---TABLE OF CONTENTS---

1. Foreword

2. Letters of Recommendation

3. Richard Travis – Action Shot 1

4. Richard Travis – Action Shot 2

5. Richard Travis – Action Shot 3

6. Richard Travis – Action Shot 4

VARIOUS NEWSPAPER ARTICLES

7. Travis Lone Mustang on 1964 All 17th District Tournament Team

8. Travis Hits Game Winning Shot to win the 17th District Tournament

9. Travis – One of The Area's Top Scorers in 1964

10. 1964 -17th District Championship picture

11. 1964 – Top Scorer in the City

12. 1964 – All Fifth Regional Team

13. Travis Registers 43 points for Mustangs

14. Richard Travis & Rick Hendricks Stage a Sensational Shooting Duel

15. Travis – Third leading scorer in Southern Kentucky

16. 1964/65- Pre-season All-Fifth Region team

17. 1965 – All 17th District Tournament Team

18. 1965 – Travis captured all scoring honors in the 17th District Tournament

19. 1965 – All Fifth Regional Team

20. 1964 – All-State Basketball Team (Honorable Mention)

21. 1965 – All-State Basketball Team (Honorable Mention)

22. Richard scores 31 points as a 10th grader

23. Travis' 30 lead High Street to a win

24. Travis – All-American 1968, 1969

25. Travis – OCU Hall-of-Fame 1980

TABLE OF CONTENTS

1 Foreword

2 Letters of Recommendation

3 Richard Travis – Action Shot 1

4 Richard Travis – Action Shot 2

5 Richard Travis – Action Shot

6 Richard Travis – Action Shot 4

7 Travis Lone Mustang on 1964 All 17th District Tournament Team

8 Travis Hits Game Winning Shot to Win the 17th District Tournament

9 Travis – One of The Area's Top Scorers in 1964

10 1964 – 17th District Championship Picture

11 1964 – Top Scorer in the City

12 1964 – All Fifth Regional Team

13 Travis Registers 43 Points for Mustangs

14 Richard Travis & Rick Hendricks Stage a Sensational Shooting Duel

15 Travis – Third Leading Scorer in Southern Kentucky

16 1964/65- Pre-Season All-Fifth Region Team

17 1965 – All 17th District Tournament Team

18 1965 – Travis Captured All Scoring Honors in the 17th District Tournament

19 1965 – All Fifth Regional Team

20 1964 – All-State Basketball Team (Honorable Mention)

21 1965 – All-State Basketball Team (Honorable Mention)

22 10th Grader, Travis Scores 31 Points

23 Travis' 30 Lead High Street to a Win

24 Travis – All-American 1968, 1969

25 Travis – OCU Hall-of-Fame 1980

26

27

28

29

30

31

32

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FOREWORD

It is my privilege and honor to nominate Richard Travis for inclusion in the Class of 2017 Kentucky High School Basketball Hall of fame.

The credentials of Mr. Richard Travis clearly reflect the outstanding manner in which he played the game of basketball throughout his career. His relentless pursuit of excellence as a high school basketball player began at an unusual age. Specifically, he defied all odds by becoming a prominent member of his high school team as an 8th grader and further distinguished himself as being the only eight grader in 1961 to play and score in the Kentucky State Tournament. He was truly one of the great players to play high school basketball in the State of Kentucky. However, a recurring observation in the enclosed letters of recommendation is the fact that Travis played at an all-black school during the middle 60s, and black schools at that time played in relative obscurity. Consequently, he did not receive the notoriety that he deserved. If he had played at an integrated high school, the accolades he would have received would have been unquestionably numerous.

In Richard's 10th grade year of 1963, he shared the scoring title on the Glasgow Ralph Bunche Bluehawks team with Floyd Bridges by averaging 18 points a game. His rise in stardom continued after relocating to Bowling Green, Kentucky where he lead the High Street Mustangs to a 20-9 record by averaging 20 points a game during the 1963/64 season. In fact, his scoring average ranked him among the top scorers in the 5th Region, as noted in the article (#9). Newspaper article (#11) described him as a "brilliant jump shooter," which came in handy for the Mustangs as they won the 17th district championship, thanks to Richard's game winning shot. Another newspaper article (#16) stated that he "has no peer in Kentucky as a medium-range jump-shooter." He captured the top scoring honors in the 1965 17th District Tournament, averaging over 25 points a game. He went on to lead his team through the 17th District and 5th Region tournaments in 1964 and 65 and was twice named on the first team of both the District and Regional Tournaments. Article's (#7,12,16 &18) are representative of his aforementioned tournament selections.

I can only surmise that Richard's exclusion from All-State selection was because of being a victim of oversight. However, as revealed in attachments (#19) and (#20), he was All-State Honorable mention in both 1964 and 65, which was no small feat, considering the obscure conditions under which he played.

While more could easily be said about his accomplishments, the enclosed recommendations and articles should more than justify the need to grant him priority consideration for induction into the Hall Of Fame. Richard had several scholarship offers from a diversity of Universities; however, he elected to follow some of his former high school teammates by attending Oklahoma City University, where he broke Charles Hunter's freshman scoring record and subsequently became the all-time career scoring leader. After a storied career with Oklahoma City, Richard was drafted by the New Knicks of the NBA and the Indiana Pacers of the ABA. He played for the Indiana Pacers before being drafted by the military.

Richard's induction will go a long way toward rectifying the oversight of athletes that played at all black schools with talent that equaled or surpassed that of many players already inducted into the Hall of Fame.

Finally, it is fitting to note that Richard's high school stardom propelled him to reach legendary status as a two time All American at Oklahoma City University, where he was also inducted in to the school's Hall-of-Fame. (See attachment #23)

Best Regards,
James W. Stockton

COLLEGE OFFERS AND LETTERS OF INTENT

University Of Louisville

Davidson

Western Ky. Univ.

Murray State University

Austin Peay

University of Michigan

Western Michigan University

University of California

Morehead State

Bowling Green University

University of Toledo

Tennessee State University

Kentucky State

West Texas State

Richard decided on Oklahoma City University, coached by Abe Lemmons. He continued to be pursued by several schools, including Western Kentucky University, but elected to stay at Oklahoma, where he set scoring records and achieved All American Status.

To the KHSAA Hall of Fame Selection Committee:

This letter is in support of Richard (Rich) Travis as a nominee for induction into the Kentucky Hall of Fame. Rich was an outstanding player through his sophomore year at Ralph Bunche High School in Glasgow, Kentucky, after which Bunche High School integrated with Glasgow High School. Richard Travis and teammate Billy Hunter elected to go to High Street High School in Bowling Green. Predominantly black populated High Street had not yet integrated with Bowling Green City Schools. The remaining Ralph Bunche High School athletes integrated into the Glasgow City School District. As the coach of the Glasgow High School basketball team, I felt that we would have been even stronger as a state-wide contender in both 1965 and 1966, if these two had chosen to play with their Bunche teammates along with the fine players already at GHS.

Richard was selected on the 17th District All Tournament and 5th Regional All Tournament Teams in both 1965 and 1966. As Glasgow Ralph Bunche and Bowling Green High Street High Schools have both closed, I have been unable to find complete and accurate records, as to scoring average, rebounds, assists, etc. that I would like to have given your committee as you consider Richard Travis's nomination.

Richard attended Oklahoma City University as a scholarship player. He would be joining Charlie Hunter and Jerry Wells, both of whom had played at Glasgow Bunche, and were starting their senior year at OCU. His over-all college career scoring average was 26 points per game. He scored a total 2086 points, breaking all previous scoring records set by other outstanding players, including Jerry Wells. Richard received Honorable Mention for the 1968 AP All American Team. He also was invited to try out for the Olympic basketball team, and performed well enough to make it until the last cut. (Note: Professional players were not permitted to compete for the U.S. in that era.)

After an outstanding college career, Richard was drafted by the Indiana Pacers of the ABA and the New York Knicks of the NBA. He played with the Indiana Pacers. However, his playing time was brief as he was drafted by the Army.

Thank you in advance for your consideration of a most deserving person.

Coach Jim Richards

Jim Richards

Former Glasgow High School Basketball Head Coach
Former Western Kentucky University Basketball Head Coach

Clem S. Haskins
3060 Roberts Road
Campbellsville, KY 42718

June 6, 2016

Dear Dawahares /Kentucky High School Athletic Association Hall of Fame Committee:

I am writing to recommend Richard Travis to the Dawahares/ Kentucky High School Athletic Association Hall of Fame.

Richard had an impressive high school basketball career. As an eighth grader he was a member of the 5th region championship and state tournament team.

His junior and senior years were spent at Bowling Green High Street. That is when I became aware of this young man who was a prolific scorer and a great jump shooter from anywhere on the court. I was a member of the Western Kentucky University basketball team and would often play pickup games with the high school players.

Richard was on the 17th district and 5th region all tournament teams while playing at Bowling Green High Street in 1964 and 1965.

His post high school basketball career was successful as he continued to break scoring records while attending Oklahoma City University where he averaged 29 points per game. After graduating from OCU he was drafted by ABA Indiana Pacers and by the New York Knicks of the NBA. He played for the Indiana Pacers but his time was cut short due to military obligations.

He is currently a practicing lawyer specializing in employment and labor law.

The high schools that Richard played for, High Street and Ralph Bunche were all black schools. Consequently, many of his accomplishments on the court were not publically recognized. He has long been deserving of induction into the Dawahares/ Kentucky High School Athletic Association Hall of Fame. Now is the time to rectify that oversight and I hope you will give your fullest consideration to this recommendation and induct Richard Travis.

Sincerely,

Clem Haskins

Clem Haskins
Dawahares Kentucky High School Athletic Association
Hall of Fame Inductee

July 18, 2016

R: Kentucky High School Hall of Fame
Letter of Recommendation

I am writing this letter to recommend Richard Travis as a nominee for induction into the Kentucky High School Basketball Hall of Fame.

I knew Richard when he played for High Street, an all-black school in Bowling Green, Kentucky. I played for Bristow High School during the same period, and we competed against each other. In fact, we played against each other enough for me to know that he was an outstanding ball player. I recall Richard being a very strong and physical player, who was very tough to guard. Although, I was the leading scorer in the Region and State during that time, Richard was right behind me, as he was routinely among the top scorers in the Southern region. He was a gifted and dedicated player, as well as a prolific scorer. I distinctly remember one game in which Richard and I staged an old fashioned shoot-out. The local newspaper characterized it as a "sensational duel." Needless to say, we lead our respective teams in scoring, as I scored over 40 points and Richard scored close to that number. Unfortunately for me, High Street won that game by a score of 90 to 85.

I achieved all state and national honors and believe Richard would have achieved the same, had he played in an integrated situation that provided opportunities for statewide and national recognition. Nevertheless, he was recognized as an all-district, all-region player, and all-state honorable mention.

After high school graduation, I went on to play at Western Kentucky University, and Richard took his talents to Oklahoma City University, where he had an outstanding collegiate career. Also, I'm informed that he was drafted by the New Your Knicks and Indiana Pacers, after his college days were completed.

It is my hope that you give his nomination priority consideration for induction into the Kentucky High School Hall of fame.

Sincerely Yours,

Rich Hendrick

Rich Hendrick

Johnnie F. Herron
108 Clay Street
New Brockton, Alabama 36351
Telephone +1-334-894-6211
Mobile +1-334-494-3388

May 22, 2016

To Whom It May Concern:

This letter is written in reference to Richard Travis, a former student and basketball player of mine at Ralph Bunche High School in Glasgow, Kentucky.

During my first year of teaching and coaching basketball in 1957, I noticed that there was not a feeder program for building and sustaining the high school program. Ralph Bunche High School being a small school and not knowing many young boys, I instituted a semi-Little League Program for our school. It was during this time that I came to know Richard. A young energetic fellow, eager to learn, and exhibited the ability to motive his team mates to play hard with a passion to win. I had the pleasure of coaching him up through this tenth grade year of high school.

Richard's eighth grade year was an exciting year for him and me as his coach. Coaching him was easy. Richard had developed unusual extra ordinary skills in ball handling and the awesome ability to motivate his team to achieve on and off the court. He later became the starting guard for the varsity team. In the early 60's he help lead Ralph Bunche High School team to the State Tournament.

Richard and his family moved to Bowling Green, Kentucky at the end of his tenth grade year. He became a member of the State Street High School where he completed his high school years. State Street was a school in our region. Therefore, I had the opportunity to continue to observe his development as a basketball player and young man. I kept in touch with Richard's coaches and they too were as pleased and impressed with his leadership on and off the court. Based on this information, I am recommending that Richard Travis be considered as a candidate to be named to the Sports Hall of Fame. If selected, I believe that Richard will uphold the high standards expected of the recipient of this award.

Respectfully yours,

Johnnie F. Herron

Johnnie F. Herron
Former Teacher and Coach
Ralph J. Bunche High School
Glasgow, Kentucky

Kentucky High School Athletic Association Basketball Hall of Fame Committee

To Whom It May Concern,

It is my privilege to write this recommendation for Richard Travis. I was fortunate to be an assistant coach and participate in his development as a basketball player and a person of integrity. He played on the High Street High School basketball team for two years (1964-65). Richard, along with William Hunter had lived in Glasgow, Kentucky before relocating to Bowling Green and becoming outstanding student athletes at High Street. Needless to say, they both were instrumental in High Street becoming one of the most dominant teams in the region.

I was an eye witness not only to his rapid progression as an incredible basketball player but also to his progression in maturity. He was a person of character, intelligence, and talent. He was relentless as a player, and was one of the most honored players in the history of the school. He worked hard and had a tremendous desire to excel. He quickly became a leader for his High Street team, making headlines, breaking records and exciting crowds with his scoring. His honors included making the all district and all regional teams his junior and senior years. He averaged well over 20 points and shot a high percentage from the floor in both his junior and senior years.

High Street was an all-black school and the basketball team played under relative obscurity. Nevertheless, Richard was recognized as one of the most outstanding players in the district, region and State. Unfortunately, the school records maintained during that time were either lost or destroyed when school integration took place. Consequently, my recommendation is devoid of concrete examples of his basketball accomplishments. Therefore, it is my hope that what I have denoted in writing will suffice.

As fine a basketball player as Richard was, he was even a finer young man. The same work ethic that made him a good basketball player also made him a strong student. I am proud to say that Richard did not disappoint me or the school when he took his talents to the college level. I am sure he could have gone to any number of colleges, but he chose Oklahoma City University where he quickly became a prominent player of one of the most talented and successful college teams in the country.

Best Regards,

Herbert Oldham

Herbert Oldham
Teacher and Coach

Clarence E. Glover **502-974-5674** **glover811@att.net**
811 Lake Forest Parkway **Louisville Kentucky** **40245-5138**

June 24, 2016

Nominating Committee
Dawahares/KHSAA Athletic Hall of Fame
2280 Executive Drive Lexington, KY 40505

Dear Committee:

This letter is in support of Richard Travis for induction into the Dawahares/KHSAA Hall of Fame.

I am quite familiar with Mr. Travis' reputation as a stellar athlete and basketball player. I never had the pleasure to see him play nor compete against him; however, I followed his career in "real time" during the years he played high school and college athletics.

He competed with and against Kentucky's premier athletes in the southern Kentucky region and represented his team as one of the best players in our Commonwealth. During the time Mr. Travis competed in high school the African-American athlete had limited opportunities to showcase their talents to statewide integrated audiences.

This lack of exposure limited Mr. Travis' opportunities for statewide and national recognition that was accorded other Kentucky athletes with similar or lesser talent.

As a high schooler I followed news events illustrating Mr. Travis' head-to-head play versus athletes in southern Kentucky (Bowling Green High, Bristow High, etc.). In each event Mr. Travis' all-around execution of his athletic abilities led his team to victory.

Mr. Travis has represented his Alma Mater and our Commonwealth with great distinction as a player on the basketball court and as an attorney in the court of law. I submit this letter in support of Mr. Richard Travis for induction into the Dawahares/KHSAA Hall of Fame.

Sincerely,

Clarence E. Glover

Clarence E. Glover, M. Ed.

To: The Kentucky High School Athletic Association Hall of Fame Committee:

Having being named to the Kentucky High School Hall of Fame in March of 2016, I am writing today to endorse a person equally worthy of such an award. Specifically, I am pleased to nominate Richard Travis for induction into the KHSAA Hall of Fame. I have Known Richard for over fifty years, during which time we played basketball together at Ralph Bunche High School in Glasgow, Kentucky and Oklahoma City University.

Although I was three grades ahead of him in high school, it became apparent to me and others that he was a basketball star in the making. He was relentless as a player, and more than held his own, playing with older guys, such as me. In fact, he was playing on the Ralph Bunche High School Varsity team by the time he was in the eighth grade, which was highly unusual. He also has the distinction of being the first 8th grader to play in a state tournament game.

Richard moved to Bowling Green, Kentucky, playing his last two years of high School basketball at Bowling Green High Street. Although, I was attending Oklahoma City University during that time, I stayed connected and informed of his basketball accomplishments. By the time I started playing basketball at Oklahoma City, Richard was taking his talent to the next level, often playing "pick-up" basketball with notable college players at Western Kentucky University, including Clem Haskins. He became one of the most honored players in the history of the High Street, regularly scoring 25 plus points a game. He was recognized by area coaches as one of the most outstanding offensive players in the district and region in which he played.

Needless to say, I was a big fan of Richard, and wanted him to join me at Oklahoma City. His high school basketball credentials were such that he was heavily recruited by several colleges. Fortunately, he elected to attend Oklahoma City University where he made an immediate impact on the school's basketball program. He was a fierce competitor, never backing down from anyone on the court. He would play me just as intensely in one-on-one matches as he would play opposing players in regular games. Thanks to Richard, my freshmen scoring record was broken by him. He did not stop with my record as he proceeded to set single season school record for points and scoring average. He also set the career scoring average record, averaging 26.1 points from 1966 to 1969. He was instrumental in Oklahoma City being one of the winningest basketball programs in the nation during that era. Moreover, he was given several other honors, being named All American at least twice. In addition, he was invited to try out for the Olympics in 1968. We both were inducted into the School's Hall-of-Fame in subsequent years. He was drafted by the Indiana Pacers of the ABA and the New York Knicks of NBA. He played for the Pacers; however, his playing experience was brief, as he was drafted by the army.

Best Regards,

Charles H.T. Hunter

Dawahares/KHSAA Hall Of Fame Committee

To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing this letter to recommend Richard Travis as a nominee for induction into the Kentucky High School Hall of Fame.

Richard distinguished himself as a great high school player, while playing at Ralph Bunche, an all black school in Glasgow. After his sophomore year there, he relocated to Bowling Green where he finished his schooling at High Street, another all black school. His relocation took place at the time of school integration in Glasgow. Needless to say, his move to Bowling Green was considered a great loss to the Glasgow High School basketball team. In fact, Jim Richard, the coach at Glasgow who later went on to Coach at Western Kentucky University, was quoted as saying if Travis had stayed in Glasgow he believed he could have won the state tournament his first or certainly his second year at Glasgow High School.

During the two years in which Richard played at High Street, he led the team in scoring and was considered to be one of the most outstanding offensive players in the 5th Region. He was All-State honorable mention two years in a row. Given his skills, if he had played in an integrated school where he would have gotten more exposure, he would have been a shoe-in for All-State honors.

Richard would often play pick-up games with current and former Western Kentucky University basketball players, including myself, Clem Haskins and others. He was definitely a fierce competitor and not remotely intimidated because of playing against guys several years his senior. He could run, shot and jump with the best of us.

He received numerous accolades during the time he played at Oklahoma City University including All American and scoring champion honors. He was also inducted in the University's Hall-Of-Fame.

He played for the Professional basketball team, the Indiana Pacers, for a brief period of time. Unfortunately, his professional career was cut short due to military obligations. I'm reasonably sure he would have had a stellar professional basketball career, otherwise.

It is my hope that you give strong consideration to Richard Travis as a person deserving to be inducted into the KHSAA Hall-Of-Fame.

Regards,
Darel Carrier
Darel Carrier

Kentucky High School Athletic Association Hall of Fame Committee

To Whom It May Concern,

It is my privilege and honor to nominate Richard Travis for induction into the Kentucky high school basketball hall-of-fame class. I find it hard to believe that this type of award recognition has eluded him all of these years, considering the skill level at which he played, the honors he received and his influence on younger guys like me, during his high school basketball playing days. I easily attribute much of the success I enjoyed in high school, at Western Kentucky University and as a NBA professional to watching and reading about the awesome play of Richard, Charles (Big Game) Hunter and others. Watching them play demonstrated what it would take for me to become a great player. It was not only a delight watching Richard play at Ralph Bunch High School but also when he relocated to Bowling Green and became an instant impact player for High Street. Richard routinely made the 17 District and All Fifth Region teams, and helped to make High Street one of the most dominant teams in their district and region.

We tend to use the word "Phenom" rather loosely these days, but he genuinely was a phenomenal player. He helped to pave the way for me and others who went on to play at the college and professional levels. Needless to say, I was one of his biggest fans. I was truly in awe of him in terms of what he could do on the basketball court. He could really shot the basketball. He had a great jump shot and could shoot from anywhere on the basketball court. If social media had been around when Richard was playing, maybe he would have gone professional before finishing college, as he was just that good.

Richard went on to achieve legendary and All American status at Oklahoma City University. In addition, he played some professional ball with the Indiana Pacers.

To further support this nomination, I would be pleased to express in more detail my reasons for his qualifications for induction into the State's hall-of-fame class. Please feel free to contact me at any time. Again, I reiterate my full support for his much deserved induction into the State's basketball hall-of-fame class.

Yours truly,

Jim McDaniels

Jim McDaniels

RICHARDSON GARDNER & ALEXANDER

ATTORNEYS-AT-LAW
117 EAST WASHINGTON STREET
GLASGOW, KENTUCKY 42141-2696
writer's e-mail: wlg@rgba-law.com

BOBBY H. RICHARDSON
WOODFORD L. GARDNER, JR.
T. RICHARD ALEXANDER II

(270) 651-8884
(270) 651-2116
FAX (270) 651-3662

July 5, 2016

NOMINATING COMMITTEE
DAWAHARES/KHSAA
ATHLETIC HALL OF FAME
2280 EXECUTIVE DRIVE
LEXINGTON KY 40505

Dear Committee Members:

I am honored to write this recommendation for the Dawahares/KHSSA Hall of Fame to select Richard Travis as a new member.

Richard attended Ralph Bunche High School, Glasgow, Kentucky, through his sophomore season 1962-63. I attended Park City High School and graduated after the 1962-63 season. Our schools were in the same district and we also competed during the regular season.

Richard grew up around and playing for some of the best teams in the history of Ralph Bunche High School. He was certainly a contributing member and well respected by his competitors.

A transfer to High Street High School in Bowling Green, Kentucky, for his junior and senior seasons happened. He was one of the best and most sought after basketball players in Kentucky.

Following graduation, Richard attended Oklahoma City University. He scored 2,081 points during his college varsity career on a very successful teams. His coach, Abe Lemons, is quoted as calling Richard Travis a player "with a perfect attitude and an unequal desire for victory." In addition to his athletic achievements, Richard was a good student, later attended law school, and has been a practicing attorney for many years.

I assure you that you will be proud of your selection of Richard Travis as a member of the Dawahares/KHSAA Hall of Fame.

Very truly yours,

Woodford L. Gardner, Jr.

To: DAWAHARES/KHSAA Hall of Fame Induction Committee:

It is with great pleasure that I write this recommendation for Richard Travis to be inducted into the DAWAHARES/KHSAA Hall of Fame. I had the distinct privilege and honor to play with Richard at both the high school and college levels.

We both attended Ralph Bunche, a black high school in Glasgow, Kentucky. When I was in the 9th grade and Richard was in the 8th grade, I can vividly recall Richard averaging around 18 points a game on the Junior varsity team. However, the real story is that he was also a prominent member on the varsity team, playing substantial minutes in a substitute role and averaging 8 to 10 points a game. I am sure most of the opposing teams and players were not remotely aware of his grade status, given the mature level at which he played and the all-around contribution he was making to the team at that grade level. In fact, he has the distinction of being the only 8th grader in 1961 to play and score in the Kentucky State Tournament.

Because of Richard's spirit and sense of competitiveness, he was not content with just having a prominent substitute role, so by his 9th grade year, he was starting on the varsity basketball team. Unfortunately, he experienced a severe injury to one of his fingers on his right hand, and this made shooting the basketball very challenging. Even with his shooting limitation, amazingly enough, he still averaged between 10 to 12 points a game. His scoring picked up considerably by his 10th grade year, as we both were averaging around 18 points a game. He could have averaged more points but he embraced the idea of playing within the team concept.

Richard relocated to Bowling Green, Kentucky and played his last two years at High Street, an all-black high school. He led the team in scoring during his junior and senior years, averaging 20 and 24 points respectively. He led the team through the 17th District and the 5th Region in both years which were 1964 and 65. In addition, he was twice named on the first team of both the District and Regional Tournaments. Also, he was honorable mention All-State two years in a row.

Richard's talent equaled or surpassed that of many who were receiving accolades at that time; however, because of playing at an all-black high school, he was a victim of oversight like many others. If the circumstances had been different, he would have been a unanimous choice for All-State Honors and the recipient of other comparable awards.

Richard was heavily recruited by major colleges throughout the country. However, he chose to join me and other former high school teammates at Oklahoma City University, where he wasted no time breaking scoring records. Specifically, he broke Charles Hunter's freshmen scoring record by averaging 29 points a game. Richard broke all previous Oklahoma City basketball records, as he scored over 2,000 points during his three year varsity career. He received numerous accolades including Oklahoma City University President's award, AP All American selection, and was named to the Oklahoma City University Hall of Fame in 1980. In addition, Richard was a finalist for the 1968 USA Olympic basketball team.

Richard was drafted in the ABA by the Indiana Pacers and the New York Knicks in the NBA. He played for the Pacers; however, his career was short lived due to military obligations.

It is my hope that you give Richard's nomination the utmost consideration as he is someone most deserving to be inducted into the Dawahares/KHSAA Hall of Fame.

Sincerely,
Floyd Bridges
Floyd Bridges
Retired Educator
Ben Davis High School