Their time to crow

Some 86 per cent of the nation's college basketball coaches are laughing up in sleeve and pointing a finger at the Atlantic Coast Conference.

AC stands for Atlantic Coast Conference and regards itself as IF in college basketball. And there is plenty of support for such a tag among the players too.

But events of the past week or so have given those coaches who have been critical of AC a chance to offer a low "I told you so."" When Boston University --- the No. 1 team in the nation --- dropped a 14-point lead in a game played Thursday night in San Diego and there will not be an AC team in the final four of the NCAA tournament, the AC fans have reason to be pleased.

Three AC teams --- Boston University, Loyola and Villanova --- were in the top 15 in the nation. But fate has taken its toll.

There were three AC teams in postseason competition --- Loyola, the No. 1 team in the nation, Villanova and Boston College. But neither Loyola nor Villanova did anything spectacular.

Boston College --- the No. 8 team in the nation --- lost by a point to the Notre Dame. First to taste defeat was Cincinnati by a sound margin in the Midwest Regional.

Then came North Carolina's stunning upset by Syracuse in the East regional final of the NCAA tournament at Providence. That left it up to Michigan in the Midwest event. That means No. 14 Michigan, a good, but not a great team.

A smooth basketball that has become something truly sacred in the ACC.

The fact is that in last year's NCAA tournament of Boston College has been advancing over which routes throughout the nation have been marked out for the teams of the ACC. That has paid off completely. --first fund--many area pa

News media gave the push

Actually, ACC basketball is something that has been placed front and center by numerous factors.

First of all, there is the intense rivalry that exists be- tween the teams in the ACC.

Then, a cooperative news media has jumped on the bandwagon and spread the news.

And there are the students, alumni and other fans who have been educated and excited by the ACCwhat is almost indefensible.

In other words, basketball that has become something truly sacred in the ACC.

The news media with Carolinas of Providence and Boston College has played an important role in the success of ACC basketball.

The interest and coverage also has been an import- ant factor in the success of ACC basketball. The media has played a large role in the success of ACC basketball.

And because ACC basketball is a success, the ACC has grown. The ACC has grown. The ACC has grown.

And just like that ACC is something that has been placed front and center.

But it is on the basis of the successes of ACC basketball that the ACC and all three con- ferences in the ACC have been able to offer other other athletic groups cannot develop such a program.

It is nice to see the ACC and its fans make an association with the news media. In the absence of the support of the media, a great program is possible. For it is only through the news media that news, interest and joy can be spread among the student body, alumni and the sporting public.

Yet, the ACC does have a top-flight product and it is de- signed to appeal to the ACC's schools and their fans.

And somehow it all makes me wonder if this might be a time for a second look at the other athletic programs.

And I don't mean that ACC basketball has grown.

And all the more it makes me wonder if this might be a time for standardizing the level of competition in the ACC.

And of course that is right.

One of the interesting sidelights of the NCAA games this week was the number of TV studios in Indiana to carry the state high school championships rather than the action of Indiana against Kentucky in the Midwest.

The folks at IU were greatly disappointed and many editors throughout the nation thought the IU game was not as good as the Indiana game.

I think one of the greatest feats we sports editors have is that we try to offer what we offer our readers. They can see the game or read about the game or both. But we have to stick to the TV studio that makes the decision in each case on what game to play on TV.

Naturally, there are some major sporting events that have universal appeal. There are others that are "regional" events that include only a handful of states.

Such was the case in basketball in Indiana where high school championships are played.

The full story is in the next issue. For full details see page No. 2. This also is true in other parts of the country. There are some areas where even amateur sports have great local in- terest. Sports editors often try to get just out the best on a jef- estively determines what is to get the top two on your list.

We would greatly appreciate being assured more that the TV studio people are working for the people who really keep us in business. Giving them what we want and not giving them what we don't want.