

The History of Black Basketball in Baltimore

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The development of basketball in the African-American community of Baltimore followed a path that was not unlike that of other physically demanding sporting activities in the city. While some members of the African-American community of Baltimore praised and accepted the game of basketball, others scorned and rejected the game during its developing stages. This work examines the religious, racial and class beliefs that contributed to the different opinions surrounding the game.

The influence of entrepreneurs and the development of the game in Washington, D.C. and in the white community also contributed to the various opinions concerning the game of basketball in the Baltimore African-American community. In the end, these variables influenced the acceptance of and the access to basketball for the entire African-American community of Baltimore.