

HOOP HISTORIANS NEWS

Committed to promoting goodwill for basketball

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FAVORITE COLLEGE HOOP TEAMS ROLLING

With the college basketball season fully underway, a number of local favorites to the Hoop Historians have emerged among the nation's best. With nearly half the membership from the Land of



Lincoln, the #1 ranked Illini are off to what could be their best start ever. Hoop

Historian Bruce Ziemer, who has degrees from both Illinois and Kentucky, is looking for both of his alma maters to be represented in Saint Louis this April. The East Coast contingent is watching the



emergence of the Pitt Panthers, who have won their first ten games of the



season. Some of the West Coast's favorite teams may be looking for league play to start their post-season quest, but kudos must go



out to the USC Trojans' football team on winning back-to-back national championships. Fight On!



MEET
ME IN
SAINT
LOUIS
APRIL
2 & 4

HIGH SCORING GRINNELL TO PLAY ON ESPN2

You've got to see it to believe it. Grinnell (Iowa) College's popular men's basketball team will host Beloit College (Wis.), in the first regular-season NCAA Division III games to be televised nationally, when they play on **ESPN2 on Thursday, Feb. 3, 2005, at 8 p.m. CST.** For the past 11 years, Grinnell's teams have led all playing levels in scoring and three-point shooting. Their wildly unorthodox full-court pressing, up-tempo system utilizes upwards of 16 players on any given night and is responsible for the program's gaudy offensive numbers. Last season's squad scored an NCAA record 126.2 points per game. Basketball purists should take note and be sure to catch the high flying action and set your video recorders to ESPN2 on February 3rd.

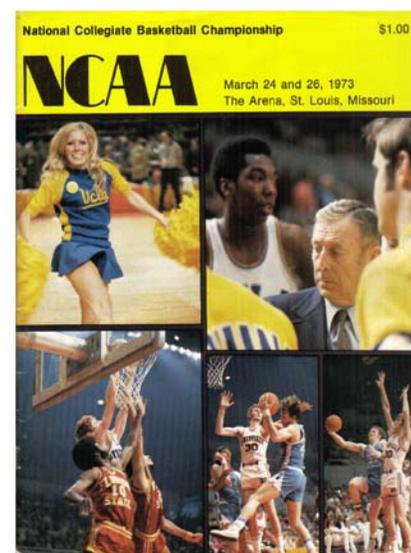
NEW FEATURES COMING TO HOOPHISTORIANS.COM

Be sure to check out the Hoop Historians website for the introduction of the Featured Hoop Historian of the Month and the Friend of the Hoop Historians of the Month. The features will give an in depth biography of members and friends of the organization. Also, game by-game chronicles of Al Sack's NCAA tournament streak of 100+ Final Four games will be documented on the website. The sixteen person Hoop Historians membership have combined for over 300 Final Fours dating back over the past forty years. Follow the group at www.hoophistorians.com

RETURN TO THE

"GATEWAY TO THE WEST"

With March Madness beginning less than two months away, the Final Four will return to Saint Louis for only the third time. The Gateway City hosted the 1973 event at the Saint Louis Arena. UCLA won their seventh straight title beating Memphis State 87-66.



The 1973 Final Four Program cost \$1

In 1978 Kentucky defeated Duke 94-88 at the Checkerdome. The attendance for those two combined title games was 22,817 and the 1973 championship game ticket cost just ten dollars. This year's games will be played at the Edward Jones Dome. Tickets for 2005 Final Four are face value priced at \$65 and \$55 per session.



From the Al Sack archives, a 1973 ticket stub from his first Final Four