

Knicks roll into Round 2 with historic rout

BY TIM REYNOLDS
AP BASKETBALL WRITER

There was an NCAA tournament game in 2016 when Jalen Brunson, Josh Hart and Mikal Bridges all were on the winning side of a historic blowout, a 44-point victory that is still the biggest in Final Four history.

They went on to win that season's national championship at Villanova.

Fast forward a decade: Brunson, Hart and Bridges were all on the winning side of another historic post-season blowout Thursday night, this one coming when the New York Knicks beat the Atlanta Hawks by 51 points to advance to the Eastern Conference semifinals. The lead was an NBA-playoff-record 47 at the half, and New York eventually led by 61.

Time will tell if another championship awaits.

"I think it shows the kind of team we are — what we can be," Hart said.

Next up for the Knicks is an Eastern Conference semifinal matchup against either Boston or Philadelphia. Game 1 is Monday night; if the Celtics are the Knicks' opponent the series will begin in Boston, otherwise it'll begin in New York.

A week or so ago, the Knicks trailed the Hawks 2-1 in the series after back-to-back one-point losses and looked very much like a team on the brink of trouble. New York went 3-0 from there by a combined 96 points — the second-most-lopsided three-game stretch in NBA playoff history.

"Feel good about tonight



BRYNN ANDERSON/Associated Press

New York Knicks guard Jalen Brunson high fives fans as he leaves the court Thursday after a series-clinching rout of Atlanta in a first-round NBA playoffs series.

and tomorrow we turn the page," Brunson said Thursday night after the rout was complete in Atlanta. "It's good to celebrate the wins, but we can't let this drag on. We got to refocus up. So, we wake up tomorrow, it's on to the next."

That's exactly what Brunson, Bridges and Hart had to do in that 2016 NCAA title run. (Poor Buddy Hield; he was on the losing side of that 95-51 Villanova win over Oklahoma in the Final Four, and on the losing side of this series as well.)

It won't guarantee anything, of course. New York is in the second round for the fourth consecutive season — the Knicks haven't enjoyed a run like this since a nine-season stretch from 1992 through 2000 — but there's still a ton of work left to do.

When this series against Atlanta ended, Knicks coach Mike Brown thanked tons of people — all his staffers, coaches, players and more. He also thanked someone

who Knicks fans probably weren't thinking of.

"Quin Snyder," Brown said.

That's right — the Atlanta coach.

Snyder forced Brown's hand in this series, and when Atlanta went up 2-1 the Knicks went back to the

drawing board in multiple ways — namely how they played offense. Brown prefers something more free-flowing, where players could react instinctively based on what's happening within an action. Snyder and the Hawks took that away for the first three games.

In the second three games, New York shot 55% and averaged 126.7 points. The adjustments worked.

"They forced us to put our thinking caps on, and they forced us play different, find ways to make the game easier for our players, putting them in their strengths while trying not to hinder them," Brown said. "We've changed what we've done offensively, but again, it was because we were

pushed to do it. And we feel pretty good about it."

Game 7 between the Celtics and 76ers is Saturday. The East No. 1 seed is Detroit, and Orlando has them in trouble in Round 1. The East No. 2 seed is Boston, which now faces a Game 7 just to get out of Round 1.

The third-seeded Knicks? They're not sweating anything for the next few days.

"The fans didn't know what version they would see of us, especially during

this series. We didn't play our best basketball," the Knicks' Karl-Anthony Towns said. "For us to make a statement about who we could be when we're clicking on all cylinders, it's great for us to have this kind of tape so we could look back at it and see when we're playing our best, what are we doing correctly."



Public Notice
Notice is hereby given that **Norman and Debbie Madden, 314 Bakers Lane, Louisville, KY 40214** has filed an application with the Energy and Environment Cabinet to **Build a 12X20 metal building.** The property is located at **405 Main Street, West Point, KY 40177.**

Any comments or objections concerning this application shall be submitted via e-mail to dowfloodplain@ky.gov and must be received by 5/23/26. Kentucky Division of Water, Floodplain Management Section, 300 Sower Blvd., Frankfort, KY 40601. Phone 502-564-3410



NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING
A public hearing will be held before the Vine Grove Board of Adjustment on Tuesday, May 12th, 2026 at 6 p.m. at Vine Grove City Hall to review a conditional use permit request.

The request is initiated by Jamie Wilkerson, for 540 Rose Creek Dr. Radcliff, Hardin County, Ky 40160, Deed Book 1565, Page 905. The lot is owned by Jamie Wilkerson and zoned Residential-2 (Single Family). The lot is designated as Hardin County PVA Map ID number: 161-10-04-006. The applicant is requesting for approval to operate a small business (Tattoo Shop/Room) on this property.

This advertisement was paid for by the City of Vine Grove, using taxpayer dollars in the amount of \$75.26



PUBLIC NOTICE
A Public Hearing will be held by Hardin County Fiscal Court in the Fiscal Court Meeting Room, Hardin County Government Center, Third Floor, 150 N. Provident Way, Elizabethtown, Kentucky on 12 May 2026 at 3:30 P.M. for the purpose of obtaining citizens comments regarding the possible uses of the County Road Aid and Local Government Economic Assistance Funds. All interested persons in Hardin County are invited to the hearing to submit oral or written comments on possible uses of the County Road Aid and LGEA Funds, mail written comments to Hardin County Judge/Executive, P O Box 568, Elizabethtown, KY 42702-0568. Any person who cannot submit written comments or attend the public hearing but wishes to submit comments should call the office of the Hardin County Judge/Executive at (270)765-2350 by 4:30 P.M. on 8 May 2026 so that arrangements can be made to secure their comments.

/s/ Keith L. Taul
Hardin County Judge/Executive
This advertisement was paid for by Hardin County Fiscal Court using taxpayer dollars in the amount \$ 104.21



PUBLIC NOTICE
The Hardin County Fiscal Court, in a Called Meeting on 27 April 2026, had the First Reading of Ordinance No. 344, Series 2025 Budget Amendment #4 entitled: **AN ORDINANCE RELATING TO THE FISCAL YEAR 2025-2026 ANNUAL BUDGET AND AMENDMENT THEREOF. HARDIN COUNTY FISCAL COURT HAS REALIZED UNBUDGETED RECEIPTS FROM THE GENERAL FUND.**

A Second Reading of the proposed Ordinance will be held on 12 May 2026 at a Regular Fiscal Court meeting at 5:30 P.M., at the Hardin County Government Building, 150 N. Provident Way, 3rd Floor, Fiscal Courtroom, Elizabethtown, Kentucky.

A copy of the full text of the ordinance is available in the office of the Hardin County Treasurer, Finance Department, Hardin County Government Building, 150 N. Provident Way, 3rd Floor, Suite 320, Elizabethtown, Kentucky, Monday through Friday from 8:00 A.M. to 4:30 P.M.
/s/Keith L. Taul
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