

Presented by



100 W. Broadway, Frankfort KY

The Kentucky Historical Society (KHS) educates and engages the public through Kentucky's history in order to confront the challenges of the future.

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## There is C

## There is Only One State Champion in Kentucky

Kentucky is unique because it has only one state basketball champion.

Other states categorize schools by size or funding source and award a championship for each category. In Kentucky, private schools, parochial schools and public schools vie for the same title.

Even in the late 1920s and early 1930s when the Kentucky High School Athletic Association experimented with Class A (large school) and Class B (small school) playoffs, representatives from each class squared off for *the* state championship title.

And the large school did not always win.

Periodically, someone questions the system. In the 1970s, Kentucky High School Athletic Association members put it to a vote, but they voted down changing it.

In 1980, the All "A" Tournament became a solution for some schools that felt only large programs made it to the Sweet Sixteen<sup>®</sup>.



(Photo courtesy of the Herald-Leader, KYphotoArchive.com.)