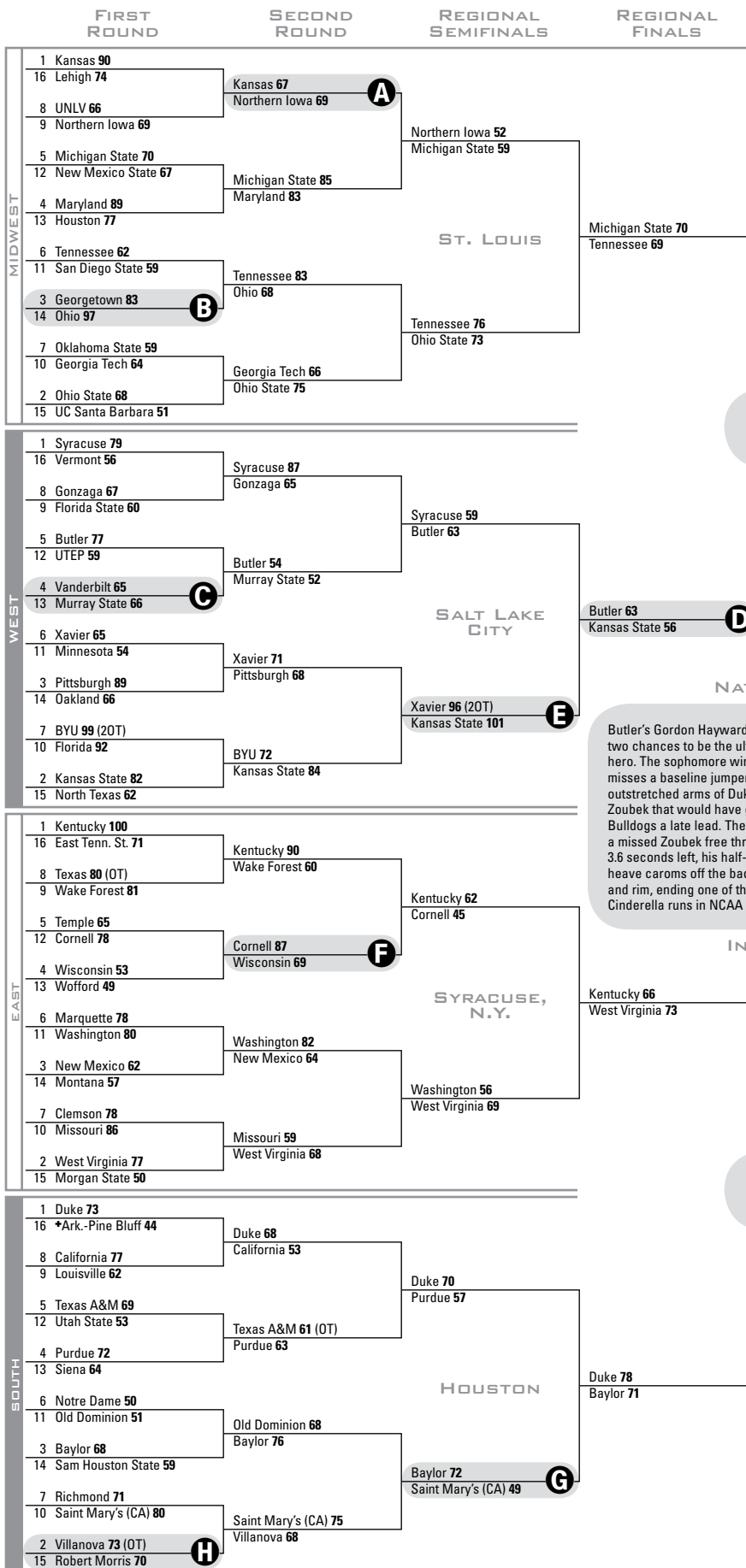


2010 NCAA TOURNAMENT



A Down by one with less than a minute left, KU's full-court press nearly forces a Panthers turnover, but G Ali Farokhmanesh, who had already nailed three treys, freezes Tyrel Reed with a head pump and hits another from the right wing.

B The Bobcats entered the MAC tournament as a 9-seed and still took home the automatic bid. They continue winning at the Big Dance when Armon Bassett drops 32 points on the defensively stout Hoyas. The margin of victory is the largest ever for a 14-seed over a 3-seed.

C In an upset predicted by President Barack Obama, Murray State senior Danero Thomas hits a 15-foot fadeaway from the right side. It's the second time in three years that Vanderbilt has been shocked in the first round.

D Two days after beating the West's No. 1 seed, Butler stuns the No. 2. With the Final Four being held in Indianapolis, Butler will become the first team since UCLA in 1972 to play for the NCAA championship in its hometown.

Butler's victory over Michigan State is hardly a work of art—the Bulldogs go almost 11 minutes in the second half without scoring—but their grit and defense (and Gordon Hayward's 19 points and nine rebounds) propel them to victory. "If I wasn't playing, I'd be a Butler fan," MSU coach Tom Izzo would say afterward.

Butler's Gordon Hayward gets two chances to be the ultimate hero. The sophomore wing misses a baseline jumper over the outstretched arms of Duke's Brian Zoubek that would have given the Bulldogs a late lead. Then, after a missed Zoubek free throw with 3.6 seconds left, his half-court heave caroms off the backboard and rim, ending one of the greatest Cinderella runs in NCAA history.

**Duke 61
Butler 59**

With less than nine minutes remaining and the outcome of the game still very much in doubt, Da'Sean Butler, West Virginia's offensive catalyst, drives to the left side of the basket and then crumples to the ground in agony. Tests later reveal that Butler suffered a torn ACL.

E Fear the beard! Led by junior guard Jacob Pullen and his famous facial growth, Kansas State battles with Xavier for 40 minutes and two overtimes before Pullen scores eight of the Wildcats' last 10 points to give K-State the win.

F Cornell shoots 61.1% from the field overall and hits 53.3% of its treys in shredding Wisconsin, one of the country's best defensive teams. The Big Red becomes the first Ivy to make the Sweet 16 since Penn's Final Four run in 1979. "You can't sleep on us," warns guard Louis Dale.

G The Gaels' magical run comes to an end at the hands (and claws) of the Baylor Bears. LaceDarius Dunn leads all scorers with 23, but it's Baylor's smothering D that sends Saint Mary's, with five Aussies on its roster, down under.

H Nova's Corey Fisher and Scottie Reynolds begin the game on the bench as a "teaching moment." The Colonials lead by six at the half, but their 20 turnovers allow the Wildcats to advance.

*Opening round: Arkansas-Pine Bluff d. Winthrop 61-44 Ⓞ Team participation later vacated