



BASKETBALL

What else can be said about this year's basketball team? Besides finishing the season with a 22-6 record (the best mark in 26 years, after being picked to place sixth in the OVC), Coach Cal Luther was voted by the OVC coaches as Coach of the Year and Claude Virden was selected the Most Valuable Player in the OVC. In what was called a "rebuilding" year, Coach Luther took a squad with only two returning starters and guided them to the OVC championship. It was his second championship in two years. Virden tied with East Tennessee's Harley Swift for most valuable player in the Coaches' poll but was a unanimous choice by the Louisville "Courier-Journal."

Hector Blondett was one of two sophomores chosen to the 10-man All-OVC team. Don Funneman, who was sidelined with an injury with two games remaining, was given an honorable mention.

The Racers beat Western Kentucky in the last regular game of the season, which forced us into a playoff with Morehead to determine the OVC representative to NCAA competition. The entire campus was psyched for the game in Bowling Green and it was estimated that 5,000 Racer fans attended. It was well worth it since the Racers downed Morehead 94-76 in one of their best-played games of the season. Then the cagers were off to NCAA playoffs in Carbondale, Illinois. Although the Racers lost 82-62 to a tough Marquette squad, our fans showed their loyalty by cheering the Racers on until the last second of play.

Murray will lose two men from this year's team—they are seniors Jim Stocks and Ron Romani. The members of the team are Jim Young, Gary Steverson, Steve Riley, Ron Romani, Don Funneman, Claude Virden, Gary Wilson, Jim Stocks, Ron Johnson, Frank Streety, and Hector Blondett.

These men will surely be remembered for creating more excitement at Murray State than has been generated in many years.

