



CHAMPIONSHIP HISTORY

(last updated through July 2023)





CONFERENCE CHAMPIONSHIPS

The Chattanooga Mocs have been a part of three leagues in its 100-plus years of basketball. It started with a loose association of teams throughout the South called the Southern Intercollegiate Athletic Association. This was a precursor to leagues like SEC and Southern Conferences as well as where the Scenic City lads landed in the early '30s.

The Mocs moved into the Dixie Conference in 1932 where the program stayed until World War II. When the program resumed in peace time, it was a small college independent. There we stood for 32 years before the next association was born.

The first league titleists are pictured above. The 1932 Dixie Conference Tournament Champions travelled to Birmingham, Ala., defeating Mercer, Mississippi College and Samford along the way. That capped a then school-record 16-win campaign under Humpy Phillips who took over the program midseason 1931 when Coach Harold Drew departed for Alabama as assistant football coach.

Uniting with the Southern Conference coming off the 1977 National Championship run cemented the burgeoning moniker #RingCity. Chattanooga's amassed more rings & trophies than any other program in the league over that span and second-highest total in the 100-season history of the league. That includes 12 regular season, 12 tournament and eight division crowns. From the first title in 1981 (lower left) to the most recent in 2022 (lower right), it's a proven championship program.

REGULAR SEASON CHAMPIONSHIPS

- 1923 Southern Intercollegiate Athletic Association
- 1981 Southern Conference
- 1982 Southern Conference
- 1983 Southern Conference
- 1985 Southern Conference
- 1986 Southern Conference
- 1989 Southern Conference
- 1991 Southern Conference
- 1992 Southern Conference
- 1993 Southern Conference
- 1994 Southern Conference
- 1995 Southern Conference Division
- 1997 Southern Conference Division
- 1998 Southern Conference Division
- 2002 Southern Conference Division
- 2005 Southern Conference Division
- 2008 Southern Conference Division
- 2009 Southern Conference Division
- 2011 Southern Conference Division
- 2016 Southern Conference
- 2022 Southern Conference

TOURNAMENT CHAMPIONSHIPS

- 1932 Dixie Conference
- 1981 Southern Conference
- 1982 Southern Conference
- 1983 Southern Conference
- 1988 Southern Conference
- 1993 Southern Conference
- 1994 Southern Conference
- 1995 Southern Conference
- 1997 Southern Conference
- 2005 Southern Conference
- 2009 Southern Conference
- 2016 Southern Conference
- 2022 Southern Conference



SOCON TOURNAMENT HISTORY

Year	Site	Opponent	Result	Score
1922	Atlanta	Furman	W	57-30
	Atlanta	Tulane	W	25-21
	Atlanta	Mercer	L	18-25
1923	Atlanta	Georgetown (Ky.)	W	43-27
	Atlanta	Virginia Tech	W	38-23
	Atlanta	Mercer	W	24-19
<i>Final</i>	Atlanta	Mississippi St.	L	21-31
1978	Furman	Furman	L	73-83
1979	Furman	Furman	L	68-86
1980	ETSU	ETSU	L	67-71
1981	MacLellan	VMI	W	89-63
	Roanoke, VA	Western Carolina	W	79-70
<i>Final</i>	Roanoke	Appalachian St.	W	59-55
1982	MacLellan	Appalachian St.	W	62-53
	Charleston, WV	ETSU	W	70-65
<i>Final</i>	Charleston	Davidson	W	69-58
1983	Charleston	Appalachian St.	W	71-58
	Charleston	Western Carolina	W	77-75 (OT)
<i>Final</i>	Charleston	ETSU	W	70-62
1984	Asheville, NC	ETSU	W	82-50
	Asheville	Furman	W	70-57
<i>Final</i>	Asheville	Marshall	L	107-111 (2 OT)
1985	Asheville	Furman	W	63-60
	Asheville	VMI	L	69-71 (OT)
1986	Asheville	The Citadel	W	69-66
	Asheville	Appalachian St.	W	68-57
<i>Final</i>	Asheville	Davidson	L	40-42
1987	Asheville	Western Carolina	L	72-73 (OT)
1988	Asheville	Davidson	W	83-69
	Asheville	Marshall	W	71-70
<i>Final</i>	Asheville	VMI	W	75-61
1989	Asheville	Western Carolina	W	72-63
	Asheville	ETSU	L	73-76
1990	Asheville	VMI	L	69-83
1991	Asheville	Western Carolina	W	84-83
	Asheville	ETSU	L	71-104
1992	Asheville	VMI	W	84-49
	Asheville	Marshall	W	84-68
<i>Final</i>	Asheville	ETSU	L	63-74

Year	Site	Opponent	Result	Score
1993	Asheville	Furman	W	85-69
	Asheville	Davidson	W	72-68
<i>Final</i>	Asheville	ETSU	W	86-75
1994	Asheville	Furman	W	85-81
	Asheville	Georgia Southern	W	99-91 (OT)
<i>Final</i>	Asheville	Davidson	W	65-64
1995	Asheville	Georgia Southern	W	70-66
	Asheville	ETSU	W	71-69
<i>Final</i>	Asheville	Western Carolina	W	63-61
1996	Greensboro, NC	Marshall	L	81-82
1997	Greensboro	VMI	W	84-62
	Greensboro	Davidson	W	77-70
<i>Final</i>	Greensboro	Marshall	W	71-70 (OT)
1998	Greensboro	UNC Greensboro	W	56-55
	Greensboro	Appalachian St.	L	75-85
1999	Greensboro	ETSU	W	77-65
	Greensboro	Appalachian St.	L	91-94 (2 OT)
2000	Greenville, SC	Western Carolina	W	90-75
	Greenville	Appalachian St.	L	66-88
2001	Greenville	Appalachian St.	W	78-74
	Greenville	Georgia Southern	W	84-73
<i>Final</i>	Greenville	UNC Greensboro	L	66-67
2002	N. Charleston, SC	UNC Greensboro	L	57-67
2003	N. Charleston	Appalachian St.	W	98-67
	N. Charleston	VMI	W	77-58
<i>Final</i>	N. Charleston	ETSU	L	90-97
2004	N. Charleston	Coll. of Charleston	W	89-78
	N. Charleston	Georgia Southern	W	90-87
<i>Final</i>	N. Charleston	ETSU	L	62-78
2005	Roundhouse	ETSU	W	77-70
	Roundhouse	Appalachian St.	W	57-51
<i>Final</i>	Roundhouse	UNC Greensboro	W	66-62
2006	N. Charleston	Coll. of Charleston	W	65-53
	N. Charleston	Appalachian St.	W	78-75
<i>Final</i>	N. Charleston	Davidson	L	80-55
2007	N. Charleston	Wofford	W	64-55
	N. Charleston	Davidson	L	68-78
2008	N. Charleston	Elon	L	57-60
2009	Roundhouse	Elon	W	79-78
	Roundhouse	Samford	W	81-70
<i>Final</i>	Roundhouse	Coll. of Charleston	W	80-69

Year	Site	Opponent	Result	Score
2010	Charlotte	Georgia Southern	W	82-62
	Charlotte	Coll. of Charleston	L	69-96
2011	Roundhouse	Furman	L	52-61
2012	Asheville	Georgia Southern	L	70-76
2013	Asheville	UNC Greensboro	L	81-87
2014	Asheville	Georgia Southern	L	55-62
2015	Asheville	Furman	L	67-69
2016	Asheville	Samford	W	59-54
	Asheville	Western Carolina	W	73-69
<i>Final</i>	Asheville	ETSU	W	73-67
2017	Asheville	Wofford	L	67-79
2018	Asheville	Samford	W	89-79
	Asheville	ETSU	L	59-77
2019	Asheville	ETSU	L	64-68
2020	Asheville	UNC Greensboro	W	78-68
	Asheville	Wofford	L	70-72
2021	Asheville	ETSU	L	53-63
2022	Asheville	The Citadel	W	71-66
	Asheville	Wofford	W	79-56
	Asheville	Furman	W	64-63 (OT)
2023	Asheville	VMI	W	92-72
	Asheville	Samford	W	85-82
	Asheville	Wofford	W	74-62
	Asheville	Furman	L	79-88

SOCON FINALS SINCE 1977-78

School	Final Appearances	Titles
1) Chattanooga	21	12
2) Davidson	12	8
tie) ETSU	12	8
tie) Appalachian St.	8	2
5) Marshall	7	3
6) Wofford	6	5
7) Furman	6	3
tie) Coll. of Charleston	5	1
tie) UNC Greensboro	5	2
10) Western Carolina	4	1
11) VMI	2	0
12) Elon	1	0
13) The Citadel	0	0
tie) Georgia Southern	0	0
tie) Samford	0	0

TOURNAMENT RECORD BY SCHOOL

School	W-L	Last Met
Appalachian State	8-3	W, 78-75, 2006
The Citadel	2-0	W, 71-66, 2022
College of Charleston	3-1	L, 69-96, 2010
Davidson	5-3	L, 68-78, 2007
ETSU	8-8	L, 64-68, 2019
Elon	1-1	W, 79-78, 2009
Furman	6-5	L, 79-88, 2023
Georgetown (Ky.)	1-0	W, 43-27, 1923
Georgia Southern	5-2	L, 55-62, 2014
Marshall	3-2	W, 71-70 ot, 1997
Mercer	1-1	W, 24-19, 1923
Mississippi State	0-1	L, 21-31, 1923
UNC Greensboro	3-3	W, 78-68, 2020
Samford	4-0	W, 85-82, 2023
Tulane	1-0	W, 25-21, 1922
VMI	6-2	W, 92-72, 2023
Virginia Tech	1-0	W, 38-23, 1923
Western Carolina	7-1	W, 73-69, 2016
Wofford	3-2	W, 74-62, 2023



Tada Stricklen (L), Darius Banks (M) & David Jean-Baptiste (R) celebrate following 2022's unforgettable title game. Jean-Baptiste hit a buzzer-beater just shy of half court to defeat Furman 64-63 & give UTC its 12th SoCon Tournament title.

1961 NCAA SOUTH CENTRAL REGIONAL*Austin Peay College Fieldhouse | Clarksville, Tenn.**Austin Peay 77, Chattanooga 69**Kentucky Wesleyan 111, Chattanooga 80*

The first NCAA Tournament experience or the Mocs started on the road in the 1961 NCAA Small College South Central Regional. The squad dropped a hard-fought 77-69 decision at Austin Peay.

The Gavs took the lead in the second half and never relinquished it. **Joe Pollack's** layup got the Mocs within three, 61-58, with seven minutes to play, but that's as close as it would get.

Pollack led the way with 18 points. **Bill Padgett** added 12, while **Ron Whaley** tallied 10. *Jim Beshears* paced five Gavs in double figures with 18.

The consolation game got away from the Mocs early in a 111-80 loss to Kentucky Wesleyan. Both teams came out of the gate with hot shooting hands. The Panthers never cooled off.

The trio of **Joe Pollack**, **Charlie Carter** and **Bill Padgett** scored 63 of Chattanooga's 80 points. Pollack's 31 led all scorers. Carter added 19, while Padgett chipped in 13.

The Panthers starting five had all but 18 of their tally. *Winfred Thompson* and *Gary Auten* each topped the 20-mark with 23 and 22 points, respectively.



Joe Pollock averaged nearly 20 points per game in the 1961 NCAA South Central Regional at Austin Peay.

1973 NCAA SOUTH REGIONAL*Cobo Arena | Hammond, La.**SE Louisiana 67, Chattanooga 64**Chattanooga 99, Transylvania 86*

Chattanooga travelled to Hammond, La., to square off with host SE Louisiana in NCAA Small College South Regional. The Lions led from start-to-finish holding off a late Mocs charge cutting a 15-point margin to just one with 10 seconds to go before *Freddie Lucas* iced the game with two free throws.

Mike Snow's 18 points led the good guys with **Ralph Simpson** adding 14. Lucas paced the Lions with 14 in a balanced effort with all five starters scoring 10 or more. The Lions were aided to victory by an injury to Mocs leader **Walter "Moose" McGary** ending his season.

The Mocs claimed their first NCAA postseason win with a 99-86 dismissing of Transylvania in the consolation contest. After falling behind 2-0, the Mocs took the lead and never looked back. They came out of intermission up six, 54-48 and the lead stayed in the 8-10-point range until pulling away at the end.

Mike Snow was again the team leader with 20 points, while **Kevin Gray** and **Ralph Simpson** added 19 and 15 respectively. Simpson made the all-tournament team. *Jim Biven* led Transylvania with a game-high 21 points.

1975 NCAA SOUTH REGIONAL*Maclellan Gym | Chattanooga, Tenn.**Chattanooga 107, Alabama State 83**Tennessee State 82, Chattanooga 81*

The Chattanooga Mocs first NCAA hosting experience was bittersweet. The squad advanced for the first time in round one in Maclellan Gym before a heart-breaking end.

It was all about the Scenic City crew in a first round 107-83 dismantling of Alabama State. **Wayne Golden's** 25 points took game high honors with the Hornets led by *L.C. Mason* and *George McGary* with 15 apiece.

That setup a third battle with the Tennessee State Tigers. TSU won the first two matchups by two in Chattanooga and three in Nashville, this was another barnburner.

Down one inside 20 seconds to play, the ball went to **Wayne Golden**. He drove the baseline and elevated for the potential game-winner with

nine seconds remaining. *Bernard Bailey* blocked the effort, corralled the rebound and then hit two subsequent free throws to clinch the win before a final Mocs basket set the ending margin.

Golden ended with 24 points and tourney MVP honors. **William Gordon** and **Herbert "Book" McCray** chipped in 17 and 16 points, respective. Bailey and *Michel Johnson* tallied 18 points for the Tigers. Gordon also made the all-tourney team.

1976 NCAA TOURNAMENT FINALIST SOUTHEAST REGIONAL*Maclellan Gym | Chattanooga, Tenn.**Chattanooga 90, Rollins 62**Chattanooga 86, Valdosta State 66***QUARTERFINALS***Maclellan Gym | Chattanooga, Tenn.**Chattanooga 107, Nicholls State 78***FINAL FOUR****ROBERTS STADIUM | EVANSVILLE, IND.***Roberts Stadium | Evansville, Ind.**Chattanooga 93, Eastern Illinois 84**Puget Sound 83, Chattanooga 74*

The Chattanooga Mocs cruised through to the Final Four with three wins in the friendly confines of Maclellan Gym. They captured winning margins of 28, 20 and 29 points en route to their first trip to the national title weekend.

It began with running past Rollins 90-62. The Mocs closed the half on a 10-1 run to break open a three-point game. They tallied 56 points after intermission to claim victory behind 21 points by 4-time All-American **Wayne Golden**. *Gary Parsons* paced the Tars with 17.

It was more of the same with a twist in the 86-66 win over Valdosta State. The Mocs ran out to a double-digit halftime lead but this time used lock-down defense allowing only 25 points in the final 20 to pull away from the Blazers. Tourney MVP **Kevin Gray** starred with 25 points, while game-high honors went to *Joseph Burns* with 28. **Wayne Golden** also earned all-tournament mention.

The Mocs continued to overwhelm their competition taking it to Nicholls State in the quarterfinals 107-78. **Wayne Golden** was phenomenal from start-to-finish.

Golden scored 41 points making 16 of his attempts from the floor aided by 16 by **Kevin Gray** and 13



Gary Stitch makes the final cut on the 1977 National Championship net.

by **William Gordon**. Larry Wilson starred for the Colonels with 32.

The road to the final went through Eastern Illinois. EIU controlled tempo winning the regular season finale 53-50 in Maclellan Gym. The Mocs flipped the script to the tune of 93-84 in Evansville.

A hot-shooting band from the Scenic City hit 61.4 percent of their shots led by **Wayne Golden's** 33 points with **William Gordon** adding 23.

Chattanooga lead grew to as many as 15 in the second half. The Panthers chipped away but got no closer than seven as the Mocs refused to yield. *Jeff Furry's* 24 points and 15 rebounds led the EIU effort.

The shooting numbers did not continue in the championship tilt. Its telling how well the team played outside of shooting the ball. In a nine-point 83-74 loss, Puget Sound made 64.7 percent from the field compared to 44.6 percent for Chattanooga, a paltry 39.5 percent in the second frame.

Wayne Golden made the all-tournament team leading his mates with 19 points in the final. *Brent Gibler* had 22 for the Logger while MVP *Carl Peterson* added 20.

1977 NCAA TOURNAMENT CHAMPIONS SOUTH REGIONAL

Maclellan Gym | Chattanooga, Tenn.

*Chattanooga 92, Valdosta State 76
Chattanooga 88, Florida Tech 79*

QUARTERFINALS

North Dakota Fieldhouse | Grand Forks, N.D.

Chattanooga 76, North Dakota 52

FINAL FOUR

Springfield Civic Center | Springfield, Mass.

Chattanooga 95, Sacred Heart 81

Chattanooga 71, Randolph-Macon 62

William Gordon (28) and **Wayne Golden** (26) led Chattanooga past Valdosta State in the opening game. The Mocs were up seven, 41-34, at the break and erupted for 51 second half points for the 92-76 win. *Joseph Burns* had 20 to pace Valdosta State.

William Gordon keyed the round of 16 win over Florida Tech, 88-79. Late in the first half clinging to a two-point advantage, Gordon drew a foul and a technical foul making it a five-point possession.

Gordon made three free throws with the ball staying with the Mocs. **Gary Stitch** hit the offensive boards with a put back before the half ended to make it a seven-point affair. The Knights did not find a way to threaten from there.

Regional MVP Gordon tallied 33 with **Wayne Golden** adding 20. *Bo Clark* led FIT with 27.

North Dakota put its 48-game home winning streak on the line. If the Scenic City crew was

intimidated, it didn't show as the runaway train to Springfield led to a 76-52 triumph.

It was a completely overwhelming performance with **William Gordon** (24) and **Wayne Golden** (21) accounting for 45 of the 76 points. *Mike Greulich* had 16 points and 11 boards for the home side. It marked the third straight year UND lost to the eventual champion.

The semifinal opponent was nearby Sacred Heart. It closed to within four, 63-59, with 10:41 on the clock. The Mocs answered with a 14-0 run and never looked back claiming a 95-81 victory.

William Gordon posted 25 points and eight assists to go with **Wayne Golden's** 28. *Hector Olivencia* matched Golden for game-high honors at 28 points.

That led to an exciting final and one of the few times the Mocs trailed over the last two tourney runs overcoming a 37-34 halftime deficit. It was a one-point game, 51-50, when **William Gordon** fouled out.

Despite the massive personnel loss, Chattanooga went on a run to take a seven-point lead, only to see it drop to a mere three, 64-61, with 1:05 left.

Over the next 28 seconds, six straight free throws from the fingertips of **Gary Stitch**, **Book McCray** and **Wayne Golden** sparked a 7-1 closing spurt for the 71-62 title-clinching win.

Golden had 21 earning tourney MVP honors joined by Gordon on the all-tournament team. *Joe Allen's* 22 points paced Randolph-Macon.



Front: Delta Brogden, Darrell Payne, William Gordon, Howard Duncan, Darryl Yarbrough. Middle: William Wright, Wayne Golden, Kevin Galbriath, Ricky Gill, Herbert McCray. Back: Assistant Ralph Underhill, Assistant Kevin Gray, Gary Stitch, Fred Rayhle, Coach Ron Shumate, Ronnie Swafford.



James Jones fights for rebound position in the Mocs first NCAA Division I Tourney action ending in a hard-fought loss to Maryland. This was the first of three straight trips with two of the three coming against the Terps.

1981 NCAA MIDEAST REGIONAL

UD Arena | Dayton, Ohio

No. 6 Maryland 81, No. 11 Chattanooga 69
The 11th-seeded Mocs made their first NCAA Tournament and gave Lefty Driesell's Terrapins all they could handle in an 81-69 loss. UTC led 41-39 at halftime, but Maryland took control after the break.

Nick Morken tallied a double-double with 10 points and 10 assists. **James Jones** posted 17 points and seven rebounds, while **Russ Schoene** netted 16 points and a team-high eight boards. **Eric Smith** and **Willie White** also reached double figures with 10 apiece. **Albert King** had 25 for UMD.

1982 NCAA MIDEAST REGIONAL

Market Square Arena | Indianapolis, Ind.

No. 10 Chattanooga 58, No. 7 N.C. State 51
No. 2 Minnesota 62, No. 10 Chattanooga 61
Chattanooga claimed its first NCAA Tournament win with a convincing 58-51 win over N.C. State. The Mocs led by double digits, including 27-13 at halftime before shaky free throw shooting late in a seven-point win.

Nick Morken and **Russ Schoene** each scored 15 points with Schoene leading the team in rebounding with seven. Morken added six rebounds two blocks and four steals. **Willie White** also reached double figures with 12. **Sidney Lowe** had 21 points for N.C. State which won the 1983 NCAA Championship.

The Mocs advanced to face No. 2 seed Minnesota for a shot at the Sweet 16. They fell one point short, 62-61, as Schoene's jumper in the lane was off the mark in the closing seconds.

Schoene had 20 points and 12 rebounds supporting White's team-high 22. **Skip Clark** added 10 points, three assists and two steals. **Trent Tucker** led the Gophers with 20.

1983 NCAA MIDWEST REGIONAL

The Summit | Houston, Texas

No. 8 Maryland 52, No. 9 Chattanooga 51
The Mocs were up 12 at the half, 30-18, but could

not hold off Maryland's second-half charge in a narrow 52-51 defeat. **Gerald Wilkins** and **Stanford Strickland** tied for team-high honors with 11 points, with Wilkins grabbing six rebounds. The Terps were led by **Adrian Branch** with 22.

1988 NCAA SOUTHEAST REGIONAL

The Omni | Atlanta, Ga.

No. 1 Oklahoma 94, No. 16 Chattanooga 66
Chattanooga fell 94-66 to a talented Oklahoma Sooner squad. **Benny Green** led a trio of double-digit scorers with 18. **Lance Fulse** added 12 points and six rebounds, as **Daren Chandler** netted 10. **Vincent Robinson** grabbed a game-high 11 boards. **Stacey King** and **Harvey Grant** had 25 apiece for the Sooners who fell in the title game to **Danny Manning's** Kansas Jayhawks.

1993 NCAA SOUTHEAST REGIONAL

Memorial Gym | Nashville, Tenn.

No. 5 Wake Forest 81, No. 12 Chattanooga 58
Despite 22 points from **Tim Brooks**, the Mocs could not keep pace with the Demon Deacons in an 81-58 loss. It was a seven-point game at the half before Wake Forest pulled away.

Brandon Born added 14 points for the good guys. Wake was led by **Rodney Rogers' 26** points as he **Trelonnie Owens (22)** and **Randolph Childress (17)** combined for 65 of their squad's 81.



The 1982 squad came within a whisker of the Sweet 16. It started with an opening-round win over N.C. State in a game the Mocs controlled from the tip. The Wolfpack won the national title the next season. It came down to the final seconds against No. 7 Minnesota in round two when a late finish near the basket rimmed out saving the Gophers.

1994 NCAA SOUTHEAST REGIONAL

Rupp Arena | Lexington, Ky.

No. 4 Kansas 102, No. 12 Chattanooga 73

Brandon Born (21), **Maurio Hanson** (16) and **Gary Robb** (12) combined for 49 points in Chattanooga's 102-73 loss against Kansas. The Jayhawks had six reach double digits led by **Richard Scott** with 26.

1995 NCAA WEST REGIONAL

Delta Center | Salt Lake City, Utah

No. 2 Connecticut 100, No. 15 Chattanooga 71

UConn jumped out early and claimed a 100-71 win, Chattanooga was led by the duo of **Maurio Hanson** (28) and **Brandon Born** (23) who registered 51 of the 71 Mocs points. The Huskies were paced by **Donny Marshall** and **Ray Allen** with 22 and 18 points, respectively.

1997 NCAA SOUTHEAST REGIONAL

Charlotte Coliseum | Charlotte, N.C.

Birmingham-Jefferson Civic Center | B'ham, Ala.

No. 14 Chattanooga 73, No. 3 Georgia 70

No. 14 Chattanooga 75, No. 6 Illinois 63

No. 10 Providence 71, No. 14 Chattanooga 65

The Mocs jumped out early in a 73-70 win over Georgia. It was a 46-31 UTC advantage at the break before holding off a strong UGa comeback effort. **Willie Young** had a game-high 24 points, while **Johnny Taylor** chipped in 19.

It was the opposite in game two. Down one at the half to 6th-seeded Illinois, the Mocs drove past the Illini for the 12-point triumph behind a balanced effort with five in double digits. Young once again led the way with 15, while **Chris Mims** added 12 points and 12 rebounds.

The run ended in Birmingham, Ala., as 10th-seeded



Isaac Conner started at guard for the epic win over No. 19 Illinois in Charlotte, N.C. It sent the Mocs into the Sweet 16 setting the standard for lower seeds advancing in the modern-day NCAA Tournament. The win was sweeter after the squad witnessed the Illini celebrating its likely advancement after Chattanooga's first round win over Georgia.

Providence Friars grasped Cinderella's shoes for one more night. The 71-65 loss ended UTC's epic run. Taylor and Mims led in scoring with 22 and 15, respectively, as each claimed nine boards. **Austin Croshere** paced Providence with 19.

2005 NCAA ALBUQUERQUE REGIONAL

Gund Arena | Cleveland, Ohio

No. 2 Wake Forest 70, No. 15 Chattanooga 54

Chattanooga re-kindled the magic of past NCAA appearances with a three-point halftime advantage before Wake Forest captured a 70-54 win. **Chris Brown** (14) and **Alphonso Pugh** (13) led the Mocs, while **Chris Paul** paced Wake with 20.

2009 NCAA MIDEAST REGIONAL

Wachovia Center | Philadelphia, Pa.

No. 1 Connecticut 103, No. 16 Chattanooga 47

UConn took control early and never looked back. **Kevin Goffney** led the Mocs with 15 points, five rebounds and two steals. **Stanley Robinson** had a game-high 24 for the Huskies.

2016 NCAA EAST REGIONAL

Wells Fargo Arena | Des Moines, Iowa

No. 5 Indiana 99, No. 12 Chattanooga 74

The Hoosiers opened the second half hitting their first five shots extending a nine-point halftime advantage to 17 points, 60-43. The margin never reached single digits again. **Duke Ethridge** led the Mocs with 14 points most coming in a high-flying, rim-rattling display. **Yogi Ferrell** had a game-high 20 points and 10 assists leading IU.

2022 NCAA SOUTH REGIONAL

PPG Paints Arena | Pittsburgh, Pa.

No. 4 Illinois 54, No. 13 Chattanooga 53

The Mocs controlled the game from the tip and raced out to a 12-3 lead before holding a 33-29 lead at halftime. UTC continued to ride its upset momentum and scored the first seven points of the second half to extend the lead to 11, 40-29. **Grant Ledford** knocked down three to put UTC up by five, 51-46, with 4:34 left in the game. The Illini scored six-straight to grab its first lead, 52-51, with 45 seconds. **Malachi Smith** hit a pair of free throws with 32 seconds to put UTC back in front, 53-52. Illinois drew contact and connected on two free throws to pull ahead 54-53 with 12 seconds. Smith's potential game-winner at the horn hit off the back iron.

UTC led the game for 38:31. **Smith** (12), **Darius Banks** (8) and **Silvio De Sousa** (8) led the scoring.



Wes Moore gets the Mocs into their offense in the 1997 first round against No. 17 Georgia. It was the first NCAA Tournament win since 1982 when that squad topped N.C. State. It also led to a Big Ten opponent in round two with this group righting the Minnesota wrong.

Jan. 13, 1913... Program Starts

The first official season of Chattanooga basketball came in 1913. There were teams from prior years that were comprised solely of freshmen. Football Coach Leslie Stauffer led the lads to a 7-7 mark.

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1st Win: Game 1, Jan. 13, 1913, 29-18 vs. local semi-pro team Tigers

1st Collegiate Win: Game 11, Feb. 18, 1913, 30-22 vs. Maryville

Jan. 14, 1916... Vols Spoil Gym Opening

The program's history of opening a new basketball facility is one of the few down spots. The UC Gym (pictured below) saw it's first action in 1916 with the Knoxville horde serving as the first visitors.

The season opener went to the bad guys 39-22, but it did not dampen the spirits of those who finally had a home in the Scenic City. The Vols later spoiled the opening of the Mocs current palace in 1982.

Feb. 20, 1919... Entering the Bill Redd Era

Although there are no differences in levels at this time in basketball history, here is the first win over in-state rival Tennessee. The 27-22 win came in Chattanooga. UC won five of the first nine meetings from 1913 through 1925. The year 1919 brought the start of the Bill Redd Era. Redd was the program's first GOAT. He's pictured on the right & more of his story told to the right of his snap.

Jan. 18, 1922... Redd Beats Vols at the Buzzer

Buzzer-beaters are not an every day occurrence. To find the first in school history is a feather in a researcher's cap. But it's made all the sweeter when it comes against the rival of that day.

Bill Redd's full-court heave as the legend states marked the third of five straight series wins over the Tennessee Vols. The one on Jan. 18, 1922 matched the previous year's Feb. 15 winning tally of 19-18.

Feb. 24, 1922... 1st Taste of SoCon Life

Chattanooga travelled to Atlanta for the Southern Intercollegiate Tournament, later to be known, and regularly conquered by the Mocs mind you, as the Southern Conference Tourney.

UC entered with a 6-4 record against a strong schedule. Tennessee, Louisville and Vanderbilt were among the Mocs victims during the regular season. The first SoCon Tournament foray came against a future league adversary, the Furman Paladins. Chattanooga roared to a 57-30 win in the opening round affair and advanced to the quarterfinals the next night beating Tulane. The run ended with current league member Mercer, but it the stage for the program's emergence as a regional power.

LINE-UP—	SCORES—
Wheelock, forward	U. C., 74 All-Stars, 14
Clark, forward	U. C., 25 Knights of Columbus, 15
Redd, center	U. C., 25 Univ. Kentucky, 26
Nicholson, guard	U. C., 27 Univ. Tennessee, 22
Cate (captain), guard	U. C., 47 Y. M. C. A. Colts, 11

1919 Lineup & Scores



Bill Redd, O.G.

"Original GOAT"

From the 1922 Moccasin Yearbook...

Bill Redd Chosen All-Southern Center Behold Big Bill Redd, peer of all basketball players in the South! Not only has William Redd attained the highest honor ever accorded a University of Chattanooga undergraduate in athletics, but the bulletin board bore evidence throughout the year that he was one the men in the University highest in class standing.

When William took his team to Atlanta - for, mind you, he is not only center on the team, but student coach and captain besides - the sporting writers did not think them worthy of much notice. But a week later, when our basketball team had won their way into the last few, the men who had not noticed stopped to marvel, and they topped it off by a unanimous choice of Big Bill Redd as the best basketball center in the South during the 1922 season.



The program started in 1913 without a home. The University built UC Gym in 1915 which housed the program along with a number of area locations into the '60s. Big games like the 1919 Tennessee win occurred at Memorial Auditorium or the National Guard Armory. Later years Chattanooga High School and McCallie School hosted contests.



William Cooper Redd

Coach Redd, while a Senior, was not able to play basketball this year because of four previous years on the court. Two out of the four years found Bill on the All-Southern team. "Nuff sed" of his ability as a player. With four letter men returned from last year, Bill built up a team to his liking and presented it, along with a hard schedule, to the University. The schedule was met, and Bill's team came out the victor more than once. Each victory was won from "one of the best teams in the South." Therefore, Redd turned out a good team.

Bill Redd made the permanent move to the bench full-time after completing his "player-coach" career in 1923. He was still a renowned professional while coaching the Mocs from 1924 through 1928.

Birmingham-Southern came to town. The Mocs were 8-3 entering the contest and laid in wait for the Panthers. The 46-40 victory was not heralded at the time as the historical nature of the win went unnoticed.

However, it showed where the program stood prior to scholarships and investment in the game took over in the mid-30s limiting the highlights before UC stepped up in 1959 committing to the sport.

Feb.. 24-26, 1932... 1st Conference Crown
1932 came along as the first full season under



Dixie Conference Champions

Under the tutelage of Coach Humpy Phillips, the 1932 edition of the University of Chattanooga Moccasin cage quint won the first Dixie Conference Basketball Championship. Losing but one home game to the S. I. C. champs, Georgia, the Blue and Gold basketballers defeated Mercer, Mississippi, and Howard in the tournament in Birmingham to bring home the bacon. Those awarded letters at the close of the season were: Captain Matusek, Captain-elect Halbach, Donnelly, Olinger, Haley, White, Waller, and Ellis.

before a quarterfinal beatdown of Virginia Tech. It looked all over late in the semifinals.

Mercer led our heroes 19-11 with six minutes to play. Considering the squad mustered just 11 points over the entirety of action did nor bode well.

Someone forgot to tell it to the scrappy band. The Bears saw a runaway train blow by as Chattanooga shot past their Macon-based foes 13-0 over those final 360 seconds to move to the finals.

Mississippi A&M, now Mississippi State, awaited in the finals. The Mocs could not muster the previous days magic to make another comeback falling to the then-named Aggies.

Jan. 19, 1924... Buzzer Beaten

The Mocs best chance to beat the vaunted Kentucky program came in 1924. The roaring 20s indeed for the program with Bill Redd settled firmly in the coaching chair after his collegiate status ended.

Redd's squad had Kentucky on the ropes. Clinging to a one-point lead in the final possession, UK needed a miracle and got it with the first buzzer-beater loss for UC.

Feb. 6, 1930... Live Life 100

The Mocs pivoted into the 30s with a new coach at the helm. Football assistant, as it worked back in the day, Harold Drew manned the top courtside chair as history came to pass.

It took just 168 games for the program to get to win No. 100. That it came in an early rivalry game made it all the sweeter.

Humpy Phillips. He took over after 13 games in 1931 when Harold Drew departed for Alabama as assistant football coach joining the staff of former UC mentor and future Hall of Famer Frank Thomas before taking over on the capstone sidelines in 1947.

But we're here to discuss Phillips leading the Mocs to their first league crown, the 1932 Dixie Conference Tournament. The three wins in the tourney completed the season on a six-game win streak and 13 of 15 as the program won a then-school record 16.

It started with the Mercer Bears. The regular season ended with two home wins over the boys from Macon so why not start the postseason the same way? A double-digit win in the quarterfinals led to a hard-fought overtime win over Mississippi College in the semis.

That set up a final with in Birmingham with local quint Samford. Nip-and-tuck was an apt term capturing the one-point, 40-39, championship triumph. Jim Haley (write up below) earned first team All-Dixie honors with Ollie Olinger netting second team consideration.

JIM HALEY, Guard

Haley, the "fightin'est" guy on the floor, worked with Charlie like a brother (he should after Baylor and Frosh years together). Jim has everything a good guard should have,— speed, fight, a good shot—he is a good floor man. No wonder he was picked on the All-Dixie team. Watch that boy and his mates next year.

Feb. 26-Mar. 3, 1923... Run to 1st SoCon Final
The 1923 season opened with yet another win over Tennessee and added Georgia Tech to winning ledger. Losses came to national power Wabash and regional stalwarts Vanderbilt and Kentucky.

That sent the Mocs to Atlanta with an 8-3 mark Georgetown (Ky.) went down in the first matchup

34 THE CHATTANOOGA NEWS CHATTANOOGA, TENN., SATURDAY, FEB. 12, 1932

Fast and Bitterly Fought Campaign Looms in Southern Loop This Season

Moccasins Annex Dixie Conference Basketball Title in Crucial Battle Friday

Feb. 18, 1933... *Phillips & Charges Set Standard*
It's not easy to know at the time something occurs just how impressive it is. That's for people 20, 30, however many years later to sort out. Sadly, it's taken nearly 90 years for Humpy Phillips and the 1932-33 squads to get their due.

Phillips led the 1932 squad to the Dixie Conference Championship and a third-place ending in 1933. The conference title was previously unknown or at least unshared through the age.

Another thing stands out at those two campaigns. The Mocs went 30-16 (.652) playing top-flight schedules against the best the South region had to honor including wins over Georgia and Vanderbilt.

The 30 wins in two seasons stood as the best two-year total in the program's history for almost 30 year when the Mocs won 32 games in 50 tries (.640) in 1961 and '62.

The Phillips era ended with an easy 50-38 win over Mississippi College in the Dixie Conference Tournament third-place contest. He departed after the season as schools started adding hardwood scholarships which UC was unable to do at the time.

As previously noted, it took until 1959 to right that and putting the program on even footing with others in the region.



Pop Keyser took the reins of the program for the 1934 season. He became the first alum to serve as head coach who did not lead the program as an undergrad ala Bill Redd.

His charges battled well at their own level for the most part and got road wins at Georgia and Alabama. Keyser was followed by Ben Boulware and another alum Billy O'Brien. The trio spanned 26 seasons of moderate success sharing the duties of assistant football coach with their hoops responsibilities.

Feb. 13, 1937...
Win at Alabama 1 of 3 Against SEC
The 1937 season showed Keyser's coaching chops. His squad went 6-11 against another stacked schedule.

'BAMA BEATEN BY MOCCASINS

Chattanooga Hands Tide 32-To-29 Defeat In Upset

TUSCALOOSA, Ala., Feb. 13 (AP)—The University of Chattanooga handed Alabama's Crimson Tide a basketball setback here tonight 32 to 29. The unheralded Moccasins, leading at halftime by a 21-to-15 margin, dropped behind tidiparity in the second half but closed strong to edge out a victory.

McMahan, forward, and Klein, center, provided the winning points, scoring 13 and 10 respectively. The Chattanooga marksmen outscored the Crimson in field goals 13 to 10. James Taber and Victor Bradford tied for Alabama's point leadership with eight each.

Capt. Henry Crisp's Tidlers appeared stale and off form in the upset. They had just returned from their most successful trip of the year, beating Vanderbilt and Kentucky on foreign courts.

Alabama will play Mississippi State and Ole Miss (two games, each) to close out her schedule.

Box score	G.	F.	T.
Alabama (29)	0	0	0
Keller, f	2	2	2
Bradford, f	0	2	2
Wood, c	3	2	2
Taber, g	2	0	4
Shoemaker, g	1	0	2
McGhee, f	0	0	0
Starnes, f	1	2	4
Enter, c	0	0	0
Walter, g	0	0	0
Totals	30	9	29
Chattanooga (32)	0	0	0
Edwards, f	4	1	13
McMahan, f	4	1	13
Klein, c	3	4	10
Whittaker, g	1	1	2
Crisp, g	1	0	2
Hennessee, g	0	0	0
Totals	13	6	32

Score at half: Chattanooga 25, Alabama 15.

Personal fouls: Keller 3, McGhee, Wood 2, Enter 2, Taber 4, Shoemaker, Edwards 2, McMahan 2, Klein 2, Whittaker 4, Crisp.

Free throws missed: Bradford 2, Enter, Taber, Shoemaker, McMahan 5, Whittaker, Crisp 2.

Referee: M. Loney (Ala.)

Jan. 4, 1934... *Keyser Era Starts*
That's kind of an unfair title. Pop Keyser was a popular figure as an undergrad and then as assistant football coach before taking over as UC Head Basketball Coach.

He had a tough act to follow in Humpy Phillips with serious limitations. The UC Gym opened in 1916, but it's court was not regulation. So the nomadic Mocs utilized several venues, mostly high school. It made scheduling the top opponents Redd, Drew and Phillips ably battled impossible to bring to the Scenic City.

UC not only travelled around the city for home games, it was forced to take on its toughest opponents almost exclusively on the road.

CHATTANOOGA, TENNESSEE, FRIDAY, JANUARY 29, 1932

Three Vets—Tony, Vic, Eddie

Capt. Tony Matusek Victor Halbach Eddie Donnelly

And here, pals, we have three veterans of Coach Humpy Phillips' Moccasins. Ed Donnelly, last year's leader, has been out since the first of the year with sickness, but his mates welcomed him back with a victory over Mississippi College, Monday. Vic Halbach, the Beale Street ace, has had a hand in every 'Nooga win this year. He has been a little off on his shooting, but he has been playing a bang-up four game. Capt. Tony Matusek seems to be getting all the lead breaks of the year, but at present he is running second in the individual scoring, and is proving himself a worthy leader. Here's luck, pals!

U.C. Moves Basket Ball Into Auditorium, Starts Season Ticket Sale

U.C. SURPRISES IN DIXIE MEET

Stays in Unbeaten Class With Chocs by Sensational Win Over Lynx.

JACKSON, Miss., March 4 (P).— Chattanooga's surprising Moccasins and Mississippi college, with two wins and no defeats, today led the Dixie Conference Basket Ball tournament after the first two games of the second round.

Staging a thrilling uphill fight, Chattanooga defeated Southwestern, of Memphis, this afternoon in the final minutes, 48 to 47, following Mercer's 47-to-39 disposal — also a surprise—of Loyola of the South.

Behind, 32 to 17, after the rest period, the Moccasins gathered inspiration by Mike Kopcha's leadership and knotted the score at 45-all when McMahan dropped a long one in with three minutes to go.

It was McMahan who led the 'Noogans to victory after Kopcha went out on fouls near the end. After Cox, of Southwestern, made the score, 47 to 45, McMahan tied it up again.

Whittaker sank a foul shot and the Moccasins "froze" the ball successfully the remaining minute.

Mississippi college beat Birmingham-Southern, 52 to 46, while Millsaps upset Howard, 46 to 29. The standings in the double-elimination tourney at the end of the night's play:

Team	W.	L.	Team	W.	L.
Chattanooga	2	0	Howard	0	1
Miss. Col.	2	0	Millsaps	1	1
Mercer	1	1	Southwestern	0	2
Loyola	1	1	Bham.-Sou.	0	2

The title game, under an agreement announced tonight, will be played Monday night, with Mississippi college favored to defend the championship against Millsaps, its traditional local rival. Semifinals are slated tomorrow. Millsaps will play Mercer and Chattanooga clashes with Mississippi college.

Southwestern (47)		Chattanooga (48)	
G.	P. P.	G.	P. P.
Harrison, f.	8 2	Kopcha, f.	4 3
Smith, f.	11 3	McMahan, f.	7 3
Roth, c.	1 0	Hagan, c.	2 1
Belf, f.	0 0	Whittaker, g.	2 1
Cox, f.	3 0	Edwards, s.	1 0
Wunderlich, s.	1 0	Scott, f.	0 0
Totals	31 5 47	Neal, s.	4 4
		Totals	19 10 48

Half-Time Score — Southwestern, 12; Chattanooga, 17.

Personal Fouls—Smith 4, Roth 2, Wunderlich, Belf 4, Cox, Kopcha, 4, McMahan, Hagan, Edwards 2.

Fouls Missed—Smith, Wunderlich, Cox 3, Kopcha, McMahan 2, Neal, Whittaker.



Billy O'Brien served the program with distinction. It started as a player as noted above and continued on the bench as head coach for 8+ seasons.

Mar. 4, 1938... Epic Comeback Advances UC
The Mocs season looked over at halftime of the Dixie Conference Quarterfinals. After an upset of Mercer in the opening round, Rhodes looked to halt UC advance.

It certainly felt good at the midpoint of the contest leading 32-17. A cakewalk into the semis, and a date with Mississippi College awaited.

That plan went awry. Chattanooga came back from 15 down to claim a one-point victory, 48-47. The Mocs didn't have the depth to make it through three straight days, but this epic comeback certainly stands out in the school annals.

Feb. 3, 1939... Cardiac Kids Return
Another fantastic comeback from Keyser's never-say-die unit. Trailing Millsaps by 13 with 10 minutes to play, the Mocs stormed back. It was an impressive display coming from behind for the 39-38 victory.

Mar. 1940... O'Brien Doubles Up on Honors
Billy O'Brien was the consummate Moc. He's the first in school history to have multiple first team all-league berths finishing All-Dixie Conference in 1939 & 1940.

1942-45... Program Disbands for WWII
The world was at war. All able-bodied men answered the call. It was a matter of honor for many. It hit the pause button on several industries including collegiate athletics.

It had an extra impact on Chattanooga basketball. Head Coach Perron Shoemaker's return to private life from the military took him beyond the 1946 season when the Mocs re-took the floor.

Decorated alum Billy O'Brien stepped into Shoemaker's role as assistant football coach and directed the hoops squad to a 10-5 record, it's first winning mark since Humpy Phillips departed following the 1933 campaign and only one until 1959.

Shoemaker came back for the 1947 season before giving way to O'Brien again the following year.



George Carden was the first prolific scorer in UC history. He was the first to reach 300 points in a season doing it twice in 1949 and 1950.

THE CHATTANOOGA TIMES: CHATTANOOGA, TENN., MONDAY, FEBRUARY 20, 1961.

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Moccasin Quint Invited to NCAA Small-College Meet

1948-50... The George Carden Show

George Carden was the first mark to eclipse the 300-point mark in a season. He did it in 1949 with 313 and again the following season with 319. Carden ended up with a school-record 929 points.

Feb. 25, 1958... University Makes Commitment

The Mocs complete the 1958 season with a win over Maryville, but there was a larger victory. After going 9-58 over four seasons, University leaders decided the time had come to add scholarships.

That decision coupled with the addition of Tommy Bartlett as head coach with no football duties. It provided a new focus that paid immediate dividends.

Jan. 13, 1959... Davidson Cleans at Record Pace

Shooting wasn't as pinpoint in this era of basketball. It kind of shows in the immense numbers of rebounds recorded. Regardless, this was a performance for the ages.

Carmon "Hump" Davidson (pictured center right) controlled the glass against North Alabama. Shots went up, clanged off the iron, caromed against the glass and joined the ever-increasing total for the junior transfer.

Davidson ended up with 30 setting the standard



Carmon Davidson is one of the best rebounders in school history. He holds school records for season avg (14.9 rpg), career avg (13.1) & boards in a game (30).

for rebounders to come. He became the first to top 300 in a season with 313 in 1959. A total only accomplished nine times by just seven Mocs from 1959-2014.

Jan. 3, 1961... Perfection in Narrow Victory

North Alabama came to town to open the New Year. It took a record performance to come out with win No. 6.

That record wasn't just a school mark, it set as a standard nationally as well. The Mocs hit 26 of 26 from the charity stripe winning by a mere four points, 70-66. The squad made 35 in a row over a three-game span.

It started a strong run to the end of the regular season which for the first time in school history included a major event. The the started a 12-3 run and the headline atop this page.

Mar. 10-11, 1961... 1st Trip to the Dance

It didnt take long for the scholarship additions to take hold. Two years of scholarship recruiting led to the first of 16 NCAA Postseason appearances in school history.

Armed with a school-record 17 wins in the regular season, the Mocs made the trip through Nashville to Clarksville and Austin Peay joining their hosts, Belmont Abbey and Kentucky Wesleyan for the NCAA Small College South Central Regional.

Tommy Bartlett's crew did not disappoint in the opening round 77-69 loss to Austin Peay. They battled the home crew to the end. The third-place



Tommy Bartlett talks to his lineup during the rebirth of Chattanooga basketball. The addition of scholarships & commitment to build an on-campus home provided the spark. His four seasons on the bench included the program's first NCAA Tournament berth. He left to become freshman coach at Tennessee before a head coaching stint at Florida.

**UC, AUSTIN PEAY
MEET IN TOURNNEY**

**Battle at 10 Tonight in
NCAA Regional Small
College Cage Meet**

University of Chattanooga
Moccasins left Thursday for
Clarksville, Tenn., where, start-
ing tonight, they take part in
their post-season basketball
meet since the Southern AAU
event in 1948.

KENTUCKY NATIVE WILL COACH MOCS

Former Louisville Star Is Chosen to Replace Tommy Bartlett

By JIM RYAN

Leon Ford, a Kentuckian who learned his basketball under the famed Peck Hickman at the University of Louisville, Friday was given the task of guiding University of Chattanooga cagers through the toughest schedule Mocmen have ever faced.

Ford, 34, replaces Tommy Bartlett at the helm of the UC basketball squad, ending a search which lasted several months and which saw a great number of applicants for the post.

The tall, soft-spoken Ford comes here after 10 years in the high school field. For the past seven seasons he was at Robert annually had his teams up among the best in the Capstone State.

His seven-year record at Robert E. Lee was 141-50.

Ford, introduced to members of the press by UC President Dr. Leroy Martin and Athletic Director A. C. (Scrappy) Moore, said "I am glad to have the opportunity to coach in the college field. I consider it a challenge."

Moore later removed any doubt that it would be a challenge when he revealed the 1962-63 Chattanooga basketball schedule. "It by far is the toughest we've ever had," he said.

The 26-game slate, which begins Dec. 1, includes Southeastern Conference members Auburn and Alabama, Ohio Valley Conference powers Tennessee Tech, East Tennessee State, Middle Tennessee State and Murray State, plus a top independent in Florida State.

Also on tap as Moccasin foes are old rivals Tennessee Wesleyan, Carson-Newman, Oglethorpe,

game the next night was a rough go of it with Kentucky Wesleyan.

Joe Pollock starred for the weekend. He averaged nearly 20 points per game including 31 points and 22 rebounds in a monster effort against KWC earning all-tournament honors. Ron Peebles topped the 400-point mark for the season, a first in the program.

Mar. 1961... Carter Among Nation's Sharpest Shooters

Charles Carter made opponents pay for fouling him during the Mocs magical season. He ranked third in the nation making 90.1 of his free throw attempts.

1961-62... Return Trip to Dance Denied

It was a bitter pill to swallow for the Chattanooga program. A 15-win season was not enough to get back into the postseason.

The 15-10 mark included five losses to "large" college programs outside the parameters of the small college section committee. The Mocs nearly knocked off then OVC-power Tennessee Tech on the road and had an exemplary season by all accounts without the postseason validation.

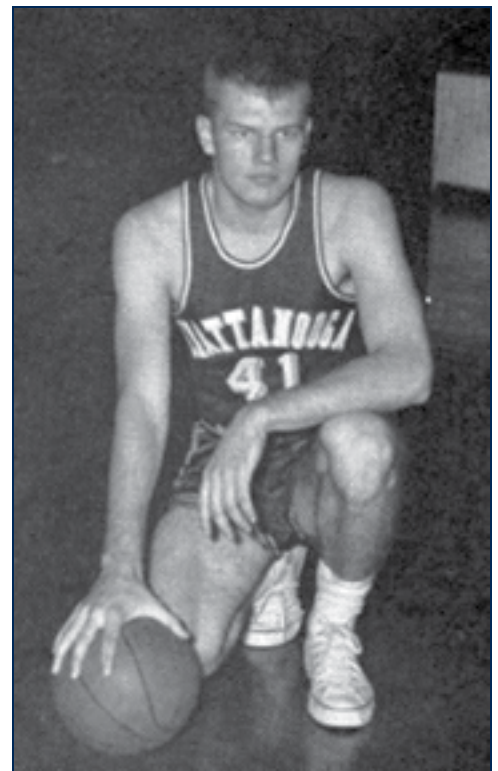
The end of the campaign also saw the end of the Tommy Bartlett Era. His 57 wins over four campaigns was the most over such a time span until successor Leon Ford fashioned 58 wins from 1968-71.

Dec. 4, 1962... OVC Champ Goes Down

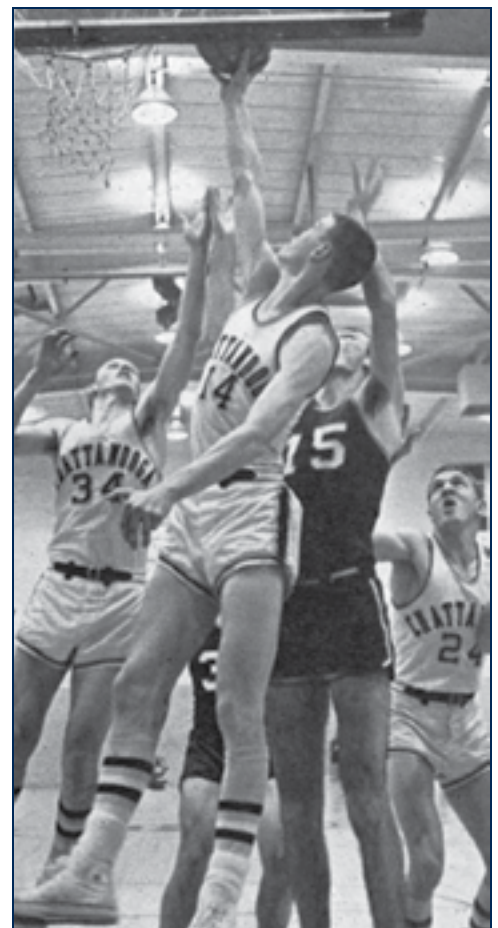
The Leon Ford Era started with a bang. After opening with a 40-point win at home over Bryan, he took his crew to Cookeville.

Tennessee Tech's 1963 turned out to be pretty special. The Golden Eagles won the OVC and went to the NCAA Division I Tournament for the second of their two trips all-time. But that didn't impress the Mocs early on.

Ford's crew toppled TTU in overtime with the 81-77 triumph. It was part of 13-8 start that ended tough with three close losses to small college programs and two DIs which accounted for around half of the season l's.



Joe Pollock had an amazing 1961 NCAA Tournament performance averaging nearly 20 points per game earning all-tourney honors.



Wayne Steele scored a freshman-record 323 points to lead the 1963 team. He was a local product from right down the street at Central which was where McCallis sits today.



Leon Ford & Athletic Director/Head Football Coach Scrapy Moore look over the plans for what became Maclellan Gym during Ford's tenure.

Jan. 16, 1963... *Mocs Take Down Rival in 3OT*
Chattanooga and Oglethorpe had a tumultuous relationship in the 60s. It stands to reason with the nickname Stormy Petrels to live up to.

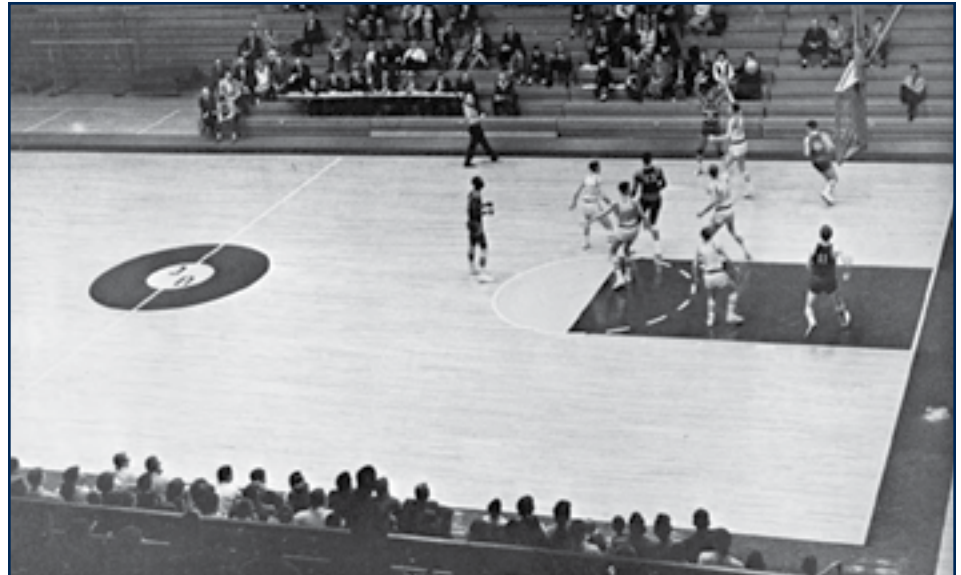
It was a battle from start-to-finish...and finish...and finish. Both defenses played as stingy with the score tied at 47 after the second overtime. The Mocs were done trifling.

They maintained their defensive, escalated actually at that end, while finding a scoring touch that was elusive through the first four sets. Chattanooga went 14-0 in the third OT period to pull away with the 61-47 triumph.

Jan. 4, 1965... *School-Record Scoring*
Never before and not since have the Chattanooga Mocs matched their scoring numbers this night. The Mocs ran up 136 points blowing out the Dayton group by 43. The Mocs topped 100 four times during the season and bettered 80 15 times.

Feb. 20, 1965... *Barnett Boxes Out Blue Raiders*
Larry Barnett turned in one for the ages in the last Mocs home game played off campus. OVC member Middle Tennessee came to town looking to avenge Chattanooga's 91-68 runaway win in Murfreesboro the month before where Barnett totalled 30.

It's obvious he was too much for the Blue Raiders to handle. He recorded 28 points and grabbed 29



Chattanooga finally got its home in December 1965 when Maclellan Gym opened its doors.

rebounds on this day. Those numbers came in a 24-point triumph, 101-77. Just think of the totals if it were a close game where he needed to play major minutes.

March 1965... *Barnett Earns 1st National Honor All-American.* Larry Barnett earned the first such honor with a fabulous 1965 campaign. He led Leon Ford's squad to a 16-10 mark and did it in record fashion amassing 580 points. The 22.3 ppg average is third-best all-time behind Wayne Golden (22.7) and Walter McGary (22.5).

Dec. 4, 1965... *Maclellan Gym Opens*
A rookie roster got to open the newest facility on Chattanooga's campus. Maclellan Gym was the next step toward establishing the program's place on the hardwood. The Mocs went 171-49 (.777) in

Big Mac.

Dec. 12, 1966... *Snatching Victory from Jaws of Defeat*

The Chattanooga Mocs travelled northwest to Murfreesboro to square off with Middle Tennessee's Blue Raiders.

MTSU jumped out to 105-99 lead in the extra period and firmly in control. Dick Maxwell scored a basket then two free throws before Dick Sander made two more charity tosses to knot it up at 105-all.

Sander made the winning play. His steal and then give-and-go on the fast break finishing at the basket with four seconds remaining. The home team did not have time to tie in a thrilling 107-105 ending.



Larry Barnett's impressive 1965 campaign was the best to date in school history. He earned Little All-American status as an honorable mention scoring a record 580 points. This senior year is one of the best seasons in the history of the school missing the school game rebounds mark by one grabbing 29 against Middle Tennessee pictured above.

Sept. 7, 1967... Andrews Paves the Way for Others to Follow

History was made on this date. Coach Leon Ford announced the addition of the first African-American scholarship student-athlete to the roster. Andrews set quite the standard as well. He scored 1,000 points and helped lead his teams to the most wins to that date in any 4-year period for the program.

Feb. 3, 1968... Derksen Unique Buzzer-Beater

There are games when a team survives. Then there are games where they SURVIVE.

The Mocs led by seven, 70-63, with 2:23 to play and in firm control. They went cold, while the hosts stormed back. A Gamecocks free throw with 23 seconds left knotted the score at 70.

There may not be a more spectacular finish in Mocs history. There were still jump balls in game at the time and with one second left, the tip came to Larry Derksen who quickly "fired the stunning shot" that claimed the win. The full story from the opponent's point of view is on this page.

Mar. 6, 1968... Bryan Nets All-American Honor

And then there were two. Three years after Larry Barnett claimed the first All-American honor in program history, Chattanooga native David Bryan grabbed the second.

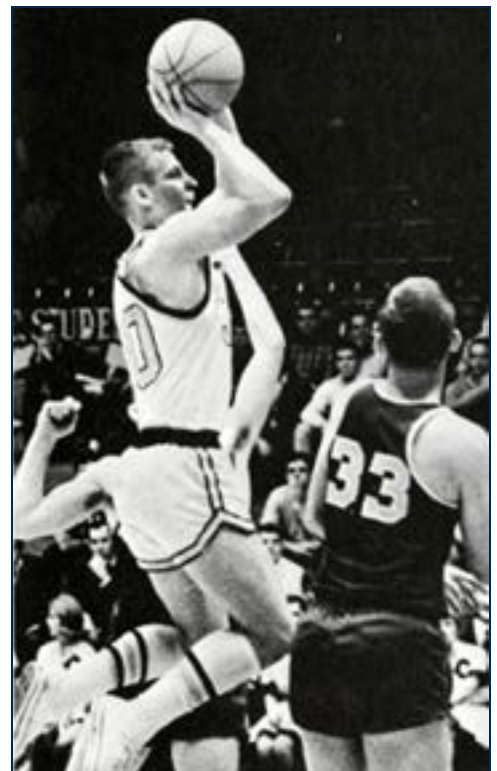
Grabbed is the operative term as Bryan set a school record with 319 rebounds to go with 464 points. It was an impressive display from start-to-finish for the man they called "Camel".

The article above lists the award as AP Little All-America third team. The term "little" covered all teams outside of Division I.

Dec. 14, 1968... 1st of Many In-Season Titles

The Mocs have an enviable record in regular-season tournaments. This was the first of more than 40 titles playing in-season events.

The squad traversed to Augusta, Ga., beating Piedmont 88-62 on the first day and Georgia Southwestern 80-63 the next capturing the Augusta Invitational trophy.



Dick Sander capped an amazing 8-0 run to complete an OT at Middle Tennessee December 1966.

JSU Drops Thriller, 72-70

By GEORGE SMITH
Star Sports Editor

JACKSONVILLE — It's impossible to score a field goal off a jump ball with one second showing on the clock. Ask any official — except the one who officiated the basketball game between Jacksonville State and the University of Chattanooga here Saturday night.

It happened, it really did, and that "impossible" play handed Jacksonville a 72-70 defeat, choking off a brilliant Gamecock rally which had stormed from seven back with just over two minutes to play



CORNELIUS

minutes after the buzzer. "And the thing about it, they didn't even check with the timer to see if it was good. The noise was terrific, but they just signaled the points were good."

Larry Derksen, a sophomore out of Farmersville, Ohio, was the young man who reached in and took the tip off the jump ball, whirled and fired the stunning shot that hung debate on the Jaxmen.

And the loss wasn't the only bad news coming out of the Chattanooga game. Big Bobby Cornelius, already saddled with a chest injury, started the game but left inside of one minute. And at halftime, the 6-8 junior star was carried to Piedmont hospital where it was learned he had torn muscles in his back.

Jacksonville, 4-2 in the ACC, faces a "make-or-break" week beginning Monday night when it takes on three of the league's toughest teams, Athens at Athens on Monday night, St. Bernard at St. Bernard Wednesday night, and Troy State here at Jacksonville Saturday night. The loss of Cornelius could be disastrous.

The battle was a thriller all the way with first one team leading and then the other. Chattanooga swept to an early six-point lead midway of the first half, but the Jaxmen came battling back on top and led by four with 2:38 remaining. However, a late flurry by the Mocs had it in a 18-18 tie at halftime.

Jacksonville slugged a half-court press on Chattanooga in the opening minutes of the second half, and spurred to a 10-point lead with 10:28 left in the game. A quick time out, however, by the Mocs spoiled JSU on Page 11A)


(Continued from Page 11A)

arently solved the JSU press, and Chattanooga regained the lead with 8:33 left on a three-point play by David Bryan, a 6-6 junior.

With 2:23 left, the Mocs apparently had it wrapped up with a 70-63 lead, but the Jaxmen came battling back and Gary Angel, with 23 seconds remaining, hit a free throw for a 70-70 tie.

That set the stage for the dramatic, still unbelievable finish.

Bryan poured in 31 points to lead Chattanooga while Harold



CHATTANOOGA (AP)—The University of Chattanooga has awarded an atheletic scholarship to a Negro player for the first time, basketball coach Leon Ford said yesterday.

Ford said the scholarship was given to Greg Andrews, of Covington, Ky. The university basketball team had a Negro player last season, but he was not on an athletic scholarship.

Greg Andrews '71 is the first African-American student-athlete in Chattanooga Mocs history. He came to the Scenic City in the 1968 recruiting class heavy on Cincinnati-area players. Andrews is one of two 1,000-point scorers from that class which won 58 games, the most by a single group to that point in school history.

First Athletic Scholarship Awarded to Negro Cager

By ALLAN MORRIS 7-7-67

UC has awarded its first Carter and Bob Long, whose scholarship is a Negro athlete — just securing one Jim Van Ek basketball player Greg Andrews of Covington, Ky. The Allen Miller and Ken Michaels Moccasin cagers had their first Dandy, sophomore from Tallahassee, Fla. last season — "Cry, Ind., underwent knee and foot surgery last season — but only been today, but is expected to be ready by the time the season starts.

Catch Leon Ford has listed several newcomers to the Moccasin cage squad. They include: Kirby Mount, formerly of Knoxville High; John Lark, from Young Harris and Larry Schreyer, Lindseyville, Ky. (Kentucky), all junior college transfers. New freshmen are Eddie Grant, former Bradenton High player; Tom Tull, Tom Lark, Covington, Ohio; Steve Waino, Williamson, Ky.; Ken Ky Burns, Lenoir City, Tenn.; and Andrews and Dale Overman, Covington, Ky. Former UC cagers Maurice Elliott and Carmen Davidson are teaching at Covington and recommended in the latter text.

Headcoaches include Dave Bryan, Dick Sander, Doug Maxwell, Harold Carlson, Pat Waino, Larry Derksen, Wayne Burdette, Gary Dasky and Earl Bond. Standout seniors Tommie

Practice starts on Oct. 31 with first game Dec. 1 in the Valdosta, Ga., invitational tournament. Back South will assist Ford. It is undecided yet which there will be a freshman schedule.

First home game for the Moccasin will be at Dec. 7 with Florence, Ala., at the Maclellan gym. The schedule lists one new foe—Athens-Spartan, N.C.

The schedule:

Oct. 31 — Invitational, Valdosta, Ga. (invitation only)

Nov. 1 — Invitational, Valdosta, Ga. (invitation only)

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All-America Bryan Still Not Pleased

By KEN WYNN
Five years ahead

If you don't believe a little determination goes a long way, just ask David Bryan.

The 64 junior forward on the University of Chattanooga basketball team became the second cage star in the school's history to make Little All-America today. Bryan made the third Associated Press team.



DAVID BRYAN

"This is a real good example of what a young man can do when he makes up his mind to improve," commented Coach Leon Ford. "He dedicated himself to the game his year and still isn't satisfied with his own performance."

Bryan didn't go out for basketball until his junior year at City High and made the entry midway his senior year with the Dynamoes.

"This kid just didn't have any experience and no one wanted him," commented Ford. "We decided to take a

points at UC to 1,119, a new University of Chattanooga record. He missed the highest season mark, held by the other UC All-America (1962) Larry Barnett, by 26 points. He broke Barnett's rebounding record (289) by 13.

Barnett was a second team All-American selection but Bryan may be UC's first No. 1 unit selection next season.

"David won't be shooting for second team next year," commented Coach Ford. "He's not that kind of boy. He shoots for the highest mark in all phases of the game."

Both the Little All-American selections were coached by Ford but in his modesty, he said, "The boys do the work, all I do is give them a little push."

Bobby Davis, a 5-11 senior from Rough Falls, Ky., also made the All-America selection. It was the second straight year for the Tennessee...

chance with him and after his freshman year, we thought we had made a mistake. He was horrible.

"But, he made a remarkable recovery his sophomore season and this year became one of the best competitors I have ever coached. He got better every year and just think—he has another year."

Bryan totaled 664 points last season in four seasons...

opposition. Chattanooga ended the season on a 6-game win streak capturing 10 of the last 11 overall. One bit of solace, the slate ended with a regular-season sweep of rival Oglethorpe.

May 30, 1972... Shumate Era Announced

The 13th coach in Chattanooga Basketball history was announced on this date in 1972. Ron Shumate elevated to the first chair from his assistant's role to Leon Ford.

Shumate spent two seasons as chief lieutenant to Ford and hit the ground running, literally. His teams

were known for their pace and flair.

The next five seasons were the final of the DII era. Shumate made the absolute most of them with a national championship, a national runner-up, school record wins four different times, four trips to the NCAA Tournament and the first No. 1 ranking in school history.

Mar. 6, 1973... 1st NCAA Tournament Win

The 1973 squad opened the season with seven straight wins and never looked back. A season-record 19 wins ended with the first NCAA postseason triumph in school history.

The Mocs took control of the game in the first two minutes and rolled to a 13-point win, 99-86, over Transylvania. Mike Snow was the top point scorer with 20 points just ahead of freshman Kevin Gray's 19. Ralph Simpson earned a spot on the all-tournament team with his strong play over the weekend.

It came in the third-place game after a narrow 67-64 loss to host Southeastern Louisiana in the opener.

Chattanooga Charges, Guns Down Oglethorpe



Walter McGary had one of the best 3-year runs in UTC history ranking among the leaders in scoring & rebounding.

Mar. 7, 1969... Bryan Doubles Up

David Bryan picked up as a senior right where he left off as a junior. Unsurprisingly, he picked up another All-American honor to go with it.

Bryan set an absolute standard no other Moc has matched in the program's history. He's the only one to top 1,000 points and 1,000 rebounds for their career.

He left with a then school-record 1,648 points and what remains the standard 1,059 boards. He and Walter McGary are the only Mocs to top 300 rebounds in multiple seasons.

Dec. 1, 1969... 1st Game with New Name

Between 1969 and 1970 a significant moment came for the University. The University of Chattanooga merged with the University of Tennessee system. It joined UT Knoxville and UT Martin on the systems athletic landscape.

The first UTC campaign came with a 12-12 ledger. It was a hard-fought one with half of the 24 contests ending within five points or less (7-5). Those lessons learned led to a strong 1971 season.

Mar. 2, 1971... 18 is Not Enough

The Mocs 1970-71 season was one of the best in school history. The squad set a new school record with 18 wins as a special group of seniors completed the best four-year run by a senior class. Its certainly a bittersweet one looking back.

Eighteen wins. It did not merit NCAA postseason tournament play. Two of the five losses came to DI

Ohio Native Gets Post At Chattanooga

CHATTANOOGA, Tenn. (AP) — Leon Ford, head basketball coach at the University of Tennessee at Chattanooga for 10 years, has resigned and been succeeded by Ron Shumate, an assistant for two seasons.

Ford, whose 1971 team set a school record with 18 victories, will become a full-time teacher in the university's health and physical education department this fall.

Shumate, 32, will assume head coaching duties immediately. One of his first chores will be to find a new assistant coach.

Chattanooga tops basketball poll

By THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Coach Ron Shumate promised last year to bring championship basketball to the University of Tennessee-Chattanooga, and with three victorious outings last week, the Moccasins have taken over first place in the Associated Press college division poll.

Shumate led the Moccasins to a 21-8 season last year, and so far this year, they're 13-1, with their only loss at the hands of Middle Tennessee State University.

The Top 15, with first-place votes in parentheses, season records through games of Saturday, Jan. 19, and total points. Points tabulated on basis of 20-15-10-8-7-6-5-4-3-2-1.

1. UT-Chattanooga (15)	13-1	390
2. Alcorn A&M (8)	14-2	498
3. Old Dominion (1)	9-3	421
4. Fairmont St. (3)	13-0	412
5. Ky. Wesleyan (5)	9-3	389
6. Tennessee St.	9-3	375
7. Evansville (2)	9-4	370
8. Sam Houston St. (1)	13-1	298
9. Augustana (1)	12-2	225
10. Wittenberg (1)	11-1	216
11. Morgan St.	12-1	177
12. Armstrong St.	13-3	126
13. Jackson St.	13-1	92
14. Midwestern	14-1	91
15. S.K. Louisiana	8-3	31

Jan. 22, 1974... We're No. 1

It's not the promised mountain top just yet, but Shumate's promise to get the Chattanooga program to national prominence received further validation.

The week's AP College Division Poll came out with our heroes firmly fixed in the top spot. The squad started the year 8-0 winning 17 of the first 18 games. It's the first recorded instance of a No. 1 ranking in school history.

Mar. 1974... Denied with Prejudice

Due to a technicality, a very weak political move by a Pennsylvania outfit vanquished by the Mocs during their great start, this team was not afforded an NCAA postseason opportunity at 21-5. The question came in the form of transfer reserve Sylvester Davenport.

It was deemed that the reserve forward, who provided quality depth at six points per game, was far too vital to the squad. His absence, per people who rarely if ever saw this team play, would make this squad unworthy of the postseason. He had "contributed materially to the team's success".

At that time, transfers from different divisions still had to sit out a year. While the Mocs were prepared to play without Davenport in the postseason, they never got the chance.

Chattanooga finished the 1974 regular season ranked No. 2 in the college division.

Feb. 8, 1975... Signature Win

Yes, the program earned a No. 1 ranking. Yes, the 1st 20-win campaign was in the immediate rear-



Kevin Gray & Coach Ron Shumate during the rise to national prominence. No. 1 ranking ✓...National Championship Finals ✓...National Champions ✓.

view, but a major win against a DI opponent had not occurred.

Wins over OVC teams like ETSU, Middle Tennessee and Tennessee Tech had become old hat. In fact, those opponents quickly stopped scheduling the Mocs in the '70s.

But a nationally-prominent DI? It was still lacking until this date. As on a December night 40+ years later, the Mocs got that signature win in pen in Dayton, Ohio, 78-73.

A superlative 30-point effort from Wayne Golden was supported by William Gordon's 18-point, 10-rebound double-double.

Chattanooga led throughout until late when teh Flyers made a furious charge to tie it 64-all. The Mocs did not wavor and led by three, 74-71, with just over a minute to go.

Golden's impact was felt on both ends this night. The Flyers got a steal and looked to close within one, but Golden swooped in "pounded the layup down, and Dayton's last chance with it".

Feb. 7, 1976... Dayton Redux

The Flyers owned a win over No. 18 Florida State and near upsets of No. 6 Notre Dame and No. 15 Cincinnati in UD Arena. That didn't intimidate the visiting Chattanooga band.



Ralph Simpson scored 1,254 of his 1,400 career points over his final three seasons in blue & gold and well, white. He had a career-best 504 points in 1972 averaging better than 19 points per game. It was the third-best total and average to that point in school history.

Sunday Sports / *Chattanooga Mocs*

E SECTION

UTC Cagers National Champions!



Gary Stitch was part of the Louisville invasion. Louisville, Ky., prep stars dominated the Mocs starting lineup & roster overall during the mid-to-late '70s.

It didn't have to be a narrow two-point triumph, 65-63. The Mocs were very much in control. Then they weren't. Four straight one-and-ones went empty and six of eight free throws were off the mark down the stretch.

The winning points came off the fingertips of Fred Rayhle from nearby Cincinnati. He connected on both ends of a 1+1 with 14 seconds to go. Rayhle almost went from hero to goat missing both tries with five ticks remaining. A Flyer prayer from 30 feet went unanswered securing the win.

According to the Dayton Daily News, the squad good-naturedly celebrated with chants of "we choke" in the postgame locker room scum.

Mar. 1976... NCAA Run Close but a Year Away
The Mocs rolled through the 1976 NCAA Tournament. The first three games were in MacLellan Gym and saw winning margins of 28, 20 and 29 points en

route to the final four in Evansville, Ind.

A comfortable nine-point win over Eastern Illinois, which beat Chattanooga 53-50 in the regular season finale. Puget Sound beating Old Dominion in the other half gave an unheralded group stading in the Mocs path.

It was a tall group from Washington. The giants prevailed 83-74 sending a determined group back to the Scenic City. Just how determined was proven 365 days later.

July 1, 1976... Officially Join SoCon
The Southern Conference expanded by three with Chattanooga joined by Western Carolina and Marshall. The trio were considered probationary members in 1976-77 with full membership coming in 1977-78.

Mar. 1977... "Rocky Top" Reached
Long before the sacred Tennessee words "Rocky Top" were annexed by our sister school in Knoxville, it was played, trumpeted, etc. in Chattanooga. "Rocky Top" was the moniker Coach Ron Shumate used in talking about the NCAA title.



Thrill of victory

A cheering crowd surrounds Darryl Yarbrough of the University of Tennessee at Chattanooga as he cuts the net from the rim after UT-C beat Randolph Macon College 71-62 to take the NCAA Division II national basketball championship in Springfield, Mass., Saturday night. (AP Wirephoto)



Wayne Golden became the first 2,000-point scorer in school history ahead of classmate William Gordon. The duo combined for 4,524 points together over their four years together with of 90-28 (.763).

Southern Conference Adds Western, Marshall, UT-C

The year before, the Mocs blitzed through the opening three rounds by an average of nearly 26 points per game. It was 16, nine and 24 points this time around, the latter on the road ending a substantial home win streak at North Dakota.

Sacred Heart, playing near their Connecticut home in Springfield, Mass. was the first victim with a finals win over Randolph-Macon from Virginia. Wayne Golden earned final four MVP honors with William Gordon joining him on the all-tournament team.

July 1, 1977... Officially Join Southern Conference
The Mocs journey to DI ended on this date. The program joined the Southern Conference which high hopes on the road ahead.

The athletics department explored membership for a large part of the 70s considering the SoCon and Ohio Valley Conference. In the end, the SoCon won the race.

Nov. 24, 1977... 1st DI Game, 1st DI Win
The Mocs started the DI era with a win out-lasting Louisiana Tech 66-64 in New Orleans. The Bulldogs led early before the game became a back-and-forth battle.

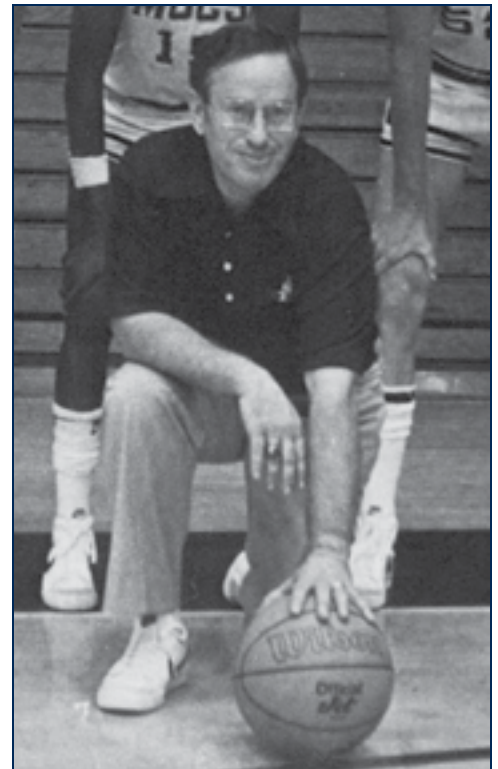
It was knotted at 64-all with the Mocs holding for the final shot. Darryl Yarborough lifted it with three seconds remaining. It came off the rim, but Kevin Galbraith was fouled on the rebound. His two free throws with a second showing on the clock was the difference. The first clutch free throws after the move up to DI.

Jan. 7, 1978... 1st SoCon Win
Chattanooga pulled out to a big lead before settling for an 80-70 win over The Citadel. It was the first Southern Conference win in three tries for the program.

The Bulldogs closed to as close as four with 1:17 to play before the Mocs scored the final six points. Keith Parker led the way with 22 points.

Feb. 1, 1978... Brooks 1st to Top 35 in SoCon Game
Edsel Brooks was one of the top scorers of the early DI era. He was the first to top 35 points in a league game scoring 36 on the road at Davidson. It was the most in a SoCon game for the Mocs until Keith Nelson tallied 36 at Western Carolina 13 years later.

June 9, 1979... Arnold Takes Over
Ron Shumate resigned in May. Murray Arnold



Murray Arnold took over the Chattanooga bench in 1978. He went 135-46 in six seasons. Arnold's .746 winning percentage is best in school history.

entered in June. The Mocs search committee plucked the 41-year old Arnold from Mississippi State University. He spent one year in Starkville after excelling as head coach at Birmingham-Southern College.

Feb. 28-Mar. 7, 1981... All It Took Was One
The first SoCon Tourney win led to two more. It started with a runaway win over VMI 89-63 followed by taking out Carolina entries Western Carolina and Appalachian State. That led to a solid performance in the NCAA Tournament before losing 81-69 to Maryland.

The win over Western in the semis was No. 20 on the campaign. The first 20-win season of the DI era.

Feb. 8, 1982... Quick Trip to 20
Chattanooga hit the 20 win mark with an 80-50 win at VMI. It was done in just 23 games which was the first of three times this has happened at UTC.

It was the second win of eight in a row to close out the regular season and heading into the postseason. It was part of 20 victories in 21 games before a narrow defeat ended shy of the NCAA Sweet 16.

Murray Arnold Picked For UTC Basketball Job



The 1977-78 basketball Mocs were the first in program history to take the court as a DI program.

B Saturday, March 13, 1982, Raleigh, N.C.
Basketball/Football/Preps/Business

B

Moccasins Make State Believe

Moccasins rush by State, 58-51



The 1982 squad came within a short shot in the paint of advancing to the Sweet 16 against No. 7 Minnesota. The Mocs finished with 27 wins which tied the school record at the time.

Mar. 12, 1982... 1st NCAA Tournament Win

A statement as made in a 58-51 over N.C. State in Indianapolis. The Mocs are a premier DI program. Many thought maybe a really good DII would be a good SoCon team, but this squad raised those standards.

Just a seven-point win right? This was a beatdown from the start. The Wolfpack managed just 13 first-half points. Chattanooga led by 20, 44-24, with just over seven minutes to play.

Proud programs do not go quietly into that good night and N.C. State certainly didn't couple by uncharacteristically weak free throw shooting making it look closer than it appeared. This was much of the same N.C. State team that won the NCAA title a year later.

Mar. 14, 1982... NCAA Run Ends Much Too Soon

It was a tragic finish for one of the strongest Mocs seasons at 27-4. They took the seventh-ranked Golden Gophers of Minnesota to the brink.



Willie White's four years included three SoCon titles, three NCAA trips and an NIT appearance. He ended it with the most points of the DI era at 1,969.

How close? A reported 24 inches. The Mocs led by six, 56-50, in the second half with 9:21 left, but shot just four shots the rest of the way trying to ice the shot-clockless contest.

Minnesota led by the 62-61 margin in the final possession. Willie White, who scored 22 points on 11-13 shooting, drove to the basket. He slipped the ball to Russ Schoene who looked for his 22nd point from just 24 inches out. His shot taken with two seconds to play rimmed off & a frantic tip stayed out as well.

Chattanooga had to wait 15 years for that first Sweet 16 appearance.



Dec. 1, 1982... *Welcome to the Roundhouse*
A sold out brand-spanking new UTC Arena was unveiled in a hard-fought matchup with 14th-ranked Tennessee. The fans 11,218 fans were treated to a knock down, drag out battle that went into the final seconds.

Chattanooga cut an 11-point deficit to just two, 51-49, with 29 seconds to play, but could get no closer. The Vols held on for the 55-49 win.

The game was considered to be the Gerald Wilkins introduction according to reports. He led all scorers with 20 and added three steals.

Dec. 18, 1982... *High-Major Triumph*
In the sixth Division I season, the Mocs earned their first regular season win against a "high-major" opponent. It came against Mississippi State, 62-54, in the Krystal Classic Championship game.

It was tied 50-all with 2:55 left when Willie White's 15-footer put the home team up for good. Gerald Wilkins and Stanford Strickland combined to make eight free throws in the final 41 seconds for the winning margin.

The win came between two near misses against ranked opponents. After the one-point NCAA Tourney loss to No. 7 Minnesota to end the prior campaign, the Mocs made two good stabs in December 1982. The six-point loss to No. 14 Tennessee opened the Roundhouse sandwiched the Mississippi State win with a seven-point defeat at the hands of No. 17 North Carolina led by some Michael Jordan guy.

Mar. 1, 1983.. *National Ranking Earned*
The Associated Poll finally had one of the hottest team's in the country included. The Mocs were 22-3 and won 16 of their last 17 before entering the Top 20 at No. 19.

Mar. 17, 1983... *Heartbreak Strikes Again*
The Mighty Mocs made their way to Houston with another ACC opponent ahead in Maryland. Three straight trips to the NCAA and three straight ACC teams on the other bench with the Terps for the second time.

Chattanooga led by 12 at the break and as many as 13 in the second half. It was a nine-point advantage with 3:56 after a Willie White basket.

It was all Terps from there. Clinging to a one-point lead, the pressure defense deflected the ball out of bounds with six seconds to go. Like the year before, it came down to the final possession.

Maryland looked to in bound to All-American Adrian Branch, but excellent defending kept him from getting the rock. The Terrapins last option got the ball. Len Bias ended up shooting from 15 feet and found the bottom of the net for the crushing loss.

Apr. 1983... *Season-Ending National Ranking*
The program ended the 1983 season ranked No. 15 in the country. Despite the upset loss to the Terps, the pollsters had no problem seeing the entire ledger of excellence the 26-4 squad produced.

Nov. 27, 1981-Mar. 19, 1984... *Eye-Popping Run*
The best three years in school history is arguable. The numbers don't lie, but there are A LOT of choices that we narrowed down to three.



Russ Schoene was a 2nd round pick by Philadelphia in the 1982 NBA Draft. He played five seasons in the NBA before going overseas.

There's the final three campaigns of the DII era winning a national championship and finishing runner-up in another. The overall record of 69-23 (.750) is nothing to sneeze at either along with that 10-2 (.833) postseason mark.

Then you look at 1992-94 with three straight SoCon titles, NCAA appearances and a 72-21 (.774) mark overall, 39-7 (.848) in the league.

The 5-year explosion from 1981-85 was special. Putting the middle three years under the microscope leaves little to the imagination.

- > 77-15 (.837) overall
- > 42-6 (.875) conference
- > 1st NCAA DI Tourney Win

The way those seasons ended were almost as impressive as the winning numbers above. This has never been a program that believes in moral victories, but the three losses show how strong the program performed over those 844 days.

The one-point losses to No. 7 Minnesota and Maryland in NCAA Tournament play. Wins over N.C. State before the Gophers matchup and in overtime over Georgia in the NIT came before the heart-breaker at Tennessee. Three postseason losses by a total of four points. Chattanooga entered the national landscape.



Gerald Wilkins finished his 3-year Mocs career before embarking on an impressive NBA run.



Mack McCarthy is the longest-tenured and winningest coach in school history. 12 years, one NCAA Sweet 16, five NCAA Tournaments & one colorful, exciting tenure.

Mar. 4, 1984... Epic Fail

This entry is more to the letter of those words than the spirit. In current jargon, epic fail is losing in a big way. This falls more under a loss in possibly the best game in SoCon Championship game history.

Chattanooga came back from a 15-point halftime deficit. The squad was down four with 39 seconds left before a four-point play from Gerald Wilkins got them into OT. They overcame a three-point sentence with 20 seconds to go in OT as a Eric Brown three sent it to a second. Eventually injury and foul woes had all five starters gone by the end of a 111-107 double overtime loss to Marshall.

Mar. 14-19, 1984... 1st Trip to the NIT

The Mocs followed the NCAA selection show closely hoping to become the first SoCon school to earn an at large bid. It was not meant to be, but the NIT called and UTC answered. The NIT was pretty stout in its own right with just 48 teams involved in the NCAA Championships.

First up was Georgia which went to the NCAA Final Four the year prior. The Mocs were forced into OT by the Bulldogs before prevailing 74-69. That kept them in the SEC at Tennessee five nights later. A close game went to the home team in a 68-66 finish.

Mar. 15-24, 1985... Big Apple Plans Fall Short
The Mocs won the regular season SoCon title but fell in the tournament semis. That meant another postseason in the NIT.

Gerald Wilkins dominated Clemson in the first round before an OT win at Lamar. A furious comeback win over the Cardinals included a Eugene Deal fullcourt pass to Wilkins for a buzzer-beating turnaround jumper at the end of regulation. All too often it is forgotten in the play itself, but that basket capped a comeback from seven points down, 74-67, with 1:19 remaining. Deal & Wilkins provided the blueprint for Duke and its iconic play in the 1992 NCAA Elite Eight against Kentucky.

Then it was on to Louisville. The Cardinals, who captured the NCAA crown a year later, held off the Mocs 71-66. It came in the round of eight stopping the Scenic City crew shy of a semifinal appearance in Madison Square Garden.

Aug. 1985... Arnold Resigns/McCarthy Era Starts
On Aug. 8, Murray Arnold resigned to head to the NBA as an assistant for the Bulls. That led Chancellor Dr. Frederick Obear and Athletic Director back to the SEC assistant ranks with an awaiting Mack McCarthy at Auburn.

Within three weeks, Obear and Wilkes announced McCarthy. The Chattanooga Times alleged Roy Williams was offered the job but balked when it was insisted he keep the present coaching staff.

The "highlight" of his introduction is one of the funnier press conference stories all-time. McCarthy had been on the road recruiting when he accepted the position. In need of a coat for the press conference, his wife Jean purchased a very nice blazer which by happenstance was green. The McCarthys soon learned how heated the rivalry with Marshall was.

Dec. 17-20, 1985... Champions of Mississippi
The Mocs had back-to-back games against the Magnolia State's SEC entries. Game 1 looked to be a lagher with the good guys down 19 late in the first quarter in Starkville.

Zero high-major wins on the road since the move to DI. Mack McCarthy's squad felt that stat needed to change. Down, 23-4 with seven minutes to go... yep just four points in 13 minutes...the Mocs closed the half on a 15-2 run to make it manageable at the break.

Manage they did. Darry Ivery's free throws with 1:15 provided the final, 48-47, as Chattanooga played shutdown defense for the win.

Next up was Ole Miss in Birmingham. A much better start led to a lop-sided Mocs win. It was close, 42-38, early in the second half when Lance Fulse and James Hunter powered a 22-5 stretch extending the lead to a game-high 21, 64-43. It got no closer than the final margin of 11, 89-78.



James Hunter (left) and Cornelius Crank (right) after another win in the Roundhouse. This pic came during the 1986 season and highlights the consistent media presence in Chattanooga for the Mocs.

Mocs Dominate VMI To Take SC Crown



Lance Fulse (right) gets a supportive hug from Tennessee-Chattanooga teammate Daren Chandler before making two foul shots to beat Marshall on Saturday in the Southern Conference tournament in Asheville.

Marshall Ousted By Chattanooga

By GLENN BOLLINS
ASHEVILLE — Marshall's Skip Henderson broke the Southern Conference championship record Saturday with 23 points for the first time since 1944.

But the first foul shot Tennessee-Chattanooga senior Lance Fulse hit with two seconds left gave the Mocs a 71-70 victory over the 11th-ranked Thundering Herd (24-7).

Senior guard Virginia Military knocked off second East Tennessee State (9-40) in the second semifinal, and hosts No. 5 Tennessee-Chattanooga won today's final (7:30 p.m. EST).

It is the first time two teams needed lower than fourth place out of 16 college basketball teams to win the SoCon title game since 1971 when No. 3 Furman beat No. 8 Richmond (48-6) in the championship.

Lance Fulse, Great game. Even for the lady-land, 6-4, 217-pound record holder of points, he scored at the final line with the game on the line.

She shot from the key and missed. In Marshall's hands, with four seconds left, and he drove a controversial foul from Brown in the closing seconds.

The thought of the situation here.

"I didn't want to wind up with two late shots," he said. "I said, 'This is just like the last time I missed the last shot in a championship game in Western Carolina. When Marshall blocked it, I said, 'Oh, no, I blew it again.'"

"When I saw they had scored, I thought, 'No, my first thought was that I was the last person I wanted up there. I had already missed three foul shots, and I was feeling bad because I hadn't played a good game.'"

Fulse, a 6'9" foul shooter who led the conference in rebounding at 9.4 and averaged 13.6 points, had 10 rebounds and eight points Saturday.

Fulse's action spoke volumes when he missed his first foul shot to win the game. He ran a few steps toward midcourt and began jumping up and down like a dancing bear.

Meanwhile, the Asheville Civic Center swarmed Marshall (48-6).

The Herd trailed most of the game and eventually was outscored in a crucial 10-minute stretch in which both teams shot 47% from the floor. VMI coach Mack MacIntyre cut off the Herd's Marshall foul shot from the game by dropping two points back on defense instead of making the offensive fourth as he had intended in two previous losses to the Herd.

But Marshall's comeback in three minutes against the Mocs was a struggle game for a 10th seed with one minute, two seconds left.

Henderson — who had scored 23 in a 101-78 game-winning victory over The Citadel — had an assist to Brown for a three-point shot that gave Henderson a second chance at the free throw line, including a foul on the game-winning possession to make it 70-69.

But the Mocs' Brian Green had fouled up by fouling Henderson's foul shot, leaving Henderson to make it 70-69 with 11 seconds left.

Then, at the 10-second mark, Henderson shot into the lane, but rebounded, and he had one second to shoot the game. The Mocs' Morris Lyons gave out with it and passed ahead to Green, who drove and shot and then passed to Fulse on the line.

The end in exhibition fashion. Three possessions later had three Southern Conference titles at the 1988. But it was then that Henderson



Get Sports On Demand

Friday's Results

No. 1 Marshall	69
No. 8 The Citadel	76
No. 5 Tenn.-Chattanooga	80
No. 4 Tennessee	88
No. 7 Virginia Military	78
No. 2 Furman	73
No. 3 Tennessee State	64
No. 6 Appalachian State	74

Saturday's Results

Tenn.-Chattanooga	71
Virginia	70
Virginia Military	79
Tennessee State	69

Today's Final

1. Tenn.-Chattanooga	71
2. Marshall	69
3. Tennessee State	64
4. Tennessee	60

Jan./Feb. 1987... App State Milestone Moments x2
First it was No. 100 and then No. 750 but the same foe was there for both.

SoCon win No. 100 came in just 139 league contests. A 72-69 win at Appalachian State clinched on Jan. 15. The return to Chattanooga was even sweeter with program win 750 on Feb. 9 by a 84-70 tally.

March 4-6, 1988... Magical March
A 5-0 start and 9-2 non-conference mark through Jan. 2, including a win over Texas, had plenty of early optimism. January and February were unkind.

The Mocs went 8-8 in SoCon play and tied for fifth in the standings. That sent the crew to Asheville with the expectations set a little lower outside the locker room. Somebody forgot to share that with the guys inside it.

Lance Fulse, Benny Green and Morris Lyons led the Cinderella run to Big Dance No. 4. First up was an 83-69 triumph over Davidson. Top seed Marshall dropped next by the narrowest of margins, 71-70.



Lance Fulse and the Chattanooga Mocs cut down the nets in the 1988 SoCon Tournament. Fulse became the seventh Moc to claim 300 rebounds in a season.

That set up the unlikely matchup of 5 seed UTC and 7 seed VMI after the Keydets blew past ETSU in the semis. Green's 16 led the way in a 75-61 Mocs win as he was named MOP.

That turned into a NCAA date with top seed Oklahoma. The Sooners used a first round win over Chattanooga to catapult to the final losing to Danny Manning's Kansas squad.

Feb. 17, 1990... Mocs Shoot the Lights Out
Derrick Kirce stepped to the free throw with 26 seconds to play in ultimately a 95-85 win at Western Carolina. Kirce's two free throws proved to be the 92nd and 93rd points, but they came with the greatest degree of difficulty. A bank went out as Kirce made one of the two stalling the Catamounts woes before the Mocs took a happy bus ride home through the Smokies.



Derrick Kirce literally shot the lights out in Cullowhee during the 1990 season.

Tuesday Sports

SECTION
D

CHATTANOOGA NEWS-FREE PRESS—January 22, 1991

★★★



— Staff Photo by Laura Walker

ENOCH SLIPS ONE BY MISTER JENNINGS Moc Guard Sets Mark For UTC Assists

Nov. 30, 1990... Slide into History

The Mocs narrow 76-70 loss to Mississippi State is not a memorable moment. So this one goes out to our Sugar Mocs. They led the largest Electric Slide on record at the time during halftime festivities. It was certainly an "electric" night in the Roundhouse.

Dec. 28, 1990... Win No. 100 for McCarthy

The Mocs all-time winningest coach picked up where his predecessors left off. McCarthy's squad beat San Francisco in the opening round of the Dr Pepper Classic for win No. 100 en route to 243. He was the fourth Chattanooga leader in a row to top 100 following Leon Ford, Ron Shumate and Murray Arnold.

Ford was the first in school history to get there reaching 126. Ron Shumate broke his former boss' mark with 139 which stood as four more than Arnold (135) accumulated. The quarter combined for a 643 of the program's 1,341 victories.

Threats' Throws Thrill Throng Bucs Stopped Here: It's Mocs By Pair

Jan. 21, 1991... Bucs Stop Here

It was a special night in the Roundhouse as a showdown of the 12th-ranked ETSU Bucs and a Mocs squad on a 5-game win streak to start SoCon play.

It ended with a 76-74 triumph in front of 10,121 in the Roundhouse with Chattanooga taking its usual perch atop the SoCon.

Derrick Kirce had a double-double with 32 points and 12 rebounds. Tyrone Enoch dished out a then program-record 13 assists. LeVert Threats only scored eight due to foul trouble, but the eight were huge with two big 3s and both ends of a crucial one-and-one with four seconds left on the clock.

The 76-74 win was the program's first over a DI ranked opponent.

Mar. 1, 1991... Go Long: Threats-to-Nelson

The fullcourt pass with seconds to play never works. The desperation try, that's all it is. Well that was disproven once by the Mocs when Gerald Wilkins capped an improbable comeback bid

sending the 1985 NIT win at Lamar into overtime. It happened again six years later.

Chattanooga entered the SoCon Tourney as one of three co-champions in the regular season. It matched up with 7th-seeded Western Carolina in the opening round and got more than they bargained for emphasized by the Catamounts taking an 82-81 lead with three seconds to play.

LeVert Threats stepped to the baseline under the Western basket. He lofted a full-court pass that saw Keith Nelson leap above two Cats, gather, fall away and swish.



LeVert Threats was a foundational piece in the Mocs 1990s resurgence. His name is littered through accounts of the 1991 & '92 SoCon Regular Season Titles.

Saturday Sports SECTION C
 CHATTANOOGA NEWS-FREE PRESS—November 23, 1991
Over The Hump: Mocs Rip Miss. State

Nov. 24, 1991... Season Opening Win vs. SEC
 The Mocs opened the 1992 campaign on the road against SEC member Mississippi State. The Mocs hadn't won on the road against that league since Dec. 17, 1985. HAD.

Chattanooga went to Starkville and rolled to an 85-73 win. It came behind a colossal effort from Keith Nelson.

Nelson collected 23 points, 14 rebounds and three steals. The Mocs as a whole made 15 steals. He helped propel his squad from a 51-49 deficit to a 70-60 lead with no looking back.

Dec. 23, 1991... Early Christmas Present
 The Chattanooga Mocs overcame a 12-point second half deficit to defeat Southern Miss 72-67 in the Roundhouse. The Golden Eagles led 43-31 early in the second half when the Mocs went on an 11-0 run.

USM kept its lead however and never trailed for close to 38 minutes. It was in control up 65-60 inside four minutes to go. It took 1:33 for all that to unravel. LeVert Threats "followed" a missed Keith Nelson free throw with 2:12 left.

The ball came out and Golden Eagles star Clarence Weatherspoon got a hand on it but accidentally tipped it in his own basket with the points credited to Threats. Depending on which account you read, Tennessee or Mississippi media, there was something between a slight nudge or strong push in Weatherspoon's back that ended up with the ball in the basket and "Spoon" out of bounds.

Defense was the key according to the postgame reports. You can believe it as the home team rudely held its guests to just two points over final 3:45.

Mocs end streak for ETSU
 By Kelly Hodge
 Press Managing Sports Editor
 The hole was dug early Monday night. Finally, after almost three years of winning, East Tennessee State University's aura of invincibility at home was laid to rest.
 Tennessee-Chattanooga, the most hated of rivals, roared into Memorial Center and beat the Buccaneers, 88-82, in a heated battle of Southern Conference basketball powers. The nation's second-longest home win streak, 34 games, was over.

Jan. 20, 1992... Bucs Streak Snapped
 ETSU seemed invincible at home in the early 90s. They had a 34-game home win streak heading into this game, but that was squashed by a usual nemesis.

LeVert Threats is a name that makes Bucs of that era wince and with good reason. He went 5-6 from 3pt range including one with 1:02 to go quelling ETSU comeback hopes. Threats ended with 21 points & 11 boards.

The streak was the second longest in the nation. The emphasis on that date certainly hit on "was".

Feb. 1, 1992... Triple First
 There are special stat lines in every sport. Baseball has the cycle, hockey and soccer the hat trick, basketball has the triple-double.

There's a lot to be impressed by with the Chattanooga Mocs history. Several players came and went, but the first recorded triple-double came in this date during season No. 73.

Kind of fitting it came from point guard Tim Brooks. His 2-year career saw him leave as the Mocs top assister and by his league player of the year credentials suggest, he was one of the South's top performers over the 1992 and 1993 campaigns.



Tim Brooks recorded the program's first triple-double with 16 points, 10 rebounds & 16 assists in a road win at Western Carolina in 1992.

The only question is why not at home Tim? He turned the trick in Cullowhee, N.C., as the Mocs cruised to a 98-83 triumph. Brooks ended with 16 points, 16 assists and 10 rebounds.

Mar. 1, 1993... Brooks, McCarthy Sweep Honors
 For the second straight year, the Mocs swept the Southern Conference's top honors but for the first it was consensus. It was also the middle of a special run from player side.

In 1992, The coaches and media agreed that Mack McCarthy was Coach of the Year. The coaches noted Keith Nelson as the Player of the Year, while the media obviously didn't pay close enough attention.

In 1993, there was no dissent. McCarthy and Tim Brooks were consensus choices for the top spots. A year later, fatigue kicked in voting for McCarthy, while Chad Copeland made it three in a row for Player of the Year.

Brooks, McCarthy Top Honorees

CHATTANOOGA FREE PRESS

MONDAY, MARCH 14, 1994

Mad Mocs Heading To Rupp

By RON BUSH

Free Press Sports Writer

There's the usual connotation of March Madness in regard to the NCAA basketball tournament.

Then there's the madness the UT-Chattanooga basketball Mocs and their coaches felt after learning they will face Kansas in the Southeast Regional this Thursday at Lexington, Ky.

Game times had not been released as of noon today.

Lexington is the site. And a chance to play in mammoth Rupp Arena.

But their 13th seed in the Southeast they didn't. And Kansas as the opponent. The Jayhawks may be No. 4 in the Southeast now, but they were No. 1 in the country as late as Jan. 24 and have been in the Final Four two of the last three years.

"That's a joke," UTC assistant coach John Gibson said when the pairing flashed on the TV screen.

UTC is tied for 35th in the new USA Today/CSN poll, while Kan-

See MOCS, Page D3



Free Press photo by ALEX HANCOCK

UTC basketball players react throughout the Sunset Cafe as CBS Chattanooga going to Lexington, Tenn., only LaMonte Woods, second from right, immediately realizes the Mocs have been given a much tougher draw than expected. Soon to change from laughter to bewilderment are, from left, Kentucky resident Gary Robb, Chad Copeland, Shane Neal, Brandon Born and Roger Smith.

In all seriousness, Owens played 38 career games starting five for the Mocs on the basketball court over three seasons (1994-96).

Feb 23, 1994... Perfect Home Schedule

14-0. The 1994 squad was perfect on its home floor. It was the first time in the Roundhouse Era Chattanooga kept a clean home ledger.

Nine of the 14 wins were by 10 or more points, but there were a couple of nailbiters along the way. ETSU came within two points of ruining the run, while Southern Miss got within three. The Mocs score 78 or more in every home outing.

It was the eighth time in program history the Mocs were undefeated at home, but came in the second-most games. The previous? 4-0 in 1919 (various), 9-0 in 1927 (various), 10-0 in 1959 (various), 9-0 in 1965 (various), 13-0 in 1974 (MacLellan), 16-0 in 1977 (MacLellan) and 14-0 in 1982 (MacLellan).

Mar. 3, 1994... Copeland Forms POTY Triumverate

First, it was No. 3 Keith Nelson earning SoCon Player of the Year honors in 1992. That was followed by No. 10 Tim Brooks in 1993. It was thought in the preseason maybe a third straight transfer from Sullivan J.C. would take the award in Gary Robb.

Dec. 1, 1993... Another Road Opening SEC Win

The Alabama Crimson Tide won 34 straight home openers. Until this date in 1993. Chattanooga cleansed that ledger with a defensive intensity.

The win was by 10, 67-57. It was the finish that was definitive. Leading 59-57 with 2:04 to go and the Tide apparently rallying, the Mocs scored the last eight points for a happy bus ride back home.

Chad Copeland (19) and Brandon Born (15) combined for 34 points including 27 of the squad's final 36. It was a huge victory over a group that included future NBA performers in Jason Caffey, Antonio McDyess, Roy Rogers and Eric Washington.

Feb. 12, 1994... T.O. Debuts

It was definitely the road not generally taken. From walk-on basketball player to NFL Hall of Famer, Terrell Owens made his hardcourt debut in Lexington, Va.

Owens played the final 1:43 and scored two points. Little did he know the heights he'd reach from this humble start. Or maybe being good already with the pigskin was enough.



Terrell Owens made a huge impact at Chattanooga. He's known for his considerable skill on the football field reaching the absolute apex of his profession, the National Football League Hall of Fame. He accepted the honor in the arena he loved with the world watching him receive his gold jacket in the Roundhouse in 2018.

Instead of a collegial flow, it was numerical. Chad Copeland topped his teammate for the honor. While the same school symmetry was gone, he still had an interesting tie to Nelson and Brooks.

When Copeland arrived in Chattanooga, he took Nelson's No. 3. After Brooks graduated, he changed to No. 10. The award was certainly woven into the fabric of the program.

Dec. 29, 1994... Day of Reckoning

The Mocs blew an 8-point lead with 1:39 left at Ohio State losing in overtime two weeks prior. This time, the pupil became the teacher.

Liberty led our intrepid heroes 59-48 with 4:48 to go. Rodney Lemons three-pointers and stout defensive effort got the Mocs back in the game. The Flames scored just three points the rest of the way.

It took an unusual buzzer-beater for the win. Maurio Hanson was always up to a challenge, but the lefty hit the final shot with his right hand falling out of bounds to his left earning a little string music and the win.

Jan. 21, 1995... Road Record Recorded

It was the school record at the time and still stands as the most points on the road by a Moc. To say John Oliver was feeling it at Georgia Southern is an understatement.

His 42 points included an unconscious 8-for-10 effort from 3pt range and 8-8 at the free throw line. The performance broke open what was a close game. There were 11 lead changes and 14 ties in the first half alone.

An 18-9 run to open the second frame and 20-8 to end it secured the 89-70 triumph. Oliver's 42 bested the previous mark of 41 by Wayne Golden in the March 15, 1976 NCAA Quarterfinals win over Nicholls State.

Mar. 5, 1995... Destiny Strikes in Asheville

The Mocs won three straight SoCon Tournament crowns from 1981-83. Just a box of doughnuts worth of years later, they completed the trifecta again (1993-95).

The third was not easy, but it was surely satisfying. The 63-61 title triumph over Western Carolina included a 16-point second half comeback with two Marcus Watkins 3pt baskets down the stretch proving key.

This a nerve-wracking tourney run for the Mocs and their fans winning the three games by a combined eight points.

Jan. 6, 1997... Aha Moment Turns into Sweet Run

From Nov. 28, 1995-Dec. 29, 1996, the Mocs looked anything but their usual SoCon dominating selves. They went 19-19 and the memory of five straight regular season trophies and three tourney versions were in the rearview mirror. That is outside the locker room.

The week-long soul searching after a Dr Pepper Classic loss to Canisius turned ugly for the opposition. An 11-game winning streak ensued with an eye-popping +20.2 scoring margin. It included 30+-point wins over Wofford (37), at Furman (36) and ETSU (30).

Chattanooga won the South Division with an 11-3 mark. The 72-66 win at The Citadel was the only one inside double digits, while the three losses were by one, two and three points, all on the road.

Mar. 2, 1997... Run to 1st SoCon Final

After blowing through the regular season, it was, per usual, tougher sledding in the tournament. A 84-62 opening win over VMI was followed by a 77-70 triumph in the semis over Davidson. That brought heated rival Marshall.



Johnny Taylor was one of the most electrifying Mocs. He helped lead the 1997 squad to the NCAA Sweet 16 before becoming its first NBA 1st Round pick.

It had to go to OT and the Herd held a 70-69 lead in the final moments. Johnny Taylor rose for the winning basket but he was off the mark. Never fear with Chris Mims near. He rebounded the errant effort and laid it in with three seconds to go for the win.

What a week it was with Taylor making it four SoCon Player of the Year awards in six. It couldn't get any better right?

Mar. 14, 1997... 2nd DI NCAA Tournament Win

Not many people gave the Chattanooga Mocs a chance to make waves in the NCAA Tournament. Tagged with a 14 seed, our heroes were sent to Charlotte with a date with Georgia. The two school were 1-1 in their postseason history with both games coming in the NIT.

Young takes control in Mocs' upset

By CLIFF MEHRTEMS
Staff Writer

Tennessee-Chattanooga's performance in the final two minutes was splendid. But its sizzling start was what shaped a stunner.

The 14th-seeded Mocs scored the first 15 points and held on to beat third-seed Georgia 73-70 in the NCAA Southeast Re-

gional on Friday at the Charlotte Coliseum. Slithery point guard Willie Young twice drove the lane in the final 90 seconds for baskets to give Tennessee-Chattanooga its first NCAA tournament victory since 1982.

The Mocs (23-10) broke to a 20-2 lead, then withstood a late rally by isolating Young (game-high 24 points). And when he missed, Marquis Collier snagged a rebound

and added a free throw with 10.4 seconds left for the final margin.

G.G. Smith's potential lying three-pointer was deflected by Collier at the buzzer, and Tennessee-Chattanooga became the fifth No. 14 seed to win.

The Mocs did it by scoring on their first seven possessions. Johnny Taylor had 10 of his 19 points in the opening four minutes. Tennessee-Chattanooga shot 62

percent in the half.

"We were running high emotionally," said Taylor, the Southern Conference Player of the Year. "We really wanted to come out and have a good start. When the shots started falling, it just carried over."

Unlike many low seeds that lead early and fizzle, Tennessee-Chattanooga showed top-seed poise. "I told our guys (Thursday) this will not be an upset," said Tennes-

see-Chattanooga coach Mack McCarthy. "You are as good as these people, you just have to play well."

Count Georgia (24-9) among the believers.

"I don't think its so much what we didn't do, as what they did. Greatly," said Georgia coach Tubby Smith. "You shoot the ball well at this level, you can win a lot of tournaments."

For questions or comments about this section, please call Andy Deffen, 752-3261, after 4

SPORTS

■ Braves' baseball C3
■ NBA roundup C3

Chris Dortch



Mocs draw motivation from Illini

CHARLOTTE, N.C. — UT Chattanooga players were in their locker room preparing for their NCAA Tournament game against Illinois on Sunday when a hellacious southern erupted down the hall.

It wasn't difficult for the Mocs to trace the source of the racket. Two doors down, Illinois had just been given word that Providence had beaten Duke in the afternoon's first game. It seems the Illini were relieved the Friars, and not the Blue Devils, winners of two national titles in the 1990s, would be their next opponent.

"I'd never heard anything like it," UTC coach Mack McCarthy said. "They were singing the CBS song, the ESPN song, the Illinois fight song. It sounded like a pep rally in there."

Most coaches would kill for such a motivational tool in a big-game situation. Before yet for McCarthy, he didn't have to say a word to his underdog Mocs. He just let them listen.

"It really aggravated us," forward Isaac Connor said. "We don't think we're supposed to be here. Illinois probably never even heard of us. They just assumed they'd be going to the Sweet 16."

Said guard Wes Moore: "That really got to us. It was hard for us to know we have a game, could celebrate before we even played. We all looked at each other and said, 'They've already written us off.'"

They inspired, UTC, a team that went out two former walk-on starters to do battle against Illinois and its collection of blow-chip talent, made sure the Fighting Illini's program celebration was as ill-advised as it was provocative.

The Mocs' 75-63 victory over this proved that to Illinois.

"Illinois and the rest of the world," senior forward Johnny Taylor said, Taylor's point was well-taken, for before this NCAA Tournament, UTC might have been the best college basketball program no one outside of Chattanooga knew anything about.

Most fans had heard of the College of Charleston, its hyperactive coach John Kresse and the Coquary annual, gun-killing aspects of bigger-name teams. Experts trying to identify teams that could score first-round upsets pointed to Miami of Ohio, Old Dominion or South Alabama. Everyone knows about Princeton and the more it always seems to throw at higher-seeded teams.

The truth is UTC's history gave little indication of what was to take place this weekend in the Charlotte Coliseum. Since a victory over North Carolina State in the NCAA Tournament 14 years ago, this proud program had not had a significant victory on a national level.

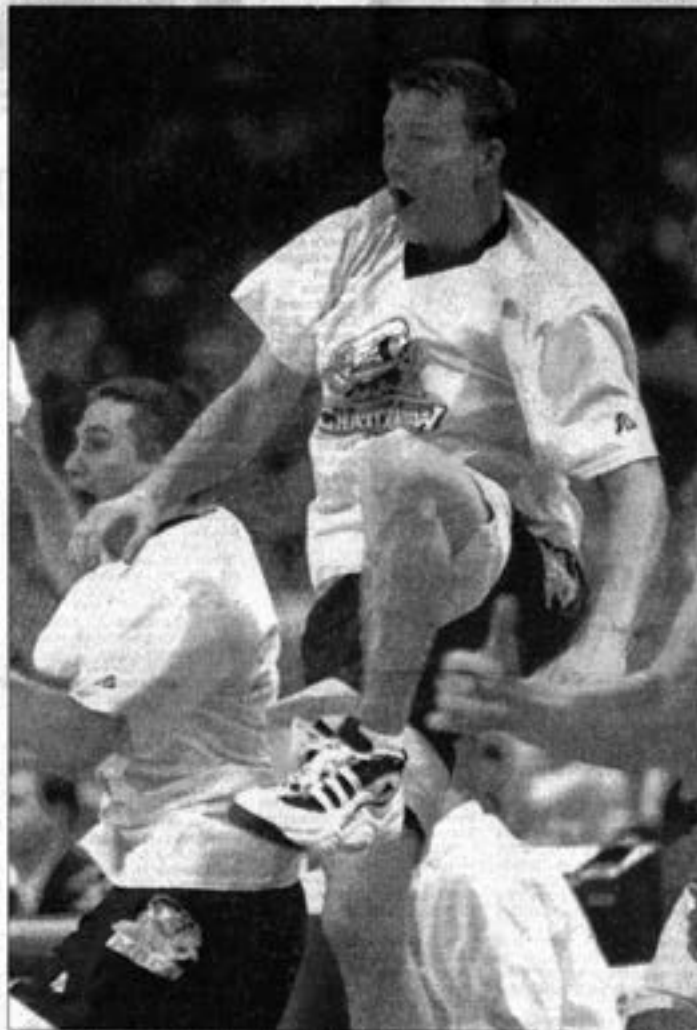
The Mocs had had six straight tournament games coming into Charlotte, the last four by an average of nearly 27 points. Those defeats had overshadowed the fine work turned in by McCarthy, whose teams had averaged 20 victories in his 12-year career.

Asked if he had ever heard of the Mocs before this weekend, Klause Garris, Illinois' first-team All-Big Ten guard, could only shake his head.

"No," he said.

Mocnificent!

Remarkable Mocs head to Sweet 16



Lincoln Walters leads the celebration as the Mocs upset Illinois, 75-63, Sunday in Charlotte, N.C.

By Jack Hodges

CHARLOTTE, N.C. — A reporter from the Birmingham Post-Herald was talking to himself more than anybody else.

"Take's not going to the Sweet 16, and Chattanooga is. Who would have believed it?" he said.

UTC Chattanooga stunned the college basketball world Sunday afternoon, defeating Illinois, 75-63, for its second upset, according to the seedings, in the Southeast Regional. The Mocs advance to the Sweet 16 for the first time, in case anyone is still unaware of it.

Providence, the Mocs' opponent Friday night in Birmingham, Ala.; set second-seeded Duke loose with a 68-57 victory. UTC and Providence thus became the first teams seeded 14th and 16th to advance to the Sweet 16. The Mocs also became the first Southern Conference team to win two games in the NCAA Tournament since Virginia Military Institute in 1976.

UTC coach Mack McCarthy made a couple of changes during a TV timeout with 7:46 left that propelled the Mocs to the victory.

With the Mocs trailing, 59-55, McCarthy reinserted Willie Young into the game. Young had been sitting since 12:25, when he picked up his fourth foul. McCarthy, who bred his "smoother," or 1-1-3 zone a little in the first half, then went with it for the duration.

The strategy worked perfectly, as the Fighting Illini went 6-21 without scoring. By the time Natl Heldman made a free throw with 1:17 left, the Mocs led, 66-60.

UTC hasn't used a zone defense very much at all this season.

"I was surprised he went to it, really," said Margosa Guller, who took a charge and caused a turnover on the back line of the zone. "I guess that's why he's the coach."

McCarthy said there were reasons for going to the zone, the defense Jerry Turkianian made famous at Nevada-Las Vegas.

"I kept our guys from having to run through 1,000 picks when they were chasing a guy," McCarthy said. "They really set a lot of screens, especially for (Illinois) Garris. It also was a way to hopefully keep Willie from

■ More on Mocs, C6

MARCH MADNESS

Sunday's scores

East Regional
Louisville 84, New Mexico 81
Texas St. 69, Colgate 59

Southeast Regional
Providence 91, Duke 87
UT Chattanooga 75, Illinois 63

Midwest Regional
Carmax 65, Tulsa 59
Missouri 75, Temple 57

West Regional
Utah St. 72, UNO-Chico 59
Stanford 72, Wake Forest 56

Complete coverage, C2,5

... picking up his fifth foul the didn't until 1:17 remained.

"They usually shoot from outside, anyway, so we thought we'd have our guys out there waiting for them."

Young said there was another reason for going to the zone.

"Except for Garris, they really hadn't proved to us that they could shoot from outside," Young said.

Young still led the UTC scorers with 15 points, but four other players were in double figures. Chris Blinn played big with 12 points and 12 rebounds, his fourth double-double of the season. Johnny Taylor and Collier off the bench also had 12 points each. Wes Moore added 11 points, including 7 of 8 free throws when he replaced Young for the last 1:17.

Isaac Connor had eight points and did as good a defensive job as possible on Garris when the Mocs were in a man-to-man.

Garris led the Illini (24-10) with 29 points, but was only 5 of 14 from the floor.

"I'd like to congratulate Chattanooga," Illinois coach Lou Kruger said. "They did an outstanding job at a critical juncture when we had the opportunity to widen the lead. Their big lineup in the second half took its toll, and we got a little tentative when they went to the zone."

The Mocs outrebounced the Illini. Please see Mocs, C6

Mack center of attention

By Jack Hodges

CHARLOTTE, N.C. — UT Chattanooga coach Mack McCarthy and the Mocs were jubilant, yet surprisingly reserved after recording the biggest basketball victory in the history of the school Sunday afternoon.

"This is the best ever," McCarthy said of the 75-63 Southeast Regional victory over Illinois which advanced the Mocs to the Sweet 16 in Birmingham, Ala., on Friday. "We beat an SEC team (Georgia) and a Big 10 team to do it."



Chris Mens blows his own horn after his 12-point, 12 rebound performance.

McCarthy said he had received congratulatory phone calls from Charles Barkley, who played for him at Auburn, and Dennis Haskins, TV's Mr. Belding, after Friday's victory over Georgia.

This week, he is sure to be besieged by other well-wishers, as well as the nation's media.

He said he hadn't received a call from Tennessee athletic director Doug Dickey, who is searching for a coach.

McCarthy didn't change his coaching style for the NCAA



The Mocs were in no mood to haggle scoring the game's first 15 points and leading by as much as 20, 39-19. The Bulldogs made a counter-offer whittling to within one with 1:06 to play.

The lead was three with 2.7 seconds to play coming out of a timeout. Georgia had the ball at midcourt and a chance to tie. Coming out of the huddle, Coach Mack McCarthy was heard asking press row with a laugh, "So what do we do now?"

His team gave him the answer holding off the Bulldogs and sending Chattanooga to the second round for the second time in program history.

Georgia Coach Tubby Smith was gracious in the postgame saying "I don't its so much what we didn't do, as what they did. Greatly. You shoot the ball well at this level, you can win a lot of tournaments."

Mar. 16, 1997... Sweet 16 Baby! (Dick Vitale voice) Chattanooga concentrated on the now...stayed in the moment...cliche, cliché, cliché. They heard Illinois celebrate pre-game after Providence upset Duke setting up an easier path to the Final Four for the Illini.

Careful what you wish for because the Mocs were not more excited about playing the Friars. In round one, we shot the lights out. To go to the Sweet 16 it was unsweetened defense.

The tight affair was put into lockdown over the final 10 minutes. One baset and six free throws was all Illinois was allowed to muster. Behind Chris Mims' 12 rebounds, the Mocs dominated the boards 39-21 for the 12-point win with the final margin coming after a meaningless Illini three in the final moments.

Moc, stock and barrel

UTC does it all after Illinois' pregame sing-along snub

By CLIFF MEHRTENS
Staff Writer

Be careful what you sing in the locker room before a game.

Fourteenth seed Tennessee-Chattanooga, irked when it overheard Illinois partying beforehand, responded with a

Tenn.-Chatt 75
Illinois 63

75-63 victory in the NCAA Southeast Regional at Charlotte Coliseum on Sunday. The Mocs (24-10) earned the first trip to the Sweet 16 in school history.

"We heard Illinois in the locker room next to us hoopla-ing and carrying on after they heard Providence had won," said Chattanooga forward Johnny Taylor. "They were screaming things like they were in the Final Four. That really kind of got under our skin. We wanted to go out there and send a message."

It's loud and clear: Chattanooga is the first No. 14 seed to reach the Sweet 16 since Cleveland State in 1986. The Mocs — not Illinois — will play Providence in Birmingham, Ala., on Friday.

The Mocs remained poised, despite the pregame concert and five fouls inside a two-minute stretch early in the second half, capped by a technical foul on coach Mack McCarthy.

Chattanooga held Illinois (24-10) to one basket and nine points in the final 10 minutes. The Illini's last dozen possessions: Eight missed shots, five turnovers and a meaningless three-pointer with 15 seconds left.

It was a finish Illinois won't be singing about anytime soon.

"I've never heard of a team doing that, maybe that's what they do to get ready," McCarthy said. "They sang the CBS song, they sang the ESPN song, they sang the Illinois song, they sang every song in the world. It was like a pep rally ..."

Did he point it out to his players? "I didn't have to," McCarthy said. "You could hear the whole thing."

Strength in the lane helped, too. Chattanooga had a 39-21 rebounding advantage and made more free throws (24) than Illinois attempted (18). Relentless forward Chris Mims has 12 points and 12 rebounds, including two three-point plays in the second half.

The Mocs worked the ball inside consistently and shot better than 50 percent in each half. Guard Willie Young's 15 points led four scorers in double figures. Taylor and Wes Moore had 11 points each, and Chattanooga's bench was 5-for-5 shooting.

"We did two things (beating Georgia and Illinois) nobody expected this weekend," McCarthy said. "Why not continue?"

The Mocs hounded Illinois' leading scorer Kiwane Garris into five-of-14 shooting. The Illini had eight baskets in the second half, and six came in the first six minutes.

"I think we had some good shots, we never did get a chance to knock them down," Garris said. "The way the game was going, it was going to be the hungriest team in the last 10 minutes."

Chattanooga played as if fanned. The Mocs' 11-0 run, capped by Isaac Conner's steal and layup, built a 66-59 lead with 2:20 to play.

"They really pounded us on the boards and with second-chance shots," said Illinois coach Lon Kruger. "They were getting the ball down on the block."

UTC 75 — Conner 3-8 1-2 8, Taylor 5-12 2-5 12, Mims 3-4 6-8 12, Young 5-12 4-5 15, Moore 2-4 5-6 11, Phillips 1-1 0-0 3, Collier 3-3 6-8 12, Hutcheson 0-0 0-0 0, Okeke 1-1 0-0 2, Tatum 23-45 24-34 75.

ILLINOIS 63 — Gee 1-3 0-0 2, Gandy 5-7 1-1 13, Henderson 4-7 1-2 11, Gans 5-14 7-10 19, Turner 2-8 0-0 4, Chukwudebe 3-6 0-1 6, Nottor 1-5 0-0 2, Johnson 1-1 4-4 6, Baine 0-0 0-0 0, Freeman 0-0 0-0 0, Caldwell 0-0 0-0 0, Tatum 22-51 23 38 63.

Halfway—Mocs 34, UTC 33. **3-Point goals**—UTC 5: 13 (Moore 2-4, Phillips 1-1, Young 1-1, Conner 1-4, Taylor 0-1); Mocs 6: 15 (Gandy 2-2, Henderson 2-2, Gans 2-8, Turner 0-3). **Fouled out**—Young, Gandy, Nottor. **Rebounds**—UTC 39 (Mims 12), Mocs 21 (Gee, Gandy, Gans, Turner, Chukwudebe 3). **Assists**—UTC 8 (Young 3), Mocs 12 (Gans 5). **Total fouls**—UTC 18, Mocs 33. A—14,964.

Mar. 21, 1997... Cinderella Tag Shifts North Chattanooga's storybook run trekked to Birmingham with a Sweet 16 meeting with the 10th-seeded Providence Friars. It was a Cinderella matchup with either the first 14 seed EVER to move on to the Elite 8 or the first 10 in six seasons.

It was not a perfect 10 for the Mocs with a 71-65 loss. The Friars thought the game was over after coming out of a 51-51 tie with 7:56 left with a 15-2 run. The good guy valiantly scraped but ended six points shy of continuing capturing the nation's attention.

June 25, 1997... Taylor Made for 1st Round Tim Duncan. Chauncey Billups. Tracy McGrady. Johnny Taylor. Just a sampling of the world's best selected in the first round of the NBA Draft.

Taylor's Chattanooga career resulted in unprecedented heights reaching the NCAA Sweet 16 just three months prior. His name was called when Hall of Fame coach Chuck Daly and the Orlando Magic sent the card to the podium making Johnny the 17th selection.

His career included a stop in Denver with the Magic

THE SPACE COAST'S NEWSPAPER

MANATEES TUMBLE 2-0
Lakeland pitcher Brian Powell strikes out 15 as the Tigers defeat the Brevard County Manatees 2-0 in an FSL game in Viera, 3C.

FLORIDA TODAY

SPORTS

TYSON SEEKING RETRIBUTION
Mike Tyson says he will correct his "mistake" by winning his rematch with Evander Holyfield, 6C.

THURSDAY, June 26, 1997

SECTION C

Tom Squires, sports editor, 242-3792, 9 a.m.-6 p.m.

Taylor made for Magic



Chattanooga alum Johnny Taylor '97 soars to the hoop for the Orlando Magic which selected the SoCon Player of the Year in the 1997 Draft's first round.

and Nuggets trading him back-and-forth in 1999 and 2000. His playing career moved overseas and lasted until 2013 when he returned to his hometown and served in a player personnel role for the Mocs over the 2013-14 campaign.

Aug. 2, 1997... McCarthy Resigns

Coach Mack McCarthy resigned on this date with a school-record 243 wins. It also tied for the most in the Southern Conference at the time with former Maryland Coach Burton Shipley. McCarthy's 12 seasons included six regular season titles plus two more division while winning five tourney crowns. There were five trips to the Big Dance with the recent Sweet 16 as the highlight along with two NITs.

Aug. 6, 1997... Dickerson Hired

It didn't take long for the Mocs to hire McCarthy's successor. They turned to the man integral in putting together the rosters that won SoCon titles in six of the last seven years. Henry Dickerson earned his opportunity with the impressive run along with his prior experience in the league during Marshall's best seasons.

college basketball

Morton scores 50 for Mocs

Nov. 15, 1997... Moore Sets School Mark

It was quite the day for point guard Wes Moore. The point guard was well-known for his ability to manage a game along with the ability to knock down a shot when needed. He felt REALLY needed this night.

Moore drilled 9-of-11 from beyond the arc scoring a then-Roundhouse record 33 points. The nine treys shattered previous marks for 3pt made. He even found time to carrol seven rebounds. Isaac Conner added 15 points, eight boards and seven assists.

Dec. 23, 2000... 1st High Major Win of Century

It was a runaway 84-70 win over the visiting Virginia Tech Hokies. The squad took the lead for good on a Toot Young 3pt with 11:35 to go in the first half.

A 38-33 halftime advantage grew to 58-44 just 18 minutes later on a steal and layup by Neil Ashby. Ashby led the way with 18 points supported by Young's 16.

The 20-24 performance at the free throw line kept any Tech comebacks at bay. The largest lead of 16, 84-68, was provided by Idris Harper at the charity stripe.

Jan. 24, 2001... Morton Nets School Record

It was a special night for Oliver Morton against

a pesky Pikesville Bears bunch. Morton tallied the program's first 50-point effort scoring nearly half of the squad's total for a 101-85 triumph.

Morton made 20-28 from the field scoring another 10 at the free throw line in 13 attempts. The points broke John Oliver's 42 six years earlier at Georgia Southern, while the 20 field goals bested Ron Peeples 18 set on Feb. 15, 1961.

Apr. 5, 2002... Lebo Era Starts

The Chattanooga administration took a different path in this coaching hire. The last four hires were assistants.

Ron Shumate and Henry Dickerson were promoted one chair to head coach. Murray Arnold (Miss. State) and Mack McCarthy (Auburn) came from the SEC ranks. Jeff Lebo became the first current collegiate head coach to move to the Scenic City.

Lebo came to Chattanooga from Tennessee Tech coming off back-to-back Ohio Valley Conference titles. He stayed two seasons before departing for Auburn 735 days later.

Apr. 23, 2004... Shulman Promoted to Head Coach

Jeff Lebo, we barely knew you. His trusted assistant did not follow him to Aburn, however, as John Shulman was elevated to head coach. It started the second-longest and winningest coaching tenure in school history.



Oliver Morton set the Chattanooga scoring record with 50 points in the 2001 win over Pikeville. It was the 11th straight home win for the Mocs.



New Coach John Shulman authored a fantastic start. His squad topped Tennessee in December & won the SoCon Tournament returning to the NCAA Tournament in March.

Dec. 5, 2004... Mocky Top

Chattanooga made the short trip to Knoxville to square off with John Shulman's first SEC opposition. Coming off a narrow loss a few days prior to Virginia Tech, the Mocs were ready to scrape and battle again.

That's exactly what happened. It looked like another disappointing finish when Chris Lofton's triple went in with 1:37 to play. Chris Brown answered that

challenge with a three of his own with 1:16 left.

Those were the last points scored in a 69-68 Mocs triumph. The Scenic City crew held their hosts off despite missing three free throws in the final 16 seconds to provide all the drama necessary to provide a very loud sigh of relief throughout the I-75 corridor.

Mar. 3-5, 2005...Finally Back on Top Heading into the 2005 Southern Conference Basketball Tournament, the Chattanooga contingent looked back on recent near misses. Three of the four ended painfully with finals losses.

It started with dispatching ETSU followed by a win over App State with Mindaugas Katelnyas claiming a postseason-record 21 rebounds. That left UNC Greensboro.

The Mocs led most of the way and had complete control up 14 with 6-and-a-half minutes remaining. To the Spartans credit, they made a game of it. A late run closed it to within two with 1:27 to play.

The good guys held strong for the 66-62 win and ninth SoCon Championship.

Mar. 17, 2005... Promising Start Falls Short

The Chattanooga Mocs did what they did all year. Play a gritty, grinding game...but it wasn't enough to overcome fifth-ranked Wake Forest in Cleveland, Ohio.

They battled and took it to the Demon Deacons taking a three-point lead at halftime. Coach John Shulman famously stated he had every halftime

DEACONS WAKE UP IN SECOND HALF TO DEFEAT MOCS. Includes a photo of a player and a small article snippet.

speech prepared EXCEPT holding the lead. He went with "this isn't good enough" with Mindaugas Katelnyas arguing, "c'mon coach, you know that was good enough".

Wake found its game led by star guard Chris Paul. With Chattanooga up 38-35 with 14:20 to play, Paul engineered a 24-7 to flip the script holding on for a 70-54 win.

Chris Brown had 14 to pace the Mocs with Alphonso Pugh adding 13 off the bench.

SPORTS: COLLEGE BASKETBALL

Vols stunned at home by Chattanooga



Fired-up Mocs earn first win over UT since 1925 season

KNOXVILLE — Chattanooga Coach John Shulman was worried about lingering too long on the court after the Mocs upset Tennessee. "I want to hurry up and get out of here. They might change the score," Shulman said after Chattanooga stunned Tennessee 69-68 yesterday afternoon. "What a special day for us." The Mocs (3-2) last beat Tennessee in 1925, losing 23 straight in the series. Mindaugas Katelnyas had 17 points and nine rebounds and Steve Cherry added 10 points for Chattanooga, which had not beaten a Southeastern Conference team since 1997. The Vols (2-3) were in trouble the entire game. Chattanooga's defense clogged the line and made Tennessee shoot from outside. "They did an excellent job of coming in here and playing with energy. We need to find that kind of energy at the defensive end of the floor," Tennessee Coach Buzz Peterson said.

UT MEN "Right now we need to get tough and dig in." The Vols looked headed for an upset after barely beating Wofford a week ago, and Peterson's goal of getting his team into the NCAA tournament seems even more difficult now. Tennessee had a chance at the end to pull it out. The Vols' last lead was 68-66 after Chris Lofton hit a 3 with 1:57 remaining. Chattanooga's Chris Brown made a 3-pointer at the other end with 1:16 left, and the Mocs hung on for the first big victory for Shulman, who is in his first year as head coach. Tennessee's Scooter McFadgon, who uncharacteristically struggled from beyond the arc, missed a 3 with 45.9 seconds to go and was whistled for an offensive foul on Katelnyas. Katelnyas missed the first free throw, got the rebound and was then called for traveling with 16 seconds left. McFadgon missed again and was called for another offensive foul on Ricky Hood with 2 seconds left. Hood missed both free throws. Tennessee's Brandon Crump got the

rebound, but his heave across the court was way off at the buzzer. The Mocs lost earlier this season at Ohio State and was leading Virginia Tech before falling 63-59 on Thursday. Shulman said people tried to console Chattanooga by saying the Mocs did well enough to "hang in there." "You get sick and tired of listening to that," he said. "We're trying to take it to another level. Winning this certainly helps." The Mocs were picked to finish second in the North division of the Southern Conference. CJ Watson led the Vols with 29 points while McFadgon had 14 points and 10 rebounds and Crump added 10 points. The Vols were 11-of-29 beyond the arc. But the Mocs were better 12-of-24. Chattanooga led at halftime by one and pushed its lead to seven with 9:07 left after Jerice Crouch hit a 3 and then sank a free throw on the Mocs' next possession. But Watson made a 3 to start a 9-1 run that Andre Patterson finished with a dunk to put the Vols ahead 57-56 with 3:45 to go. Chattanooga regained the lead in its next possession with Katelnyas' two free throws and held on to it until Lofton's shot.

Chattanooga 69, Tennessee 68. Includes a table with columns for Player, Pts, Rebs, Asts, Stl, Blk, and a list of scores for other games.



The 2005 NCAA Slam Dunk Championship capped off a brilliant senior season for Mindaugas Katelynas.

Mar. 31, 2005... Katelynas Wins Slam Dunk Title

The Chattanooga Mocs took center stage at the NCAA Final Four in the form of Mindaugas Katelynas. Katelynas topped the 8-person field winning the College Slam Dunk Championship at Washington University in St. Louis, Mo. A national audience watched along on ESPN as Katelynas finished with two perfect scores to claim the title.

Dec. 6, 2005... Roundhouse Claims Another Victim

Creighton came to town with a reputation. It left with a shiny, new L. Chattanooga's reputation as one of the toughest places to visit proved more than apt.

The Blue Jays were ahead three, 62-59, with 4:04 to play. The Mocs dominated defensively holding their visitors without a point until a useless basket with four ticks remaining.

Casey Long led the way with 16 points including late free throws.

Dec. 30, 2008... McDowell Near Perfect

Chattanooga sharpshooter Stephen McDowell took center stage at the Dr Pepper Classic Championship Game. The Mocs blitzed Niagara 99-84 with an inside-out game.

McDowell was Mr. Outside. He tied the school record for threes made with a 9-15 performance. He scored 38 points playing all 40 minutes.

The inside duo of Kahlil Hartwell and Nicchaeus Doaks combined for 38 points and 19 boards with Doaks grabbing 17 of them. They led a plus-16 effort on the glass including two more on the offensive than their opponent managed defensively (15/13).

Mar. 7-9, 2009... SoCon Title No. 10

The 2008 season ended disappointingly in the quarterfinals of the SoCon Tourney with a narrow loss to Elon. It was nearly deja vu all over again.

A one-point win over the Phoenix led to an offensive assault in an 81-70 semis win over Samford setting up a title game against College of Charleston. The Cougars upset Steph Curry's Davidson squad in the other half of the bracket.

The Mocs overcame deep foul trouble over the opening 20 minutes to take over the game. Opening the second half on a 20-0 run and weathering CofC's second-half 3pt barrage to win a then record-tying 10th SoCon Championship 80-69.

Mar. 16-20, 2009... Fallon Adopts Mocs

It was a special week for the Mocs. A trip to Philadelphia for the NCAA West Regional First and Second Rounds was made more memorable when "Late Night with Jimmy Fallon" adopted Chattanooga as its team with nightly features on the Mocs.

On Monday, Fallon highlighted the school which was followed on Tuesday by an ode to John Shulman by the Roots titled the "Don Juan of the SoCon". Wednesday was an amazing night with Shulman appearing live on the show via Skype. The studio audience was decked out in

gold Chattanooga shirts and the Mocs' own Dennis Haskins (Mr. Belding, "Saved by the Bell") made a live appearance along with Scrappy and members of the pep band and spirit squads.

Thursday, Fallon gave the Mocs a locker room pep talk after the UConn game and then on Friday, the show flew Shulman and his seniors in and recognized them live.

"It was an unbelievable experience for our basketball team. The enthusiasm from the show carried over to our team, school and community. It made an amazing week that much sweeter." - John Shulman

Jan. 27, 2011... Double OT Thriller

What could have been a quick night saw the Mocs add an extra 10 minutes to their night. The lead over UNC Greensboro was 20, 59-39, with 14:57 remaining.

It took a Keegan Bell three at the end of regulation to get to the first OT. Trevis Simpson made a coast-to-coast play to send it to the second.

The Spartans looked like they had the game clinched up seven, 109-102, with 1:59 to go. Dontay Hampton converted a three-point play before UNCG answered with its final point. Two Ricky Taylor baskets sandwiched a free throw from Hampton, the latter of the scores coming with 1.9 on the clock for the 111-110 triumph.

There were 98 combined points over the first 25:03, 123 over the final 24:57 as defense became an after thought. Taylor's 41 points was the most by a Moc in a SoCon home game and third-highest total all-time.



The Mocs spent the 2009 NCAA Tournament run featured on the Late Show with Jimmy Fallon. Here the Chattanooga Pep Band and alum Dennis Haskins, the beloved character Mr. Belding on "Saved by the Bell", joined the program's newest fan on set the night before the contest with UConn.



Z. Mason had an amazing senior campaign averaging 18.1 ppg & a DI-era best 9.7 rpg. He earned 2014 SoCon Defensive POY honors.

Apr. 2013... *Shulman Era Ends, Wade Stint Starts*
The end of the 2013 campaign was the last of the John Shulman era. It was one with two SoCon Tournament Championships several division crowns and two NCAA Tourney appearances.

The last of the SoCon Tournament titles tied the league record of 10 at the time. His ledger also included wins over Tennessee and Creighton. During his tenure only the Mocs, Davidson and Wofford captured the SoCon Championship status.

New athletic director David Blackburn turned to one of the nation's premier mid-major programs hiring Will Wade from VCU. Wade led the program to 40 wins including 22 in 2015 which were the most at Chattanooga since 24 triumphs en route to the 1997 Sweet 16.

Mar. 2014-17... *Defense Travels: Mason to Tuoyo*
A favorite coach cliché...defense travels. From 2014-17 the Southern Conference Defensive Player of the Year Award stayed in one city, two different locker stalls.

The league inaugurated the award with the 2013-14 campaign. Z. Mason collected it with Justin Tuoyo taking it the following three. The duo combined for 362 blocks over those four years making the paint an area of menace for every opponent.

The duo accounted for four of the five best block

seasons in school history. Tuoyo became the career leader with 270 rejecting 2.81 per game, while Mason ended up third with 129 (1.47 bpg).

Jan. 10, 2015... *Jones 3pt for OT Winner*
Unlikely heroes are everywhere. Casey Jones is not an unlikely hero in Mocs-Bucs lore, but the manner in which his heroic act came at this point in his career, was as unlikely as it gets.

The score was tied at 71 after A.J. Merriweather's three-point play with 49 seconds left in OT. The Mocs worked the clock and got a good look from Eric Robertson from 3pt range. Jones soared over the scrum underneath to grab the board. The bench called timeout with 17.9 to go setting up a final play. Casey's likely play set up his unusual one.

He ended up with the ball on the U in ETSU logo along the middle of the court. He looked right, looked left the looked ahead and saw rim as the Bucs defense sagged. He lifted up from 25+ feet and swished the game winner with 1.7 seconds to play. Robertson made sure any long heave was under duress which cemented the 3-point triumph.

The unlikely part? It was just Jones' second career 3pt made.

Apr. 2015... *Wade to VCU, McCall Comes to Chatt*
It was just a two-year stay for Will Wade as former boss Shaka Smart moved from VCU to Texas which meant the Rams turned to Wade. That brought Matt McCall from Florida to the Scenic City.

McCall was a member of Billy Donovan's Gators staff and coaching tree. He took over a unique group. Several played for or were recruited by three different coaches in their time with the Mocs.

All he did was author the winningest season in school history, high-major wins for the first time in years and yet another NCAA Tournament appearance. What made the group he inherited unique was how no one from the core left the program after Wade's departure. It was further evidence of the family culture the program has developed throughout the years.

Nov. 13, 2015... *Sensational Start*
The Matt McCall Era started with a bang. A quick start leading by as many as 11 saw Georgia claw back. The Bulldogs led by six late before the Mocs ran back out to the lead.

The final minute saw the Mocs down one, up one and then tied at the buzzer. They controlled play in

the extra period and looked to run away on Justin Tuoyo's slam with 1:57 to go leading 84-77.

The Bulldogs scored, the Mocs answered. Three three-pointers got the hosts within two going into the final 10 seconds. Two missed free throws made it a hairy final moment but well-played defense forced a bad three-point attempt and a hard-earned win. It was the first against a power 5 opponent since at Tennessee in 2004.

Nov. 21, 2015... *Mark Another High Major Off List*
The last time the Mocs beat Georgia was in the 1997 NCAA Tournament. The next win? Illinois. The next DI opponent after Georgia in 2015? Illinois.

It was deja vu all over again. The Mocs led by as many as 15 in the first half and were up 12 in the second. That was flipped late. The Illini took a nine-point advantage with 6:26 left. It was all Mocs from there going on a 21-7 run to finish with an 81-77 win.

Three straight three-pointers from Chuck Ester, Tre McLean and Eric Robertson put the squad in front. They never looked back.

Dec. 12, 2015... *Signature Win*
It's not every year a mid-major looks back on a season with wins over Georgia and Illinois and says the signature one is still coming. But that's what happened on this night in Dayton, Ohio.



Casey Jones was part of the mid-2010s group continuing the program's rich, winning tradition. He was one of the emotional leaders of 2016's school-record 29-win squad.



It was a study in overcoming adversity. Top scorer Casey Jones dislocated his ankle in practice before the team boarded the bus for the trip up I-75. The mood was anywhere but there as they travelled thinking about Jones in Chattanooga.

That changed on the 12th. The Flyers were poised to move into the top 25 after a win over the Scenic City bunch. That hunch proved in error.

The Mocs once again out-played its more bally-hooded hosts down the stretch. Greg Pryor's free throws with five seconds left for a 61-59 advantage. The Flyers worked the ball quickly into the front-court getting it into the hands of Scoochie Smith. The ultra-quick guard was picked up by Justin Tuoyo who stayed with him stride for stride keeping him from taking anything but a prayer at the basket for the two-point win.

Mar. 5-7, 2016... School Record Shattered

The school record for wins was 27 entering 2015-16. The group had 26 heading to Asheville for the SoCon Championships. It was 29 after that special weekend.

First, it was a come-from-behind thriller over Samford. Next, it was controlling a Western Carolina team who just would not go away. Finally, a third triumph over ETSU in the title game for an 11th trip to the NCAA Big Dance.

The roster included rotation pieces recruited by each of the last three head coaches. Casey Jones, Eric Robertson and Alex Bran came on board with John Shulman. Will Wade recruited Justin Tuoyo, Tre McLean, Duke Ethridge, Chuck Ester, Greg Pryor and Dee Oldham, while Jonathan Burroughs-Cook was a Matt McCall find.

Nov. 11, 2017... Mocky Top Part II

The defending SoCon champs did something unseen for 25 years in Knoxville. The Mocs broke Tennessee's 25-game winning streak in home openers.

It was a dominating performance in the 82-69 triumph. Justin Tuoyo and Tre McLean combined for 43 points and 21 rebounds each garner 20-10 outings. Tuoyo registered 22 points and 11 boards, while McLean had 21 and 10.

It was the second straight season started with SEC road wins for the Mocs.

Apr. 2017... McCall Departs, Paris Enters

Matt McCall won 48 games in his two years and then headed North to take over at UMass. His departure mirrored the entirety of the roster he inherited with all the building blocks of a SoCon Championship program graduated.

Next up was Lamont Paris from Wisconsin. Paris came to town with a tremendous reputation built in DI stops at Akron and with the Badgers. He built it back from the ground floor becoming the fifth straight head coach to put together a 20-win season in his first three years.

Jan. 29, 2018... Double OT Survival

This was a comeback win for the ages. The Mocs took down UNC Greensboro 87-85 in 2OT. That could've been said had either team won it.

Chattanooga erased an 11-point second half deficit flipping it to a six-point lead, 62-56, with 1:39 remaining. UNCG scored seven of the final eight points to extend it five minutes.

The Mocs returned the favor. Down seven with 34 ticks left, Chattanooga did the unthinkable extending it another five minutes overcoming a five-point lead as late as 15 seconds to go OT2.

It was all back-and-forth from there with the Mocs prevailing on two free throws and a defensive stop in the final five seconds.

Nov. 12, 2019... Road Comeback

The Mocs set the tone for the 2019-20 20-win campaign with an early season win at Troy. The group trailed by as many as 14 in the second half before coming all the way back for the win.

They took their first lead on a Ramon Vila free throw with 2:41 to go. A Trojan basket took it right back before A.J. Caldwell's and-1 at the 2:00 mark started a 10-0 spurt cementing the road win.

Mar. 7, 2020... Historic Feat Finished

Five times. To that point, five times in 101 seasons the Mocs produced a trio of 400 points scorers in one campaign. It was the first time in 28 years when LeVert Threats, Keith Nelson and Tim Brooks tallied 472, 467 and 427; respectively, in 1992.

Matt Ryan led the way with 507, while Ramon Vila and David Jean-Baptiste added 441 and 417, respectively. One thousand, three hundred and sixty-five points. They joined the likes of Wayne Golden-Walter "Moose" McGary-William Gordon, Golden-Gordon-Kevin Gray, Daren Chandler-Benny Green-Chris Behrends and Threats-Nelson-Brooks.

Mar. 7, 2022... CHAMPS AGAIN!

Chattanooga claimed its 12th Southern Conference Tournament title after defeating Furman 64-63 in overtime. David Jean-Baptiste hit a 30-foot jump shot at the buzzer to send the Mocs back to the NCAA Tournament. The win capped off a 27-7 record for the 2021-22 season which featured a SoCon regular season title and a school record and national-best 12 road wins which included victories at VCU and Loyola Marymount (CA)



Justin Tuoyo '16 brought more questions than answers for opponents at both ends of the floor during his 3-year stay in Chattanooga.