

# nt If You Doubt It

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## RICK SHOT ARTIST CONFIDES

it other places," Willie recounts.

So from simple free throwing (50 straight and easy stuff like that), Willie began to move into the trick shot field, closing his eyes, bouncing the ball, forward passing it from 40 to 60 feet. And, ladies and gentlemen, Willie's latest favorite to knock you back off the bleachers is his drop kick.

Willie will tell you, very proudly, that he has a repertoire of at least 90 different shots and it's remarkable how well he performs them.

"Sometimes I don't believe it myself, the way I make my shots," Willie will tell you. "I guess it's just some sixth sense that does it."

Willie used to be bothered a bit when he had an off-night but that's all in the past now.

"You know if I missed a shot that was kind of hard to do I'd skip it—or if I was having a little trouble on my easy ones I wouldn't try the hard ones because I figured I was due for

an off night. But then I told myself those people watching would think I couldn't do the hard ones and so I just decided to show them I could."

"You've got to have confidence in yourself. Sometimes I'm so sure of myself I don't know how I get that way. Once I made my football pass from 60 feet and it went in and out. But I can't let it bother me like I thought I had a tough break or hard luck, you know. I just say, Willie, you didn't do that right by you will this time. And I step into position and I make it. It must be a sixth sense. Sometimes I walk off while the ball is in the air—I know it's going in."

Well, Willie has been showing 'em his stuff at 180 high schools in the state, 90 in Indiana, 60 in Illinois, dozens in Wisconsin, Ohio, Michigan, Kansas, Utah, California, Missouri and Kentucky during his 13-year career.

He's in a comeback now, says Willie, and getting better every performance. "I haven't reached my peak yet, I'm always getting better," Willie confides. He's aiming at a chance to show 'em in Ohio at the Cleveland American-Canadian sportsmen's show in March, and his schedule runs five to 10 shows a week now.

At 32, Willie figures he's just coming into his own. "It's remarkable how I can do some of these things," says Willie. After 10 months in the army (he was discharged for disability) Hetzel is back in the swing again doing things nobody will believe he can do.

There's no limit to his accomplishments, Willie will tell you, if somebody will only doubt his ability.



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