

**McLean County Museum of History**

**Doug Collins Collection**

Processed by  
Frankie Gordey  
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**Collection Information**

VOLUME OF COLLECTION:	1 Box
COLLECTION DATES:	1970-2025
RESTRICTIONS:	None
PROVENANCE:	Gift
REPRODUCTION RIGHTS:	Permission to reproduce or publish material in this collection must be obtained in writing from the McLean County Museum of History
ALTERNATIVE FORMATS:	None
OTHER FINDING AIDS:	ISU Athletics Collection
LOCATION:	Archives
NOTES:	None

## Brief History

Doug Collins was born on July 28, 1951 in Christopher, IL and grew up in Benton, IL. He went on to attend Illinois State University from 1970-73 where he was a standout basketball star and one of the most decorated athletes in ISU history. Collins became the program's all-time leading scorer, was a Consensus All-American in 1973, and averaged 29.1 points per game in his three seasons with the team. In 1972, Collins represented the United States at the Olympics in Munich, Germany where the USA won a silver medal following some controversy in the gold medal game against the Soviet Union.

Following his final home game in 1973, his jersey number 20 was retired by the team and he remains the only basketball player in ISU history to receive this honor. Later in 1973 Collins was drafted first overall in the NBA Draft to the Philadelphia 76ers where he would play for the next eight seasons until 1981, when his career was cut short by injuries. Throughout his time in the NBA, Collins was a four-time all-star and averaged 17.9 points per game.

After his playing career, Collins would go on to coach the Chicago Bulls (1986-89), Detroit Pistons (1995-98), Washington Wizards (2001-03), and Philadelphia 76ers (2010-13). During this time, Collins also worked as an announcer and analyst for several networks including CBS, TNT, ABC, NBS, and TBS. In 2009 he received the Curt Gowdy Media Award from the Naismith Memorial Basketball Hall of Fame. Since 2017 Collins has served as the Senior Advisor of Basketball Operations for the Chicago Bulls.

On February 3, 2007, the court at Redbird Arena (now CEFCU Arena) was renamed the “Doug Collins Court at Redbird Arena” which remains the name to this day. Collins was elected to the Illinois State Athletics Percy Family Hall of Fame in 1978, the Collegiate Basketball Hall of Fame in 2016, and the Naismith Memorial Basketball Hall of Fame in 2024.

## Scope

This collection includes a guidebook, magazines, newspaper articles, cards, photographs, correspondence, and other miscellaneous documents related to Doug Collins.

## Box and Folder Inventory

### **Folder 1: ISU Basketball Guide**

- 1.1 1972-73 Illinois State Basketball Guide, complete information about team and individual members, schedule, and ISU basketball records.

### **Folder 2: Super Sports**

- 2.1 Super Sports, Collegiate Basketball Issue, January 1973 (Collins on cover)

**Folder 3: Sports Illustrated**

3.1 Sports Illustrated, January 15, 1973 (Collins on cover with ISU letterman jacket).

**Folder 4: Magazine Articles**

4.1 "Nothing but Net Gain," *Illinois State* (February 2012), pp. 16-22.  
4.2 "The Man Behind the Court," *State* (Fall 2021), pp. 17-17.

**Folder 5: Newspaper Articles**

5.1 "76ers tab Collins as No. 1 pick in draft," *The Daily Pantagraph*, April 24, 1973, B-1.  
5.2 "Collins first in NBA Draft," *Daily Vidette*, April 25, 1973, p. 1 includes photo.  
5.3 "Illinois State Legend Doug Collins to be Enshrined into Naismith Basketball Hall of Fame," *Lexingtonian*, April 11, 2024.  
5.4 "Doug Collins Inducted into Naismith Hall of Fame," *The Normalite*, October 17, 2024.  
5.5 "ISU honors its greatest player Doug Collins," *Lexingtonian*, February 6, 2025.  
5.6 "ISU Assistant Coach Rob Judson honored on his retirement," *The Normalite*, March 6, 2025.  
5.7 "ISU to name north gym, leadership suite after Doug and Kathy Collins," *Normalite*, December 18, 2025.

**Folder 6: Cards**

6.1 1974 Topps card: 76ers Rookie card.  
6.2 1975 Topps card.  
6.3 1975 Topps card: 76ers Team Leaders - Fred Carter / Billy Cunningham / Doug Collins.  
6.4 1977 Topps card.  
6.5 1978 Topps card.  
6.6 1979 Topps card.  
6.7 1980 Topps card: 1979-80 East All Stars - Rudy Tomjanovich (Rockets), Eddie Johnson (Hawks), Doug Collins (76ers).  
6.8 1980 Topps card: 1979-80 East All Stars - Bill Cartwright (Knicks), Eddie Johnson (Hawks), Doug Collins (76ers).  
6.9 1995 SkyBox Coach: #177 Card.  
6.10 1997 SkyBox Coach: #256 Card.  
6.11 2005 Fleer "Greats of the Game," #98  
6.12 2012 Panini Coach: #29 Card.  
6.13 2012-2013 Panini Contenders: #50 Card.  
6.14 2014-2015 Panini Select: #182 Card.

**Folder 7: Photographs**

7.1 8x10-inch color photograph, signed and authenticated, "Doug Collins #20 4x NBA All-Star," Collins as a Sixer, playing the Portland Trail Blazers, undated.  
7.2 Three photo prints of Collins display case, CEFCU Arena, February 2025.  
7.3 Two photo prints of framed Collins note to "Avanti's gang," Signed Doug Collins, Phila. 76ers, undated, located in Avanti's Normal carry-out waiting room.

**Folder 8: Correspondence**

8.1 E-mail exchange to/from Museum Librarian Bill Kemp, November 27-28, 2016.

**Folder 9:      Miscellaneous**

- 9.1    1974-75 Chicago Bulls/Philadelphia 76ers scorecard, includes players, March 18, 1975.
- 9.2    PastPerfect entry for a Doug Collins signed basketball located in the Museum's object collection, donated by Bill Kemp, July 18, 2023, 2 pp.
- 9.3    Card from Charlie Haviland, Franklin, MI, to Museum Librarian Bill Kemp, March 10, 2025 (card features photo of Will Robinson in front of locker room named in his honor—Haviland visited the Museum for research on a film documentary on Robinson).

**See Also:**

“100 Years of Illinois State Redbird Basketball,” by Bryan Bloodworth and Roger Cushman, foreword by Doug Collins, published by the Illinois State University Department of Intercollegiate Athletics, 1998.

Call Number: IL (MCLEAN) ISU BLO

“Index 1970,” Illinois State University Yearbook, 1970, Freshman Basketball pp. 78-79.

Call Number: IL (MCLEAN) ISU IND 1970

“Index 71,” Illinois State University Yearbook, 1971, Varsity Basketball pp. 73-76.

Call Number: IL (MCLEAN) ISU IND 1971

“Index 1972,” Illinois State Yearbook, 1972, Varsity Basketball pp. 110-114.

Call Number: IL (MCLEAN) ISU IND (1972)