA tournament, the first regional in 1985 came close. Friday night, 106 seats were empty for Connersville-South Dearborn and Richmond-Milan. All 7,705 were sold when Richmond scored the first nine points of the third quarter and held off Connersville, 65-47, Saturday night.

5. New Castle Fieldhouse

Architect: Ralph Legeman
Associates, Evansville
First tourney, seats: 1960, 9,249
Top attendance: 9,165, 1960 regional
Seats today: 7,829

“The largest and finest high school fieldhouse in the world” banner has hung on the south wall since the gym opened. The title of “largest” passed to Anderson when the original portable bleachers were sold several years ago. The Henry County Community Foundation now has a “Fieldhouse Fund” to pool money for replacing the portables. It remains to be seen whether the new total will provide more, less, or exactly the same number as the 1,408 seats that were sold.

6. Elkhart North Side Gym

Architect: Harold Maurer of Maurer & Maurer, South Bend
First tourney, seats: 1955, 8,284
Top attendance: 8,343, 1956 regional
Seats today: 7,345

Green North Side Junior High School (now Middle School) has had to share its home with blue Central and crimson Memorial since the high school split in fall 1972. While it's not completely clear whether “the world's largest junior high school gymnasium” originally had 8,248 or 8,284 seats, it is clear Blazers and Bolts and Chargers and Colts will give way to the not-so-Mangy Lions and Cubs wearing royal blue and gold next year.

7. Michigan City Wolves' Den

Architect: John Bartels of Boyd E. Phelps, Inc., Michigan City
First tourney, seats: 1973, 7,304
Top attendance: 6,946, 1984 regional
Seats today: 7,304

This gym was sold out for three regionals from 1981 to 1988. The

middle one, 1984, was easy. With senior Delray Brooks on his way to becoming co-Mr. Basketball, Rogers was 25-0 and No. 1 in the polls. Valparaiso was 20-3 and No. 11. The Duneland Conference rivals were paired with lesser opponents in the first round. They had met for the regional title a year earlier with 14-10 Valparaiso beating the 20-3 hosts, 34-32, in overtime. The home fans weren't disappointed with the rematch. No team had scored more than 41 against Valpo in four tourney games, but Brooks himself scored 43 as Rogers won its 27th straight, 70-57.

8. Marion Bill Green Arena

Architects: Walter Scholer & Associates, Lafayette/Gerald Guy & Associates, Marion
First tourney, seats: 1971, 7,630
Top attendance: 7,486, 1983 regional
Seats today: 6,974

In its heyday, the Marion Coliseum had 6,500 seats. Its first sellout was the 1940 regional. Over the next 30 years, 17 sectionals and 15 more regionals were sellouts. After the new building opened with 1,100 more seats, the state championship seasons of the '80s accounted for three of 11 regional sellouts through 1997. The three-peat year, 1987, was the only sectional sellout ever in the new building.

9. Washington Hatchet House

Architect: Lester Rouff & Associates, Vincennes
First tourney, seats: 1967, 7,103
Top attendance: 6,954, 1969 regional
Seats today: 6,907

In 1995, with only two regionals left, Southridge claimed that only two times in the preceding 20 years had Washington's regional attendance exceeded Southridge's

capacity. Actually, it was nine, but the IHSAA awarded Southridge the final regional. The Hatchet House, while not a sellout in 1996, had paid attendance of 6,617. Southridge was a sellout a year later, 5,932 paid. In Washington, they're still scratching their heads.

10. Southport Fieldhouse

Architect: Al Ford of Lennox, Matthews, Simmons & Ford, Indianapolis
First tourney, seats: 1959, 7,290
Top attendance: 7,094, 1962 sectional
Seats today: 6,744

A fitting home for the finals of the Marion County Tournament since it opened, Southport remains a great place to watch basketball. As the county's second sectional site, it allowed the IHSAA to cut the Butler field to 14 teams in 1959. It was sold out the first year and three of the next six. After the Coliseum became a third Marion County site in 1966, and when no sectional in the state had more than eight teams, attendance plummeted. While Hinkle's paid attendance was only 1,550 per session for its last sectional in 1993. Southport, with only a four-team field the last two years before class sectionals, averaged only 915 paid per session in 1997.

11. Lafayette Marion L. Crawley Athletic Center

Architect: Walter Scholer & Associates, Lafayette
First tourney, seats: 1970, 6,690 (7,170 for regional)
Top attendance: 6,810, 1971 regional
Seats today: 6,690 (7,154)

There have always been 6,690 18-inch seats in the gym, originally marked in black, floor-level and balcony. For regionals, the balcony had a second set of numbers, in red,

for 16-inch seats. Ticket demand was high enough in 1973 that the red numbers were used for the sectional as well as the regional. Sadly, red numbers were never needed after that, even for regionals.

12. Muncie Fieldhouse

Architect: Houck & Smenner, Muncie

First tourney, seats: 1929, 7,472

Top attendance: 7,389, 1962 sectional

Seats today: 6,578

Muncie Central always sponsored the regional when all seats had to be assigned. Township schools rotated as sponsors of the sectional when all seats were general admission. Royerton was responsible for a dubious record in 1946, the first-ever sectional sellout for the building. Delaware County schools' athletic coffers shared the windfall when 7,790 season tickets were sold for 7,290 actual seats. With no Muncie team playing Thursday night, and several no-shows when Central played Friday morning and when Burris played Friday afternoon, crowds were manageable. But when Central and Burris met for the last game Friday night, the 500 fans without seats were nearly literally overflowing into the aisles.

13. Gary West Side Cougar Den

Architect: Fred Collins, Gary

First tourney, seats: 1970, 7,216

Top attendance: 7,138, 1970 and 1973 regionals

Seats today: 6,402

Designed to be the world's biggest box gym, West Side signed on with 88 rows of 82 seats. Water ruined the balcony bleachers on one side, so orange-and-blue molded plastic replacements, with wider seats and more and wider aisles, have resulted in a loss of 814 seats. West Side still

has buckets collecting water in the foyer, but nothing is untoward inside the Cougar Den.

14. Columbus Memorial Gymnasium

Architect: McGuire & Shook, Indianapolis

First tourney, seats: 1955, 7,266

Top attendance: 7,125, 1955 and 1956 regionals

Seats today: 6,066

With ramps reminiscent of Hinkle Fieldhouse, Columbus is one of the most substantial gyms ever built. In the aftermath of the Fairgrounds Coliseum explosion Halloween Night 1963, the state fire marshal inspected all 64 sectional sites for exit space. Columbus fared better than any other site, not losing a single seat. Muncie, at the other extreme, agreed to sell only 4,942 of its nearly 7,400 tickets for the 1965 sectional.

15. Kokomo Memorial Gymnasium

Architect: McGuire & Shook, Indianapolis

First tourney, seats: 1950, about 7,361

Top attendance: 7,248, 1951 regional
Seats today: 5,203

Every few years, the Kokomo Tribune reports that Memorial Gym was the world's largest when it opened. Actually, the first large gym in the post-war years of exploding ticket demand was about 100 seats shy of Muncie's from 1950-54. Expansion plans never panned out and capacity fell under 7,000 by 1960, when Muncie added seats by repainting them smaller to compete with New Castle's huge new plant.

Chronologically by first tournament:

1929 Muncie

1950 Kokomo

1955 Columbus

1955 Elkhart North Side

1959 Southport

1960 New Castle

1962 Anderson

1967 Washington

1970 Lafayette

1970 Gary West Side

1971 Seymour

1971 Marion

1973 Michigan City Rogers

1985 Richmond

1988 East Chicago Central

Historically highest capacity:

9,249 New Castle

9,122 Anderson

8,422 Seymour

8,284 Elkhart North Side

8,100 East Chicago Central

7,938 Loos Field House (in Addison TX 1967) Only 7,500 by 19-inch seat measurements)

7,886 Richmond

7,630 Marion

7,610 Muncie

7,425 Davis Field House (Dallas TX 2006)

7,361 Kokomo

7,304 Michigan City Rogers

7,290 Southport

7,266 Columbus

7,216 Gary West Side

7,170 Lafayette

7,103 Washington

Capacity today:

8,424 New Castle

8,240 Anderson

8,228 Seymour

8,054 East Chicago Central

7,864 Loos Field House (Addison TX) (7,426 if 19" seats)

7,425 Davis Field House (Dallas TX)

7,345 Elkhart North Side

7,304 Michigan City

6,974 Marion

6,907 Washington

6,744 Southport

6,690 Lafayette (7,154)

6,579 Muncie

6,402 Gary West Side

6,066 Columbus North

5,610 Richmond

5,203 Kokomo

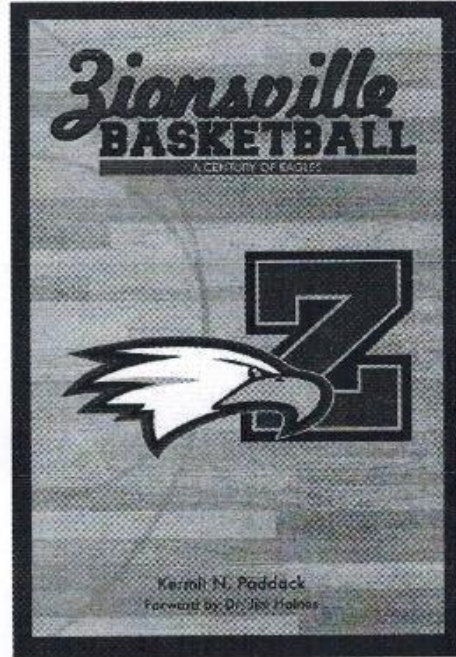
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(Indiana High School Basketball Historical Society)

Join a statewide group of sports-minded individuals who have a common interest in the history of high school basketball, Indiana's favorite sport. Membership dues are currently just \$10 per year. Established in 1994, and loosely associated with the Hall of Fame in New Castle, IHSBHS (pronounced "ish-bish") publishes four seasonal newsletters for its members, each issue usually 12 to 16 pages in content, known as Boxscore. This newsletter contains diverse items, including short stories that recount tales of former Hoosier ballplayers and their schools' teams. Members are invited, but not required, to submit their own personal stories for inclusion in Boxscore.

Membership Application

Name: _____

Mailing Address: _____

E-Mail (optional for receiving Boxscore) _____

Telephone No. (optional) _____

High School and graduation year _____

Check or money order to IHSBHS for \$10 enclosed? _____

Mail to: IHSBHS Treasurer Rocky Kenworthy, 710 E. 800 S., Clayton, IN 46118

Board of Directors: Roger Robison (Frankfort '54), Harley Sheets (Lebanon '54), Cliff Johnson (Western '54), Rocky Kenworthy (Cascade '74), Tim Puet (Valley, PA '69), Leigh Evans (Castle '86), John Ockomon (Pendleton '60), Jeff Luzadder (Dunkirk '74), Curtis Tomak (Linton '59), Kermit Paddack (Sheridan '02), Bill Boone (Ladoga '56).

IHSBHS MEMBER PROFILE FORM
(Tell us about yourself)

Complete this form and mail to: Rocky Kenworthy, IHSBHS, 710 E, 800 S, Clayton, IN 46118. Profiles may appear in Boxscore from time to time.

Today's Date _____

Member's Name _____ **Phone No.** _____

Email _____ **Address** _____

Occupation/Profession _____ **Retired?** _____

Major Interests/Hobbies _____

Past Sports Activities _____

Where Born? _____ **Year Born** _____

High School _____ **H.S. graduation year** _____

College or Univ. _____

Area of Study _____ **Degree(s)/Year** _____

Additional Comments You'd Like To Share: _____



Indiana Basketball Hall of Fame Annual Membership Program

The Indiana Basketball Hall of Fame is committed to recognizing Indiana's Basketball Legends and inspiring Indiana's basketball future.

The Indiana Basketball Hall of Fame Foundation, Inc. is a 501(c)(3) not-for-profit organization. The operation of the Hall of Fame is dependent upon attendance, gift shop sales, funds generated through activities and events, gifts and donations. The Annual Membership Program was established to allow all basketball enthusiasts to participate in the support of preserving and sharing Indiana's basketball history.

As an Annual Member of the Indiana Basketball Hall of Fame you will receive the following recognition and benefits during the next year:

- name recognition on the Annual Membership display in the lobby of the museum
- name recognition in the Indiana Basketball History Magazine, & Induction Banquet Programs
- subscription to Indiana Basketball History Magazine
- Hall of Fame complimentary gift
- free museum admission for the member and 3 guests, 20% discount in the gift shop
- invitations to annual receptions for inductees and honorees along with other special events

Please complete the membership form, and keep the Indiana Basketball Hall of Fame in the GAME!

2023 Membership Form

Membership Categories

<input type="checkbox"/> Active H.S. Coach	\$25
<input type="checkbox"/> Active H.S. Referee	\$25
<input type="checkbox"/> Regular Member	\$100
<input type="checkbox"/> Benefactor	\$250
<input type="checkbox"/> Patron	\$500
<input type="checkbox"/> Lifetime	\$3,000 (Cumulative)

New Cumulative Giving Levels

1962 Society	\$3,000	to	\$4,999
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Sagamore Circle	\$25,000	to	\$49,999
Pavy Society	\$50,000	to	\$99,999
Danielson Society	\$100,000+		

Contact Development Director, Trip Lukemeyer for any questions regarding the new cumulative giving levels or ways to support the Hall of Fame at trip@hoopshall.com or (317) 983-4667

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