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APR 21 1975

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

April 21, 1975

MEMORANDUM FOR: JERRY JONES
FROM: DICK CHENEY
SUBJECT: Basketball Hall of Fame

Jerry, attached is a decision memo donating a basketball to the Hall of Fame.

The President has made some marginal notes which you should take into account in the response. He signed the letter approving the gift.

Attachment

*4/21 - I am getting a copy of The Globetrotters
picture
OK*

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

April 18, 1975

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

THROUGH: DONALD RUMSFELD

FROM: JERRY H. JONES 

Attached at Tab A is a letter from Mr. Lee Williams, Executive Director of the Basketball Hall of Fame, in which he asks if you would be willing to loan to the Hall of Fame for an unspecified period of time the basketball which the Globetrotters presented you in December.

Counsel's Office has determined that there is nothing illegal about your loaning the basketball to the Hall of Fame. Therefore, since this is strictly a personal decision, I have had two letters prepared for your signature:

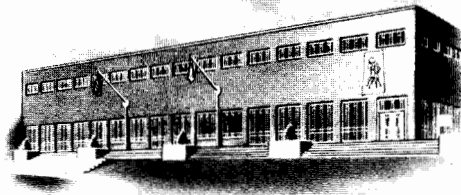
Tab B is a letter telling Mr. Williams that you will be pleased to lend the basketball to the Hall of Fame

Tab C is a letter politely declining to lend the basketball to the Hall of Fame.

15

BASKETBALL HALL OF FAME

Naismith Memorial



LEE WILLIAMS
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

BOX 175 · HIGHLAND STATION · 460 ALDEN STREET
SPRINGFIELD, MASSACHUSETTS 01109
TELEPHONE: (413) 781-6500

January 23, 1975

ML
The President
The White House
Washington, D. C. 20000

Dear President Ford:

We watched with great interest last Sunday when ABC TV carried the tape of the activities when the famous Harlem Globetrotters visited in your office on December 6, 1974. Like yourself, they are special favorites of ours and I, too, respect most highly Curly Neal and Meadowlark Lemon as well as the entire team. They are and have been fantastic goodwill ambassadors.

We were most interested in the fact that they had left with you a specially inscribed Basketball. We wonder if you would have any interest in sharing that ball with us. We would place on prominent display and, of course, would so indicate that it was your possession and had been loaned to us after being presented to you, personally, by the Globetrotters.

In addition, if you have an interest in sharing this with us for display and if you could provide us with an 8 x 10 glossy picture, it, too, would appear alongside the ball and we think the two together would be a most interesting display for our thousands of visitors.

We eagerly await your reply at your convenience and in the meantime we fervently hope that you will be blessed with great wisdom and courage as you constantly strive to give the great and positive leadership to our nation which is so vitally needed in these particular times.

Sincerely yours,

*One of Mrs. F.
of me with
team photo
me about.*

LEE WILLIAMS

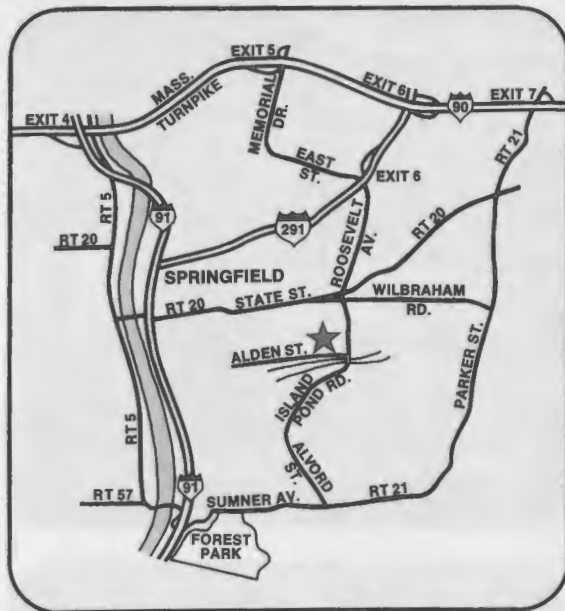
fv



NAISMITH MEMORIAL BASKETBALL HALL OF FAME

SPRINGFIELD COLLEGE CAMPUS
Alden Street
Springfield, Massachusetts 01109

Located at the site selected by the game's founder, Dr. James Naismith, *The Basketball Hall of Fame* is truly a museum and shrine of the only major sport founded in America. It is a great collection of memorabilia tracing the history of basketball from its humble beginning in Springfield in 1891 as a game of indoor exercise all the way to the present game of basketball, an international sport played competitively in 130 nations.



Travel East-West

Mass Pike to Exit 5 or 6, follow signs to City and Hall of Fame or U.S. 20 to Roosevelt Avenue, follow signs.

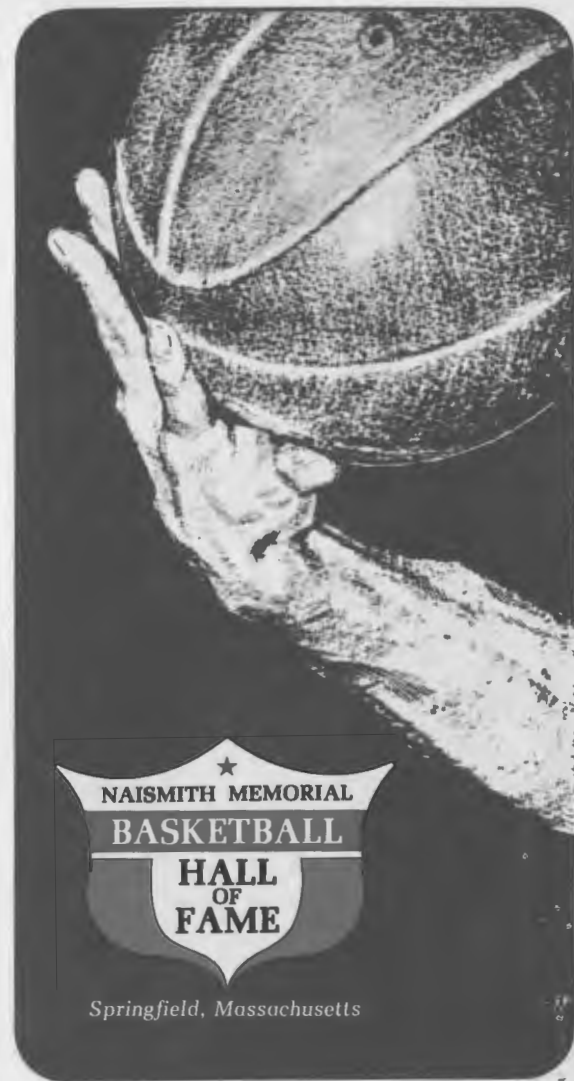
Travel North-South

Interstate 91 to Route 21 Exit. Follow 21 to first left after White Street stop light.

Admissions

Adults	\$1.50
Students (over 15)	1.00 (under 15) .50

Group rates available. Children under 6 free.
Closed Thanksgiving, Christmas and New Year's Day.



Honors Court



Replica of Original Gym



Famous Champions

Replica of Original Gym

Basketball's original 13 rules are displayed below the peach basket first used. The chronological history of basketball is shown by original uniforms, equipment and other unique items.

Honors Court

In a cathedral-like setting, basketball's immortals are enshrined by ceiling-to-floor, hand painted stained glass window plaques.

Famous Champions

Every unforgettable man and team are included in the memorable moments at THE BASKETBALL HALL OF FAME. A portrait of the famous "Hank" Luisetti jump-shot is displayed along with the uniforms of the original Celtics and the uniforms of George Mikan, Bob Davies, Bill Bradley, Wilt Chamberlain, Bob Cousy and Bill Russell and other greats.

Library and Archives

The Hickox Library is the most authoritative source for Basketball history and information and includes a very rare, complete set of Rules Books.

Hours

July & August	Daily 9AM-6PM
September thru May	Daily 10AM-5PM
	Sunday 1PM-5PM
June	Daily 10AM-5PM

Telephone: 413 781-6500

Basketball Movies Shown Regularly

B

E WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

4/24/75

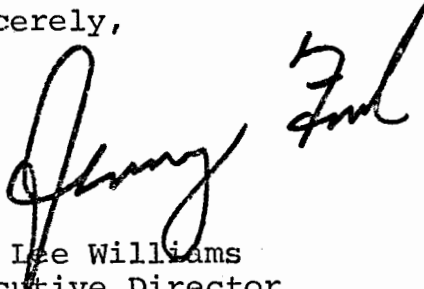
Dear Mr. Williams:

Many thanks for your thoughtful letter of January 23, concerning my recent visit with the Harlem Globetrotters.

With regard to your inquiry, I am pleased to lend the Basketball Hall of Fame the specially inscribed basketball which the Globetrotters presented to me personally. It is being forwarded to you under separate cover, along with the glossy photograph which you requested for display purposes.

I was gratified to read your words of friendship and goodwill, and I appreciated your sending me such an encouraging message.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Jimmy Zerk". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned to the right of the word "Sincerely,".

Mr. Lee Williams
Executive Director
Basketball Hall of Fame
Highland Station, Box 175
Springfield, Massachusetts 01109

Dear Mr. Williams:

It was most thoughtful of you to write as you did recently, concerning my visit with the Harlem Globetrotters on December 6.

I can well understand your interest in wishing to place on display in the Basketball Hall of Fame the basketball which the Globetrotters presented to me personally. While I would very much like to be of assistance, the great number of similar inquiries I receive regarding the loan of items for display purposes unfortunately makes it impossible for me to grant such requests.

It was gratifying to read your words of friendship and goodwill, and I appreciated your sending me such an encouraging message.

Sincerely,

Mr. Lee Williams
Executive Director
Basketball Hall of Fame
Box 175, Highland Station
Springfield, Massachusetts 01109

GRF:MAF:ki



Dianna -

If the President decides to loan the basketball to the Hall of Fame, please notify Bill Casselman as he has a letter of his own which he needs to send to the Hall of Fame.

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

~~Don R~~

~~Please note suggestions.~~

~~Dick Ch. -
handle.~~

~~W. G.~~

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

April 15, 1975

MEMORANDUM FOR: JERRY JONES

FROM: BILL CASSELMAN 

I have spoken to Mr. Lee Williams, Executive Director of the Basketball Hall of Fame, regarding his attached request.

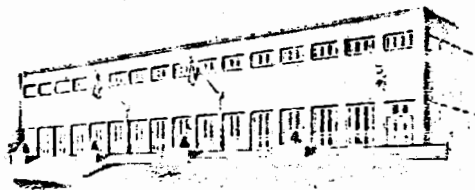
Mr. Williams tells me that this is the only Basketball Hall of Fame and that this organization is tax exempt. He has assured me that he would not use the President's name or likeness in any of the Hall of Fame's promotional literature, nor would he seek to otherwise exploit the President. Accordingly, I have no serious objections to loaning the basketball presented by the Harlem Globetrotters as well as providing a picture of the President to be displayed along with the basketball.

In the future, I believe that we should try to limit such loans of memorabilia. First, they tend to scatter Presidential artifacts far and wide; and second, if we grant one such request we are likely to be deluged with others.

Should we decide to loan the basketball, I have attached a letter I propose to send separately under my own signature that will confirm my conversation with Mr. Williams.

BASKETBALL HALL OF FAME

Naismith Memorial



LEE WILLIAMS
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

BOX 175 • HIGHLAND STATION • 460 ALDEN STREET
SPRINGFIELD, MASSACHUSETTS 01109
TELEPHONE (413) 781-6500

January 23, 1975

The President
The White House
Washington, D. C. 20000

Dear President Ford:

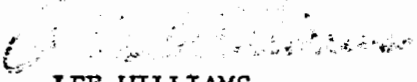
We watched with great interest last Sunday when ABC TV carried the tape of the activities when the famous Harlem Globetrotters visited in your office on December 6, 1974. Like yourself, they are special favorites of ours and I, too, respect most highly Curly Neal and Meadowlark Lemon as well as the entire team. They are and have been fantastic goodwill ambassadors.

We were most interested in the fact that they had left with you a specially inscribed Basketball. We wonder if you would have any interest in sharing that ball with us. We would place on prominent display and, of course, would so indicate that it was your possession and had been loaned to us after being presented to you, personally, by the Globetrotters.

In addition, if you have an interest in sharing this with us for display and if you could provide us with an 8 x 10 glossy picture, it, too, would appear alongside the ball and we think the two together would be a most interesting display for our thousands of visitors.

We eagerly await your reply at your convenience and in the meantime we fervently hope that you will be blessed with great wisdom and courage as you constantly strive to give the great and positive leadership to our nation which is so vitally needed in these particular times.

Sincerely yours,


LEE WILLIAMS
fv

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

Dear Mr. Williams:

In response to your request and in accordance with our conversation, the President has already sent the basketball presented to him by the Harlem Globetrotters to the Basketball Hall of Fame.

This letter is to confirm our discussions regarding this matter. The basketball is being loaned by the President on an indefinite basis to the Hall of Fame, and is subject to a request on his behalf for its return. In addition, the President's name or likeness should not be used in any form of advertising or promotional material regarding the Hall of Fame, either with respect to this basketball or the museum generally.

I am sure that you understand our concern in this matter. Your assistance is most appreciated.

Sincerely,

William E. Casselman II
Counsel to the President

Mr. Lee Williams
Executive Director
Basketball Hall of Fame
Box 175, Highland Station
Springfield, Massachusetts 01109

STAFFING

THE WHITE HOUSE

ACTION MEMORANDUM

WASHINGTON

LOG NO.:

Date: February 14, 1975

Time:

FOR ACTION: ROLAND ELLIOTT

cc (for information):

FROM THE STAFF SECRETARY

DUE: Date: Friday, February 21, 1975

Time: noon

SUBJECT:

Letter from Mr. Lee Williams, Executive Director of the Basketball Hall of Fame, who would like to display the basketball that was given to the President by the Globetrotters at the Hall of Fame.

ACTION REQUESTED:

- For Necessary Action
- For Your Recommendations
- Prepare Agenda and Brief
- Draft Reply
- For Your Comments
- Draft Remarks

REMARKS:

Presidential

Would you please prepare two letters in response to Mr. Williams' request:

1. Thanking Williams for his interest and agreeing to let them display the basketball (on loan) and the photo to go with it.
2. Politely regretting their request for the loan of the basketball.

I will then send in both letters to the President and let him make the decision as to which one he wants to sign.

Thank you.

PLEASE ATTACH THIS COPY TO MATERIAL SUBMITTED.

If you have any questions or if you anticipate a delay in submitting the required material, please telephone the Staff Secretary immediately.

Jerry H. Jones
Staff Secretary

THE WHITE HOUSE

ACTION MEMORANDUM

WASHINGTON

LOG NO.:

Date: February 14, 1975

Time:

FOR ACTION: ROLAND ELLIOTT

cc (for information):

FROM THE STAFF SECRETARY

DUE: Date: Friday, February 21, 1975

Time: noon

SUBJECT:

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ACTION REQUESTED:

For Necessary Action

For Your Recommendations

Prepare Agenda and Brief

Draft Reply

For Your Comments

Draft Remarks

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Jerry H. Jones
Staff Secretary