



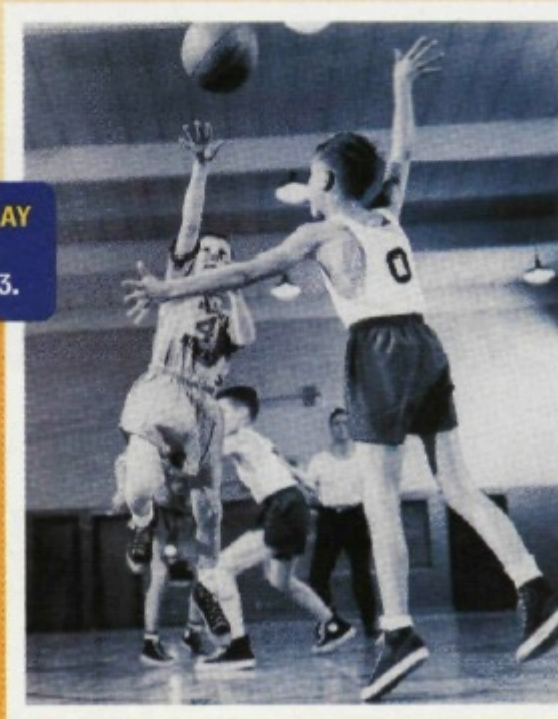
Selected Poems:

“Lawrence Hamm, 19 Student Athlete” by Walter Dean Myers

Lawrence Hamm, 19
Student Athlete

It's more than the ball—
Blur dribbled down the hardwood floor—
More than the step past you,
Greater than the lift, the awesome soar
Through space, rim high, higher,
And the monster jam that crumbles
Egos, all this and moves
So sweet that make shadows stumble.
I own this sacred space
This holy court, these painted lanes
This kiss of palm on glass
These kicks, the smell of sweat and pain.
Call me muscle, and flight.
“Gone!” is my name, and “Slam!”
In this sweet universe
Of Ball, I am! I am!

KIDS AT PLAY
Shooting
hoops, 1953.



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