

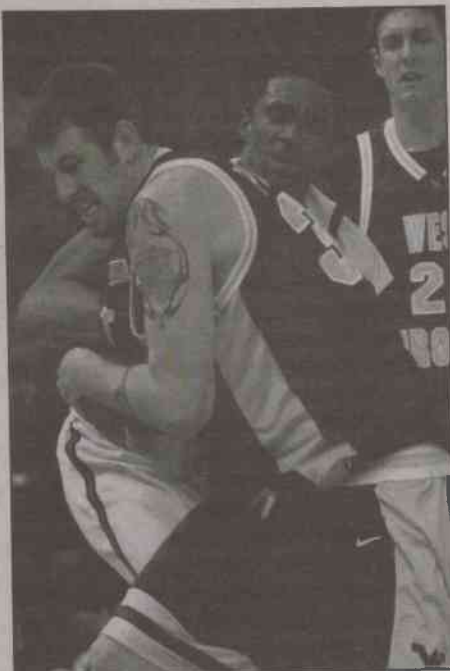
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college or university.

UNCW has been a direct benefactor of this sort of publicity. In 2002, UNC-Wilmington defeated Southern Cal in the first round of the tournament and in 2003, was a buzzer beater away from beating the defending national champions, Maryland.

In those years, star Brett Blizzard became just as common a name as any other player in the ACC, and the school received the highest number of applications for enrollment in the entire history of the school.

Every year, the NCAA tournament continues to be one of the country's favorite sporting events. The opportunity for the smaller schools to succeed and gain recognition continues to be one of the more interesting things to watch in the tournament. As we look forward to the Final Four this weekend, this year's success of UW-Milwaukee and West Virginia is still fresh in our minds and should be remembered for years to come.



West Virginia forward Kevin Pittsnogle battles for a loose ball. The Mountaineers were the latest cinderella story in the NCAA tournament, defeating Wake Forest and advancing to the elite eight.



Listen for Seahawk Sports Editor Matthew Blood on "Jim and Colby in the Morning" Wednesdays at 8 a.m.

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