

Warren (Armstrong) Jabali Collection (AC33)

Introduction:

The Warren (Armstrong) Jabali Collection contains personal papers, photographs, and other materials related to the personal and professional accomplishments of American Basketball Association star Warren Jabali.

Descriptive Summary:

Creator: Warren Jabali

Title: Warren (Armstrong) Jabali Collection

Dates: 1946-2013

Size: 6.3 linear feet (6 boxes + 3 Oversize Frames)

Collection Number: AC33

Donor Information:

Donated by Mary Beasley, 08/25/2014.

Citation Note:

Warren (Armstrong) Jabali Collection (AC33), Black Archives of Mid-America, Kansas City, Missouri.

Administrative Information:

Reproduction Restrictions: Unrestricted.

Access Restrictions: Some items in folder 1 are restricted due to privacy concerns.

Biographical Sketch:

Warren (née Armstrong) Jabali was born in Kansas City, Kansas, on August 29, 1946 to Warren G. and Veola Bullock Armstrong. Jabali attended Central High School in Kansas City, Missouri, where he played basketball and was recognized as a high school All American. After high school, Jabali went to Wichita State University where he was three- time All-Missouri Valley Conference

selection. Following his graduation, he entered the American Basketball Association, playing for the Oakland Oaks, Indiana Pacers, the Floridians, the Denver Rockets, and the San Diego Conquistadors.

When his professional basketball career ended, Jabali became a physical education teacher in Dade County, Florida, serving the school system there for over thirty years. He also served as Commissioner of the Miami Midnight Basketball League Program, a program designed to not only re-direct the energies of inner-city youth but also help them identify and achieve their goals. Jabali died July 13, 2012.

Scope and Content Note:

The framed newspaper clippings have been removed from the Collection and placed in the Art Tills.

Series 1: Personal Papers, 1946-2012

This series consists of textual materials documenting Jabali's life and career. The series includes vital and legal records and passports; correspondence; event and funeral programs; a Wichita State University yearbook and diploma; teacher certifications; and ephemera. The series is arranged roughly in chronological order.

Series 2: Published Materials, ca. 1960s-2013

This series consists of newspaper clippings, a 1973-1974 copy of the Official ABA Handbook, and promotional materials for Mary Beasley's 2013 book on Jabali, Thanks to You. The newspaper clippings, many undated, are arranged roughly in chronological order and document Jabali's high school and professional basketball career, the Midnight Basketball League, and recognition of Jabali's achievements.

Series 3: Photographs, ca. 1950s-2004

This series consists of loose photographs and a photo album. The loose photographs are arranged roughly in chronological order.

Series 4: Plaques, 1994-2008

This series consists of plaques received by Jabali in recognition of his professional and community achievements. The series is arranged chronologically by date.

Series 5: Audio / Visual Materials, 1971-2008

This series consists of audio / visual materials concerning Jabali's life, basketball career, and recognitions. The series is arranged by format – VHS tapes followed by DVDs – and then alphabetically by title. The audio / visual materials are housed with books and pamphlets.

Series 6: Garments, ca. 1965-1968, n.d.

This series consists of garments and other items worn by Jabali. The series includes a basketball uniform piece used by Jabali at Wichita State University and shirts and a wallet used later in life. Garments are located in Boxes 4 .

Series 7: Framed Newspaper Clippings, 1988-1995

This series consists of 3 large, framed newspaper clippings.

Collection Inventory:**Series 1: Personal Papers, 1946-2012**

- f.1 **Vital and legal records, 1946-2011**
- f.2 Missouri State High School Basketball Championship program, 03/13/1964
- f.3 Central High School graduation program, 06/04/1964
- f.4 Wichita State University yearbook, 1966
- f.5 ABA Basketball League ephemera, 1970-1973
- f.6 Passports, 1973, 2000
- f.7 Wichita State University diploma, 05/23/1976
- f.8 Shocker Sports Hall of Fame Induction Ceremony program, 02/09/1985
- f.9 Correspondence, 12/17/1992, 01/22/1998
- f.10 ABA 30 Years Reunion Celebration Gala program, 08/23/1997
- f.11 Remembrances, 1997-2012 (OS)
- f.12 Wichita State University basketball game program, 01/08/1998

- f.13 "Greatest High School Athlete: A Reprise," 1998
- f.14 Kansas City Sports Commission 32nd Awards Banquet program, 2004
- f.15 NBA All-Stars ticket, 02/19/2005
- f.16 Florida Department of Education certifications, 2007-2012
- f.17 Funeral program, 07/21/2012
- f.18 Funeral program, 07/28/2012
- f.19 Midnight Basketball League folder, n.d.

Series 2: Published Materials, ca. 1960s-2013

- f.20 Clippings, ca. 1960s
- f.21 Clippings, 1963-1964 (OS)
- f.22 Clippings, 1973, ca. 1970s
- f.23 Clippings, 1994-1998
- f.24 Clippings, 2004-2012, n.d.
- f.25 Official ABA Handbook, 1973-1974
- f.26 Thanks to You promotional materials, 2013

Series 3: Photographs, ca. 1950s-2004

- f.27 Photographs, ca. 1950s-ca. 1960s
- f.28 Photographs, ca. 1970s
- f.29 Photographs, ca. 1980s-2000s
- f.30 Photo album, ca. 1970-2004
- f.31 Photo album, ca. 1970-2004 (photocopies)

Series 4: Plaques, 1994-2008

- f.32 Sports Council of the Greater Miami Chamber of Commerce, 02/08/1994 (OS3)
- f.33 M.U.S.T. Roundtable Discussion, 1999 (OS3)
- f.34 Greater Kansas City Amateur Sports, 06/2004
- f.35 Central High School Court Dedication, 2008

Series 5: Audio / Visual Materials, 1971-2008

- f.36 ABA All-Stars, 1971, 1973 [VHS]
- f.37 ABA Reunion Celebration, 1997 [VHS]
- f.38 Kansas City Sports Commission 32nd Awards Banquet, 2004 [VHS]
- f.39 Oakland Oaks "Chapter One," n.d. [VHS]
- f.40 ABA All-Stars, 1971, 1973 [DVD]
- f.41 ABA Reunion Celebration, 1997 [DVD]
- f.42 Inside the Heat: The Floridians, n.d. [DVD]
- f.43 Kansas City Sports Commission 32nd Awards Banquet, 2004 [DVD]
- f.44 Kirk Nielsen Interviews Warren Jabali, 1996 [DVD]
- f.45 Miami Heat Pre-Game Show, 2005 [DVD]
- f.46 Oakland Oaks "Chapter One," n.d. [DVD]
- f.47 Warren Jabali 60th Birthday Celebration, 2006 [DVD]
- f.48 Warren Jabali Court Dedication, 2008 [DVD]

Series 6: Garments, ca. 1965-1968, n.d.

- f.49 Midnight Basketball League Jersey, n.d.
- f.50 NBA / ABA Legends of Basketball Sleeveless Shirt, n.d.
- f.51 North County Elementary School Polo, n.d.
- f.52 Wallet, n.d.
- f.53 Wichita State University uniform piece, ca. 1965-1968

Series 7: Framed Newspaper Clippings, 1988-1995

- f.54 "Still Rocking the Boat," 04/28/1988 (AT 1.C.2 BACK)
- f.55 "Basketball star now in their court," Miami Herald, 09/17/1995 (AT 1.C.2 BACK)
- f.56 "Feeling the Power," Kansas City Star, 08/29/1999 (AT 1.C.2 BACK)

Processed by Michael Sweeney, Collection Librarian, December 2014. Updated by Laura Darnell, Archivist, October 2023. Updated by David Rocha, AmeriCorps VISTA Member, July 2025. Updated by Laura Darnell, Head Archivist, May 2026.