

## SIAC MEN'S TOURNAMENT

## Morehouse wins with second half rallies

All season long, the main thought for Morehouse was to return to Springfield, Mass. to the Division II Elite Eight where they finished fourth in the nation last March.

Well, the Maroon Tigers got their wish -- sort of. They won the SIAC Tournament in Atlanta by downing those surprising Miles College Bears, 91-78. That victory earned "the House" a trip to the South Atlantic Regionals to give them an opportunity to return to the nationals. (For specifics on what happened at the regionals, turn to page 13).

In their conference tournament, Morehouse tended to teeter on the edge before finally raising their hands in triumph. But they had to mount second half rallies on three different occasions to do so.

In the finals, the Bears stayed right in the chase and the game was tied at 47-all at intermission. But the Maroon Tigers took a deep breath, came out in a steamy mood over final 20 minutes and blasted Miles with a 44-31 run.

Morehouse hurt themselves with 24 turnovers. But they offset that by ruling the boards, winning that battle, 55-39. Tournament MVP Harold Ellis put on a show with 21 points and 13 rebounds (11 of those came at the offensive end).

Tommie Madison delivered in a big way with 19 points and seven assists, while Lewis Lawrence (eight of 10 from the field) added 17 points and nine rebounds. Richard Winfrey enjoyed a solid night with a dozen points and five assists, and pivotman Stewart Watkins provided 10 points, nine boards and four blocks.

The Bears' hopes of pulling off the upset fell apart in the second half. They gave up too many second and third shots to Morehouse. They also shot a freezer cold 39.7 percent from the field which didn't do very much to help their cause.

Michael Freeman led the Miles attack with 20 points and Anthony Watson contributed 17 points and six assists. Paul Beaty, Steve Reed and Phillip Darden combined to score 36 points.

The road to the finals was paved with a lot of uncertainty for the Maroon Tigers. They got two early round doses that threatened to knock them out of the tournament title picture.

In the semis vs. LeMoyne Owen, for example, Morehouse found themselves in danger. The Magicians bolted to a 53-44 lead at the half. But the maroonies came back in tidal wave fashion in the second half to win, 93-81.

This game got away from the Magicians because they shot poorly at the foul line. For the game, they hit just 57.1 percent from the charity stripe.

Morehouse, meanwhile, got balanced scoring which was led by Roderick Stubbs who tallied 18 points on seven of nine shooting. Winfrey chipped in with 17 points and six assists while Lawrence added 16 points and nine rebounds. Madison and Ellis (10 rebounds) finished with 14 and 13 points respectively.

The Magicians provided some firepower of their own. Paul Wooten had 20 points and Marcus Mitchell had 18. Allen Perry produced 17 points, 13 rebounds and Anthony Tolbert fired in 17 points and grabbed nine rebounds.

In the opening round, Paine College played their type of game in the first half and led More-



Harold Ellis soared, scored and demonstrated why he is the SIAC's Player of the Year. The Atlanta junior is noted as one of Division II's top-flight performers and is a major reason why Morehouse will be a title contender for the '91-'92 campaign.

Photo by Isaac Corker