

Princeton Defeats Columbia as Penn Loses

By GORDON S. WHITE Jr.

Princeton made its biggest move toward a successful defense of the Ivy League basketball championship last night when the patient Tigers, waiting for the kill, beat Columbia, 66-49, while Cornell was upsetting Pennsylvania.

The result before a record crowd of 3,400 in Columbia's Levien Gym and the outcome up at Ithaca, N.Y., combined to put Princeton in the Ivy lead by one game over Penn. Columbia is now in a position where one victory by Princeton in the Tigers' three remaining games will eliminate the Lions from title contention, as they fell to three games off Princeton's pace.

Pete Carril, the crafty little head Tiger, was not agreeing to anything close to a title clinching. The coach said:

"Oh, no. I told my players that if Cornell can beat Penn up there Cornell can beat Princeton up there."

Princeton traveled by bus last night and early this morning up to Ithaca, where the Tigers play at Cornell tonight. Princeton then will be the host to Brown on Friday and Yale on Saturday.

Columbia's coach, Tom Penders, did not agree with Carril. Penders said:

"Oh, yeah. Princeton has it. I think they're too good a ball club for anything to happen now."

The best that can be said for the Lions is that they tried last night, and tried quite hard. Their plan was to attack slowly, try for the good shots and play a zone defense. But Princeton had figured that would be the case, was ready for it and waited for the chance to break it open. When that chance came, the Tigers struck to win.

Bob Roma, the fine sophomore big man for Princeton, scored the Tigers' last 8 points of the first half. That moved them into the lead, and they never again relinquished it. Roma got inside the zone to score three field

goals and then made two free throws on his way to 18 points for the game.

Frank Sowinski, who hit on seven of 12 field-goal attempts, was the top scorer, with 23 points. Sowinski, the nation's leader in field-goal accuracy, crushed the Lions' zone with deadly shots from afar. Those long shots in the second half were too much for the Lions, as Sowinski had 16 of his points in the last 20 minutes.

Columbia, on the other hand, also faced a zone. Carril does not like to use this defense, but he was afraid of foul trouble for his players in a man-to-man, and "that Alton Byrd is too tough to cover."

As Princeton, a better shooting team and thus able to be more patient, increased its lead, the Lions had to change to more shooting. The result was more Columbia misses, so that the Lions, who had hit eight of only 12 shots in the first half, missed on 14 of 25 in the faster second half.

Then, as time wore down, Princeton played the four-corner stall with a big lead, and Columbia fouled enough to send the Tigers to the foul line regularly for icing on the cake.

Though the result was predictable, this was a game that was exciting in the early stages for the fans who made up the first capacity crowd in the three-year history of Columbia's modern gym.

Sowinski Paces Tigers

Toward the end the few Princeton fans were chanting, "We're Number One!" The only thing the Columbia fans could come up with was an obscene chant in return, thus marring a fine effort by their team, a young group that may well have a better crack at the Ivy title in a year or two.

Elmer Love and Mike Wilhite had 13 points each for the Lions, but it was the play of Byrd and Ricky Free that enabled Columbia to stay close

early. Their speed with ball control gave the Lions the chance to move around and try a game similar to Princeton's patient game. But the Tigers, not the Lions, are the masters of the art.

Cornell 82, Penn 68

ITHACA, N. Y., Feb. 27 (AP)—Bernard Vaughan and Cedric Carter scored 21 points each to lead Cornell to an 82-68 upset victory over Pennsylvania in an Ivy League game tonight.

Penn led at halftime, 39-35, but Cornell tied it at 51 when Carter scored on a fast break with 9:52 to play. Two free throws by Carter at 9:05 gave Cornell its first lead since the opening minutes, and the Big Red never trailed.

Vaughan, a 5-foot-9-inch senior, scored 13 points in the second half. Carter, a 6-foot sophomore, got 15 in the second half as Cornell won for only the fourth time in 11 league games. Cornell had not beaten Penn since the 1968-69 season, having lost 15 in a row to the Quakers.

Stony Brook 64, Pratt 52

Wayne Wright and Bill Anderson led Stony Brook to a 64-52 victory over Pratt Institute in the championship game of the Knickerbocker Conference tournament yesterday at Stony Brook. Pace defeated Yeshiva, 56-49, in the consolation game.

St. Bonaventure 88, Niagara 76

NIAGARA FALLS, N.Y., Feb. 27 (AP)—Greg Sanders netted a game-high 23 points as he led St. Bonaventure to victory over Niagara, 88-76, tonight. The victory improved the Bonnies' record to 20-5. The game had been rescheduled from a Jan. 29 postponement.

North Carolina 96, Louisville 89

CHARLOTTE, N. C., Feb. 27 (AP)—Phil Ford and Mike O'Koren each scored 26 points and led ninth-ranked North Carolina to a 96-89 victory over 10th-ranked Louisville in college basketball today.

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