

Princeton Runs Home Mark to 7-0 With a 69-56 Triumph Over Penn

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PRINCETON, N.J., Jan. 29—There was no place so comfortable and so cozy as home to the Princeton basketball team tonight, even though a New Jersey fuel emergency mandated a temperature reduction to 55 degrees inside Jadwin Gymnasium. The Tigers were hot as they ran away from Penn and whipped the Quakers, 69-56, in the big rematch between the teams expected to fight to the wire for the Ivy League championship.

But now there may be a third team—Columbia—fighting to the wire with the Tigers and Quakers. The Lions, who beat Brown tonight, took over the league lead with a 4-0 won-lost mark while Princeton and Penn have 3-1 records and are tied for second place.

Tigers 7-0 at Home

But at Jadwin tonight, where Princeton made up for a 43-39 loss at Penn two weeks ago, the Tigers seemed unbeatable against what is supposed to be the strongest and most talented team in the league. The Tigers, however, played their usual studied team game, slowly waiting for breaks, snapping at any chance and eventually winning on team defense.

"This put us back in the league," said Coach Pete Carril. "We would have been out of it if we had lost."

But the chances of Princeton losing at home are slim these days. This was the Tigers' 11th victory of the season against four defeats. They have a 7-0

home record. Penn, on the other hand, has lost all six of its road games this season and has an 8-7 mark for the campaign. Home is oh so sweet.

Princeton held a 23-point lead with just over 10 minutes remaining as the task was much easier than the Tigers had expected following a slow, stalling affair in the first game with Penn. But this time the Tigers had Billy Omeltchenko, the junior guard from Great Neck, L.I. This important Princeton player was in the hospital two weeks ago, having had surgery for appendicitis.

Sowinski Hits 5 of 7 Shots

Healthy and in top form, Omeltchenko played all 40 minutes with his usual tenacity that created Penn mistakes and turnovers. He contributed 14 points, took six rebounds, blocked a number of shots and was a bother to the Quakers all evening.

Bob Roma, the sophomore big man for the Tigers, was high with 19 points as he also played 40 minutes in the game witnessed by 7,119 persons in Jadwin and a local television audience. Capt. Bob Slaughter also put in full time for Princeton and scored 15 points.

And there was Frank Sowinski, the nation's leader in field-goal accuracy with 66.7 percent before tonight. He hit on five of seven shots to better that pace and scored 11 points for Princeton.

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