

Collection #  
BV 3469,  
SC 2697

## CRISPUS ATTUCKS HIGH SCHOOL SCRAPBOOK, 1950–1996

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### COLLECTION INFORMATION

VOLUME OF COLLECTION:	1 bound volume, 3 folders
COLLECTION DATES:	1950–1996
PROVENANCE:	Billy Sears and Ernest R. Barnett, Indianapolis, July 2002
RESTRICTIONS:	None

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ALTERNATE FORMATS:

RELATED HOLDINGS:

ACCESSION NUMBER: 2002.0616

NOTES:

## HISTORICAL SKETCH

In 1955, led by Oscar Robertson, Crispus Attucks High School became the first Indianapolis school to win the state basketball championship. The school repeated the honor the following year. Coached by Ray Crowe, the school's basketball team had won 45 consecutive games when they were named the 1956 Indiana High School Athletic Association (IHSAA) champions. That year during the annual Kentucky vs. Indiana High School All-Stars game, star guard Robertson scored an unprecedented 34 points. Named Indiana's "Mr. Basketball," for the tournament, he was also voted the "star of stars" by the sports writers and broadcasters, and elected captain of the squad by his teammates. He was the first player in Indiana history to receive all three honors. Robertson had an outstanding college career while at the University of Cincinnati. He led the nation in scoring from 1958 to 1960, and he was named the outstanding collegiate player in each of those three seasons. After playing professionally with the Cincinnati Royals, Robertson was traded to the Milwaukee Bucks. Teamed with center Kareem Abdul Jabbar, the duo led the Bucks to the 1971 National Basketball Association (NBA) championship. Robertson retired after the 1973-74 season.

Opened as a high school for African American students, Crispus Attucks was banned from playing in the segregated IHSAA state basketball tournament until 1943. Ray Crowe, named head coach in 1950, began a winning dynasty that lasted seven years. At the end of his reign, his teams had won 193 games and lost 20. During his first season (1950-51), Crispus Attucks lost to Evansville Reitz during an afternoon game of the state finals. Robert Jewell, center for Crispus Attucks won the coveted Trester award at the end of the season. Other outstanding players on the team included Hallie Bryant, Willie "Dill" Gardner, and Bailey Robertson, later members of the Harlem Globetrotters.

After Ray Crowe became the athletic director, the school's basketball program continued to excel under the direction of head coach Bill Garrett. Garrett, a 1947 Shelbyville High School graduate, went on to break the color barrier at the Indiana University (IU) basketball program. He was named an All American in 1951, during his senior year at IU. He coached Crispus Attucks to their third state championship in 1959.

Sources:

Material in the collection.

*The Encyclopedia of Indianapolis*. Bloomington: Indiana University Press, 1994. F534.I55 E4 1994

Ogden, Dale. *Hoosier Sports Heroes: An Introduction to Indiana Sports*. Indianapolis: Guild Press of Indiana, 1990. GV584.I5 O38 1990

## SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTE

The collection is composed of a scrapbook (BV 3469) and two folders of materials (SC 2697) related to Crispus Attucks High School basketball teams. The scrapbook chronicles the 1950-51 basketball season with newspaper articles from the *Indianapolis Recorder*, *Indianapolis Times*, *Indianapolis News*, and the *Indianapolis Star*. There are also some news clippings and some miscellaneous items from other basketball seasons, namely 1951–52, 1954–55, 1955–56 and 1958–59. Miscellaneous items include tickets, programs, score cards, and cheerleading yells. Loose items are in SC 2697.

Bailey Robertson, brother of Oscar Robertson, played on the winning 1950-51 Crispus Attucks High School basketball team. He had a stellar college basketball career at Indiana Central (later University of Indianapolis). The second annual Bailey Robertson Memorial Games was held at the University of Indianapolis on 24 August 1996. A program booklet commemorating the event is in the collection.

## CONTENTS

CONTENTS	CONTAINER
Basketball Scrapbook, 1950–56	BV 3469
News clippings, 1955-56, n.d.	SC 2697, Folder 1
Miscellaneous Items, 1951-59, n.d. (program, score card, cheerleading yells)	SC 2697, Folder 2
Program, “Second Annual Bailey Robertson Memorial Games, 1996”	SC 2697, Folder 3

## CATALOGING INFORMATION

For additional information on this collection, including a list of subject headings that may lead you to related materials:

1. Go to the Indiana Historical Society's online catalog: <http://157.91.92.2/>
2. Click on the "Basic Search" icon.
3. Select "Call Number" from the "Search In:" box.

4. Search for the collection by its basic call number (in this case, BV 3469).
5. When you find the collection, go to the "Full Record" screen for a list of headings that can be searched for related materials.