

## **PEYBACK CLASSIC IV HELD AT THE RCA DOME**

More than 5,000 people turned out at the RCA Dome on Saturday, September 27 to watch PeyBack Classic IV, a quadruple-header of football action featuring the seven Indianapolis Public High Schools and Scecina.

Washington and Howe began the action in the morning with a junior varsity game. Arlington beat Broad Ripple 60-21 in the second game. Scecina got by Arsenal Tech 21-6 and Northwest edged Manual 19-14 in the nightcap.

Indianapolis Colts quarterback Peyton Manning created the PeyBack Classic in 1999 to allow the student-athletes from the IPS High Schools an opportunity to play in the RCA Dome each year.

"I hope the PeyBack Classic gives these kids memories that will last a lifetime," said Manning, PeyBack Foundation President. "I can't thank our sponsors enough for their support the last four years. None of this would be possible without them. I also want to thank Indiana Sports Corporation and Indiana Black Expo for organizing the event and making the day a rewarding experience for everyone involved."

The PeyBack Foundation's official sponsors are American Family Insurance, Huntington Bank, Marsh Supermarkets and St. Vincent Hospital. EDS also supported the PeyBack Classic as a presenting sponsor.

The PeyBack Classic has generated more than \$160,000 for the athletic departments of the IPS High Schools over the past four years. The funds have been used for a variety of needs, including new uniforms and equipment.

"The PeyBack Classic showcases the talents not only of our football players, but of our marching band members and cheerleaders as well," said Pat Pritchett, IPS Superintendent. "For some, this is a once-in-a-lifetime chance. For others, it may well be the spark that leads to future greatness."

Manning established the PeyBack Foundation in 1999 to help disadvantaged youth build a successful future. The Foundation has donated more than \$500,000 to youth organizations in Indiana, Tennessee and Louisiana since its inception.

In 1999, The PeyBack Foundation partnered with the National Football Foundation to implement the Play it Smart program in all five football-playing IPS High Schools. The Play it Smart program serves the two-fold purpose of enabling athletes to achieve academically in high school so that they can qualify for college admission. With the PeyBack Foundation's funding, Indianapolis became the first city in the nation to have all its public schools involved in the Play it Smart initiatives.