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Marquette confirms MCC membership

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Marquette University said Thursday it was accepting membership in the Midwestern Collegiate Conference effective Sept. 1, ending 71 years of basketball competition as an independent. The long-rumored move to join the conference was made mainly with the men's basketball team in mind. The team, which won the national title in 1977, is 10-16 this season. This is the first season in 21 years that Marquette will not play in a postseason tournament. The team will begin competition in the conference in the 1989-90 season.

The main attraction the MCC offers Marquette is the automatic berth its conference tournament winner receives in the NCAA tournament. The Warriors have not been in the tourney since 1983.

With Marquette, the MCC includes nine teams. The others are Butler, Dayton, which announced it would join the conference last summer, Detroit, Evansville, Loyola, St. Louis, Xavier and Notre Dame.

Notre Dame is an associate member and its basketball team does not compete in the conference.

The NCAA's investigation of Kentucky basketball, triggered by a series of investigative articles that were awarded a Pulitzer Prize, produced no proof of wrongdoing, the NCAA said.

In the official finding of the Committee on Infractions, Kentucky is publicly reprimanded for not fully cooperating with the long investigation and ordered to monitor athletic expenditures and report their results to the NCAA for the next three years. Much harsher penalties had been expected.

The Lexington Herald-Leader won the Pulitzer in 1986 for its stories detailing corruption in the Kentucky program, one of the most successful in collegiate history. The newspaper articles quoted former players as saying Kentucky recruits received cash, clothing and other extravagant gifts in a consistent pattern of abuse dating to the early 1970s.

State attorneys prosecuting two sports agents for their dealings with former Alabama star Derrick McKey plan to seek at least \$250,000 in restitution for the university if the men are convicted.

McKey was declared ineligible after the season ended for accepting money from New York agent **Norby Walters** and partner **Lloyd Bloom**.

HOCKEY: Detroit center Steve Yzerman underwent arthroscopic surgery on his right knee and could return to the team by late May if the Red Wings are alive in the playoffs, team officials said.

TENNIS: Mikael Pernfors upset No. 1 seed Stefan Edberg 3-6, 6-3, 6-2 to advance to the quarterfinals of the \$702,500 Newsweek Champions Cup at Indian Wells, Calif. No. 2 seed Miroslav Mecir overcame a slow start to defeat Darren Cahill 2-6, 6-0, 6-4 and defending champion and third seed Boris Becker cruised past John Fitzgerald 6-0, 6-2.

Steffi Graf and Lori McNeil advanced to the U.S. Women's Hardcourt Championships semifinals in San Antonio, Texas, setting up a replay of last year's dramatic U.S. Open semifinals match.

Jana Novotna of Czechoslovakia beat Poland's Iwona Kuczynska in a tie-breaker to advance to the quarterfinals of the \$100,000 Virginia Slims of Kansas in Wichita.

GOLF: Bobby Wadkins shot a 67 to take a one-stroke lead after the first round of the \$1 million Doral Open at Miami. His

five-under-par round lifted him ahead of a group of four - including Jack Nicklaus - tied at 68.

Nicklaus was tied with Larry Nelson, Tom Kite and Chip Beck.

Hollis Stacy and Marci Bozarth shot foyr-under-par 68s to share the first-round lead in the \$300,000 Women's Kemper Open at Princeville, Hawaii.

Orville Moody shot a tournament record-tying 64 to take the first-round lead in the \$350,000 Vintage Invitational senior tournament at Indian Wells, Calif.

SWIMMING: Michigan's medley relay team set a Big Ten record, finishing with a time of 3:15.14 and beating the record Michigan set last year by 27 seconds, in the 78th annual Big Ten Men's Swimming and Diving Championships at Indianapolis.

Iowa's John Davey swam the individual medley in 1:48.02, beating his own record set at last year's meet by .14 seconds.

Ohio State's Patrick Jeffrey won the one-meter diving.

AUTO RACING: Bill Elliott clicked off a lap of 146.612 m.p.h. to win the pole position for this weekend's NASCAR Goodwrench 500 at North Carolina Motor Speedway in Rockingham.

BASKETBALL: The latest examination of Ralph Sampson's sore right knee confirmed there is cartilage damage, the Golden State Warriors announced. The possibility of surgery is being discussed.

OLYMPICS: Members of the U.S. Winter Olympics team will be honored by President Reagan at a White House reception Tuesday.

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