

NCAA BASKETBALL UPSETS: UCLA IS THE BIG LOSER

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**HIS LEFT
WAS ALL
RIIIGHT!**

**Michael Spinks
Beats
Dwight Braxton**



March 28, 1983

Scorecard

Edited by Jerry Kirshenbaum

LLONG LLIVE LLOYD

As the NBA regular season winds down, it's looking more and more like the end of the line for the Scott Lloyd Fan Club. That's because it also appears to be the end of the line for Lloyd, a journeyman center who had a 4.6-points-per-game average to show for his six years in the league before being released by the Dallas Mavericks on Dec. 21. The obvious question concerning the Scott Lloyd Fan Club, of course, is why Scott Lloyd? "It was a kind of social statement," the club president, Steve Simmons, a senior at the University of Texas, wistfully explains.

But maybe further explanation is necessary. Simmons is a native of Buffalo, and in 1978, when he was still in high school, he and some buddies for some reason took a fancy to Lloyd, who had just joined the local NBA team, the Braves, after being waived by his original club, the Milwaukee Bucks. The guys started going to Braves games and cheering for their new hero. "It was a special feeling being the only people out of 15,000 screaming our lungs out for Scott Lloyd," Simmons says. "Especially when he was on the bench."

Simmons and some of the other fan club members went off to college, where they fleshed out the ranks of the faithful with new recruits. Lloyd's loyalists continued to follow their man even after he and the team moved to San Diego, and after he was traded to the Chicago Bulls and signed as a free agent with the Mavericks. They showed up at the nearest NBA arena to lend the 6'10" Lloyd moral support whenever he was in town, displayed sheets reading LLONG LLIVE LLOYD, developed their own secret handshake and circulated a quarterly newsletter that reminded members to vote for Lloyd for the NBA All-Star team. When Lloyd played in Italy during the 1979-80 season, club officers called his mother in Scottsdale, Ariz. to keep tabs on him. They included **Ron Kaminker**, a junior at Penn and vice-president of offensive affairs, meaning he kept track of Lloyd's scoring totals, and Dan Merrick, a Michigan junior and vice-president of defensive affairs, meaning he compiled stats on Lloyd's attempted rebounds; Lloyd's actual rebounds amounted to just 3.0 per game during his career.

Lloyd is properly appreciative of his fan club's unwavering support. "It was embarrassing at times, but it was a fun kind of embarrassment," he says. After the Mavs put Lloyd on waivers, club members hoped he would be picked up by some NBA team or other and, indeed, there was a recent news report that the San Diego Clippers had done just that. But the story proved erroneous, cruelly dashing the hopes of the Scott Lloyd Fan Club, whose devastation over his apparently permanent departure from the NBA is compounded by the fact that it had formally designated 1983 as the Year of Our Lloyd.

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