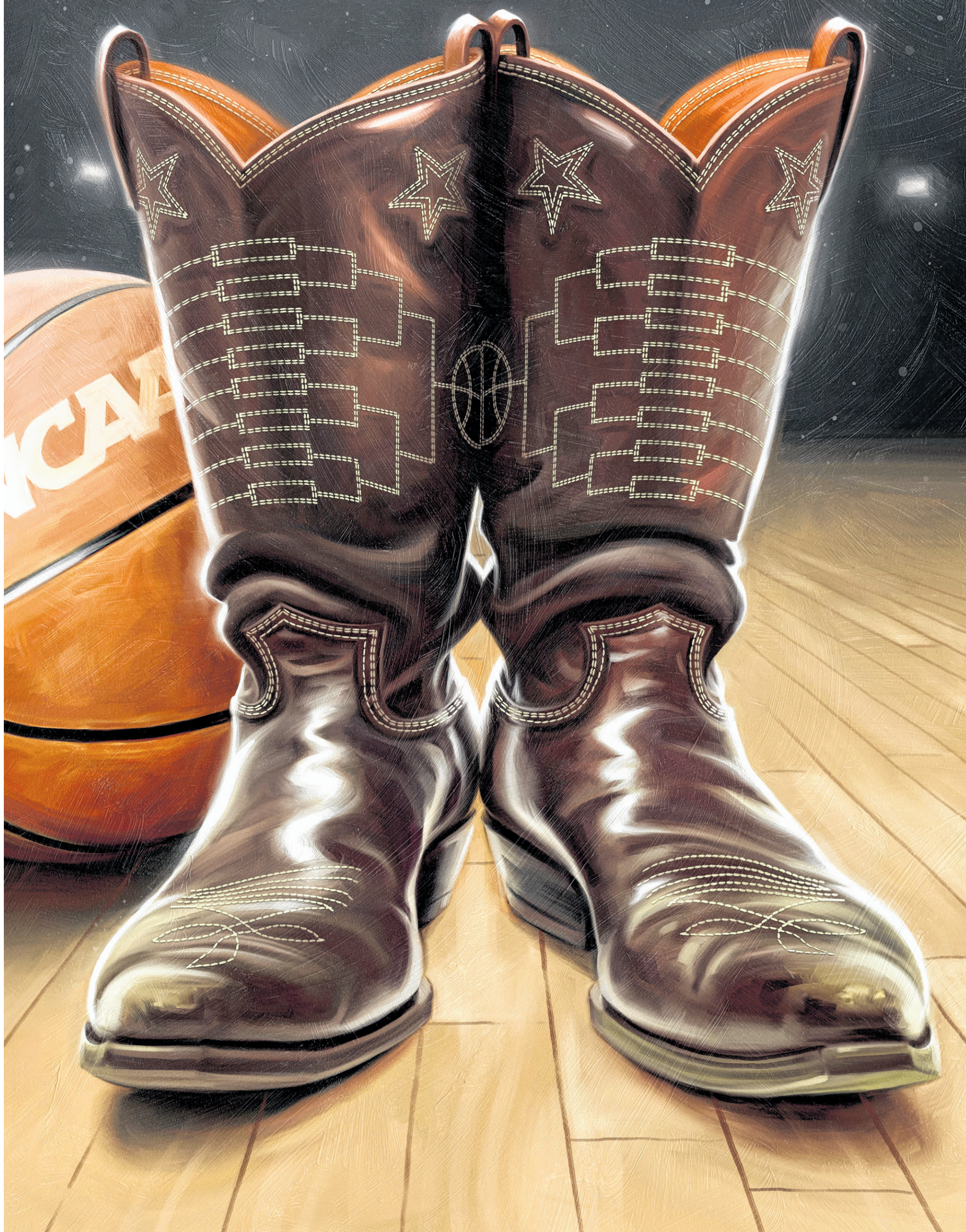


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# Texas two-step

In a state that prides itself on being bigger, the arrival of college basketball's Big Dance is indeed a king-size hoop-de-do. The Lone Star State will see a veritable constellation of stars when, for the first time in 34 years, the Final Four for both the men's and women's NCAA tournaments will be there, giving all 136 competing teams a dream destination. The tournament trail concludes in three weeks in Dallas and Houston. Two tournaments, two national champions, one big stage: Texas.

**Men**  
Big Ten lands eight teams in the field. **C4**  
Final Four • Houston • April 1, 3

Illustration by ROBERT CARTER  
Special to the Star Tribune

**Women**  
Can anyone dethrone South Carolina? **C5**  
Final Four • Dallas • March 31, April 2