Watching *Roots*, January 25, 1977

*Roots* was one of the most popular and influential programs in American television history. Millions of Americans (60% of the population or more) watched at least part of the miniseries in 1977, and seven of the eight episodes were among the ten highest rated programs ever broadcast to that date. (The last episode was so popular that it is unlikely ever to be bumped from the top-ten list.) The show was significant by other measures, too. Pollsters found that half of the people watching *Roots* thought it was “one of the best” shows they’d ever seen, and it was a topic of conversation wherever people gathered.

**Episode Three**

Episode Three begins nine years later (Sept. 27, 1976) as the adult Kunta Kinte (now played by John Amos) is loading tobacco into a wagon; it runs for 47 minutes. Almost 45% of American households watched this episode.

The cast includes
- John Amos (Kunta Kinte)
- Louis Gossett Jr. (Fiddler)
- Lorne Greene (John Reynolds)
- Robert Reed (Dr. William Reynolds)
- Vic Morrow (Ames)
- Madge Sinclair (Bell Reynolds)

**Public Opinion**

On April 10, 1977, the Gallup company released the results of a poll about genealogy and *Roots*, which had aired over two months previously. Most of the people they contacted (73%) had either seen the miniseries or read the book. Many (69%) were also interested in tracing their own roots. At the same time, few knew much about their family histories. Most knew their family’s country of origin, but less than a third knew when their relatives had immigrated. Gallup reported a “sharp increase in visitors to the genealogical sections of libraries,” as Americans took steps to fill in their missing knowledge.

That same week, Gallup also reported on public opinion of the new president, Jimmy Carter: 72% approved of the way he was “handling his job,” and only 10% disapproved. The problems that most worried the people polled were inflation, unemployment, and the energy crisis.


The following pages give you a taste of life at Hanover in 1977. Included are articles, television listings, and cartoons from the local paper and the student newspaper. Clippings from the *Madison Courier* are reproduced by permission (http://madisoncourier.com/).
On Sports with Graham Taylor

Hanover freshmen a lot of fun to watch

IF HANOVER COLLEGE'S Dick Naylor is involved in a sport you can bet the participants will work hard but have a lot of fun, and that there will be more victories than defeats posted in the scorebook.

Naylor, in his 11th season at Hanover as baseball coach, cross country coach and assistant basketball coach, has directed his athletic teams to numerous victories and championships.

This season's freshman basketball team is a good example. It's currently riding along with a sparkling 8-1 record and has already gained revenge for that one defeat. The Hanover Panthers posted a 76-66 win over Sullivan College of Louisville Saturday after dropping an earlier 75-73 decision to Sullivan at Louisville.

"We have good balance and good shooting," said Naylor, "to go along with a lot of desire. Things are working out real well."

Take a look at these statistics:

— Eric Rosebrough, a 6-4 guard from Decatur Central High School in Indianapolis, is the team's leading scorer with a 16.4 per cent average from the field. He's averaging 14.7 points per game.

— John Dinney, a 6-5 guard from Moore High School in Louisville, is the team's leading scorer with a 16.4 average. He's shooting at a 50.4 per cent average.

— John Pennington, a 6-4 forward from Silver Creek High School, ranks second in scoring with a 14.9 average and is second in scoring with a 53.4 per cent average.

— Those are mighty impressive figures. "We're having a good time and the facts and figures show it," said Naylor.

The Hanover freshmen will be in action tomorrow night at Lynn Hall when they meet a team from Camp Atterbury as a preliminary to the Hanover-Bluffton game.

HANOVER FOOTBALL COACH Rick Carter says his NAIA All-American halfback of 1976, Anthony Brayton, has returned to school.

Brayton, who has a year of eligibility left, will be able to play next fall if he maintains at least a C average, according to Carter. He was a big factor in Hanover's two NAIA playoff appearances in 1974 and 1975.

SILVER CREEK'S DRAGONS will bring an 8-3 record to Salm Gym Friday night when coach John Heaton sends his sectional favorites against the Madison Cubs. Madison is still searching for its first victory after making eight appearances this season.

Heaton watched Madison meet Floyd Central last Saturday and was impressed with the Cubs. "All they (the Cubs) need is a victory," he said. "Once they get one win, look out, they'll be tough."

Of course, Heaton is hoping Madison doesn't notch its first triumph this Friday. Cubs' coach Julius "Bud" Ritter is wanting a win in the worst way. He agrees with Heaton that a single victory will immediately turn the Madison season around.

Silver Creek brings a three-game winning streak to Madison, including last Friday's 58-55 triumph over Southern Indiana's Rebels. The last loss by the Dragons was a 50-50 setback to No. 1 Jeffersonville in mid-December.

Heaton was happy to get back into action last Friday following a long delay because of snow. "It really felt nice to play once again," Heaton said Saturday at Floyd Central. "The last two weeks or so have seemed like months to the kids and me. I think our problem was mental. We didn't get much crowd support in the Southwestern game even though our players were excited about playing. Our timing was definitely off."

ODDS'N ENDS...Sectional pairings for the 1977 girls' basketball tournament will be made tomorrow by the Indiana High School Athletic Association and tourny play will begin next Tuesday. Madison, Shawneetown, Western, Austin, Jennings County and Scottsburg will participate in the Scottsburg sectional where coach Donna Chestham's Warriors are heavily favored.

... Madison's Beth Ricketts turned in some impressive times in a big swim meet held over the weekend in Nashville. Terra Ricketts finished second in the 50-yard butterfly with a time of 33.0; third in the 50-yard freestyle in 36.5; third in the 100-yard butterfly in 1.55.4; fourth in the 100-yard individual medley in 2.28; and fifth in the 50-yard backstroke in 32.4. The times in the 50 butterfly and 50 free were AAAA marks, according to coach Bert Zimmermann.

... Madison had some swimmers in action at Columbus over the weekend in girls' and under competition. Lee Ann Hudson finished fifth in the 25-yard backstroke in 1.6 and was fifth in the 50-yard backstroke in 32.3. Sarah Ricketts was second in the 50-yard butterfly in 23.1; fourth in the 50-yard freestyle in 18.4; and sixth in the 25-yard backstroke in 1.6. The Madison 100-yard freestyle relay team (Sarah Ricketts, Michele Gish, Lee Ann Hudson and Mary Carol Peddic) took third place.

Television Programs

Tuesday Night January 25

EVENING
6:00
DIET DOCTOR

6:30
STAND BY THE WOMAN

7:00
GREEN EYED MONSTER

8:00
BELLS ARE RINGING

8:30
PERRY COMO

9:00
MATING SEASON

9:30
THEparate

10:00
Indianapolis busing plan nixed by court

WASHINGTON (AP) — The Supreme Court today struck down a federal court’s plan to integrate Indianapolis schools by busing black students to surrounding, predominantly white school districts.

The court sent the case back to the federal court after being told by the Justice Department and state officials in Indiana that the court-ordered, interdistrict busing was unnecessary to overcome segregation in the nation’s 26th largest school system.

By a 6-3 vote, the court told the 7th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals to take a new look at the desegregation case in light of recent Supreme Court rulings that discriminatory intent must be proved before the courts can take action. Justices William J. Brennan Jr., Thurgood Marshall and John Paul Stevens dissented.

Officials have estimated that the Indianapolis desegregation plan would require the busing of about 10,000 black youngsters. Stevens last summer postponed the plan’s effective date until the Supreme Court could consider several appeals.

In another case, the Supreme Court refused to hear arguments by school officials in Louisville, Ky., that a court-ordered desegregation plan enforced there more than a year ago is too harsh. The plan, issuance of anti-busing riots and other widespread violence, required the presence of National Guard troops, requires the busing of about 23,000 students.

Recent rulings by the justices have indicated a reluctance to have courts issue sweeping desegregation orders.

The main question raised in challenges to the 1975 order in Indianapolis, later upheld by the 7th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals, is whether the interdistrict remedy is warranted.

In 1968, the Justice Department sued the Indianapolis Board of School Commissioners to overturn what it called segregationist policies in city schools. But it never suggested a remedy that included the 10 other school districts in Marion County.

After seven years of court battles, U.S. District Judge S. Hugh Dillin ordered state and school officials to implement the multi-district plan.

Dillin decided that because black students made up about 41 per cent of the 98,000 school population in Indianapolis, a multi-district plan couldn’t work.
This week’s pictures

"Don't take that picture" moans Revonah photoperson Sharon Handy, caught in the act of studying in the Hub.