

# Finding Aid to The HistoryMakers® Video Oral History with Barry Sanders

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## Overview of the Collection

<b>Repository:</b>	The HistoryMakers®1900 S. Michigan Avenue Chicago, Illinois 60616 info@thehistorymakers.com www.thehistorymakers.com
<b>Creator:</b>	Sanders, Barry, 1968-
<b>Title:</b>	The HistoryMakers® Video Oral History Interview with Barry Sanders,
<b>Dates:</b>	December 22, 2017
<b>Bulk Dates:</b>	2017
<b>Physical Description:</b>	10 uncompressed MOV digital video files (4:57:30).
<b>Abstract:</b>	Football player Barry Sanders (1968- ) was a running back for the Detroit Lions from 1989 until 1998. He was awarded the Heisman Trophy in 1988, and was ranked third on the all-time list of rushing yards in the National Football League. Sanders was interviewed by The HistoryMakers® on December 22, 2017, in Detroit, Michigan. This collection is comprised of the original video footage of the interview.
<b>Identification:</b>	A2017_224
<b>Language:</b>	The interview and records are in English.

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## Biographical Note by The HistoryMakers®

Football player Barry Sanders was born on July 16, 1968 in Wichita, Kansas to William and Shirley Sanders. Sanders graduated from Wichita North High School in 1986. He earned a football scholarship to attend Oklahoma State University, where he remained until his junior year in 1988. That year, Sanders led the nation by averaging 7.6 yards per carry and over 200 yards per game, including rushing for over 300 yards in four games. He set college football season records with 2,628 yards rushing, 3,248 total yards, 234 points, 39 touchdowns, 37 rushing touchdowns, 5 consecutive 200 yard games, scored at least 2 touchdowns in 11 consecutive games, and 9 times he scored at least 3 touchdowns.

In 1989, Sanders was selected by the Detroit Lions as the third overall pick in the National Football League (NFL) Draft. Sanders began his career as the running back with the Detroit Lions in 1989. In 1991 and 1993, Sanders led the Lions to NFC Central division titles. In 1994, Sanders rushed for 1,883 yards, on a 5.7 yards per carry average. He also totaled 283 receiving yards. That season, he broke the NFL record for most rushing yards in a single game without scoring a touchdown with 237, and was named the NFL's Offensive Player of the Year. In 1995, Sanders posted 1,500 yards rushing with 398 receiving yards. In 1996, Sanders rushed for 1,553 yards with a career-low 147 receiving yards. In 1997, he became the third player to rush for over 2,000 yards in a season and was named the NFL's Most Valuable Player. Sanders announced his retirement from professional football in 1999. During his career, Sanders led the Lions to the playoffs five times and amassed 15,269 rushing yards, 2,921 receiving yards, 99 rushing touchdowns, and ten receiving touchdowns. Sanders held the record for the most seasons with 1,500 or more rushing yards (ten seasons) and is ranked third on the all-time list of rushing yards, behind only Emmitt Smith and Walter Payton. In 2017, he returned to the Detroit Lions organization as a brand ambassador.

In 2003, Sanders published his autobiography, *Barry Sanders: Now You See Him*.

As a college athlete, Sanders was awarded the Maxwell Award, the Walter Camp Award, and the Heisman Trophy.

He was also unanimously named an All-American. Upon entering the NFL, Sanders was named the Offensive Rookie of the Year. He was the recipient of the Bert Bell Award, and was named the NFL's Most Valuable Player in 1997. Sanders was also named to the Pro Bowl during each of his ten seasons in the NFL. He was inducted into the Kansas Sports Hall of Fame in 1998 and, in 2004, was inducted into the Pro Football Hall of Fame. Sanders' number was retired by the Detroit Lions.

Sanders has four children: Barry James, Nigel, Nicholas, and Noah.

Barry Sanders was interviewed by *The HistoryMakers* on December 22, 2017.

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## Scope and Content

This life oral history interview with Barry Sanders was conducted by Larry Crowe on December 22, 2017, in Detroit, Michigan, and was recorded on 10 uncompressed MOV digital video files. Football player Barry Sanders (1968-) was a running back for the Detroit Lions from 1989 until 1998. He was awarded the Heisman Trophy in 1988, and was ranked third on the all-time list of rushing yards in the National Football League.

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## Restrictions

### Restrictions on Access

Restrictions may be applied on a case-by-case basis at the discretion of The HistoryMakers®.

### Restrictions on Use

All use of materials and use credits must be pre-approved by The HistoryMakers®. Appropriate credit must be given. Copyright is held by The HistoryMakers®.

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## Related Material

Information about the administrative functions involved in scheduling, researching, and producing the interview, as well as correspondence with the interview subject is stored electronically both on The HistoryMakers® server and in two databases maintained by The HistoryMakers®, though this information is not included in this finding aid.

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## Controlled Access Terms

This interview collection is indexed under the following controlled access subject terms.

### Persons:

Sanders, Barry, 1968-

Crowe, Larry (Interviewer)

Stearns, Scott (Videographer)

### Subjects:

African Americans--Interviews  
Sanders, Barry, 1968- --Interviews

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## Organizations:

HistoryMakers® (Video oral history collection)

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The HistoryMakers® African American Video Oral History Collection

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## Occupations:

Football Player

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## HistoryMakers® Category:

SportsMakers

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## Administrative Information

### Custodial History

Interview footage was recorded by The HistoryMakers®. All rights to the interview have been transferred to The HistoryMakers® by the interview subject through a signed interview release form. Signed interview release forms have been deposited with Jenner & Block, LLP, Chicago.

### Preferred Citation

The HistoryMakers® Video Oral History Interview with Barry Sanders, December 22, 2017. The HistoryMakers® African American Video Oral History Collection, 1900 S. Michigan Avenue, Chicago, Illinois.

### Processing Information

This interview collection was processed and encoded on 5/30/2023 by The HistoryMakers® staff. The finding aid was created adhering to the following standards: DACS, AACR2, and the Oral History Cataloging Manual (Matters 1995).

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## Other Finding Aid

A Microsoft Access contact database and a FileMaker Pro tracking database, both maintained by The HistoryMakers®, keep track of the administrative functions involved in scheduling, researching, and producing the interview.

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## Detailed Description of the Collection

**Series I: Original Interview Footage**

- Video Oral History Interview with Barry Sanders, Section A2017\_224\_001\_001, TRT: 1:30:39 ?
- Video Oral History Interview with Barry Sanders, Section A2017\_224\_001\_002, TRT: 2:31:18 ?
- Video Oral History Interview with Barry Sanders, Section A2017\_224\_001\_003, TRT: 3:28:43 ?
- Video Oral History Interview with Barry Sanders, Section A2017\_224\_001\_004, TRT: 4:29:11 ?
- Video Oral History Interview with Barry Sanders, Section A2017\_224\_001\_005, TRT: 5:28:13 ?
- Video Oral History Interview with Barry Sanders, Section A2017\_224\_001\_006, TRT: 6:29:56 ?
- Video Oral History Interview with Barry Sanders, Section A2017\_224\_001\_007, TRT: 7:31:07 ?
- Video Oral History Interview with Barry Sanders, Section A2017\_224\_001\_008, TRT: 8:28:45 ?
- Video Oral History Interview with Barry Sanders, Section A2017\_224\_001\_009, TRT: 9:28:49 ?
- Video Oral History Interview with Barry Sanders, Section A2017\_224\_001\_010, TRT: 10:30:49 ?