

Reaching for Victory

SIDELINES
1987 OVC Tournament
Special Edition
Middle Tennessee State University
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OVC tourney up for grabs

By TONY STINNETT
Sports Editor

This year's OVC Tournament could easily be the most exciting and unpredictable in the past few years.

MIDDLE TENNESSEE is officially the number-one seed, yet any team could make a run at the title.

Both AUSTIN PEAY and EASTERN KENTUCKY finished the season powerfully. Both won seven of their last eight games and proved that they can play with the best of them.

APSU defeated Morehead 78-76, EASTERN topped Murray State 89-75 and Akron trounced Youngstown 103-74 Monday night in the tournament's first round.

AKRON, AUSTIN PEAY, EASTERN KENTUCKY and MIDDLE TENNESSEE all split their pairings against one another during the course of the regular season.

After their victory over the Raiders, Austin Peay coach Lake Kelly said that his team had to play the best they possibly could have in order to beat Middle.

This describes the performances which will be required of all four teams if they wish to reach the championship game Saturday night.

Spectators can keep their eyes open for key players of each team.

MIDDLE TENNESSEE, 22-5, depends on the inside play of forwards Randy Henry and Kerry Hammonds and center Dwayne Rainey. The Raiders also receive ample support off the bench in Jimmy McGill and Billy Miller.

MTSU also has one of the best perimeter games in the conference behind guards Duane Washington, Andrew Tunstill, Ty Baynham and Chris Rainey.

Depth on the bench and experience have been the keys to the Raider season. The Raiders receive solid bench play from freshman guards Gerald Harris and Tony Cook.

Depth, experience, a balanced scoring attack and an incredible inside game make the Raiders a strong candidate to win their second conference title in the last three years under Head Coach Bruce Stewart.

EASTERN KENTUCKY, now 18-10, overcame a tough non-conference schedule during the first half of the season

(Please see OVC page two)



Howard Ross/File

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Blue Raider season best ever

Middle Tennessee's Blue Raiders, the host team of this year's Ohio Valley Conference Tournament, completed what many people call the finest season ever for a Blue Raider basketball team.

The Raiders completed the regular season with a 22-5 record, the best in the state of Tennessee. MTSU also had the best winning percentage in the state as well as one of the top winning percentages in the nation.

Four of the Blue Raider losses were by three points or less. Akron was the only team to hand MTSU a loss by more than 10 points.

After starting out the season with a 5-0 record, including a win over McNeese State, a National Invitational Tournament entry last year, MTSU dropped a 87-85 decision at the hands of Marshall on a last-second shot. Marshall finished the season as the champions of the Southern Conference.

The Raiders rebounded with a victory over Arkansas-Little Rock, an NCAA entry last year who made it to the regional semi-finals. ALR won their conference this season.

MTSU then entered the University at Alabama Birmingham Classic with a 6-1 record. The Raiders defeated Big 10 power Michigan in the first round by a final count of 85-83.

In the second round the Raiders took host UAB into overtime before bowing 93-91. The Raiders were in the game from the



Sandy Campbell/Staff

Duane Washington, MTSU point guard, puts up a long jumper against No. 2 seed Akron during Murphy Center OVC action.

outset despite the fact that UAB shot 43 free-throws to only 14 for MTSU. UAB was a 20-game winner this season and also a conference champion.

MTSU then put together a seven-game winning streak before losing to Akron 96-78 in Akron. The loss was the first

conference loss of the season for the Raiders.

The Raiders then rebounded with a non-conference win over rival Tennessee State.

MTSU began the second half of the conference schedule with a 116-65 thrashing of Tennessee Tech, giving them an 7-1 record

in the OVC.

Next on the conference schedule for MTSU was Akron. The Blue Raiders avenged their earlier loss to the Zips when Dwayne Rainey tipped in the winning basket at the buzzer, giving the Raiders a 64-62 victory over the Zips.

MTSU then posted an overtime victory over Youngstown State and followed with a win over non-conference foe Alabama State.

Austin Peay ended the Raiders' 28-game home-court winning streak with a 73-70 victory,

(Please see Recap page seven)

OVC

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to storm into the conference as one of the top teams to beat.

Included in their non-conference schedule were defending national champ Louisville, Auburn, Georgia and Western Kentucky.

The Colonels have proven they are serious contenders over the course of the season with a victory over top-20 ranked Western Kentucky. EKU also defeated Akron by more than 20 points.

The Colonels rely on the guard play of senior Antonio Parris and junior Jeff McGill. EKU lives and dies by the three-pointer, and that could present them a problem in the tournament.

Although EKU led the conference in three-point percentage this season, if the two

guards aren't hitting early and the Colonels can't establish any type of inside game, theirs could be an early departure from the tournament.

Tyrone Howard is a legitimate inside threat, but his effort alone will not be enough to carry the Colonels through two games.

Along with MTSU, AUSTIN PEAY, also 18-10, could very well be one of the top teams to beat in the tournament.

After getting off to a very discouraging start, the Gavs have been a force to reckon with, going 6-1 in the second half of the regular season schedule.

At one stretch during the season APSU lost two straight games after time had expired and the Gavs had put an opponent on the free-throw line as time expired. The Gavs also lost

to Kentucky on a last-second shot.

With a few breaks APSU could easily have been a 20-plus win team.

APSU relies heavily on the play of center Daryl Bedford and guard Lawrence Mitchell.

AKRON has had an up and down type of season. After being picked to win the conference, the Zips finished in a three-way tie for third place.

Their inconsistent play throughout the season proved fatal. They were virtually unstoppable at home yet couldn't buy a win on the road.

That alone is going to be the biggest factor as the Zips try to make their second consecutive trip to the NCAA tournament.

Because all of Akron's conference losses came on the road, it is going to be extremely hard for them to win back-to-back games on the road against the likes of

APSU, MTSU and EKU.

AKRON probably has the two quickest guards in the conference in Marcel Boyce and Eric McLaughlin. The guard tandem could pose a threat to opponents in the tourney.



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OVC schools rich in tradition

The schools that are appearing in this year's OVC tournament are all rich in tradition, both academically and athletically.

MIDDLE TENNESSEE State University is a coeducational, tax-supported institution. It is located in Murfreesboro, less than a mile from the geographic center of the state.

Murfreesboro, an historic city of about 35,000, is located 32 miles southeast of Nashville via Interstate 24 and is easily accessible from any direction.

MTSU students and personnel enjoy the advantages of a metropolitan atmosphere without the impersonalization associated with a big city.

The University is made up of four schools of generally related departments as well as a graduate school. The four undergraduate schools are the School of Basic and Applied Sciences, the School of Business, the School of Education and the School of Liberal Arts. Some eight undergraduate and 13 graduate degrees are available.

MTSU offers curricular breadth and depth in a variety of programs ranging from traditional ones on which the school was founded to new, innovative ones designed for a rapidly-changing society. Designated a regional university, MTSU provides services and continuing education to the middle Tennessee area.

More than 65 percent of the school's 450 full-time faculty members hold the earned doctorate. The 11,000-plus student body comes from 88 Tennessee counties, 36 states and 25 foreign countries. Since its beginning in 1911, the school has graduated more than 30,000 students.

The University campus covers approximately 500 beautifully landscaped acres and has 79 permanent buildings. The Learning Resources Center, one of the newest facilities, provides the faculty and students with new educational possibilities. The Andrew L. Todd Library contains more than 607,000 volumes and subscribes to more than 2,800 periodicals.

EASTERN KENTUCKY'S theme over the years has been growth, in quality and quantity. The quantity speaks for itself. With an enrollment of nearly 13,000 students, the University's student body has nearly tripled

since 1960. As a result, new dormitories and large, well-equipped academic structures have been built.

Dr. Hanly Funderburk assumed the presidency of the University in January of 1985. Funderburk, the school's eighth president, succeeded Dr. J.C. Powell who retired after eight years in the position.

At a 1978 Board of Regents meeting, Eastern was reorganized into nine colleges and a graduate school. Five colleges — Applied Arts and Technology, Business, Education, Law Enforcement and Allied Health and Nursing — remained intact.

Four new colleges were created, including Natural and Mathematical Sciences, Social and Behavioral Sciences, Arts and Humanities, and Health, Physical Education, Recreation and Athletics.

The master's degree is offered in several fields, as is the specialist degree. A joint doctoral program with the University of Kentucky in education is also sponsored.

The physical plant has undergone building and renovation totaling more than \$140 million since 1960. During this period every existing major campus facility has been remodeled or completely reconstructed.

The **UNIVERSITY OF AKRON** was established on May 31, 1879, as Butchtel College, a church-related, liberal arts college named for its chief benefactor, John R. Buchtel. In 1913 the assets of Buchtel College were turned over to the city of Akron to form the nucleus of the Municipal University of Akron.

The University's academic and physical growth accelerated when it achieved full state university status in July of 1967. Today this mature, comprehensive, coeducational urban university serves students from 80 countries in Ohio, 34 other states and 82 foreign countries.

In the fall of 1986-87, the University begins its 117th year with more than 27,000 students enrolled in undergraduate and graduate programs leading to the associate (two-year), bachelor's (four-year), master's (graduate) and doctoral (graduate and professional) degrees. Noncredit enrollment increases the total to more than 30,000 on the Akron campus — making it the third largest university in the state.



Sandy Campbell/Staff

Blue Raider forward Ty Baynham powers his way over three Austin Peay defenders and goes for the layup in regular season action.

The University has eight degree-granting colleges: Butchel College of Arts and Sciences, College of Engineering, College of Education, College of Business and Applied Arts and the College of Nursing.

The University of Akron has granted more than 9,800 associate degrees, 42,500 baccalaureate degrees, 9,400 master's degrees, 675 doctoral degrees and 2,350 law degrees.

AUSTIN PEAY STATE UNIVERSITY is a state-supported, liberal arts university named in honor of Austin Peay, a local resident who was serving as governor of Tennessee when the school was established by the General Assembly in 1927.

Austin Peay State University is located in Clarksville, Tennessee, a thriving city of 54,777 and the county seat of Montgomery Co., the second fastest-growing county in the southeast with a population of 88,342.

Conveniently located 45 miles northwest of Nashville, the state capital, off Interstate 24 west, the University enrolls 5,400 students from every section of Tennessee, most of the 50 states and several foreign countries.

(Please see Austin Peay page seven)

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Tourney teams multi-faceted

The players who will be competing in this year's tournament will provide ample excitement for the fans.

There is no "one player" team, and that fact says a lot about the quality of teams and players that make up this year's OVC final four.

MIDDLE TENNESSEE uses 10 of their 11 players consistently. The Raiders have six players averaging in double figures, including all five of their starters.

The Raider depth is such that one player off the bench - Kerry Hammonds - is an pre-season All-OVC candidate.

The Raiders are led by senior guards Andrew Tunstill and Duane Washington.

Tunstill leads the Raiders in scoring and is the most consistent player on the squad. Tunstill ranks 10th among OVC players in scoring with an average of more than 15 points a game.

Tunstill is truly the Raiders' most complete athlete. While his scoring gets the job done, his defense is second to none. Tunstill usually draws the opposition's top front-line scorer as his defensive assignment.

Tunstill is the only player on the Blue Raider team who has started every game over the past two seasons. Tunstill's career high came this year when he hit 27 points against the University of Alabama, Birmingham.

Washington proved to be the best point guard in the conference this year. His ability to sense where everyone is on the court and to get the ball to anyone at anytime has also made him one of the best in the country.

Washington led the conference in both assists and steals this year. He was also ranked in the top 10 in the nation in both categories.

Washington averaged 8.8 assists per game and 3.2 steals, easily out-distancing his opponents.

Washington set new career and single-season records for assists at MTSU and is only three short of breaking the conference assist record for a single season. He also holds the record for most assists in a game at MTSU.

Averaging more than 10 points per game, Washington has proven that he can also provide a legitimate scoring threat.

His season high was 20 against Austin Peay.

Dwayne Rainey has consistently improved his performance this season, and his play at the center position has proven to be a key to Raider success.

Termed by coaches as one of the two most improved players on this year's squad, Rainey finished second in the OVC in rebounding, fifth in field goal percentage and sixth in blocked shots. Rainey also averaged more than 14 points a game.

Rainey had a career high 27 points against McNeese State early in the season. While most observers are impressed most with his strength, Rainey has surprising quickness and agility.

Randy Henry is the other most improved player on this year's team.

Henry worked his way into a starting position early this season and has not lost it since. His ability to score inside and get the ball despite defensive coverage has made him one of the top forwards in the league this season.

Henry had a career high 27 points against Morehead State in leading the Raiders to the OVC regular season championship.

Henry finished the regular season ranked second in the OVC in field goal percentage with an average of .582, 10th in rebounding and averaged more than 13 points per game.

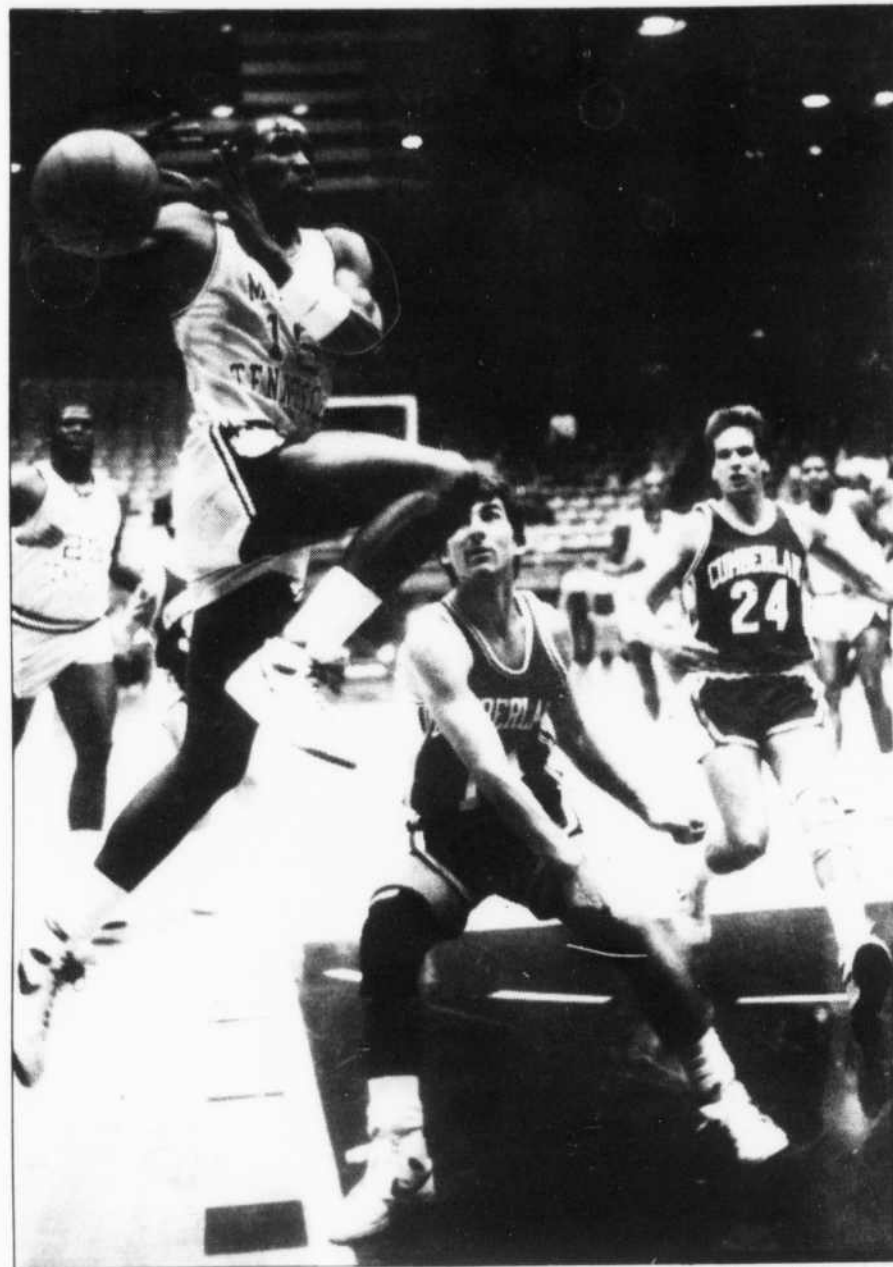
Chris Rainey broke into the starting line-up late in the season and currently shares the starting role with Ty Baynham.

In his first season with the Raiders, Rainey proved to be a vital asset. His three-point scoring has been a major contribution as he connected for more than 52 percent of his three-pointers and hit more than 50 percent of all shots attempted.

Rainey averaged more than 10 points per game and scored a career high 22 against Akron and Youngstown State.

Baynham went into a minor scoring slump late in the season but still managed to average more than 11 points per game for the season. He has outstanding athletic ability. He can run the court, jump, shoot and pass with the best athletes in the country.

Baynham, who has an arsenal of slams with which he elec-



Howard Ross/File

MTSU guard Andrew Tunstill takes a pass and attempts a layup during non-conference Blue Raider action.

trifies crowds, leads the team in that category. He is also a powerful defensive player.

Kerry Hammonds and Jimmy McGill provide a tremendous amount of inside strength for the Raiders.

Hammonds led the OVC in balloting for ALL-OVC freshman team two years ago. He was an honorable mention for All-OVC last year as a sophomore.

Hammonds averaged more than eight points per game coming off the bench this season. Hammonds is perhaps the most fundamentally sound on the Raider squad.

McGill was used off the bench throughout the season and proved he could compete with some of the best big men in the conference.

McGill became an instant "fan favorite" when he joined the Raider squad last season. His shot block-ability is his number-one asset; he was ranked third in the conference in that statistic this

season.

Gerald Harris was red-shirted last season and has played in several games this season. He is perhaps the quickest player on the team and has proven that he can handle the responsibilities of the point guard position.

Billy Miller rejoined the Blue Raider squad this season after missing most of last season in order to concentrate on his studies.

Miller broke into a starting role on the 1984-85 tournament champion team late in the season due to his scrappy rebounding and defense.

Miller has been used off the bench all throughout the season. His height and rebounding ability have given the Raiders tremendous depth at the forward position this season.

Tony Cook became eligible to play this season after transferring from David Lipscomb last season.

Cook is known to Blue Raider fans for his reverse slams on the

break-away. He has good outside shooting ability and has been used this season as a reserve guard off the bench.

Phil Snell joins the Raider staff after transferring from Motlow Community College. A sound player, he has seen limited play this season.

EASTERN KENTUCKY relies heavily upon the play of guards Antonio Parris and Jeff McGill.

Parris was fourth in the conference in scoring this year and broke the all-time scoring record at EKU. The versatile Parris is the catalyst of the Colonel team.

McGill provides the Colonels with a great outside shooting threat. It was his 28-foot shot that beat the Raiders earlier this season. McGill has a legitimate chance at being drafted into the NBA next season.

Tyrone Howard gives the Colonels a great effort as a post player. His consistent scoring and rebounding make him a

(Please see Players page six)

OVC coaching above average

MIDDLE TENNESSEE'S BRUCE STEWART has proven that he is one of the most successful coaches in the country at any level.

Stewart became the head coach at Middle Tennessee in 1984, and in his third season he has turned the basketball program at Middle in a different direction.

Taking over a program that had back-to-back losing seasons, Stewart took a team that had just gone 11-16 and turned that team into a 17-14 winner in only one year.

Included in his first season were an Ohio Valley Tournament championship and a trip to the NCAA tournament.

Stewart has had teams in national tournaments for each of the past six seasons, and after leading his team to its second-straight 20-win season he is headed to his seventh.

In the 1985-86 season Stewart led the Raiders to a 23-11 mark, tying the school record for wins in a single season. Last year's MTSU squad was co-champion of the OVC and made the school's first-ever appearance in the National Invitational Tournament.

The two MTSU national tournament appearances came behind two straight trips to the national NAIA Tournament when Stewart was coaching at West Virginia Wesleyan (1982-84) and two starts in the national junior college tournament when Stewart headed the program at Volunteer State Community College (1980-82) in Gallatin, Tn.

Stewart's record has earned him tremendous respect from knowledgeable basketball observers around the country, despite the fact that, at 34, he is still one of the youngest Division I coaches in the nation. In three seasons at Volunteer State, he had a 73-19 record, and his two-year record at West Virginia Wesleyan was a phenomenal 64-9.

Combined with his 62-30 record at MTSU, Stewart's overall record stands at an astonishing 126-39. Stewart's teams have had 20-win seasons seven of the eight seasons he has been a head coach.

Stewart holds B.S. degrees from both Jacksonville (Ala.) State ('75) and Auburn ('78). He earned a master's degree from Jacksonville State in 1979.

Stewart spent two years as an assistant coach at Chattahoochee Valley Community College in Phenix City, Ala., and was a graduate assistant at Jacksonville State for one year prior to taking the head coaching job at Volunteer State in 1979.

Stewart has put together one of the most talented groups of assistants in the nation as well.

Ralph Radford joined the Blue Raider coaching staff shortly after Stewart took over the head coaching reins. Radford and Stewart had become friends when Stewart was coaching in Phenix city and Radford was attending Livingston State.

graduate assistant, and then as full-time assistant coach, for two years.

He also served as assistant coach at Cumberland, when the school was still a junior college, for the 1979-80 and 1980-81 seasons.

A native of Nashville, Smith was one of the finest basketball players in the history of Lebanon's Castle Heights Academy. He was a guard, earning All-Mid-State and second team All-State honors. He is the only former basketball player in the Castle Heights Athletic Hall of Fame.

He earned the B.S. degree

However, this season has been a real turn-around for Good's team.

Good has led his team to a record of 18-10 overall and 9-5 in the OVC. In addition, his team is currently playing the type of basketball that wins championships.

The respectability, in terms of bringing quality players into the program, has been achieved and is starting to pay off for the 45-year-old coach.

Good's teams have earned respect because of their scrappy and hard-nosed efforts on defense and in rebounding.

Despite his 70-95 record at

The following season Huggins was named OVC Coach of the Year after taking a team that was picked to finish last in the OVC to the co-championship with Middle Tennessee, winning the conference tournament and taking his team to the NCAA tournament.

The 1985-86 Zips compiled a 22-8 record for the first winning record since 1976-77, the best record since 1972-73, the first conference championship in 20 years and its first NCAA National Tournament bid since becoming a Division I member in 1980.

The 34-year-old Huggins, who is the second youngest coach to take the job in 85 years of UA basketball, came to the university after serving one year as an assistant at Central Florida.

Prior to his one season at Central Florida, Huggins led Walsh College in North Canton, Ohio, to a three-year mark of 71-26. Huggins' 1981-82 Walsh squad captured the school's first Mid-Ohio Conference Championship and compiled a school record-breaking 23 wins against nine losses.

A year later, Huggins achieved a rarity in college basketball — an undefeated regular season. The Walsh Cavaliers went 30-0. Their undefeated string lasted four more games before Salem College ended the Cavaliers' outstanding campaign in the first round of the NAIA in Kansas City, Mo.

That 1982-83 Walsh team (34-1) was ranked second to Chaminade in the final Associated Press national NAIA poll. Twice, in 1982 and in 1983, Huggins was voted Mid-Ohio Conference and NAIA District 22 Coach of the Year.

Prior to his tenure at Walsh, Huggins served one season (1977-78) as an assistant basketball coach to Joedy Gardner at his alma mater, West Virginia University and two seasons (1978-80) at Ohio State under Eldon Miller.

Huggins graduated magna cum laude from West Virginia in 1977 with a B.S. degree in physical education and received his master's degree in health administration in 1978.

AUSTIN PEAY STATE UNIVERSITY is coached by LAKE KELLY, who is making his second go of it at Austin Peay.

Kelly is in his second year of



Wayne Cartwright/Staff

Head Basketball Coach Bruce Stewart gives his team directions during a time-out earlier this season.

The 31-year-old Radford was an assistant coach at the University of Arkansas-Little Rock during the 1983-84 season. Earlier, he had been an assistant at UT-Martin for one season and had served a two-year stint at UALR as a graduate assistant.

He also taught for two years at Okeechobee (Fla.) High School.

A native of Auburn, Ala., Radford is a graduate of Livingston State, where he was an outstanding linebacker in football.

TOMMY SMITH joined the MTSU coaching staff in the fall of 1985, bringing a solid background of experience and know-how.

He returned to his alma mater after a two-year stint as head coach at Cumberland College. Prior to that he was on the coaching staff at Austin Peay State University, first as a

from Middle Tennessee in 1980 and the M.A. degree from Austin Peay in 1982.

DAVID CLEMENT serves as part-time assistant for the Blue Raiders. A native of New York, Clement earned the B.S. from West Virginia Wesleyan in 1985 and originally joined the MTSU staff as a graduate assistant.

KYLE TURNHAM serves as the graduate assistant for the Blue Raider staff.

MAX GOOD has been the head coach at EASTERN KENTUCKY for the past six seasons.

Over the course of his tenure at Eastern Kentucky Good has tried to establish respectability and bring a conference championship to Richmond.

Before this season, Good had posted a 52-85 record at EKV and the respectability he searched for had been hard to come by.

EKV, Good has proven to be a winner. In six years at Richmond Madison High School, three as head coach, his teams won 98 and lost only 35, including a 24-5 season in 1974-75 when he was selected as Central Kentucky Conference Coach of the Year. Good achieved that record despite playing many of the strongest high school teams in Kentucky. Playing the best schedule possible is still a Good trademark.

A 10-letter winner in high school, Good played basketball and baseball at Transylvania University before transferring to Eastern where he earned the baccalaureate and master's degrees.

BOBBY HUGGINS, the highly outspoken and controversial head coach at AKRON, led his team to a 12-14 record in his first season there in 1984.

Tiny tidbits of tourney trivia

Several facts stand out as this year's tournament gets underway.

Five players will be making their third straight appearances in the OVC tournament. Three of the five are from EASTERN KENTUCKY (Antonio Parris, Bobby Collins and Lewis Spence) while MIDDLE TENNESSEE (Kerry Hammonds) and YOUNGSTOWN STATE (Tilman Bevely) have one each.

MURRAY STATE holds the record for consecutive tournament appearances with eight. YOUNGSTOWN STATE is second, making its fourth straight appearance.

Both MURRAY STATE and MOREHEAD STATE have competed in the tournament more times than any other school. Both schools will be playing in their 21st tournament.

AKRON has the best percentage for wins in the conference classic. The Zips have won three of their four games for a winning percentage of 75 percent. From the standpoint of total wins, MURRAY STATE narrowly edges out EASTERN KENTUCKY, 17 wins to 16. However, EKV has a better record in the tourney (16-13) than does Murray (17-18).

If all OVC members, past and present, are included in the list of winners, WESTERN KENTUCKY comes out on top. In 17 years the Hilltoppers have won 34 of 40 games for an .850 winning percentage. WKU leads with 10 tournament titles, followed by MIDDLE TENNESSEE with four and EASTERN KENTUCKY with three.

In the 23 previous OVC Tournaments there have been a total of nine overtime contests. The last overtime game was in the 1984 tournament at MOREHEAD STATE when YOUNGSTOWN STATE defeated Tennessee Tech 63-55 in overtime. Only one championship game has gone into overtime, in 1978 when WESTERN KENTUCKY edged AUSTIN PEAY 77-69 in the extra period.

Only three times in tournament history has a team won the classic on another's home court. MIDDLE TENNESSEE has done it twice (1977, 1982) and MOREHEAD STATE once (1983). MTSU, however, defeated the host team (APSU, WKU) in the title tilt while MOREHEAD STATE defeated AKRON in the 1983 tourna-

ment hosted by MURRAY STATE.

Since 1976, the player selected as OVC Player of the Year has won Most Valuable Player honors in the tournament twice. The two were Johnny Britt of WESTERN KENTUCKY (1976) and Otis Howard of AUSTIN PEAY (1978).

In the 23 previous tournaments, a total of 15,952 points have been scored. The winners have scored a total of 8,956 points with the losers totaling 6,996 points. That averages, in 117 games, to 76.6 points for the winning teams and 59.8 points per game for their victims.

This is the second year of a three-year commitment to the current tournament format. Under the current format the regular season champion hosts the tournament and gets a first round bye. The team that finishes last in the conference does not get to compete in the tourney. The second, third and fourth place teams host the fourth, fifth and sixth place teams, respectively, the first round games. The winners of those games advance to the tourney final four with the first place team playing the lowest remaining seed and the two other remaining teams battling it out for a spot in the championship game.

Scoring is on the way back up in the OVC Tournament. The highest per-game average in tournament history came in 1979, when the four teams scored an average of 167 points per game. The next five tournaments showed a decline, to an all-time low of 117.7 points per game in the 1984 tournament. The average jumped back up to 134.7 in 1985 and rose to 143 points per game in 1986.

Among current members, the most frequent matchup in tourney history has been MURRAY STATE and MIDDLE TENNESSEE. These two schools have met seven times in the postseason, beginning with the first meeting in 1953 and ending in last year's semifinals. Four of the seven meetings have come in the last six years. MTSU holds a 4-3 lead over MURRAY battles. MURRAY STATE and EASTERN KENTUCKY have faced each other six times, with Tennessee Tech and MOREHEAD STATE squaring off on five occasions.

Once a team gets to the championship game of the tournament, they can expect to have a closely-contested outcome. The last nine championship games have been decided by a total of 45 points, or a margin of five points per game. However, not including the 1983 tournament in which MOREHEAD STATE defeated AKRON by 16 points, the total difference over eight games is 29 points, or 3.6 points per game.

Only seven players have been named to the all-tournament team three times: Garrett Beshear (MU) 1951-53, Tom Marshall (WK) 1952-54, Art Spoelstra (WK) 1952-54, Clem Haskins (WK) 1964-66, Wayne Chapman (WK) 1965-67, Otis Howard (AP) 1975-78, GREG JOYNER (MT) 1977-79. No player in this year's tournament will be added to this list.

A total of 22 players have been named all-tournament twice. The last was KIM COOKSEY of MIDDLE TENNESSEE in the previous two classics.

Every current OVC coach has taken at least one team to the OVC Tournament. The winningest head coach in this tournament is MIDDLE TENNESSEE's BRUCE STEWART who, in just two seasons, has compiled a 5-1 record.

Players

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threat to all opponents.

AUSTIN PEAY gets much-needed balance out of Darryl Bedford.

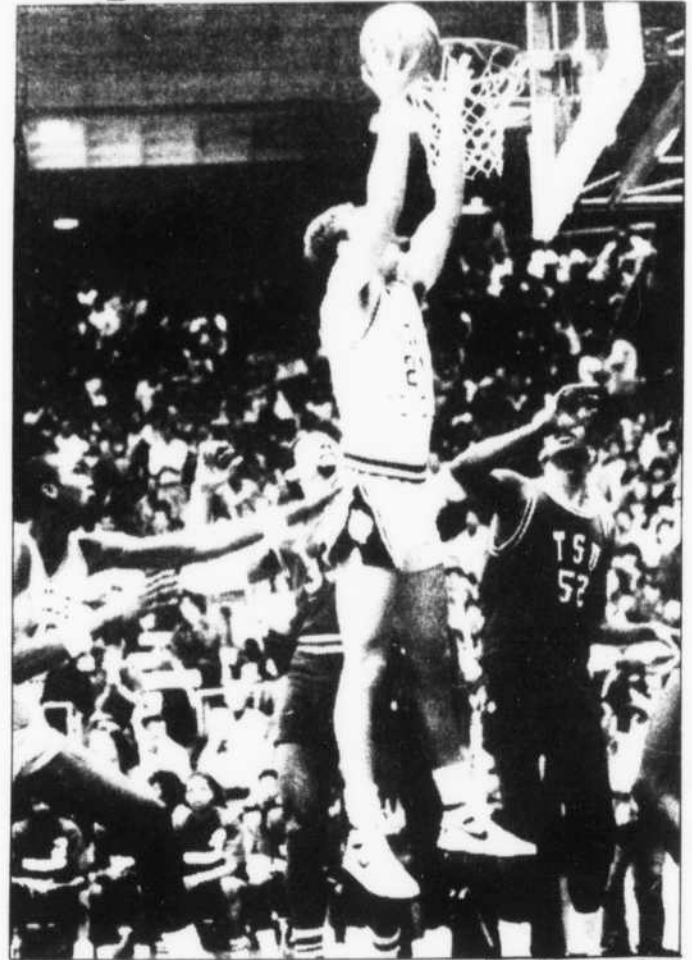
Bedford leads the team in three-point percentage and provides them with inside scoring as well.

Lawrence Mitchell is one of the most explosive players in the league and on his "on" night he can easily score in the mid-20s. On three occasions this season he has turned in 43-point efforts.

AKRON has perhaps the two quickest guards in the conference in Marcel Boyce (1985 Player of the Year) and Eric McLaughlin.

Boyce can do just about anything that he is called upon to do for the Zips. His scoring ability proves to be his best asset. Boyce also plays excellent defense.

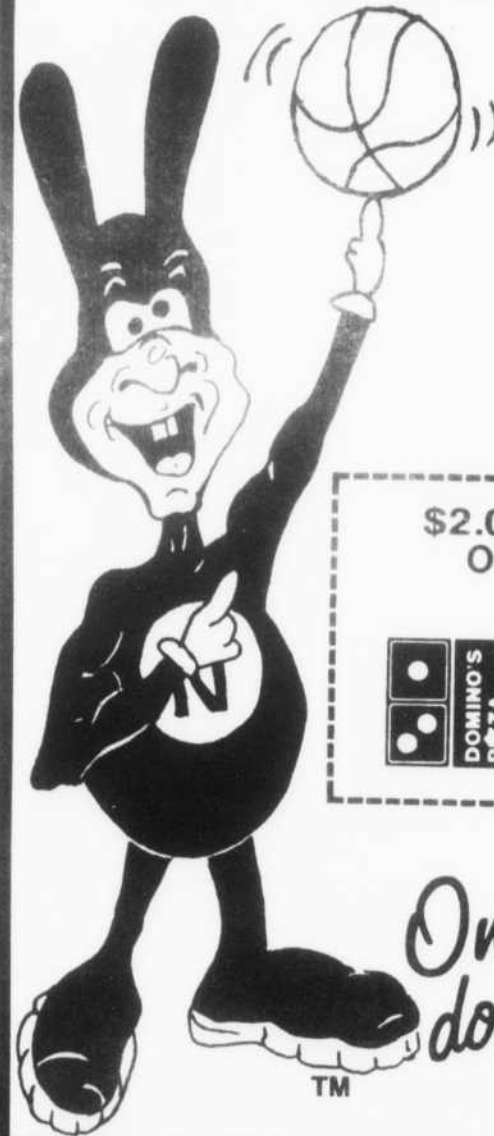
McLaughlin is just in his sophomore year with the Zips, yet he has already established himself as one of the top players in the conference. If he gets hot, he is unstoppable.



Frank Conley/Staff

Billy Miller attempts lay-up in season finale against Tennessee State.

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Recap

continued from page two

dropping the Raiders to 9-2 in the conference.

Following the loss to Austin Peay, the Raiders rebounded with a 90-76 win over Murray State that clinched at least a tie for the conference championship.

MTSU then traveled to "Death Valley" in Kentucky in hopes of wrapping up the conference championship outright.

Eastern Kentucky slightly derailed the Raiders' hopes of winning the championship when Jeff McGill's 28-foot desperation shot went in the basket, hitting nothing but net, giving Eastern the 89-86 victory.

With the conference championship on the line, the Raiders traveled to Morehead. After falling behind early in the contest, the Raiders stormed back in the second half to take a 10-point win over Morehead and clinch their first OVC title in 12 years.

Tennessee State provided the Raiders their last regular season game of the year. More than 8,000 fans turned out to bid farewell to the seniors in their last regular season home game.

MTSU posted a 72-67 victory over the Tigers and completed their season with the best record in the state of Tennessee.

The Raiders' 20-win season was their second consecutive one and virtually assured the Raiders of their third straight post-season tournament.

Kelly

continued from page five

his Austin Peay return as head coach. On March 27, 1985, APSU reached into its past with hopes of bringing success to its basketball future as Kelly was named head coach for a second time.

Kelly, who served previously as APSU's head coach from 1971-77, led the Governors to a 14-14 record in 1985-86. Last season's mark was only the third non-losing record the Goves have recorded since Kelly left in 1977. Their 8-6 Ohio Valley Conference record was the Governors best since 1977-78.

This season Kelly led his Governor team to a 17-11 record and an 8-6 record in the OVC.

During his first tenure, Kelly led the Goves to a 110-52 record. His .650 winning percentage is the best in school history. During the 70s, Kelly led the Governors to their only two NCAA tournament berths.

Kelly, 52, is in his 27th season of coaching, his 10th as a Division I head coach. A 1956 graduate of Georgia Tech, Kelly began his coaching career in 1959 as the head coach at Amelia (Ohio) High School, posting a 13-5 record.

In 1960, he joined Morehead State's staff as a graduate assistant. The next year found Kelly in the Army, but he found time to coach Fort Chaffee (Ark.) High School to a 24-4 record during his stay.

In 1962-63, he returned to Morehead State as a full-time assistant and then moved on to Florida State and Loyola University for single seasons before again returning to Morehead State as an assistant from 1965-68.

Kelly returned to prep coaching in 1969 at Lafayette High School in Lexington, Ky., before coming to Austin Peay the next season as an assistant. Kelly was elevated to APSU's head spot in 1971.

After an initial 10-14 season, the Goves' "rags-to-riches" story produced a 22-7 1972-73 record, paced by the redoubtable James (Fly) Williams and Howard Jackson. The Goves won the Ohio Valley Conference for the first time and made their first venture into the NCAA tournament, defeating Jacksonville 77-75 before losing to Kentucky 106-100 and Marquette 88-73.

Kelly's Goves posted a 17-10 record the following season and made their second NCAA appearance, losing to Notre Dame. The Goves again were 17-10 in 1974-75, followed by a 20-7 mark. Kelly's first tenure at APSU ended with a school record 24-4 mark in 1976-77.

Austin Peay won three regular-season OVC titles under Kelly and finished second twice. He was named OVC Coach of the Year in 1973 and finished runner-up twice.

Kelly left APSU to become the head coach at Oral Roberts, posting a 13-14 mark in his first season. The following season Kelly's team posted an 18-10 record. He left Oral Roberts to spend four seasons as head coach at George Rogers High School in Winchester, Ky.

In 1983, Kelly returned to collegiate coaching for a one-year stint at Kentucky as Joe B. Hall's top bench assistant where his major responsibilities were coaching defense, supervising scouting practice preparation, conditioning and game-plan preparation.

Austin Peay

continued from page three

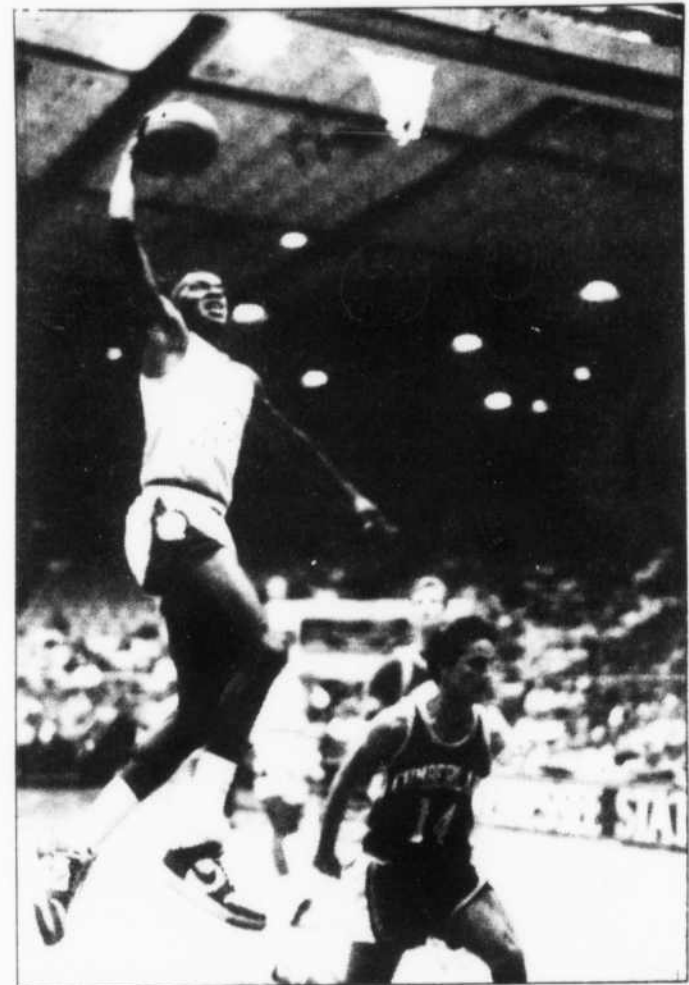
Site of seven educational institutions since 1806, the campus was occupied by Southwestern for 50 years until its move to Memphis in 1925. Created as

a two-year junior college and teacher-training institution, Austin Peay has gradually grown in

stature to take its place among the finest medium-sized universities in the country.

The school became a four-year institution in 1941-42 with university status conferred on Sept. 1, 1967. Divided into the colleges of Arts and Sciences, Business and Professional Programs and Education and Human Services, the University offers 14 degrees (eight undergraduate and six graduate) in 26 departments.

A state leader in public service, the University has 558 employees. Engaged in the most modern teaching techniques and research are 195 faculty members, 64 percent of whom hold the earned doctorate and 10 percent of whom have appropriate terminal degrees in their disciplines.



Howard Ross/File

Sophomore Raider forward Randy Henry prepares for the stuff after a fast break against non-conference opponent Cumberland.

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Raider Ramblings

LOCATION: Murfreesboro, TN.
 FOUNDED: 1906
 ENROLLMENT: 11,400
 NICKNAME: Blue Raiders
 COLORS: Navy Blue and White
 COACH: Bruce Stewart
 RECORD AT SCHOOL/YEARS: 62-30/3 yrs.
 OVERALL RECORD: 126-39/6 years.



BLUE RAIDER ROSTER

No.	Name	Pos.	Ht.	Wt.	Class	Hometown
00	Tyrus Baynham	G-F	6-7	200	Jr	Nashville, TN
3	Phil Snell	G	6-2	170	Jr	Eagleville, TN
4	Duane Washington	G	6-4	195	Sr	Little Rock, ARK
11	Chris Rainey	G	5-11	165	So	Macon, GA
14	Gerald Harris	G	5-11	170	Fr	Chattanooga, TN
15	Andrew Tunstill	G-F	6-3	185	Sr	Gallatin, TN
20	Tony Cook	G	6-2	180	Sr	Cross Plains, TN
21	Billy Miller	F-C	6-8	215	Sr	Easley, SC
24	Rod Barber	G	6-3	175	Fr	College Park, GA
25	Dwayne Rainey	C	6-7	260	Jr	Columbus, GA
44	Kerry Hammonds	F-C	6-7	240	Jr	Macon, GA
45	Jimmy McGill	C-F	6-9	295	Sr	Knoxville, TN
50	Randy Henry	F-C	6-9	195	So	East Point, GA

Governors Race

LOCATION: Clarksville, TN
 FOUNDED: 1927
 ENROLLMENT: 5,000
 NICKNAME: Governors
 COLORS: Red and White
 COACH: Lake Kelly
 RECORD AT SCHOOL/YEARS: 124-66/7 yrs.
 OVERALL RECORD/YEARS: 155-90/9 yrs.



GOVERNORS ROSTER

No.	Name	Pos.	Ht.	Wt.	Class	Hometown
12	Vincent Brooks	G	6-1	150	So	Clarksville, TN
14	Kent McKenzie	G	6-2	170	Fr	Cincinnati, OH
22	Richie Armstrong	G	6-1	180	Sr	Atlanta, GA
24	Mike Hicks	G	6-2	180	Sr	Murfreesboro, TN
32	Tony Rays	F	6-5	205	Jr	Gallatin, TN
33	Myron DeVoe	F	6-8	190	Fr	Louisville, KY
34	Lawrence Mitchell	G	6-3	185	Sr	Knoxville, TN
35	Eric Orr	F	6-5	199	Sr	Jacksonville, FL
42	Bob Thomas	C	6-7	218	Sr	Chicago, ILL
50	Darryl Bedford	C-F	6-8	260	Sr	Smyrna, GA
52	Joe Busateri	C	6-8	190	So	Milwaukee, WI

Eastern, Ho!

LOCATION: Richmond, Ky.
 FOUNDED: 1906
 ENROLLMENT: 12,229
 NICKNAME: Governors
 COLORS: Maroon and White
 COACH: Max Good
 RECORD AT SCHOOL/YEARS: 52-85/5 yrs.
 OVERALL RECORD/YEARS: 52-85/5 yrs.



COLONELS ROSTER

No.	Name	Pos.	Ht.	Wt.	Class	Hometown
3	Charles Baker	G-F	6-3	185	Jr	N. Little Rock, ARK
10	Antonio Parris	G	6-2	185	Sr	Chattanooga, TN
11	Jeff McGill	G	6-1	185	Jr	Charlotte, NC
12	Bobby Collins	G	6-1	195	Jr	Southern Pines, NC
14	Junior Curtis	G	6-1	185	Jr	Benton, ARK
20	Jerry Goodin	G	5-9	165	So	Austin, IN
21	Nelson Davie	F-C	6-8	230	So	Gastonia, NC
22	Tyrone Howard	F-C	6-7	220	Jr	Pittsburgh, PA
24	John Smith	F	6-4	175	Fr	Lancaster, KY
25	Curtis Stephen	G	5-11	175	Jr	Bruce, MS
31	Mario Pearson	F	6-4	180	So	Detroit, MI
32	Lewis Spence	F	6-5	185	Jr	Raleigh, NC
41	Vernon Evans	F	6-6	220	Fr	Grayson, KY
44	Ben Phillips	F	6-6	210	Jr	Osceola, ARK
45	Randolph Taylor	F-C	6-7	210	So	Darlington, SC

'Zip'per Tales

LOCATION: Akron, Oh.
 FOUNDED: 1870
 ENROLLMENT: 26,000
 NICKNAME: Zips
 COLORS: Blue and Gold
 COACH: Bobby Huggins
 RECORD AT SCHOOL/YEARS: 54-30/3 yrs.
 OVERALL RECORD/YEARS: 125-57/6 yrs.



ZIPS ROSTER

No.	Name	Pos.	Ht.	Wt.	Class	Hometown
00	Ron Taylor	F	6-6	235	Sr	Toledo, OH
15	Mike Dowdell	G	5-10	175	Sr	Akron, OH
21	Marcel Boyce	F	6-6	185	Sr	Lynchburg, VA
23	Shawn Dotson	G	6-4	205	Fr	Akron, OH
25	Eric McLaughlin	G	5-11	155	So	Grand Rapids, MI
32	Doug Schutz	F	6-6	220	Sr	Mentor, OH
33	Eric Douglas	F	6-7	210	Fr	Warren, OH
35	Scott Paterson	C	6-10	220	So	Oshawa, CAN
41	Shawn Roberts	F	6-6	225	So	Farrell, PA
43	John Loyer	G	6-4	175	Sr	Gallion, OH
45	Vincent Knowles	F	6-8	195	Jr	Nassau, BAH
52	Ken Cullifer	C	6-8	238	Jr	Burr Oak, MI
53	Jon Ash	F	6-6	210	Sr	Canton, OH
55	Chris Kelley	F	6-4	225	Sr	Lorain, OH