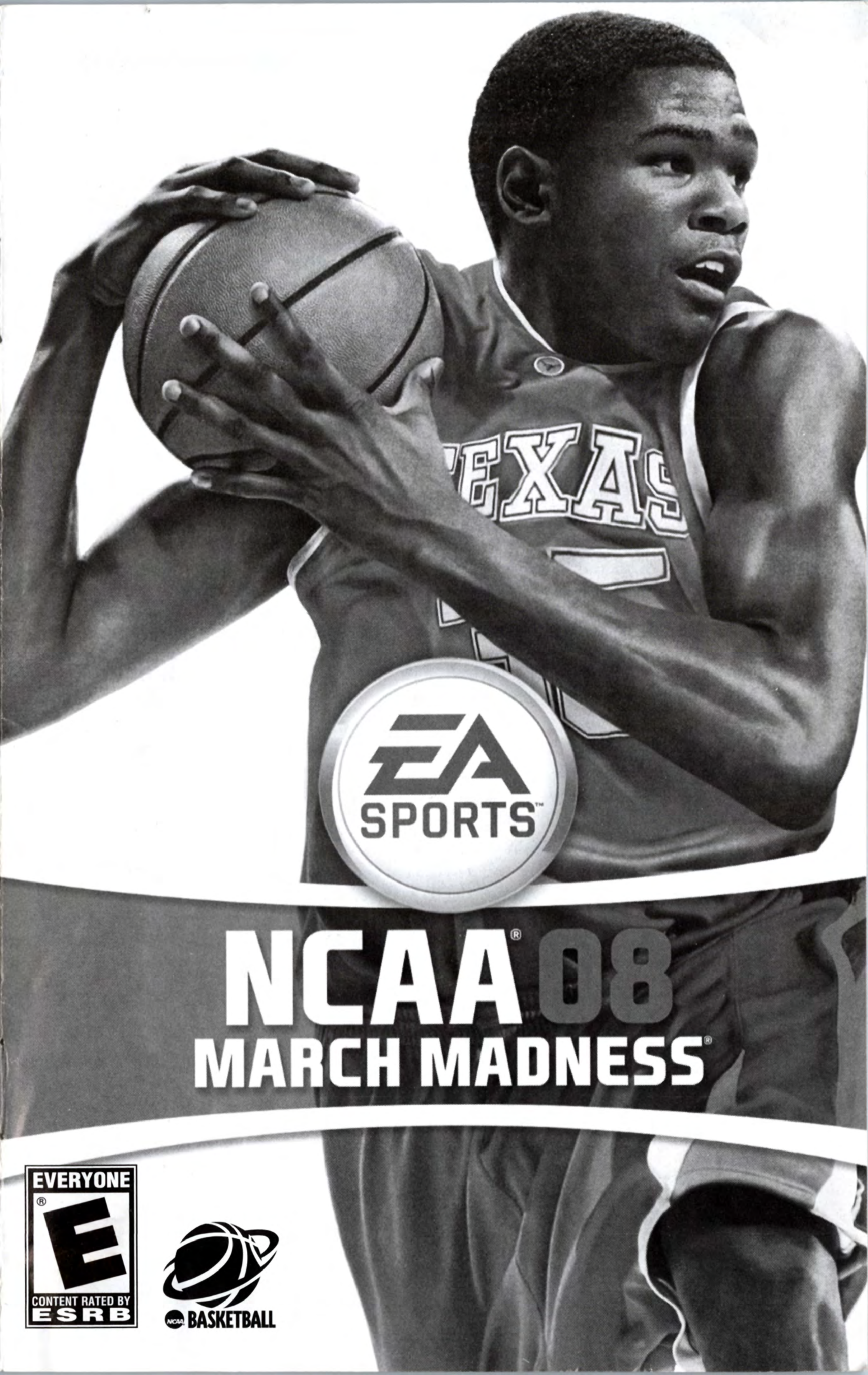
TEXAS
EA SPORTS™
NCAA® 08
MARCH MADNESS®
EVERYONE
E
CONTENT RATED BY ESRB
NCAA BASKETBALL

⚠ WARNING: PHOTOSENSITIVITY/EPILEPSY/SEIZURES

READ BEFORE USING YOUR PLAYSTATION®2 COMPUTER ENTERTAINMENT SYSTEM.

A very small percentage of individuals may experience epileptic seizures or blackouts when exposed to certain light patterns or flashing lights. Exposure to certain patterns or backgrounds on a television screen or when playing video games may trigger epileptic seizures or blackouts in these individuals. These conditions may trigger previously undetected epileptic symptoms or seizures in persons who have no history of prior seizures or epilepsy. If you, or anyone in your family, has an epileptic condition or has had seizures of any kind, consult your physician before playing. IMMEDIATELY DISCONTINUE use and consult your physician before resuming gameplay if you or your child experience any of the following health problems or symptoms:

- dizziness
- altered vision
- eye or muscle twitches
- loss of awareness
- disorientation
- seizures
- any involuntary movement or convulsion

RESUME GAMEPLAY ONLY ON APPROVAL OF YOUR PHYSICIAN.

Use and handling of video games to reduce the likelihood of a seizure

- Use in a well-lit area and keep as far away as possible from the television screen.
- Avoid large screen televisions. Use the smallest television screen available.
- Avoid prolonged use of the PlayStation 2 system.
  Take a 15-minute break during each hour of play.
- Avoid playing when you are tired or need sleep.

Stop using the system immediately if you experience any of the following symptoms: lightheadedness, nausea, or a sensation similar to motion sickness; discomfort or pain in the eyes, ears, hands, arms, or any other part of the body. If the condition persists, consult a doctor.

WARNING TO OWNERS OF PROJECTION TELEVISIONS:

Do not connect your PlayStation 2 system to a projection TV without first consulting the user manual for your projection TV, unless it is of the LCD type. Otherwise, it may permanently damage your TV screen.

HANDLING YOUR PLAYSTATION 2 FORMAT DISC:

- This disc is intended for use only with PlayStation 2 consoles with the NTSC U/C designation.
- Do not bend it, crush it or submerge it in liquids.
- Do not leave it in direct sunlight or near a radiator or other source of heat.
- Be sure to take an occasional rest break during extended play.
- Keep this compact disc clean. Always hold the disc by the edges and keep it in its protective case when not in use. Clean the disc with a lint-free, soft, dry cloth, wiping in straight lines from center to outer edge. Never use solvents or abrasive cleaners.

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2 GETTING STARTED
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This product has been rated by the Entertainment Software Rating Board. For information about the ESRB rating please visit www.esrb.org.

BASIC CONTROLS

Refer to the Additional Controls section of this manual for in-depth offensive and defensive controls including the EA SPORTS™ Lockdown Stick.

OFFENSE

Move player	left analog stick
Shoot	◉ button (press and hold to jump then release to shoot; tap to fake)
Pass (direction of the left analog stick chooses receiver)	⊗ button (hold and release to execute a give-and-go; hold slightly longer for a lob pass)
Dunk/Lay-up	▣ button (double-tap to adjust your shot)

DEFENSE

Move player	left analog stick
Switch player	⊗ button
Steal/Dive	▣ button
Hard foul	SELECT button
Block/Rebound	△ button

Controls are continued on p. 3.

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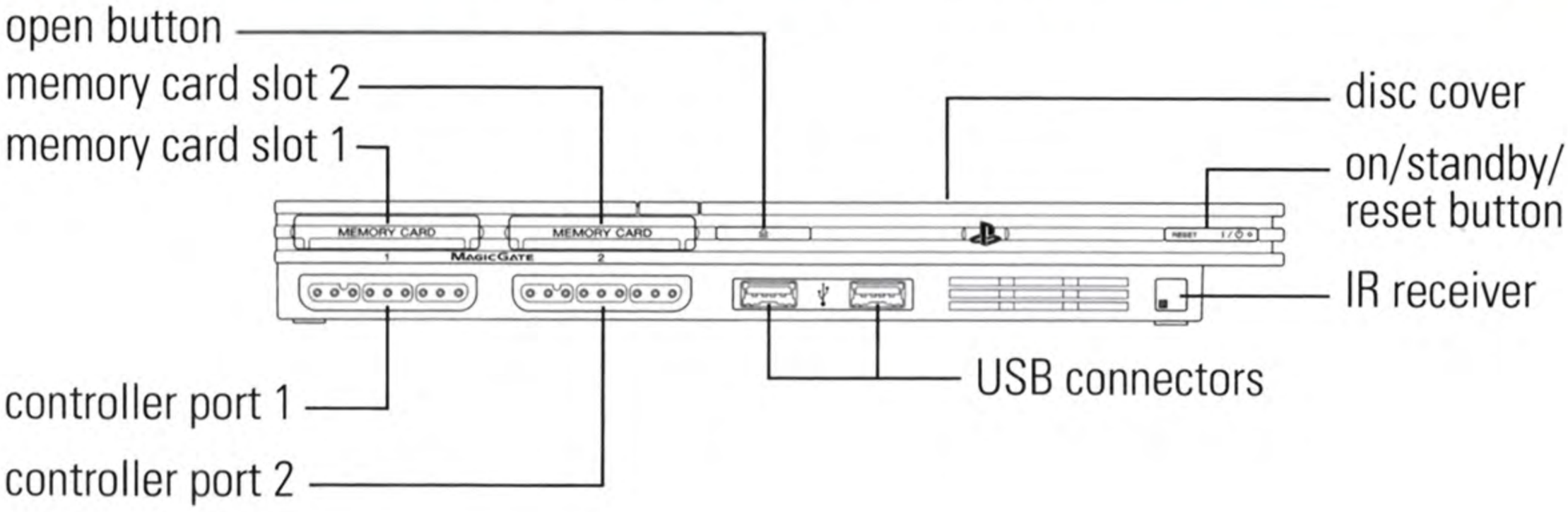
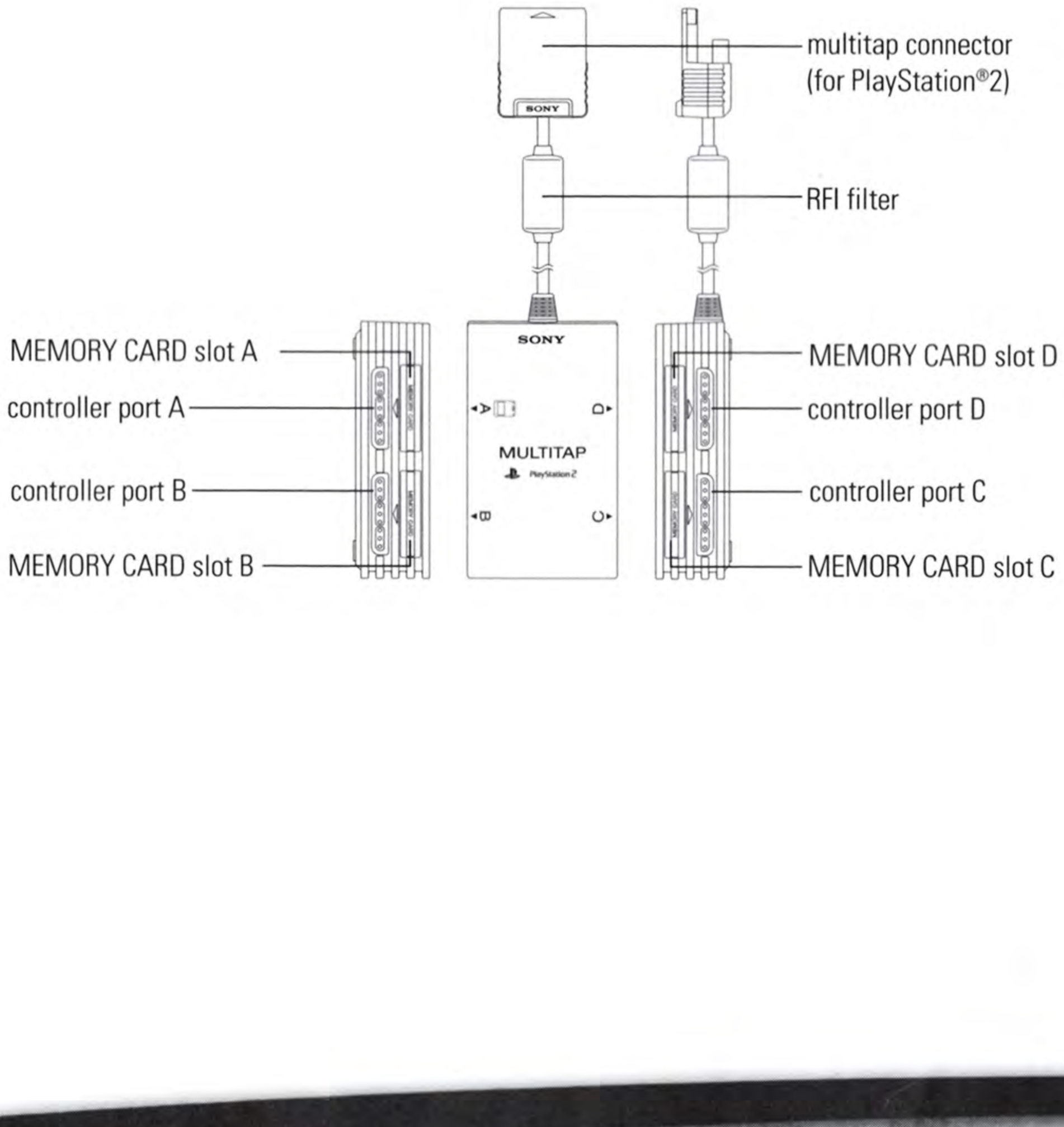
GETTING STARTED



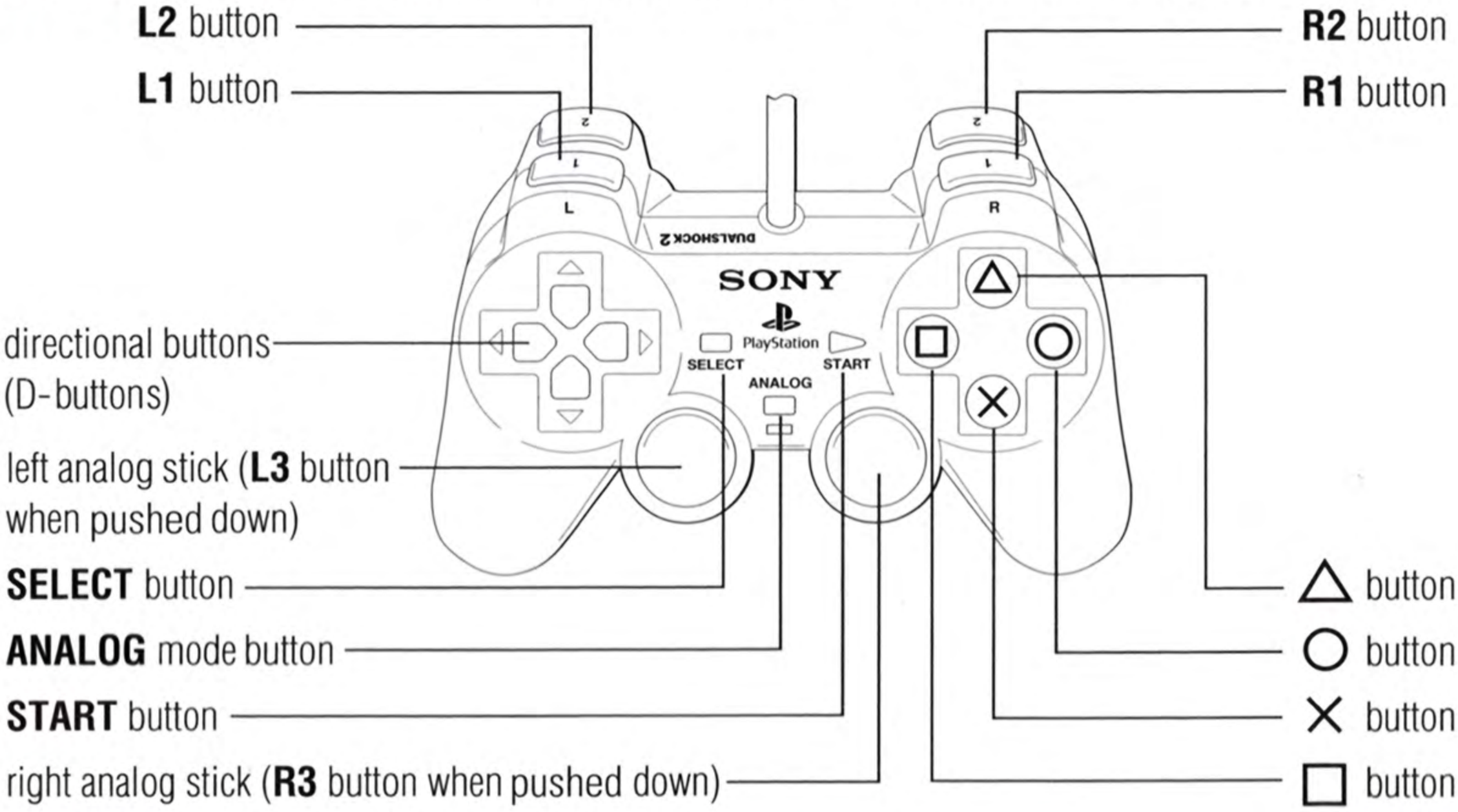
1. Set up your PlayStation®2 computer entertainment system according to the instructions supplied with your system.
2. Check that the system is turned on (the on/standby indicator is green).
3. Insert the *NCAA® March Madness® 08 disc* in the system with the label side facing up.
4. Attach game controllers and other peripherals as appropriate.
5. Follow the on-screen instructions and refer to this manual for information on using the software.

NOTE: When using the multitap (for PlayStation®2), a controller must be connected to controller port 1-A.



STARTING UP

DUALSHOCK®2 ANALOG CONTROLLER CONFIGURATIONS



ADDITIONAL CONTROLS

GENERAL CONTROLS

EA SPORTS™ Freestyle Control (see p. 6)	right analog stick
Quick Plays (see p. 6)	D-button ⬅, ➡, or ⬇
Floor General Playcalling	D-button ⬆ (double-tap to view additional plays)
Turbo	R1 button
Pause game	START button

OFFENSE

Pro-hop/Power dribble	△ button (hold for power dribble when player is standing still)
Back down defender/Protect ball	L1 button
Alley-oop pass/Fast break	R2 button
Direct pass	L2 button (tap), then □ button, ✕ button, ○ button, or △ button
Show play overlay	R3 button (after calling a play)
Call timeout	SELECT button

FREE THROWS

Use the help of the T-Meter™ when shooting free throws. Aim the shot by pressing the ✕ button, □ button, or ○ button when the cursor is near the center of the meter. Next, press the ✕ button, □ button, or ○ button again to set the distance.

DEFENSE

EA SPORTS Lockdown Stick	right analog stick ↓ (hold)
Take a charge	L1 button/◯ button
Direct player switch	L2 button (tap), then □ button, ✕ button, ◯ button, or △ button
Last man back	R2 button (tap)

NOTE: When using the EA SPORTS Lockdown Stick, press the R1 button to make a steal attempt.

NOTE: When an opponent makes a pass, press the EA SPORTS Lockdown Stick in any direction to initiate a steal attempt.

MID-AIR REBOUNDS, TIPS, AND DUNKS	
Mid-air rebounds	△ button
Tip-slam	□ button (when close to the basket)
Tip-in	◯ button

CALL-FOR-PASS INBOUNDING	
Move pass receiver	left analog stick
Call for pass	✕ button
Strategic player switch	D-button to switch to the best 3-point shooter; free throw shooter; ball handler; closest man to the basket

LOW POST MOVES	
Slam dunk	left analog stick toward basket + □ button (when close to the basket)
Fade away jump shot	left analog stick (away from basket) + ◯ button
Power dribble	△ button (hold for power dribble when player is standing still)
Spin move from back down	L1 button (hold) + left analog stick (in the direction you would like to spin). Release the L1 button to initiate the spin move.

OFF-BALL SWITCH (PLAYER LOCKED WITHOUT BALL)	
Call for shot	◯ button
Call for pass	✕ button
Call for dunk/lay-up	□ button

PLAYING THE GAME

When you first play *NCAA March Madness 08*, you have the option to select a favorite school. More than 300 Division I universities are available to choose from, including schools from 30 conferences. Once a school is selected, it is set as your default team in all game modes. You can switch your favorite school preference via the Settings menu.

PLAY NOW

Get on the court quickly with a Play Now game. The games don't count in the standings but the intensity runs just as high as a national tournament game.

TEAM SELECT SCREEN

From Classic to All-Time teams, all the best squads from past and present are here. After selecting a match-up for the upcoming game you have the option to set up your Quick Settings.

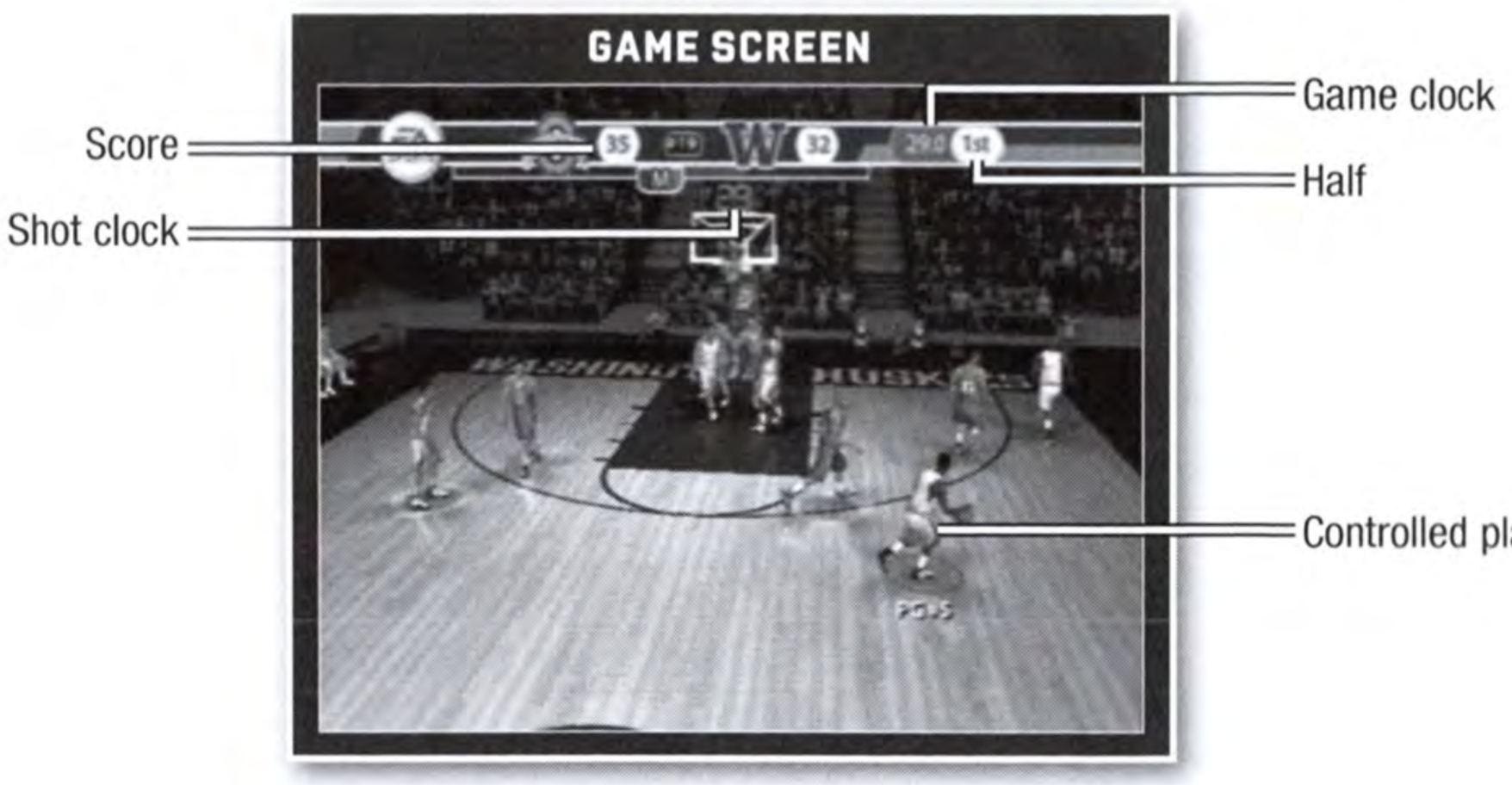
STARTING LINEUPS/STRATEGY SCREEN

Before storming the court, adjust your starting lineup or alter your team's style of play to give you an edge over your opponent. Sub in bench players by swapping them with one of the starting five or leave the lineup as is. You can also dig deep into the playbook and modify your Quick Plays (see p. 6). Once your strategy is set, the game begins.

QUICK SETTINGS

Press the ◉ button from the Controller Select screen to access the Quick Setting menu. From here, you can select the Skill Level for the next game, along with Half Length and Camera View. You can also adjust the Rules, Preferences, Gameplay Settings, In-Game Settings, and Gameplay Controls from the Settings screen. Once your settings are in place, select a team by moving the controller icon next to your team logo.

ON THE FLOOR



GO-TO GUY

Step up, make an immediate impact, and take over when the game's on the line with the Go-To Guy feature, which enables one player on your team to receive a temporary ratings boost for a short period of time. How long he remains the Go-To Guy depends on how well he performs—the better he does, the longer it lasts.

Before every game, three players from your roster—the Senior Leader, Floor General, and Star Player—are selected by the CPU as possible Go-To Guys. At any time before or throughout the game, you can select which of the three players you want to be your Go-To Guy.

Raise your Momentum Meter by scoring baskets, forcing turnovers, and taking control of the game—once it raises high enough, your Go-To Guy is unlocked and can be triggered at any time until the end of the game by pressing the L1 button + the R3 button.

Use your Go-To Guy early in the contest to pull away from your opponent or save him until the decisive final minutes for a much-needed edge. The decision is up to you.

EA SPORTS™ LOCKDOWN STICK

Dictate the flow of the game and take total control on defense with the EA SPORTS Lockdown Stick. Playing an up-tempo style of basketball, smother opponents with an aggressive style of defense and create turnovers that lead to easy baskets.

When playing in front of a ball-handler trigger the EA SPORTS Lockdown Stick by pressing the right analog stick ↓ (press the left analog stick to stay in front of your man). Once your opponent is trapped, you can force him into a turnover situation or put him in a position for an easy double-team. In addition, press the L1 button to draw a charge, or the R1 button for a steal attempt (when using the EA SPORTS Lockdown Stick).

EA SPORTS™ FREESTYLE CONTROL

Run the floor with EA SPORTS Freestyle Control. While dribbling, press the right analog stick in any direction to break out a Freestyle move. Making the same shape results in the same move every time. You can also create combinations of Freestyle moves, so be sure to use Practice mode to help perfect these moves.

FLOOR GENERAL PLAYCALLING

Manage your offense on the fly with the Floor General Playcalling system. Call plays that include a 1-4 high, Zone Base, 4 Around 1, and more. Pressing the D-button ↑ once brings up three plays, pressing the D-button ↑ twice brings up three more. Before each game, customize your school's playbook with dozens of available sets.

DRIBBLE HANDOFF

Execute a dribble handoff to a teammate when running your half-court game, stuck in traffic, or before you start to dribble. Press and hold the ✕ button and run towards the pass receiver to pull off the move.

DEFENSIVE FLOOR GENERAL PLAYCALLING

Level the playing field with diagrammed defensive playbooks. Play man-to-man or zone defense. You can also customize a playbook to fit your style of play. Press the D-button ↑ to use the Defensive Floor General Playcalling system to call a play then click the R3 button to view a graphic on where you should force the ball carrier.

QUICK PLAYS

Direct traffic on both ends of the court by calling a Quick Play (press the D-button ←, →, or ↓). On offense, you can run Isolation, Post Up, and Pick-and-Roll plays. On defense, choose to Double Team, Intentional Foul, or Pump Up your school's crowd.

OFF-BALL SWITCH

Control players on the floor with or without the ball—call for passes, have a teammate shoot, or set a screen with the push of a button. Once you activate the Off-Ball Switch by clicking and holding the R3 button, change to another player on the court by selecting the corresponding button icon.

ARENA PULSE

If your school is ranked as one of the 25 toughest places to play, the crowd can provide you with the advantage you need to defeat the opposition. With every big basket watch the Arena Pulse meter build—giving your team momentum. When the meter maxes out your fans go nuts, rattling even your toughest opponents.

SAVING AND LOADING

Before exiting a game mode (or a menu where changes have been made), be sure to save your progress to a memory card (8MB)(for PlayStation®2). All unsaved information will be lost otherwise. You can also save or load manually by accessing the LOAD/SAVE screen.

➤ To save or load a file, select a storage location then highlight the file you wish to load (or create a new file name when saving for the first time). Once the file is selected and/or named, the game data is either loaded or saved.

GAME MODES

DYNASTY MODE™

Dynasty Mode operates on a year-round calendar so be prepared to handle the duties on the court, as well as off it for multiple seasons. After choosing a school and selecting your settings, Season One begins. Before you start making key decisions be sure to check your PDA (click the L3 button) for messages from the Athletic Director, Coaching Staff, and more that can help determine the success of your Dynasty.

Use Dynasty Points during the season to improve player and team abilities, as well as to hire specialist coaches. Dynasty Points are awarded for accomplishing feats in the Task List (displayed after each game, season, and tournaments).

TRAINING CAMP

Before the season begins, put the team in your trainer's hands to improve player and team abilities during training camp. Your trainer focuses on certain aspects including Offense, Defense, Shooting, and Conditioning. Each has its reward and downfall. Be sure to balance the training in order to cover every area of need.

DYNASTY CENTRAL/CALENDAR

Manage all aspects of your school in Dynasty Central, the biggest being the team schedule. Review your yearly Calendar to play or simulate the season schedule game-by-game. It's here where the games are won or lost.

If you choose to simulate a game on the schedule, you have the option to intervene anytime during the simulation period. Once the game picks up, you are thrown into the middle of the action with time already off the clock. See if you can help your team hold a lead or make a comeback and grasp a victory.

COACH OPTIONS

Off the court, Coach Options allow you to recruit local and national players during the season. With the help of stat tracking, scout hot prospects and invite them to a game before extending scholarship offers.

Once your team is set, gain the upper hand by using your assistants to gather information on upcoming games, teams, and players from across the nation. Coaches can also create a gameplan before the big game by analyzing opponents before tip-off, or simply altering the overall team strategy and playbook.

You can also view Program Standards, your Report Card, conduct a Training Session, and view Dynasty Points anytime during the year.

SIDELINE GENERAL

Take the reigns and become your team's head coach in Dynasty Mode with the Sideline General. Lead your team all the way to the NCAA Championship by making the proper decisions along the way, whether it's running set plays, making substitutions, calling timeouts, and more. To use the Sideline General function, you must enter Dynasty Mode as CPU vs. CPU on the Controller Select screen.

PLAYER VIOLATIONS

Players can get themselves into trouble, so it's up to you to make sure the team rules are enforced. Take action when grades drop or when rules are broken—or your school may suffer the consequences. You need to decide when to suspend players for a single game or for the entire season; if you don't take action the NCAA may limit your school's scholarships, TV appearances, or its participation in either of the postseason tournaments.

OFF-SEASON

After the NCAA Tournament, it's time to evaluate your roster for the next season. To remain a successful program over the years, be sure to track which positions you'll need to concentrate your recruiting efforts on. If your senior point guard is leaving due to graduation, for example, you better replace him with a highly touted freshman or a solid junior college transfer who can fill his shoes the following season.

Pay attention to your scouting reports and study up on the incoming class before you make any offers. Remember, your recruiting decisions can make or break your school's chances of making it to the Big Dance.

MY NCAA

View classic teams and buy new gear.

OTHER GAME MODES

For more challenges on the court, try your hand in any of these exciting game modes.

SEASON

Play through an entire season with up to eight NCAA teams, and see if you can make it to the top. Customize your schedule(s) by making it as easy or difficult as you like, and make your run for the NCAA Tournament. You can also set your coaching priorities, edit players, and reorder your rosters, or view player, team, and Division I leader stats.

TOURNAMENT MODES

Embrace the madness of the NCAA Tournament as you battle 64 teams and stop at nothing for the coveted NCAA Championship. You can also take part in the EA SPORTS Maui Invitational Tournament, which features a cast of powerhouse schools and challenges your team with a tough early-season schedule. You can also create your own Frat Party tournament with the teams of your choice.

COLLEGE CLASSICS

Change history by replaying 20 of college basketball's most memorable games. Make dream match-ups a reality as you play out historical scenarios and relive the drama.

RIVALRY GAME

Experience the most heated rivalries in college basketball. Prove yourself against the opposition in a showdown for ultimate bragging rights.

MASCOT GAME

Take the mascots onto the court and give them a chance to show their school spirit.

PRACTICE

Hone your offensive skills in Practice mode. The entire court is yours with no opposition and no time limit.

LIMITED 90-DAY WARRANTY

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