



# The Flaget Museum

Xaverian Hall  
St. Xavier High School Campus



*Under the auspices of the Flaget Alumni Association*

1942-1974

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Cindy Chipps, Curator  
4027 Brooks Hill Rd, Brooks, KY 40109

Contact Information

502 955-9238  
cchipps@iccable.com

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## THE LOUISVILLE INVITATIONAL TOURNAMENT

In 1948 the first Louisville Invitational Basketball Tournament (LIT) was held. Played at Male gym on January 30th and 31st. This tournament would replace the All-Kentucky Conference Tournament. The four Louisville schools, Flaget, St.X, Male and Manual would play host to four out in the state schools. Central City, Hall, Covington Holmes, along with Owensboro were invited, with Owensboro slated to play Flaget. Flaget was blown out by a 68-39 score. Owensboro went on to win the tournament. The following year Owensboro would again be in the tournament along with Sharpe, Pikeville and Corbin. Flaget was scheduled in the first game against Pikeville. Flaget won this game 40-36 setting up a match against Sharpe. Flaget squeezed by Sharpe by a score of 39-37. St. X and Owensboro would play in the other semi-final game. St.X, ranked number one in the state at the time was upset by Owensboro setting a rematch from the previous year against Flaget. Owensboro was the heavy favorite; they had Cliff Hagan at center. If that were not enough, the two teams had played earlier in the season with Owensboro a winner by twenty-three points. Flaget however, not one to read much into the projected outcome of the game, came away with an astounding 41-38 victory. The star of the night was Jackie Richardson who was high point man for the Braves, matched Cliff Hagan's point total and was lauded in the Courier Journal for his outstanding play. Much to the chagrin of the sportscasters who voted for the all-tournament team at half time, Richardson was not among the elite. Owensboro went on to win the state basketball tournament in 1949. Jackie Richardson graduated in 1949. He was voted best athlete of the year at Flaget. He was all-city and all-state in football. He was captain of the baseball team. Jackie was elected into the Flaget Hall of Fame in 1953.

As always, the museum will gladly accept any vintage Flaget memorabilia. Bring it to any luncheon or drop it by the museum. If you need it to be picked up, give me a call.