

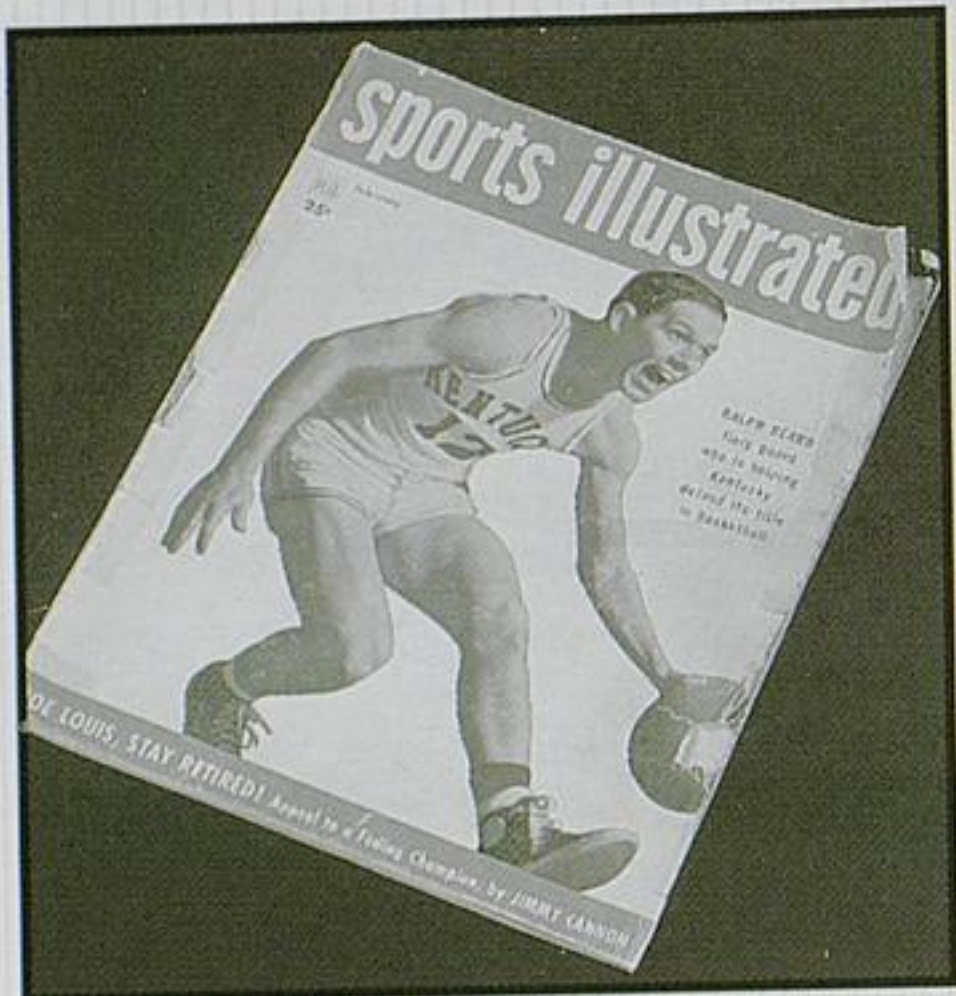


**March 24, 1947**

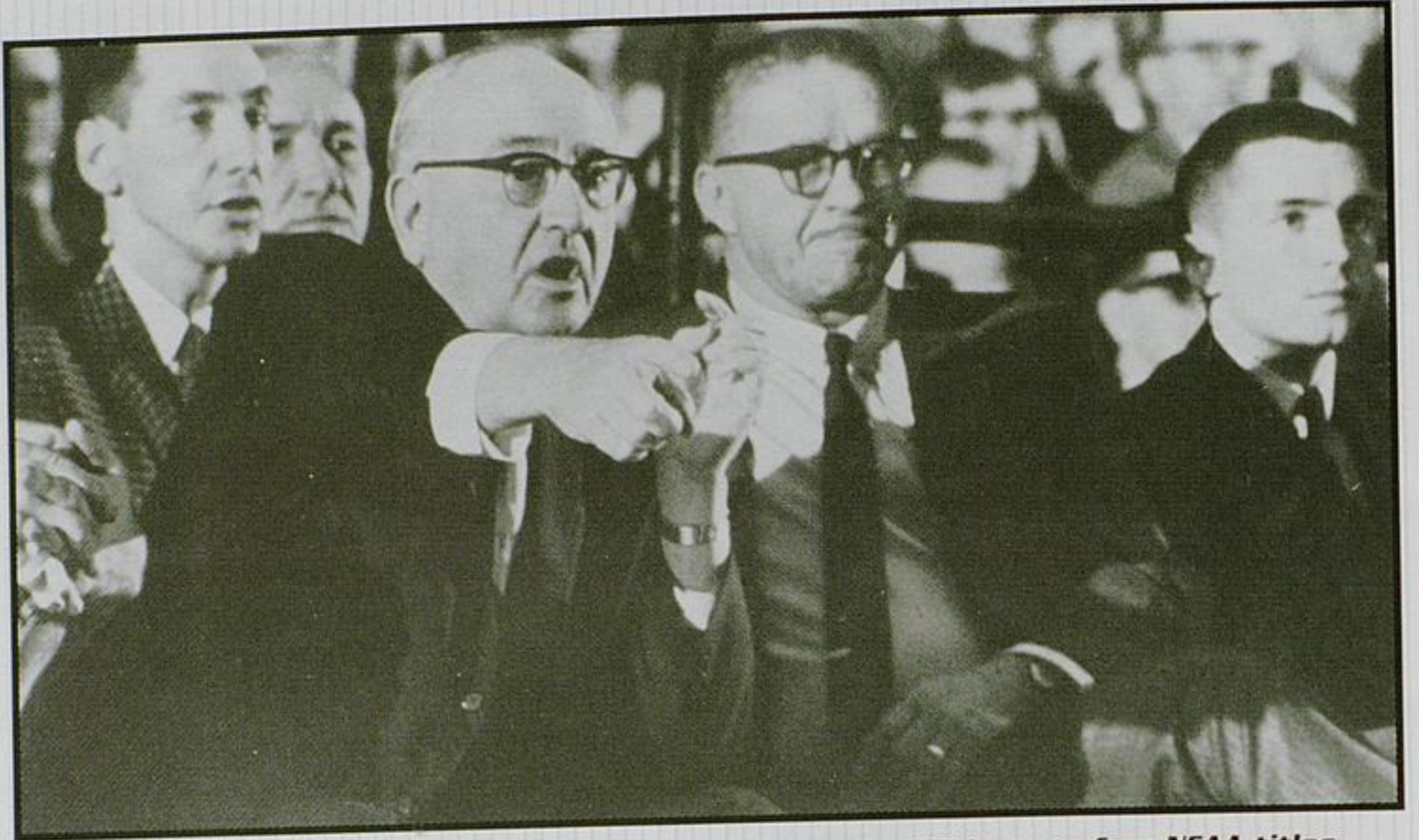
Before a Madison Square Garden record crowd of 18,493, Wat Misaka held Ralph Beard to two points and Utah ended the Wildcats' bid for back-to-back NIT Championships.

**March 23, 1948**

Adolph Rupp's "Fabulous Five" wins UK's first NCAA Championship, 58-42, over Baylor. The team is met in Lexington by 15,000 fans and given a parade on a fire truck.



Ralph Beard appeared on the cover of the very first Sports Illustrated in 1948.



Adolph Rupp and assistant Harry Lancaster coached the Wildcats to four NCAA titles.

**August 13, 1948**

The U.S. Olympic basketball team, featuring Kentucky's "Fabulous Five," wins the gold medal by defeating France, 64-21, at Wembley Stadium in London.

**March 8, 1949**

Kentucky ends the year ranked No. 1 in the first season of the Associated Press basketball poll.

**March 26, 1949**

UK wins its second consecutive NCAA championship, defeating Oklahoma A&M, 46-36, in Seattle.

**Dec. 1, 1950**

UK plays its first game in the new, \$3.9 million, 11,500-seat Memorial Coliseum. Skeptics label the building a "white elephant."

Ralph Beard soared for a lay-up against Tennessee in '48, and Wah Jones battled Bob Cousy of Holy Cross for a loose ball. Cliff Hagan guided UK to a 25-0 record in '54.

