

Win, Lose, or Draw

By FRANCIS E. STANN

In the Wake of the Big Feed

A production, like the Touchdown Club's annual dinner, is by nature a sports clearing house. The foundation of the Touchdown Club is football, but at the colossal shindig at the Statler you see not only football stars and ex-stars, but baseball and basketball and boxing people.



Francis E. Stann

Ocell Isbell, for instance, is standing in the center of the room in which the pre-dinner reception is being held and when you ask him what progress he is making toward bolstering his Baltimore Colts for the 1948 season he shakes his head and winks smiles.

"It's getting tough," he says. "A couple of years ago the National League didn't take our All-America Conference too seriously and we made off with a lot of top college stars. We did the same a year ago, but the National League is getting tough now."

"We've got the draft rights in the All-America Conference to Bobby Layne. Whether we get him is a question. But there's no doubt but what the Colts and every other team needs those 'name guys,' especially back-field men."

Now, that sounds unfair to linemen, but let me tell you they're doing all right these days. When I broke into pro football with the Green Bay Packers I was paid \$2,500 a year. I worked it up to \$5,000 before I quit. The other day we talked with a guard who won't draw more than two relatives at the gate and he demanded \$9,500!

Buddy Was There Because Bert Was, Too

"Tell about that guy at Appalachian College, or whatever that school is named," suggests Bill Edge, a key guy of the Baltimore Touchdown Club.

"Well," says Isbell, "this guy is a lineman and our scouts told us he was a pretty good player. We never figured that anybody else would approach him, being at Appalachian, and we offered him \$4,000 for a start. Do you know what? We lost the guy! A National League team gave him a contract for \$6,000 for his rookie year."

A familiar figure moves up, but it takes a few seconds to place him. Out of uniform and in the midst of such towering gridiron characters as Jim Tatum, Chuck Bednarik and Jack Lavelle, our John K. (Buddy) Lewis of the Washington Senators looks strangely thin. An All-Star game outfielder at the Touchdown Club banquet?

"Why not?" grins Buddy. "I almost majored in football once." (Ed. note: He almost did, too. At Wake Forest. He was a great half-back prospect and West Point wanted the young man a few years ago.)

The real reason why Buddy is at the Touchdown Club festival is to be with his pal, Bert Shepard. Do you remember Bert Shepard? He's a guy who should have been called to the speaker's stand and presented with all the cups that Lujack, Bernier, Conzelmann, Tatum, Gambino and the rest received. In my book he is the epitome of the sportsman.

He Could Hit Feller and Sain

Bert is tagging along with Buddy Lewis, but this isn't the sprightly Bert Shepard who, wearing a wooden leg, actually pitched and played first base in the major leagues. This Bert Shepard is fresh out of a hospital bed and he is emulating on a pair of crutches and that famous phony leg, which enabled him to pitch, cavort in the infield and run the bases in a little over 15 seconds, is missing.

"The docs cut me up a little more," grins Bert, who lost his leg and nearly his life while flying a fighter plane over Germany. "This time I got a good deal, I think. I'll throw these crutches away pretty soon and get myself another leg and I'll be winning ball games yet."

Nobody—except maybe Buddy Lewis—himself an Army pilot in the war, knows how many operations Bert Shepard has sustained on his leg. There have been at least a half a dozen and the stump keeps getting shorter, but at the Touchdown reception Bert is laughing and talking about the two hits he got off Bob Feller in a game during a 1946 barnstorming tour and how he came back the next day to not only pitch but to reach Feller and Sain of the Braves for hits.

You stand there and say to yourself, "He's my guy in sports."

When Feerick Hits the Peak

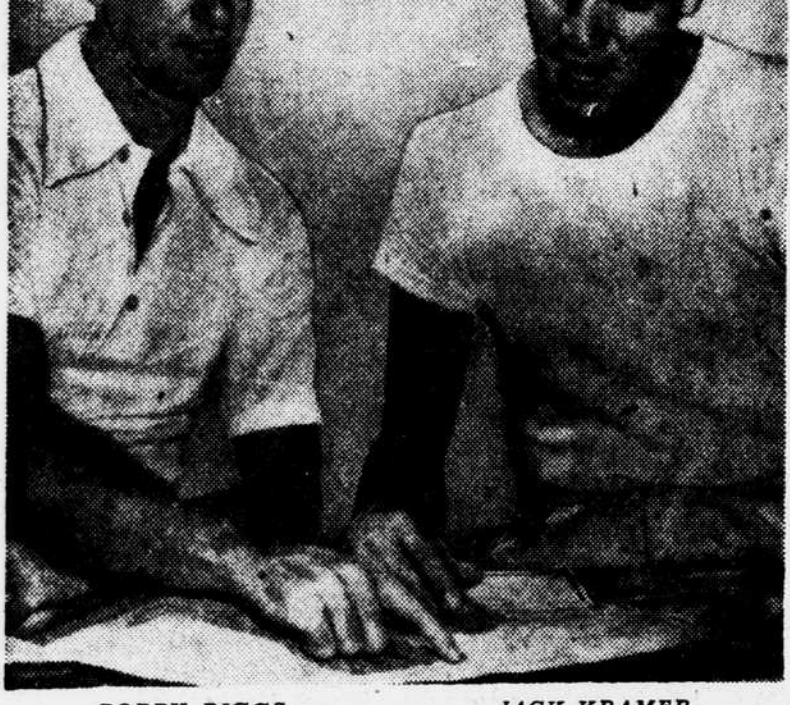
The potage monger and larded sirloin of beef chasseur and bombe panache Touchdown has come and gone, along with the oratory, but in bursts Coach Red Auerbach of the basketball caps, who have just licked the leading New York Knickerbockers at Uline Arena.

"Your club is coming on now," remarks a newspaperman, brightly. "What's the story?"

"My guys were wonderful tonight," enthuses Auerbach. "The story, or reason, I think is that we've got a wonderful clutch guy in Sonny Hertzberg. Also, Bob Feerick hit the peak tonight."

"And in basketball ball," concludes Auerbach, vainly looking for a left-over French-fried potato as the diners departed, "when Feerick is at his peak he represents the game at its best."

Record Crowd Expected to See Riggs-Kramer Duel Thursday



BOBBY RIGGS. JACK KRAMER.

The largest crowd ever to see a professional tennis match in Washington is expected at the meeting between Bobby Riggs, 1947 professional champion, and Jack Kramer, 1947 amateur titlewinner, at 8:30 p.m. Thursday in Uline Arena.

The advance sale has passed the \$5,000 mark. It was announced yesterday.

Riggs has won eight of the 10 matches to date while Kramer has won seven. The two rivals will meet in Baltimore tonight, at Richmond tomorrow and Chapel Hill, N. C. before coming to Washington Thursday.

Danny Pails, 1947 Australian champion and Davis Cup star, and Pancho Segura, colorful South American star, will open the evening with a two out of three set match.

J. Moscoe Garnett of Washington, who has officiated at Forest Hills during the championships, will be umpire for Thursday's main event. Capt. Edwin M. Becker, another well-known Washington tennis official, will umpire the double match to follow the singles. District tennis stars, under the supervision of Ghet Adair, will line the matches.

Joe Josephs Captures Charlotte Pin Tourney

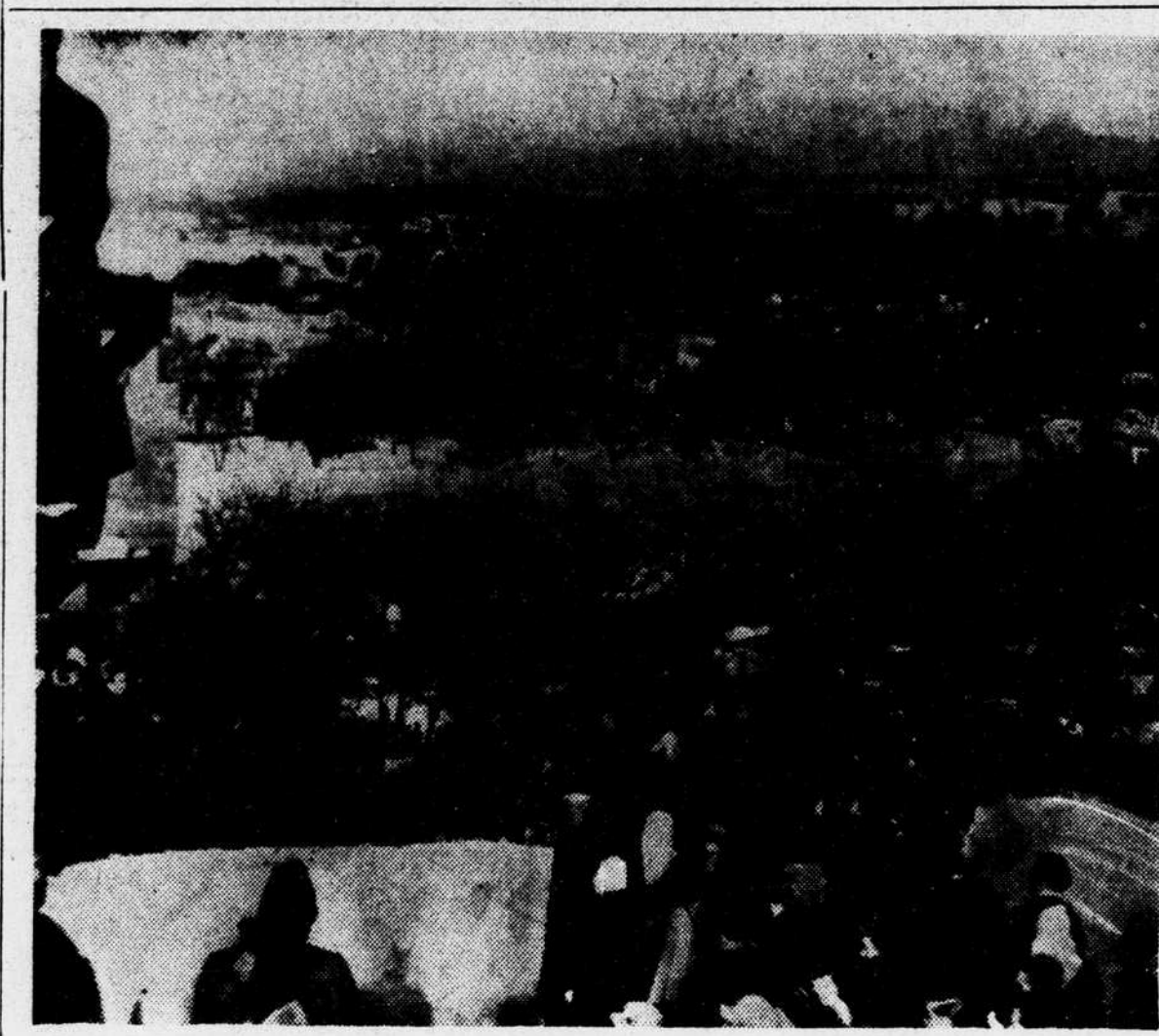
SPECIAL DISPATCH TO THE STAR
CHARLOTTE, N. C., Jan. 19.—Joe Josephs of Charlotte, one of the South's leading duckpin bowlers, won the first annual Charlotte open with a score of 767. Fred Best of Columbia, S. C., was second with 760 and O. W. Fincher, Charlotte, was third with 741.

Although Riggs had Kramer 15-40 and match point when the tide turned, he was unable to break through, and encountered his first loss in over a week.

After the feature battle, Kramer teamed with Pancho Segura to defeat Riggs and Danny Pails, 6-4, to take a 9-5 lead in the doubles series.

Segura beat Pails, 6-1, 6-2, in a preliminary singles.

Gilmer Signs Two-Year Contract With Redskins



188 FEET ON TWO FEET—Arne Ulland, Norway's distance-jumping champion, shown leaping 188 feet in his first attempt in the annual Norge Ski Club tournament at Cary, Ill., yesterday. He jumped 191 feet in his second effort to compile 151.10 points and capture the class A event. —AP Wirephoto.

Slow-Starting Caps Beginning to Bear Out Lapchick's Forecast

Joe Lapchick, former St. John's College of Brooklyn coach, who now pilots the New York Knickerbockers, told a group of sportswriters at the opening of the Basketball Association season in New York that the Washington Caps would be the team to beat, but it would take them a little while to get started.

Lapchick made the prediction after his Knicks had soundly thrumped the invading Washington club, 80-65.

"My team is in better shape right now," he said, "but the Caps will improve so much that I think the championship will be between them and the Chicago Stags. They're going to be the two teams to beat."

True to Lapchick's prediction, the Caps took time to get started. They dropped six of their next nine encounters before catching fire. Now they boast a record of 10 victories in their last 14 games, claim a respectable average of 560 and are in third place in the Western Division standings, only two games away from the front-running Stags and one game away from second-place St. Louis.

Max Zaslofsky scored 20 points last night to lead the Stags to an 80-65 victory.

Spill Kills Skier; Five Others Hurt

CHICAGO, Jan. 19.—James Henriksen, 34, of Eau Claire, Wis., member of the 1936 United States Olympic ski team, died early today in a Chicago hospital of injuries suffered while competing in the Norge Ski Club's 42d annual jumping tournament yesterday.

Henriksen fell in making his second leap of 179 feet in the class A division. He suffered a cerebral hemorrhage and was taken to the hospital unconscious.

Five other contestants were injured. Earl Minken of Ironwood, Mich., suffered internal injuries in a fall after turning over in the air during a leap and Peter Petersen of Rockford, Ill., suffered a broken arm in another mishap. Both still were hospitalized today.

MacMitchell to Try Iron Man Stunt in Races This Week

NEW YORK, Jan. 19.—Leslie MacMitchell, former champ mile back on the winning trail after a year's absence, will attempt an iron man stunt this week as the major indoor track season gets under way at full tilt.

MacMitchell, who came from behind to win the mile in the Metropolitan AAT track and field championships in 1947 over the flat surface of Brooklyn's 23d Regiment Armory Saturday night will run the mile in the Philadelphia Inquirer games Friday in Convention Hall and in the Boston K. of C. Games the following Saturday.

Two other meets are on tap for the week. Army will be host to 22 colleges Saturday at West Point in the fifth annual relays while the 104th Regiment Army will stage the Long Island K. of C. Games the same day.

MacMitchell, running for the New York Athletic Club, will compete against teammate Tommy Quinn, Bill Hulse of New York, Taver Perkins of the Illinois A. C., Gerry Karver of Penn State, Villanova's Brown Ross and Jack Milne of North Carolina in the Inquirer Games.

Quinn, Perkins and Gil Dodds, current king of the milers, will be among MacMitchell's opponents in the K. of C. event at Boston.

Loop Rule Cuts Mikula From W. & M. Squad

WILLIAMSBURG, Va., Jan. 19.—Tom Mikula, 190-pound blocking back on William and Mary's Southern Conference champion football team, today was ruled ineligible to compete further in intercollegiate athletics in the Southern Conference.

The announcement of the Southern Conference ruling was made by R. N. (Rube) McCray, director of athletics and head football coach at William and Mary.

Mikula, who has seen only three seasons of activity in a William and Mary football uniform, will be unable to participate a fourth year because of a technicality in the conference rule book.

The Johnstown, Pa., husky enrolled here in June, 1943, but his first season of athletic competition was the football season of 1944.

Elected captain of W. & M. for the 1945 campaign, Mikula departed for the armed forces before pigskin time rolled around and, therefore, did not play in 1945. He re-entered school in December, 1945, and returned to the grid game for the 1946 and 1947 seasons, gaining recognition as one of the top men in his position in the entire South.

However, the Southern Conference ruling that "participation in intercollegiate athletics shall be limited to one freshman and three varsity years over a period of five consecutive years counting from the date of first matriculation" is the regulation which caused Mikula to be ruled ineligible. Although Mikula failed to participate as a freshman, he has played three seasons on the varsity.

Cubs Buy Right Handers

CHICAGO, Jan. 19 (AP).—Bob Rush, 22-year-old, 6 foot 4 inch right-handed pitcher, has been purchased by the Chicago Cubs from Nashville of the Southern Association.

Star Alabama Passer Accepts 'Much Less' Than Dodgers' Offer

By Lewis F. Atchison

The Washington Redskins have signed Harry Gilmer, University of Alabama triple-threat star, to a two-year contract, club officials announced today. The price paid the player chosen above all others as the Tribe's bonus pick was not disclosed, but Gilmer said he accepted "a lot less money" than he was offered by the Brooklyn Dodgers of the rival All-America Conference.

Gilmer's signing silenced reports he had demanded as much as \$100,000 for a 5-year contract, reports he laughed off. He did not sign with Washington before, Gilmer added, because he had promised to listen to the Brooklyn offer before making any decision.

Wants to Play With T-Team. The 6-foot-170-pound triple-threat said he chose the Redskins because he wanted to play with a T-formation team, believing it would add to the length of his professional career. Gilmer said he was not discouraged at the prospect of playing second fiddle to Sammy Baugh and that he knew Baugh would see a lot of action next autumn. Baugh has said he expects to retire after another year.

"I think Baugh can help me," Gilmer said, "and maybe when he's ready to step down I'll be ready to take over."

Gilmer's signing also paved the way for the Redskins to sign Yodel, Baugh's understudy for the last two years. Yodel, who followed Roy Zimmerman and Frank Filchock in the familiar role of waiting for Sammy to retire, has expressed the hope that he will be traded to a team that will use him regularly. In Gilmer's case the prospect of taking over Baugh's role is much brighter because of Gilmer's age. The Alabama star will not be 22 until April, while Baugh will be 34 before another football season rolls around.

It was Gilmer's stellar performance in his first Sugar Bowl game, January 1, 1945, that had sports writers thinking up new superlatives. Duke noted on Alabama in that game, 29 to 26. The following year Gilmer sparked Alabama to a 34-10 triumph over Southern California in the Rose Bowl. In December, 1946, he was a member of the hand-picked South eleven that defeated the North, 20 to 13, in their annual game at Montgomery, Ala. Last January 1 Gilmer had one of the infrequent offdays of his collegiate career as Alabama was routed by Texas in the Sugar Bowl, 27 to 7.

Gilmer said the knowledge that the Redskins had picked him as their first choice did not disturb him and had no effect on his play in the Sugar Bowl game. He called it an "off day" and let it go at that.

May Be Used as Kicker. Coach Turk Edwards said that while Gilmer did not do the punting for Alabama last season he was a good kicker and might be used in another test between the best in Washington and the best in Baltimore. The Ramblers are playing Patterson Park, a team that cut a pretty wide swath through local ranks last month.

Patterson beat Eastern, 57-34; Anacostia, 48-37, and Coolidge, 44-28, and was up to Eastern to help even the score. Coach Bobby Hart's Ramblers are better than they were last month and should be able to give Patterson more of an argument. They might even win.

Hart's team is big and fast and has plenty of reserves. Such boys as Sal De Giorgi and Francis Wesley can make trouble for anybody and even if it wins tomorrow, Patterson Park won't have as easy a time as it did here.

Eastern's trip to Baltimore tomorrow is only part of a heavy and good schoolboy basketball program this week. Gonzaga particularly will be busy. The Eagles are at Roosevelt tomorrow afternoon, at College Park Wednesday night against Greenbelt and at Kensington against Devitt on Friday before taking on their traditional rival, St. John's, at the Army next Sunday.

Central, too, is busy. It is host to Devitt tomorrow, goes to Woodberry Forest on Wednesday and then runs into some Eastern trouble in a high series game at the Army Friday night.

The Gonzaga-Greenbelt III Wednesday night is part of an interesting double-header between District and Maryland teams, the other half of which has Bladensburg against Coolidge. College Park also

Gilmer to Appear On Radio Tonight

Harry Gilmer, Alabama back-field star who has signed a two-year contract with the Washington Redskins, will air his views about pro football tonight over Station WMAL at 6:15. Gilmer will be the guest of Sportscenter Jim Gibbons, who helps describe the Redskins games each season.

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Fire Destroys Grandstand

ALLENTOWN, Pa., Jan. 19 (AP).—A fire at Fairview Field, home of the Interstate League Allentown baseball Cardinals, destroyed the 700-seat grandstand today. The fire broke out in a watchman's room under the grandstand, firemen said.

Vosmik to Pilot Dayton

CLEVELAND, Jan. 19 (AP).—Joe Vosmik, who piloted the pennant winning Tucson, Ariz., cowboys last year, has been named manager of the Dayton, Ohio, baseball team of the new Class A Central League.

Beauty Queens Will Brighten Sandlot Baseball Tourneys

Prediction—In spite of assorted rumors that have been making the rounds, Curly Lambeau will start his 30th season as Green Bay Packers coach next fall. Curly has been on the job longer than any prominent coach in the football business, pro or college. . . . Max Winter, who pays Jim Pollard \$12,000 (plus a bonus and other inducements) for playing basketball for the Minneapolis Lakers, claims that Jim "does everything" Hank Luisetti did, only twice as good. . . . Middletown Charley Burley, who insists he took that job on a garbage truck because he thought the big cans is good conditioning work, says he'd like to take on Doc Williams for the benefit of the polio fund or anything else.

Cleaning the cuff — Maurice Bloch of Selma, Ala., one of the smarter guys in minor league baseball, is reported seriously ill in a Selma hospital. . . . One member of Auburn's wrestling team is Jack Frost, a 200-pound freshman from Norfolk, Va. . . . The weather man says that does not explain the heavy frost in Alabama.

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PRIZE PACKAGE—Harry Gilmer (left), Alabama passing star, and Coach Turk Edwards of the Redskins look over the two-year contract Gilmer signed today to play professional football with the Washington team. Gilmer seems pleased with the terms offered him. —Star Staff Photo.

Golf Pros Get Blank Checks (Money Later) as Result of Suit

RICHMOND, Calif., Jan. 19.—Good natured E. J. (Dutch) Harrison today had only a blank check—wholly blank, that is—to show for his smashing, 15-under-par victory in the \$10,000 Richmond Open golf tournament.

Similar blank checks also went to all of the other "money winners"—but Harrison and the others who qualified for prize cash had the PGA's assurance of the promised amount in greenbacks soon—probably at Phoenix, Ariz., this week end.

Harrison's share for his sensational 72-hole 273, including a course record 65—seven under par—in the opening round, will be \$2,000 when the PGA cashes those blank checks.

The unusual action was taken because three Negro golfers, all denied permission to compete, sued the PGA and the Richmond sponsors for \$215,000—including potential prize money. The PGA delayed payment in cash, it explained, to avoid the possibility of the \$10,000 prize total being tied up in litigation.

Most of the golfers headed for Phoenix and its \$10,000 Open and the PGA hinted very broadly the prizes would be paid across the State line.

Harrison, who is from Little Rock, maintained a dazzling pace that left his fellow pros and the leading amateurs straggling behind.

He overmatched the par 72 course, 6,488 yards long, throughout the divot derby, adding to his initial 65 rounds of 67, 70 and 71. When he dropped a two-footer for birdie 4 on the final hole yesterday, the sunny weather

er crowd around the green and on the slopes was estimated at more than 7,500.

The six-footer from the Ozarks boosted himself into third place among the money winners for the first three tournaments of the 1948 winter season, making his total \$2,566. In the preceding Bing Crosby event, he collected only \$16 and at Los Angeles, \$550.

Lloyd Mangrum of Los Angeles, who won only \$300 here, leads the money men with \$4,253. Ben Hogan of Hershey, Pa., who bypassed Richmond, is second with \$4,000.

Harrison's finishing drive gave him a two-stroke margin over Jimmy Demaret of Ojai, Calif., but the transplanted Texan made a great bid for top honors by firing a six-under 66 in the last round. Demaret ended up with 275.

Ed Furgol of Pontiac, Mich., started the final 18 in second place and finished in third position behind Demaret. Furgol shot par 72 and posted a total of 277.

A fine 67 finish gave Chandler Harper, Portsmouth, Va., fourth place with 278, worth \$800. At 279 were grouped Sam Snead, Hot Springs, Va.; Jim Milward, Northshore, Wis.; South Africa's Bobby Locke, Skip Alexander, Mid-Pines, N. C., and the low amateur, Doug Ford of New York. The pros pocketed \$52,550.

National Champion Lew Worsham picked up on the last round, the second straight tournament in which he failed to turn in a card. Worsham entered the last round with three straight 73s for a 219 total.

Eastern Quint Seeking Revenge In Baltimore; Schoolboys Busy

is the scene of another traditional game on Friday night, the first of two games this year between Blair and Beltsville. Montgomery County rivals who have come up with excellent teams.

St. John's, winner of seven out of eight games so far, goes up against Georgetown Prep tomorrow in its last bit of preparation for Gonzaga next Sunday. The Johnnies added to their string yesterday by tripping La Salle, 53-34, at Cumberland yesterday.

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