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BASKETBALL FOR THOUGHT by Kris Gardner, e-mail: kgardner@houstonroundballrev.com

Polls are Merely Window Dressing

The pre season college basketball polls have been released by most, if not all, the major publications. The consensus is the Duke Blue Devils are the top team in the country this season. Big deal. Why does anyone care? College sports polls are one of the most subjective items in all of sports. I can honestly say I could not care less who has been tabbed as the top team in the land as of November 1st or even March 1st.

In no particular order the top teams in Men's Division I are Stanford, Duke, Kentucky, Connecticut, and Maryland. It doesn't matter how I ranked them because the champion will be determined on the court not in a room or by a computer.

Releasing a top 25 list is merely for show to peak interest and conversation. Nothing more. A pre season ranking, obviously, holds more importance to a school which has never been ranked previously; however, beyond those schools, rankings mean nothing.

A pre season poll is based on a team's returning as well as incoming talent. As a result, speculation plays a key role in a pre season poll. No one can be certain how the new talent will mesh

with the current players.

Another factor in the polls is how can anyone make



At the National Association of Black Coaches Tourney held in Indianapolis which kicked off the season, Valparaiso

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an accurate assessment on a team without seeing the team perform in a competitive situation? Watching a team practice provides only a glimpse of the team's ability, not the complete picture. Games provide the best judge of performance. Clearly, a pre season poll cannot take games into account because none have yet to be played!

defeated South Carolina. Despite both teams being unranked, Valpo's victory was called an upset. How could that be? It was the first game for both clubs and neither team was ranked! Valpo has a young team and South Carolina was missing a key player or two. Valpo's win was not an upset—it was a win. Nothing more, nothing less.

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Personally, I think basketball polls are a waste of time. If a ranked club loses a game on the road in its conference to a lower ranked club, the loss will not be an upset. It's very difficult to win on the road in almost any sport especially in a quality conference against a quality opponent. For example, if Duke loses at Maryland, it won't be an upset. It will be: Maryland beat Duke. Period.

Polls are voted on by members of the national media. Therefore, how can a member of the national media make an accurate vote on a team he or she hasn't seen all season or doesn't cover. The voter can't make an accurate judgment; yet, voters vote on teams across the country they may never see until Tournament time allowing for far too much subjectivity.

Polls also play a limited role in how teams are selected and ranked for March Madness. A team may be ranked in the Top 25 all season and miss the Tournament entirely or be seeded very low because the Selection Committee places more emphasis on the team's losses to non conference opponents than the team's in conference record. Conversely, a team which has been unranked all season does not mean the club won't be selected to the Big Dance. Last year's Western Michigan team is a perfect example.

Polls are merely window

(Continued on page 15)

NBA NEWS As of November 16th

The NBA State of the Team Address will return *whenever* the lockout ends.

November 13, Legendary New York Knicks head coach **William "Red" Holzman** died at Long Island Jewish Hospital at age 78. The cause of death was not released but Holzman, who was admitted to the hospital on Nov. 12th, was suffering from leukemia.

Holzman led the Knicks to their only two NBA titles in 1970 and 1973. He compiled a record of 696 - 604 during his 18 year stint as an NBA head coach.

November 11, Utah F **Karl Malone** stated on his radio show, "I am tired of the posturing and jabbering back and forth, and I will go out on a limb and say, when the lockout is over with, I will make a demand to be traded," Malone said on the air. "I will say it right now, I have played my last game in Salt Lake City, and it's time for Karl to move on."

"I would rather go somewhere else, and there's not a lot of places I can go to. I would love to have an opportunity to play with the Lakers, either when this lockout is over with or when I become a free agent."

November 10, The Seattle Sonics signed **Billy McKinney** to a three year contract extension through the 2001 - 2002 season as well as changed his job title from vice president of basketball operations to executive vice president of basketball operations.

November 3, The Miami

Sun-Sentinel's **Ira Winderman** announced Heat center **Alonzo Mourning** recently underwent surgery on his right knee to remove a bone spur. Zo should return around Dec. 25th.

October 30, Seattle signed GM **Wally Walker** to a contract extension which runs through the 2002 season. Terms weren't disclosed.

October 28, NBA Deputy Commissioner **Russ Granik** announced that the league had canceled the remaining games scheduled for November. The NBA also announced that the regular season game between the San Antonio Spurs and the LA Clippers scheduled to be played in Mexico City on December 12th, has been canceled.

October 27, The New Jersey Nets agreed to keep playing basketball at the Meadowlands sports complex through the 2007-08 NBA season, putting on hold any immediate thoughts by some of bringing the team to Newark.

The agreement replaces a long-term lease that committed the Nets to the Continental Airlines Arena until 2020-21, but had escape windows after the 1999-2000 and 2003-04 seasons.

October 22, The Bulls re-signed assistant coach **Tex Winter** to a one year contract.

⇒ The following has been circulated via E-mail. Though the NBA players would quickly point out the fact they're being locked out and are not on strike, the message is still clear.

THE NBA PLAYER ADOPTION PROGRAM NEEDS YOU!

With a NBA players strike against the team owners looming, now is the time for us to show the world just how much we care. It's just not right. Hundreds of basketball players in our very own country are living at or just below the seven-figure salary level! Atrocious! And, as if that weren't bad enough, they will be deprived of pay for several weeks--possibly a whole year--as a result of the strike. But now you can help! For about two thousand dollars a day--that's less than the cost of a large screen projection TV--you can help a basketball player remain economically viable during his time of need. Two thousand dollars a day may not seem like a lot of money to you, but to a basketball player it could mean the difference between a vacation spent golfing in Florida or a Mediterranean cruise. For you, two thousand dollars is nothing more than three months rent or mortgage payments. But to a basketball player, two thousand dollars a day will almost replace his salary. Your commitment of two thousand dollars a day will enable a player to buy that home entertainment center, trade in the year-old Lexus for a new Ferrari, or enjoy a weekend in Rio.

"HOW WILL I KNOW I'M HELPING?"

Each month, you will receive a complete financial report on the player you sponsor. Detailed information about his stocks, bonds, 401(k), real estate, and other investment holdings will be mailed to your home. You'll also get information on how he plans to invest the \$5 million lump sum he will receive upon retirement. Plus upon signing up for this program, you will receive a photo of the player (unsigned). Put the photo on your refrigerator to remind you of other peoples' suffering.

"HOW WILL HE KNOW I'M HELPING?"

Your basketball player will be told that he has a SPECIAL FRIEND who just wants to help in a time of need. Although the player won't know your name, he will be able to make collect calls to your home via a special operator just in case additional funds are needed for unexpected expenses.

Simply fill out the form below:

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An Open Letter... (posted on the web site Nov. 4th)

First of all, **David Stern, Russ Granik, Billy Hunter**, David Falk and the agents, the NBA owners, and NBA players: WAKE UP!!!

The negotiations during the NBA Lockout have clearly broken down and now involve egos, posturing, and rhetoric. The public doesn't care who said what--the public, some anyway, wants to see basketball games.

It's clear both sides are trying to use real world economics to present their side of the negotiations. Here's a hint for each of you: the NBA isn't the real world!!! In the real world, if you ask Joe Fan or someone who works 9 to 5 if they would like to have a cap placed on their salary which would eliminate their chances of fair market value, the majority would respond with a resounding NO. Using that same argument, NBA players are crying, "FOUL" to any sort of hard salary cap as if they only make \$25 to \$35 K a year! Give me a break!

While the average salary in the NBA is \$2.6 M, the median salary is approximately \$1 M which clearly dwarfs the salaries made by the working class. Of course, I know many players signed for the league minimum of roughly \$275 K last season; but, even that league minimum mocks the annual salaries of Joe Fan.

Owners have proposed a cap on players' salaries in terms of limiting the amount a player may earn based on the percentage of the salary cap. For 1 to 5 year players, the maximum a player could earn would be 25% of the salary cap; 6 to 10 year players would max out at 30% of the cap; and 10 plus year players would max out at 35%. Assuming league growth, the salary cap rises each season. When you guys finally make a deal, a projected salary cap of \$33 M would mean annual maximum salaries, under the owners proposal, of \$8.25 M, \$9.9 M, and \$11.55 M!!

Now, players are you telling me and the rest of the public that that's wrong?! Obviously you are, which means you've clearly lost your senses. Since you feel that way, please try earning that amount in an everyday 9 to 5 job. It would take any of you, **Michael Jordan** included, lifetimes to earn \$8.25 M in one year!

I'm not placing all the blame on the players because the owners helped create this ridiculous situation. **Mr. George Shinn**, Charlotte Hornets owner, you started the league down this road with that ridiculous 7 year, \$84 M contract to **Larry Johnson**. **Mr. Glen Taylor**, Timberwolves' owner, you were the straw that broke the camel's back with your 6 year, \$126 M contract extension for **Kevin Garnett** even though you were negotiating against no other team but yourself. It's obvious NBA owners don't know how to spend their money wisely on players (Seattle center's **Jim McIlvaine** \$33 M contract is another clear example). It's obvious to everyone, except those on the owners' side, that the owners truly do need "protection from themselves"!

Don't any of you realize or care that, if you continue to alienate your paying public, the revenue stream all of you are trying to divide up is going to dwindle which would mean less money for all of you? If people stop attending games, stop paying for licensed merchandise, and stop watching televised games, each of you is going to get hit in a spot that's near and dear to each one of you--your wallets. Maybe that's what you want. If so, keep wasting everyone's time; you'll arrive there eventually.

By the way, when this mess is finally settled, do any of you have plans to compensate all the employees and businesses you've affected with this work stoppage? ...I didn't think so.

Let Your Team Spirit Fly w/ officially licensed college bean mascots from Garden of Eden.

Great gifts for the holiday season.

Visit houstonroundballrev.com for details.

NCAA Women and WNBA News

Miller, 25 others Part of Inaugural Class

November 15, **Cheryl Miller**, who led USC to NCAA titles in 1983 and '84 and the United States to a gold medal in the 1984 Olympics, and **Ann Meyers Drysdale**, a four-time All-American who was the first woman to receive a full athletic scholarship to UCLA, were among 26 inductees named to the inaugural class of the Women's Basketball Hall of Fame.

Jody Conradt of Texas, the winningest coach in women's collegiate basketball history, and **Pat Summitt**, who has guided Tennessee to six NCAA championships, were also among the honored.

Others in the group include Joan Crawford, a 13-time Amateur Athletic Union All-American, and **Lusia Harris Stewart** of Delta State, who in 1976 scored the first points in Olympic women's basketball history.

The 26 inductees will be enshrined in the spring of 1999 at the new 30,000 square-foot Hall of Fame currently being constructed in Knoxville, Tenn.

To be inducted, a nominee had to be retired from the highest level of play for five years, coached the women's game for at least 20 years, officiated women's basketball at least 10 years or significantly impacted the game.

NLRB Certifies Union for WNBA

November 13, The National Labor Relations Board issued certification to the National Basketball Players Association as the exclusive representative of players in the WNBA.

Holdslaw and Catchings Head All - America Team

Chamique Holdslaw and **Tamika Catchings**, the brightest of the many stars at Tennessee, were the top voter-getters Tuesday for *The Associated Press* women's preseason All-America basketball team.

Holdslaw, a senior and last season's AP player of the year, was the only unanimous pick by a national panel of writers and broadcasters and became the first player to make the pre-season team three times. Catchings, a sophomore, missed being a unanimous selection by just three votes.

Seniors **Dominique Canty** of Alabama, **Stephanie White-McCarty** of Purdue and **Amanda Wilson** of Louisiana Tech also were named to the team, chosen by the panel that votes in the weekly women's poll.

Holdslaw was named on all 42 ballots after leading Tennessee to a 39-0 record and its third straight national championship. Catchings, part of Tennessee coach Pat Summitt's Fab Four recruiting class last season, received 39 votes.

Canty was third in the voting with 33, White-McCarty had 23 and Wilson 19.

A third Tennessee player, sophomore **Semeka Randall**, came close to making the All-America team. She had 13 votes and UCLA's Maylana Martin received 12.

In addition to making the preseason team for the third time, Holdslaw also was the leading vote-getter for the third year in a row. Connecticut's **Kara Wolters** is the only other player who has made the team more than once, being selected in 1995-96 and 1996-97.

The AP began choosing a women's All-America team in the 1994-95 season.

WNBA Players Vote to Unionize

November 5, WNBA players voted overwhelmingly to have the National Basketball Players Association represent them, the same union negotiating for the locked-out NBA players.

Of the 122 eligible players, 55 voted in favor of the union and 24 voted against it, according to **Dan Silverman**, the regional executive director of the National Labor Relations Board.

Most players in the 2-year-old WNBA, a wholly owned subsidiary of the NBA, earn \$25,000-\$50,000. They want to raise their salaries and extend health insurance coverage to the offseason as part of a collective bargaining agreement with the league, which is expanding from 10 teams to 12 next summer.

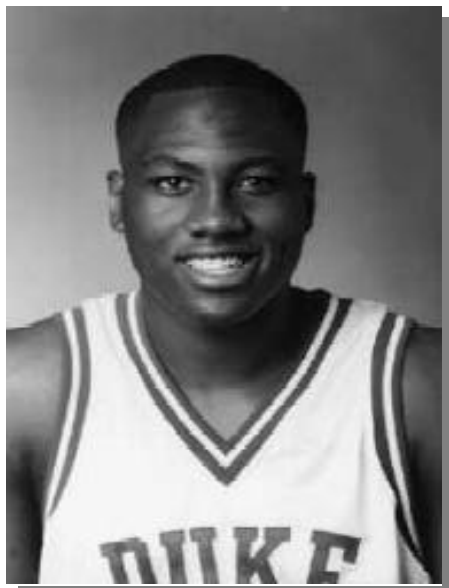
Mystics to Draft First

October 28, The WNBA Operating Committee determined that the Washington Mystics will have the first pick in the 1999 WNBA Draft. Washington completed its inaugural season with the league's worst regular season record, 3-27.

The other nine teams which competed in the WNBA during the 1998 season will choose in inverse order of last year's regular season win-loss record, with the draft positions of the Minnesota and Orlando expansion teams, which begin play next season, to be determined at a later date. Ties between

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Roundball Review's Super 6 College Players



Duke sophomore F / C **Elton Brand** will lead the Blue Devils this season toward their hopes of capturing another NCAA championship. At 6'8, 240 lbs., Elton possesses very soft hands, great foot work, tremendous work ethic and a very reliable turn around baseline jump shot. His positioning down on the post is excellent. Elton probably runs the court better than any other big man in college basketball.

While playing for the US Goodwill Games team this summer, Elton was practically unstoppable. His superior performance against international competition should provide him the confidence to be a major factor in the Atlantic Coast Conference as well as the nation.

Duke Head Coach **Mike Krzyzewski**, has stated in the past, "I've never had a player have as big an impact as Elton's had in such a short time period."

Source of photo: Mike Cragg, Duke Sports Information Department.

Michigan State's junior G **Mateen Cleaves** is the best point guard in the Big Ten. At 6'2 and a solidly built 195 pounds, Mateen punishes the opposition with strong drives to the hoop. He was last season's Big Ten Player of the Year while leading the Spartans in scoring at 16.1 ppg, dishing out 7.2 apg, and gathering 2.4 spg. He was the only college player to make the US World Championships Team which played in Greece this summer. Unfortunately, he suffered a severely sprained ankle and was unable to join the team in Greece. He was picked as the conference's Player of the Year for this season as well. His biggest weakness is his perimeter shooting: last year he connected on only 40% of his field goal attempts.

Northwestern's 6th year C **Evan Eschmeyer** is the best center in the Big Ten as well as the top center in the country. He didn't play his first two seasons due to recurring foot injuries. Last season, Evan led all Big Ten centers in scoring (21.7 ppg) and rebounding (10.7 rpg). Despite constant double and triple teams from defenses, Evan always seems to produce 20 points and 10 boards a contest.

Connecticut's swingman **Richard Hamilton** may be the best player in the country. He may be slight at 6'6 and 180 pounds but he has a quick shot release on his stand still perimeter shot. However, what separates him from the rest is his exceptional first step to the basket. Richard has the ability to explode to the hoop and finish strong. He also has a good mid range jump shot (which is a lost art in basketball). He will help lead the Huskies toward their goal of reaching the Final Four.

Utah's **Andre Miller** is the most complete point guard in the country. He is 6'2 and 205 pounds and plays a very physical brand of basketball. He has an excellent work ethic and has improved each season under Utah head coach **Rick Majerus**. Andre helped lead the Utes to last season's NCAA title game. He recorded what is believed to be the first triple-double (tallying 18 points, 14 rebounds, and 13 assists) in school history as the Utes upset Arizona in last season's West Region Finals. He was a member of the 1998 gold medal winning US Goodwill Games team.

Miami of Ohio's **Wally Szczerbiak** may be unheralded to most people; but, he is one of the top players in the country. He stands 6'8 and weighs a solid 243 pounds. As a junior, he earned first team all Mid American Conference (MAC) and all MAC honors last season. Wally has a complete offensive game. Last season, he averaged 24.4 points and 7.6 rebounds per game. He missed 8 games last season due to a broken bone in his shooting wrist. Wally is an outstanding perimeter shooter who also moves well without the ball and shooting off screens. He also was a member of this summer's Goodwill Games team. Szczerbiak scored 15 points and dished out four assists as the U.S. defeated Australia, 93-85 in overtime, on July 24. In the semifinals, Wally scored 20 points on Lithuania.

* Other photos appear at the web site.

NCAA Conference by Conference Pre - season Polls

Atlantic 10 Coaches and Media Poll

Note: First place votes in parenthesis.

EAST	WEST
1. Temple (34)	1. Xavier (39)
2. UMass (12)	2. George Washington (6)
3. Rhode Island (2)	3. Dayton (2)
4. St. Bonaventure	4. LaSalle
5. St. Joseph's	Virginia Tech
6. Fordham	6. Duquesne (1)

Atlantic Coast Conference Coaches Poll

Note: First place votes in parenthesis.

Team	Points
1. Duke (79)	767
2. Maryland (6)	687
3. North Carolina (1)	576
4. Wake Forest	440
5. Clemson	433
6. N.C. State	409
7. Georgia Tech	265
8. Florida State	196
9. Virginia	97

Big 12 Coaches Poll

Note: First place votes in parenthesis.

Team	Points
1. Oklahoma State (7)	117
2. Kansas (5)	115
3. Missouri	91
4. Oklahoma	90
5. Texas	74
6. Kansas State	72
7. Nebraska	69
8. Iowa State	45
9. Texas Tech	42
10. Colorado	38
11. Baylor	17
Texas A & M	17

Big 12 Media Poll

Note: First place votes in parenthesis.

Team	Points
1. Oklahoma State (19)	401
2. Kansas (16)	398
3. Oklahoma	332
4. Missouri	316
5. Texas	263
6. Nebraska	224
7. Kansas State	212
8. Iowa State	183
9. Texas Tech	146
10. Colorado	134

11. Baylor	68
12. Texas A&M	52

Big East Coaches Poll

Note: First place votes in parenthesis.

Team	Points
1. Connecticut (12)	144
2. Syracuse (1)	130
3. Miami	116
4. St. John's	102
5. Georgetown	98
6. Villanova	79
7. Pittsburgh	78
8. Rutgers	72
9. Seton Hall	60
10. Providence	54
11. West Virginia	42
12. Notre Dame	26
13. Boston College	14

Big Sky Coaches Poll

Note: First place votes in parenthesis.

Team	Points
1. Northern Arizona (7)	63
2. Weber State (1)	55
3. Montana State (1)	49
4. Portland State	39
5. Cal State Northridge	38
6. Eastern Washington	32
7. Montana	25
8. Idaho State	14
9. Cal State Sacramento	9

Big Sky Media Poll

Note: First place votes in parenthesis.

Team	Points
1. Northern Arizona (25)	272
2. Weber State (3)	207
3. Portland State (2)	204
4. Montana State	179
5. Cal State Northridge	147
6. Montana	138
7. Eastern Washington	133
8. Idaho State	70
9. Cal State Sacramento	45

Big Ten Coaches and Media Polls

Note: First place votes in parenthesis.

COACHES	MEDIA
Team	Team
1. Michigan State (10)	1. Michigan State (70)
2. Indiana (1)	2. Purdue (15)

NCAA Conference by Conference Pre - season Polls

- | | |
|---------------|------------------|
| 3. Purdue | 3. Indiana (6) |
| 4. Minnesota | 4. Minnesota (2) |
| 5. Penn State | 5. Michigan (2) |

Big West Coaches Poll

Note: First place votes in parenthesis.

EAST	
Team	Points
1. Idaho (10)	60
2. Boise State (2)	49
3. Utah State	39
4. Nevada	28
5. New Mexico State	26
6. North Texas	14

WEST	
Team	Points
1. Cal Poly (9)	59
2. Long Beach State (3)	44
3. Pacific	37
4. UC Irvine	31
5. Cal State Fullerton	24
6. UC Santa Barbara	21

Big West Media Poll

Note: First place votes in parenthesis.

EAST	
Team	Points
1. Idaho (28)	190
2. Boise State (2)	138
3. New Mexico State	126
4. Utah State (2)	121
5. Nevada (2)	92
6. North Texas	47

WEST	
Team	Points
1. Cal Poly (17)	185
2. Long Beach State (13)	164
3. Pacific (3)	120
4. Cal State Fullerton (1)	98
5. UC Irvine	84
6. UC Santa Barbara	63

Colonial Athletic Association Media Poll

Note: First place votes in parenthesis.

Team	Points
1. Old Dominion (18)	
2. James Madison (3)	
3. UNC Wilmington (5)	
4. George Mason	
5. William & Mary	

6. Richmond (1)
7. American
8. East Carolina
9. Virginia Commonwealth

Conference USA Coaches Poll

NATIONAL DIVISION

Team	Points
1. Memphis	
2. Alabama - Birmingham	
3. South Florida	
4. Southern Mississippi	
5. Tulane	
6. Houston	

AMERICAN DIVISION

Team	Points
1. Cincinnati	
2. Louisville	
3. Marquette	
4. DePaul	
5. North Carolina - Charlotte	
6. Saint Louis	

Conference Champion: Cincinnati.

Metro Atlantic Athletic Conference Coaches Poll

Team	Points
1. Iona	97
2. Siena	84
Rider	84
4. Niagara	59
5. Loyola	50
6. Marist	41
7. Fairfield	40
8. Canisius	39
9. Manhattan	26
St. Peter's	26

Mid American Conference Media Poll

Note: First place votes in parenthesis.

EAST	
Team	Points
1. Miami (45)	371
2. Akron (5)	307
3. Marshall (1)	216
4. Bowling Green (2)	209
5. Ohio	200
6. Kent	167
7. Buffalo (2)	70

NCAA Conference by Conference Pre - season Polls

WEST

Team	Points
1. Toledo (33)	300
2. Northern Illinois (13)	244
3. Ball State (5)	202
4. Western Michigan (4)	188
5. Eastern Michigan	112
6. Central Michigan	109

Mid Continent Conference Coaches Poll

Note: First place votes in parenthesis.

Team	Points
1. Valparaiso (4)	58
2. Youngstown State (3)	56
3. Oral Roberts (1)	49
4. Western Illinois	40
5. Southern Utah	32
6. UMKC	29
7. Chicago State	12
IUPUI	12

(Oakland and IUPUI are not eligible for postseason play.)

Midwestern Collegiate Conference

(voted on by coaches, sports information directors and media)

Team	Points
1. Detroit	252
2. Illinois - Chicago	174
3. Wisconsin - Green Bay	172
4. Loyola	163
5. Cleveland State	147
6. Butler	106
7. Wright State	83
8. Wisconsin - Milwaukee	54

Missouri Valley Conference Media Poll

Note: First place votes in parenthesis.

Team	Points
1. Creighton (17)	280
2. Southwest Missouri St. (9)	272
3. Illinois State (3)	231
4. Wichita State (1)	200
5. Bradley	179
6. Evansville	162
7. Indiana State	120
8. Southern Illinois	104
9. Northern Iowa	59
10. Drake	42

Northeast Conference Coaches Poll

1. Mount St. Mary's
2. St. Francis (NY)

3. Fairleigh Dickinson
4. Wagner
5. Maryland Baltimore County (UMBC)
6. Long Island
7. Robert Morris
8. Central Connecticut State
9. St. Francis (PA)
10. Monmouth
11. Quinnipiac

PAC 10 Media Poll

Note: First place votes in parenthesis.

Team	Points
1. Stanford (36)	369
2. Arizona	298
3. Washington	277
4. UCLA	271
5. California (1)	253
6. Arizona State	150
6. Oregon	150
8. USC	144
9. Washington State	65
10. Oregon State	56

Patriot League Coaches Poll

Note: First place votes in parenthesis.

Team	Points
1. Lafayette (5)	35
2. Navy (2)	31
3. Bucknell	27
4. Lehigh	18
5. Holy Cross	17
6. Colgate	12
7. Army	7

Southeastern Conference Media Poll

Note: First place votes in parenthesis.

EAST	
Team	Points
1. Kentucky (24)	159
2. Tennessee (3)	129
3. South Carolina	96
4. Georgia	92
5. Florida	67
6. Vanderbilt	33

WEST	
Team	Points
1. Arkansas (25)	160
2. Auburn (1)	114
3. Mississippi (1)	108
4. Mississippi State	69

NCAA Conference by Conference Pre - season Polls

5. Alabama 63
6. LSU 58

Conference champion: Kentucky.

Southland Conference

Coaches

Coaches	Sports Information Directors
1. Southwest Texas	1. Southwest Texas
2. Texas - San Antonio	2. Northeast Louisiana
3. Northeast Louisiana	3. Texas - San Antonio
4. Lamar	4. Lamar
5. Nicholls State	5. Nicholls State
6. Texas - Arlington	6. Texas - Arlington
7. McNeese State	7. Stephen F. Austin
Stephen F. Austin	8. McNeese State
9. Southeastern Louisiana	9. Northwestern State
10. Northwester State	10. Sam Houston State
11. Sam Houston State	Southeastern Louisiana

Southwestern Athletic Conference Media Poll

Note: First place votes in parenthesis.

Team	Points
1. Alcorn State (3)	52
Southern (3)	52
3. Grambling (1)	50
4. Texas Southern (1)	45
5. Alabama State	43
6. Jackson State	34
7. Mississippi Valley State	22
8. Prairie View A & M	14
9. Arkansas Pine Bluff	12

Sun Belt Conference Coaches Poll

Note: First place votes in parenthesis.

Team	Points
1. Arkansas State (3)	51
Florida International (2)	51
Louisiana Tech (3)	51
4. Southwestern Louisiana	46
5. Arkansas Little - Rock	33
6. South Alabama	24
7. New Orleans	17
8. Western Kentucky	15

Trans America Athletic Conference Poll

(voted on by coaches, sports information directors and media)

- Georgia State
- Central Florida
- Samford
- Jacksonville
- Centenary

- Stetson
- Florida Atlantic
- Mercer
- Jacksonville State
- Troy State
- Campbell

Western Athletic Conference Media Poll

Note: First place votes in parenthesis.

PACIFIC DIVISION

Team	Points
1. Utah (23)	228
2. New Mexico (5)	208
3. Fresno State	174
4. Hawai'i	140
5. Brigham Young	98
6. UTEP	97
7. San Diego State	92
8. San Jose State	43

MOUNTAIN DIVISION

Team	Points
1. TCU (14)	211
2. UNLV (13)	209
3. Tulsa (1)	170
4. SMU	137
5. Wyoming	130
6. Colorado State	107
7. Rice	76
8. Air Force	40

West Coast Conference Coaches Poll

Note: First place votes in parenthesis.

Team	Points
1. Gonzaga (3)	54
2. Pepperdine (3)	52
3. Saint Mary's (1)	50
Santa Clara (1)	50
5. San Francisco	31
6. San Diego	21
7. Portland	20
8. Loyola Marymount	10

NCAA Women and WNBA News, contd.

(Continued from page 4)

teams with the same record will be broken using the WNBA playoff tiebreakers.

The 1999 WNBA Draft will be held on Tuesday, April 27 and consist of four rounds.

Big 12 and Conference USA Signings As of November 13th

Big 12 Signings

BAYLOR

Wendell Greenleaf, 6-3, 190, G, Houston, Texas (North Shore HS) - Rated as the No. 2 player in the state by the Texas Bluechip Scouting Service and is a top 100 player in the nation as listed by Van Coleman Recruiting Service.

KANSAS STATE

Quentin Buchanan, 6-7, G, Junction City, Kan. (Junction City HS) -- Shot 57 percent from the field while averaging 15 points and eight rebounds per game as a junior. Buchanan will be the second Junction City product on the Wildcat roster. Travis Reynolds is a freshman forward for the Wildcats this season.

Donnie Wallace, 6-9, F, Goddard, Kan. (Goddard HS) -- Averaged 20.5 points and 8.9 rebounds per game at Goddard High School last year. A Street & Smith's High School Honorable Mention All-American, Wallace is listed as one of the top 25 power forwards in the nation by The Sporting News.

NEBRASKA

Brian Conklin, 6-11, 205, C, Hubbard, Ohio (Hubbard HS) - Has seen time at all five positions on the court in his high school career. Averaged 19 points, 13 rebounds and 3.5 assists as a junior. Has an excellent shooting touch for a big man, hitting 39 percent of his 3-pointers last season and 82 percent of his free throws throughout his prep career. Hubbard was 16-4 record last season in Division II, Ohio's second-largest class.

OKLAHOMA

Jarrett Hart, 6-3, 205, G, Little Rock, Ark. (Central HS) -- He averaged 14.0 points, 7.8 rebounds, 5.3 assists and 1.8 steals per game as a junior last year when he earned all-conference and all-state honors.

Hollis Price, 6-1, 160, G, New Orleans (St. Augustine HS) - He averaged 17.5 points, 5.5 assists and 4.5 rebounds per game last season as a junior at St. Augustine High School and was named the MVP of the 17-Under National AAU Tournament in Orlando, Fla., over the summer. He is widely regarded as one of the top 50 high school seniors in the country. In fact, Midwest Basketball rates Price as the top player in Louisiana.

Ebi Ere, 6-6, 200, F, Tulsa, Okla. (McClain HS) -- Midwest Basketball selected the forward as the 1998-99 Oklahoma preseason player of the year.

TEXAS

Roosevelt Brown, 6-3, 175, G, Duncanville, Texas (Duncanville HS) - A combo guard who ranked as the fourth-best high school prospect in the state of Texas by Mike Kunistadt's Texas Hoops. Averaged 16.3 points and 6.0 assists per game as a junior while leading his team to a 29-6 record. A two-year starter.

Chris Ogden, 6-7, 215, F, Seminole, Texas (Seminole HS) - Ranked as the 15th-best wing forward in the nation by Full Court. Rated as the 72nd overall prospect in the nation by Hoop Scoop Magazine. A three-time all-state performer who averaged 18.3 points, 10.6 rebounds, and 7.3 assists per game while leading his team to a 30-6 record during his junior season. Has posted 25 career triple-doubles during his career, including 11 last year.

William Wyatt, 6-7, 220, F, South Grand Prairie, Texas (South Grand Prairie HS) - Knee injury forced him to miss the majority of his junior season. Listed as the 25th small forward by The Sporting News. First freshman ever to start for South Grand Prairie HS. Averaged 12.5 points and 10.5 rebounds in his first nine games before tearing his ACL in his right knee.

TEXAS A & M

Bernard King, 6-5, G, Gibsland, La. (Gibsland Coleman HS) - 39th best prep prospect in the country by Bob Gibbons' All-Star Sports and is rated as the 59th best prospect by Clark Francis' Hoop Scoop. Averaged 30.2 points, 7.0 assists and 8.0 rebounds as a junior last season as his team went 40-4.

Carlton Brown, San Antonio, Texas (Jay HS/Temple [Texas] JC) - Averaged 17.5 points and 8.4 rebounds at Temple (Texas) Junior College as a freshman last season earning first-team all-conference and second-team all-region honors. Ranked a one of the top 30 junior college players in the country by Rick Ball's JUCO Report.

TEXAS TECH

Ronald Hobbs, 6-6, 195, G/F, Fort Worth, Texas (Everman HS) -- Plays both guard and forward, although Everman lists him as a forward. Averaged 12.2 points and 6.4 rebounds for Everman's 31-4 squad last year. He started 27 games on a senior-laden club and ranked second on the team in rebounding (6.4).

Conference USA Signings

CINCINNATI

B.J. Grove, 6'11 center, Grove City, PA (George Junior Republic HS)—Averaged 16 points and 10 rebounds while lead-

Big 12 and Conference USA Signings

As of November 13th

ing his school to the Pennsylvania Class AA state championship last season, earning honorable mention all-state accolades. During the summer, he made the Top 20 all-star game at the ABCD Camp. Rated as the No. 7 high school center prospect in the nation by Prep Spotlight Magazine, which also ranked him as the 47th-best prospect overall. He is rated No. 57 on Hoop Scoop's most recent high school senior rankings.

Leonard Stokes, 6'5, G, Buffalo, NY, (Turner / Carroll HS)—A two-time all-Western New York selection, Stokes averaged 23.1 points, 8.3 rebounds and 6.2 assists last season at Turner / Carroll High School to earn first team All-Catholic honors for the third straight year.

DEPAUL

Steven Hunter, 7-0, C, Chicago, IL (Proviso East High)—

George Baker, 6-3, G, Lexington, Ky., who averaged 19.3 points, 7.6 rebounds and seven assists a game last year.

Joe Tulley, 6-3, G, Rockford Boylan, who averaged 19.3 points a game and shot 52 percent from the floor last season.

HOUSTON

Chris Andersen, 6-11, C / F, Blinn Junior College—Averaged 10.1 ppg, 7.7 rpg, and 4.7 bpg last season. Ranked one of the nation's top 4 junior college power forwards by the Sporting News before this season.

Antonio Falu, 6'5, G, Houston, TX (Waltrip HS)—He averaged 22.1 ppg, 8.7 apg, 6.1 rpg, and 3.3 spg last season in helping Waltrip win the state 4A championship. Named the top player in Texas by Texas Hoops as well as no. 50 according to FastBreak Magazine.

George Williams, 6'7.5, F, Houston, TX (Elsik HS)—He averaged 13 ppg, 15.3 rpg, and 4.1 bpg last season. Ranked no. 34 in the country by The Sporting News.

SOUTH FLORIDA

Reggie Kohn, 6'1, G, (Lake Howell HS)—averaged 18.2 points and 9.3 assists as a junior at Lake Howell, was also a third team all-state selection and the Seminole County Player of the Year a season ago.

Gerrick Morris, 6'9 F / C, West Palm Beach, FL (West Palm Beach Wellington HS)—Averaged 10.0 points, 7.1 boards and 6.0 blocks last year. Unlimited potential.

Adopt an NBA Player Program, contd.

(Continued from page 2)

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Oh yes, contributions are *not* tax-deductible.

Around the Rim: News on NCAA Hoops

As of November 16th.

DUQUESNE EXTENDS PORTER'S CONTRACT

November 12, Duquesne gave men's basketball coach **Darelle Porter** a contract extension through 2001 even before he coached his first game.

Porter and the school agreed in principle to a three-year extension and will work out specifics, including salary, over the next few months.

Porter, who at 29 is the second-youngest men's coach in Division I, was initially given a one-year contract after being hired to succeed **Scott Edgar** in April.

Duquesne athletic director **Brian Colleary** indicated then that the school would review Porter's status after the season was over.

"Darelle has done an impressive job in a short period of time, and his recruiting efforts have been outstanding," Colleary said.

"The university has decided to show support for Darelle at this time so our young program will not be distracted by speculation regarding contractual status during the upcoming season."

NCAA DECLARES MARBURY INELIGIBLE

November 10, Rhode Island freshman **Zach Marbury**, the younger brother of NBA star

Stephon and one of the most prized recruits in last year's high school graduating class, was ruled ineligible by the NCAA.

Rhode Island will appeal the decision of the NCAA eligibility committee, which offered no explanation other than "academic reasons." The committee will hear the school's plea and decide the fate of the former New York City high school sensation on November 18th.

Marbury, a 6-foot-3 point guard with outside shooting skills who graduated from Brooklyn's Lincoln High School, has had his scholarship temporarily revoked while awaiting next week's decision. He spent the summer attending classes at Milford Academy in Connecticut.

TEXAS' VAZQUEZ TO UNDERGO SURGERY

November 9, University of Texas senior guard **DeJuan "Chico" Vazquez** will have surgery to repair a torn meniscus in his left knee, team trainer **Tom McVan** announced.

"After Chico complained of pain and swelling in the knee over the weekend, we performed an MRI and found a minor tear to the meniscus in his left knee," McVan said. "After discussing the options with Dr. Windler and Chico, we decided to go forward with the surgery now to prevent any further damage in the future. I would say he would not be ready to see game

action for two weeks after the surgery, but Chico is a very tough individual. It would not surprise me to see him playing earlier."

Chico will probably miss the Longhorns opener at Houston on the 17th; however, he may return for Longhorns home opener against South Florida on the 21st.

Junior guard **William Clay** will get the starting nod in place of Vazquez.

KANSAS STATE CUTS STARTER *November 9*, **Duane Davis**, a Kansas State starter and member of last year's Big 12 All-Newcomer team, has been dismissed from the Kansas State team for disciplinary reasons, coach **Tom Asbury** announced.

"All I can say is that is it was for disciplinary reasons," basketball sports information director **Craig Pinkerton** said. Asbury would not comment.

The 5-foot-11 Davis averaged 7.3 points, 3.3 assists, was 83 percent in free throw attempts and made his 105th assist last year for the 17-12 Wildcats.

Davis, who grew up in Los Angeles, has had several brushes with the law since he started his basketball career at Arizona State three years ago.

He transferred to Kansas State in 1996 after a dormitory incident that year involving two women at

Arizona State. Davis was never charged. Three others were charged with rape, but authorities dropped the charges for lack of evidence.

In January 1997, Davis was arrested in Manhattan for reckless driving after hitting two cars. On Dec. 8, his 21st birthday, he was arrested for driving under the influence of alcohol. Asbury suspended him for one game.

As a sophomore, Davis had the third-highest assist-to-turnover ratio in the Big 12 with 2.11 assists per turnover. He also set a school record for 3-point field goal percentage in a game when he went 6-for-6 against Coastal Carolina. And he finished the 1997-98 season with the team's second highest 3-point accuracy at .368 going 35-for-95.

Chris Griffin will likely replace Davis in the starting lineup, Pinkerton said.

TWO UF PLAYERS SUSPENDED

November 7, Florida point guard **Eddie Shannon** and forward **Major Parker** will miss the start of the regular season after receiving suspensions Saturday for summer play not sanctioned by the NCAA.

Shannon was suspended for two games and will sit out games November 16 against Georgia Southern and November 20 at Florida State. Parker will miss only the season opener.

Shannon, a senior who has

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Around the Rim: News on NCAA Hoops

As of November 16th.

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started all but four games in his Florida career, averaged 11.6 points and 4.2 assists as the Gators went 14-15 last season.

Parker averaged 5.3 points and 2.1 rebounds as the Gators' top freshman last year.

The suspensions mean Florida will be without three players when the season starts. **Kenyan Weeks**, the Gators' top returning scorer, will sit out the first seven games after being charged with misdemeanor battery by a female acquaintance.

CINCINNATI LOSES 3 SCHOLARSHIPS

November 5, Cincinnati lost three basketball scholarships and was put on two years' probation by the NCAA for wide-ranging violations in coach **Bob Huggins'** program.

However, the university avoided a postseason ban and was cleared to reinstate assistant coach **John Loyer**, who was involved in some of the most major violations.

Huggins has not been directly named in any of the dozens of violations.

The NCAA maintained there was a lack of institutional control, resulting in violations involving numerous players, a manager and an

assistant coach.

The Bearcats will lose three scholarships between 1999 and 2001 and be limited in their recruiting.

The sanctions against Cincinnati are in addition to the recruiting restrictions the university put in place last summer as part of a self-imposed one-year probation.

"It is a serious case," said Yvonne Slatton, acting head of the NCAA's Committee on Infractions. "We considered it a serious case and I think the penalties imposed are consistent with that."

In its report, the committee decided that more punishment was warranted in addition to the self-imposed probation "given the significant violations over a lengthy period of time."

If any further violations occur within the next five years, the program will be subject to much more severe penalties under the NCAA's repeat-violator provisions.

The sanctions came 22 months after the university began looking into the eligibility of point guard **Charles Williams**, an investigation that expanded and found numerous problems in the program.

In a letter to the NCAA last summer, Huggins called the violations inadvertent mistakes and acknowledged he bears ultimate responsibility.

Cincinnati's problems were first uncovered during the 1996-97 basketball season when questions were raised about Williams' eligibility.

In the months that followed, the university uncovered violations involving a manager, Loyer, boosters and players. The manager was fired, Loyer was placed on leave, players were suspended and supervision of the program was tightened.

The university's finding prompted the NCAA to conclude there was a lack of institutional control over Huggins' program, leaving it subject to major penalties.

The university responded by doing an about-face last June in hopes of softening the blow.

Athletic director **Bob Goin** withdrew the university's admission to some of the violations and contested the lack-of-control allegation. He also imposed a one-year probation -- essentially, a limit on recruiting -- and hoped that would appease the association.

The NCAA's Committee on Infractions heard testimony in the case last August. Williams received what amounted to a one-year suspension from the NCAA for receiving improper academic and financial assistance. He withdrew from the school and has filed a lawsuit claiming the university should have

followed the NCAA rules.

K STATE LOSES PACO
November 3, Kansas state basketball coach **Tom Asbury** announced that **Ayome "Paco" May**, who has played in every game since his freshman year, will miss his senior season for health reasons.

May, who has played both guard and forward for the Wildcats, had to quit the team because of a "recurring intestinal condition," Asbury said.

The 6-foot-5 May, from Lancaster, Texas, averaged 7.6 points a game last season. He was named to the Big Eight All-Freshman Team his first season at Kansas State.

Asbury says May will remain on scholarship and graduate in the spring.

NCAA GRANTS SETTLES SIXTH SEASON

November 3, The NCAA granted Iowa forward **Jess Settles** a sixth season of eligibility, athletics director **Bob Bowsby** said Tuesday.

Bowsby said Settles, who practiced with the team on Tuesday, must still be cleared by the Big Ten Conference. Bowsby, however, didn't expect a problem.

"I anticipate no difficulty there," Bowsby said in a statement. "Once the NCAA gives approval, the Big Ten typically goes along. I don't have any reason to believe that

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Around the Rim: News on NCAA Hoops

As of November 16th.

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won't occur in this case."

Settles' request for a sixth season because of back problems was rejected by the NCAA a few weeks ago, but officials reversed their decision Tuesday, Bowsby said.

Settles, a 6-foot-7 forward, did not play last season and was limited to just three games in 1996-97. In his sophomore year in 1994-95, Settles missed seven games and did not start in seven others because of his back.

Settles was the Big Ten Conference's Freshman of the Year in 1993-94 and led the Hawkeyes in scoring and rebounding the following season.

MEMPHIS SUSPENDS TWO
November 3, Shamel Jones and Kelly Wise have been suspended indefinitely from the Memphis basketball team by coach **Tic Price** for violating team policy.

Price refused to comment on the reason except to say it was an "in-house" matter he wanted kept "within the family."

Jones is a 6-foot-9 sophomore forward who transferred from Georgetown and sat out last season. He has been projected as a starter at small forward.

Wise, a 6-10 forward-

center, is a freshman from Fort Walton Beach, Fla. Wise has been Memphis' most imposing shot-blocker.

TUBBY SUSPENDS THREE
November 2, Kentucky head coach Tubby Smith announced the suspensions of three players. The players will sit out the Wildcats' first four games, including two regular-season games.

The suspension of forward **Myron Anthony**, guard **Ryan Hogan** and center **Jamaal Magloire** had been expected since June, when Smith said all three would be punished for misdeeds off the court.

Smith waited until the day before the Wildcats' exhibition opener to announce the details.

All the games to be missed are at home: Tuesday against the California All-Stars, Nov. 11 against the Australian All-Stars, Nov. 17 against Eastern Kentucky and Nov. 19 against Mercer.

The suspensions will be over before the Wildcats play in the Puerto Rico Shootout on Thanksgiving weekend. They have December games against Kansas, Miami, Indiana, Maryland, Duke and Georgia Tech.

Smith said Anthony will miss additional games because of academic problems and will not be allowed to travel to any first-semester road games that would cause him to miss class.

Although Smith did not list the games Anthony will miss, they could include the Puerto Rico tournament and trips to Chicago, where the Wildcats play Kansas in the Great Eight, and Louisville, where Kentucky plays Indiana.

In June, after learning Magloire had been in a car in Louisville with two men arrested on drug possession charges, one for heroin possession, Smith said on local radio that the players had damaged the image of the program, which won its seventh national title in March.

In May, Hogan was arrested on the drunken driving charge and Anthony came forward to admit driving teammate Wayne Turner's car during a September 1997 hit-and-run accident in Lexington.

Anthony's admission came shortly after Turner himself took the blame for the accident in an effort to resolve the controversy, which had drawn national attention.

Magloire, a junior, is expected to start at center for the Wildcats.

Smith has said Hogan, a sophomore, is in contention to start at shooting guard.

OU LOSES GUARD FOR THE SEASON
November 2, Oklahoma's basketball team has lost junior guard **Kelley Newton** to a season-ending knee

injury, coach **Kelvin Sampson** said.

Newton tore the anterior cruciate and medial collateral ligaments during an intrasquad scrimmage Saturday.

Surgery is scheduled for later this month.

The 6-foot-2 Newton is a transfer from Neosho (Kan.) Community College, where he averaged 17.7 points, 4.3 assists and 3.9 rebounds last season. He was expected to start at shooting guard this year.

"He was playing well. He could shoot it and pass it," Sampson said. "He took it tough because he was playing so well. We're not as good a team without him. So, it's a step backward."

CBS TO OFFER TOURNEY GAMES ON DIRECTV
October 27, In an effort to bring more NCAA tournament games to more fans, CBS and DirecTV will put out-of-market basketball games on satellite television.

The deal, which will be evaluated after a year, is a small step in delivering viewers more choice of which games to watch during the tournament. DirecTV currently is in only 4.1 million homes.

DirecTV will show the 34-36 games in each market that are not scheduled to be on the local CBS affiliate. The

(Continued on page 15)

Around the Rim: News on NCAA Hoops

As of November 16th.

(Continued from page 14)
network will continue to cover the 63-game tournament in the same way, offering one game of regional interest in each time slot with limited switching to other games.

CBS and the NCAA -- which will share in the undisclosed rights fee paid by DirecTV -- decided not to offer pay-per-view games to other satellite systems or local cable operators, as ABC and ESPN do for college football games. Cable pay-per-view could be available in close to 70 million homes.

DirecTV will not disclose the pricing system for the games until early 1999. It could offer fans the ability to purchase the entire tournament or games on an a la carte basis or both.

"We will try to make it as fan friendly and simple as possible," said **Eddy Hartenstein**, president of DirecTV.

The deal can't guarantee fans that they can see every game in its entirety. If CBS switches an audience to a more competitive game, fans will no longer be able to see the game that was pre-empted.

DirecTV also will make the pay-per-view packages available to roughly 30,000 sports bars and commercial establishments it services.

However, CBS will scramble the signal it transmits for Tournament games; meaning that the games cannot be seen by owners of the larger C-band satellite dishes or on min-dishes whose owners don't subscribe to DirecTV.

WAC DEPARTING MEMBERS CHOOSE MOUNTAIN WEST

October 26, The eight schools leaving the Western Athletic Conference have named their new NCAA Division I-A league the Mountain West Conference, the schools announced.

"The Mountain West Conference name ... brings to mind the geographic setting of our conference," said Colorado State University president **Albert C. Yates**, the president and treasurer of the new conference.

The schools which decided last summer they were leaving the WAC to launch the Mountain West are Colorado State, Air Force, Brigham Young, Nevada-Las Vegas, New Mexico, San Diego State, Utah and Wyoming. They cited the loss of traditional rivalries, rising travel costs and insufficient revenue growth as reasons for leaving the country's only 16-school conference.

The new conference officially begins July 1, 1999.

Craig Thompson, commissioner of the Sun Belt Conference, was named to lead the new league on Oct. 15.

The Mountain West Conference has not selected its headquarters, but the prospective sites reportedly have been narrowed to Las Vegas and Colorado Springs.

The schools staying in the WAC are Southern Methodist, San Jose State, Fresno State, Hawaii, Rice, Texas Christian, Texas-El Paso and Tulsa.

UL'S NATE JOHNSON SUSPENDED

October 26, University of Louisville forward **Nate Johnson** will miss the Cardinals' first two games of the 1998-99 basketball season for disciplinary reasons.

Johnson was arrested early Sunday morning (Oct. 25) and charged with disorderly conduct and public intoxication at a Louisville establishment.

"My usual policy is to protect the privacy of our players and handle any disciplinary measures internally," said U of L Men's Basketball Coach **Denny Crum**. "However, this is the second time Nate's actions have become a public issue and I believe our fans need to be informed of the actions I will take."

"I took clear measures privately to address Nate's offense which occurred in June (Johnson received a citation for marijuana possession on June 5). Even with the legal proceedings of this current alleged offense incomplete, I am choosing to

institute disciplinary actions.

"First, Nate will be suspended from play for our first two games. Further, he will be required to submit to two substance abuse assessments -- one through our ongoing internal education and treatment program and one by an outside agency. He will also be required to complete any requirements as a result of his assessments.

"Although Nate is already active in our CardsCARE program, I am requiring him to participate in additional community service activities. He will also receive further disciplinary measures that I will not make public. He will be required to complete all to remain a member of our basketball team. I will not tolerate or enable any inappropriate alcohol, drug or illegal behavior from my student-athletes."

Johnson's suspension will force him to miss U of L's Nov. 22 season opener against Western Kentucky and the Cardinals' Dec. 5 visit to Mississippi.

Merely Window Dressing, contd.

(Continued from page 1)
dressing on the season, not the main course. Fortunately, basketball has the sense to determine its champion on the playing field and not with some ridiculous formula like its football counterpart.

ROUNDBALL “RIM” SHOTS

Roundball Features

TRIVIA

LAST MONTH’S QUESTION:

What school handed legendary UCLA coach **John Wooden** his final defeat?

ANSWER:

The University of Washington Huskies defeated Coach Wooden’s UCLA Bruins 103 - 81 in a PAC 8 contest.

THIS MONTH’S QUESTION:

Which conference became the first in college basketball history to have seven teams ranked in the AP poll two weeks in a row last season?

Did You Know?

The victory for Washington ended a 12 year losing streak for the Huskies against UCLA dating back to 1963. The Bruins later won their 10th NCAA title under the “Wizard of Westwood”. Coach Wooden re-tired after the championship.

TIP - INS

AP Pre - season All America Team Named

Notes: Voted on by a 72 member media panel that selects the weekly college basketball poll.

- RICHARD HAMILTON, 6’7, g / f, UConn: 66 votes.
- MATEEN CLEAVES, 6’2, g, Michigan State: 58 votes.
- ELTON BRAND, 6’8, f / c, Duke: 55 votes.
- LEE NAILON, 6’8, f, Texas Christian, 50 votes.
- ANDRE MILLER, 6’2, g, Utah, 44 votes.

Others receiving votes:

Ed Cota, North Carolina; Baron Davis, UCLA; Khalid El-Amin, Connecticut; Obinna Ekezie, Maryland; Evan Eschmeyer, Northwestern; Jumaine Jones, Georgia; Trajan Langdon, Duke; Arthur Lee, Stanford; Todd MacCullough, Washington; Mike Madsen, Stanford; BJ McKie, South Carolina; Lamar Odom, Rhode Island; Scott Padgett, Kentucky; James Posey, Xavier; Laron Profit, Maryland; Omar Sneed, Memphis; Wally Szczerbiak, Miami, Ohio; Jason Terry, Arizona; Jamel Thomas, Providence; Kenny Thomas, New Mexico; Tim Young, Stanford.

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- * The December newsletter will be available in mid to late December featuring college and, if any, NBA news.

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