

FORDHAM CRUSHES LAFAYETTE, 106-84

Leads by 31 Points in 2d Half, Gains 4th Victory

By DEANE MCGOWEN

The last time Fordham University basketball fans really had a chance to cheer was during the 1967-68 season, Johnny Bach's last as coach.

But Dick (Digger) Phelps has given Ram rooters a new chance to exercise their vocal chords. Last night in the Rose Hill gymnasium, Fordham ripped Lafayette apart, 106-84. It was the fourth victory for the undefeated Rams, and ended Lafayette's three-game victory streak.

The Rams blasted the Leopards almost out of the game midway through the opening half with an 11-point burst that gave Fordham a 31-16 margin.

A great deal of Lafayette's misery stemmed from its failure to hang on to the ball. The Leopards lost it 15 times while Fordham gave it up just eight times.

Rams Lead, 52-30, at Half

Lafayette's sloppy ball handling, coupled with some poor shooting, made Fordham's task easy, and the Rams left the court at the intermission with a 52-30 edge, about half of it attributable to the 15-point shooting effort of Charles Yelverton and the 10-point efforts of Bill Mainor and George Zambetti.

Lafayette's inept play continued during the second half as Fordham's lead reached 31 points at one stage.

Phelps began to substitute freely during the final 10 minutes, but the Rams kept rolling along. Bob Larbes hit from underneath to send Fordham over the 100-mark.

The final total of 106 points was just a point shy of tying the school mark set against Rutgers on March 5, 1968, here.

Yelverton Scores 24 Points

Yelverton, a 6-foot-2-inch forward, finished with 24 points, the third time this season he has gone over the 20-point mark.

Ken Charles kept Fordham's second-half attack moving, hitting for 14 of his 19 points after the intermission. Bart Woytowicz also contributed a fine second half and wound up with 17 points, while Zambetti added 14.

Yelverton's play was not confined to shooting. The slender senior also put his springy legs to use under the boards where he pulled down 14 of Fordham's 31 rebounds.

Tracy Tripucka, who entered the game with a 23.1-point average, finished with 22 points, but many came late in the second half when Fordham's defense had relaxed. The Leopards got their finest performance from Walt Kocubinski, with 21, and Jay Mottola, a deft-shooting guard, with 19.

FORDHAM (106)				LAFAYETTE (84)			
	G.	F.	P.		G.	F.	P.
Burik	2	1-1	5	Barkauskas	2	5-6	9
Cain	2	0-1	4	Blass	1	4-6	6
Charles	9	1-2	19	Guerra	2	0-1	4
Larbes	2	0-1	4	Kocubinski	9	3-4	21
Mainor	3	4-4	10	Mottola	8	3-5	19
Pipich	2	3-3	7	Moyer	0	0-1	0
Sullivan	1	0-1	2	Proce	0	0-0	0
Woytowicz	8	1-1	17	Rookstool	0	0-0	0
Yelverton	10	4-7	24	Tripucka	9	4-5	22
Zambetti	7	0-0	14	Weaver	0	3-3	3
Total	46	14-21	106	Total	31	22-31	84

Half-time score—Fordham 52, Lafayette 30.
 Attendance—2,126.

Penn Tops Ohio State

COLUMBUS, Ohio, Dec. 12 (UPI)—Pennsylvania rallied tonight on the free-throw shooting of Steve Bilsky to defeat Ohio State, 71-64, for its fourth straight victory.

Bilsky, who scored only 6 points, dropped in four free throws in the last 50 seconds after Corky Calhoun's basket had put the Quakers ahead, 65-64, with 1:27 to go.

PENN (71)				OHIO STATE (64)			
	G.	F.	P.		G.	F.	P.
Calhoun	6	5-7	17	Minor	3	1-2	2
Morse	7	4-6	18	Mackin	0	2-2	7
Wolf	0	0-0	0	Witte	5	4-8	14
Wohl	8	4-4	20	Clemons	7	6-6	20
Bilsky	1	4-4	6	Hornyak	5	7-7	17
Cotler	3	0-0	6	Wagar	2	0-0	4
Hankinson	1	2-3	4				
Total	26	19-24	71	Total	22	20-25	64

Half-time score—Ohio State 29, Penn 28.
 Attendance—12,605.