

Western Kentucky University

TopSCHOLAR®

Faculty/Staff Personal Papers

WKU Archives Records

1951

UA37/5 Hilltoppers Scrapbook

E. A. Diddle

Follow this and additional works at: https://digitalcommons.wku.edu/fac_staff_papers



Part of the [Sports Studies Commons](#)

This Other is brought to you for free and open access by TopSCHOLAR®. It has been accepted for inclusion in Faculty/Staff Personal Papers by an authorized administrator of TopSCHOLAR®. For more information, please contact topscholar@wku.edu.



Scrap Book

Hilltoppers Crush Wesleyan 89-45

Jack Turner Is Hot Shot With 25 Points

By Bert Borbone

The only point-a-minute water boy in Western history—that's Jack Turner.

The Hoosier hot-shot from Bedford was forced to serve as co-water boy with Gene Rhodes during the 1949 National Invitation Tournament. They were only freshmen and ineligible to play in the big elimination.

But as a sophomore last night, Turner gave his battered water bucket to Kentucky Wesleyan and dared the Panthers to put him out as he sparked Western to a bulging 89-45 victory in the home opener.

A CAPACITY house of 4,500 roared their approval as Turner stacked up 25 points with an almost faultless shooting performance.

Maneuvering with the deceptive shuffle of a man with two loaded suitcases trying to catch a moving train, Turner rifled home nine of 11 shots from the field and ripped seven of eight free throws.

He had to be on his toes to better the team percentage of the close-in shooting Toppers, who racked 40 per cent from the floor. The Toppers barely missed tying the all-time Western home floor record of 90 points against collegiate opposition, even though the regulars played less than 25 minutes as a unit.

The towering, pressing Diddlemen held out-manned Wesleyan to 11 field goals, six of them from far out.

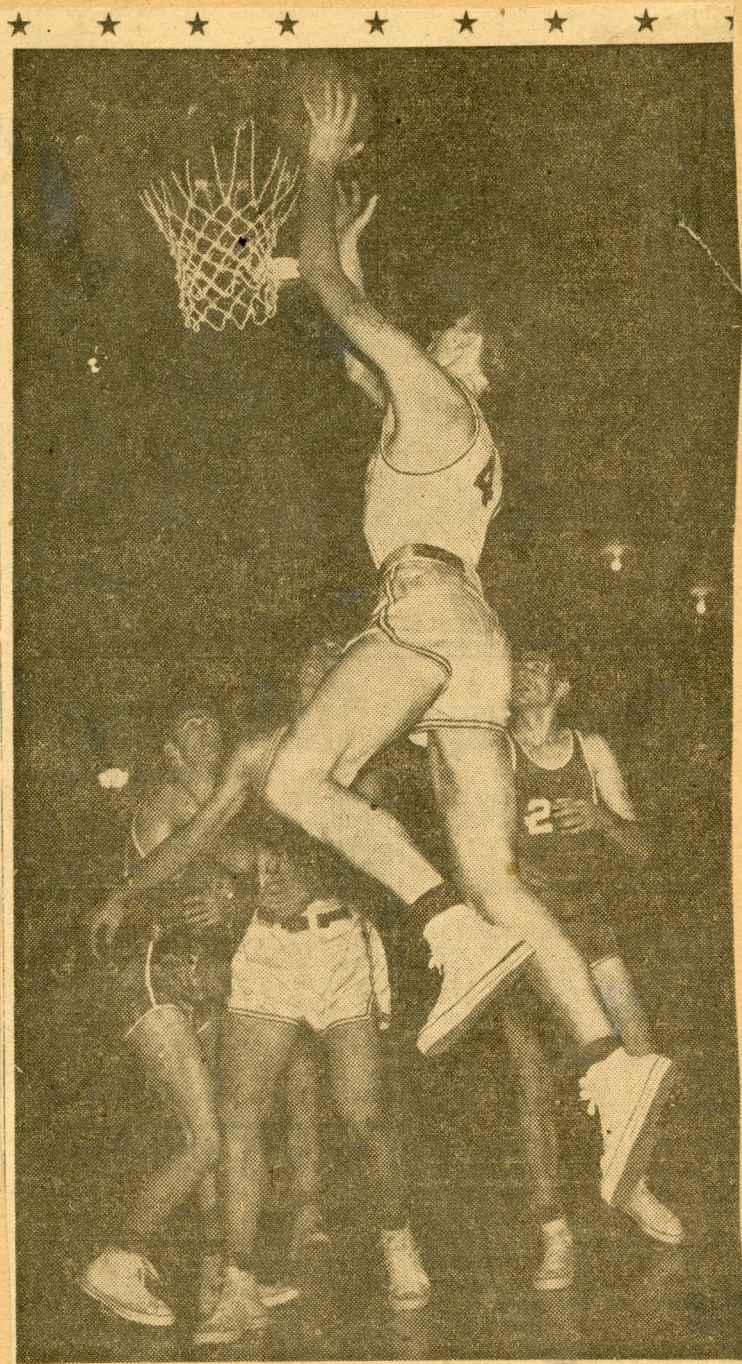
The Panthers opened like last year, jamming the middle on the fast break to hold Western to a 10-6 lead after eight minutes. Eddie Diddle, Gene Rhodes and Bob Lavoy oiled up the attack then and with 11 minutes gone the Toppers led 16-6.

That's when Turner entered. When he left with 12½ minutes to play, the Diddlemen, their fast break humming now, were rolling along on a 66-32 bulge. They coasted in on that momentum.

THE MOST RAFTER-raising bucket of the night came just before intermission. Turner took a rebound pass at midcourt and dribbled for the corner. There he cut, faked a shot with his head, and was under for a lay-up before Panther Guard Ed LaForge, who went for the fake, had come back down to the floor.

Rhodes, who settled down after a shaky start, trailed in scoring with a dozen markers. Lavoy added 11, Diddle nine and Cate and Joe Johnson seven apiece. Fourteen of the 17 Toppers seeing action scored.

Twenty-one Western field goals.



Drive-in lay-ups like this one Western's Buddy Cate is preparing to dunk highlighted action last night as the Hilltoppers opened their home season against Kentucky Wesleyan. Standing under Cate is Topper Jack Turner. Wesleyan players visible are (from left) Bob Curtis and Norman Christopher.

Western Thumps Wesleyan 89-45

From Tuesday's late editions

Bowling Green, Ky., Dec. 5.—Coach Ed Diddle unveiled a new Western shooting sensation here tonight in sophomore Jack Turner as the Hilltoppers opened their home campaign with an 89-45 triumph over Kentucky Wesleyan before 4,500 fans.

Turner led the Hilltoppers to their second victory with 25 points as he lived up to the promise he showed last season as a freshman.

He was not alone, however. Gene Rhodes, another sophomore making his bid for the guard spot held down last year by All-American Johnny Oldham, came through with a brilliant floor game reminiscent of the graduated Oldham. Rhodes was second in the Hilltopper scoring with 12 points.

The game opened slowly with the Hilltoppers sloppy in their ball handling, ragged in their floor play, and off in their shooting.

Lead By 48-19 at Half

But with 10 minutes gone, the big Western giants seemed to roll over and wake up when Turner

came in for Rip Gish. They rolled on to a 48-19 lead at halftime.

Two thousand general admission tickets to the Western-Bowling Green game Thursday night at the Armory will go on sale this morning at the Armory and Appel's. The price is \$1 each.

Fewer than 200 reserved seats remain for the game, according to Western Athletic Director Ed Diddle. One thousand general admission tickets will be placed on sale at the game.

It was the same story as the second half got underway with Rhodes and Turner leading the way. Big Bob Lavoy, Western's pivot man, who got 11 points tonight, and Buddy Cate, another towering Hilltopper, who made seven, controlled the ball off the backboards and gave the speedy guards a chance to get away with the fast break.

Eddie Diddle, Jr., son of the coach, started at a guard position opposite Rhodes and collected nine points. The injured John Givens, senior guard who has been troubled with a bad leg, saw only a few minutes' service.

With five minutes left in the game, Coach Diddle cleaned the floor of first stringers and sent in his freshmen.

The Hilltoppers had a shooting average of 40 per cent for the night. Kentucky Wesleyan had only a 19 per cent average as the Western giants refused to let them get off many good shots.

Bob Luttrell was high for the Panthers with 10 points.

Wesleyan	g.	f.	pf.	Western	g.	f.	pf.
Christopher f.	2	2	5	Gish f.	0	2	5
Luttrell f.	4	2	2	Cate f.	2	3	2
A. Curtis f.	0	0	0	Turner f.	9	7	2
Daniel f.	0	0	0	Waters f.	1	0	0
Rogers f.	1	1	0	Cowan f.	1	0	0
Shearer f.	1	2	5	Scott f.	0	1	1
Snedegar c.	1	2	5	Mezzanotte f.	0	0	2
Handren c.	0	0	0	Lavoy c.	5	1	1
Mahan g.	0	3	4	Johnson c.	3	1	3
B. Curtis g.	0	2	3	Wallheiser c.	1	1	0
La Forge g.	1	5	5	Rhodes g.	4	4	3
Williams g.	0	0	0	Diddle g.	4	1	4
Harrell g.	1	2	2	Givens g.	0	3	3
Hackworth	0	2	0	Gibson g.	1	0	0
				McGuire g.	1	1	0
				Beard g.	0	0	0
				White g.	0	0	1
Totals	11	23	31	Totals	32	25	27

Halftime score: Western 48, Wesleyan 19.

Free throws missed: Wesleyan—Mahan 3, B. Curtis, Snedegar, La Forge, Harrell, Shearer. Western—Rhodes, Lavoy 2, Diddle, Gish, Turner, Beard, Johnson 2, Wallheiser.

Western Gets Toughest Test By Bowling Green Thursday

By ROY STEINFORT

Western is playing basketball again this season. And Uncle Ed Diddle is still coaching the Hilltoppers.

So what else would you expect but a good team for the Bowling Green institution? It's been that way for 27 seasons now. There's no reason to believe that Uncle Ed's 28th season as Hilltopper coach will be any different than other years.

Since 1922 under Diddle's expert and colorful guidance, the Hilltoppers have won 488 games and lost 163 for a .750 winning average.

So if history repeats itself, and it always has for Diddle and Western, Hilltopper opponents are in for a cold, bleak winter.

"I don't think we're any stronger this year," said Diddle yesterday at Bowling Green. "We

will have more reserve strength this time."

But if Western is not any "weaker" than it was last season, it still will be a good season for the 'Toppers.

Last year Western won 24, lost four, captured the Ohio Valley Conference crown, and went to

the quarter-finals in the National Invitational Tournament at Madison Square Garden.

Already, Western has won two games, opening with a victory over Morehead and Monday night the 'Toppers beat Kentucky Wesleyan 89-45.

But Thursday night at the

Armory, Western will face a stern test of strength against Bowling Green University of Ohio. The Falcons are always a major basketball power. This year many basketball writers have picked the Ohio five to be the cream of the midwest.

Diddle so far has not picked out any particular starting five. The team is built around nine men—three sophomores, three juniors, and three seniors.

Nucleus of Squad

Gene Rhodes, Bob Lavoy, Eddie Diddle (Uncle Ed's son), Jack Turner, Buddy Cate, Johnny Givens, Rip Gish, Frank Wallheiser, and Joe Johnson are the nucleus of the squad, Diddle thinks.

He's been selecting his starting guards from Rhodes, Diddle, and Johnny Givens. Turner, Gish, Cate, and Johnson have been alternating at forwards. Lavoy has been the center, assisted by Wallheiser.

Rhodes is called a "great ball player" by Diddle. The Louisville boy does everything well on a basketball floor. He has all of the facilities to be great—speed, a good eye, deception and poise.

And the coach thinks Eddie, Jr., is a better-than-average player.

"He's tough on defense," the father-coach proudly but modestly explained. Diddle, the coach, really doesn't have to speak for Diddle the player.

Eddie will speak for himself. As a sophomore last year, he dropped in 128 points.

Givens, Diddle said, gives all of the indications of being one of the finest guards to ever wear 'Topper togs. He saw service last winter and scored 227 points to rank fifth among team scorers.

All-American Candidate

It's hard to miss Lavoy at center. He's 6-foot-7 and a strong candidate for All-American honors. He was the No. 1 man for the Western five offensively last year with 371 points.

He's practically unstoppable with his falling back hook shot and overhead jump tosses. "He is coming along nicely," Diddle added.

Wallheiser, a football end by trade, is a product of the Western intramural basketball program. He is plenty big, 6-5, and could be of valuable assistance as a relief man for Lavoy.

Diddle has four competent guards to call on. That's what he means by improved reserve strength.

Cate was a first string forward last year and tallied 250 points to rank fourth among team scorers. He's a dead shot from in close.

But he'll find plenty of opposition for a starting berth. Turner has been outstanding in practice and against Kentucky Wesleyan, he hit for 25 points.

Gish, a big rough 200-pounder who stands six five, plays both at forward and center. He gives the 'Toppers the height they need to control the boards. Offensively, he's not a slouch either. Gish ripped the net for 175 points last winter.

Bowling Green Boy

And Joe Johnson, a 6-foot-4 sophomore, is a hometown boy that Diddle is plenty proud of.

Diddle, for publication at least, doesn't believe his team is improved this year. From last year's squad, four men are missing—Johnny Oldham, Charles Parsley, Jim Bazzell and Ray Mann.

But he does believe that competition all along the line, and especially in the Ohio Valley Conference, will be stronger.

"Eastern has an all senior team. They should be one of the toughest in the conference. Morehead is strong. I know because we've played them."

"And I'm told that Murray looks good and Evansville also has an all-senior team. It looks like it'll be rough every time they throw up the ball this winter."

Western Battles B. G. Here Tonight

Duel of Centers Is Expected; Teams Split In Games Last Year

By JIMMY BROWN

Western's towering Hilltoppers and Bowling Green's taller Falcons meet tonight at the Armory in a collision that will have nationwide significance.

The 9:15 p.m. battle brings together two basketball teams ranked among the country's best in pre-season appraisals. And each was among the nation's 10 finest when play ended last season.

Both played in the National Invitational Tournament last year. The mighty Falcons from Ohio bounced St. Louis University out in the first round before losing in the semi-finals to the ultimate champs, San Francisco.

The capacity crowd that's expected to jam the Armory also will be treated to a battle between two giant centers, Bowling Green's 6-foot, 11-inch All-American Chuck Share and Western's 6-foot, 7-inch Bob Lavoy.

Collided Twice Last Season

This pair collided twice last season and came off with a stalemate.

At Bowling Green, Ky., Lavoy had the better of it. His great rebounding job led the Hilltoppers to a surprising 60-51 triumph over the Falcons.

Later, at Bowling Green, Ohio, the giant Share got even by sparking the Falcons to a 72-58 win over Coach Ed Diddle's crew.

That early season triumph over Bowling Green last year was the springboard that vaulted Western right back into the national picture. After losing Spears, McKinney, Ray, and Gibson from the season before, Western was a 20-point underdog and the Hilltoppers' cage hopes were at an all-time low.

But Diddle used that occasion to unveil the present crop of Hilltoppers he's depending on tonight. Buddy Cate, Rip Gish, and Gene Rhodes all took a prominent role in a victory Diddle called "one of the most satisfying in my career."

Probable starters for Western tonight are Cate and Jack Turner at forwards; Lavoy at center, and Rhodes and either Johnny Givens or Eddie Diddle, Jr., at guards. Givens and Diddle both have leg injuries but will be able to play.

Turner, a Bedford, Ind., product, is the Hilltoppers' latest scoring sensation. He collected 25 points as Western won its second game of the season Monday night by beating Wesleyan 89-45. Previously they had trimmed Morehead 58-47.

Turner will be playing before a large delegation from his hometown. Over 300 reserved seat tickets were sold in the Hoosier city this week.

Teaming with Share on the Falcons' starting five will be some of the flashiest players ever to appear in the Armory.

Game Facts

EVENT—Western Kentucky State Hilltoppers vs. Bowling Green University of Ohio, 9:15 p.m.; Jeffersonville High School vs. Fort Knox Post Team, 7:30 p.m.

PLACE—Jefferson County Armory.

TICKETS—1,000 general admissions at \$1; 500 high school tickets at 50 cents each, for first 500.

OFFICIALS—Hickman Duncan, Nashville; Robert Hoffman, Jasper.

RADIO—WGRC (Don Hill); **Television**—WAVE-TV (Bernie Bracker).

season. The other forward is Bob Green.

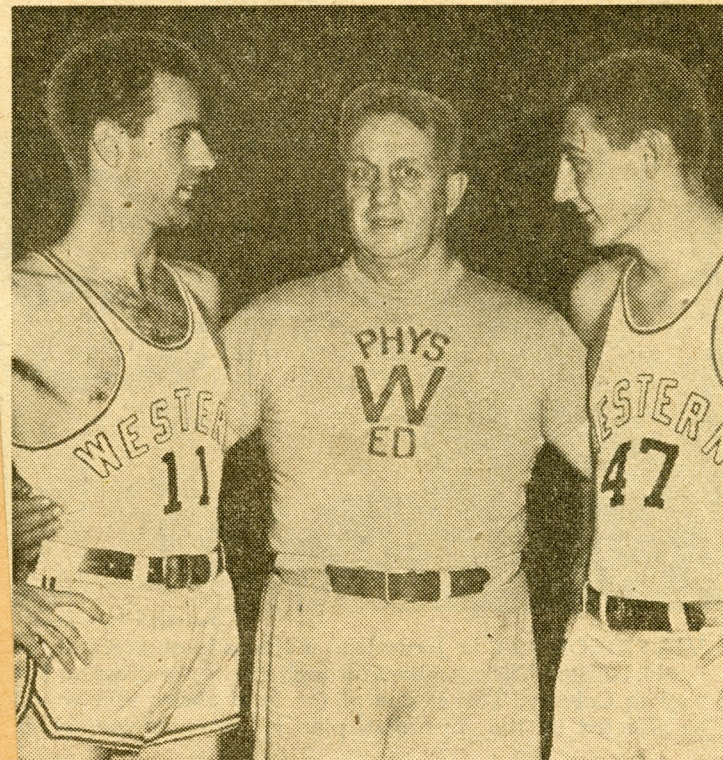
At guards, Falcon Coach Andy Anderson probably will start Gene Dudley and Bob "Peanuts" Long. Long, probably the speediest Falcon, is the leader of the fast break that scored 97 points as Bowling Green broke Madison Square Garden's scoring record last winter.

Bowling Green has won its first four starts by overwhelming margins. They beat Gustavus Adolphus 73-41, Bluffton 72-39, and last week scored 210 points in one night, beating Tiffin 111-32 and Hillsdale 99-40 in a double-header.

The Western-Bowling Green game will be preceded by a 7:30 clash between Jeffersonville's Red Devils and Fort Knox.

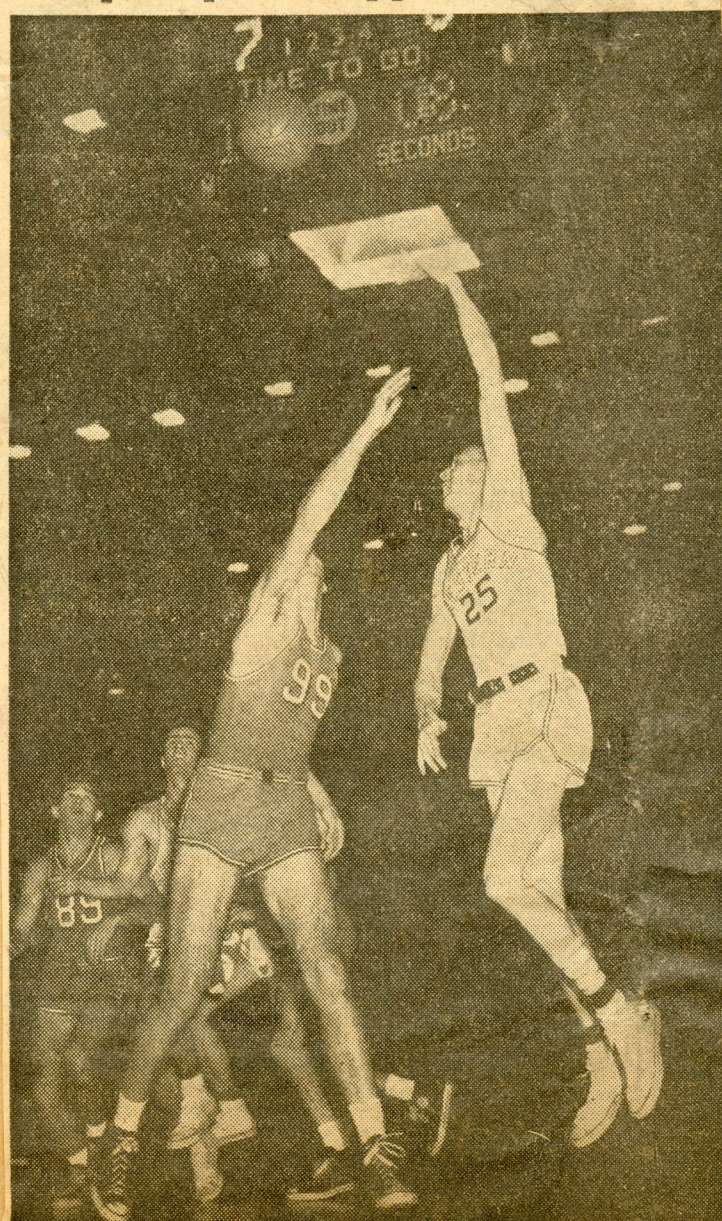
Was Third In Scoring

At one forward post is another giant, 6-foot 6-inch Stan Weber, third highest Falcon scorer last



HILLTOPPER TRIO—These three men are expected to play a big part in keeping Western in its accustomed spot near the top of the country's basketball heap this season. They are Western's famed Coach Ed Diddle and two of his promising candidates, Gene Rhodes, left, and Monie Beard, right. Both are former Louisville Male High stars.

Lavoy Helps Hilltopper Cause



Western's Bob Lavoy outsprings his giant opponent, 6-11 Chuck Share of Bowling Green State, to hook in two of the 25 points he scored against the Falcons at Jefferson County Armory in Louisville last night. A capacity 7,500 fans saw Western win this important inter-sectional basketball game with surprising ease, 78-57. Details on sports page.

Lavoy Sparks Western To Thumping 78-57 Win Over Bowling Green U.

Rhodes, Cate and Turner Also Stand Out In Mauling Big But Helpless Falcon Quint

By JIMMY BROWN

Western's amazing Hilltoppers climbed a mighty mountain last night as they rolled to a smashing 78-57 victory over Bowling Green's stunned Falcons before a capacity Armory crowd.

Led by an all-American performance by lanky Bob Lavoy, the men of Coach Ed Diddle hoisted their cage star to probably its all-time pinnacle among the nation's basketball powers.

Behind the brilliant court generalship of Gene Rhodes, and the uncanny sharpshooting of Buddy Cate and Jack Turner, Western rolled to an unbelievable 9-0 lead over the rangy Falcons in the first three minutes.

Toppers Use Fast Break

Given this impetus, they never let up. And these mighty Falcons, who last year scored one of the season's biggest upsets when they dumped St. Louis U. out of the National Invitational Tournament, never had a chance.

They were taller than the Hilltoppers but that didn't seem to make a bit of difference. The Hilltopper fast break, led most of the time by Rhodes and Johnny Givens, beat the Falcons to the punch all during the first half.

It was the gangling Lavoy, six feet seven inches tall, who won the heralded battle of centers with the six-foot 11-inch Chuck Share. He poured through 25 points for one of the Armory's most brilliant performances of all time.

Cate, Rhodes Hit

He completely outmaneuvered the giant, All-American Share on many occasions to hook in his unerring pivot shots. And his wildly-waving, grasping arms on defense kept Share from wreaking his usual devastation under the Western basket.

Lavoy started his 16-point first-half show and Western's amazing offensive outburst with

a hook shot only five seconds after the tipoff.

Cate pushed one in from the side and before the roar of the crowd subsided, Rhodes dumped one in from the foul circle. The Hilltoppers had made their first three shots and only a minute and 13 seconds was gone.

Lavoy hit a free throw and hooked in another fielder and Western led 9-0 with only three minutes gone.

Stan Weber broke the ice for the Falcons with a crip, but still the Hilltopper deluge continued. Cate and Lavoy caged layups, and Rhodes hooked one in and the Toppers were 15-2 ahead with only five minutes gone.

That's the way it went the rest of the half as the battling Hilltoppers wouldn't give Bowling Green even the slightest opening. The Falcons closed the gap to 11 points at 33-22 but

Western, with each one of its players a deadly marksman, continued the magic spell.

Diddle pulled Lavoy out for five minutes after the lanky center had three fouls called on him, but that didn't stop the steamed-up Hilltoppers. Rip Gish, Lavoy's successor in the game, still kept the damper on big Chuck Share, though, he too, had to foul the big boy to stop him. Share made five of his first-half points on charity tosses.

Both Share and Lavoy started the last half with three fouls on them. Neither acquired that fatal fifth one. Share played the rest of the game and committed one, while Lavoy played about two thirds of the last half and didn't foul once.

Lead By 27 Points

The last half was the same. Western had the big Falcons down and they wouldn't let up. In fact, they kept adding to their lead until they had opened a 27-point gap at 74-47 with eight minutes left in the game.

Diddle then cleared the bench and sent in his subs. And in a ragged last few minutes the Falcons made the score a little more respectable.

Behind Lavoy in the Western scoring march were Cate and Turner with 14 and Rhodes with 12.

Share scored 19 for Bowling Green's top score. Stan Weber tossed in 14 for the Falcons.

The Line-Ups

West'n (78)	fg.	ft.	pf.	B. G. (57)	fg.	ft.	pf.
Cate f	5	4	4	Green f	0	0	1
Turner f	6	2	1	Weber f	7	0	3
Lavoy c	10	5	3	Share c	6	7	4
Rhodes g	6	1	1	Long g	2	1	2
Givens g	1	1	1	Dudley g	4	2	1
Diddle	1	0	3	Beck	1	0	0
Gish	2	2	5	Joyce	1	1	1
Johnson	0	0	1	Yackey	0	0	3
Wallheiser	0	0	1	Galetti	0	1	4
Waters	0	0	0	Kempton	0	0	0
Gibson	0	0	0	Raber	0	1	0
McGuire	0	1	0	Smethers	1	0	0
Cowan	0	0	0				
Totals	31	16	20	Totals	22	13	19

Score At Half: Western 44, Bowling Green 26.

Free Throws Missed: Western—Cate, Turner, Lavoy 2, Rhodes, Diddle 2, Givens 2; Bowling Green—Weber 5, Share 4, Yackey.

Ruby's Report

National Basketball Champion Could Be Launched At Armory In Western-Bowling Green Go

A national basketball champion may be launched at the Armory tonight. . . . Western Kentucky and Bowling Green University were among the top six teams picked for the National Invitational in New York last year. . . . Both were favored in their openers and both were upset—Western by Bradley and Bowling Green by San Francisco. . . . Both lost only two players from their tournament squad and have added two or more very strong players. . . . National basketball rating experts have picked both to finish this season in the top five. . . . So, the meeting of these great basketball powers at 9:15 p.m. tonight in the Armory will be watched with great interest by basketball leaders over the country.

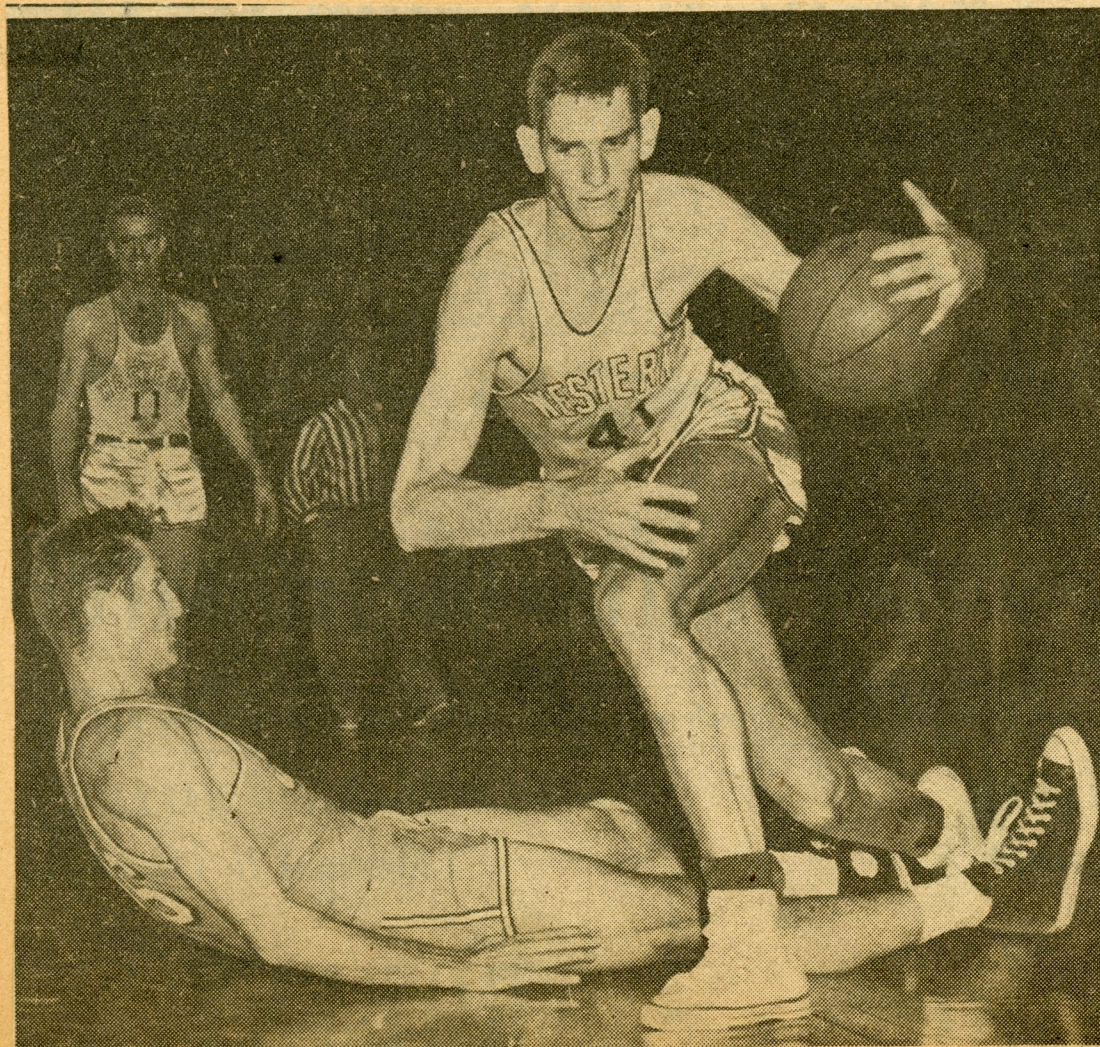
Break for High Schoolers—Western has set aside a special block of 500 seats for high school students and their girls. . . . These seats



will sell at the gate for 50 cents each. . . . This follows a time-honored policy at Western. . . . All seats in the Hilltopper gym are sold out on season tickets, except 300, which are reserved for high schoolers at this low price. . . . "It may cost us money now," observed Kelly Thompson, assistant to the president, "but it keeps the younger fans coming. Without them the sport would soon die."

Additions—Western lost Johnny Oldham and Charley Parsley through graduation, but has added two sparkling sophomores, Gene Rhodes of Louisville and Jack Turner of Bedford, Ind. . . . These boys played as freshmen last season, but were not eligible for the New York tournament. . . . Watch their smoke this season!

Kelly Thompson



Courier-Journal Photo by Charlie Pence

TRAFFIC CASUALTY is Stanley Weber of Bowling Green, knocked to the floor after Buddy Cate of Western crashed into him. Cate drew a charging penalty. Gene Rhodes of the Hilltoppers (background) gets a laugh out of the play. Bowling Green found it anything but a funny night as it fell 78-57 to the impressive Hilltoppers at the Armory.

Soph Hits 23; Rip Gish Also In Fine Form

By Bert Borrone

Jack Turner, one of Western two fine sophomore basketballers, is about as likely to become mayor of Cincinnati as Lippy Durocher.

And Rip Gish, who as a junior will have to start selecting a vocation soon, has a fat chance, too, in Ohio politics.

Between these two—the happy-go-lucky Turner, who looks like he might be admiring the wonderful, friendly crowd half of the time, and the slyly-grinning Gish, who operates with the bulling efficiency of an old-time ward heeler—no votes were won from Xavier University of Cincy last night.

AFTER GISH helped open the wedge in Xavier's ranks with an under-the-boards performance worthy of a precinct captain, this Turner stuffed the basket as Western toppled the Musketeers 63-51.

It was an electric, tension-shot game that kept the capacity 5,000 on edge for 36 minutes.

At that point Western led by only 51-48. Bob Lavoy was on the bench with five fouls. And Xavier was operating again as it had in amassing large early leads.

The situation looked grim and the

Xavier	FG-A	FT-A	PF	TP
Alston F	4-14	7-9	3	15
Korb F	4-7	5-5	3	13
Smith C	3-21	2-4	5	8
Morthorst G	4-9	4-5	5	12
Kartholl G	0-4	1-1	3	1
Hoffer F	0-0	0-0	0	0
Grevey C	0-1	2-2	0	2
Dean G	0-1	0-0	0	0

Totals	15-57	21-26	19	51
Western	FG-A	FT-A	PF	TP
Cate F	2-8	4-4	1	8
Turner F	9-21	5-7	3	23
Lavoy C	4-15	2-2	5	10
Rhodes G	2-10	1-2	4	5
Givens G	1-8	0-2	2	2
Diddle F	0-5	0-0	1	0
Gish F-C	6-13	3-5	5	15
Johnson C	0-0	0-0	0	0

Totals 24-80 15-22 21 63

Halftime score: Western 30, Xavier 27

Officials: Bob Hoffman (Jasper, Ind.), Bob Colburn (Dayton).

crowd, fired up as a local audience hasn't been since the Eastern game last year, was a dark shade of purple.

Then this Turner, who dealt the Muskies a heart-breaking defeat at Cincinnati a month ago, flexed his good right arm.

IN LESS than 60 seconds, he drilled a jump one-hander from 20 feet, englished in a spectacular crip and tossed in a free throw.

There were still three minutes and four seconds to play. But, just as simply as that, it was all over but the shouting that rocked the Hilltopper arena as it rarely has been rocked before.

Johnny Givens and Gish added driving lay-ups and Turner two more frees to bring his game total to 23 points. That wound up Western's scoring.

Xavier was limited to three foul shots—the Muskies made 14 of 15 from the line the final half—in the last four minutes to wind up a 23-minute span in which Western's engulfing defense permitted but five field goals.

The Musketeers, beaten by Western 59-57 a month ago today when

Continued on page 12, column 4

Soph Pitches

Continued from page 12

shots had bulletted in to keep Western submerged the first half, was under control the rest of the way. But Capt. Art Morthorst and Bob Alston were getting effective screening off the double pivot and X was making its close-in shots tell.

MIDWAY THE last half it looked hopeless. Xavier rode a 46-35 lead, was controlling play with a deliberate offensive and was jamming Western's middle.

Coach Ed Diddle's ace now had to be senior Johnny Givens, the long shot specialist. It was up to Givens to pull X out of the middle and he did.

In 90 seconds he ripped three times from 30 feet out and each of them hit the mark. As quick as that the 11-point lead was cut to six, 46-41.

But, in rapid succession, Bill Hoffer cripped off a screen and Alston pushed in a rebound with nobody close. A little over seven minutes remained now and it was 50-41.

Givens notched a free and Hoffer cripped. Smith made good a charity and it was 11 points again, 53-42.

Rhodes banked in a lay-up on the fast break for Western and Givens came back to tap a follow. Western got a defensive rebound and Rhodes went with a dazzle of dribbling all the way.

LAVOY'S HOOK and Rhodes' charity offset Smith's free. And at 18:13 Eddie Diddle caged a foul toss to make it 57-52. Now it was a simple question of which team had the most heart.

Lavoy missed a foul but redeemed it with a swing from the slot and then came Turner's blazing final burst which left the Gardens rocking.

Western was a badly off form in shooting most of the way tonight as the Toppers were brilliant against Bowling Green Thursday night. They caged 24 of 79 for 30.4 per cent.

Xavier lost despite an extremely fine field goal average. It was 44.7 per cent on 25 goals in 56 shots. The Muskies just made the mistake of trying to freeze in the final moments against the kind of ball club Western has nearly always been.

"I'm very happy—for Western and the boys . . . and very proud," Diddle said in the dressing room. "If we can play the rest of the season like we did those last six minutes, we'll be able to take care of ourselves."

The Hilltoppers, riding a four-game all-winning string now, are scheduled to arrive in Bowling Green about 6:30 p. m. Sunday.

Western's next game is at Bowling Green Tuesday night against Georgetown.

Western returns here next Saturday to take on University of Cincinnati, which tonight set a new school scoring record in trampling Kentucky Wesleyan 96-52.

Western	FG-A	FT-A	PF	TP
Cate F	4-7	0-2	4	8
Turner F	6-14	4-6	2	16
Lavoy C	6-16	1-3	4	13
Rhodes G	4-19	2-3	1	10
Givens G	4-17	1-1	0	9
Gish F	0-0	0-1	0	0
Diddle G	0-6	3-4	2	3

Totals	24-79	11-20	13	59
Xavier	FG-A	FT-A	PF	TP
Alston F	7-12	1-2	4	15
Korb F	1-1	0-0	0	2
Smith C	8-24	3-5	2	19
Kartholl G	1-2	0-2	3	2
Morthorst G	4-7	3-4	3	11
Hoffer F	4-10	0-1	2	8
Dean G	0-0	0-0	1	0

Totals 25-65 7-14 15 57
Halftime score: Xavier 29, Western 23.

Assists—Western: Cate 2, Turner, Lavoy 2, Rhodes 2, Givens, Diddle; Xavier: Korb 2, Smith 3, Morthorst 2.

Officials: Bob Hoffman (Jasper) and Ross Dean (Lafayette).

Western Edges Xavier 59-57

Xavier To Use Double Pivot Against Toppers

Six feet and 11 inches of center didn't help Bowling Green State against Western last night.

But Xavier University is going to toss 12 feet, nine inches of pivot at the Toppers in Cincinnati Gardens tomorrow night in Western's second prime intersectional game in three nights.

THE MUSKETEERS are one of the few clubs in the nation which play the double pivot. Coach Lou Hurt has 6-5 Gene Smith on one side of the circle and 6-4 Dick Korb on the other post. They add up to nearly six feet more than Bee Gee's Chuck Share.

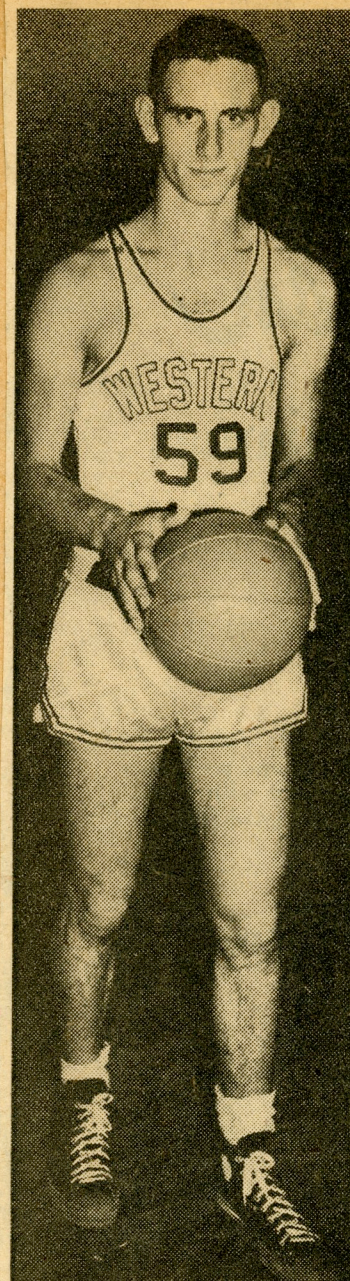
Cincy officials are expecting some 12,000 fans to jam into the Gardens to see Western toss its thunderous offense against a Musketeer quintet defeated but five times in over two seasons in the Queen City. Kentucky turned the trick twice, Bowling Green once and Cincinnati U the other two times.

Xavier lost but one regular from the 1948-49 team which pressed Kentucky all the way at Cincy. He was 6-6 Malcolm McMullen. Capt. Art Morthorst (6-5) Bob Dean (6-1) and Bob Alston (6-2) are the returning regulars who will open tomorrow night. Another, Jim Kartholl, has been replaced by sophomore Smith.

THOSE FIVE Muskies will exactly match Western in height and Western Assistant Coach Ted Hornback, who scouted Xavier, reported they are as fast as the Toppers.

Xavier hasn't had a test yet. The Muskies rolled over Franklin College 72-47 and Georgetown 66-42.

Coach Ed Diddle is expected to stick with the same clicking line-up which hurtled Western to the No. 1 spot in the nation last night. Sophomore Jack Turner is expected to be ready despite an eye injury suffered late in the Bee Gee game. So is Buddy Cate, who performed all the last half with a Charley horse.



Jack Turner
Hits Clincher for Western

Turner Shot Is Clincher In Thriller

Hilltoppers Go on Spree In Last Minute

Cincinnati, Dec. 10 (AP)—Jack Turner's 25-foot field goal in the final six seconds gave Western Kentucky a 59-57 victory over the Xavier Musketeers tonight in a basketball game that was Xavier all the way except for the final minute and a half.

Trailing 57-52 with just less than a minute and a half of play left, the Hilltoppers put on a scoring spree that left the crowd of 3,647 limp at the finish.

The Musketeers, suffering their first loss in three games, were behind only twice—for a few seconds in the first half and, at the end, when Turner popped in his desperation pitch while runnings full speed down the side of the court.

Turner, Western's one-man wrecking crew, slammed home the last five points of the game, all of which came in the final 30 seconds.

With their five-point lead, Xavier chose to refrain from firing away in the waning minutes and the Hilltoppers took advantage of the lull to get their steamroller moving.

Western (59) fg.ft.pf.	Xavier (57) fg.ft.pf.
Cate f	4 0 4
Gish f	0 0 0
Diddle f	0 2 2
Lavoy c	6 1 4
Givens g	4 1 0
Turner g	6 5 2
Rhodes g	4 2 1
Totals	24 13 13
Free Throws Missed:	Western—Cate 2, Rhodes, Lavoy 2, Gish, Turner 2, Diddle, Xavier—Korb, Smith 2, Alston, Kartholl 2, Hoffer.

Diddle To Return From Germany Friday

Western Basketball Coach Ed Diddle reported by short wave radio today that he will return from Wiesbaden, Germany, by plane Thursday and expects to arrive in Bowling Green Friday afternoon.

Diddle has been in Wiesbaden the past two weeks conducting a net clinic for Air Force personnel.

Diddle talked today through short wave facilities of Alex Carter, 1635 Chestnut street. He spoke with his wife, son, Charles Campbell, Harry Potter and Kelly Thompson.

Western Opens Tour At Canisius Tonight

By JIMMY BROWN

Western's Hilltoppers barely have given Santa enough time to get back to his North Pole home before they swing into action again.

Coach Ed Diddle's once-beaten cagers, first Kentucky quintet to see post-holiday play, meet Canisius tonight at Buffalo, N. Y., in the first game of a three-tilt eastern swing.

The Diddlemen left Bowling Green by air yesterday without Buddy Cate, their 6-4 star forward, who is recovering from an appendectomy.

In his place, Diddle has been

grooming his son, Eddie, Jr. Young Diddle did a good job in his first try at filling Cate's shoes, scoring 12 points against Cincinnati last week.

Canisius, like Western has been beaten only once. They lost to Southern California while their victories have been over Western Ontario, Gannon, Oregon State, Kansas State, and California.

The Hilltoppers only loss in six starts was a one-point setback by Cincinnati. They have beaten Morehead, Wesleyan, Bowling Green, Xavier, and Georgetown.

After tonight's battle with Canisius, Western will fly to New York for a Thursday clash with Long Island at Madison Square

Garden. They complete the swing next Monday against LaSalle in Philadelphia.

Western won't be the busiest state five this week as Murray's Thoroughbreds are slated for a two-game southern tour and a home clash. The Thoroughbreds meet Loyola at New Orleans Tuesday and are at Spring Hill, Ala., Wednesday night. Friday night they meet Brooklyn at Murray.

In other games involving Kentucky teams, Eastern journeys to Beloit Wednesday and to Baldwin Wallace Friday; Kentucky has a date in the Sugar Bowl with Villanova Thursday night, and

Louisville entertains Evansville the same night.

U. L. Has Best Mark

By The Associated Press.

Five Kentucky college basketball teams, headed by the Christmas season's surprise-package Louisville Cardinals, looked to the new year today with bright hopes of a nifty 1950.

The front-running five had records marred by single defeats.

Louisville's 9-1 mark was a standout best, both because the Cards had the most victories and because their opposition has been several notches above the mediocre class.

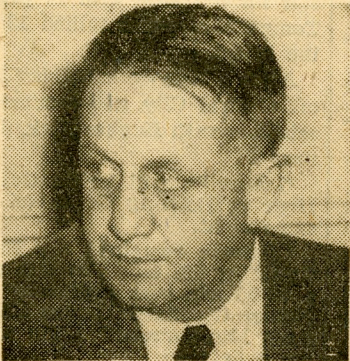
Runner-up Union (6-1) has been picking on Smoky Mountain

Conference teams in Tennessee and Virginia.

All members of the state's Big Four join Louisville in the one-time-beaten ranks, Eastern and Western Kentucky with 5-1 marks and Kentucky with 4-1. Their foes, too, have included some of the best in the land.

Here's the record of Kentucky college quints:

Team	W.	L.	Pct.	PF.	OP.
Louisville	9	1	.900	676	553
Union	6	1	.857	454	365
Western Kentucky	5	1	.833	405	309
Eastern Kentucky	5	1	.833	362	331
Kentucky	4	1	.800	341	249
Centre	3	2	.600	308	307
Murray	4	4	.500	529	434
Morehead	3	3	.500	354	411
Georgetown	2	3	.400	275	291
Ky. Wesleyan	2	3	.400	281	348
Berea	2	4	.333	299	313
Transylvania	1	4	.200	249	309



Ed Diddle
Leads Hilltoppers East

Griffs Meet W. Kentucky, Temple Plays UB Tonight

By RAY RYAN

Western Kentucky's rangy basketball squad flew into Buffalo yesterday, ready to meet Canisius in Memorial Auditorium tonight in a clash of once-beaten aggregations. The companion game of the holiday doubleheader, first of three cage programs in the Auditorium this week, will send the University of Buffalo against Temple, at 8.

Coach Ed Diddle, Publicity Director Kelly Thompson and the Hilltoppers came in from Bowling Green, Ky., in three hours and three minutes, aided by a tail wind, and the chartered air liner circled Niagara Falls en route.

Coach Diddle passed up a workout, telling his players to take a two-mile walk, eat a large meal and get to bed early. The Western squad had an early Christmas dinner yesterday at home, and received presents last night. The visitors are stopping at Hotel Buffalo.

Temple, coming in by overnight train from Philadelphia, will hit town this morning.

The game between the tall Kentuckians and the Griffins will find the Buffalonians striving for their second triumph of the series. Western met St. Bonaventure in its first appearance in Memorial Auditorium, and has played Canisius five times.

Coach Diddle is back with a typical Western club—lofty, extremely fast and a collection of superb shot-makers. The nucleus of the squad is formed by seven lettermen from last season's National Invitation Tournament team that won 25 and lost four—Bob Lavoy, John Givens, Rip Gish, Jack Turner, Gene Rhodes, Buddy Cate and Ed Diddle, Jr., the coach's son. Cate will not play in Buffalo, due to a recent appendectomy.

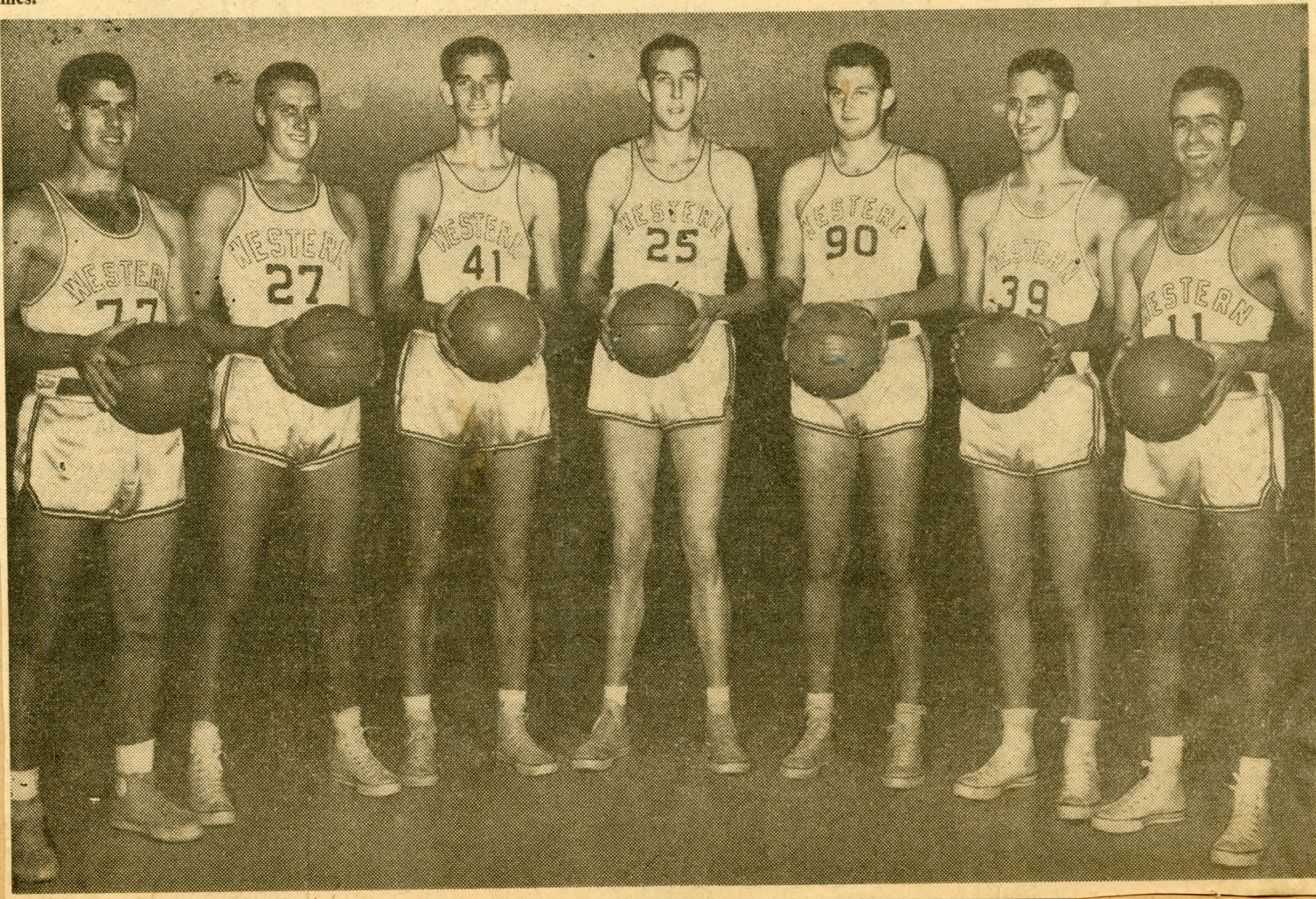
Western will open with five veterans. Lavoy, 6-7, will be at center. Turner, 6-3, and Diddle, 6-2, will operate at the forward positions. Rhodes and Givens, each a six-footer, will be the guards.

Paced by the brilliant Lavoy, an All-American candidate, the Hilltoppers have won five of six starts, averaging 67.5 points. They lost a one-pointer to Cincinnati after beating such teams as Bowling Green (78-57) and Xavier.

Towering Western Kentucky Veterans Return Tomorrow--

Here are seven experienced operatives of

the Western Kentucky basketball team, which will face Canisius in Memorial Auditorium tomorrow night. Left to right are John Givens, Ed Diddle, Jr., Buddy Cate (out with appendectomy), Bob Lavoy, Rip Gish, Jack Turner and Gene Rhodes. Lavoy's height, 6-7, gives an idea of their general skyscraper lines.



Bob Lavoy Stars In 74-61 Topper Win Over Canisius

Western Thumps Griffs; UB Bows

By RAY RYAN

Western Kentucky's towering basketball forces made their annual visit to Memorial Auditorium last night and trimmed Canisius, 74-61, before a turnout of 10,891. Temple defeated the University of Buffalo, 66-48, in the companion contest.

Bob Lavoy, 6-7 junior center, established himself as a leading candidate for All-Auditorium honors as he racked up 34 points before leaving on fouls with 4:07 left to play. The tall lad is a wizard around the basket. Just to vary the procedure, he flipped a few from the vicinity of the keyhole.

Gene Rhodes, a terrific running guard and the quarterback of Coach Ed Diddle's club, registered 15 points and gave a matchless exhibition of dribbling and play-making.

The Griffins held a 34-29 lead at halftime but simply could not hold Lavoy in check. Western proved to be the usual group of ball hawks and tireless drivers going down the floor.

Bob Stoetzel, the sophomore from Rochester, came through with another polished showing to lead the Griffin scorers with 14 points. Captain Bobby MacKinnon turned in another solid floor game.

With the outcome apparently settled, the game ended with both Joe

Lavoy tied from the 15-foot line. Stoetzel intercepted under the Western hoop for two points. A Canisius break misfired, and Lavoy tallied another three-pointer. Hartnett counted for close range. DeLuca, his eye jabbed accidentally, left the game.

Hedderick flipped a free throw and Calak a set as Canisius set a 24-20 pace. Rhodes came through on a fast break, and Lavoy tapped in a missed foul. Hartnett picked up one point, but Rhodes went down on another fast break, appearing to float the last ten feet as he laid the ball up. Western leading, 26-25.

Hartnett locked it up once more. Rhodes notched two free throws. MacKinnon flung a fast break pass to Masino for a 28-all tie. Wallheiser netted one free throw. The Griffins followed with a six-point burst. MacKinnon tallied twice from the foul line, then tossed to Sharp, who fed Masino for a fast break tally.

MacKinnon's steal and quarter-court pitch gave Canisius a 24-29 edge at halftime.

Hilltoppers Pull Away

Lavoy acquired his fourth foul as the second half opened. Muller made the toss good. Lavoy counted on a pivot, and Turner hit a one-hander from the side. Masino cut through for a deuce but Western tied at 37 on Givens' driving score and Rhodes' flip from the corner.

Givens sent the Hilltoppers ahead with a dribble almost the length of the court, and Rhodes flipped one from the corner. Turner popped a one-hander from the side. Lavoy

apped another in. Stoetzel counted

two fast baskets. Then Lavoy and Hartnett traded deuces.

Lavoy tallied two baskets and two free throws against a basket by Muller as Western led, 51-45.

MacKinnon pitched the ball 75 feet to DeLuca for a sensational basket. Givens left on fouls with 8:46 played. Muller converted. Lavoy netted two free throws, and followed with a southpaw wheel. DeLuca hit a free throw. Gish tapped in a missed foul, and Stoetzel leaped high for a deuce.

Lavoy tallied from the keyhole. Stoetzel banged in another basket. Gish went up to count again as the Hilltoppers led by eight, 61-53. Lavoy caged a free throw. MacKinnon drilled a goal from quarter-court.

Rhodes flipped one point, and Turner tapped a basket when Lavoy missed. Lavoy dropped a sensational shot. The great Western center left on fouls with 4:07 remaining, and the owner of 34 points. He received an ovation.

Rhodes found the mark twice from the foul line. Johnson racked up a rebound. Turner stole the ball for a deuce as Western led, 73-55. Sharp hooked one in at the other end, and counted from the free throw line. McGuire and Calak traded single points. Schaus followed suit. The game ended with Western winning, 74-61.

Western Conquers Canisius

Lavoy Gets 34 As Hilltoppers Triumph 74-61

From Tuesday's Late Editions. Special to The Courier-Journal

Buffalo, N. Y., Dec. 26.—Western Kentucky's towering basketball forces made their annual visit to Memorial Auditorium last night and trimmed Canisius 74-61 before a turnout of 10,891.

Temple defeated the University of Buffalo 66-48 in the companion contest.

Bob Lavoy, 6-7 junior center, established himself as a leading candidate for All-Auditorium honors as he racked up 34 points before leaving on fouls with 4:07 left to play. The tall lad is a wizard around the basket. Just to vary the procedure, he flipped a few from the vicinity of the keyhole.

Gene Rhodes, a terrific running guard and the quarterback of Coach Ed Diddle's club, registered 15 points and gave a matchless exhibition of dribbling and play-making.

Couldn't Hold Lavoy

The Griffins held a 34-29 lead at halftime but simply could not hold Lavoy in check. Western proved to be the usual group of ball hawks and tireless drivers going down the floor.

Bob Stoetzel, the sophomore from Rochester, came through with another polished showing to lead the Griffin scorers with 14 points. Captain Bobby MacKinnon turned in another solid floor game.

With the outcome apparently settled, the game ended with both Joe Niland and Diddle clearing the benches.

It was Canisius' second defeat in eight starts. Western now has won six of seven. The game opened its annual swing through the East.

West'n (74)	g.f.pf.	Canisius (61)	g.f.pf.
Diddle f.....	0 0 2	Pieto f.....	0 1 0
Turner f.....	5 0 4	DeLuca f.....	4 2 2
Gish f.....	2 0 4	Stoetzel f.....	7 0 4
Gibson f.....	0 0 1	Hedderick f.....	0 1 1
Lavoy c.....	12 10 5	Zatorski f.....	0 0 0
Waters f.....	0 0 0	Schaus f.....	0 1 1
Wallheiser c.....	0 1 0	Muller c.....	1 3 4
Johnson c.....	1 0 0	Hartnett c.....	2 3 3
Rhodes g.....	4 7 1	Sharp c.....	1 1 0
Givens g.....	3 1 5	Karchmal c.....	0 0 0
McGuire g.....	0 1 0	MacKinnon g.....	3 3 4
		Masino g.....	3 1 3
		Calak g.....	1 0 1
		Illig g.....	0 0 0
Totals	27 20 26	Totals	22 17 23

Score at halftime—Canisius 34, Western Kentucky 29.

Free throws missed—Western Kentucky: Diddle 3, Turner, Lavoy 2, Rhodes 3, Gish, Johnson; Canisius: DeLuca, Stoetzel 2, Hartnett 2, Calak, Hedderick, Sharp, McGuire, Zatorski, Karchmal, Schaus 3.

Lanky Pivot Connects For 34-Point Total

BUFFALO, N. Y., Dec. 27.—Western Kentucky employed a six-foot, seven-inch "spike" to buttress its claim to top-10 national ranking here last night.

He was Bob Lavoy, the slim pivot with the delicate touch, who turned in a brilliant shooting and rebounding game to lead the big and fast Kentuckians to a 74-61 victory over Canisius.

The Hilltoppers' All-America candidate kept the nets humming with a 34-point splurge, tops for mammoth Memorial Auditorium this season and one of the highest all-time totals here.

LAVOY'S TREMENDOUS all-around play won him a standing ovation from the 11,000 partisan fans who jammed the hall to witness the feature of a holiday doubleheader. Temple trounced Buffalo 66-48 in the opener.

It was the big center who kept Western ahead for all but four minutes of the game and who touched off a late rally which gave the Kentuckians a decisive win.

He lofted in 12 field goals, mainly on hooks and spins from the circle, in but 22 attempts and converted 10 of 12 free throws. He kept spinning and spiking home an occasional re-

Western	FG-A	FT-A	PF	TP
Turner F.....	5-13	0-1	4	10
Diddle F.....	0-4	0-3	2	0
Lavoy C.....	12-22	10-12	5	34
Rhodes G.....	4-14	7-10	1	15
Givens G.....	3-6	1-1	5	7
Gish F.....	2-8	0-1	4	4
Waters F.....	0-1	0-0	0	0
Johnson C.....	1-3	0-1	4	2
Wallheiser C.....	0-1	1-1	0	1
McGuire G.....	0-0	1-1	0	1
Gibson G.....	0-1	0-0	1	0

Totals	27-73	20-31	26	74
Canisius	FG-A	FT-A	PF	TP
Pieto F.....	0-2	1-1	0	1
DeLuca F.....	4-8	2-3	2	10
Stoetzel F.....	7-15	0-2	4	14
Hedderick F.....	0-6	1-3	1	1
Zatorski F.....	0-1	0-1	0	0
Schaus F.....	0-2	1-4	1	1
Muller C.....	1-6	3-3	4	5
Hartnett C.....	2-10	3-5	3	7
Sharpe C.....	1-6	1-2	0	3
Karchmal C.....	0-1	0-0	0	0
MacKinnon G.....	3-15	3-3	4	9
McGuire G.....	0-1	1-2	0	1
Masino G.....	3-10	1-1	3	7
Calak G.....	1-5	0-1	1	2
Illig G.....	0-1	0-0	0	0

Totals 22-89 17-31 23 61
Halftime score: Canisius 34, Western 29.

bound despite the efforts of four different Canisius centers.

Near the game's end, the Golden Griffins dropped all five players back in the slot to hold off Lavoy. He finally fouled out with four minutes left after practically clinching All-Auditorium honors for the season and adding a jewel to the All-America crown he well may wear.

ROLLING TO their sixth win in seven starts, the Kentuckians appeared superior throughout. But Canisius, striving for its sixth victory in seven games, showed fire in the final minute of the first half to carry a 34-29 lead into intermission. Lavoy, Jack Turner, Johnny Givens and Gene Rhodes, a masterful play-maker, dumped in quick buckets as the final period began, while Al Masino was counting a lone doubledecker for the Griffins. That tied the score at 37-37 with three minutes gone.

Lavoy, hitting six of seven from the field in one hot surge, kept Western ahead by three to six points through the 10-minute mark, when

Lanky Pivot

Continued from page 7

it was 51-48. Givens fouled out at that point and Rip Gish replaced him for Western.

At 15:30 of the last half, it still was either team's game. The lanky Hilltoppers, fighting Canisius' sophomore height, led by only 63-55, Gish supplying a couple of vital tip-ins.

Then, in the space of 100 seconds, Turner spiked in a tip-in, Lavoy hit a left-hand hook, Rhodes converted two frees, Joe Johnson got a deuce on a follow and Turner went all the way on the fast break.

THE KENTUCKIANS vanned 73-55 then and Coach Ed Diddle quickly cleared his bench. Free throws permitted the Griffins to cut the margin in the final three minutes.

The Kentuckians, displaying the ball-hawking and tireless drive which makes them favorites annually here, hit 37 per cent of their shots from the field to Canisius' 25 per cent.

The victory was Western's fifth in six games with the Griffins and their sixth in seven appearances here dating back to the 1942-43 season.

The Kentuckians were scheduled to leave here today for New York where they engage Long Island University in Madison Square Garden Thursday night. Long Island, defeated but once in nine games, throttled San Francisco, the 1949 National Invitation champs, 56-48 last night.

COURT COACHES PUT PLAN TO SUPERIORS

Holman of City and McGuire
of St. John's Eager for Test
if Authorities Agree

FOUL RULE IS DENOUNCED

L. I. U. to Play W. Kentucky,
N. Y. U. Choice Over Yale
at the Garden Tonight

By LOUIS EFFRAT

Long Island University will en-
gage Western Kentucky and New
York University will take on Yale
in the basketball double-header at
Madison Square Garden tonight,
but little was said about these at-
tractions yesterday, when the Met-
ropolitan Basketball Writers Asso-
ciation met with the court coaches
for lunch at Leone's.

The main topic was the con-
troversial two-minute rule, which
has been condemned by an over-
whelming majority of players,
coaches, officials and experts.

Vadal Peterson of Utah, Ed Diddle
of Western Kentucky, Nat Holman
of C. C. N. Y., Frank McGuire
of St. John's, Ken Norton
of Manhattan and Danny Lynch
of St. Francis, were in agreement
yesterday that something should
be done about the rule, written
into the books this season in an ef-
fort to curtail fouling in the final
two minutes of a game.

In fact, Holman made a vigor-
ous plea that "we have a serious
problem and something must be
done right now."

Writers Seek Action

After Holman had suggested
that the national rules committee
move into action immediately,
rather than wait for next season,
it was suggested by the writers
that Holman's City College team
and McGuire St. John's outfit,
which cross paths Tuesday night
at the Garden, play their tradi-
tional game without the two-min-
ute rule.

McGuire, mentor of an unbeaten
quintet, at first, said that would
be quite all right with him. "We'll
play without lights, if C. C. N. Y.
wants to do that. Holman, at first,
appeared to be eager to do like-
wise. However, both coaches later
thought it better to confer first
with their school authorities and
players before agreeing to experi-
ment.

Since nearly everyone is of the
opinion that the rule is detrimen-
tal to basketball, a major clash,
such as St. John's-C. C. N. Y. is
rated, would be an ideal vehicle
to focus national attention on the
fallacies resulting from the 2-min-
ute rule.

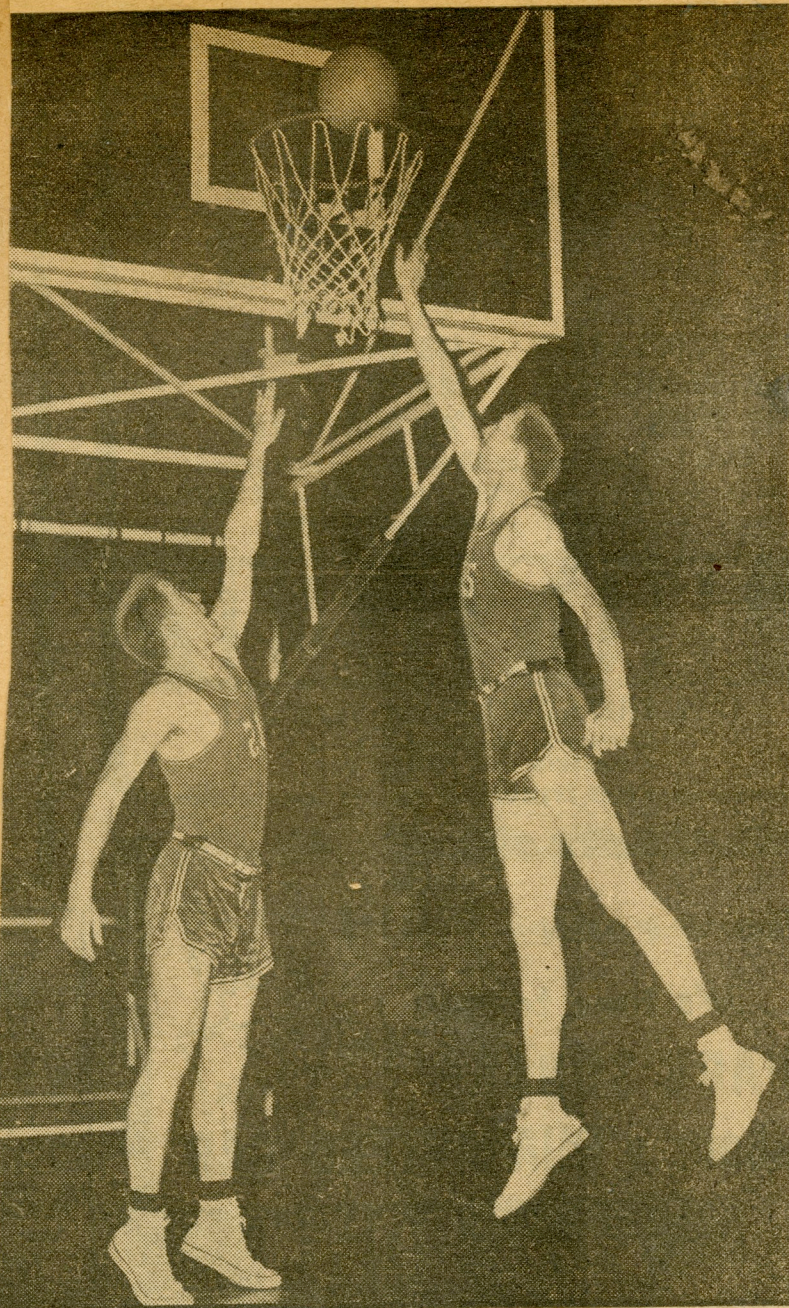
It appears, then, at the moment,
that the Beavers and the Redmen
may, Tuesday night, play forty,
instead of thirty-eight minutes of
basketball. In fact, a meeting has
been called for 6 P. M. today at
the Garden, with all metropolitan
coaches discussing the advisability
of all intra-city games being con-
tested without the 2-minute rule.
Lynch, for instance, is seeking to
have the Jan. 6 St. Francis-Ford-
ham game played without it.

Officiating Under Fire

There was further talk about
incompetent officiating and the re-
luctance of referees to call delib-
erate fouls, but the 2-minute rule
was the principal topic.

Clair Bee, whose Blackbirds face
their sternest foe thus far tonight,
was not on hand, but Coach Diddle
spoke about his own aggrega-
tion. He said that Buddy Cate,
regular forward, did not make the
trip from Bowling Green, Ky., be-
cause of an appendectomy.

However, he was quite happy to
have Bob Lavoy, his high-scoring
center, in excellent condition. The
6-foot 7-inch ace has averaged
20.1 points in seven games, only
one of which the Hilltoppers have



(Mirror Photo by Anthony Bernato)

HILLTOPPER STYLE. Six-foot-seven Bob Lavoy, scoring ace
of the Western Kentucky Hilltoppers, drops one into the bas-
ket in workout at 69th Reg. Armory for tonight's Garden
game against LIU. Lavoy dwarfs 6-foot Bob McGuire.

Hilltoppers Miss Cate.

There is no doubt that Diddle
will miss the energetic Buddy
Cate. The 6-foot-5-inch forward,
the vitally needed second good
big man, has been lost to the
squad since December 12, when
he underwent an emergency ap-
pendectomy.

Jack Turner and Ed Diddle Jr.
have been alternating in Cate's
place. Otherwise the Hilltoppers
will line up with Rip Gish, Johnny
Givens, Gene Rhodes and Lavoy.
Lavoy, incidentally, has been av-
eraging 20.1 points per game in
seven outings.

Coach Howard Cann expects
Yale's Howard Hobson to throw
up a zone defense tonight so the
Violet tutor will make the most
of his outside shooting threats,
chief of which appear to be Jim
Brasco, Bob Derderian and Abe
Becker. If they go sour, Jerry
Remer will be called upon. The
Violets (3-4) can end the year at
the .500 mark with a win tonight.
Last season the Violets poured
it on the Tony Lavelli-dominant
Elis. 76-67.

KENTUCKY'S ACE FACES PERIL OF GARDEN HOODOO

Lavoy Will Be Dangerous
Foe for L. I. U. If Jinx
Is Missing Tonight.

By LEONARD ANSELL.

For the sake of all the glitter
basketballers who build up fabulous
reputations elsewhere but some-
how or other can't seem to make
them stick on the Madison Square
Garden court, it is hoped that the
gifted Bob Lavoy of powerful
Western Kentucky State proves
the exception to the rule against
the amazing L. I. U. Ironmen in
tonight's feature game.

Bob Cousy of Holy Cross, Rick
Harman of Kansas State, Don
Lofgran of San Francisco Uni-
versity, Jim Line of Kentucky
and Bill Sharman of Southern
California are five of the coun-
try's name players who failed to
live up to their press clippings
here this season.

The 6-foot, 7-inch Lavoy has
also quite a following. The
precious pivot of the towel-toss-
ing Ed Diddle's feared Hilltoppers
may be the best center in the
country. On paper it is either
the Aurora, Ill., giant or Bowling
Green's towering Charley
(Chuck) Share as the top big
man in the college ranks. In the
Hilltoppers' sparkling twenty-one-
point victory over the Bee Gees,
Lavoy tallied thirty-four points
on Share.

Lavoy is most dangerous with
a practically unstoppable falling
away hook shot and a leaping
one-handed push. Either Sher-
man White or Herb Scherer will
get the unenviable assignment of
guarding him. Probably, if La-
voy gets off to a strong start,
the Ironmen, who have serious
designs of making the Hilltop-
pers their ninth victim in ten
starts, will be double and triple-
teaming Western's huge opera-
tive.

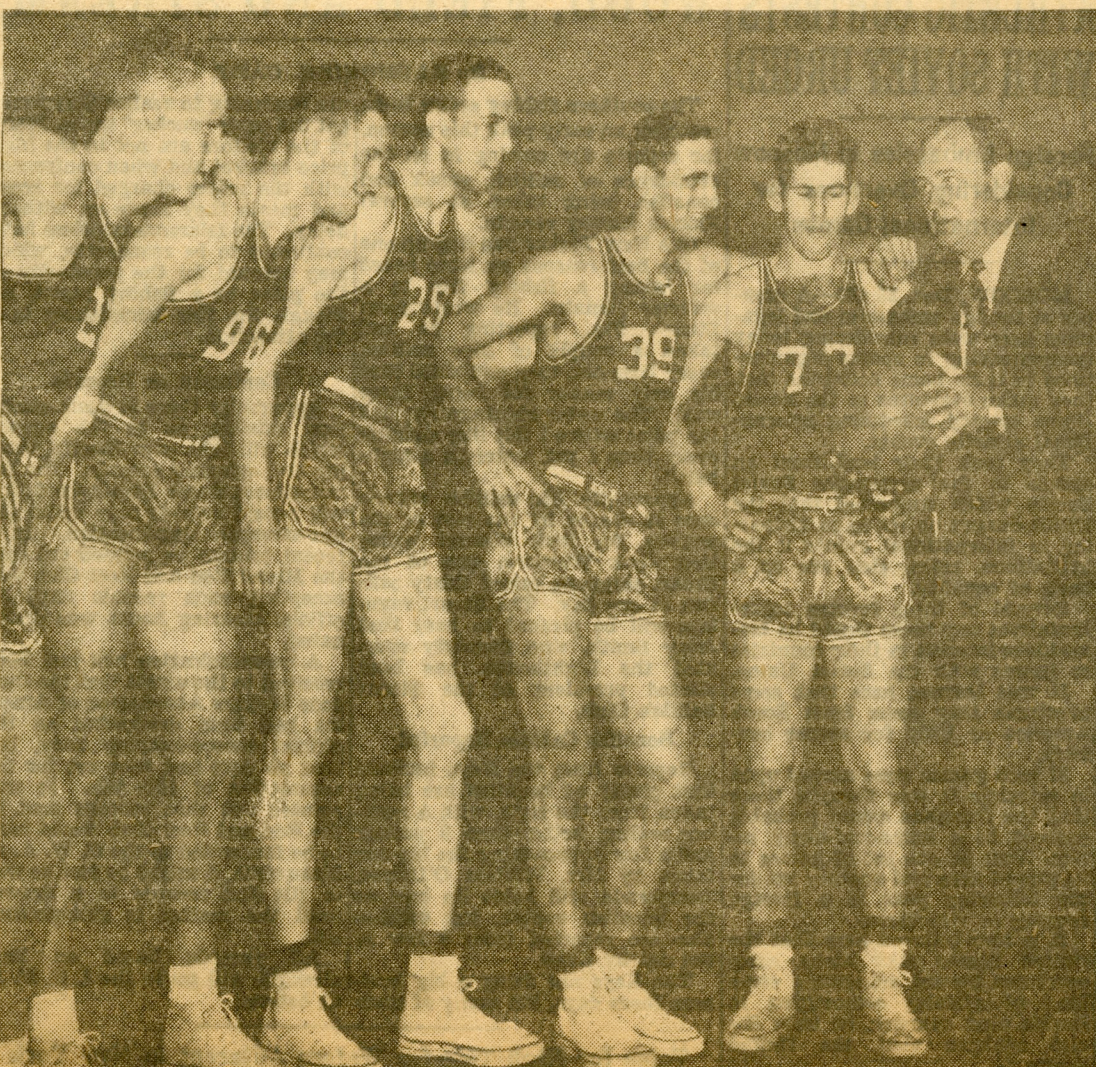
Rivals Eye Tourney Spot.

Naturally the game is of na-
tional significance. As usual,
Western is potential tournament
material and the post-season
drums already have started to
beat in the heart of the Beehive.
Most observers agree that the
Ironmen can wrap up a N. I. T.
bid in record-breaking time by
winning three of their next five
games, starting with Western to-
night. Of course, it is a tall
order for the metropolitan area's
most surprising team. But, then,
who ever would have given L. I.
U. any kind of chance against
Oklahoma A. & M., Southern Cali-
fornia and San Francisco? After
Western, L. I. U.'s agenda calls
for meetings with Muhlenberg,
Bowling Green, St. Louis Uni-
versity and North Carolina State.
The schedule tapers off after the
date with North Carolina, so by
the morning of January 18, the
Ironmen will have made their
mark.

Tonight's game is a tossup.
Western (6-1) swamped Canisius,
74-61, last Monday. The lone de-
feat came in the final sixteen sec-
onds against Cincinnati in the
Rhineland. There have been some
strange stories circulating on the
caliber of the officiating at the
recently constructed Cincinnati
Gardens. Questioned about it
yesterday, Coach Diddle coyly re-
torted: "There is no doubt that
the Cincinnati officiating is dif-
ferent."

Western Kentucky is a scant
1-point underdog to L. I. U. or
5½-6½ in odds quotations, while
in the preliminary N. Y. U. is a
4½-point choice over a Yale squad
which lost badly to Boston Col-
lege the other night.

HERE FOR GAME WITH LONG ISLAND UNIVERSITY TONIGHT



The Western Kentucky basketball squad had a workout in the Sixty-ninth Regiment Armory yester-
day. Here they are with Assistant Coach Ted Hornback. The players, from left to right, are Ed Diddle
Jr., Rip Gish, Bob Lavoy, Jack Turner and John Givens.

The New York Times

SECOND GAME	
L. I. U.	W. KENTUCKY
(61) Smith	L. F. Turner (39)
(20) White	R. E. Gish (30)
(64) Scherer	C. Lavoy (25)
(63) Biggs	L. G. Rhodes (11)
(65) Gard	R. G. Givens (77)
SUBSTITUTES	
L. I. U.—Hasbrouck (24), Van Winkle (25), Alpert (27), Keller (28), Murtha (31), Feurtado (33), Gilchrist (34).	
Western Kentucky—McGuire (21), Gibson (26), Diddle (27), Waters (38), Cowan (36), Wallheiser (34), Johnson (39).	
Officials—Hagan Anderson and James Col- lins.	

Western Is Beaten By L.I.U. 73 to 66

From Friday's Late Editions

New York, Dec. 29 (AP) — Western Kentucky's fleet-footed and hard-charging Hilltoppers were beaten at their own game tonight when a tall and talented Long Island five spotted them an 11-1 lead then roared back to hand them a rousing 73-66 licking.

A crowd of more than 18,000 Madison Square Garden spectators felt sure they were in for a Western Kentucky romp when Ed Diddle's invaders sprang into a 5-0 lead in the first two minutes. Two minutes later, the Kentuckians were even farther in front, 11-1, with the Blackbirds yet to hit the floor.

At this point, an angular Negro, named Sherman White, pushed in a soft lay-up and both the Blackbirds and the 6-7½ string-bean were off and going.

White Nets 31

White, before fouling out two and a half minutes from the end, rang up 31 points to set a new season high at the Garden. He made 14 points in the first half to enable his mates to walk off with a 38-38 tie. At that, it took a last-minute five-point rally by the visitors to send the game into an intermission tie.

For only 10 seconds were the Hilltoppers in front in the second half. That was when Ed Diddle, Jr., dropped in a free throw in the opening seconds to make it 39-38. White and Herb Scherer then collaborated to tally 10 of L.I.U.'s next 12 points to put the Blackbirds in front 52-42 and the Hilltoppers never recovered. They managed to whittle the Blackbirds' lead down to 56-52 midway in the period, but there was no stopping White. Bob Lavoy, the 6-7 Ken-

tuckian center, rang up 17 points himself, but could do nothing with White, who outfought and outjumped him all the way. At that, most of Lavoy's points were made on tap-ins. Johnny Givens, the visitors' playmaker, accounted for 14 points, while Rip Gish and Jack Turner made 11 apiece.

Following White for Long Island were Scherer with 17 points, and Leroy Smith with 10. The defeat was the second in eight starts for the Hilltoppers while the victory was No. 9 in 10 outings for the Blackbirds. It marked their first triumph over Western Kentucky in three Garden clashes.

The fleet-footed Hilltoppers opened up as if they were going to run the Blackbirds right into the ground. Gene Rhodes received a pass on the opening tap-off and curled in a basket to start it off. A push shot and a free throw by the same Rhodes followed by three consecutive tip-ins by Jack Turner, Bob Lavoy and Jack Turner made it 11-1 for the Kentuckians after four minutes of play. Only a charity toss by big Herb Scherer prevented the Birds from a complete wash-out.

White connected with a soft push shot at 4:14 for Long Island's first two-pointer. That seemed to be the signal for the Blackbirds to get moving. Led by White and Scherer, 6-7½ and 6-9, respectively, the tall Long Islanders swished through 15 points in the next five minutes to deadlock the score at 18-18.

The Kentuckians, who hit with nearly everything they threw up in the first five minutes, suffered a terrific letdown in the next five. They missed apparent "hangers" repeatedly and appeared a disconcerted crew as Long Island took control of both backboards, grabbing nine of every 10 rebounds.

L.I.U. (73)	fg	ft	pf	West'n (66)	fg	ft	pf
Smith f	5	9	3	Turner f	4	3	3
White f	13	5	5	Gish f	5	1	5
Scherer c	7	3	4	Diddle f	2	3	3
Murtha c	0	0	0	McGuire f	0	0	0
Bigos g	3	2	5	Lavoy c	8	1	5
Gard g	1	1	0	Johnson c	0	1	0
Alpert g	0	0	0	Rhodes g	2	1	4
Feurtado g	2	0	4	Givens g	6	2	2
Totals	31	11	21	Totals	27	12	22

Halftime score: L.I.U. 38, Western Kentucky 33.

The Hilltoppers continued to flounder around, messing up passes, as the Blackbirds, now more sure of themselves, calmly built up a 36-27 with four minutes of the first half remaining. Kentucky roared back on a lay-up by Lavoy and two long sets by Givens to make it 36-33. Lavoy's rebounder equalized a push shot by White. The Hilltoppers knotted the score at 38-38 when Ed Diddle, Jr., who became Western Kentucky's first substitute at 19:10 made good on a free throw and followed with a long set just before the final whistle.

L. I. U. Beats Western Kentucky,

BLACKBIRDS CHECK HILLTOPPERS, 73-66

White Gets 31 Points to Lead L. I. U. Quintet to Triumph Over Western Kentucky

By LOUIS EFFRAT

Sherman White scored 31 points and carried Long Island University to a notable 73-66 victory over Western Kentucky last night at Madison Square Garden. N. Y. U. overwhelmed Yale, 76-62, in the opener so that it was an all-winning night before 18,000 fans for the local quintets.

White, banished on personals two and a half minutes before the final buzzer, was given a tremendous ovation when he left in possession of the year's top tallying figures. His total, achieved principally by some select work in the bucket, was one point higher than the former high, made by Gerry Calabrese of St. John's against Kentucky earlier in the month.

Because Ed Diddle's Hilltoppers, beaten only once before this year, were unable to stop Long Island's tall timber, White and Herb Scherer, the Blackbirds notched their ninth victory of the campaign in impressive style. Little by little, Clair Bee's lads continue to win new admirers and last night was no exception. Despite its lack of depth—this is merely a 6-man squad, the others being, more or less, bench-dressers—L. I. U. is being called the best in town.

L.I.U. Erases 11-1 Deficit

And to protect this high rating, the Birds had to bounce back from an early 11-1 deficit. They failed to click with their first fifteen floor-shots, White's successful rebound on the sixteenth accounting for their initial field goal. Thereafter, however, and with a mild letdown in the second half, L.I.U. was clearly superior to the Hilltoppers.

Bob Lavoy, Western Kentucky's highly touted center, who had averaged 20.1 points per game, did not live up to his billing and hurt the visitors' chances in a game that was figured to be a toss-up at the outset. Defensively, Lavoy did not have the steadiness that goes with an All-America and on attack. Though he scored 17 points, mostly on tap-ins, he awoke too late to help the Western Kentucky cause.

Long Island, like its rival, forfeited a sizable lead, permitting a 9-point advantage to shrink entirely and walking from the floor at the intermission with a 38-38 tie. Three minutes of seesaw action were followed by an 8-point spurt by the Blackbirds, White being the key man. At the 9-minute mark, the Hilltoppers were still in contention, trailing by only 4 points, but some extra fine work by White and Smith minimized this threat.

Then, with little Eddie Gard intercepting passes, Dolph Bigos commanding respect at all times and the tall men continuing to do their parts, Long Island widened the gap comfortably.

Blackbird Defense Strong

Western Kentucky met with difficulty in piercing the Long Island defense underneath the boards. As a result, the losing team's offensive had to depend on outside pops from Jack Turner and John Givens. L. I. U., on the other hand, looked great, setting up its plays and romping home against a worthy foe.

Slow in starting, N. Y. U. fell behind, 10-2, but shortly thereafter solved Yale's zone defense and after gaining a 33-32 edge at half-time, triumphed comfortably in the curtain-raiser. Bob Derderian, hitting the target with his first six floor shots, wound up with seven out of ten and his 17 points shared scoring laurels with Yale's Stan Peacock.

Derderian played his best game of the season for the Violets. His shooting and rebounding were top-rate, and with Joel Kaufman contributing nicely in controlling the rebounds underneath both backboards, N. Y. U. capitalizing on a fast-breaking attack, clinched its fourth victory of the year. It was Yale's third setback.

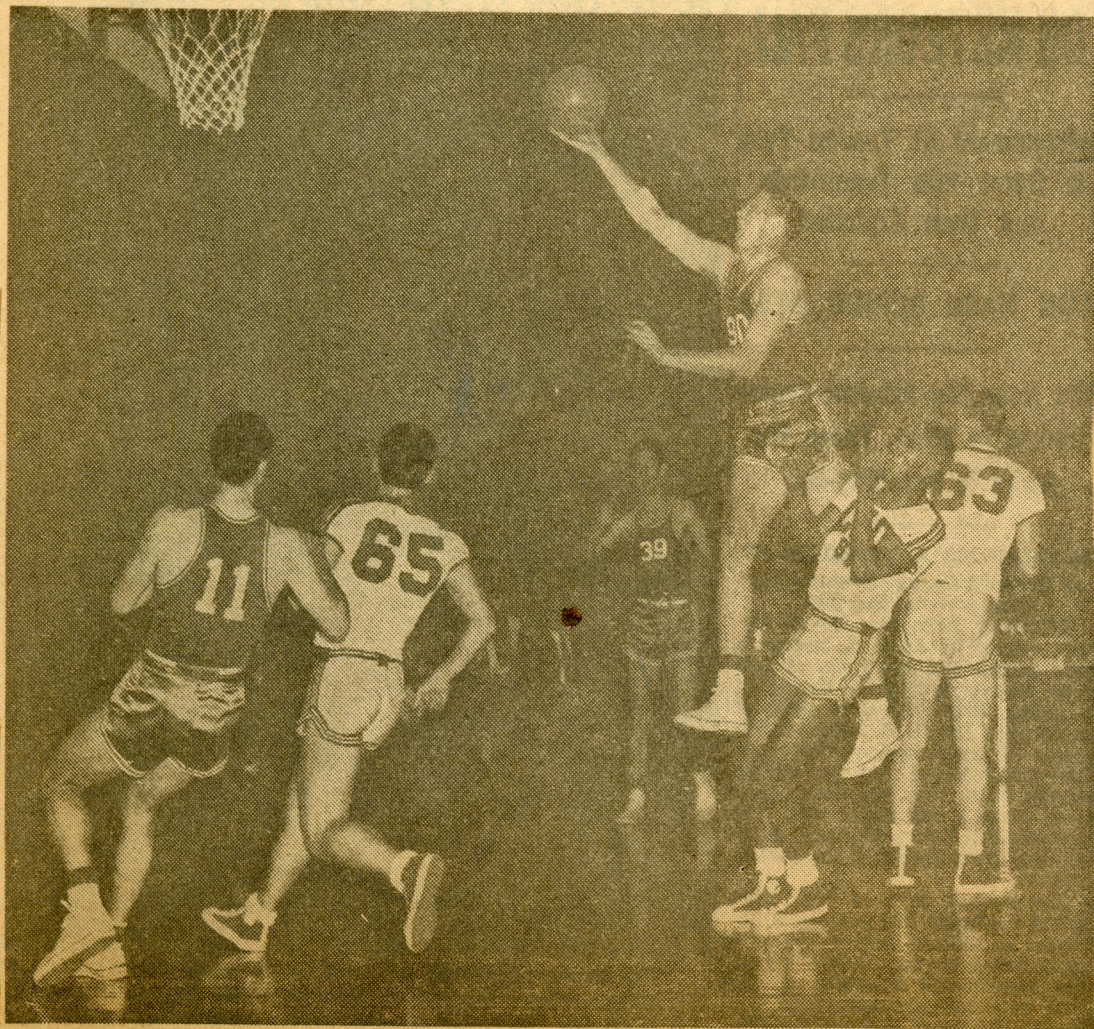
The line-ups:



Associated Press Wirephoto

RHODES SCORES — Gene Rhodes, Western Kentucky guard, leaps upward to score in the first half of the Western-Long Island University game at Madison Square Garden. Watching him make the tally are Eddie Gard (65) and Herb Scherer (64) of L.I.U. and Bob Lavoy (25) of Western. L.I.U. won 73-66.

A HILLTOPPER RISING TO THE OCCASION



Gish, who appears to be balancing the ball in mid-air, is shooting a field goal in last night's game with L. I. U. at the Garden. Following the play are Rhodes (11) and Turner (39) of Western Kentucky and Gard (65). Smith and Bigos (62) of the Blackbirds.

La Salle Bounces Western 80-69

Philadelphia, Jan. 2 (AP)—La Salle College trounced Western Kentucky 80-69 tonight in the opening game of a Convention Hall basketball doubleheader. It was the third defeat of the season for the visiting Kentuckians.

Four players for the La Salle Explorers hit double figures in the conquest, which proved an easy one for the home team.

Frank Comerford and Larry Foust each had 18 points for La Salle, with Bobby "Ace" McCann getting 17. The fourth La Salle man to break into double figures was Jimmy Phelan with 11 points.

Bob Lavoy, brilliant center for the Hilltoppers, who fouled out in the second half, had 18 points to lead Western Kentucky's attack.

The victory was La Salle's sixth against two defeats.

La Salle, after sporting a nine-point intermission edge, quickly jumped to a 17-point lead in the final half in salting away the victory.

La Salle outscored its rivals from the floor 30-25 and converted 20 points from the foul line.

W. Ky.	fg	ft	pf	La Salle	fg	ft	pf
Diddle f	2	1	5	Gallagher f	1	1	1
Turner f	4	3	3	Comerford f	7	4	4
Gish f	1	0	1	Tomkins f	4	0	5
Johnson f	1	0	2	Coleman f	0	0	1
Lavoy c	7	4	5	Foust c	5	3	4
Walheiser c	2	1	0	Gillespie c	1	1	1
Givens g	2	4	2	McCann g	7	3	3
Rhodes g	5	5	4	Phelan g	4	3	4
Gibson g	0	0	3	McMenaming	1	0	0
McGuire g	1	1	0	Jones g	0	0	1
Totals	25	19	25	Totals	30	20	25

Half time score: La Salle 43, Western Kentucky 34.

Free throws missed: La Salle—Gallagher, Comerford 2, Foust 2, McCann, Phelan 2, Tomkins 2, Western Kentucky—Turner, Gish 2, Johnson, Lavoy, Walheiser 2, Givens 2.

New York Fans Look Forward To Good Show

By Joe Reichler

NEW YORK, Dec. 28—(AP)—Madison Square Garden basketball fans are looking forward to a good time as well as a good game Thursday night when powerful Western Kentucky meets Long Island University.

Sitting at the head of Western Kentucky's bench, groaning and moaning with every pass and shot, will be Ed Diddle, one of the most colorful cage coaches in the country.

Diddle, with his gyrations on the bench, constantly keeps the fans wondering what prevents his blood vessels from bursting. He is known far and wide for his towel-tossing act which is not a show but a nervous habit acquired over the years.

WHEN A beautiful play clicks or when his boys score a much needed basket, Diddle may toss his red towel, which has become his trademark, to the rafter or beat the floor with it in wild jubilation.

In moments of depression he has been known to try and ram the whole towel down his throat or bury his head in it and cry like a baby.

He is taking over at Western in every mentor has compiled. His Hilltoppers won last year.

This year's squad? He it with last

Philadelphia Team Near Top For 3 Years

This is a night of decision in a "now or never" year for LaSalle's Explorers.

The senior-studded combine, which has lingered just outside the spotlight of champions for three years, clashes with Western Kentucky's Hilltoppers at Corvention Hall.

The tilt, booked for 7 p. m. Bowling Green time, is one both the Explorers and ambitious Hilltoppers must capture to rate with the nation's exclusive basketball powers in the opening days of the new year.

LaSALLE HAS failed to come up with a champion's laurels the past three seasons although the Explorers knocked off 3 national titlists—the NIT's Utah, NCAA's Holy Cross and the NAIB's Louisville—while winning 61 games and losing but 17.

With 6-9 pivot Larry Foust, first Philadelphia college player ever to pass the 1,000-point mark, and a host of clever and experienced operatives back, this was supposed to be LaSalle's year. But after running up wins against DePaul, Temple and two breathers, the Explorers were joined by UCLA and San Francisco.

They got back on the winning trail again Saturday night with a 90-58 conquest of Georgetown University and may be ready to blow now.

Ken Loeffler, the former professional mentor, now is handling the reins for LaSalle. He has installed the same five-man screen type offense he used with the St. Louis Bombers to win division honors in the BAA.

UNDER THIS system, all five men move in and out of the pivot. This is a radical change from the last three years when Foust was the sole inhabitant of the keyhole slot.

Expected to team with Foust, who scored 453 points last year, in LaSalle's starting line-up tonight are forwards Bill Gallagher (6-2) and Jimmy Phelan (6-0) and guards Frank Comerford (6-1) and dynamic Bob McCann (5-8). All except Phelan are seniors.

Others who probably will see service are 6-0 Walt Coleman, 5-11 Charles Donnelly, 5-9 Matt Fanning, 6-4 John Gillespie, 6-7 John Grauer, 6-0 John Haggerty, 6-2 Newton Jones, 5-11 Frank McMenamin and 6-1 Charles Tompkins.

The scorers of LaSalle's five wins thus far are 76-41 over Millersville, 49-41 over DePaul, 73-51 over Loyola of Baltimore, 60-55 over Temple and 90-58 over Georgetown. The loss to UCLA was by 62-57 and to San Francisco by 46-44.

Western has faced LaSalle twice in previous seasons, winning at Philly in a regular season game and at New York in the 1948 NIT. Both were comparatively close decisions.

The game is rated a toss-up. You give one point and take either team.

The Hilltoppers are slated to return to Bowling Green tomorrow afternoon by plane.

Here are the season's statistics on the Toppers.

(*Out of action as result of oper-

	G	FG-A	FT-A	PF	TP
Lavoy	8	64-146	31-57	27	159
Turner	8	42-94	21-28	20	105
Rhodes	8	27-82	23-34	21	77
Givens	7	21-68	9-13	17	51
*Cate	4	16-42	12-18	10	44
Diddle	8	17-53	9-24	20	43
Gish	8	14-49	6-14	28	34
Others	-	11-50	10-14	32	32

Totals 212-584 121-202 175 545
Averages 36.3% 60% 22 68.1

Opponents 168-577 167-188 166 443
Average 29.1% 57% 21 55.4

Diddle To Lose More Towels For Western

He Has Thrown Away Over Thousand; Next Games To Be Tough

BY KYLE VANCE

Bowling Green, Ky., —(AP)— Ed Diddle must have tossed away a thousand towels in his time.

If so, however, he has a basketball victory for every two towels he has lost. And the controller at Western Kentucky State College counts the games Diddle wins instead of the towels he loses.

The colorful coach started winning games and tossing towels (as a nervous habit during close games) 29 years ago. He entered the charmed company of 500-game winners when western defeated its top rival, Eastern Kentucky, Saturday night.

Too Tough

Looking ahead, Diddle mused today: "modern basketball's too tough. The next 500 will be the hardest."

But he likes the game in its present break-neck form. He only wishes the rules-makers would settle on a system and leave the book alone awhile.

(His towel-tossing picked up when the two-minute rule came in and he'd just as soon see that regulation take a walk.)

An odd feature of Diddle's record is that tournament games make up almost one-fifth of his 500 victories. He has won 98 tourney games, including some important ones in national competition.

Has Good Record

Since 1932, his teams have won 22 conference tournament championships—the Kentucky Intercollegiate 13 times, Southern Intercollegiate eight times and the Ohio Valley once, the only time that newly organized loop has held a tourney.

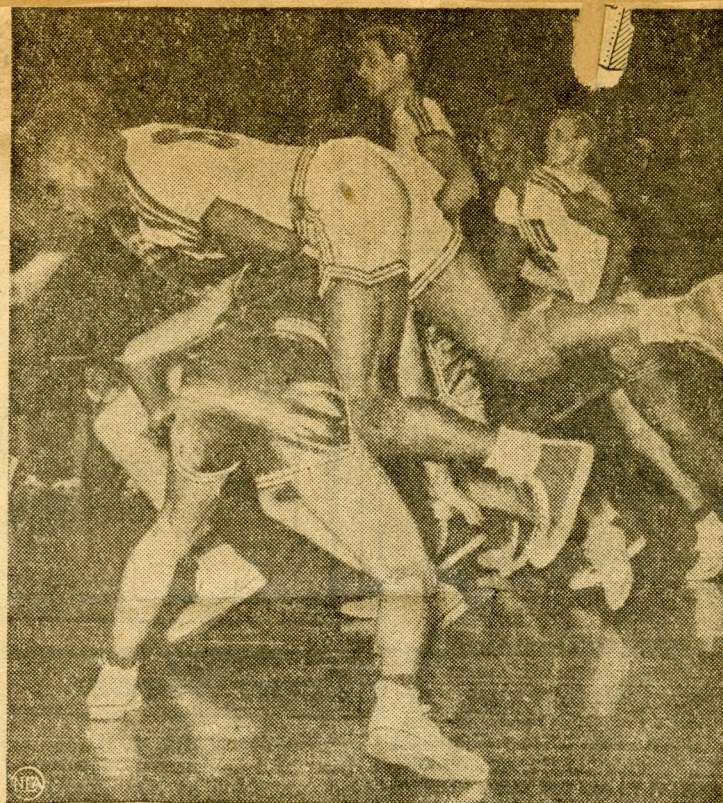
The Hilltoppers competed in the 1936 Olympic playoffs and were NCAA representatives in the 1940 eliminations. They have competed in the National Invitation at Madison Square Garden four times, advancing to the finals in 1942, winning third place in 1948 and moving to the quarter-finals in 1943 and 1949.

While winning 500, Diddle has lost 190 games.

To win his 499th last week, coach and team had to detour several miles around flood waters of the Green river to reach Owensboro, Ky.

That set Diddle to thinking. A flood on the same river in the same area kept him and his Greenville, Ky., high school team out of a tournament at Owensboro 29 years ago.

The Greenville team was invited to participate in a Bowling Green tourney instead and Diddle accepted. Western State College was looking for a coach and its officials were impressed with the spirit of the Greenville team.



LeRoy Smith of Long Island University was stopped for no gain on this play by Jack Turner, but Western Kentucky failed to keep the Blackbirds in check most of the night as they absorbed a 73-66 defeat at Madison Square Garden before 18,000. In background are LIU's Herb Scherer and Sherman White, who tabbed 31 points in the game, and Western's Eddie Diddle.

Western Presents Diddle With 500th Win At Eastern

Western Favored To Defeat Eastern

By TOMMY FITZGERALD
Courier-Journal Staff Writer.

Bowling Green, Jan. 6.—There's a feeling the citizens of this friendly, spirited town could fall on their heads from a high place tonight without hurting themselves. One wouldn't be surprised to see them do nothing but bounce because that's how basketball-minded they are as they await Western's basketball battle of the year.

When Western's great rivals from Richmond, the Eastern Maroons, tangle with the Hilltoppers tomorrow night at 7:30, they'll have both a team and a town to beat. That's quite a task for even such a capable team as Eastern boasts.

To say the Hilltoppers and their impassioned followers are worked up into a lather of spiritual fervor for this game is putting it mildly. In fact, they've been whipped into a frenzy for a whole year now over this encounter—ever since

Eastern upset the Hilltoppers 42-40 here last January 29 to end a 15-game Western winning streak and slap on the Hilltoppers their first defeat in 32 games on their home floor.

Held Ball

The resourceful Paul McBrayer, coach of Eastern, beat Western by playing a ball-possession game. He instructed his boys not to shoot unless they had an exceptionally good chance. Eastern took only 29 shots in the game and made 16 for shooting percentage of 55.

This is one way to conquer a team that can out-run you. This year again, Western seems to have more speed than the Maroons. But the Maroons are a rugged, experienced club. They may try again to keep the Hilltoppers slowed down.

Of the nine Maroons who played in the game here against Western last season, eight are back—Mrazovich, Baechtold,

Fryz, Eagle, Hicks, Roberts, Shemelya and Reid. Eastern has lost only Bob Coleman, substitute center.

Western has lost such veterans as Mann, Oldham and Parsley, but has some fast, young, talented fellows to take their places in Diddle, Turner and Rhodes. Western also will be without the services of another regular, the 6-5 Buddy Cate.

Cate is just about ready to play again after undergoing an appendectomy, and Dr. W. R. McCormack, team physician, may give him the green light until in tonight's game. The Hilltoppers have missed Cate's height.

9-Point Favorite

Despite Eastern's deeper experience and the fact the Maroons whipped Western once last season and held Western to 56-53 another time, the Hilltoppers have been installed a nine-point favorite by Louisville betting brokers. In the third meeting between the

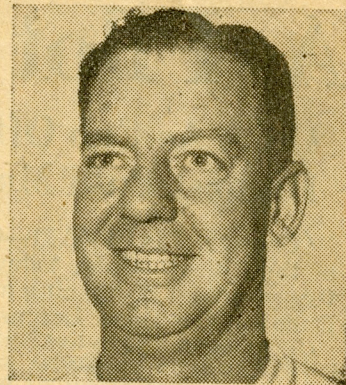
teams last season, Western walloped the Maroons 70-54 in the semi-finals of the Ohio Valley Conference Tournament.

The game naturally is a sell-out as is the return game between the two clubs at Richmond, January 21.

So far the Toppers, hurt by the absence of Cate, have been a bit of a disappointment in the national picture. They lost two games on their recent Eastern trip, bowing to Long Island U. 73-66 in Madison Square Garden and to LaSalle at Philadelphia 80-69 after whipping Canisius 74-61. All told, they've lost three games while winning six.

Eastern has won seven of nine games. The Maroons have lost only to Toledo by three points and to Beloit by one.

On paper, Eastern and nine points looks like an appealing bet, but psychology, in Western's favor, should play an important role. They'll be on their own floor, cheered by a rabidly-loyal



Paul McBrayer
Hopes to Repeat at B.G.

crowd and they'll be impelled by revenge.

How the 6-6 Chuck Mrazovich and the 6-9 Bob Lavoy, who has averaged 19.8 points a game, fare against each other also might decide the issue.

Toppers Lead From Start In 69-51 Victory

RICHMOND, Ky., Jan. 21 — A brilliant Western basketball machine made Coach Ed Diddle's 500th win one of his greatest tonight.

Operating in the style of the old master's finest teams, the Hilltoppers thundered over Eastern 69-51.

A capacity 3,500 sat stunned in Weaver Health Building as powerful Western flashed the form that carried it to smashing earlier victories over Bowling Green, Cincinnati and Eastern.

THE DEFEAT WAS the worst the Maroons have suffered here since Coach Paul McBrayer began moulding first-rate teams in 1946. It was accomplished by a Hilltopper crew that rarely made a mistake, that operated with class from gun to gun.

Diddle was so overcome he could hardly speak as the team crowded around to offer congratulations. Not since 1941 has one of his teams won by such a margin here.

Western	FG-A	FT-A	PF	TP
Cate F	7-15	7-9	5	21
Gish F	1-2	1-4	3	3
Lavoy C	6-16	2-5	4	14
Rhodes G	0-1	3-4	2	3
Givens G	1-4	5-6	2	7
Turner F	8-17	3-4	4	19
Waters F	0-1	0-1	0	0
Johnson F	0-0	0-0	0	0
Wallheiser C	0-0	2-3	0	2
McGuire G	0-1	0-0	2	0
Gibson G	0-0	0-1	0	0

Totals	23-57	23-37	22	69
Eastern	FG-A	FT-A	PF	TP
Fryz F	4-9	1-5	2	9
Baechtold F	0-1	0-0	0	0
Mrazovich C	1-11	5-6	5	7
Eagle G	2-9	0-1	5	4
Shemelya G	3-10	0-0	4	6
Harper F	3-11	3-3	4	9
Moberly F	1-10	3-4	4	5
Stevens C	1-4	1-2	5	3
Hicks G	3-13	1-2	4	7
Reid G	0-0	0-0	0	0
Roberts	0-6	1-2	0	1

Totals 18-84 15-25 33 51
Halftime score: Western 31, Eastern 23.

Ed Diddle's Shining Record

	SEASON				TOURNAMENTS				TOTAL			
	W	L	Pt	OP	W	L	Pt	OP	W	L	Pt	OP
1922-23	12	2	470	284					12	2	470	284
1923-24	9	9	513	494					9	9	513	494
1924-25	8	6	400	329					8	6	400	329
1925-26	9	3	413	290	1	1	56	51	10	4	469	341
1926-27	9	5	412	378	3	2	174	149	12	7	586	527
1927-28	9	5	468	376	1	2	100	87	10	7	586	473
1928-29	7	9	381	434	1	1	48	46	8	10	429	480
1929-30	3	11	356	468	1	1	62	72	4	12	418	540
1930-31	9	1	430	293	2	2	127	124	11	3	557	417
1931-32	11	7	505	476	4	1	182	146	15	8	687	622
1932-33	11	5	549	510	5	1	202	153	16	6	751	663
1933-34	20	8	944	753	8	0	289	211	28	8	1233	964
1934-35	17	2	748	516	7	1	258	147	24	3	1006	663
1935-36	21	1	858	584	5	3	365	275	26	4	1223	859
1936-37	14	2	613	422	7	0	299	187	21	2	912	609
1937-38	23	3	1051	776	7	0	306	207	30	3	1357	983
1938-39	15	3	890	623	7	0	338	230	22	3	1228	853
1939-40	18	5	1021	778	6	1	273	208	24	6	1294	986
1940-41	18	3	984	701	4	1	246	209	22	4	1230	910
1941-42	20	4	1126	889	9	1	493	406	29	5	1619	1303
1942-43	21	2	1424	728	3	1	198	171	24	3	1622	899
1943-44	13	9	967	873					13	9	967	873
1944-45	17	10	1216	1159					17	10	1216	1159
1945-46	13	17	1457	1478	2	2	170	171	15	19	1627	1649
1946-47	18	4	1357	990	7	0	448	293	25	4	1805	1283
1947-48	23	1	1663	1160	5	1	394	345	28	2	2057	1505
1948-49	22	3	1725	1319	3	1	303	259	25	4	2028	1578
1949-50	12	4	1106	936					12	4	1106	936

TOTALS 402 144 24047 18991 98 23 5331 4155 500 167 29378 23140
Champions of Kentucky Intercollegiate Athletic Conference—1932-'33-'34-'35-'36-'37-'38-'39-'40-'42-'43-'47-'48. (Western withdrew after 1948 tournament.)

Champions of Southern Intercollegiate Athletic Association—1934-'37-'38-'39-'40-'41-'42-'47. (No tournament held since 1947.)

Champions of Ohio Valley Conference—1949. (First OVC tournament.)

Southern Representative in Olympic Play-offs—1936.

Southern Representative in NCAA Tournament—1940.

Runners-up National Invitation Tournament—1942.

Quarter-finalist National Invitation—1943.

Placed Third National Invitation—1948.

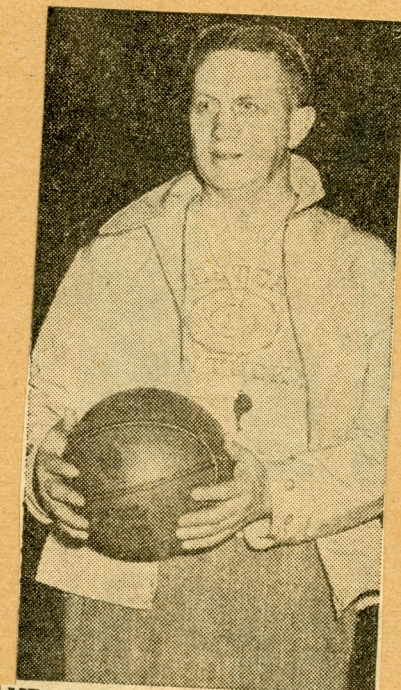
Quarter-finalist National Invitation—1949.

In a great team victory which saw Western never endangered after the first two minutes, it was a couple of irrepressible forwards who led scoring. Buddy Cate rammed in 21 points and Jack Turner tossed home 19.

These two combined with Bob Lavoy, who tabbed 14 in addition to playing a brilliant feeding game, to dominate the boards.

The guards, Gene Rhodes and Johnny Givens, were masterful floor operatives on both the fast break and set offense. The latter clicked with almost monotonous effectiveness against a Maroon club which didn't belong on the same floor with Western tonight.

LAVOY TURNED in possibly his top defensive performance of the year. He limited Chuck Mrazovich, Eastern's fine pivot, to one field goal. Rhodes held Paul Hicks, the other classy Maroon, to three goals from the floor.



MR. BASKETBALL — He entered nation's most select circle last night.

The victory all but clinched regular season Ohio Valley Conference honors for the Hilltoppers. It was their fifth success without a loss.

It also is almost certain to hurdle Western to the No. 1 spot in the South, for University of Louisville lost to Marshall tonight 96-72.

Western trailed but once, 1-0 on Mrazovich's free with 1:25 gone. Givens meshed two from the line to spring the Toppers ahead 20 seconds later.

Lavoy's sensational 20-foot hook, a jump from the side by Givens, Rip Gish's free and Cate's drive-in made it 9-1 at 3:45.

Ed Shemelya and Joe Fryz hit sizzling streaks just before the 10-minute mark to cut Western's margin to 20-15. But Cate came back with a free and rebound bucket, Lavoy crippled on the fast break and Turner goaled a deuce from the line to make it 27-17.

Western led at the half 31-23 after meshing 11 of 30 attempts from the floor. Eastern could net but 8 of 44.

THE ARCHRIVALS swapped swapped goals for 3:10 of the last

against a 58.1 for the Toppers' foes.

Both need to generate steam. It's unfortunate for both—but lucky for the fans — that they meet under these circumstances.

The only definite starters for Western are Jack Turner, Bob Lavoy and Johnny Givens. Either Rip Gish or Cate will be at the other forward with Rhodes the probable other guard.

The Maroons are expected to count on four very familiar faces—Jim Baechtold, Chuck Mrazovich, Paul Hicks and Ed Shemelya. The last three have been around for four years, now. Baechtold is a sophomore who helped wreck Western here last season. The fifth starter probably will be Harold Moberly, a 6-4 soph.

The two clubs are about even in height. Western has an edge in speed and close-in shooting. The Maroons have superior long-range power and possess endless drive.

The game easily can be decided on the front line where Rhodes will have the assignment of silencing Hicks, Eastern's basket-barrager who has averaged better than 15 points a game. Hicks' play was the real clincher here last January.

It also can be decided in the pivot where Lavoy matches strength with Mrazovich. Lavoy has almost a 20-point average, but he won't meet many better men in the slot than the scowling Mrazovich.

The game is slated for 7:30 p. m. Western was favored today by three to nine points.

Western has won 46 games and Eastern 16 in the series which was inaugurated in 1915.

	G	FG-A	FT-A	PF	TP
Lavoy ...	9	71-172	35-62	32	177
Turner ..	9	46-111	24-32	23	116
Rhodes ..	9	32-96	28-39	25	92
Givens ..	8	23-80	13-19	19	59
Diddle ...	9	19-60	10-23	25	48
Cate	4	16-42	12-18	10	44
Gish	9	15-57	6-16	29	36
Johnson ..	7	6-19	3-9	14	15
McGuire ..	8	3-11	4-4	1	10
Wallheiser	6	3-7	3-6	4	9
Gibson ..	6	1-9	0-0	4	2
Others ..	-	2-8	2-3	2	6

Totals ... 237-672 140-231 188 614
Averages... 35.3% 60.6% 21 68.2
Opp. T't's 198-651 127-218 191 523
Averages .. 30.4% 58.2% 21 58.1

Western, St. John's Vie Tonight; U.K. Tackles C.C.N.Y. Tuesday

By LARRY BOECK
Courier-Journal Staff Writer.

New York City, March 12.
—Western Kentucky gets the opportunity tomorrow night of vindicating Bluegrass basketball.

The Hilltoppers enter the quarter-finals of the National Invitation Tournament here against St. John's, early season conqueror of University of Kentucky.

Sitting among the spectators while the Hilltoppers tackle the smooth Redmen will be the U. K. Wildcats. They were scheduled to arrive here by air early this evening, but they don't play until Tuesday night. Their foe: City College of New York.

St. John's, which yesterday placed two men on the all-metropolitan basketball team, has been made a 2½-point underdog against the rangy Hilltoppers, who gained the quarter-final with a 79-72 conquest of Niagara yesterday.

In Second Game

The two teams clash in the second game of the doubleheader. First seeded Bradley and Syracuse meet in the opener at 7:15 p.m. Louisville time. Then St. John's and Western take the floor at about 9 p.m.

If successful tomorrow the Hilltoppers move into Thursday's semi-finals, colliding with the winner of the Bradley-Syracuse tussle.

St. John's, however, is reckoned as a formidable obstacle the 'Toppers must hurdle to gain the semis.

The Redmen, winner of 22 in 26 games, have two of the outstanding performers in this area. They are Capt. Gerry Calabrese, one of three seniors on a well-balanced club, and center Bob Zawoluk, six-foot-six.

These two made the all-metro-

politan first team, chosen by New York sportswriters. Additionally, Jack McMahon made the second team.

Calabrese was the thorn in Kentucky's side, hitting over 30 points when the Redmen whipped the Wildcats 69-58 early in the season. Kentucky improved and went on to become the nation's third ranked team. But the fact remains the Hilltoppers will have to stop Zawoluk and Calabrese if they hope to move ahead in the tourney.

Lavoy's Assignment

Bob Lavoy, who scored 32 points when Western stopped Niagara, probably will draw Zawoluk as his defensive assignment. Coach Ed Diddle today still hadn't decided who he'd put on Calabrese, but it probably will be Johnny Givens.

Western will have height on St. John's, averaging about six-one or two. But the Redmen are expected to counter this with an edge in depth and, possibly, in defensive ability.

Its defense, however, will have to be sharp to stop Western, especially on a hot night. For the

Hilltoppers are among the nation's leaders in that happy facility of finding the basket's range.

Both teams like to run. Western proved when it beat Niagara that it can gallop along with even the fanciest stepping teams, for the Purple Eagles had speed to spare.

Close Game Expected

So, all things considered, most observers here are expecting a close, keenly dueling game tomorrow night. Reserve power may be an important factor, especially if the whistle-happy officials here foul out one or two of the Hilltoppers' key men. For, after the first six or seven men, Western finds itself in trouble. As it is, Rip Gish has a bad ankle.

St. John's, meanwhile, can go down fairly deep in reserve strength.

The Redmen lost four games this season—to C.C.N.Y. by 54-52, to DePaul by 74-68, to Fordham by 70-64 and to Brooklyn College by 67-66. Its best win probably was over Kentucky. As a matter of comparison between Western and St. John's, the Red-

men beat Niagara 72-63 in a regular season's game.

St. John's has defeated Arnold, John Marshall, Virginia Tech, Pratt Institute, Fort Monmouth, L.S.U., Rhode Island, Washington State, San Francisco, U. K., Utah, Wagner, St. Joseph's of Penn., Kings Point, Georgetown, D. C., St. Francis of Brooklyn, Manhattan, Temple, Canisius, Niagara, New York and St. Peters of Brooklyn.

Along the tournament trail:

Harry Lancaster, assistant Kentucky basketball coach, was worried about senior Jim Line today as he awaited the Wildcats.

"Coach Adolph Rupp phoned me yesterday, saying Line has a bad case of the flu," said Harry. "Jim may be able to play, but he may be awfully weak. It could hurt us a lot."

Line has been one of the Cat sparkplugs, often maneuvering in pivot when Bill Spivey vacated that post.

Lancaster scouted all yesterday's games. . . He came up with City College of New York as the team to watch in Kentucky's lower bracket. . . C.C.N.Y. crushed a cold San Francisco 65-46 Saturday. It is a team with speed, some good patterns and excellent ball-handling. . . Ed Warner, six-foot-six Negro center, had a flourish of the spectacular as he scored 26 points. Most came as a result of drives under the bucket, some keen faking and then an almost wild flinging of the ball at the basket. But they went in, which is what counts.

La Salle, which beat Arizona 72-66 in another lower bracket game, can shoot. Like Kentucky, it bombards the basket with shots. . . La Salle meets Duquesne Tuesday in the tilt preceding the U. K.-C.C.N.Y. affair. . . This is Kentucky's sixth N.I.T. affair: It has won one title. . . It is Western's fifth N.I.T. and the Hilltoppers are in quest of their first crown.

N.B.A. Standings

EASTERN DIVISION

	W	L	Pct.
Syracuse	47	12	.797
New York	38	25	.603
Washington	31	34	.477
Baltimore	25	39	.391
Philadelphia	24	41	.369
Boston	22	42	.344

CENTRAL DIVISION

Minneapolis	49	16	.754
Rochester	47	17	.734
Fort Wayne	38	27	.585
Chicago	36	27	.571
St. Louis	23	40	.365

WESTERN DIVISION

Anderson	36	25	.590
Indianapolis	35	25	.583
Tri-City	29	33	.468
Sheboygan	22	36	.379
Waterloo	17	42	.288
Denver	11	49	.183

Mitri Heads For U. S.

Milan, March 12 (AP)—Tiberio Mitri, European middleweight boxing champion, left here today for New York.

Invitation Tourney Facts

Saturday's Results—C.C.N.Y. 65, San Francisco 46; Syracuse 80, Long Island U. 52; La Salle 72, Arizona 66; Western Kentucky 79, Niagara 72.

Monday's Schedule—St. John's vs. Western, 7:15; Bradley vs. Syracuse, 9 p.m.

Tuesday's Schedule—Duquesne vs. La Salle, 7:15; Kentucky vs. C.C.N.Y., 9 p.m.

Thursday's Schedule—Semi-final games at 7:15 and 9.

Saturday's Schedule—Consolation at 7:15; championship game at 9 p.m.

U. K. and Western Could Meet In All-Bluegrass N.I.T. Final

By LARRY BOECK

This time, maybe?

Kentucky and Western yet may clash in the "dream" game, and again the scene is the National Invitation Tournament.

The two were placed in opposite brackets yesterday, making it possible for them to square-off in an all-Bluegrass final.

Unseeded Western, in the upper bracket, opens the tournament in New York Saturday with Niagara at 1 p.m. Louisville time. Second-seeded Kentucky, in the

lower bracket, drew a first-round bye and rests until Tuesday. Then it meets the winner of Saturday's City College of New York-San Francisco game.

Thus, for the second time in as many years, Kentucky and Western have a possibility of meeting for the first time. The battle, long a dream of many state cage fans, can become reality if each team wins out in its bracket and goes to the final.

The game was a possibility last year, too, when Kentucky and Western competed in the N.I.T. They were in the same

bracket then, and would have collided if successful in their first appearances. Each, however, was upset in a day of surprises that has gone down in basketball history as "Bloody Monday." St. Louis and Utah, the other two favorites that day, also were defeated.

Here is the complete 12-team tournament field, separated in brackets and with squad records in parentheses:

Upper bracket: First-seeded Bradley (27-3), fourth-seeded St. John's (22-4), Western (24-5), Niagara (20-6), Long Island Uni-

versity (20-4) and Syracuse (17-7).

Lower bracket: Second-seeded Kentucky (25-4), third-seeded Duquesne (22-3), San Francisco (19-6), City College of New York (16-5), La Salle (20-3) and Arizona (25-4).

To reach the final, Western, rated at 4-1 odds, must travel a longer road than Kentucky. It must win three games, and a fourth to get the championship.

Kentucky, pegged at 5-1, needs but two victories to attain the championship round and three triumphs to gain its second N.I.T. crown in five attempts.

Western also goes into its fifth N.I.T., but it will be gunning for its first crown. Its best effort: runner-up in 1942.

If Western disposes of Niagara Saturday, the Hilltoppers come right back Monday night to battle St. John's. If Kentucky Tuesday night subdues the winner of the San Francisco-C.C.N.Y. game, the Wildcats go into Thursday night's semi-final.

Niagara, first foe of the power-laden Hilltoppers, won 20 and lost six during the season. Here is what happened between a common foe, Canisius: Western 74, Canisius 61; Canisius 49, Niagara 47. Both games were played on the Canisius floor.

Kentucky's surprising Wildcats, not expected to do much this season after the loss of the "Fabulous Four," meet either San Francisco or C.C.N.Y. Tuesday. San Francisco won 19 and lost six. C.C.N.Y. won 16 and lost five.

The Wildcats and San Francisco met three common enemies. Here are the results:

The Comparisons

St. John's 60, 'Frisco 44; St. John's 69, Kentucky 58; Frisco 53, DePaul 51; Kentucky twice beat DePaul 49-47 and 86-53; 'Frisco 57, Xavier 47; Kentucky twice beat Xavier 58-47 and 58-53.

City College of New York and U. K. met one common foe—St. John's. C.C.N.Y. upset the Demons 54-52.

Officials of Kentucky and Western announced yesterday their teams will travel by plane to New York. Western leaves Bowling Green Thursday afternoon at 1 o'clock and will make the Belvedere Hotel its headquarters.

Kentucky departs Lexington,

Continued on Page 6, Column 6

U. of K. 3d, Western 8th In Final Poll

New York, March 7 (AP)—The comeback stories of the 1949-50 college basketball season were written by Bradley and Ohio State.

The final Associated Press poll of the season today showed Bradley's Bounding Braves of Peoria, Ill., the consensus choice of 206 sports writers and broadcasters. The Buckeyes are second.

That's quite a jump from the positions these teams held in the final balloting a year ago. Bradley struggled in seventh while Ohio State was buried in 20th position.

Kentucky, last year's winner, wound up third this time.

Nine of the top ten teams already are engaged for post-season tournament competition—the National Invitation Tournament or that of the National Collegiate Athletic Association. The other team, U.C.L.A., has a good chance to take the N.C.A.A.

Bradley (27-3) drew 90 first-place votes and 1,802 points in the final poll to lead by a wide margin. It was the third straight week the Peorians topped the list.

Ohio State (19-3), the Big Ten titlists, held on to second position with 1,435 points.

Adolph Rupp's Kentuckians (25-4), which captured the Southeastern laurels last week, moved from fourth to third in the poll with 1,294 points. They displaced Holy Cross, which got 1,238.

U. K., Western Tilt Possible

Continued from Page 5

tentatively, Sunday afternoon at 12:15 o'clock and will camp at the Paramount Hotel.

Western's traveling squad is composed of Buddy Cate, Bob Lavoy, Gene Rhodes, Johnny Givens, Jack Turner, Rip Gish, Eddie Diddle, Jr., Bobby McGuire, Frank Wallheiser, and Joe Johnson.

Kentucky has not announced its squad. Teams are allowed to take 12 men to the tournament.

Five Spots Filled

Meanwhile the N.C.A.A. filled five of its eight berths for its post-season tourney with the selection of Baylor, co-champion of the Southwest Conference, to represent District Six.

Here's the N.C.A.A. picture at the moment:

District One—Holy Cross selected.

District Two—Villanova favored if it complies with N.C.A.A.'s sanity code; others in running include Princeton, Duquesne, La Salle, Niagara, St. John's and C.C.N.Y.

District Three—North Carolina State selected.

District Four—Ohio State selected.

District Five—Bradley, Missouri Valley champion, to meet Big Seven champion (Kansas State, Kansas or Nebraska) in playoff at Kansas City, March 20.

District Six—Baylor selected.

District Seven—Brigham Young selected.

District Eight—U.C.L.A. and Washington State, divisional champions of Pacific Coast Conference, meet in playoff.

The Eastern N.C.A.A. eliminations will be held in Madison Square Garden, March 23 and 25. The Western regionals will be played in Kansas City, March 24-25, with the East-West title tilt scheduled for the Garden, March 28.

Art Spoelstra
 Andy Hricko Richard White
 Pat Mezzanotte Eddie Diddle
 Bob Waggener Billy Joe Scott Frank Wallheiser Gene Rhodes Dan King
 Monie Beard "Rip" Gish
 Dike Vest Jack Turner

Don McGuire
 Maurice Hale
 Tom Marshall



Dick Smith
 Charles Rawlings
 Bobby McGuire

WESTERN KENTUCKY STATE HILLTOPPERS 1950-1951

First Row, left to right: Dick Smith, Frank Wallheiser, Art Spoelstra, Rip Gish, Dan King, Tom Marshall, Jack Turner.

Second Row, left to right: Pat Mezzanotte, Kay Greer, Bobby Waggener, Eddie Ward, Andy Hricko, Eddie Diddle, Gene Rhodes.

Third Row, left to right: Don McGuire, Richard White, Bobby McGuire, Charles Rawlings, Maurice Hale, Billy Joe Scott, Monie Beard, and Dike Vest.



Western Tips Murray

SPORTS

SECTION 2

**Wins 54-50
For 11 In Row**

By TOMMY FITZGERALD
Courier-Journal Staff Writer.

Bowling Green, Ky., Feb. 10.—The Thoroughbreds of Murray carried mighty Western down to a photo finish here tonight before losing on free throws 54-50 in as fiercely-fought a basketball game as the human heart can stand.

The strapping Thoroughbreds were a nose in front, 49-47, with four minutes to play. Then the race changed, on, appropriately enough, a forward pass because there was a little bit of football, too, in this battle here tonight.

From outside under Murray's basket, Rip Gish threw as fine a forward pass as ever left the hands of a Lujack last fall. It went the length of the floor into the arms of the racing Bob Lavoy at the other end of the floor. The officials ruled 6-foot-8 Madison Stanford fouled Lavoy attempting to shoot the crip.

Lavoy made both frees to tie the score. But, worse than that for Murray, was the loss of Stanford who played a great game. He was a fighting fool and he had given Lavoy a troublesome night.

Then Johnny Givens, Western's hard-driving guard, broke loose with a furious dribble down the floor. He was fouled and made the free. Western led by 50-49 with three minutes left.

Plays For Time

Western played for time, safeguarding its lead until the two-minute rule could go into effect. When it did, Givens added another point on a free and Lavoy followed with a crip. That made the score 53-49 and that was the ball game. Givens dropped in a free for Western and Charley Snow sank a free for Murray before time ran out.

Murray made 20 field goals to 16 for Western. The Hilltoppers had to cash in on 22 of 32 free throws to triumph. Murray got 17 free throws and made 10 of them. Murray, which controled the ball more than Western, also got the mmost shots—62 to 49. Neither team shot exceptionally well. Murray hit on 20 of 62 flings for 32 per cent—Western connected with 16 of 49 for 32 per cent.

Both club have played better games. Neither, however, ever has been in a more exciting or more savagely fought contest.

The game 'made' the Ohio Valley Conference Tournament, scheduled in Louisville next week. These two teams will meet again in one semi-final game if

Continued on Page 3, Column 4

Lineups

Murray (50)	fg.ft.pf.	Western (54)	fg.ft.pf.
Snow f.....	3 5 1	Gish f.....	1 4 3
Cope f.....	1 0 3	Cate f.....	2 4 4
Beshear f.....	6 2 5	Turner g.....	1 0 2
Stanford c.....	6 0 5	Lavoy c.....	4 4 2
Deweese c.....	0 0 2	Rhodes g.....	2 2 1
Loughary g.....	3 1 4	Givens g.....	6 8 3
Stephenson g.....	1 2 3		
Purcell g.....	0 0 0		
ampley g.....	0 0 1		
Totals	20 10 24	Totals	16 22 15

Half-time Score—Western 29, Murray 28.
Free Throws Missed: Murray—Snow, ope, Stanford, Loughary, Beshear 2.
Western—Cate, Lavoy 2, Rhodes, Givens 5.

Western Opens N.I.T. Play Today

**Niagara, 8-Point Underdog,
Opposes 'Toppers at 1 P.M.**

By LARRY BOECK, Courier-Journal Staff Writer.

New York City, March 10.—Western's high scoring Hilltoppers, who start looking for their first N.I.T. championship tomorrow against Niagara, can sympathize with New Yorkers during their water shortage.

This is the fifth time the Hilltoppers have participated in the National Invitation Tournament. And they know how the guy felt who said, "Water, water everywhere and not a drop to drink."

The luckless Hilltoppers have been close to a title—as close as some 40 seconds back in 1942. But they have yet to rakishly tilt the crown on their heads.

So, tomorrow at 1 p.m. Louisville time, they again start tapping for the gold vein, or, as they say here, where the water crisis still is critical, deep well.

After the Western-Niagara fray,

San Francisco and City College of New York tangle in the second-afternoon game. From this tilt will come the team to face Kentucky Tuesday in the Wildcats' first appearance. In the evening, Long Island meets Syracuse and LaSalle battles Arizona.

The rangy, speedy and often hot-shooting Hilltoppers are favored by eight points over Niagara in the tournament's opening whirl. As a matter of fact, those hardened manipulators of odds, who deal in cold facts and not on sentiment, have disagreed with the tournament seeding and made unseeded Western a 4-1 second choice. Bradley at 7-2 is favorite. Kentucky is 5-1, although seeded second.

Despite their problem of height—their biggest man is 6-foot-4 Harry Foley—the Purple Eagles have compiled a 20-6 record on speed and on a mighty mite. Five-foot-10 Zeke Sinicola, a guard, has been a compact stockpile of scoring ammunition for the Eagles. He soared over 400 points last season, and currently leads his mates with well over 200 this campaign.

Meanwhile, Niagara is confronted with the nifty Bob Lavoy and his Hilltopper mates. This, as many coaches have discovered, is something more than just a cozy and informal little tea party.

Six-foot-7 Lavoy has sparked the Hilltoppers to a season's record of 24 victories and five defeats, many of those triumphs coming at the expense of the nation's classier outfits.

Lavoy's scoring average of 21.5 points per game, based on a total of 622 points, makes him the second highest scorer among major team basketball players. The Hilltoppers themselves are third in the nation among the powers with an offense that has averaged a hefty 71.6 points per game.

The Hilltoppers, who arrived by air yesterday after a comfortable, fast three-hour journey, worked out today at the Armory.

Time For A Change

Afterwards, someone commented to Diddle that the percentages should start running his way.

"Whatcha mean?" asked Ed, a highly popular figure in New York, where his red towel and colorful teams have captivated fans.

"Well, you'll be in your fifth N.I.T.," said the guy. "It's about time Lady Luck gave you a break."

Diddle conceded it was about time, indeed. Kelly Thompson, personable Western publicitor, recalled the 1942 tournament.

"We had 40 seconds to go, a point lead, and possession of the ball," said Kelly.

"We had a team, too, that could handle the ball better than any outfit I've ever seen. Well, sir, the boys just played a possession game, and West Virginia, our foe, couldn't do a thing to overcome that one-point margin."

"One of our boys suddenly got in the clear under the bucket. But, wouldn't you know it, someone passed off to him. He made the bucket, but a foul was called on him and the basket nullified."

"That did it. West Virginia sank its free throw and another, and we got whipped 48-45."

"Maybe those percentages will swing our way this time."

Kelly will know a little more tomorrow.

Hilltoppers Squeeze Past Murray 54-50

Continued from First Page

successful in their first-round bouts.

It was J. Givens who kept Western in the game. The Hilltoppers could not have won without his tonight. He scored 20 points, 8 of them on free throws. He dribbled and drove for that basket like mad.

Lavoy finally got 12 but he could get only one field goal and a total of four points the first half, which ended 29-28 in Western's favor. Stanford pestered him to death and "Big Bob" was way off in his shooting, too.

Fouls beat Murray. Infractions not only cost them Stanford during the photo finish but they deprived them of Garrett Beshear with only six minutes gone in the second half. At the time of his departure, Murray was ahead 36-35. He had made 14 points up to this time.

He, Stanford, Charley Snow and Harold Loughary were the boys who made things tough for the Toppers. Even after losing Beshear, Murray increased its lead to five points at 40-35 on goals by Mason Cope and Don Stephenson.

They stayed ahead until 11 minutes remained. Then Lavoy made a goal and Givens a free to put Western on top 43-41.

Wild, Uncertain Struggle

The second half, Murray was playing a ball-holding game—passing the ball around until the Breds found an opening. These tactics were effective, too. The Breds had taken the lead 30-29 as soon as the second half started on a short by Beshear and soon, through the work of Beshear and Snow, were on top 34-31.

They stayed ahead—except for a 34-34 tie—until Lavoy and Givens regained the lead for Western at that 43-41 mention above.

From there on, it was a wild, uncertain struggle until the two-minute point was reached. With seven to go, Western held a 47-43 lead. Murray made three straight goals—one by Stanford and two by Snow—to regain that 49-47 margin with four minutes left.

Then came that memorable forward pass and the changing of the game.

Western led throughout the first half, but never by more than 8 points. They held this edge twice—at 11-3 and at 13-5. Givens kept Western in there this half with 12 markers. And it was free throws that saw them on top, 29-28, at intermission since Murray outscored them 13 field goals to 8 and got 41 shots to 29 for the Hilltoppers.

It was Western's 11th straight win, and its seventh without a loss in the Ohio Valley and its 19th in 23 contests. Murray has won 14 and lost 9, seven of the losses in the conference. They have given Western two scares, though—tonight and recently at Murray when they lost only 58-52.

L.-W. Beats Western 'B'

Special to The Courier-Journal.

Columbia, Ky., Feb. 14.—Lindsey-Wilson led all the way through the second half here tonight to defeat the Western State College "B" team 49-42.

Western was first to score but Lindsey took over the lead shortly after, then faltered as Western tied it up 16-16. Lindsey-Wilson was ahead 31-20 at the half.

Majors of Lindsey-Wilson and Wallheiser of Western each scored 16 points.

ICE ON

Bradley Closes First In Poll; Western Eighth

By John Chandler

NEW YORK, March 7—(P)—The Braves of Bradley University were an overwhelming choice today as the nation's No. 1 college basketball team in the final Associated Press poll of the season.

Now all the classy club from Peoria, Ill., has to do is show the basketball public that the nation's sports writers and broadcasters were right in hoisting them to the pinnacle via the ballot.

* * *

BRADLEY, WITH a 27-3 record, gets its chance to do just that in the National Invitation tournament beginning Saturday at Madison Square Garden. In addition, the Peoria lads have further opportunity to cement their claims in National Collegiate Athletic Association competition.

Bradley will meet the winner of the Big Seven Conference title — either Nebraska, Kansas State or Kansas—March 20 at Kansas City for the right to represent District 5 in the NCAA western regional tourney March 24-25.

With a total of 206 votes cast—largest number of the season in the weekly AP poll—Bradley copped 90 first place ballots and a total of 1,802 points. A week ago the Braves got only 42 votes for first and 1,214 points.

Ohio State, which captured the Big Ten crown and wound up with a 19-3 record, remained in second place with 1,435 points. Ohio State comes to New York for the eastern NCAA regional tourney, March 23-25. The eastern and western winners tangle March 28 at Madison Square Garden for the national NCAA crown, won by Kentucky last year.

* * *

KENTUCKY, moving fast now after a shaky start this year, moved into third place in the final poll. Kentucky was fourth last week, and in a close point battle with Holy Cross, dumped the Crusaders from third to fourth. Kentucky (25-4) and winner of the Southeastern Conference tourney last week, received 1,294 points, compared to 1,238 for Holy Cross, which dropped its only game of the season Saturday to Columbia after running up 26 straight

Continued on page 11, column 2

Bradley Closes

Continued from page 9

victories. Kentucky won the 1949 AP poll after compiling a 29-1 record. Ohio State was 20th in last year's final poll.

All of the teams in the top ten last week stuck there this time, but there were some other shifts in position.

North Carolina State, which blasted through to its fourth straight Southern Conference tournament championship last week, moved from eighth in last week's balloting to fifth. The Wolfpack wound up with a 24-5 mark.

Duquesne, (22-3) upset by Akron and Baldwin-Wallace last week, fell from fifth to sixth; U. C. L. A., (22-5) which split with Southern California last week, dropped from sixth to seventh; Western Kentucky, (24-5), went down a notch from seventh to eighth. St. John's of Brooklyn (22-4) took ninth spot, trading places with La Salle of Philadelphia, (20-3). St. John's was the only outfit in the top 10 which didn't receive a first place vote.

Other teams mentioned in the poll included Eastern Kentucky with 21 points, Vanderbilt, with 15, and Louisville, 4.

18 points, 57-39. Eastern by pulled away.

The victory put Western, the tournament favorite, into today's 12:30 semi-final. The Hilltoppers are to meet the winner of last night's second game between Murray and Morehead.

Eastern and Marshall play the second semi-final at 2:30. The championship game is scheduled for 9:45 tonight with a consolation game billed at 8.

Tenn Tech	fg	ft	pf	Western	fg	ft	pf
Griffin f	4	3	3	Turner f	1	2	3
Downing f	4	2	1	Cate f	4	3	2
Carden f	5	5	4	Gish f	3	0	5
Smith c	1	10	2	Walters f	0	0	0
Odom c	0	0	1	Lavoy c	12	5	4
Sharpe g	0	0	1	Johnson c	0	0	3
Cook g	4	2	1	Wallheiser c	0	0	1
Langley g	1	0	1	Rhodes g	4	3	2
Totals	19	22	14	Givens g	5	2	2
				Diddle g	2	0	1
				McGuire g	1	0	1
				Gibson g	0	0	0
				Totals	32	15	24

Halftime score: Western Kentucky 45, Tennessee Tech 27.

Free throws missed: Tennessee Tech—Griffin, Downing, Carden, Smith 4. Western Kentucky—Rhodes, Givens.

Eastern Stuns Western 62-50

By TOMMY FITZGERALD

The Maroons of Eastern, who have been fooling the fire all through the tournament, tined a flaming arrow at themselves last night to crackle, pop and roar high Western 62-50 in one of the greatest upsets of the basketball season.

The triumph—that stunned the mighty Hilltoppers and drew a crowd of 7,500 at the Armory—gave Eastern the championship of the second annual Ohio Valley Conference Basketball Tournament.

Nobody, except the Maroons themselves and their most loyal partisans, thought Eastern

even had a chance. Hadn't Western, the No. 8 team in the nation and a club that had won 14 games in a row in piling up 22 triumphs against only four losses, whipped them twice? Hadn't they walloped them once by 25 points and another time by 18? Wasn't Western an 11-point favorite?

Pulled Opener Out of Fire

And wasn't Eastern fortunate even getting by its first two games in the tournament? Hadn't it pulled its opener out of the first against Evansville when it trailed by five points with only a minute and 49 seconds to play and didn't it need an overtime to beat Marshall 66-62 in the semifinals Saturday afternoon?

And big Chuck Mrazovich, their

main hope! He wasn't able to do much at all in those first two games, was he? He looked dead on his feet, didn't he?

So, how could Eastern beat Western? It was impossible. But the impossible happened. The team that had burned its fingers twice finally caught on fire itself.

Eastern beat Western through a tremendous team triumph. Eastern played smart, inspired ball and Mrazovich redeemed himself for his lifeless play in the first two rounds.

Eastern put up a defense that stopped Western's big Bob Lavoy, an All-American candidate who had averaged 21 points a game. He didn't make a single point the second half and got only three or four shots and only 11 in the entire game.

Mrazovich not only clung to Lavoy and gave him all 11 of his points the first half, but he scored 11 points himself.

Won Because of Defense

Eastern won because of its effective defense against Lavoy and because its clever ball-possession, cut-for-an opening offense from a spread formation the second half after it had gotten the lead on Western. Its ball-possession game enabled the Maroons to pierce openings for goal after goal and pull away from the affled and helpless Toppers.

Both Western and Eastern had squeezed through a pair of exciting semi-final games in the afternoon to reach the final. For the third straight time this season, Murray threw a scare into Western, the tournament favorite and defending champion, by overcoming a 15-point deficit before losing 58-54 in the last 59 seconds.

Eastern needed that overtime and the long shots of Hicks to conquer Marshall 66-62. Marshall won third place in the tournament by hurdling an 18-point deficit, incurred the first 10 minutes of play, to overcome Murray 68-64 in the consolation last night.

Had Won Only Once

Eastern played almost a perfect game last night in winning its second Kentucky college basketball title in its history. In the old K.I.A.C., from which the Ohio Valley Conference sprung, Eastern had won only one championship—in 1946 when it whipped Louisville in the final.

The defeat was a sad blow for the Hilltoppers, but the loss isn't expected to keep them from the National Invitational Tournament in New York. Reports at the Armory last night said the Toppers already have this bid in the bag.

Western led Eastern 38-33 at the end of the half. It was almost an equally-played half. Free throws gave the Toppers their five-point edge. Each club made 14 field goals and each got almost the same number of shots and shot for the same percentage. Eastern hit 14 of 47 for 30 per cent and Western 14 of 46 for 30.4 per cent.

Moved Into Lead

Eastern moved into a 44-41 lead the first four minutes of the second half. Hicks, Carl Eagle and Mrazovich gave the push to this drive.

Once ahead, Eastern went into its spread offense and began its ball-possession game. Before Western scored another point to lead 54-41, Eastern had made 10 in a drive sparked by little Jumping Joe Harper and fed by Hicks, Eagle, Baechtold and Mrazovich. All the Maroons were great last night Eastern, Eastern

had a 13-point lead now with seven minutes left. They were in.

Two things whipped Murray—the shooting of Bob Lavoy, Western's all-American candidate who scored 27 points, and a dry spell for Murray during the last 10 minutes.

Two things whipped Murray

for Western in the semis—the shooting of Lavoy, who scored 27 points, and a dry spell for Murray during the last 10 minutes of the first half. The Thoroughbreds were able to make only one field goal those 10 minutes and lost a 15-14 lead they held at the end of the first 10 minutes to trail 34-21 at the end of the half.

Murray got more shots than Western this half, but could connect for only 6 goals in 45 flings for the miserable shooting percentage of 13.3. Western hit for 40 per cent, making 13 of 32 shots.

Murray even outshot Western in the game—84 shots to 64. But the Thoroughbreds riveted only 19 shots into the basket for a percentage of 22. Western

Continued on Page 3, Column 1

Eastern Upsets Western

Continued from page 8

with his fullback-like ball hawking was far greater than that.

IT TOOK EASTERN only 4:10 of the last half to overcome Western's lead. Mrazovich's tip-in did it at 40:39. Harper then stole the ball and went all the way after knocking Johnny Givens almost off the floor.

Hicks drove in for a simple duce and it was 44-39. Rhodes then got his fielder, Western's only goal in the first 18 minutes. It was 6:30 now and Rhodes had scored all Western's points.

Coach Ed Diddle then made his first substitution of the game. Eddie Diddle replaced Buddy Cate, who had tossed in eight points.

Eastern rapidly drew away behind almost unbelievably fierce action considering that this was a basketball court. Harper jumped from the line and added a free. Jim Baechtold ripped. Hicks ripped. Hicks ripped again. Mrazovich added a free.

The game was beyond recall now. The Maroons held a 54-41 lead with 8 minutes to play and were controlling the ball.

Eastern led 62-45 with three minutes to go. Diddle, Jack Turner and Rhodes cut it to the final margin.

Not since Murray bested the Hilltoppers by two points in the SIAA finals of 1936 has Western lost a championship game in a post-season tournament. They have won 15

Murray Pushes

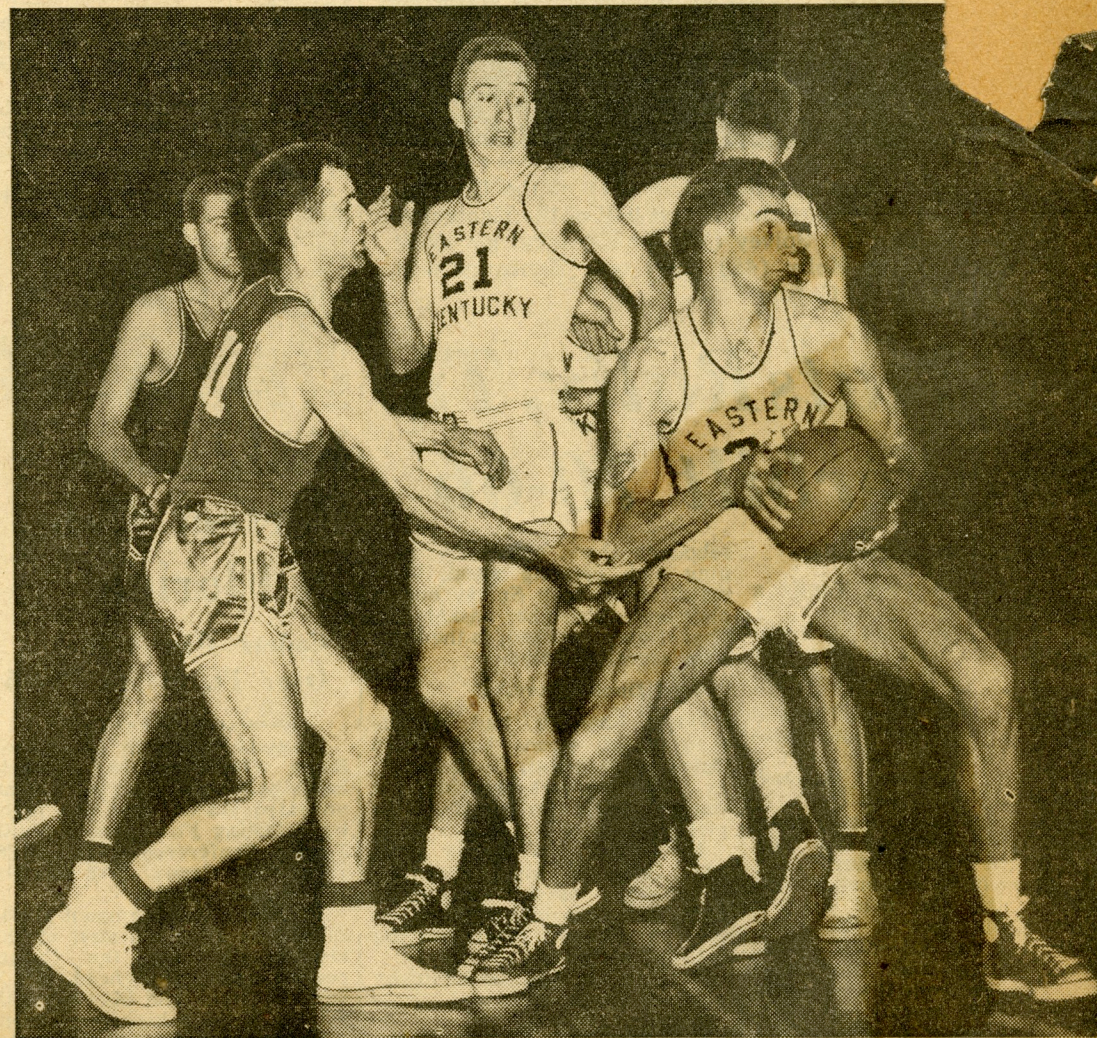
Continued from page 8

Notice full basement with desirable

Among Our Listings
Many Good Buys

WARREN COUNTY REALTY CO.
918 Center St.
Mansard Hotel Annex
Office Phone 2445-W
Auctions Loans Insurance
W. G. Williams Phone 2194-H
Lee Woodcock Phone 299-N
John Coates Ph 2308-4
D. C. Riley Ph. 2241-W

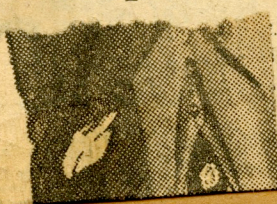
on good road, \$9500.
outbuildings, most of land tondable
102 acres, 6 room house, basement
7 MILES OF CITY
close to church and school.
3 room house, barn, lights, 9/10 lot
20 ACRES \$2000
\$65 per month.
6 room duplex, close to two schools
FOR RENT
in today.



Courier-Journal Photos by Charley Pence

CHUCK MRAZOVICH TYPIFIES the tactics that earned Eastern a stunning upset over Western in the O. V. C. final last night at the Armory. He has a firm grip on the ball the Maroons played a ball-possession game to beat the Hilltoppers. Western players Gene Rhodes (11) and Rip Gish, behind Rhodes. Eastern's Paul Hicks (21) was the

Lineups



Murray Pushes

Continued from page 8

afternoon looked like an old-fashioned scrimmage.

EASTERN ENTERS FINALS

LOUISVILLE, Ky., Feb. 25—(AP)—Eastern Kentucky defeated Marshall College, 66-62, in a semifinal overtime here today to join Western Kentucky in championship playoff of the Ohio Valley Conference basketball tournament.

Eastern trailed by one to five points most of the way against Marshall, but the Maroons tied the count at 53-53 on a set shot by Paul Hicks with five minutes to play.

A see-saw struggle set in at that point and Ivan Repass gave Marshall a chance at survival by locking the count at 59-all with 54 seconds to play in the regular playing period. That was the score that sent the game into an overtime.

Hicks got a quick basket at the outset of the overtime and Eastern managed to hold on the rest of the way. It was Hicks, too, who shot the clincher, a set shot that put the Maroons on top with a 64-60 working margin. A field goal by Marshall's Jim Lamb and two free throws by Eastern's Joe Harper ended the scoring.

Hicks paced the victory with 20 points. Don Brown was high for Marshall with 21.

Marshall	G	F	PF	TP
Koontz F	2	1	5	5
McLin F	5	7	1	17
Lamb F	2	1	2	5
Repass C	1	2	2	4
Brown G	8	5	0	21
Wright G	2	6	2	10
York G	0	0	0	0
Totals	20	22	12	62

Eastern Ky	G	F	PF	TP
Harper F	2	7	4	11
Eagle F	2	1	2	5
Fryz F	1	0	3	2
Baechtold F	5	5	1	15
Mrazovich C	6	1	5	13
Moberly C	0	0	3	0
Hicks G	10	0	3	20
Shemelya G	0	0	3	0
Reid G	0	0	0	0
Totals	26	14	24	66

Halftime score: Marshall 32, Eastern Kentucky 31.

Free throws missed: Marshall—McLin 2, Lamb 3, Repass, Brown; Eastern Kentucky — Baechtold 2, Mrazovich.

Eastern Upsets Western 62-50

Victors Squeeze by Marshall 66-62, Toppers Tip Murray 58-54 In Semis

Continued from First Page

punched in 21 for a percentage of 33 per cent. Lavoy, himself, made 12 out of 18 for 67 per cent.

Murray played a double-pivot—using big Madison Stanford until he went out on fouls with 6:47 left and Western ahead 49-44 and the 27-year-old freshman, Garrett Beshear. Tough under the basket was Beshear. He and Charley Snow did most of Murray's shooting and kept Murray in the game. Beshear made 19 points and Snow, hitting from the floor, dropped in 15.

Charley Loughary played his usual good floor game for Murray, but the close guarding of Gene Rhodes let him into the scoring department for only three points. Loss by Western of two of its big men on fouls—Buddy Cate with 16:17 left and Rip Gish with 11:20 to go—helped Murray.

It was a deliberately-played game, slow and cautious, but it was tense and exciting.

When Johnny Givens crippled for Western at the start of the second half, Western enjoyed a 15-point lead at 36-21. But Murray wasn't through. The Thoroughbreds kept fighting and finally began hitting. They cut their deficit to 48-44 with 7:13 left in the game.

They couldn't get any closer than three, though, as the game

moved into the last three minutes.

Then, with 2:08 to go, Beshear dropped one in. A minute later, Snow hit from the corner to tie the score 54-54.

Argument Arises

Loughary fouled Rhodes with 1:06 left, but Rhodes missed the free throw. The last two-minute rule was in effect and Western kept possession of the ball, taking it outside.

Then came the play that left the Murray partisans disputing the final outcome and Coach Harlan Hodges of Murray protesting to the official Givens stepped into the court with the ball before stepping back outside and throwing the ball in.

Murray partisans thought the ball should have been given to Murray, but it's not against the rules for a player, in possession of the ball outside, to step inside provided he's outside when he lets the ball go.

Anyway, after throwing the ball in, Givens finally got it himself. He dribbled in and missed a crip, but Lavoy followed up for a goal and Western was in front 56-54. Just as the game ended, Lavoy scored another crip to make it 58-54.

The Marshall-Eastern game was close all the way. Marshall led 32-31 at the half. It was a half that saw Eastern in front only twice—at 2-0 and at 31-30. Marshall however, was never ahead by more than five points and by five points only once, at 17-12.

It was just as close in the second half. Marshall stayed in front from one to five points the first 15 minutes. Then, with five to go, Hicks arched in a long one and Carl Eagle followed with a medium to put Eastern on top 55-53.

With 54 seconds left, Ivan Repass got a free at the expense of Joe Harper to tie the score 59-59 and send the game into an overtime.

Hicks Gets 20

In the overtime, Hicks threw in two long ones while Don Brown was getting a free for Marshall and Eastern led 64-60. A crip by Jim Lamb cut it to 64-62 with 1:36 remaining. The only score from then on were two free throws by Harper.

Hicks came up with 20 points for Eastern. Jim Baechtold, who scored 15, and Harold Moberly played rugged games on the rebounds. Moberly replaced big Chuck Mrazovich with 8:59 of the regular game left and Marshall ahead 47-44. Chuck, who made 13 points, came back for the overtime, but fouled out immediately.

Brown and Bruce McLin were the offensive stars for Marshall. Brown collected 21 points and McLin got 17 after replacing Bob Koontz, Marshall's left-handed shooting ace. Koontz fouled out before the first half was over.

Tourney Facts

EVENT—Ohio Valley Conference Basketball Tournament.

PLACE—Jefferson County Armory.

FIRST ROUND RESULTS—Eastern 54, Evansville 52; Western 79, Tennessee Tech 60; Murray 75, Morehead 60.

SEMI-FINALS — Western 58, Murray 54; Eastern 66, Marshall 62 (overtime).

FINAL — Eastern 62, Western 50.

CONSOLATION—Marshall 68, Murray 64.

Meet Here Again

The directors of the Ohio Valley Conference voted 6-1 to return the conference's basketball tournament to Louisville next year. The only dissenting vote came from Marshall, which will have a new field house next season and which made a bid for the meet.

"It was an amazing financial success," Kelly Thompson, tournament manager, said. "With no Louisville team in the meet and with no schools in the meet closer than 100 miles to Louisville, the draw was remarkable."

Score by Score

FIRST HALF

	East.	West.
Rhodes, long	0	2
Mrazovich, crip	2	2
Gish, long	2	4
Moberly (Rhodes)	3	4
Cate (Shemelya)	Missed	
Lavoy, bat-in after free	3	6
Mrazovich, short	5	6
Cate (Baechtold)	5	8
Mrazovich, overhead	7	8
Givens, crip	7	10
Gish (Moberly)	7	11
Moberly, short	9	11
Eagle for Moberly		
5:00 gone		
Hicks, medium	11	11
Rhodes, long	11	13
Hicks, long	13	13
Gish, bat-in	13	15
Gish, medium	13	17
Baechtold (Cate)	Missed	
Mrazovich, tip-in	15	17
Shemelya (Rhodes)	16	17
Hicks, long	18	17
11:24 gone		
Rhodes, long	18	19
Cate (Shemelya)	18	20
Moberly, short	20	20
Lavoy (Baechtold)	20	22
9:46 to go		
Eagle (Lavoy), 1 of 2	21	22
Gish (Shemelya)	Missed	
Lavoy, tap-in	21	24
Lavoy, follow	21	26
Gish (Shemelya), 1 of 2	21	27
Mrazovich, overhead	23	27
Mrazovich (Lavoy)	24	27
Cate, long	24	29
Mrazovich (Lavoy)	25	29
Harper, short	27	29
3:44 to go		
Lavoy, short	27	31
Mrazovich, overhead	29	31
Rhodes, crip (Harper)	29	33
Eagle, crip	31	33
Givens (Eagle), 1 of 2	31	34
Cate, crip	31	36
Lavoy (Mrazovich)	31	37
Moberly and Fryz for Mrazovich and Eagle		
1:49 to go		
Baechtold, crip	33	37
Cate (Harper)	33	38
Fryz (Gish)	Missed	

SECOND HALF

Hicks, layup	35	38
Eagle, rebound	37	38
Givens (Eagle)	Missed	
Eagle (Cate)	38	38
Rhodes (Eagle)	38	39
Shemelya (Gish)	Missed	
Mrazovich, tip-in	40	39
Givens (Shemelya)	Missed	
Eagle, crip	42	39
Hicks, push	44	39
Rhodes, one-hander	44	41
14 minutes left		
Lavoy (Mrazovich)	Missed	
Harper, medium	46	41
Baechtold (Gish)	47	41
Harper (Diddle)	Missed	
Hicks, crip	49	41
Mrazovich (Lavoy)	Missed	
Hicks, layup	51	41
Givens (Harper)	52	41
7 minutes to go	54	41
Mrazovich (Lavoy)	54	42
Hicks, dribble-in crip	52	41
Givens (Harper)	54	41
Baechtold, dribble-in crip	54	42
Hicks (Givens)	56	42
Mrazovich, tip-in	Missed	
Givens (Baechtold), 1 of 2	58	42
Mrazovich, crip	58	43
2 to go	60	43
Eagle (Givens)	61	43
Diddle, crip	61	45
Baechtold (Turner)	62	45
Turner (Eagle)	62	46
Rhodes (Reid)	62	47
Rhodes (Reid)	62	48
Turner (Mrazovich)	62	48
Turner, corner	Missed	
	62	50

Lavoy Breaks More Records As Topplers Score 83-47

Nets 36 Points To Up Season's Total To 521

By Bert Borrone

Bob (The Bard) Lavoy strung together enough couplets last night to break three more scoring records.

Fresh from having one of his sonnets accepted by a national collegiate publication, this Western wizard stacked up 36 points in an 83-47 romp over Miami to:

1—Raise his season total to 521, thereby eclipsing the former State record of 508 points set by University of Kentucky's Alex Groza in 26 season games last year.

2—ESTABLISH a modern State college standard for points in one half—28.

3—Set a new Western mark for field goals in one game—16.

Finding himself late — he scored but eight points the first period—the 6-7 pivot ace missed tying the all-time Western single-game record by two points and fell five short of the Kentucky standard.

But he and the rest of these Hilltoppers had themselves enough of a night as it was as they merrily rolled to their 21st win in 25 games and the 13th victory in a row.

Miami	FG-A	FT-A	PF	TP
Campbell F ..	3-17	1-1	1	7
MacDonald F..	6-24	1-2	5	13
Miller F	0-2	1-1	0	1
Chadoff C ...	2-16	1-1	1	5
Bascomb C ...	1-2	0-0	1	2
Weinstein G ..	4-23	3-4	1	11
Grist G	1-6	1-1	5	3
Ferrara G	1-2	0-0	1	2
Wrench G	0-2	0-0	0	0
Schneider G ..	1-9	1-1	2	3

Totals	19-103	9-11	17	47
Western	FG-A	FT-A	PF	TP
Turner F	6-14	5-5	1	17
Gish F	3-12	0-0	2	6
Diddle F	0-4	0-2	0	0
Johnson F	0-1	0-0	0	0
Lavoy C	16-29	4-7	3	36
Walheiser C ..	0-0	0-2	0	0
Givens G	5-15	1-1	3	11
Rhodes G	5-18	1-2	1	11
McGuire G ...	1-3	0-0	0	2

Totals 36-96 11-19 10 83
Halftime score: Western 37, Miami 22.

Officials: Hickman Duncan (Nashville) and Ox Hartley (Evansville).

Apparently the only thing standing between this record-wrecking machine of Ed Diddle and Ted Hornback and an early bid to the National Invitation Tournament is a decision over Evansville's sizzling Aces here tomorrow night.

A nod over the two-time conquerors of Louisville would give the Hilltoppers a perfect 8-0 Ohio Valley Conference mark. A bid before the OVC tournament then would be expectable.

But Evansville, despite its poor road record, is no set up. And Western may have to perform again without Buddy Cate, who has a bad cold.

THERE WERE few assists on Lavoy's goals last night. He got them the hard way. Eight buckets came on tip-ins, four on crips and four on his comparatively new jump-spin shot.

He meshed a brilliant 55 per cent from the floor—16 goals in 29 shots—and laid in four of seven frees.

Sixteen of his points came in the last breathless five minutes when he was taking defensive rebounds and

Continued on page 8, column 7

Dukes, Hilltoppers Appear To Be About "In" For NIT

NEW YORK, Feb. 17—(P)—Looks as if Duquesne and Western Kentucky are just about "in" for the National Invitation college basketball tournament next month—Niagara, too, maybe.

ONCE-BEATEN Duquesne, ranked seventh in this week's Associated Press national poll, smashed sixth-ranked Long Island, 60-53, in Madison Square Garden last night. This was considered a must game for the debonair Dukes.

Western Kentucky, ranked ninth, chalked up its 13th straight victory, by overwhelming Miami (Fla.) 83-47.

Niagara upset City College of New York, 68-61, in the first game of the

Garden double header before 18,000. This strengthened Niagara's hopes for a bid to N. I. T., but the selection committee unofficially is reported at this time to be leaning towards Canisius as the better of the two Buffalo (NY) area quintets.

Underdog Duquesne took a 34-20 halftime lead, increased this to 36-20 at the start of the second half, then wilted under Long Island's great rally that pulled the Blackbirds to within 53-52 with 3½ minutes left.

AT THIS POINT Chuck Cooper, who did yeoman work for the Dukes, sank a one-handed push shot, and a free throw to haul the Dukes out of danger.

Bob Lavoy sparked Western Kentucky to its 21st triumph in 25 games as the boys from the Bluegrass country swamped Miami. Lavoy tallied 36 points.

Murray (Ky) State, on an eastern tour, came from behind a 14-2 deficit to beat the New Britain (Conn) Teachers, 62-58. Chicago Loyola also came from behind to sink Western Michigan 85-71.

Vanderbilt, ranked 20th, clung to first place in the Southeastern Conference by swamping Mississippi, 80-47. William and Mary, held on even terms 25-25 during the first half, spurted in the last 20 minutes to sink Washington and Lee, 70-57, in the Southern Conference.

High-Scoring Quints Clash At 9 Tonight

By Bert Borrone
Daily News Sports Editor

NEW YORK, March 13—St. John's and Western—No. 3 and No. 4 respectively in the nation's point parade—run for the nearest basket in tonight's National Invitation quarterfinals feature. Given top 9 p.m. billing, the crucial match presents the somewhat odd situation of an unseeded quint—Western, mainly off the apparently unstoppable post action of Bob Lavoy—being favored over the NIT's fourth-seeded club.

The Toppers rated a five-point choice today following their easy disposition of Niagara in Saturday's tournament opener.

* * *

THE VITAL struggle is expected to hinge on the play of two of the year's greatest pivot operatives—the Hilltoppers' sensational Lavoy and the Redman's wonder-boy sophomore, Bob (Zeke) Zawoluk.

Lavoy has been the charge that has hurtled Western (25-5) to fourth place among the nation's top scoring combines off an average of 71.9 points a game. Zawoluk has fired St. John's (22-4) to a 72.4 mark. Only Holy Cross and Villanova have been more productive this season.

Lavoy rates among the top six point-snaggers in the nation with a 654 total accumulated in 30 games. He has averaged 21.8 per contest and has been at his season's peak the past six weeks.

Zawoluk, whose outstanding play surged St. John's to an 11-point conquest of Kentucky early in the season, ranks 17th in the U.S. with a 538 total. In his last start, against St. Peter's, Zawoluk zipped 65 points through the ring. He lacked but one vote of being a unanimous choice for the all-Metropolitan first team.

These two should be the big guns. But Zawoluk has been brilliant defensively all year. At 6-6 he has the height to play in front of the post man and cut off passes. Lavoy, too, has shown more than a flash of defensive skill.

* * *

SHOULD THEY succeed in silencing each other. Western can call on the outside punch of Forwards Buddy Cate (6-6) and Jack Turner (6-3) and Guard Johnny Givens plus the drive of Gene Rhodes and the board work of Rip Gish (6-5).

St. John's has at its command the set shooting of All-Met Guard Gerry Calabrese (6-0). The fleetness of Guard Jack McMahon (6-0) and the jump shooting and drive of forwards Art McGuire (6-2) and Joe Tully (6-4).

St. John's is rated equally as aggressive as Niagara and has more height. The Redmen average 6-2, compared with Western's 6-3 or slightly better, and have the agility to gain position.

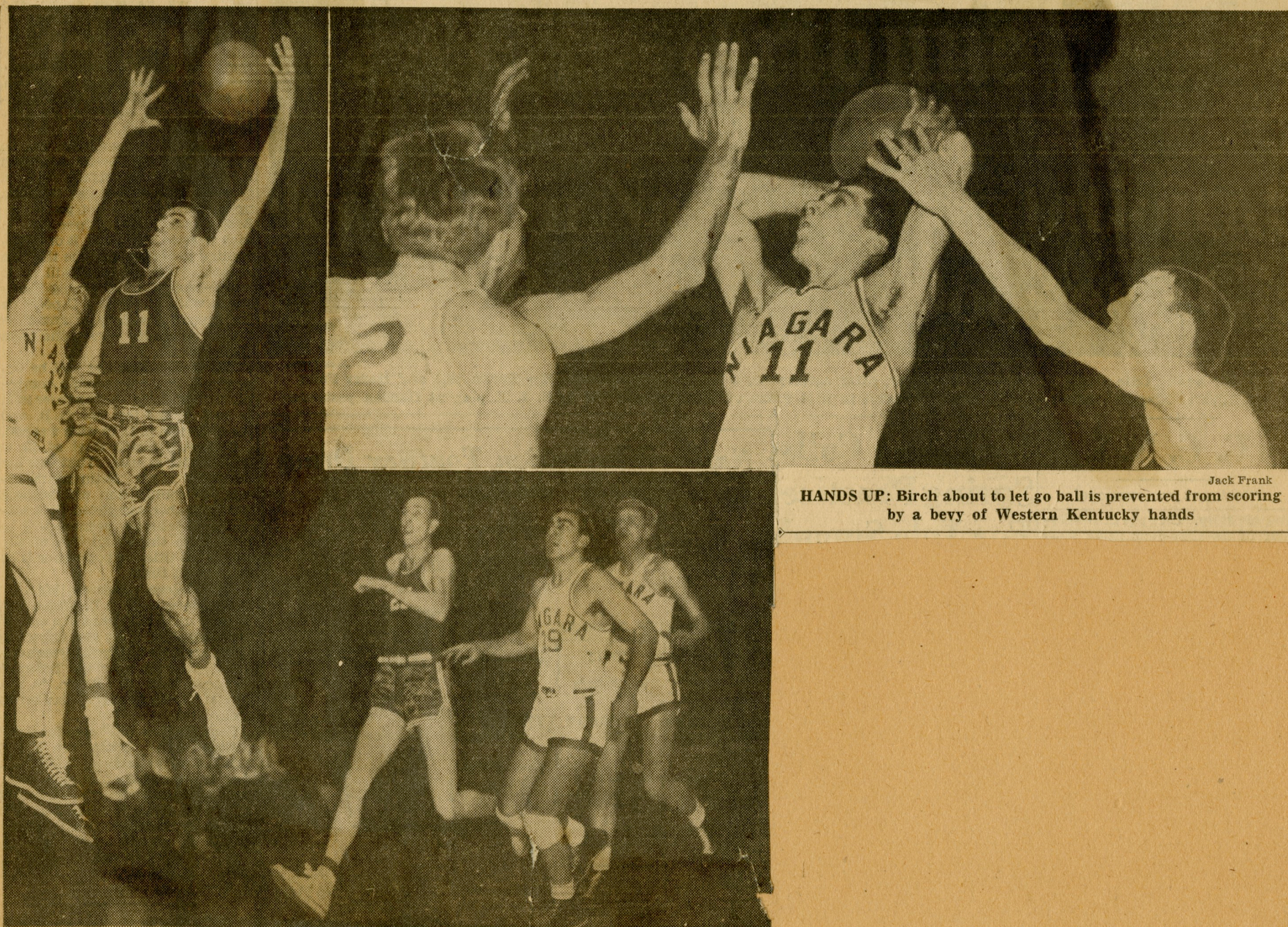
With Lavoy expected to command close to his point average regardless of the Redmen's defense, Western's anxiety is whether Buddy Cate and Jack Turner can continue their sterling play in the opener, whether Rip Gish—whose height

Continued on page 7, column 2

SUNDAY, MARCH 12, 1950

TWELVE PAGES

n Kentucky Win in National Invitation at Garden; Cardinals, 15-4; Braves Beat Dodgers; Giants Win



Jack Frank

HANDS UP: Birch about to let go ball is prevented from scoring
by a bevy of Western Kentucky hands

HIGH JUMP: Tom Birch (left), of Niagara, and Gene Knodes (11), of Western Kentucky, leap
together as latter tries a fast-breaking jump shot

Toppers Bounced Out Of NIT By

Redmen Spurt In Closing 13 Minutes

By Bert Borrone

Daily News Sports Editor

NEW YORK, March 13—One field goal in 12½ minutes doth not a National Invitation tournament semi-finalist make.

That's all Western's Hilltoppers got last night from 6:10 of the second half—when they led 44-41—until 18:40 as St. John's cast them out, 69-60, in an NIT quarterfinals clash.

A tip-in by Bob Lavoy, who closed out his career with a 17-point effort, at 15:30 was Western's only ringer in this frigid span that recalled the last half of the OVC finals against Eastern.

LAVOY'S GOAL made it 54-50, St. John's. By the time Western got its next basket, the Toppers were hopelessly out of it, 65-52, and only 1:20 remained. The Redmen banged in 24 points in this 12½ minutes, while Western was laboring for eight.

St. John's	FG-A	FT-A	PF	TP
Calabrese F	6-10	6-8	2	18
Tully F	3-5	0-0	1	6
Mulzoff F	2-6	1-1	3	5
Zawoluk C	6-20	4-4	4	16
A. McGuire G	0-7	1-2	1	1
McMahan G	6-16	3-11	1	15
Dombrosky G	3-6	2-2	1	8
Totals	26-70	17-28	13	69
Western	FG-A	FT-A	PF	TP
Cate F	3-11	3-6	4	9
Turner F	4-15	3-3	3	11
Gish F-C	2-7	1-1	2	5
Lavoy C	7-24	3-5	5	17
Givens G	3-7	0-0	5	6
Rhodes G	2-12	2-3	2	6
Diddle G	2-5	0-0	1	4
McGuire G	1-1	0-0	0	2
Totals	24-82	12-18	22	60

Halftime score: Western 30, St. John's 29.

Officials: Einstein and Juenger.

It was as simple as that—this loss that upheld the NIT committee's fourth seeding of the Redmen and that crossed the bookies, who had Western a favorite. The Tops shot 22 times in this 12½ minutes and nine of them were hoists that rolled agonizingly in and out. These nine had at least a 50-50 chance of sticking. But didn't.

And so New York completed the first half of its two-way parlay to repeat the feat of Illinois in the 1949 Invitation. Bradley and Loyola kicked Kentucky's two powerhouses out of last year's meet. CCNY takes on University of Kentucky tonight in the second half of this parlay.

It was a ball game—this clash between the nation's third and fourth ranking offensive units—until Western lost the Midas touch that yielded this team practically every Hilltop scoring record.

It was tied eight times, the last of them 34—all after three minutes of fierce action in the last period. Ray Tully then fired the Redmen to a 41-36 edge.

Western hit one of its few hot spurts then. In 60 seconds, Lavoy drove in for a crip. Gene Rhodes cracked a set from the circle, Jack Turner stole the ball and passed to Eddie Diddle for a fast-break deuce and Turner blazed in from the corner for a lay-up.

THAT WAS IT. Johnny Givens, whose three long sets had loosened up the St. John's cordon about Lavoy late in the first period, was out on fouls now.

Ray Dombrosky cracked a circus jump from the corner and Gerry Calabrese came back to shoot St. John's ahead to stay with a 30-foot set at 8:15. Bob Zawoluk, the Redmen's fine soph pivot, laid in a jump from the line and then this Calabrese

Page Seven

St. John's, 69-60

