

# Penn Defeats Columbia, 57-52, and Takes Ivy League Lead With 6-0 Mark

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### QUAKERS REPULSE LATE BID BY LIONS

Morse Scores 4 Points in  
Final Minutes to Send  
Penn Ahead, 55-52

By LEONARD KOPPETT

Pennsylvania's strong basketball team, making a big move toward an Ivy League championship, survived a terrible start and a nervous finish last night while beating Columbia, 57-52, in what could be called a key game in more than one sense.

Tall and mobile, and composed almost entirely of sophomores and juniors, the Quakers looked lost for the first 15 minutes of play. Surrounded by the claustrophobic din in Columbia's pitifully inadequate gymnasium jammed to capacity with 1,924 spectators (and two blary bands), the visitors seemed nervous and insecure as they fell behind, 15-8 and 22-16.

But they seemed to find themselves at that point, having been saved from a larger deficit by the free throws Columbia's Heyward Dotson missed. In the next 18 minutes or so, they outscored the Lions, 35-17, and seemed to be running away with the game. Their lead was 51-39 with less than seven minutes to play.

#### Columbia Turns Tide

And just as abruptly, the tide shifted again. Columbia scored 13 points in a row while Pennsylvania went scoreless for four minutes—and there were the Lions with a 52-51 lead and 2:50 to play.

But two free throws by Bob Morse, one of the 6-foot-8-inch sophomores, put Penn back into the lead with 2:32 left. Then Morse blocked a shot by Jim McMillian and hit a short jump shot at 1:16, making the score 55-52.

Then Steve Bilsky, the 5-foot-10-inch quarterback whose outside shooting and ball-handling sparked Penn during the second half, stole the ball from McMillian with 59 seconds to go, and he and Dave Wohl controlled the ball the rest of the way.

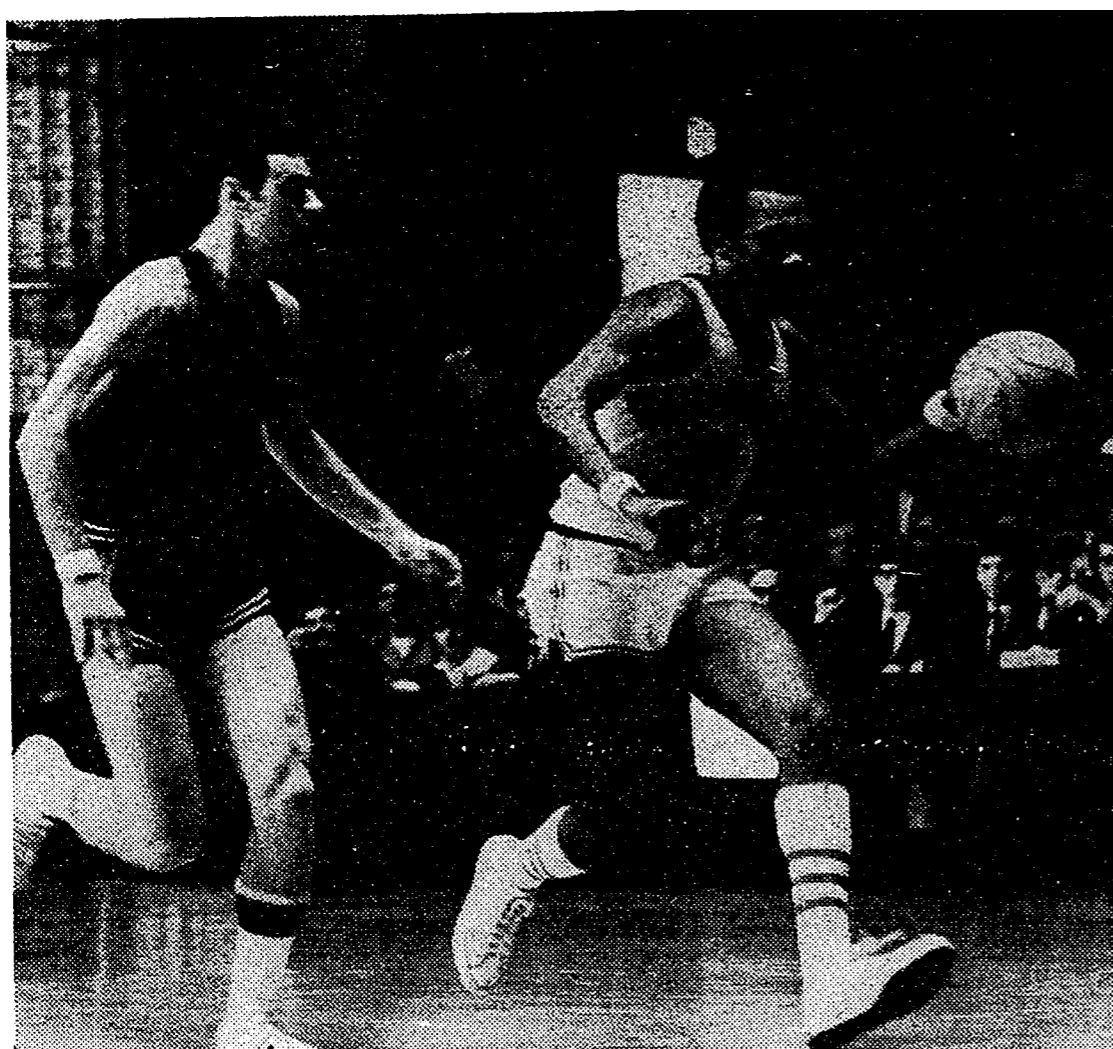
So Pennsylvania now has a 6-0 won-lost league record and a 17-1 season mark that earns it national ranking. The only loss was Purdue in the semifinals of the Holiday Festival at Madison Square Garden, and if the Quakers do finish first, they'll move on to the National Collegiate championship tournament.

Losing the battle for first place, Columbia suffered its first defeat after five victories and dropped to second place in the league standing. The Lions' over-all record is 14-3.

More important than the statistics, though, was the experience. Pulling out a tough victory against as capable an opponent as Columbia in the snake-pit surroundings of the 72-year-old gym may prove invaluable to the sophomores as time goes on. These are the tough games in which winning teams are forged.

From Columbia's point of view, a golden opportunity was missed when it wasted its early advantage by not cashing in fully at the free-throw line. Dotson, who was high scorer in the game with 22 points, missed eight of his 14 free throws, two of them at the beginning of one-and-one situations, so that meant 10 points.

McMillian was also less accurate than he usually is, shooting 8-for-18 from the floor and seldom getting near the basket. These two took 30 of Columbia's 42 shots and the Lions never developed any sustained offense.



The New York Times (by John Soto)

**LION ON THE LOOSE:** Columbia's Heyward Dotson, who had stolen the ball from Pennsylvania, dribbling down court for a score at University Hall. Al Cotler is in pursuit.

PENN (57)				COLUMBIA (52)			
G.	F.	P.	P.	G.	F.	P.	P.
Calhoun	2	0-0	4	McMillian	8	2-3	18
Morse	4	7-11	15	Gallus	1	0-0	2
Wolf	0	1-1	1	Starke	1	0-1	2
Bilsky	6	6-9	18	Dotson	8	6-14	22
Wohl	2	3-6	7	Wolfe	1	0-1	2
Koller	1	0-1	2	Fogel	2	0-1	4
Cotler	4	2-2	10	Gordon	0	2-2	2
Total	19	19-30	57	Total	21	10-22	52
Half-time score—Columbia 26, Penn 25.							
Attendance—1,924							