



Stretching to the limit!...Brian Titus jumps to out-reach two Lakota players in an attempt for a rebound.

"And starting the game for the Aves".... Center George Henry is cheered on by teammates David Moss and Matt Mairn before the game.



## The Future Is Now!

"The tradition begins now." This quote, which served as the motto for the 1990-1991 basketball team, summed up the Aviators' year. A new coach, an almost winning season, victorious tournament games, and a newly structured basketball program were additions this year as a part of the tradition that will continue to grow.

John Taylor and Scott Bogner mentioned that the season was packed full of exciting games that the players particularly enjoyed. The upset over tenth-ranked Forest Park was a very suspenseful and heated game, as described by Taylor. He also mentioned how amazing the final home game versus Princeton was. "It definitely was one of the best games that we had, and the intensity felt during it was unbelievable," Bogner said.

Winning the "Old Oaken Bucket" back from Moeller was also a memorable game for Taylor, Bogner and Andy Harte. "It felt really good to defeat them in our own home gym and to win the bucket back from them," Harte commented.

"We had a successful season and a good finish. Although it took a while for the team to learn all of the new system changes, we eventually got to a point where we were comfortable with the things we, as a team, were doing," Coach Wally Vickers explained. "The unity

established by the players was in their hands. The seniors played a big part in this, in that they put the team first, and made sure that resentment did not exist. The team was very unified creating a key component to our season and our success," Vickers added.

Success? Yes, the team was successful. They finished with a record of 10 wins and 13 losses, bettering the 4-17 finish from the 1989-1990 season. And, they played surprisingly well in the sectional tournament, defeating Colerain and Northwest before losing to Oak Hills, 59-58. Coach Vickers said, "The excitement of the tournament added to a great finish on a season filled with a few struggles, some losses due to very close games, and the changing roles of players whom were injured and began playing during the middle of the season. These were all big factors in the final outcome of the team's accomplishments."

Player Brian Titus said, "It just was amazing that a team with a losing record could go into a tournament and play three post-season games."

The "tradition" that was set during the season involved many things. Team unity, working hard, and establishing a home court advantage defined this tradition, and as Coach Vickers explained, "If future players do the same thing as this year's players did, the tradition will continue." Let's hope it does!

by Stacy Walter

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-Coach Vickers

