

# THE SEASON AFTER THE



Many programs have benefited from playing in the CollegeInsider.com Postseason Tournament (CIT), which has had more schools make their postseason debut (28) and more programs win their first-ever postseason game (39) than all other tournaments combined during the ten seasons since the CIT was established in 2009.

The participants from the 2018 CIT enjoyed a lot of success in 2019, which included NCAA Tournament wins, All-America honors, record-setting seasons and more:

- \* 2018 participants averaged over 20 wins in 2019
- \* 2018 Participants averaged nearly 12 wins in conference play in 2019
- \* (6) Schools won their regular season or postseason conference tournament championship
- \* (3) Schools went to the NCAA Tournament
- \* (2) Schools advanced to the third round of the NCAA Tournament
- \* (3) Schools participated in the NIT
- \* (42) All-Conference selections
- \* (4) Conference Player of the Year awards
- \* (3) Conference Coach of the Year honors
- \* (11) National Coach of the Year Finalists
- \* (6) Lou Henson Mid-Major All-Americans
- \* (1) Lou Henson Mid-Major Player of the Year recipient

Here is a look at what programs did the season after participating in the CIT.



CONGRATULATIONS TO **RYAN ODOM**  
AND **UMBC BASKETBALL!**

# THE FIRST 16 SEED TO EVER BEAT A NO. 1 SEED

**IN 2017 UMBC ADVANCED TO THE CIT SEMIFINALS...  
IN 2018, THEY SHOCKED THE WORLD!**

*"I said many times during our America East and NCAA Tournament runs that our experience in the 2017 CIT Tournament paid huge dividends for our team's success in the 2018 postseason. Losing in the first round of the 2017 America East Tournament was difficult, but the confidence that we gained in reaching the CIT semi-finals was invaluable."*

— Ryan Odom - Head Coach, UMBC



## THE SEASON AFTER THE 2018 CIT...

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| <b>Abilene Christian</b>      | Won a school-record 27 games and made the program's first-ever trip to the NCAA Tournament. The Wildcats also set a school-record for the most conference wins with 14.  |
| <b>Austin Peay</b>            | The Governors won 22 games to reach the 20-win plateau for the first time in nearly a decade.  |
| <b>Central Michigan</b>       | Won 23 games, which is tied for the most wins in the last 16 years.  |
| <b>Drake</b>                  | Won 24 games, which is the third most wins in school history and the best in over a decade. The Bulldogs also won a share of the Missouri Valley Conference regular-season title for the first time since 2008.  |
| <b>Hartford</b>               | The Hawks won 18 games, which is the second highest win total in school history.   |
| <b>Lamar</b>                  | Reached 20 wins for just the second time in the last 31 years.   |
| <b>Liberty</b>                | Had the best season in school history. The Flames shattered the school record with 29 wins, which included their first-ever NCAA Tournament win. The Flames posted their best-ever conference record (14-2) and head coach Ritchie McKay was named the recipient of the 2019 Jim Phelan National Coach of the Year award.  |
| <b>North Carolina A&amp;T</b> | Won 19 games, which is the second highest win total in 31 years. The Aggies also finished 13-3 in conference, which is the second best league record in school history.  |
| <b>Northern Colorado</b>      | Set a school-record with 15 conference wins and finished with 21 wins overall. It's just the fourth time in school history the Bears have reached the 20-win plateau. Jordan Davis, who was named the CIT All-Tournament team in 2018, was the recipient of the 2019 Big Sky Conference Player of the Year award.  |
| <b>Saint Francis PA</b>       | Won the NEC regular-season title for just the second time in school history. The Red Flash won 18 games, which is the highest win total in 28 years.   |
| <b>Sam Houston State</b>      | The Bearkats had the best regular season in program history. The 16-2 record in the Southland Conference earned them the first NIT birth in school history. Cameron Delaney, who was forced into action due to injuries in the 2018 CIT, was the recipient the 2019 Southland Conference Player of the Year award.   |
| <b>San Diego</b>              | Went to the NIT for the first time in school history. Won 21 games, which was the most in over a decade and the third highest win total in program history.  |
| <b>UL Monroe</b>              | Won 19 games, which is the program's third highest win total in 26 years.  |
| <b>UTSA</b>                   | The Roadrunners won 11 conference games, which is their best win total in 17 years.  |
| <b>Wofford</b>                | Had the best season in school history. The Terriers set a school-record with 30 wins. That included an historic 18-0 record in the Southern Conference, which is the best single-season mark in the 99-year history of the conference. Wofford also won its' first-ever NCAA Tournament game and Fletcher Magee was the recipient of the 2019 Lou Henson Mid-Major Player of the Year award. |

A photograph of four college basketball players in light blue jerseys celebrating on a court. They are holding a trophy and have their arms raised in the air. The background shows a blurred crowd in a large arena.

## THE SEASON AFTER THE 2017 CIT...

UMBC's run in the CIT helped propel them to the best season in school history. The Retrievers won a program-best 25 games. They entered the America East Conference championship game, at top-seeded Vermont, having lost 23 consecutive games to the Catamounts. Their thrilling win at Vermont set the stage for perhaps the greatest upset in NCAA Tournament history, as they became the first No. 16 seed to ever defeat a No. 1 seed. In fact, Virginia was the top overall seed in the 2018 NCAA Tournament.

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| <b>Albany</b>              | Won 22 games. It was the sixth time in school history the Great Danes had won 20 or more games.  |
| <b>Ball State</b>          | The Cardinals won 19 games. It was the second most wins in the past 13 seasons.  |
| <b>Cal State Fullerton</b> | Won 20 games and the Big West Conference tournament to earn a berth in the NCAA Tournament.  |
| <b>Furman</b>              | The Paladins tied the school-record with 23 wins and finished 13-5 in the Southern Conference. The 13 wins were the second most conference wins in program history |
| <b>Georgia State</b>       | Won 24 games and the Sun Belt Conference tournament to earn a bid to the NCAA Tournament.  |
| <b>Idaho</b>               | Won 22 games, which were the most wins for the Vandals in 24 years.  |
| <b>Lamar</b>               | Won 19 games, which is tied for the second most wins for the Cardinals in the previous 30 seasons.   |
| <b>Liberty</b>             | The Flames won 22 games, which is the second most wins in a single season for Liberty.   |
| <b>Saint Francis (PA)</b>  | Won 18 games, which was the most wins for the Red Flashes in 27 years.   |
| <b>Stephen F. Austin</b>   | Won 28 games, captured the Southland Conference tournament title and earned a berth in the NCAA Tournament.  |
| <b>UNC-Asheville</b>       | The Bulldogs won 21 games and won the Big South Conference regular-season title, which earned them a berth in the NIT.   |





## THE SEASON AFTER THE 2016 CIT...

Furman tied the school-record for wins with 23 and won the most conference games in program history (14). It was the first of three straight seasons with 20 or more wins and the best three-year stretch in 98 years of Furman basketball. They have been playing basketball at Furman for nearly 100 years and prior to playing in the CIT, the Paladins had just one postseason win in school history. They won two games in the 2016 CIT and picked up one win in the 2015 CIT.

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| Ball State               | Won 21 games for just the second time in 13 years. The Cardinals finished first in the MAC West Division and returned to the postseason.  |
| Boston University        | The Terriers won 18 games, finished 2nd in the Patriot League and advanced to the semifinals of the conference tournament.  |
| Grand Canyon             | Won 20-plus games for the second time in school history and matched the most conference wins with 11.   |
| Louisiana                | Won 21 games and one year later set a school-record with 27 wins, including a 16-2 mark in the Sun Belt, and the Ragin' Cajuns earned a berth in the NIT.   |
| New Hampshire            | The Wildcats won 20 games for just the second time in 100 years.  |
| North Dakota             | Won a school-record 22 games. Won the Big Sky regular-season and conference tournament championships and made their first-ever trip to the NCAA Tournament.   |
| Sam Houston State        | The Bearkats won 21 games and advanced to the semifinals of the Southland Conference tournament.  |
| UT Arlington             | Shattered the school-record for wins with 27. Finished 14-4 and won the first Sun Belt Conference regular-season title in program history. Earned a berth in the NIT and advanced to the quarterfinals. |
| Texas A&M Corpus Christi | The Islanders posted the second highest win total in school history (24) and advanced to the championship game of the Southland Conference tournament.  |
| UC Irvine                | Won 21 games and captured the Big West regular-season title, which earned them a berth in the NIT.  |
| UT-Martin                | Matched the school-record for wins (22), finished first in the Ohio Valley Conference West Division and returned to the postseason.   |



## THE SEASON AFTER THE 2015 CIT...

It was the best season for Evansville basketball in years. The Purple Aces tied the school record with 25 wins, turned in their second-best season ever in the Missouri Valley and advanced to the conference tournament championship game. It was an impressive run for the Evansville senior class. In fact it was the most successful four-year run since joining the Missouri Valley Conference.

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| <b>FGCU</b>                         | Won 21 games, captured the ASun Conference tournament and earned a berth in the NCAA Tournament. A year later FGCU tied the program record with 26 wins and returned to the NCAA Tournament.   |
| <b>Grand Canyon</b>                 | The 'Lopes set a school record with 27 wins.   |
| <b>High Point</b>                   | Won 21 games the following season and captured the Big South regular season championship, earning a berth in the NIT. It was just the third time in program history they had won 20-plus games.  |
| <b>James Madison</b>                | The Dukes finished with the second-most wins in school history.  |
| <b>Middle Tennessee</b>             | The Blue Raiders won 25 games, captured the CUSA tournament and beat No. 2 seed Michigan State in the NCAA Tournament. A year later they recorded a school-record 31 wins, which included a second-straight CUSA tournament title and a win over Minnesota in the NCAA Tournament.                             |
| <b>NJIT</b>                         | Won 20 games, but the most important result of their success in the CIT was being added to the Atlantic Sun Conference. In two seasons NJIT won six postseason games.  |
| <b>New Hampshire</b>                | Won 20 games for the first time in school history. The team's 11 league wins matched the most in program history. A year later they won 20 games again and recorded the first postseason win in school history.  |
| <b>Oakland</b>                      | The Golden Grizzlies won 23 games the following season and returned to the postseason. It was the third highest win-total in school history.   |
| <b>Purdue-Fort Wayne</b>            | Won 24 games, the second most in school history, and captured the first-ever regular season conference championship in program history. That earned them a berth in the NIT.   |
| <b>Texas A&amp;M Corpus Christi</b> | The Islanders set a school-record with 25 wins and had its best-ever season in the Southland Conference finishing 2nd and posting a record of 15-3.  |
| <b>UNCW</b>                         | Tied the school-record with 25 wins, won the CAA regular-season and postseason tournament titles and earned a berth in the NCAA Tournament. They repeated that again a year later and won a school-record 29 games. The 72 wins and three postseason appearances is the best 3-year stretch in school history. |
| <b>UT-Martin</b>                    | The Seahawks won 20 games for just the third time in program history.  |





## THE SEASON AFTER THE 2014 CIT...

Yale finished with the program's most wins (22) in over 100 years and earned a share of the Ivy League title. It was the first time in over 50 years that Yale had finished in first place in the Ivy. A year later they won 23 games (13-1 in conference), won the Ivy League outright for the first time since 1962 and went on to beat Baylor in the NCAA tournament.

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| <b>Akron</b>                        | Won 21 games and advanced to the championship game of Mid-American Conference tournament.   |
| <b>Chattanooga</b>                  | Won 22 games, which was the most since the 1996-97 season. The Mocs won a school-record 29 the next year, finished 15-3 in the Southern Conference and went to the NCAA Tournament.   |
| <b>Cleveland State</b>              | The Vikings won 19 games and returned to the postseason.  |
| <b>Columbia</b>                     | The Lions success in the 2014 CIT began the most successful stretch of basketball in school history. The Lions won 59 games, which included six postseason wins. Columbia had just two postseason wins in the previous 100 years.                                     |
| <b>Grand Canyon</b>                 | Set a school record for wins and returned to postseason. A year later they set a new program standard with 27 wins.   |
| <b>Murray State</b>                 | The Racers posted the second-most wins in school history (29), finished 16-0 in the Ohio Valley Conference and advanced to the quarterfinals of the NIT.  |
| <b>Sam Houston State</b>            | Set a school record with 26 wins the following season and returned to postseason.   |
| <b>Texas A&amp;M Corpus Christi</b> | Won 20 games for just the second time since joining the Southland Conference. During the four-year stretch, which began in the CIT, the Islanders won 87 games including six in the postseason. It's by far the best stretch of winning basketball in school history. |
| <b>USC Upstate</b>                  | The Spartans won a school-record 24 games, advanced to the ASun conference tournament championship for the first time ever and returned to the postseason.  |
| <b>Valparaiso</b>                   | Won a then program-record 28 games. The Crusaders won both the Horizon League regular-season and postseason tournament to earn a berth in the NCAA Tournament. A year later Valpo won 30 games and advanced to the championship game on the NIT.                      |





## THE SEASON AFTER THE 2013 CIT...

UC Irvine won 23 games, posted their best mark ever in the Big West Conference (13-3) and earned a berth in the NIT. A year later they won 21 games and advanced to the NCAA for the first time in school history. The Anteaters followed that up with a program-record 28 wins in 2016. It's by far the best four-year stretch in school history.

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| <b>Boston University</b> | The Terriers posted the second most wins in school history (24), finished 15-3 in the Patriot League and earned a berth in the NIT.  |
| <b>Cal Poly</b>          | Won the Big West Conference tournament to advance to the NCAA Tournament where they beat Texas Southern to earn the school's first-ever postseason victory.                              |
| <b>Canisius</b>          | Won 21 games the following season, which was the most since the 1994-95 season.  |
| <b>Eastern Kentucky</b>  | Won 24 games and advanced to the NCAA Tournament. The 24 wins were the second most in school history.  |
| <b>Green Bay</b>         | The Phoenix posted the most wins (24) since the 1995-96 season. They won the Horizon League regular season title with a 14-2 mark and made the first of two straight trips to the NIT.   |
| <b>High Point</b>        | Won the Big South with a 12-4 mark and earned the school's first-ever berth in the NIT. A year later High Point set a school record with 23 wins and won a share of the Big South title. |
| <b>Weber State</b>       | The Wildcats won 19 games and claimed both the regular-season and postseason tournament Big Sky championships and a trip to the NCAA Tournament.   |





## THE SEASON AFTER THE 2012 CIT...

Winning the 2012 CIT helped to propel Mercer to their best era of basketball in school history. In 2013 Mercer won 24 games, which was the second most victories in program history. The Bears matched the school record with 14 conference wins and went on to beat Tennessee in the first round of the NIT. The next season Mercer tied the program mark with 27 wins, won the ASun regular season title for the second straight year and beat Duke in the NCAA Tournament.

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| <b>Albany</b>        | The Great Danes set a program record with 24 wins and advanced to the first of three straight NCAA Tournaments. They won 86 games during that four-year stretch, which was the best run in program history.  |
| <b>Fairfield</b>     | Won 19 games the following season and advanced to the championship game on the Metro Atlantic Athletic Conference tournament.  |
| <b>Kent State</b>    | Won 21 games. Injuries kept the Golden Flashes out of the postseason.  |
| <b>Robert Morris</b> | Won 24 games, finished 14-4 in the Northeast Conference and beat Kentucky in the first round of the NIT. It began a three-year run that saw the Colonials make one NCAA appearance and two trips to the NIT. |
| <b>Utah State</b>    | Won 20 games. Injuries kept the Aggies from returning to the postseason.   |
| <b>Weber State</b>   | Won a school-record 30 games the following season. A year later the Wildcats won the Big Sky and advanced to the NCAA Tournament. They won 74 games in that three-year stretch.                              |





## THE SEASON AFTER THE 2011 CIT...

Ohio shattered the school-record for wins the following season with 29, won the Mid-American Conference Tournament and advanced to the NCAA Tournament. Ohio opened win a win over Michigan, which won the Big Ten regular season championship. The Bobcats then advanced to the Sweet Sixteen with a victory over South Florida, which had its best season in over 30 years. Ohio eventually lost to North Carolina (in OT) in the regional semifinals, but it did not diminish an incredible run for the Bobcats.

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| Buffalo       | The Bulls had their best-ever season in the Mid-American Conference and set a then-program record for Mid-American Conference wins with 12.  |
| Idaho         | The Vandals won 19 games, which was the most wins since the 1992-93 season.  |
| Iona          | Won 25 games the following season, which included a 15-3 mark in the Metro Atlantic Athletic Conference, and received an at-large bid to the NCAA. It began a seven-year stretch that saw the Gaels play in 5 NCAA Tournaments and 2 NITs. |
| Northern Iowa | Won 20 games, earned a bid to the NIT where they beat St. Joseph's.  |
| Oral Roberts  | The Golden Eagles set a school-record with 27 wins, including a Summit League record 17-1 mark, and a berth in the NIT.  |
| San Francisco | Won 20 games for the first time since the 1981-82 season.  |
| Valparaiso    | The Crusaders won 22 games the following season, tied a then-school record with 14 conference wins and advanced to the NIT. It began a four-year stretch that produced two NCAA appearances and a trip to the NIT.                         |





## THE SEASON AFTER THE 2010 CIT...

Missouri State followed up its' CIT championship by having the best season in program history. The Bears set a school record with 26 wins and did something they have never done before ---they won the Missouri Valley Conference regular season title for the first time in school history. MSU beat Murray State in the first round of the NIT.

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| <b>Fairfield</b>         | Won a school-record 25 games, won the MAAC regular-season title and won a game in the NIT.   |
| <b>George Mason</b>      | The Patriots set a school record with 27 wins and beat Villanova in the NCAA Tournament.   |
| <b>Harvard</b>           | Won a school-record 23 games the following season and advanced to the NIT. It began a run of five consecutive NIT or NCAA appearances.                   |
| <b>Northern Colorado</b> | Won 21 games, posted the most conference wins in school history (13) and went to the NCAA Tournament for the first time.                                 |
| <b>Southern Miss</b>     | Won 22 games, beginning a stretch of four years that produced 103 wins, one NCAA and two NIT appearances. By far the best 4-year span in school history. |
| <b>Western Carolina</b>  | Finished in 1st place in the Southern Conference's North Division.   |





## THE SEASON AFTER THE 2009 CIT...

Winning the inaugural CIT was just the beginning for Old Dominion. The Monarchs went to back-to-back NCAA Tournaments in 2010 and 2011. ODU upset Notre Dame in the 2010 NCAA tournament and one year later the Monarchs dropped a tough 60-58 decision to Butler, which advanced to the NCAA Championship game for the second year in a row.

During that two-year span they won more games (54) than any two-year span in school history.

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|-------------------|---|
| <b>Belmont</b>    | Belmont: Won the Atlantic Sun the following season, starting a run of seven straight trips to the NCAA or NIT.                              |
| <b>Idaho</b>      | The Vandals posted their best conference record in 10 years and won more games in next two seasons than any two-year span in 17 years.      |
| <b>Kent State</b> | Won 24 games and made back-to-back appearances in the NIT.  |
| <b>Oakland</b>    | The Golden Grizzlies went to the NCAA Tournament and set a school record for wins with 26.  |
| <b>Portland</b>   | The Pilots matched the most wins in school history and won more games in the next two seasons than any two-year stretch in program history. |