

BOB KNIGHT

By **DARLENE CROSKEY**

Orrville native and veteran Indiana University basketball coach Bob Knight has been surrounded by an aura of excellence since his arrival in Bloomington, Ind., in 1971.

Knight, a 1958 OHS graduate, was the leading scorer during his high school basketball days. He also played football.

In high school, he won 10 letters in football, basketball and baseball. He is a product of Ohio State University, where he graduated in 1962. He was a member of Buckeye teams that won Big Ten titles in 1960, 61, 62 and the NCAA championship in 1960. Those teams, led by Jerry Lucas and John Havlicek, posted an overall record of 78-6.

After graduation, Knight was an assistant coach at Cuyahoga Falls for a year before entering the Army, where he was assigned to assist coach Tate Locke at West Point.

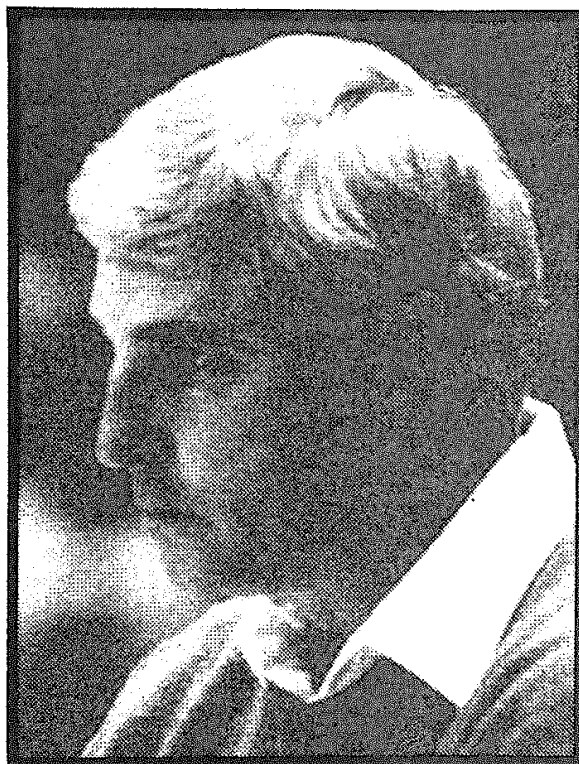
When Locke moved to Miami University in 1965, Knight, only 24 and still a private in the Army at the time, was named to succeed him.

In six seasons at the U.S. Military Academy, despite the handicap of height restrictions for cadets, Knight built teams that won 102 games while losing 50 and made the NIT field four times.

These achievements paved the way for his appointment at Indiana in 1971.

In January 1989, Knight became the second-youngest head coach to win 500 games, his 500th victory coming at age 48 with a 92-76 win over Northwestern, making him second only to Henry Iba.

No other coach can cite NCAA and NIT championships, as well as Olympic and Pan American gold



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medals among his achievements. In 1990, Knight became the winningest coach in Big Ten history.

His ability won him Big Ten Coach-of-the-Year awards in 1973, '75, '76, '80, '81 and '89. In 1975, he was a unanimous selection as national Coach of the Year. In 1989, Associated Press, UPI and the United States Basketball Writers gave him Coach-of-the-Year honors.

Knight is known for taking immense pride in the graduation rate of his players.

Equally as pleasing to him is the number of assistants and former players who have gone on to become successful head coaches, a list that numbers 15 at the present time.

He is the father of two sons, Tim, a 1986 graduate of Stanford University and Pat, who attends Indiana University and plays for his father on the Hoosier basketball squad.

Knight and his wife, Karen, were married in 1988.