

Butch

When you look  
at these State  
Tourney records,  
Keep in mind that  
Robert Brooks played  
before the three point  
field goal came along.

Thank you

Ray Tennill.

Ray Vencill  
152 Roundtop Road  
Elizabethtown, KY 42701  
(270) 765-4389

October 15, 2010

Dawahares KHSAA Hall of Fame  
ATTN: Nominations Committee  
Mr. Butch Cope Assistant Commissioner  
2280 Executive Drive  
Lexington, KY 40505

Re: Robert Brooks

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Dear Committee Members:

It is with pride and great pleasure that I nominate Robert Brooks for the Kentucky High School Hall of Fame. The enclosed information will give the committee an idea of the many accomplishments of this outstanding former Mr. Basketball for the state of Kentucky. Robert Brooks will make an outstanding addition to the Kentucky High School Hall of Fame.

I coached Robert at Richmond Madison High School where he was a four-year starter. As a 17 year old, 6'5" and 185 pound player, Robert was very young when he graduated. Although he was younger than many of his peers, he stood out among them through his accomplishments. Some of the honors Robert received were: All 44<sup>th</sup> District, All 11<sup>th</sup> Region, All Ashland Invitational Tournament Team, All Central Kentucky Conference Team, All Bluegrass Tournament Team, Second Team All State (as a junior), All State Tournament Team, and First Team All State (as a senior). Several of these honors he received more than once. In 1970 Robert was named Mr. Basketball for the state of Kentucky.


Robert scored an average of 16 points a game as a sophomore. During his junior year he racked up 23.6 points a game, and by the time he was a senior he averaged 27.5 points per game. Although Robert played the point most of the time on a 1-3-1 defense, he managed to average 13 rebounds a game which proves that he was also a great defensive player. He held the scoring record at Richmond Madison, and he shot over 50 percent all four years of his high school career. Robert led Richmond Madison, a school of 250 students, out of the 11<sup>th</sup> regional basketball tournament and to the state tournament during the seasons of 1968-1969 and 1969-1970. In the 1968-1969 season, Louisville Central defeated Madison by 8 points in the state tournament. That year Ron King and Otto Petty led the Louisville Central team, and it was the strongest basketball team I have seen in Kentucky high schools. In 1969-1970 when Robert led Richmond Madison for the second time to the state tournament, Louisville Male defeated us by one point in the final game. It was in that State Tournament that Robert scored a total of 128 points. At that time that ranked him second to Kelly Coleman in the number of points scored in a single

State Tournament. Robert scored 47 points in one game during that State Tournament which again was second to Kelly Coleman. Since that time only 2 or 3 players have outscored Robert's record, and the three pointer became a factor since then. Robert scored 52 field goals in the 1970 State Tournament which to this day is second only to Kelly Coleman. After his high school graduation, Robert was contacted by over 160 colleges and offered scholarships by most of those schools. He chose to attend Eastern Kentucky University where he had an outstanding career.

Robert was a remarkable and outstanding athlete, but he was more remarkable as a person. As an eighth grader, Robert witnessed the death of his father who was shot and killed by a relative. Then during his sophomore year, Robert's mother died in his arms when she suffered a massive heart attack. From that point on he and his brother Harvey, who was 2 or 3 years older and had a disability, were living on their own. Robert did his own cooking, washing, ironing and all other chores at home, necessary to survive and be successful. The boys had an uncle who checked in with them from time to time. Therefore, as the old saying goes... he had to pull himself up by his boot straps... which he did with dignity and success. With all the adversity Robert experienced in his personal life, he excelled in athletics. He was also voted "Mr. Richmond Madison" by his high school peers, which tells you even more about Robert Brooks, the person.

Robert is in a class of his own. He was one of the most outstanding young athletes that I have ever seen, and his accomplishments were met under very difficult circumstances. I sincerely hope this committee will give him serious consideration and award him with the recognition he deserves by inducting him into the Kentucky High School Hall of Fame.

Sincerely,

  
Ray A. Vencill

cc: Julian Tackett  
Commissioner KHSAA

## Glory days revisited for 1970 Mr. Basketball

Posted by Mike Fields on May 28th, 2007

Robert Books was chosen Kentucky's Mr. Basketball in 1970 after he led Madison High in Richmond to a runner-up finish in the Sweet Sixteen. When Brooks was recently contacted about a push to have all Mr. Basketball winners inducted into the Dawahares/KHSAA Hall of Fame (a project spearheaded by 1958 winner Harry Todd), he was told he needed to document his credentials. But Brooks had nothing to help him remember his high school glory days. A house fire 20 years ago destroyed or damaged beyond recognition all of his basketball mementos, including scrapbooks and trophies

To give Brooks (shown above with Madison Coach Ray Vencill in 1970) an assist, I looked up some of his accomplishments in the Herald-Leader's microfilm library. If you need to reminded just how terrific a basketball player the 6-foot-5 guard was, here are some his career highlights for the Royal Purples:

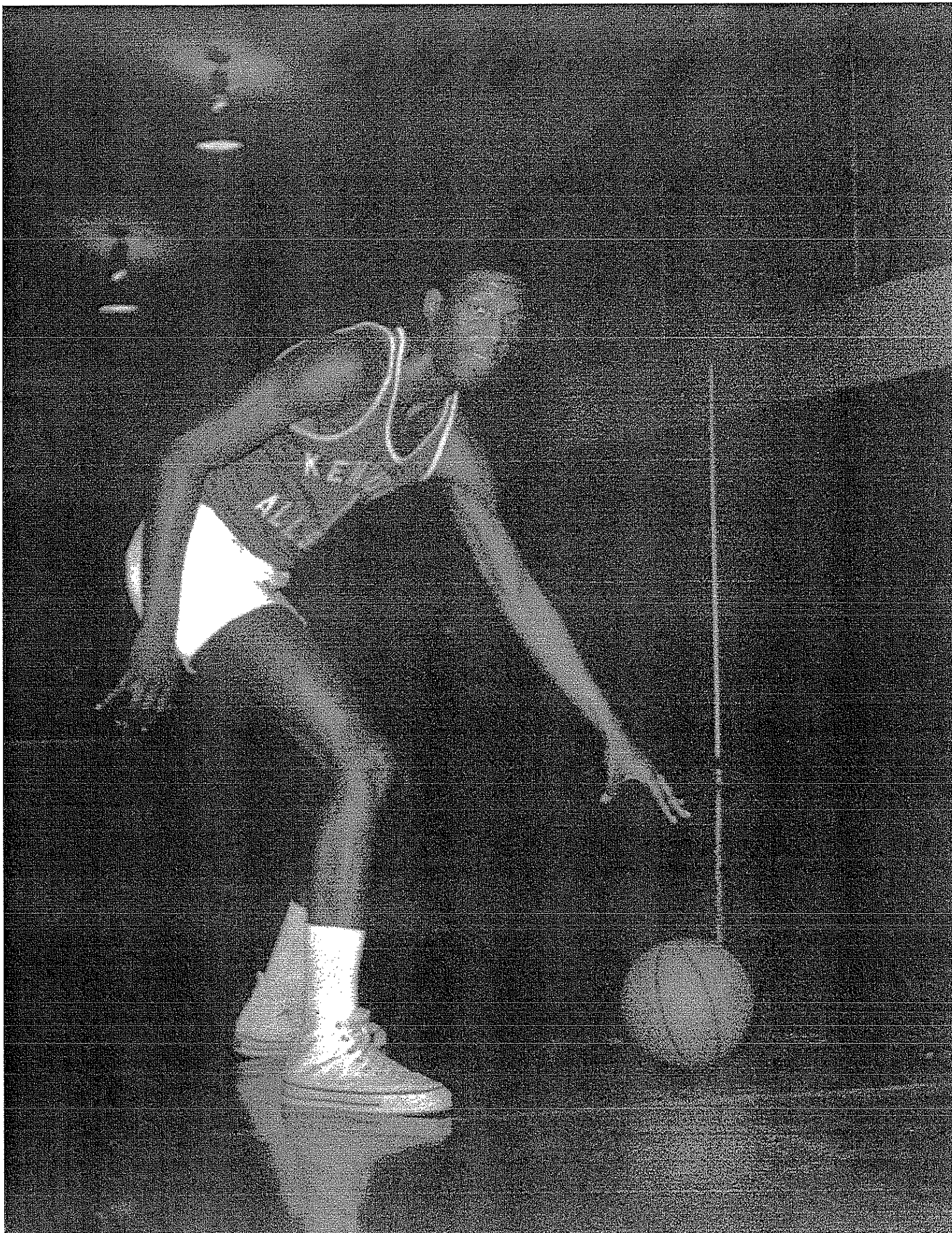
- Scored more than 2,200 points, including 27.8 ppg as a senior and 23.6 as a junior.
- Averaged 11 rebounds his senior year despite playing point on Madison's 1-3-1 defense.
- Scored 128 points in the 1970 Sweet Sixteen, which at that time was the second highest total in tournament history.
- Scored a school-record 47 points in the Sweet Sixteen quarterfinals against Breathitt County. At the time that was the second highest single game total in tournament history.
- Scored 32 points in the Sweet Sixteen finals, a 70-69 loss to Male. At the time that was the third highest championship game total.
- Shot better than 50% for his career, including 57% his senior year.

Brooks, who played college basketball at Eastern Kentucky, was known for his unorthodox shooting style. "That's probably what led to my demise," he said with a laugh. When he was young, he had to cock the ball near his ear to get enough *oomph* on it to get it to the basket. He never changed his style. "I kind of hoisted it up there," he said. "I got away with it in high school, but when I got to college and played inside against guys who were a lot bigger, I had difficulty getting my shot off. I was more of a run-the-floor player."

Brooks plans to attend the gathering of Mr. Basketball winners in Elizabethtown on June 9. Vencill is also expected to be there. Vencill, a standout player at E-town who also later coached E-town to the Sweet Sixteen, was inducted into the

KHSAA Hall of Fame in 1994.







Pineville, KY  
January 29, 2010

Dawahares/KHSAA Hall of Fame  
ATTN: Nominations  
2280 Executive Drive  
Lexington, KY 40505

Re: Robert Brooks

Dear Committee Members:

The purpose of this letter is to endorse the nomination of Robert Brooks to become a member of the prestigious KHSAA Hall of Fame. I was principal of Madison High School in 1968-69 and 1969-70 and had the pleasure of watching young Robert play basketball his junior and senior years. His coach was Ray Vencill and what a team they were.

Robert led us to the state tournament in both his junior and senior years. This was quite a feat considering there were only 250 students in the top four grades at Madison High and we were playing against some of the largest schools in the state.

I have attended the State Tournament as a player, principal, superintendent, referee and a member of the Board of Control and I know of no other player more deserving of this great honor than Robert Brooks. I believe he is among the top echelon of players to ever play basketball in the Kentucky High School State Tournament. In addition, I know he has become one of Kentucky's finest citizens.

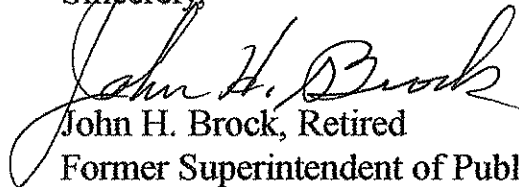
Robert was an exemplary student and he was a role model for the entire student body. He somehow achieved this without the continued help of Mom and Dad, as both had suffered untimely deaths by the time he was a junior in high school. However, they sure raised him well to this date, as he was always in school, always on time, always polite and mannerly. You may recall those tumultuous years in the late sixties when racial tensions were high. Robert was one of the reasons we had no problems at Madison High.

The student body, almost without exception, followed Robert's lead and when he said quietly that everything was okay, then everyone else agreed.

It's been Forty Years since this young man excelled in the sport of basketball at Madison High. My support on his behalf, to be accorded the recognition he so greatly deserves, should have been presented many years ago. For this discretion, I accept full responsibility and offer my deepest apologies to the nominee, his coach and his teammates. Robert's basketball successes are far too numerous for me to recall. However, I am certain you will read carefully the impressive list of achievements submitted by Coach Ray Vencill. You can count on one hand the number of players with credentials like this.

Finally, many thanks to all of you for your consideration of this request and for the many contributions you make to the youth of the Commonwealth of Kentucky through athletics.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "John H. Brock". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned above the printed name and title.

John H. Brock, Retired

Former Superintendent of Public Instruction

PS: I do recall one tidbit from the game in the 1970 tournament when Robert scored 47 points. I was on the bench with Coach Vencill late in the game. He had taken Robert out of the game and I said to him, "Coach leave him in the game and have his teammates feed him the ball and see if he can get 69 points. This will get me off the hook since I guarded "King Kelly" when he scored 68 points in the 1956 consolation game." But Coach didn't listen.

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**BOYS' STATE TOURNAMENT RECORDS**

**FOREWORD**

The Sweet Sixteen® Records Book is covered by the copyrights and trademarks of the Association and should not be copied, reproduced or otherwise duplicated without permission of the Association. Much of the information used in compiling this book is available for verification at the Kentucky High School Athletic Association Archives at Eastern Kentucky University.

This section contains information and records about the Boys' State Tournament since

its inception in 1918. Should you have questions or corrections to the information contained in this book, please direct the information in writing to Elden May, Sports Information Director, KHSAA, 2280 Executive Drive, Lexington, Ky. 40505. (E-mail at emay@khsaa.org)

Published as a separate publication for many years by retired newsman John McGill, and since 1988 by the KHSAA, the "Sweet 16® Tournament Records Book" is an official publication of the Kentucky High School Athletic Association.

The Sweet 16® Records Book was first published in its current form in 1982 by McGill, former sports editor of the Ashland Daily Independent and the Lexington Herald. McGill did one of the first in-depth reviews of tournament records in 1965, leading to a series of columns in the Herald.



In Memory of  
John McGill

**SWEET 16® QUIZ**

1. What school won the final third place (consolation) game?
2. Only one championship game score (26-13) has been repeated. What school was the victim both times?
3. What championship winning coach has had entries from three different regions?
4. Name four Sweet Sixteen performers who gained college football recognition?
5. What undefeated team played a three-overtime tie in its district final but advanced to the 1931 State Tournament and won one game?
6. What 1984 tournament referee had a father who officiated in the 1967 event?
7. Who are the only men to play, coach, and referee in the tournament?
8. What Bell County player miraculously scored four points in two seconds in 1960?
9. What school had the first integrated team to play in the state tournament?
10. What was the first black school to play a tournament game?
11. When Cliff Hagan scored 41 points in the title game, whose record did he break?
12. Two of the five 100-point totals in tournament history were scored by what school?
13. What school, competing in more than one tournament, had the best winning percentage?
14. Where was the first state tournament held?
15. What team limited Kelly Coleman to his lowest total in 1956 and eliminated Wayland by one point enroute to the title?
16. In 1944, the Sweet Sixteen had three undefeated schools, each starting with the letter "B". Name

- along with a former NCAA scoring champion were Sweet Sixteen teammates?
18. What former Sweet Sixteen star received the first NBA citizenship award?
19. Who refereed 10-straight State Tournaments?
20. What former Sweet Sixteen player was the NBA's first scoring champion in 1947?
21. What two coaches won the title in their only years of high school coaching?

Answers to the quiz appear on page 99

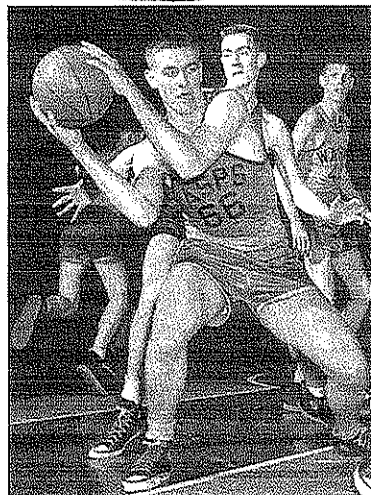
**TOURNAMENT RECORDS**

These records have been compiled using news clippings, box scores, and other official tournament archives. Any corrections should be made in writing to the Kentucky High School Athletic Association.

**INDIVIDUAL**

**Points -- Game**

Kelly Coleman, Wayland vs. Bell Co., 1956	68
Richie Farmer, Clay Co. vs. Ballard, 1988	51
Kelly Coleman, Wayland vs. Shelbyville, 1956	50
Linville Puckett, George Rogers Clark vs. Somerset, 1952	47
Robert Brooks, Madison vs. Breathitt Co., 1970	47



King Kelly Coleman holds many tournament

Manuel Forrest, Moore vs. Simon Kenton, 1981	47
Don Ringstaff, Livingston Central vs. Olive Hill, 1959	46
Ron King, Central vs. Ohio Co., 1969	44
Dan Langhi, Marshall Co. vs. Simon Kenton, 1995	43
Jeff Lamp, Ballard vs. Owensboro, 1977	43
Russ Chadwell, Clay Co. vs. Highlands, 1987	43
Antwain Barbour, Elizabethtown vs. Russellville, 2000	42
Rick Hall, McDowell vs. Ashland Blazer, 1966	42
Bo Roaden, Corbin vs. Knott Co. Central, 1991	42
Michael Burd, Hart Co. vs. Buckhorn, 1989	41
Cliff Hagan, Owensboro vs. Lafayette, 1949	41
Mike Redd, Seneca vs. Maysville, 1963	41
Terry Davis, Shelby Co. vs. Meade Memorial, 1968	41
Jeff Tipton, Ashland Blazer vs. Holmes, 1980	41
Jack Jennings, Holmes vs. Ballard, 1988	41

**Points -- Tournament**

Kelly Coleman, Wayland, 1956	185
Richie Farmer, Clay Co., 1988	137
Ronnie Daniel, Shawnee, 1973	130
Robert Brooks, Madison, 1970	128
Johnny Cox, Hazard, 1955	127
Ron King, Central, 1969	120
Jeff Lamp, Ballard, 1977	119
Dwight Higgs, Owensboro, 1980	118
Troy McKinley, Simon Kenton, 1981	117
Butch Beard, Breckinridge Co., 1965	113
Chris Lofton, Mason Co. 2004	112
Mike Redd, Seneca, 1963	106
Chris Lofton, 2003	105
Westley Unseld, Seneca, 1964	105
J.R. VanHoose, Paintsville, 1988	105
Antwain Barbour, Elizabethtown, 2000	104
Billy Ray Lickert, Lafayette, 1957	104
Ailan Houston, Ballard, 1987	104
Bobby Rascoe, Daviess Co., 1958	103
Fred Tisdale, Logan Co., 1984	103

**Points -- All Tournaments**

Richie Farmer, Clay Co.	317
J.R. VanHoose, Paintsville	272
Chris Lofton, Mason Co.	252
Rick Jones, Scott Co.	223
Wallace Jones, Harlan	223
Linville Puckett, George Rogers Clark	210
Russ Chadwell, Clay Co.	193
Todd Tackett, Paintsville	192
Kelly Coleman, Wayland	185

courtesy of Lexington Herald-Leader



