

Montgomery County Historical Society Profiles
The First Indiana High School Basketball Tournament Champions
1911 Crawfordsville High School
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In 1936, Dr. James Naismith, basketball's inventor, attended the Indiana high school championship game between Frankfort and Fort Wayne Central. In his first exposure to Hoosier Hysteria, he recalled that the sight of the stadium "packed with fifteen thousand people, gave me a thrill I shall not soon forget." During his visit, Naismith told an Indianapolis audience: "Basketball really had its beginning in Indiana which remains today the center of the sport." Expanding upon this comment, Naismith associated Indiana's national distinction in basketball with the popularity and success of the state high school basketball tournament.¹*

The Indiana high school basketball tournament began in 1911, when Crawfordsville High School (C.H.S.) defeated Lebanon High School for the state title. Yet, the history of the tournament and the first champion really began earlier. This article provides an historical examination of the first Indiana high school basketball champions' season, and the beginning of one of Indiana's most cherished cultural traditions.



In 1900, C.H.S. organized one of the earliest high school basketball teams in Indiana. Unfortunately, finding opponents in the nascent years of the sport in the Hoosier state often proved difficult. In west-central Indiana, the citizens of Crawfordsville had a strong interest in the game, and facilitated the local development of basketball with a city league. The city league initially consisted of the high school, Wabash College, the Y.M.C.A., and the local Business College. Playing basketball against these teams comprised of adult males helped the high school players develop into a formidable team. C.H.S. finished second in the city league in 1901-02, and won the city championship the following season. Aside from the local competition, C.H.S. also found opponents among independent club teams such as the Indianapolis Rivals and the

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Indianapolis Athletics. In 1904, the University of Minnesota's men's basketball team visited Crawfordsville to play the high school team; Minnesota escaped with a 28-23 victory.²

High school basketball teams were initially the rarest of opponents. During the 1901-02 season, Crawfordsville defeated Indianapolis' Shortridge High School, the lone high school team on their schedule. In the opinion of the C.H.S. team, this victory gave them "the championship of the High Schools of Indiana in basketball." They justified this claim because they defeated Shortridge, and Shortridge defeated Indianapolis' Manual Training High School. A Crawfordsville newspaper issued a standing challenge on behalf of the local team, "They are willing to defend their title any time and any where," but no other challengers came calling.³



Crawfordsville High School, circa 1910
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More high schools began playing basketball in the subsequent years. In 1907, C.H.S. again styled themselves "the state champions" after finishing the season undefeated, but this time four high schools numbered among their opponents. By the 1908-09 season, all but two of C.H.S.'s opponents were high schools. Their opponents that season included high school teams from Hammond, Lafayette, Monticello, Rochester, Rockville, West Lafayette, and Montgomery County schools: Darlington, Breaks, and New Richmond. Another nearby team, Lebanon High School, also debuted on C.H.S.'s schedule that season.

This was "practically the first year" Lebanon fielded a team. Despite Lebanon's inexperience they still finished with a 22-2 record. Unfortunately for Lebanon, both their losses came against Crawfordsville, who finished the season at 16-1. The *Lebanon Patriot* conceded that Crawfordsville could claim the title of "state champions" yet again.⁴

Any high school's claim to be the "state champions" based simply upon best record grew more contentious at the end of the following season. In 1910, C.H.S. claimed to be the "state champion" after compiling a 13-1 record, a 92.8 winning percentage. Crawfordsville's lone loss that season came against Lebanon High School. Lebanon and Crawfordsville split their season series, each team winning on their respective home courts (29-15 at Crawfordsville on January 12 and 16-12 at Lebanon on February 25). Lebanon finished their season with a 20-2 record, for a 90.9 win percentage. Even though Crawfordsville had the better winning percentage, Lebanon won seven more games. Consequently, Lebanon refused to concede the "state championship" to Crawfordsville. The Lebanon High School yearbook argued their team's case, "Lebanon . . . has played more high schools than any other claimant, has defeated them all, and has been defeated only twice."⁵

Lebanon proposed a solution, and challenged Crawfordsville to a third game on a neutral court to decide the state champion. If Lebanon won they could justly claim the "state title" by virtue of having defeated Crawfordsville twice, and having the overall better winning percentage. Conversely, if Crawfordsville won the third game their claim to the title could no longer be

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questioned. Crawfordsville refused a re-match, and instead accepted an invitation to participate in a Midwest interstate basketball tournament held at the University of Wisconsin in Madison. The tournament organizers recognized Crawfordsville High School as the state's best team, and they were the only Hoosier state team in the tournament.⁶

The controversy over the "state championship" of 1909-10 created strong enmity between the neighboring high schools of Crawfordsville and Lebanon. After Crawfordsville declined to play a third game, Lebanon proceeded to discredit "the motives and actions" of their rival. C.H.S., in turn, threatened to file charges with the Indiana High School Athletic Association's (IHSAA) Board of Control, charging Lebanon with "unsportsmanlike conduct and unfair criticism." Thus, the Crawfordsville-Lebanon rivalry was born. C.H.S. basketball star, Ben Myers summed up the situation; when asked by the C.H.S. yearbook staff to describe his aim in life, he quipped, "To defeat Lebanon."⁷



Coach David A. Glascock
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The "state championship" controversy demanded a solution. Although the IHSAA began in 1898, the Indiana University Booster Club organized the first Indiana high school basketball tournament. It planned the event to take place at Indiana University in March 1911. The Booster Club's proposal called for a twelve-team tournament, which would include the teams with the best records from Indiana's congressional districts. The tournament winner would receive "a suitable trophy, emblematic of the state championship," and thereby quash any debate as to which team was the rightful title holder.⁸

Crawfordsville High School's basketball coach, David A. Glascock, began team practice in the autumn of 1910, with hopes of directing his team to another championship. At only twenty-five years old, Glascock had been involved on the Crawfordsville basketball scene for many years. He played basketball and graduated from Crawfordsville High School in 1905. He continued his athletic career and education at Wabash College, whence he graduated in 1909. Upon graduation, his high school alma mater, with a student body of nearly 400, hired him to teach science and coach baseball, basketball, football, and track. History and algebra teacher, Roy Hall, assisted Glascock as the team's faculty manager.

Hall scheduled the games, and prepared a very difficult schedule that consisted of eight out of fourteen games on the road. Naturally, the schedule would not be complete without a home and away series against Lebanon.⁹

Early twentieth-century basketball differed in many details from the sport that is familiar to twenty-first century players and audiences. Spalding's *Official Basket Ball Rules* governed how Indiana high school teams played the game during the first few decades of the 1900s. In 1957, Coach Glascock reflected on some of the rules in the early years of the sport. "There was very little dribbling," Glascock explained, "If [a player] dribbled the ball, he had to pass off." He

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added, “Only man-for-man defense was used . . . none of this zone stuff.” Glascock recalled that each team had a designated free throw shooter.¹⁰

There was also a center jump after every basket. This rule was in effect because the official baskets sanctioned by the Spalding rule book had no opening in the bottom of the net to release the ball after a goal. A center jump after a goal also allowed teams with a tall center or great jumper, who could consistently control the tip, to monopolize his team’s time of possession. Glascock also described how “a player could climb off the wall for a ball and stay in play. . . . Some of the courts were still enclosed by nets to keep the ball from bouncing into the stands.” The use of nets, or in some cases cages, gave rise to the description of early basketball players as *cagers*.¹¹

Scoring in the sport’s early years was generally quite low, despite playing twenty minute halves. The low scoring largely resulted from fewer shots being taken, and not necessarily because of poor field goal shooting. The lower scoring was a product of strict reliance on the then orthodox set-shot. Glascock explained, “A man could shoot only from a set position. . . . [The shots] were from the chest with two hands.” Jump shots, which the old coach derided as “fancy one-hand shots,” were rarely if ever used. Consequently, a tight man-to-man defense could deny a shooter the space necessary to release a set-shot. Teams needed a strong passing game in order to generate open field goal attempts. Glascock remembered, “I saw teams pass the ball back and forth for 10 minutes before attempting a shot.” Also key to the low offensive totals was the absence of screening, a fundamental part of the modern game. Instead, the offense tried to “evade the defensive five by dodging tactics.”¹²

Another major difference between the early and modern games were the roles of guards and forwards. In modern basketball, guards are smaller, and are often known for their offense; Modern-day forwards are bigger than guards in height and weight, and some specialize in perimeter or post defense. In 1910, however, the opposites were true. Guards, as their position name implied, concentrated their efforts on defense, and rarely scored. Early guards were sometimes taller, and usually of “heavier weight” than forwards. Conversely, forwards were typically “lighter, [and] the better shots.” These player characteristics were true of Crawfordsville’s team.¹³

Among the personnel available to Coach Glascock for the 1910-11 season, senior guard and four-year player Clio “Ick” Shaw returned as the only starter from the previous year’s squad. Naturally, Shaw earned team captaincy. The team captain in these years assumed most of the in-game responsibilities. A contemporary article described the captain as “the master of every situation which may arise” during the game. He was responsible for directing the plays, correcting the players, and making



*C.H.S. guard and team captain
Clio “Ick” Shaw
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substitution. The article cautioned the team captain, “Do not depend upon the coach too much. He will probably be ready to give advice between halves.”¹⁴

Other than Shaw, senior Newt Hill and junior Ben Myers were the only other returnees from the previous season with some, albeit limited, first team playing experience. The “fast and scrappy” Hill started alongside Shaw in the backcourt. The 6’3” Myers, who bore the nickname “Chicken” or “Chick” because of his lanky frame, arrived stronger for the new season. Coach Glascock expected great things from Myers as the starting center.¹⁵

Glascock planned to use junior Carroll Stevenson and Lebanon transfer Orville “Chine” Taylor alongside Myers in the frontcourt. Stevenson possessed “a remarkable fondness for making goals . . . from all angles,” and Taylor had been “the fastest and quickest man” on the Lebanon team. However, Glascock’s projected frontcourt of Stevenson, Taylor, and Myers missed a total of eight games during the fourteen game regular season. Fortunately, junior forward Hugh “Buddy” Miller filled in admirably as a starter in at least eleven games. Senior reserve guard Grady “Cassie” Chadwick rounded out Coach Glascock’s team. IHSAA rules limited rosters to seven players, although second team players John Green, Loren Warren, and Fred Hunt appeared in a few games when injuries thinned the first team roster.¹⁶

C.H.S. opened the season on the road versus Anderson High School on November 23, 1910. It was the first game in a new gymnasium at Anderson. The visitors pronounced the gym floor “an ideal one in every respect,” and a capacity audience of 200 witnessed the game. Yet, the new home court and crowd failed to prove advantageous for Anderson’s team. C.H.S. “gave Anderson an awful trimming,” and won the game, 42-13. Stevenson’s “phenomenal work . . . at throwing baskets was easily the feature of the game.” He led the visitors in scoring with twenty-four points, including fourteen from the free throw line. Myers added sixteen points, and Miller rounded out Crawfordsville’s scoring with a basket. Crawfordsville’s defense, or perhaps Anderson’s “great lack of accuracy in basket throwing,” limited the home team to two field goals

in the entire game; Anderson’s remaining points came from thirty-four percent free throw shooting.¹⁷



Crawfordsville’s Y.M.C.A.
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Unlike Anderson High School, Crawfordsville’s high school had no gymnasium at this time. Instead, the team practiced and played their home games at the local Y.M.C.A. located at 115-117 West Main Street. The team practiced a total of four hours a week, with practices held every other day. Practice was the most important part of Coach Glascock’s duties. One contemporary commentator stated, “If a team is properly trained before the game no side line coaching will be necessary.” After the victory at Anderson, Coach Glascock had nearly a month to focus solely upon

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practice before the team's next game on December 23.¹⁸

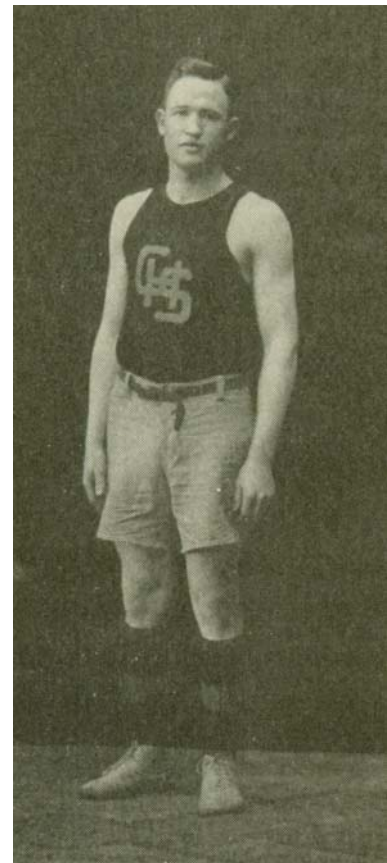
On that December date, Crawfordsville opened their home schedule against Monticello High School. The *Crawfordsville Journal* anticipated a great game between the two squads, because the previous season C.H.S. squeezed past Monticello for a narrow victory. Coach Glascock may have been less optimistic of another victory since Myers wrenched his ankle in practice and would be unavailable for the game. Forced to compensate for the injury to his budding center, Coach Glascock shifted versatile starting guard Shaw, to Myers' center position. Chadwick moved into the starting line-up at the vacant guard spot. The line-up shuffle resulted in some "ragged teamwork." Yet, strong defense from Crawfordsville's guards, and Shaw's team leading ten points led to a 23-12 victory over one of the fastest teams in northern Indiana.¹⁹

Three weeks later, C.H.S. played their third game of the season against an undermanned Lafayette High School team at Lafayette on January 14, 1911. Lafayette, playing without their starting guards, received another setback early in the game when their best remaining player Walter Skemp "mixed it up with Newt Hill." Officials ejected both Skemp and Hill. Despite the reductions to Lafayette's roster, they kept the game close through the first half when Crawfordsville led 12-10. In the second half, the personnel losses caught up to Lafayette, and Crawfordsville pulled away, outscoring their opponent 14 to 7 for a final score of 26-17. Stevenson led the Crawfordsville quintet in scoring with sixteen points.²⁰

A week later the Crawfordsville cagers hosted Brownsburg High School on January 21. The home team jumped out to an early lead in the first half, but the visitors held C.H.S. to two field goals in the second half. Nevertheless, Crawfordsville prevailed 35-22 behind Myers' seven field goals, and Stevenson's seventeen points.²¹

Crawfordsville's next game would be the first game for Orville Taylor. As a transfer student, Taylor was ineligible to play until after Christmas, but a broken collarbone sustained during practice in early December delayed his debut. His return to the team was fortuitous because Carroll Stevenson did not play in the next three games. To this point, Stevenson had led the team in scoring, averaging sixteen points per game. The cause of Stevenson's absence, whether injury or another reason, is unknown.²²

The Crawfordsville Y.M.C.A. hosted a Crawfordsville-Lafayette rematch on January 28. Crawfordsville's Hugh Miller picked up the offensive slack created by Stevenson's absence and netted twelve points. The *Crawfordsville Journal* wrote of Miller, "He showed himself to be a shifty little player and an expert basket hitter." Myers joined Miller with high scoring honors, and scored ten of his twelve points in the second half. In Taylor's debut, he "was after the ball at all times" and helped Crawfordsville's

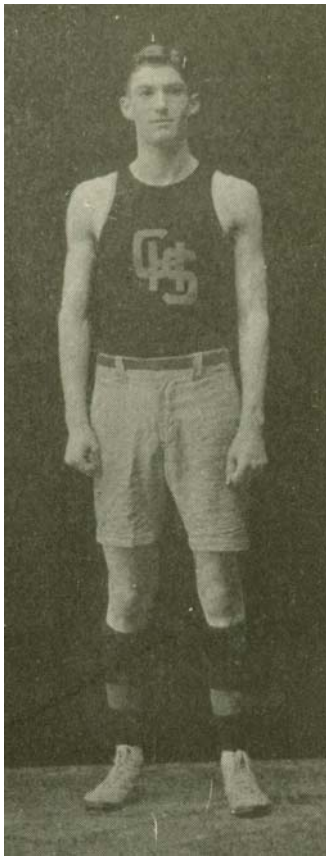


C.H.S. forward
Orville "Chine" Taylor
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defense frustrate Lafayette's offense. Although no one was ejected, the rematch with Lafayette proved to be another rough game when a blow to Shaw's mouth loosened two teeth and forced him to leave the game. Despite this, C.H.S. won easily, 29-13.²³

Undefeated at 5-0, the Crawfordsville quintet next journeyed to Marion to compete against that city's high school on February 4. Unfortunately, little is known about this game. None of the Marion newspapers gave much attention to the contest other than reporting the score. Despite it being a road game, the *Crawfordsville Journal* provides the best existing account, "The battle was a hard and clean one, neither side resorting to dirty playing. The first half ended in C.H.S.'s favor but the Crawfordsville boys fell down in the second half." Marion handed Crawfordsville its first loss of the season, 34-32. Crawfordsville High School's yearbook blamed the loss on "the small, poorly lighted floor and the bad conditions of the baskets."²⁴



C.H.S. center
Ben "Chick" Myers
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Coach Glascock's team rebounded from the loss the next day when they returned home to host Terre Haute's Wiley High School. Despite being fatigued from their cross-state trip, C.H.S. held the visitors, who possessed "a very scanty knowledge of the game," to a single field goal and a pair of free throws in the first half for an 18-4 Crawfordsville lead. Wiley only mustered one other field goal in the second half. Crawfordsville rested their forwards and gave extended minutes to reserves Grady Chadwick and Fred Hunt as the hometown team cruised to a 31-6 victory. Myers led the team with eighteen points.²⁵

The Crawfordsville basketball crew boarded the Big Four Railroad and traveled west to Champaign, Illinois for their next competition on February 8. Remarkably, the train arrived in Champaign only twenty minutes before the tip against Champaign High School. The teams squared off in Miebach's hall in front of a large crowd of spectators. According to the *Crawfordsville Journal*, "The game was very rough, many fouls being called on both sides. The Champaign boys were big huskies and played a game which was a mixture of basket and fo[o]t ball." The *Champaign Daily News*, despite describing the game as "a very clean one," reported that the Crawfordsville boys committed the most fouls. Two of Champaign's players left the game in the second half because of injuries, presumably sustained from hard fouls. After the first twenty minutes of play, Crawfordsville had a slim lead. In the second half, Crawfordsville's long distance shooting "bewildered the Champaigners," and a stingy defense held Champaign to just two more field goals. Although no scoring summary survives for this game, the *Crawfordsville Journal* reported that Myers and Miller played the best offensively in the 25-12 Crawfordsville win.²⁶

Returning from their western trip, the team stayed in Crawfordsville for two days before heading east to Kokomo where the high school team of that place awaited them on February 11. Under the roof of the Kokomo Y.M.C.A., the contest appeared early as though it would be another

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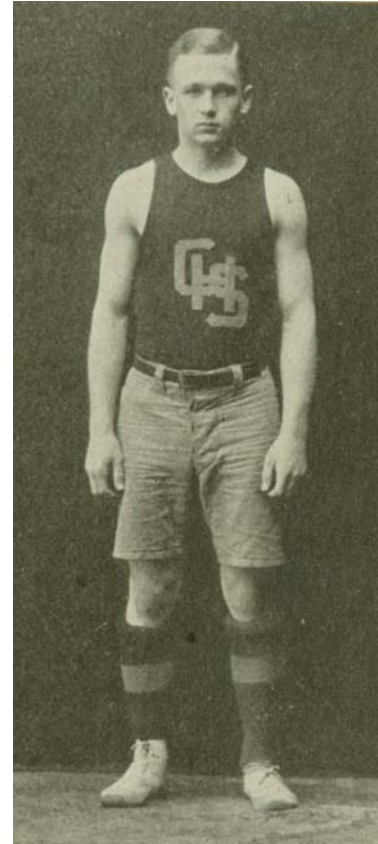
Crawfordsville triumph. Myers scored C.H.S.'s first field goal on a shot from the center of the floor, and the offensive aggressiveness of Miller and Taylor pushed the visitors ahead to an 18-8 halftime lead over a clearly intimidated Kokomo team.²⁷

The momentum shifted dramatically in the second half. Kokomo pulled and re-assigned its two most ineffective defenders, Kenneth Dewees and Emerson Applegate, respectively. The new Kokomo defenders, Glen Costlow and Zayne Applegate, stifled Crawfordsville's frontcourt and prevented Miller and Taylor from getting open looks. Kokomo's Emerson Applegate's re-assignment from center to forward opened the offensive game for him and he tallied six points early in the second half. Kokomo soon closed the deficit and seized the lead from Crawfordsville. Shaw and Hill's defense kept Kokomo's lead in check, but Crawfordsville needed to find an offensive solution. With two minutes left in regulation, Stevenson, in only his second game after a three game absence, substituted for Miller. Stevenson helped his team pull even with Kokomo, and at the end of regulation the score stood tied 24-24.²⁸

As per the overtime rules, the first team to score two more points than their opponent would win the game. Kokomo scored first on a free throw. Stevenson re-tied the game on a free throw, and had the opportunity to take the lead with another free throw, but missed. After six minutes of overtime, and the score still tied, 25-25, Stevenson evaded his defender and "tossed the winning goal from the middle of the floor." Crawfordsville defeated Kokomo, 27-25, but the newspapers of both cities could agree; the game was one of season's best.²⁹

On February 17, Crawfordsville's basketball team visited Rockville High School. The *Crawfordsville Journal* commended the boys for committing "no boneheaded plays" and exercising superb teamwork as they routed the "Rockvilleans," 43-15. The newspaper also added, "No individual can be picked from the Crawfordsville bunch as the star of the game, for all the men put up a grand game." Scoring-wise, Myers led the team with sixteen, Taylor seconded with fourteen, Stevenson contributed eight points off the bench, Miller and Hill netted a goal each to round out the offense. With this victory, the *Journal* believed C.H.S.'s four-game slump (consisting of a loss, two sloppily played victories, and a narrow overtime victory) ended, just in time for the most anticipated game of the season, between Lebanon (8-2) and Crawfordsville (9-1).³⁰

The Crawfordsville-Lebanon rivalry did not grow any fonder over the summer of 1910 when Orville Taylor defected to Crawfordsville for the new school year. The loss left Lebanon with only one returning player from the previous season: the extremely versatile guard and team captain Clark Berry. Earlier in the season, Berry had single-handedly outscored Brownsburg High School's entire team, 18-16, in a 34-16 Lebanon victory. Remarkably, Berry's scoring feat



C.H.S. forward
Hugh "Buddy" Miller
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occurred without his making a field goal. The *Crawfordsville Journal* promoted, “One of the principal features in the [game] . . . will be the battle royal between . . . Taylor and Berry.”³¹

The rival squads met in Crawfordsville on February 22, before a standing room only crowd. The game commenced “in a whirlwind fashion. . . . the players were putting every ounce of energy into the contest.” Yet, neither team could get an advantage, and after several scoreless minutes the teams finally exchanged free throws. Then Lebanon “set a mighty fast pace” from the field, and netted six first half goals. Lebanon’s defense keyed-in on Crawfordsville’s front court, especially Taylor, and held the trio scoreless. Crawfordsville mustered only four points in the first half, all on free throws. At intermission, Lebanon led 13-4. Captain Shaw substituted Stevenson for Miller in the second-half, and the forward’s play sparked a come back similar to the Kokomo game. Stevenson and Myers combined for twelve second-half points, and C.H.S.’s defense limited Lebanon to seven points. Yet, Lebanon’s first half lead was too great to overcome. Lebanon won the game, 20-16. Lebanon center Harry Budd led his team in scoring with four field goals, and Berry added six points from the foul line.³²

The Lebanon newspapers relished their high school’s victory. The *Lebanon Pioneer* made sure to point out that their turn-coat, Orville Taylor, “could not mix at all.” The *Lebanon Patriot* celebrated that their team inflicted Crawfordsville’s first home loss in six years. The *Patriot*, in some of the best, though hyperbolically, creative prose, described the “deep, dark, heavy gloom . . . [that] settled on Crawfordsville, particularly on the high school basket ball team of that place.”³³

Although the loss to Lebanon was no doubt disappointing it was not ruinous to Crawfordsville’s title hopes. In fact, C.H.S.’s next two contests against Brazil and Clinton were of greater importance, since both opponents were district rivals competing for a single invitation to the state tournament. Crawfordsville had already defeated two district opponents in Wiley and Rockville, and if they could sweep their district foes they could clinch their district’s postseason berth.³⁴

On February 25, Crawfordsville hosted the Brazil High School team for the last home game of the season. This game marked Brazil’s third game of the week, and while the boys from Brazil confidently took the floor at the Crawfordsville Y.M.C.A. the game “proved to be a very one-sided affair.” Perhaps taking out their frustrations from the Lebanon loss, C.H.S. jumped out on their overmatched opponents to a first half lead of 19-4. Brazil only managed two field goals the entire game as Crawfordsville routed them 35-10. Myers led the way with a season-high nine field goals. After thrashing three district opponents by average scores of 36-10, there could be little doubt that the “Old Blue and Gold” were the best in the district. Clinton High School in Vermillion County, however, had yet to address that matter.³⁵

For their thirteenth game of the season, Captain Shaw’s boys faced an 18-5 Clinton squad that enjoyed remarkable home court success. The peculiar environment of Clinton’s home court had a particular way of equalizing visiting teams, especially those so typically dominant as C.H.S. The 40’ x 30’ playing surface in Clinton’s Columbia Hall was smaller than average and the very low ceiling interfered with the trajectories of set-shots. In fact, when Coach Glascock walked into the gym and saw Clinton’s players practicing bank shots off the ceiling he thought that

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constituted an unfair advantage for the home team. He convinced an official to disallow such shots in the contest. To Glascock's chagrin, his team had six of their own goals nullified in this matter. At halftime, Crawfordsville led by a single point. Clinton took the lead early in the second half with three unanswered points before Crawfordsville went on an 8-1 run to close the game at 19-14. Myers scored eight and Stevenson supplied seven points to power Crawfordsville's offense. Clinton finished the season with an 8-2 record against district opponents. However, their hometown newspaper, the *Clintonian*, conceded, "Had Clinton won the locals might have aspired to represent this district in the State contest, but . . . the best team won and Clinton high school says success to Crawfordsville."³⁶

In Crawfordsville's regular season finale, C.H.S. had an opportunity to avenge their February 22 home loss to Lebanon. Manager Roy Hall received forty tickets from Lebanon for the March 7 road contest, and he sold out within ten minutes. There were at least another thirty Crawfordsville fans committed to attend the game with or without a ticket. The game proved to be as good as anticipated. The rival squads kept the score tight throughout the game: tied at 4-4 in the first-half, 7-6 in favor of C.H.S. at the break, tied again after intermission, and with a few minutes to play, the score stood 18-18. To this point, Lebanon's Clark Berry "was over the floor and in every play," and tallied eight points from the free throw line. Lebanon's Harry Budd, Verner Laughner, and Dick Porter combined for five field goals, and Crawfordsville's Myers and Stevenson accounted for all of their team's eighteen points. It appeared as though Lebanon would once again shut out Orville Taylor. The teams matched basket-for-basket the entire game. Then the equilibrium broke. Shaw and Hill locked up Lebanon's forwards, and Taylor ignited offensively. He scorched his former teammates with six points, powering a 9-0 C.H.S. run to end the game at 27-18. The *Lebanon Patriot* tried to excuse their team's loss on injuries, and boasted, "Had the conditions been equal they would undoubtedly have added another victory to their list." That newspaper failed to mention, however, that Crawfordsville prevailed despite their own injuries; including Myers' sore leg, Taylor's bad thumb, and Stevenson received a "Charley horse" against Lebanon that kept him out of the first few games of the state tournament.³⁷



*C.H.S. faculty manager
Roy Hall*

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In summarizing the regular season, Dave Glascock coached his team to a 12-2 record. Crawfordsville averaged a little over 29 points a game while holding their opponents to 16.5. Ben Myers led the team in scoring with 12.3 points a game, which accounted for thirty-nine percent of the team's offense. Despite missing three games, Carroll Stevenson produced nearly a quarter of the total offense with a 9.3 scoring average. As the team's designated free throw shooter, Stevenson amassed over a third of his points from the charity stripe. The season's scoring averages for the rest of the roster included: Orville Taylor with 5.4, Hugh Miller with 2.9, Clio Shaw with 2.6, and Newt Hill with 1.2. The extant box scores did not report Grady Chadwick, John Green, Fred Hunt, or Loren Warren, who had respectively appeared in eight, two, one, and one game(s), ever having scored.³⁸

Evaluating C.H.S.'s defensive ability is difficult to statistically assess, because other than opponents' points per game averages, no other defensive statistics such as steals, blocks,

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defensive rebounds, or opponent field goal percentages are found in the historical records. Instead, the *Crawfordsville Journal's* assessment of the team's key defenders, Shaw and Hill, will have to suffice. The newspaper reckoned Shaw, "As a back guard has no superior in the state," and Hill many times spoiled what looked like sure goals "by his phenomenal guarding." Yet as impressive as C.H.S.'s team and individual successes were, they still had four games to play to prove that they were Indiana's best.³⁹



*C.H.S. guard
Isaac "Newt" Hill*

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The teams invited to the "First Annual State Interscholastic Basket Ball Tournament" at Bloomington included Anderson, Bluffton, Crawfordsville, Evansville, Lafayette, Lebanon, Morristown, New Albany, Oaktown, Rochester, Valparaiso, and Walton. The tournament teams and fans convened at Indiana University's original Assembly Hall on Friday, March 10. In the first round of play, New Albany eked past Rochester, 19-18, "Walton walloped Morristown," 31-23, Bluffton carried "off the bacon" against Evansville, 38-23, Lafayette "romped away from" Oaktown, 31-14, and Lebanon defeated Valparaiso, 23-11.⁴⁰

Crawfordsville's first round game re-matched them against their first opponent of the regular season, Anderson High School. The game remained competitive in the first half, and at half-time Crawfordsville led 14-10. The pace changed dramatically in the second half. The *Anderson Herald* described, "The Crawfordsville quintet showed [a] burst of varsity playing which swept the Anderson players off their feet and the ball fell into the basket with great rapidity." Crawfordsville went on a 22-6 run in the second half. Hugh Miller filled in remarkably for the injured Carroll Stevenson, and ended the game with eight points. The *Bloomington Daily Student* applauded Miller, "Although small [he] proved a marvel on the floor, playing a fast and brilliant game all the time." Ben Myers offensively dominated the game. He slipped eight "ringers in from the field," shot Crawfordsville's free throws, and scored more points by himself than Anderson did as a team. Orville Taylor added six points, as Crawfordsville won, 36-16.⁴¹

On Saturday, March 11, Lebanon began the second round of tournament play against New Albany at 9 a.m. Although it took fifteen minutes for either team to score, Lebanon led 14-3 at the half, and at the end of regulation Lebanon triumphed, 28-10. Following that game, Bluffton took the floor versus Lafayette at 10 o'clock. In a game "replete with sensational floor work and fine basket shooting," Bluffton defeated Lafayette, 34-22.⁴²

The next game tipped at 11 a.m., and matched Crawfordsville against tiny Walton High School from Cass County. The *Daily Student* reported, "The first half proved a soul stirrer [with] both teams fighting savagely on the floor." The half ended with Crawfordsville leading 16-10. Crawfordsville guards Hill and Shaw limited Walton to four field goals in the first half. They increased their defensive effort in the second and held Walton field goalless. Myers continued

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to shine offensively for Crawfordsville, “playing a speedy, heady and nervy game,” en route to fifteen points. Myers’ teammates, Miller, Hill, and Taylor combined for sixteen more points as Crawfordsville advanced past Walton, 31-12.⁴³

Instead of a final four, the first Indiana state high school basketball tournament had a final three, a product of seeding the tournament with twelve teams. Tournament organizers held a drawing with Bluffton, Crawfordsville, and Lebanon to determine which teams would play next, and which team would receive a bye into the final round. The story of Indiana’s first basketball tournament would lose much of its intrigue if Lebanon and Crawfordsville met in the semi-final game. As chance would have it, Lebanon drew the bye, and advanced to await the winner of Crawfordsville v. Bluffton for the championship.⁴⁴

Bluffton entered the tournament with an 11-3 regular season record. They averaged 30.6 points on offense and held their opponents to 17 points during the regular season, averages that compared favorably to Crawfordsville’s own statistics. In their first two tournament games, Bluffton averaged 36, but their defense surrendered 5.5 points more than their regular season average. Injuries to key Bluffton players, sustained in their quarterfinal game against Lafayette, further weakened the team. Bluffton reserve forward Homer Marshall received the worst injury of the tournament when a Lafayette player fouled him so hard that he dislocated his elbow. Physicians administered anesthetic as they popped the bones back into place, and Marshall was out for the remainder of the tournament. Furthermore, Bluffton’s top-two scorers in the regular season, Doster Buckner and Dwight Fritz, hobbled into the game against Crawfordsville on sprained ankles.⁴⁵

Bluffton did what they could against Crawfordsville, and “fought gamely all throughout the fray.” Yet, Bluffton’s scrappiness could not contain Crawfordsville’s “tall, husky lads.” Crawfordsville led 21-7 at the half, and easily won the game, 42-16. Myers again led the offense with sixteen points, despite receiving a “deep gash on his forehead” after colliding with Bluffton center Claude Ware. “Chine” Taylor had his strongest tournament showing with six field goals. Carroll Stevenson saw his first tournament action in the second half, and exhibited no ill effects from his injury, finishing with 12 points. In defeat, Bluffton’s Homer Brumbaugh led his team in scoring with 10 points.⁴⁶

After all the antagonism expressed between Lebanon and Crawfordsville the previous three seasons, it was only fitting that these two squads met in the finals. The high school championship would be decided that evening (March 11); “played as a curtain-raiser” to Indiana University’s regular season finale against Northwestern University. Entering the contest Lebanon had a clear advantage of a nine-hour rest, after defeating New Albany earlier that morning. Crawfordsville, on the other hand, must have felt fatigued preparing for their third game in eight hours.⁴⁷

Crawfordsville evidently shook off some of their weariness after the opening tip, and rushed out to a 7-1 lead in the first five minutes. After this opening run, Lebanon responded, and “started some of their brilliant team work. Beautiful passes . . . [left] the Crawfordsville lads . . . utterly bewildered at times in following the ball. Despite their fancy passing the Lebanon men couldn’t score, blowing about four out of five shots right under the basket.” The half ended with

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Crawfordsville still in control, 13-7. Coach Glascock recalled that at half-time, “The boys said, ‘Coach, if we win this game we’re all going downtown and really celebrate.’ I told them if they won the game I didn’t care what they did.”⁴⁸



*C.H.S. forward
Carroll Stevenson
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In the second half, Crawfordsville’s “Athenians”⁴⁹ continued at an “undying pace.” Lebanon never got closer than three points in the entire game. Shaw and Hill’s “close guarding . . . kept [Lebanon’s] score down” while Crawfordsville’s frontcourt kept a “continual attack on the basket.” Lebanon’s defense concentrated on keeping Taylor “completely smothered,” but he still managed two field goals. Myers, after averaging more than seventeen points in the first three tournament games, only mustered six points in the finale. He was exhausted as a result of being “battered up in nearly every scrimmage.” Fortunately for Crawfordsville, Stevenson was fresh. The *Daily Student* praised Stevenson as “a marvel in finding the net from the foul line and also hot when it came to making field goals.” He finished with a game-high fourteen points, including eight of ten from the free throw line. For Lebanon, Clark Berry failed to match Stevenson’s success at the foul line, missing six of thirteen attempts. The *Daily Student* credited Lebanon’s “fast and ‘eely’ floor work” as a competitive advantage, but they only mustered five field goals in the game. The *Daily Student* argued, had Lebanon “displayed any form whatever at hitting the net, they might have nabbed the game.” At the end of regulation, Crawfordsville prevailed over Lebanon, 24 to 17. The *Daily*

Student proclaimed, “Crawfordsville . . . [won] the first state high school championship basket ball tournament and is now undisputed state champion.”⁵⁰

At half-time of the IU-Northwestern game, Booster Club chairman, Charles H. Nussell, presented to Coach Glascock the tournament trophy: “a handsome oak shield decorated with metal letters describing the event.” The newspaper articles do not report the players being present at the trophy presentation. Glascock remembered, “I had no idea where the players had gone.” He perhaps thought they stuck to their half-time promise and went downtown to celebrate. Nevertheless, Coach Glascock stayed and watched the second half of the IU-Northwestern game. After the game, Glascock recalled, “When I went back to the fraternity house where we were staying, I found them all sound asleep, worn out completely.”⁵¹

When news reached Crawfordsville that their team had won, a crowd of mostly high school students formed a parade, marched around town, rang the school bell, and started a bonfire. All of which drew the ire of school administrators. The team delayed their return to town because of fatigue, but they later received a championship rally at the high school. A downtown storefront displayed the tournament trophy, and each of the players later received a small silver loving cup from the Indiana University Boosters Club.⁵²

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After the tournament, the *Indianapolis Sun* and Indiana University basketball coach Oscar Rackle produced their respective picks for All-State players. The *Sun* named Crawfordsville's Myers, Stevenson, and Hill to their first team along with Lebanon's Porter and Berry. The newspaper placed Shaw and Taylor on the second team. Coach Rackle was more congratulatory of the champions and selected Shaw, Hill, Myers, and Stevenson for his first team along with Lebanon's Porter. Taylor made Rackle's second team. The *Indianapolis News*, instead of selecting first and second teams, produced an eighteen player honor roll that included all of Crawfordsville's seven players including seldom used guard Grady Chadwick.⁵³

Crawfordsville High School's basketball team's three year run of "state championships" would end the next season. For the 1911-12 season, Coach Glascock still had the services of Ben Myers, Orville Taylor, and Hugh Miller, who combined for 61.5 percent of the previous season's offense. However, defensive standouts, Clio Shaw and Newt Hill, and reserve Grady Chadwick all graduated in 1911, and second-leading scorer Carroll Stevenson did not return to the high school. C.H.S. finished the 1911-12 season with an 11-4 record, but "for the first time in the school's history, [their] colors fell before Lebanon," not once, but twice. If that was not enough humiliation, Clinton High School clinched the district invitation to the tournament, and thereby denied Crawfordsville High School the opportunity to defend the state title in 1912, which Lebanon incidentally won. Furthering the irony, the 1912 tournament was the first Indiana high school basketball tournament that the IHSAA sanctioned. Consequently, Lebanon, for many decades, claimed to be the first IHSAA basketball tournament champion.⁵⁴



*C.H.S. guard
Grady "Cassie" Chadwick
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Library*

In 1957, Crawfordsville High School found their place in Indiana basketball history restored. The IHSAA accepted a resolution from Indiana University, whereby the university transferred its claim to recognition of the first Indiana high school basketball championship to the IHSAA's Board of Control "for inclusion in the official records of that body." At halftime of the forty-seventh annual high school basketball championship, played between South Bend Central and Indianapolis' Crispus Attucks at the Butler University Fieldhouse, the IHSAA recognized Crawfordsville's 1911 high school basketball team as Indiana's first state tournament champions. Coach Dave Glascock, Ben Myers, Clio Shaw, Hugh Miller, and Roy Hall all attended the ceremony. As of 2008, Crawfordsville High School has been to the Indiana high school basketball championship game three times: 1911, 1916, and 1958. However, only the 1911 team succeeded in winning the title. For that feat, and for being the first state tournament champion, they will be remembered as long as high school basketball is played and celebrated in Indiana.⁵⁵

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Appendix A: C.H.S. 1911 Scoring Summary

CRAWFORDSVILLE HIGH SCHOOL BASKETBALL STATISTICS 1910-11 SEASON										
		CHS PLAYERS							Total Points	
Date	Opponent	Miller	Stevenson	Myers	Hill	Shaw	Taylor	Chadwick	CHS	Opponent
W 23-Nov	@ Anderson	2	24	16	0	0	DNP	DNP	42	13
F 23-Dec	Monticello	2	7	DNP	4	10	DNP	0	23	12
S 14-Jan	@ Lafayette	6	16	2	0	2	DNP	0	26	17
F 20-Jan	Brownsburg	2	17	14	2	0	DNP	0	35	22
S 28-Jan	Lafayette	12	DNP	12	1	2	2	0	29	13
F 3-Feb	@ Marion	n/a	DNP	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	32	34
S 4-Feb	T. H. Wiley	0	DNP	18	4	3	6	0	31	6
W 8-Feb	@ Champaign	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	25	13
S 11-Feb	@ Kokomo	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	27	25
F 17-Feb	@ Rockville	2	8	16	2	1	14	DNP	43	15
W 22-Feb	Lebanon	0	5	8	0	3	0	DNP	16	20
S 25-Feb	Brazil	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	35	10
F 3-Mar	@ Clinton	0	7	8	2	0	2	0	19	14
T 7-Mar	@ Lebanon	DNP	11	10	0	0	6	DNP	27	18
Reg. season points tot.		38	102	160	17	37	54	0	410	232
Reg. season gms. played		13	11	13	14	14	10	8	14	14
Reg. season ppg		2.9	9.3	12.3	1.2	2.6	5.4	0.0	29.29	16.57
Pct. team's tot. offense		9.3%	24.9%	39.0%	4.1%	9.0%	13.2%	0.0%		
STATE TOURNAMENT AT INDIANA UNIVERSITY, BLOOMINGTON, INDIANA										
F 10-Mar	Anderson	8	DNP	21	0	0	6	DNP	35	16
S 11-Mar	Walton	8	DNP	15	6	0	2	DNP	31	12
S 11-Mar	Bluffton	2	12	16	0	0	12	0	42	16
S 11-Mar	Lebanon	DNP	14	6	0	0	4	DNP	24	17
Tournament Totals		18	26	58	6	0	24	0	132	61
Tournament ppg		6.0	13.0	14.5	1.5	0.0	6.0	0.0	33.0	15.25
Total points (reg. & tourn.)		56	128	218	23	37	78	0	542	293
Total games played		16	13	17	18	18	14	9	18	18
Cumulative ppg		3.5	9.8	12.8	1.3	2.1	5.6	0.0	30.1	16.3

Scoring summary sources and notes: While a scoring summary could not be located for every game, the *Crawfordsville Journal* of 16 March 1911 published the statistics from the entire season (regular and tournament combined). Subtracting the known tournament scoring summaries from the cumulative totals, one could calculate the points scored and games played during the regular season. The following is a list of the games and published scoring summaries used in the chart above: Anderson - *Crawfordsville Journal (CJ)* 11-25-1910; Monticello - *CJ* 12-24-1910; Lafayette - *Lafayette Daily Courier* 01-16-1911; Brownsburg - *CJ* 01-21-1911; Lafayette - *CJ* 01-30-1911, Loren Warren played for C.H.S.; Marion - no scoring summary located; Wiley - *CJ* 02-06-1911, Fred Hunt played for C.H.S.; Champaign - no scoring summary located; Kokomo - no scoring summary published, game went overtime; Rockville - *CJ* 02-18-1911; Lebanon - *CJ* 02-23-1911, also *Crawfordsville Review* and *Lebanon Patriot*; Brazil - no scoring summary located; Clinton - *CJ* 03-04-1911, also *Clinton Clintonian* 03-07-1911; Lebanon - *Lebanon Patriot* 03-09-1911.

For the 1911 tournament games, the *Bloomington Daily Student*, *Crawfordsville Journal*, and Lebanon papers are more reliable than the Indianapolis newspapers.

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Crawfordsville Journal-Review
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¹ James Naismith, *Basketball: Its Origin and Development* (New York, 1941), 127; “‘Father of Basketball’ Says Game Really Had Its Beginning in Indiana, Leader in the Winter Sport,” *Indianapolis News*, 28 March 1936.

² Crawfordsville High School, *The Utopian High School Annual* (1902), 34; Crawfordsville High School, *Ye Yeare Booke* (1904), 67-69; Crawfordsville High School, *The Athenian* [yearbook] (1905), 38-39; Crawfordsville High School, *The Athenian* [yearbook] (1906), 29-30; Crawfordsville High School, *The Athenian* [yearbook] (1907), n.p. [81]; Crawfordsville High School, *The Athenian* [yearbook] (1908), n.p. [92-93]; “City Champs,” *Crawfordsville Journal*, 11 February 1903.

The city league later included a team of business men, and another squad known as Company B.

One account of the C.H.S.-University of Minnesota game appeared in “Basket Ball Week, the Games Played,” *Crawfordsville Star*, 30 January 1904. After trailing the entire game, C.H.S. pulled to within one point late in the game for a 23-22 score. However, Minnesota closed out the contest with a 5-1 run.

³ “Crawfordsville High School Basket Ball Team,” *Crawfordsville Star*, 30 March 1902.

⁴ *Athenian* (1907), n.p. [81]; Crawfordsville High School, *The Athenian* [yearbook] (1909), n.p. [86-87]; “Lebanon Meets Second Defeat,” *Lebanon Patriot*, 11 March 1909; “Very Easy Victory,” *Lebanon Patriot*, 25 March 1909.

Opponents for 1906-07 included Wabash College, Company B, Crawfordsville Y.M.C.A., Shortridge High School, Manual Training High School, DePauw Preps from Greencastle, and “VHS.” Although it has not been confirmed, “VHS” was likely Veedersburg High School in neighboring Fountain County.

⁵ Crawfordsville High School, *The Athenian* [yearbook] (1910); Lebanon High School, *The Panorama* [yearbook] (1910), 59.

⁶ “There Will Be No Third Game,” *Crawfordsville Journal*, 7 March 1910; “Are on a Fine Trip,” *Crawfordsville Journal*, 9 March 1910.

The states represented in the tournament were Ohio, Indiana, Wisconsin, Iowa, Minnesota, Michigan, and Illinois. Although the cited newspaper article reported that North Dakota and South Dakota had teams in the tournament, subsequent printed game scores did not reveal the presence of teams from those states. C.H.S. won the tournament’s consolation round, “Crawfordsville High School Wins,” *Crawfordsville Journal*, 14 March 1910.

C.H.S. was subsequently invited to participate in another Midwestern tournament held at Northwestern University, Evanston, Illinois on March 24-26. However, C.H.S. players’ involvement in baseball and track caused them to decline the invitation. Tournament organizers then proffered an invitation to Lebanon High School, which the school quickly accepted. Lebanon won their first game against the Evanston Academy, but lost their second game against Oak Park. See “In Hard Luck,” *Lebanon Patriot*, 31 March 1910; “Lebanon Overwhelmed,” *Lebanon Pioneer*, 31 March 1910.

⁷ “May Prefer Charges Against Lebanon,” *Crawfordsville Journal*, 15 March 1910. Myers quoted in Crawfordsville High School, *The Athenian* [yearbook] (n.p. 1912), 142.

⁸ Ward E. Brown and Gladys L. Brown, *IHSAA Membership History, 1903-1983* (Indianapolis, 1984), 1; “A History of the State Interscholastic Basketball Tournament,” *Bloomington Daily Student*, 14 March 1914; “Big Basket Ball Meet,” *Crawfordsville Journal*, 9 January 1911; “Bloomington is Mecca for Basketball Men,” *Indianapolis News*, 7 March 1911.

⁹ *Athenian* (1905), 37-39; “Memorial Rites Set for Dr. Glascock,” *Terre Haute Tribune*, 17 February 1969; *Athenian* (1909), n.p. [10]; *Athenian* (1911), 10-11, 92-101; “First Game for C. H. S. Team,” *Crawfordsville Journal*, 23 November 1910; “High School Basket Ball,” *Crawfordsville Journal*, 13 January 1911; “High School Basket Ball,” *Crawfordsville Journal*, 23 January 1911; “Games with Lebanon,” *Crawfordsville Journal*, 18 January 1911.

Crawfordsville High School’s enrollment for the 1911-12 school year was 394, *History of Montgomery County Indiana with Personal Sketches of Representative Citizens* (Indianapolis, 1913), 1:216.

According to the *Athenian* (1911), “The [basketball] team traveled over 1,100 miles” during the season.

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In addition to making the schedule, other duties of the manager included arranging the team's travel, choosing officials and courts, attending to the visiting teams' needs, and maintaining records and reporting games. One contemporary author observed that the manager "gets but little or no credit," but he "is the man who keeps the machine oiled and in good running order." Edwin S. Conner, "Duties of the Captain, the Manager and the Coach," in *[Spalding's] Official Basket Ball Rules: As Adopted by the Amateur Athletic Union and the Young Men's Christian Association Athletic League of North America*, ed. George T. Hepbron (New York, 1910), 148.

¹⁰ Indiana High School Athletic Association, *Eighth Annual Hand Book and Report of the Board of Control* (1911), 23; "Coach of 1st State Champ Recalls 1911 Tourney Play," *Indianapolis Times*, 17 March 1957; George T. Hepbron, ed., *[Spalding's] Official Basket Ball Rules: As Adopted by the Amateur Athletic Union and the Young Men's Christian Association Athletic League of North America* (New York, 1907).

The 1907 issue of *Spalding's Official Basket Ball Rules* is cited throughout this paper because it was the only issue readily accessible at the time of writing. I later located and referenced a 1910 issue of the book (located in the Joyce Sports Research Collection at the University of Notre Dame) to see if any of the rules, relevant to the content of this paper, had changed between 1907 and 1910. However, there were no substantial changes to the rules of the game between these years.

¹¹ "Coach of 1st State Champ Recalls 1911 Tourney Play," *Indianapolis Times*, 17 March 1957; Hepbron, ed., *[Spalding's] Official Basket Ball Rules* (New York, 1907), Rule XI, Sections 4 and 15; James Naismith, *Basketball: Its Origin and Development* (New York, 1941), 85.

There is somewhat of a mystery surrounding when an open-bottomed basketball net was introduced into basketball game play. After consulting the *Spalding* issues it is clear that the closed net was still the official regulation net during the 1910-11 season. An interesting note, however, is that during that season, Spalding marketed the Spalding No. 80 as the "official goals specified in the rules." An advertisement for the model trumpeted: "A unique feature of their construction is that the bottom may be left open if desired, for practice games, so that the ball may readily drop through and be readily closed by a draw string for match games," *[Spalding's] Official Basket Ball Rules* (1910), 189.

¹² *[Spalding's] Official Basket Ball Rules* (1907), Rule XI, Section 1; "Coach of 1st State Champ Recalls 1911 Tourney Play," *Indianapolis Times*, 17 March 1957; "Two Fans Cheered Crawfordsville to First Net Crown," *Indianapolis Star*, 6 March 1949; "Plan Team Work for Basket Ball," *Crawfordsville Journal*, 7 March 1913.

¹³ "Plan Team Work for Basket Ball," *Crawfordsville Journal*, 7 March 1913.

According to "Two Fans Cheered Crawfordsville to First Net Crown," Crawfordsville starting guards Clio Shaw and Newt Hill stood 6'2" and 6'0," respectively. The article also described starting forward Carroll Stevenson as "pint-sized." From player photos in *The Athenian* (1911), it is obvious that backup guard Grady Chadwick was the heaviest player on the team. Finally, forward Hugh Miller is recorded in his senior yearbook as saying his aim in life was "to grow tall," *The Athenian* (1912), 142.

¹⁴ "High School Squad Is Cut," *Crawfordsville Journal*, 7 December 1910; *The Athenian* (1911), 94-97; "Great Season for C.H.S Team," *Crawfordsville Journal*, 16 March 1911; Edwin S. Conner, "Duties of the Captain, the Manager and the Coach," in *[Spalding's] Official Basket Ball Rules* (1910), 147.

¹⁵ "High School Squad Is Cut," *Crawfordsville Journal*, 7 December 1910; *The Athenian* (1911), 94-97; "Great Season for C.H.S Team," *Crawfordsville Journal*, 16 March 1911.

Description of Hill from "2 Schools Get Honor Places," *Indianapolis Sun*, 13 March 1911.

The Athenian (1911) stated that Shaw "was the only man who made the team of '09[-10]." However, Myers and Hill, while not in the team photo for 1910, did play in at least one game, see "Union City Badly Defeated," *Crawfordsville Journal*, 29 January 1910. Myers and Hill are also listed among the players traveling to the Midwest interstate tournament at Madison, Wisconsin on March 10-12, 1910, see "Are on a Fine Trip," *Crawfordsville Journal*, 9 March 1910. Although the *Journal* did not report whether the boys received any playing time in the tournament.

¹⁶ "High School Squad Is Cut," *Crawfordsville Journal*, 7 December 1910; *The Athenian* (1911), 94-97; "Great Season for C.H.S Team," *Crawfordsville Journal*, 16 March 1911.

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Stevenson started a few games as a freshman during the 1908-09 season, *The Athenian* (1909), n.p. [86-87]. However, he did not appear in the team photo the following year, *The Athenian* (1910), n.p. [91].

Taylor's athleticism is described in Lebanon High School, *Panorama* [yearbook] (n.p., 1910), 63. Another quote from this source reads, "When he was in the game everyone thought the day of 'flying machines' had come."

According to Herb Schwomeyer, *Hoosier Hysteria: A History of Indiana High School Boys Single Class Basketball* (Indianapolis, 1997), 57, IHSAA rules limited teams to seven players between 1911-16. A search of the IHSAA's *Eighth Annual Hand Book and Report of the Board of Control* (1911) did not find this rule printed in this edition. Nevertheless, seven men rosters seemed to be in effect for the 1910-11 season since the game summaries examined in the course of this research never listed more than seven players in any game for any team. The IHSAA *Hand Book's* for 1913 and 1914 clearly stated, "Teams are limited to seven men," 7.

¹⁷ "The C. H. S. Boys Are off in Front," *Crawfordsville Journal*, 25 November 1910; "Crawfordsville H.S. Gave Anderson an Awful Trimming," *Anderson Herald*, 24 November 1910.

¹⁸ "High School Squad Is Cut," *Crawfordsville Journal*, 7 December 1910; *Crawfordsville City Directory and Montgomery County Gazeteer* (Anderson, 1912), 15; "Editorial Comment," in [*Spalding's*] *Official Basketball Rules: As Adopted by the Amateur Athletic Union and the Young Men's Christian Association Athletic League of North America*, ed. George T. Hepbron (New York, 1912), 15; "The Basket Ball Season to Open," *Crawfordsville Journal*, 19 December 1910.

One of the earliest (many maintain the earliest), organized, inter-organizational basketball games in Indiana on record took place at the Crawfordsville Y.M.C.A between teams from the Lafayette and Crawfordsville Y.M.C.A.s on 16 March 1894, see articles on and after this date in *Crawfordsville Daily Argus News*, *Crawfordsville Daily Journal*, and *Crawfordsville Sun*. Bulldozers razed Crawfordsville's first Y.M.C.A. building in the 1960s to make a parking lot, see "Hoosier Hoop Hysteria Started Here," *Indianapolis Star Magazine*, 14 March 1965.

The "Editorial Comment" cited in this note provides important insights into how organizers and commentators of early basketball perceived the role of the coach. The editor condemned side line coaching as "a violation of the ethics of the sport," and chastised such "unethical methods . . . [as] a reflection on the ability of the coach."

¹⁹ "First Basket Ball of the Season," *Crawfordsville Journal*, 16 December 1910; "Basket Ball To-Night," *Crawfordsville Journal*, 23 December 1910; *Athenian* (1910), n.p. [90]; "High School Team Starts with Rush," *Crawfordsville Journal*, 24 December 1910.

A search of the *Monticello Herald* failed to identify an article about this game.

Glascoek's substitution of Shaw for Myers did not loose much height at center. Myers reportedly stood 6'3" and Shaw stood 6'2," "Two Fans Cheered Crawfordsville to First Net Crown," *Indianapolis Star*, 6 March 1949.

²⁰ "C.H.S. Won Game," *Crawfordsville Journal*, 16 January 1911; "Lafayette Team Lost," *Lafayette Daily Courier*, 16 January 1911.

The *Lafayette Daily Courier* article was the only one of these articles to contain a scoring summary, although it has errors. It listed a Johnson starting at center for Crawfordsville when there was no Johnson on C.H.S.'s team. According to the *Crawfordsville Journal* of 13 January 1911, Myers was expected to start. The *Daily Courier* also stated that this was Crawfordsville's sixteenth victory of the season, which was also incorrect. The *Lafayette Journal* of the same date printed the same errors.

Special note: This was Lafayette High School and not Lafayette Jefferson High School. Lafayette Jefferson opened a year later in April 1912, and replaced Lafayette High School, *Tippecanoe at 2000: A Hoosier County Recalls Its Past* (Lafayette, 1999), 75.

²¹ "Two Games To-night," *Crawfordsville Journal*, 20 January 1911; "The C. H. S. Teams Win Both Games," *Crawfordsville Journal*, 21 January 1911.

The second game referred to in these articles' titles was a "second team," or what today would be called junior varsity, game against Advance High School.

The Indiana Historical Society microfilmed the *Brownsburg Record* for 1911. However, the January 27 issue, which should have carried a report of the game for the weekly newspaper, is described on the microfilm as

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“missing or not published.” Based upon the limited attention given to other Brownsburg High School games in this newspaper, it is uncertain whether the “missing or not published” issue would have revealed any new details about the game.

The *Danville Gazette* and the *Danville Republican*, Danville being the county seat of Hendricks County where Brownsburg is located, also yielded no articles about the game.

²² “High School Basket Ball,” *Crawfordsville Journal*, 28 January 1911; “Basket Ball Player Broke Collar Bone,” *Crawfordsville Journal*, 3 December 1910.

“First Basket Ball of the Season,” *Crawfordsville Journal*, 16 December 1911, also refers to this injury. However, the 1911 Crawfordsville High School yearbook, *The Athenian* (1911), described the injury as a broken arm. In this case the newspaper articles are probably correct.

²³ “C. H. S. Teams Won,” *Crawfordsville Journal*, 30 January 1911.

A search of the *Lafayette Courier* and the *Lafayette Journal* did not find any reports of this game.

²⁴ “C. H. S. Defeated,” *Crawfordsville Journal*, 4 February 1911; “Home Team Won in Close Game,” *The Marion News-Tribune*, 4 February 1911; “Local Team Is Winner,” *Marion Leader*, 4 February 1911; *Athenian* (1911), 96.

The *Marion News-Tribune* gave the most coverage of the game among the Marion papers, but it provides virtually no details of the game. Instead it reported the impressions of the school superintendent and the game official, the final score, and a list of the players on Marion’s team. The *Marion Leader* devoted three sentences to the game. The *Marion Chronicle* printed the score in a Marion High School column many days after the game.

²⁵ “Wiley High School Was Easy for C.H.S.,” *Crawfordsville Journal*, 6 February 1911.

While the *Terre Haute Tribune* devoted a couple of brief articles leading up to the game, they devoted no attention to the game itself. Perhaps the defeat discouraged them from doing so.

²⁶ “Strenuous Week’s Work,” *Crawfordsville Journal*, 8 February 1911; “Took Champaign’s Measure,” *Crawfordsville Journal*, 9 February 1911; “Athenians Clean up on Champaign H.S.,” *Crawfordsville Review*, 9 February 1911; “Hoosiers Down Champaign Five,” *Champaign Daily Gazette*, 9 February 1911; “Crawfordsville Boys Take Game,” *Champaign Daily News*, 9 February 1911; Champaign High School, *The Maroon* [yearbook] (1911), 74.

The “Strenuous Week’s Work” article reported that Crawfordsville had three games scheduled the week of February 5-11 against Champaign (Feb. 8), Hartford City (Feb. 10), and Kokomo (Feb. 11). The death of Hartford City High School’s basketball captain from pneumonia prompted the cancellation of that game, “Captain of Hartford City Team Victim of Pneumonia,” *Crawfordsville Journal*, 10 February 1911.

Three of the five accounts located for Crawfordsville-Champaign game reported the half-time score. However, none of the reported scores agree. The *Crawfordsville Review* reported a 9-7 half-time lead, the *Champaign Daily News* reported the intermission score as 11-7, and the *Maroon* gave the half-time totals as 9-6.

²⁷ “C. H. S. Won a Hard Fought Game,” *Crawfordsville Journal*, 13 February 1911; “Best of the Games During the Season,” *Kokomo Dispatch*, 12 February 1911; “Won by Two Points,” *Kokomo Tribune*, 13 February 1911.

²⁸ “C. H. S. Won a Hard Fought Game,” *Crawfordsville Journal*, 13 February 1911; “Best of the Games During the Season,” *Kokomo Dispatch*, 12 February 1911; “Won by Two Points,” *Kokomo Tribune*, 13 February 1911.

The Kokomo articles did not supply the first name of Kokomo High School’s players. The first names of these players that are given in this article were derived from the 1910 U.S. Federal Census for Howard County, Indiana.

²⁹ [Spalding’s] *Official Basket Ball Rules* (1907), Rule XI, Section 28; “C. H. S. Won a Hard Fought Game,” *Crawfordsville Journal*, 13 February 1911; “Best of the Games During the Season,” *Kokomo Dispatch*, 12 February 1911; “Won by Two Points,” *Kokomo Tribune*, 13 February 1911.

³⁰ “Rockville Down and Out,” *Crawfordsville Journal*, 18 February 1911; “Crawfordsville, 43; Rockville, 15,” *Rockville Republican*, 22 February 1911.

The *Rockville Tribune*, a weekly edition, did not report on the game in the 22 February issue.

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Lebanon's record derived from Lebanon High School, *Senior Annual* (1911).

³¹ "Lebanon Will Come in Force," *Crawfordsville Journal*, 21 February 1911; "Lebanon Wednesday Night," *Crawfordsville Journal*, 22 February 1911.

³² "Lebanon Won from C. H. S.," *Crawfordsville Journal*, 23 February 1911; "Lebanon Cinches It in Opening Period," *Crawfordsville Review*, 23 February 1911; "Lebanon is Winner," *Lebanon Patriot*, 23 February 1911; "Lebanon in Victory," *Lebanon Pioneer*, 23 February 1911.

³³ "Lebanon is Winner," *Lebanon Patriot*, 23 February 1911; "Lebanon in Victory," *Lebanon Pioneer*, 23 February 1911.

³⁴ "Big Basket Ball Meet," *Crawfordsville Journal*, 9 January 1911.

³⁵ "C. H. S. Defeats Brazil," *Crawfordsville Journal*, 27 February 1911; "Worn out Team Loses Big Game," *Brazil Daily Times*, 27 February 1911.

Neither of these articles reported a final score. Final score given above is from "Great Season for C. H. S. Team," *Crawfordsville Journal*, 16 March 1911.

After searching the *Crawfordsville Journal*, *Brazil Weekly Democrat*, *Brazil Daily Times*, and *Clay County Enterprise*, no scoring summary could be found. According to "Great Season for C.H.S. Team," *Crawfordsville Journal*, 16 March 1911, Myers scored a season high nine field goals in the Brazil game. Even though the *Journal* did not print a scoring summary on 27 February, they presumably had access to the team's scorebook for this information.

³⁶ "Capt. Shaw's Boys Won," *Crawfordsville Journal*, March 4, 1911; "Clinton's Most Successful Basket Ball Team," *Clinton Clintonian*, 7 March 1911; "Coach of 1st State Champ Recalls 1911 Tourney," *Indianapolis Times*, 17 March 1957.

[*Spalding's*] *Official Basket Ball Rules* (1907), Rule I, Section 1 stated, "Basket Ball may be played on *any* grounds . . . not to *exceed* 4,000 square feet of actual playing space" (italics mine). An 80' x 50' court, which is four feet shorter than a modern high school court, equals 4,000 square feet. By comparison, Clinton's court was only 1,200 square feet.

³⁷ "C. H. S. vs. Lebanon," *Crawfordsville Journal*, 7 March 1911; "Lebanon Quintet Bows to the C.H.S. Boys," *Crawfordsville Journal*, 8 March 1911; "Basket Ball Five Wins and Loses," *Lebanon Patriot*, 9 March 1911; "Crawfordsville Defeats Us," *Lebanon Pioneer*, 9 March 1911.

The *Lebanon Patriot* contained the only scoring summary. They credited Berry with nine free throws, and Porter, Laughner, and Budd with five field goals combined. These scores would total nineteen, but since all of the published articles stated that Lebanon only scored eighteen, the scoring summary probably credited Berry with one more free throw than he actually had.

Stevenson's injury is described in "Off for Bloomington," *Crawfordsville Journal*, 9 March 1911.

³⁸ "Great Season for C.H. S. Team," *Crawfordsville Journal*, 16 March 1911.

Regular season statistics were obtained from the cited article and scoring summaries throughout the season. These figures were compiled, compared, entered, and calculated into a spreadsheet, see Appendix A.

³⁹ "Basket Ball Curtain Down," *Crawfordsville Journal*, 26 February 1911.

⁴⁰ "Bloomington is Mecca for Basketball Men," *Indianapolis News*, 7 March 1911; "First Round of State High School Basket-Ball Tournament Ends," *Bloomington Daily Student*, 11 March 1911.

According to "Bloomington is Mecca," Monticello had the best record in Congressional District 4, but Lafayette contested Monticello's right to be in the tournament. Lafayette claimed that Monticello's home goals were only nine feet off the ground. Presumably, officials found the charge to be true, because Lafayette received the spot in the tournament.

Oaktown and Vincennes had a play-in game to determine who would represent District 11. Oaktown won.

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⁴¹ “First Round of State High School Basket-Ball Tournament Ends,” *Bloomington Daily Student*, 11 March 1911; “Locals in Finals for High Honors,” *Crawfordsville Journal*, 11 March 1911; “Lost,” *Anderson Herald*, 11 March 1911; “Picked to Win State Tourney,” *Indianapolis Sun*, 11 March, 1911; “Wins Honors of First Day’s Play,” *Indianapolis Star*, 11 March 1911; “Indiana Fans Get Fill of Basketball Games,” *Indianapolis News*, 11 March 1911; “Summary of Inter-Scholastic Tournament,” *Bloomington Daily Student*, 13 March 1911.

Despite the many newspapers carrying reports of the tournament games, the coverage is much weaker than the regular season articles examined in terms providing details and a narrative of the games. The *Bloomington Daily Student* provided the best coverage of the tournament games. Many of the Indianapolis newspapers did little more than publish the games’ summaries, which raises a particular problem concerning the Anderson game.

All the published game summaries located for the Crawfordsville-Anderson game agree that the final score was 36-16. However, the reported player scoring for Crawfordsville (Field goals: Myers 8, Miller 4, Taylor 3; Free throws: Myers 5, missed 6) only totals 35, not 36. The *Daily Student* of 13 March, though without showing the individual scoring breakdown, reported that Crawfordsville scored 15 field goals and 6 foul goals. It is not known who scored the sixth free throw (Myers most likely), but this at least accounts for the 36 point total.

Another error with the printed Crawfordsville-Anderson scoring summaries is the listing of a Crawfordsville forward named Sutton. Crawfordsville had no Sutton on their first or second teams. It is possible that Sutton referred to Stevenson, but Stevenson did not play in this game. One other explanation is that the *Daily Student* of 13 March reported, “Chadwick displaced Shaw at guard near the close of the game, and Shaw went to forward in place of Taylor.” This would possibly account for “Sutton,” meaning Shaw, listed next to Taylor in the scoring summary. The *Indianapolis News* of 11 March was the only newspaper not to report a Sutton on the team. It also correctly printed in the scoring summary that Shaw played some forward, and was the only summary that reported Chadwick subbed at guard. However, the *News* erroneously reported the scoring, and attributed Hill with 8 goals and Shaw with 4, instead of Myers and Miller respectively.

⁴² “Summary of Inter-Scholastic Tournament,” *Bloomington Daily Student*, 13 March 1911; “Put up a Game Fight,” *Lebanon Pioneer*, 16 March 1911; “Crawfordsville Won State Championship,” *Bluffton Evening News*, 13 May 1911.

⁴³ “Locals in Finals for High Honors,” *Crawfordsville Journal*, 11 March 1911; “C.H.S. Wins the State Title,” *Crawfordsville Journal*, 13 March 1911; “Summary of Inter-Scholastic Tournament,” *Bloomington Daily Student*, 13 March 1911.

Walton has had only a few newspapers in its history, none of which were published in 1911. Consequently, I searched several Logansport newspapers (Logansport being the county seat of Cass County) including the *Journal*, *Pharos*, *Reporter*, *Tribune*, and *Chronicle*, but Walton’s defeat elicited only brief mention in a few of these papers, and no mention in others.

⁴⁴ “First Round of State High School Basket-ball Tournament Ends,” *Bloomington Daily Student*, 11 March 1911.

⁴⁵ “Bluffton High School Basetball [sic] Team,” *Bluffton Chronicle*, 8 March 1911; “Crawfordsville Won State Championship,” *Bluffton Evening News*, 13 May 1911; “High School Casualties,” *Daily Student*, 14 March 1911.

⁴⁶ “Crawfordsville Won State Championship,” *Bluffton Evening News*, 13 May 1911; “Summary of Inter-Scholastic Tournament,” *Daily Student*, 13 March 1911; “C. H. S. Wins the State Title,” *Crawfordsville Journal*, 13 March 1911; “High School Casualties,” *Daily Student*, 14 March 1911.

⁴⁷ “C.H.S. Wins the State Title,” *Crawfordsville Journal*, 13 March 1911; “First Round of State High School Basket-Ball Tournament Ends,” *Bloomington Daily Student*, 11 March 1911.

⁴⁸ “Summary of Inter-Scholastic Tournament,” *Daily Student*, 13 March 1911; “C. H. S. Wins the State Title,” 13 March 1911; “Put Up a Game Fight,” *Lebanon Pioneer*, 16 March 1911; “Championship to Crawfordsville,” *Lebanon Patriot*, 16 March 1911; “Two Fans Cheered Crawfordsville to First Net Crown,” *Indianapolis Star*, 6 March 1949.

⁴⁹ The use of Crawfordsville High School’s nickname, the “Athenians,” has been avoided throughout this article until now, because from the newspaper articles examined it is evident that the nickname was not yet in common

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usage for the high school athletic teams. The Lebanon newspapers are one of the few sources that refer to the Crawfordsville basketball team as “the Athenians” during the 1910-11 season.

Crawfordsville’s nickname, “The Athens of Indiana,” originated in the mid-1830s. The high school subsequently appropriated “Athenians” for its own use. For instance, the Crawfordsville High School yearbook began using the title of the *Athenian* in the early twentieth century.

⁵⁰ “Summary of Inter-Scholastic Tournament,” *Daily Student*, 13 March 1911; “C. H. S. Wins the State Title,” *Crawfordsville Journal*, 13 March 1911; “Put Up a Game Fight,” *Lebanon Pioneer*, 16 March 1911; “Championship to Crawfordsville,” *Lebanon Patriot*, 16 March 1911; “Two Fans Cheered Crawfordsville to First Net Crown,” *Indianapolis Star*, 6 March 1949.

⁵¹ “Northwestern Defeated in Comedy Contest,” *Daily Student*, 13 March 1911; “Two Fans Cheered Crawfordsville to First Net Crown,” *Indianapolis Star*, 6 March 1949.

Nussell’s title is reported in “Big Basket Ball Meet,” *Crawfordsville Journal*, 9 January 1911.

As of 2008, the 1911 tournament trophy was on display at the Indiana Basketball Hall of Fame in New Castle, Indiana.

⁵² “C. H. S. Wins the State Title,” *Crawfordsville Journal*, 13 March 1911; “A History of the State Inter-scholastic Basketball Tournament,” *Bloomington Daily Student*, 14 March 1914.

⁵³ “2 Schools Get Honor Places,” *Indianapolis Sun*, 13 March 1911; “Coach Rackle Picks State and Honor Mee [sic],” *Bloomington Daily Student*, 14 March 1911; “News Picks Honor Roll,” *Bloomington Daily Student*, 15 March 1911.

⁵⁴ “C.H.S. Team Made Splendid Record,” *Crawfordsville Journal*, 15 March 1912; “IHSAA State Champions,” www.ihsaa.org/b-basketball/TeamChampions.htm (accessed July 26, 2008); “First State Net Champions to Get Official Recognition,” *Crawfordsville Journal-Review*, 21 March 1957.

While it has not been learned for certain why Stevenson did not return, it appears as though his family relocated to Indianapolis. His father died a few years later, and his obituary read in part, “Mr. Stevenson . . . left this city [Crawfordsville] a few years ago,” “J. C. Stevenson Dead,” *Crawfordsville Journal*, 16 November 1914. Carroll Stevenson subsequently appears in the 1920 U. S. Federal Census living in Indianapolis, Ward 2.

Note on C.H.S.’s record: According to the *Athenian* (1912), 80, C.H.S. finished the season with an 11-3 record, but the yearbook omitted the final game, a loss against New Richmond. All of C.H.S.’s games for the 1911-12 season were reported in “C.H.S. Team Made Splendid Record.”

⁵⁵ “First State Net Champions to Get Official Recognition,” *Crawfordsville Journal-Review*, 21 March 1957; “Coach of 1st State Champ Recalls 1911 Tourney Play,” *Indianapolis Times*, 17 March 1957; “IHSAA State Champions,” www.ihsaa.org/b-basketball/TeamChampions.htm (accessed July 26, 2008).

According to the IHSAA webpage cited in this note, Butler Fieldhouse became Hinkle Fieldhouse in 1965.

Newt Hill, living in California, was unable to attend. The other three members of the team, Grady Chadwick, Orville Taylor, and Carroll Stevenson died before the IHSAA recognized the team in 1957. “Orville Taylor Dies at Lebanon,” *Crawfordsville Journal-Review*, 6 January 1942; “Grady Chadwick Dies at Capital,” *Crawfordsville Journal-Review*, 11 December 1952; “J. C. Stevenson, Dallas Resident, Dies at Age 60,” *Dallas (Texas) Morning News*, 28 April 1953.