

NBA lithograph is a true treasure



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The origin of the National Basketball Association as we know it today dates back to 1946. However, the amount of sports collectibles is not nearly as much as you would think. Yes, there are jerseys, cards, programs, shoes, and even signed basketballs, but there is also a really unique, and quite valuable item that does not fall into any of the aforementioned categories.

Adorning one of the walls in the sports gallery of the Figler Foundation Museum is a lithograph of the 50 Greatest Players of the NBA from 1946-1996. This isn't just any lithograph. No, no. This is the official lithograph of the 50 greatest players of the NBA in its first 50 years. It has an individual head shot of each player, as well as the signature of 49 of the 50 stars. The missing signature is of the incomparable Pete Maravich. "Pistol Pete" died of a heart attack in 1988. Playing a pickup basketball game, no less.

This treasure was distributed by Field of Dreams and authorized by the NBA.

The price tag on this piece has multiplied several times, and I even heard that this lithograph was being auctioned for upwards of \$100,000. Several of the players besides Maravich are now deceased, including George Mikan, Dave DeBusschere, Paul Arizin, and of course, Wilt Chamberlain.

This lithograph is worth acquiring if you can. It is limited to 250 individually numbered pieces. For any Kobe Bryant fan, he is not part of this litho, as the 1996-97 season was his rookie year in the NBA.

Chances are you will see Bryant, along with Dwayne Wade and LeBron James in the

lithograph of the greatest NBA players of the next 50 years.