

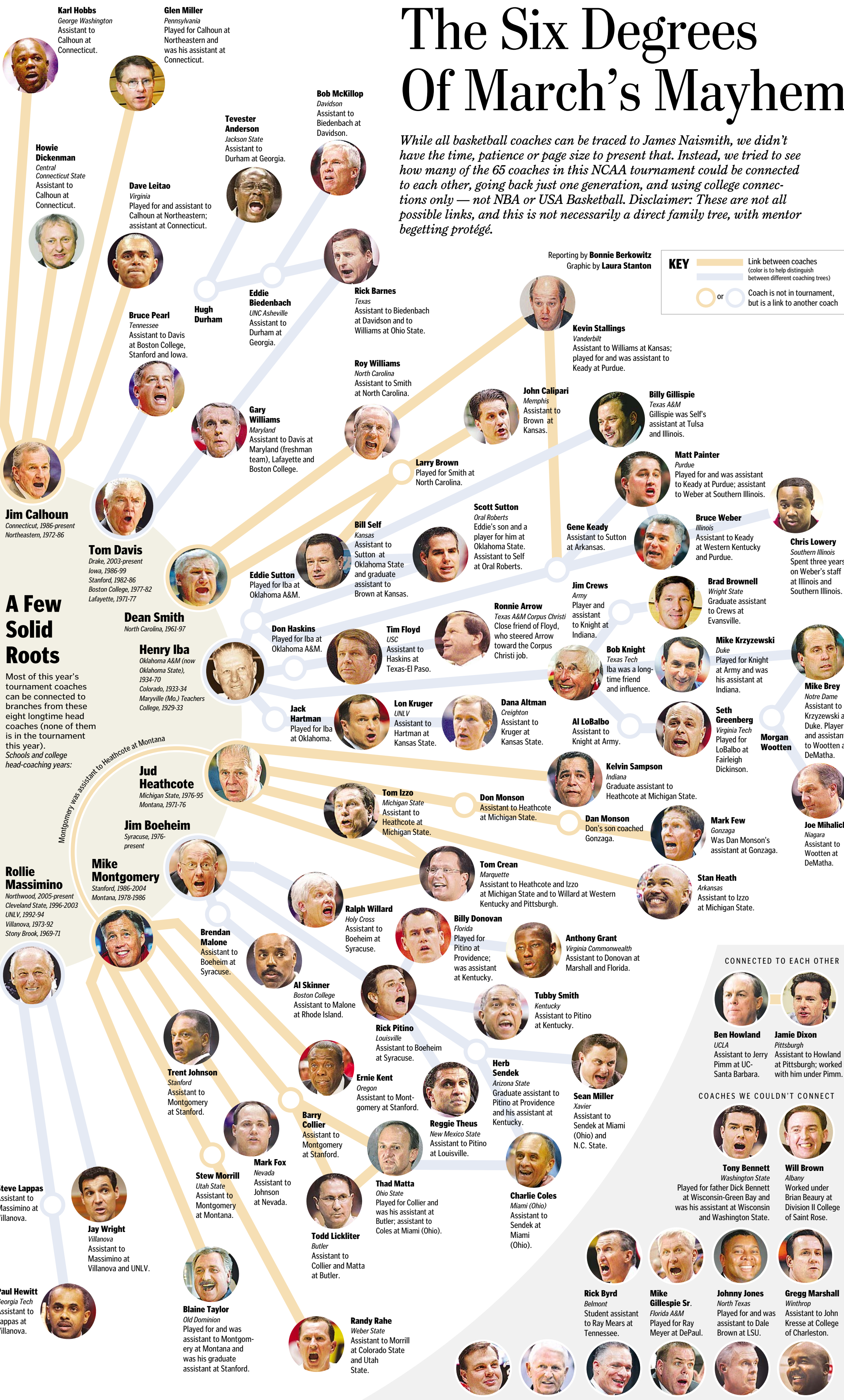
The Six Degrees Of March's Mayhem

While all basketball coaches can be traced to James Naismith, we didn't have the time, patience or page size to present that. Instead, we tried to see how many of the 65 coaches in this NCAA tournament could be connected to each other, going back just one generation, and using college connections only — not NBA or USA Basketball. Disclaimer: These are not all possible links, and this is not necessarily a direct family tree, with mentor begetting protégé.

Reporting by **Bonnie Berkowitz**
Graphic by **Laura Stanton**

KEY

- Link between coaches (color is to help distinguish between different coaching trees)
- Coach is not in tournament, but is a link to another coach



A Few Solid Roots

Most of this year's tournament coaches can be connected to branches from these eight longtime head coaches (none of them is in the tournament this year). Schools and college head-coaching years:

- Jim Calhoun**
Connecticut, 1986-present
Northeastern, 1972-86
- Tom Davis**
Drake, 2003-present
Iowa, 1986-99
Stanford, 1982-86
Boston College, 1977-82
Lafayette, 1971-77
- Dean Smith**
North Carolina, 1961-97
- Henry Iba**
Oklahoma A&M (now Oklahoma State), 1934-70
Colorado, 1933-34
Maryville (Mo.) Teachers College, 1929-33
- Jud Heathcote**
Michigan State, 1976-95
Montana, 1971-76
- Jim Boeheim**
Syracuse, 1976-present
- Mike Montgomery**
Stanford, 1986-2004
Montana, 1978-1986
- Rollie Massimino**
Northwood, 2005-present
Cleveland State, 1996-2003
UNLV, 1992-94
Villanova, 1973-92
Stony Brook, 1969-71
- Steve Lappas**
Assistant to Massimino at Villanova.
- Paul Hewitt**
Georgia Tech
Assistant to Lappas at Villanova.

CONNECTED TO EACH OTHER

- Ben Howland**
UCLA
Assistant to Jerry Pimm at UC-Santa Barbara.
- Jamie Dixon**
Pittsburgh
Assistant to Howland at Pittsburgh; worked with him under Pimm.

COACHES WE COULDN'T CONNECT

- Tony Bennett**
Washington State
Played for father Dick Bennett at Wisconsin-Green Bay and was his assistant at Wisconsin and Washington State.
- Will Brown**
Albany
Worked under Brian Beury at Division II College of Saint Rose.
- Johnny Jones**
North Texas
Played for and was assistant to Dale Brown at LSU.
- Gregg Marshall**
Winthrop
Assistant to John Kresse at College of Charleston.
- Bo Ryan**
Wisconsin
Assistant to Bill Cofield and Steve Yoder at Wisconsin.
- John Thompson III**
Georgetown
Played for and assistant to Pete Carril at Princeton.

CONTRIBUTING REPORTERS: Matt Bonesteel, Marc Carig, Steven Goff, Thomas Heleba, Adam Kilgore, David Larimer, Kathy Orton, Camille Powell, Eric Prisbell, Christian Swezey and Jon Wile