

MARCH 15, 1952

Shortly after their NIT semifinal win on March 13, head coach Ken Loeffler was informed that his Explorers did not receive one of the four at-large bids for East teams to the NCAA Tournament. Penn State (20-4) got one of those bids. So did Saint John's (22-5) and Duquesne (22-3), both whom La Salle had already beaten in the NIT, and Dayton (27-5), whom the Explorers were about to dismantle in the title game.

The Explorers (24-5) used an 8-1 run in the first quarter to move ahead by 16-10, and led by 38-30 at halftime. After Dayton cut its deficit to 40-38, Gola sparked a 10-0 run that would help establish an insurmountable 63-48 margin after three quarters. A couple of weeks later, La Salle would win once and lose twice in the U.S. Olympic Trials.

Gola (22 points, 13 rebounds, 4 assists) and Norm Grekin (15 points, 9 rebounds) were named co-MVPs of the tournament. Fred Iehle had 18 points and 9 rebounds, Buddy Donnelly added 11 points, 8 rebounds, 6 assists and Jackie Moore grabbed 15 boards.

DEC. 13, 1995

No. 2 Villanova became the highest-ranked Big 5 team to lose to a city series opponent when Temple held off the Wildcats, 62-56, before 12,030 at the Spectrum.

The Wildcats led by seven midway through the first half, but the Owls cut it to one by halftime, went ahead early in the second half and led by nine, 53-44, with 3:34 to go.

'Nova cut the lead to just 57-54 and had possession with a half-minute to go, but John Celestand lost the ball to Levon Alston and Lynard Stewart made two free throws to help seal it.

Stewart, Derrick Battie and Marc Jackson each had 12 points for the Owls (2-3), who shot just 3-for-17 from the arc.

Eric Eberz had 19 points to lead the Wildcats (7-1). Kittles shot 2-for-14 and finished with 10 points. The Wildcats shot 28.3 percent.

MARCH 20, 1971

As the day dawned in Raleigh, N.C., all the Penn Quakers had going for them was an undefeated season (28-0) and victories in 61 of their previous 65 games, including three straight against Villanova, the only team between them and the Eastern Regional championship.

But what unfurled was — quite simply — the most shocking score in Big 5 history.

Villanova 90, Penn 47.

The Wildcats (26-6) led 9-1 early, then 13-3, 43-22 at intermission . . . and then they opened the second half by scoring the first 16 points, making it 59-22 and leaving only the final numbers to be determined. It marked the 15th time in 1970-71 that they scored 90 or more.

Howard Porter shot 16-for-24 en route to 35 points and 15 rebounds. Hank Siemiontkowski was 10-for-15 and finished 20 points and seven rebounds. The Wildcats wound up shooting 37-for-60, a 61.7 percentage.

Meanwhile, not one Penn player was able to reach double digits.

The Wildcats would go on to defeat Western Kentucky in a double-overtime semifinal, 92-89, and lose to Sidney Wicks and UCLA in the championship game.

DEC. 2, 1987

Tim Legler's 25-footer at the buzzer found the front of the Jadwin Gym rim, bounded high into the air . . . and came back down right smack in the middle of the cylinder, putting a 63-62 dagger into a Princeton team that had led by 16 points in the second half.

"This is so hard to believe," said coach Pete Carril. "I just can't believe it. I thought [the last shot] missed. I thought it came back out. I thought that bleep of a bleep was coming back out."

The Tigers (1-1) had committed one turnover en route to a 30-18 lead at halftime. La Salle helped expand that margin by shooting only 7-for-25. That lead was expanded to 40-24 with 16 minutes remaining when the Explorers (3-0) started their

comeback behind Lionel Simmons (30 points, 15 rebounds, 9-for-10 shooting in the second half).

The game was tied, 60-60, with 8 seconds left when the Explorers' Rich Tarr — mistaking the score — fouled Tim Neff in the backcourt. Neff made two free throws to give Princeton a 62-60 lead that was to be erased by Legler's bouncing ball.

DEC. 31, 2001

Dan Dickau drilled a 25-footer with 3.6 seconds left to lift Gonzaga to an 83-80 New Year's Eve victory over Saint Joseph's at the Fieldhouse.

The Hawks (6-4) were playing with Marvin O'Connor (8 points), hampered by a bruised left big toe. They had gone ahead, 80-78, on two free throws by Bill Phillips (career-high 26 points) with 1:27 remaining.

Dickau answered with a jumper from the baseline to tie it. O'Connor and Jameer Nelson (13 points, 7 assists, 1 turnover) missed jumpers before Dickau's game-winner gave the No. 22 Bulldogs (12-2) their ninth straight win. It was their first trip to the East Coast since 1993.

The game featured as many lead changes as turnovers (19 each) and 15 ties, 11 of them after intermission.

MARCH 7, 1981

Villanova's first season in the Big East ended not with a whimper but a bang . . . a three-overtime conference tournament championship game bang against Syracuse at the Carrier Dome.

After ending regulation tied at 62, the Wildcats forged a 70-64 lead with 2:18 to go in the first OT, but Eddie Moss sandwiched buckets around a Dan Schayes basket and they headed to the second overtime.

There, the Orangemen led, 78-74, with 1:06 to go before jumpers by Tom Sinkiewicz and Alex Bradley forced a third extra stanza.

Tournament MVP Leo Rautins' tip-in after 54 minutes and 57 seconds, and then a technical foul on the wildcats for calling timeout when they had none left, lifted Syracuse to an 83-80 victory and the title.

That didn't guarantee an automatic NCAA bid, as it was just the conference's second year. Both the Orangemen (18-11) and the Wildcats (19-10) did receive at-large bids. In the tournament, Villanova beat Houston before being eliminated by Virginia.

Bradley finished with 21 points and John Pinone had 19 for VU. Syracuse's Tony Bruin had 22 points on 11-for-13 shooting before fouling out in the first overtime.

DEC. 19, 1973

A lot can happen on one play . . .

With the score tied, 82-82, Penn's Ed Stefanski launched a 12-footer from just outside the lane . . . which was just before he ran into La Salle's Billy Taylor . . . which was about the same time that Joe Bryant blocked Stefanski's shot.

The end result — after officials Norb Cadden and Tom McCormick conferred — was goaltending on Bryant (for a 84-82 Penn lead) and an offensive foul on Stefanski after the shot. That sent Taylor to the Explorers' foul line to shoot a one-and-one with 2 seconds left. He missed, and Ron Haigler's rebounds secured the victory for the Quakers (4-1), who had trailed by nine with 5:33 remaining.

John Beecroft led the winners with 21 points. Stefanski added 15.

JAN. 16, 1971

Few players in Big 5 history have answered the call in a big game as well as Kenny Durrett did when fifth-ranked Western Kentucky invaded the Palestra.

Durrett had 45 points and grabbed 14 rebounds while impressing Hilltopper coach John Oldham, who said, "The only thing he did wrong was not get the opening tapoff. He did everything else right."

Durrett's scoring total broke the Big 5 Palestra record of 44, which he shared with Villanova's Bill Melchionni. But he was hardly the only weapon for the Explorers (10-1), who raced out to leads of 24-6 and 28-8 and were never really threatened.

Bobby Fields nearly had a triple-double (20 points, 9 rebounds, 8 assists) and Jimmy Crawford added 13 points, nine rebounds and five assists for La Salle, which won 15 of its first 16 games that season.

With Ron Kennedy fronting him and Durrett lurking behind, Western Kentucky all-American seven-footer Jim McDaniels had to battle to finish with 28 points and 20 rebounds, but the Hilltoppers (12-2) were never any threat once the Explorers got rolling.

(PUBLISHED MARCH 23, 2006)

We'd be remiss to run these highlights as part of the 50th-year anniversary without remembering some of the Big 5 people we have lost over the past 18 months: Jim Boyle and Andy Dougherty, longtime fixtures at Saint Joseph's; Palestra official scorer Bob McKee; and public-address announcer John McAdams, whose voice resonates through our hearts to this day.

And, 1 year ago this morning, Bob Vetrone Sr. passed away at the age of 79.

Few people enjoyed this time of year as much as he did. Not only was college basketball, his passion, rising to its fitting conclusion, but baseball — his second passion — was just around the corner.

He knew more sports trivia than some would consider normal, but he also had his eye on the future — specifically the immediate future.

That thought crossed my mind in January as I watched two of his granddaughters — in their first-ever visit to the Palestra — streamers in hand, smiles on faces, eagerly awaiting a basket that would allow them the enjoyment of a tradition I shared with him many times and seemingly not so long ago.

The look in their eyes as the red and blue streamers cascaded onto the court helped reiterate a lesson he passed on to me many times: The truly important memories are not the ones from the most bygone era nor the ones that recount the most impressive feats.

No, the truly important memories are simply the ones we appreciate as we make them.

JAN. 6, 1988

Temple was 8-0 and No. 6 in the country; Penn was 1-7, outscored by 213 points. The result — Temple 84, Penn 50 — was not unexpected.

It took just 3 minutes, 25 seconds for the Owls to forge a 15-0 lead, one that would reach 24-0 before a foul-line jumper by Jeff Riebel (11 points) ended that portion of the carnage 7:58 in. Temple answered that bucket with a 9-0 run. The Owls would have one turnover in a first half in which its starters shot 16-of-22 (72.7 percent). “They’re the best we’ve faced so far,” said Penn’s Tyrone Pitts. The Quakers already had played Villanova, Indiana, UCLA and Georgia Tech.

Mike Vreeswyk led Temple with 20 points. Mark Macon’s first Palestra appearance resulted in 19 points (9-for-14 shooting), six rebounds and a rock-a-bye breakway dunk during the opening salvo.

The Quakers managed an 11-0 second-half run themselves to close the margin to 69-45, but could get no closer.

MARCH 7, 1992-FEB. 3, 1996

Snapshots from Penn’s 48-game Ivy League winning streak:

March 7, 1992: The first step is a small one, 92-79, at Cornell in the finale of a season that has the Quakers finishing second (9-5). It marks the Quakers’ first win in Ithaca in seven games.

March 9, 1993: Princeton’s Rick Hielscher taps in his own miss after the buzzer and Penn holds on for No. 15, 52-51, at Jadwin Gym. Matt Maloney has 17 for the Quakers, who record their third (and sixth all-time) perfect Ivy season.

Feb. 19, 1994: Tim Krug blocks Tarik Campbell’s drive from behind as time ran out and visiting Penn escapes Harvard, 66-65, for No. 24. Maloney’s 16 led the Quakers.

Jan. 6, 1995: The Quakers thump Harvard, 90-63, to tie their own mark (30, 1969-72). Eric Moore's 20 points lead Penn.

Jan 7, 1995: Penn sets Ivy League record (31) with 85-70 win at Dartmouth. Scott Kegler (7-for-9 three-pointers) scores career-high 26.

Feb. 9, 1996: Ira Bowman missed the front end of a one-and-one with three seconds to play and Dartmouth holds on, 54-53, to end the streak at 48, two short of the NCAA mark of consecutive conference wins (UCLA, Pac-10). Penn would finish 12-2 in the Ivy, also losing to Princeton.

FEB. 4, 1991

Struggling Saint Joseph's (22-54 over the previous 2 1/2 seasons) brought the old-time fire and brimstone back to Hawk Hill with a 66-60 upset victory over Temple.

The Hawks (8-12) led, 25-21, after a sluggish first half for both teams before Bernard Blunt (20 points, 14 rebounds, 4 assists, 3 steals) steered them to a 46-34 lead with 10 minutes to go.

The Owls (14-6) closed the gap thanks to a flurry of three-pointers by Mark Macon (21 points) and Vic Carstarphen, and trailed by just four before seven free throws by Matt Guokas and Rap Curry down the the stretch sealed it for SJU. Macon hit only 7 of 23 shots.

Craig Amos scored 19 points and Curry added 12 points, 7 rebounds, 6 assists for the Hawks. Donald Hodge had 13 points and 8 rebounds for the Owls, who would qualify for the NCAAs and reach the Elite Eight.

JAN. 29, 1984

Dwayne McClain, shaking off the doldrums of an early junior-season slump, shot 9-for-10 and scored the game-winner on a flying tip-in with three seconds left to help lift Villanova to a 58-54 nationally televised victory over Arkansas at the Palestra.

With the score tied at 54, McClain (20 points) came flying across the lane to tap in a missed 14-footer by Frank Dobbs. McClain closed the scoring with two free throws after Arkansas turned the ball over trying to inbound.

The Wildcats (9-8), who notched their third straight win and sixth victory in seven games, shot 60 percent. They began the season winning only three of their first seven games. Arkansas (15-4), ranked 16th by AP and 11th by UPI entering the game, shot 56 percent.

“This is a great place to basketball,” Arkansas coach Eddie Sutton said following the game. “It’s a lot like our place, where the crowd is on top of you. That’s the way the college game was meant to be played. The crowd was so active. It is one of the last great places to play college basketball. It’s been around for so many years. The old building can tell a lot of stories, I’m sure.”

MARCH 22, 1991

Temple scored more points (19) in the 5-minute overtime than it did in the 20-minute second half (17) to pull away from third-seeded Oklahoma State, 72-63, in an East Region semifinal at the Meadowlands.

The Cowboys’ Corey Williams (17 points) had drained a top-of-the-key jump shot with 1.5 seconds remaining in regulation that was dangerously close to being a winning three-pointer.

Senior Mark Macon, who missed a short hook shot at the buzzer that would have won it, extended his Owls career by scoring eight of his 26 points in the extra period before fouling out with 1:19 left and 10th-seeded Temple (24-9) ahead by eight.

Mik Kilgore produced 17 points, five rebounds and four assists for the Owls. Mark Strickland had only six points and six rebounds, but blocked eight shots.

Two days later, Temple would fall in the regional final to North Carolina, 75-72.

JAN. 23, 1980

Whenever you see a scoreboard clock counting down the final minute in tenths of a second, remember this triple-overtime classic:

Trailing Penn, 48-46, with a second to go in regulation, Saint Joseph's Bryan Warrick threw a court-length inbounds pass to Boo Williams, who couldn't quite get the handle on it. With the clock showing 0:00, but before the buzzer could sound, Penn's George Noon was called for a foul by referee Jody Sylvester, sending Williams, a 60 percent foul-shooter, to the free-throw line with the game in his hands.

But, first, a Penn timeout. Then another Penn timeout. Then a Williams swish. Another Penn timeout . . . ("I couldn't have taken another one," Williams said later) . . . And finally, Swish!

St. Joe's Luke Griffin missed an 18-footer at the end of a 2-2 first overtime, but made a 20-footer with 33 seconds left in the second overtime to force the third. His two free throws 54 minutes and 44 seconds into the seemingly endless game gave the Hawks (10-6) a 60-56 victory.

Vincent Ross had 13 points and 13 rebounds for the Quakers (6-7).

Williams (27 points, 11 rebounds) finished 11-for-11 from the line.

MARCH 20, 1954

It was the first nationally televised championship game and La Salle gave the nation quite a second half to see, cruising by Bradley, 92-76, in Kansas City, Mo.

The Explorers, who trailed by seven early in the second quarter, were ahead by four in the third quarter when Tom Gola and Frank O'Malley were called for their fourth personal foul and Frank Blatcher had to be revived after taking a nasty spill going up for a rebound.

When play resumed, Charlie Singley found Frank O'Hara for a pair of fastbreak baskets and the Explorers were on their way to a 16-3 spurt that would put the game — and the title — away.

Singley and Blatcher each scored 23 points and Gola added 19 as La Salle (26-4) finished its season by winning 19 of its final 20 games.

A crowd of 10,000 people greeted the champions at the airport when they returned home.

APRIL 1, 1985

It's been called "The Perfect Game," but it is far from perfect when you commit 17 turnovers.

But an astute game plan executed well for 40 minutes and great shooting led Villanova to a 66-64 national-championship game victory over heavily favored Georgetown in the last NCAA title game played without a shot clock.

The Wildcats led, 29-28, at the half and extended that to 38-32 before Georgetown responded.

After going ahead, 54-53, at the 4:50 mark, the Hoyas got the ball back and inexplicably decided to hold the ball. An errant pass gave it back to the Wildcats, and after a very deliberate possession, Harold Jensen came open on the right wing and drilled a jumper with 2:36 left to put the Wildcats (25-10) ahead to stay, 55-54. It was the eighth — and final — lead change of the second half.

From there, 'Nova would make 11 of 14 foul shots and keep the Hoyas (35-3) at bay.

Dwayne McClain (17 points) and Ed Pinckney (16 points, 6 rebounds, 5 assists) led the Wildcats, who shot 78.6 percent for the game and 9-for-10 in the second half.

MARCH 14 & 16, 1938

Temple stomped Oklahoma A&M, 56-44, and then whizzed by Colorado, 60-36, to win the first national collegiate basketball championship of any kind. Both games were played at Madison Square Garden.

Eddie Boyle had 15 points, Howard Black scored 12 and Meyer Bloom added 11 in the semifinal victory over the Cowboys, which saw the Owls jump to an 8-0 lead they would not relinquish.

The Buffaloes and Byron “Whizzer” White, better known as Colorado’s All-America halfback, were no match in the final either, falling behind 6-0 and never getting closer than five the rest of the way. Don Shields led that barrage with 16 points. Black and Bloom each added 14.

Temple (23-2), the Eastern Collegiate Conference titlist, won its final 14 games and during the course of the season defeated seven teams that would be conference champions.

JAN. 16, 1966

Though he would play another season and a half (averaging 10.9 points as a senior), Steve Donches never would be able to top the 30th and 31st points of his Saint Joseph’s varsity career.

All the 6-foot junior did in the final moments of the first Sunday afternoon game in Palestra history — a game he was in only because Billy Oakes had fouled out at the 1:57 mark — was drill a 29-foot desperation bomb that found net and saved the fourth-ranked Hawks (12-2) from an upset loss at the hands of Villanova with a 71-69 victory.

Tom Duff had 17 points and 15 rebounds for the Hawks. Oakes and Matt Guokas added 15.

Frank Gaidjunas and Billy Melchionni each scored 16 for Villanova.

The Wildcats (5-8) held a 61-52 lead before St. Joe’s pulled close and was able to allow Donches to make his two big plays, the first being to deflect the the ball from Villanova’s Kevin Traynor to Guokas with the score tied at 69. The Hawks called timeout with 38 seconds left . . .

Just enough time for Donches to shoot himself into history.

PENN COMEBACKS

Two really big second-half comebacks by Penn . . . 9 years apart:

Feb. 3, 1989: Jerry Simon's put-back of Walt Frazier's missed shot with 7 seconds remaining gave Penn a 78-77 victory over Dartmouth after trailing by 49-29 at halftime and by 14 (59-45) with 12:09 remaining.

Frazier scored 14 of his 22 points in the second half to spark the comeback by the Quakers (7-8, 3-0 Ivy). Hassan Duncombe added 19 points and 13 rebounds. Penn wound up finishing third in the Ivy, at 9-5.

Feb. 13, 1998: The Quakers used a 31-4 spurt — covering the end of regulation and the start of overtime — to beat Yale, 76-69. For coach Fran Dunphy it was déjà vu: He had been an assistant in that 1989 win.

The Quakers (13-9, 6-1 Ivy) had trailed by 46-24 with 17:35 remaining and by 57-37 with 10:21 left.

Michael Jordan scored 11 of his 22 points in the extra session. Matt Langel had 19 points and Paul Romanczuk scored 16 as Penn registered its sixth straight win and its 11th in its last 12 games.

MARCH 12, 1987

On the heels of Gary McLain's drug-usage revelations in Sports Illustrated earlier in the week, La Salle freshman Lionel Simmons hit Villanova where it really hurt — on the court.

Simmons (21 points) hit a driving 12-foot jumper in the lane as time expired to offset a late Wildcat rally and lift the Explorers to a heart-stopping, 86-84, NIT first-round victory at the Pavilion.

The teams had combined to make their first 10 shots of the game. The Explorers (17-12) led by 12 (78-66) with 5:37 remaining before Villanova rallied (using steals by Kenny Wilson and Gary Massey) and tied the game at 84 on a Doug West baseline jumper with 53 seconds to go.

La Salle turned the ball over at the 19-second mark before Ron Barnes blocked a shot by Mark Plansky and VU lost the ball out of bounds, giving La Salle possession with 6 seconds left.

The inbounds pass came to Simmons, who made his way down the court in time to work his last-second magic.

Larry Koretz scored 18 of his 23 points in the first half and Rich Tarr had 14 points, 7 rebounds and 10 assists for La Salle (17-12), which would advance to the NIT final before losing to Southern Mississippi.

Harold Jensen scored 26 points in his last game for the Wildcats (15-16), who suffered their first losing season since Rollie Massimino's second year on the job (1974-75).

FEB. 13, 1979

Tom Sienkiewicz sank a pile of free throws — and teammate Ron Cowan sank his head into the backboard — as Villanova became the first 0-3 city series team to defeat a 3-0 team by outlasting Penn, 89-80.

Sienkiewicz, a 6-foot-2-inch sophomore, made 21 of 23 free throws — including all four ones-and-ones he attempted in the final 57 seconds — and shot 9-for-14 from the floor to score 39 points. He connected on 13 straight free throws in the second half.

Cowan, a 6-11 senior substitute who finally got some significant minutes, scored eight points. But his more dramatic contribution took place when he blocked a driving shot by Quaker freshman Angelo Reynolds as the first-half buzzer sounded, in the process ramming his head on an unprotected part of the backboard. He received three stitches above his right eye and returned to play in the final two minutes.

Villanova (12-11) jumped out to a 19-3 lead in the first 5:21. The Quakers (15-4), led by Tony Price's 27 points, got as close as four in the final minute. But Sienkiewicz nailed the door shut each time, extending Villanova's win streak against Penn to four straight.

The Wildcats would win seven in a row in the series before losing to the Quakers in 1982.

DEC. 15, 1973

There are more words in this sentence than there were points scored by Temple and Tennessee in the championship game of the Volunteer Classic in Knoxville.

The Owls (4-2) held the ball for 11 1/2 consecutive minutes in the first half and nearly 14 minutes in the second half, but Tennessee, which went ahead to stay on an Ernie Grunfeld field goal late in the first half, converted four second-half free throws to win, 11-6.

“Tennessee had a great team,” former Temple coach Don Casey told Basketball Digest recently. “We thought this was going to give us the best chance to win. So we took two guys [Rick Trudeau and John Kneib] and put them out by the 28-foot line, had them standing about five feet apart, and we had them pass the ball back and forth . . .”

Tennessee president Ed Boling ordered his Volunteers to play a 5-minute scrimmage following the game to soothe the cheated fans, who threw debris at the final buzzer. That caused a technical foul that Joe Anderson converted, ending Tennessee’s 37-minute, 8-0 run.

Even after the game, the Vols (4-1) had a stall of their own up their sleeve: The \$10,000 check Temple was to receive for playing in the tournament didn’t arrive on North Broad Street for over a year.

JAN. 4, 1990

As if the 51 points he had scored to that point weren’t enough, Loyola Marymount’s Bo Kimble tossed in a leaning, 35-foot, one-handed prayer from the far, far left wing to nip a determined Saint Joseph’s team, 99-96, and send the Hawks to their eighth straight defeat.

Kimble, the city’s former Player of the Year from Dobbins, scored 27 of the Lions’ final 31 points en route to the 54-point total that remains the most ever scored against a Big 5 school. He shot 17-for-33, 5-for-8 from the arc and 15-for-16 from the line in breaking Oscar Robertson’s mark (48) for a Hawks’ opponent, set

in 1959. In 33 minutes of playing time, Kimble also found time for nine rebounds and six steals.

Richard Stewart, whose 32 points led the Hawks (1-8), was draped all over Kimble on the game-winner. Loyola improved to 7-3.

“I was trying to keep him as far away from the basket as possible,” Stewart said. “. . . When I looked up and saw it go in, I just died.”

Two nights later, Kimble, who had games of 53 and 51 points already that season, was limited to 32 points in a 121-116 speedway win over La Salle (Lionel Simmons 34) at the Civic Center.

DEC. 30, 1952

Ernie Beck had 47 points, breaking his own Penn record of 45 set 10 months earlier, to lead the Quakers to a runaway, 97-80 victory over Duke in the consolation bracket of the Dixie Classic in Raleigh, N.C.

Beck, who scored 25 after intermission, made a free throw early in the first half to put Penn ahead to stay, 12-11.

Barton Leach and Thomas Holt each added 14 for the Quakers.

Duke (4-5) was led by Bernie Janicki (28 points).

Beck, who finished with 100 points in the three-game tournament, would have 28 the next night as Penn (6-2) topped North Carolina, 70-62, for fifth place. The Quakers wound up the season at 22-5.

FEB. 26, 1983

They trotted out not one but two overtime games for this Spectrum doubleheader.

In his last collegiate game in Philadelphia, John Pinone (15 points, 10 rebounds) hit an 18-foot baseline jumper as time expired to lift Villanova (21-4) to a 71-70 victory over St. John's and secure at least a tie for the Big East regular season title.

The Wildcats, who trailed by six late in the second half and by four in the extra period, got 18 points and 9 assists from Stewart Granger and 16 points, 10 rebounds and 5 blocked shots from Ed Pinckney.

In the nightcap, La Salle's Steve Black showed that he had recovered from a broken foot by scoring 40 points (still a city series record). But Temple's Terence Stansbury (33 points) made two free throws with 5 seconds left in regulation and dribbled away most of overtime before hitting four more foul shots as the Owls (10-14) escaped with an 84-79 victory in a seesaw battle.

DEC. 10, 1966

Johnny Jones scored 33 points and Frank Gillen (10 points, 8 assists) hit a driving layup with seven seconds left to erase a valiant Marquette comeback and lift Villanova to a 80-78 victory at the Palestra on a night when the officiating was the big story.

Marquette coach Al McGuire was none too happy with the stripes, starting with the first 8 minutes (when three Warrior starters each picked up four fouls) all the way to Gillen's winning basket (which some at courtside thought came after a travel or an offensive foul).

The Palestra's reputation and its effect on visiting teams and referees had been making its way around the country.

"There are 55 coaches in the country that feel the same way," McGuire said. "They just don't have the guts to say it. . . . I've had it. I learned . . . You won't get me here again in a million years."

Jones scored eight points as the Wildcats (2-1) opened the second half with a 12-3 run to put them up 51-39. They led 77-67 with 4:40 to go before Marquette rallied to tie the game at 78 with 46 seconds left.

Coach John Clark, whose St. Francis (Pa.) team lost to Saint Joseph's, 83-71, in the opener, had the same view as McGuire. "The officials we had tonight were an embarrassment to your basketball."

FEB. 10, 1988

John Chaney had it right after his top-ranked Owls had outlasted Rollie Massimino's 20th-ranked Villanova Wildcats, 98-86, at McGonigle Hall. "Rollie and I could have stood on Broad Street and ate peanuts. This was a game for the players," Chaney said.

None moreso than Howie Evans, who unfurled a performance that included a school-record 20 assists, plus 17 points, six rebounds and one turnover. That served as a cherry on top of a box score sundae:

Villanova's Kenny Wilson notching 25 points and nine assists . . . Temple freshman Mark Macon pouring in 31 points on 14-for-20 shooting . . . The Wildcats' Doug West making 7 of 13 three-pointers and scoring 20 of his 27 points in the first half . . . Owls sniper Mike Vreeswyk (5-for-7 from the arc) tallying 16 of 19 after intermission . . . VU's Mark Plansky with a healthy triple-single (eight points, seven rebounds, nine assists) . . . TU's Tim Perry and his 14 points, six rebounds and seven blocked shots . . .

There were 24 lead changes and four ties in 32 minutes before a Vreeswyk three put the Owls (19-1) ahead to stay, 69-67, with about 8 minutes left. Villanova (12-5) hung close until Temple converted all 14 of its free throws in the final two minutes.

SAINT JOSEPH'S vs. DePAUL (1981-84)

The Hawks and Blue Demons hadn't met since 1968 and just once since 1943, but over the span of 1,061 days, they played four doozies:

March 14, 1981: DePaul coach Ray Meyer held the ball. Skip Dillard missed a free throw. Bryan Warrick dribbled. Lonnie McFarlan passed. John Smith laid it in . . . and everybody east of Chicago celebrated the Hawks' (24-7) NCAA second-round elimination of the No. 1 Blue Demons (27-2) by a 49-48 score.

Feb. 3, 1982: Terry Cummings scores on a follow with what appears to be no time left to lift No. 4 DePaul (19-1) to a 46-44 overtime victory. The visiting Hawks (16-4) had led, 40-35, with 3:18 to go in regulation.

Jan. 31, 1983: Wayne Williams' 16-footer at the buzzer kicked off the rim and DePaul (12-6) again erased a second-half five-point deficit (46-41 with 9:12 left). Bob Lojewski's 18 points led the Hawks (10-7).

Feb. 7, 1984: Although some conferences (including the Atlantic 10) were playing league games with a shot clock, this Palestra intersectional tilt had none, so Jim Boyle unleashed the Four-To-Score. Geoff Arnold and Wayne Williams ran it to perfection and the Hawks overcame an early deficit to hand No. 2 DePaul (17-1) its first loss, 58-45. Tony Costner had 18 points and Bob Lojewski added 13 for SJU (15-4).

DEC. 28, 2003

Bright lights . . . big city . . . and two extra periods.

Jeff Schiffner buried a 12-foot jumper with 0.8 seconds left in the second overtime to lead Penn to a 63-61 victory over St. John's in the semifinal of the Holiday Festival at New York's Madison Square Garden.

Penn had already had two chances to win it, but Tim Begley's NBA-length three-pointer was long at the regulation buzzer and Eril Heil missed a trey at the end of the first overtime. So, as the end of the second extra five-minute session rolled, the Quakers (4-4) gave it to the guy who was 5-for-20 to that point. St. John's fell to 2-6.

Schiffner delivered with the last of his 17 points.

The next day, the Quakers would squeeze past two-time defending tournament champion Manhattan, 49-47.

FEB. 13, 1971

What was to be the third spectacular meeting of Villanova's Howard Porter and La Salle's Ken Durrett was sullied when Durrett suffered a knee injury in the first half of a victory over Canisius 3 days earlier. He sat and watched from the bench.

But Bobby Fields (30 points, 12 rebounds), Ron Kennedy (17 points, 17 rebounds) and Jim Crawford (11 points, 11 rebounds, five assists) helped will the Explorers (17-2) to one of the most improbable victories in Big 5 history, 73-69.

Porter had 26 points and 15 rebounds to lead the Wildcats (18-6), but Clarence Smith was held to six points, primarily by La Salle senior Bobby Walsh. The games also was decided at the foul line, where the Explorers hit 21 of 26 chances. The Wildcats sank only nine of 22 free throws.

Walsh, a bench warmer who rarely saw more than 10 minutes of playing time, started in Durrett's stead and went the full 40. "I waited 3 years for this," he said afterward. "Playing one game like this in the Big 5 is better than starting 3 years for a small college . . . Tonight made all the sacrifice and sitting worth it."

FEB. 20, 2000

The old one-two helped Temple take care of this No. 1.

Lynn Greer scored all 15 of his points on five first-half three-pointers and then Mark Karcher scored 22 of his 28 after intermission as visiting Temple forged a 77-69 comeback victory over top-ranked Cincinnati. It was the first time the Owls have ever beaten a top-ranked team on the road. Temple came into the game ranked No. 15.

The Owls (20-4) trailed by nine midway through the second half, but battled back and went ahead, 62-61, on a Karcher three-pointer with 3 1/2 minutes left in the game.

Quincy Wadley (16 points) then beat the shot clock on a 17-footer and followed that with a three at the 2:16 mark. The Bearcats (24-2), winners of 16 straight and their last 42 at home, could get no closer than four as Temple's free-throw shooting kept them at arm's length.

Pepe Sanchez, who was not expected to play after injuring his ankle 3 days prior at Dayton, started and had seven points and five assists and no second-half turnovers.

JAN. 18, 1975

Joe Bryant's short baseline jumper with 6 seconds left lifted La Salle to a 67-65 victory, snapping Penn's record 12-game city series winning streak . . . with a little help from a malfunctioning shot clock.

The Big 5 coaches had agreed to have a 30-second shot clock in the city series games, but the clock broke 11:37 into the game, and Penn's Chuck Daly and La Salle's Paul Westhead decided to play on without it.

Which is exactly what Westhead did when, after Penn's Ed Stefanski missed the first half of a one-and-one with 2:11 to go and the game tied, he held the ball for the final game-winning shot.

Bryant led 11th-ranked La Salle (14-1) with 25 points and 11 rebounds.

Ron Haigler (who had fouled out with 2:57 left) led the Quakers (9-4) with 20 points and 11 rebounds and John Engles (who left after suffering a knee injury at the 11:24 mark) added 12 points and 14 boards. Engles was the team's second-best scorer and rebounder.

The Explorers would finish 22-7, losing to Syracuse in overtime in the NCAA Tournament's first round

JAN. 29, 1955

Villanova trudged down to Raleigh and shrugged off a magnificent performance by North Carolina State's Ron Shavlik to record an eye-popping 107-96 victory over the third-ranked Wolfpack.

Shavlick went off for 49 points and 35 rebounds, but Allen Griffith (23 points, 12 rebounds), Bob Schafer (21 points) and Jack Devine (20) led six players in double figures for the Wildcats (11-4). The Knicks drafted Shavlik with the fourth pick of the 1956 draft, but he had no more than a cup of coffee in the NBA. Shavlik played eight games over two seasons.

Villanova also had given the Wolfpack their first loss of the season, 91-78, on New Year's Day. This time, the Wildcats turned a 51-49 halftime deficit into a 69-60 lead with 13 minutes left. N.C. State (16-3) would get no closer than four after that.

JAN. 17, 1970

Before he set up practice at the Spectrum, Julius Erving made a Philadelphia house call as a collegian . . . specifically a Big House Call.

Erving, a sophomore averaging 23.6 points and 20.5 rebounds, led an underachieving Massachusetts (5-3) team into the Palestra to face a Penn squad that was off to an 11-1 start.

He had 21 points in the first half as UMass took a 38-35 lead (after 11 ties), but was held (mostly by Corky Calhoun) to one field goal after intermission and the Quakers used a couple of nifty layups by Steve Bilsky to pull away to a 75-65 victory.

That victory equaled the best start for a Penn team since the 1942-43 team also won 12 of its first 13. In fact, the victory came amid an 18-game winning streak that ended with a loss to Niagara in the first round of the NCAA Tournament.

Erving (“He gets off the ground pretty good,” said Calhoun) finished with 25 points on 9-for-18 shooting (7-for-8 from the line) and 11 rebounds. Teammate John Betancourt came off the bench to score 12 points in six minutes to give the Redmen their final lead, 59-58, before Bilsky and Bob Morse (21 points each) hoisted Penn to victory.

JAN. 19, 1988

There were 26 NBA scouts on hand to evaluate — among others — Marist’s 7-foot-4 Rik Smits, who would take on Drexel in the nightcap of a Palestra doubleheader.

The first game — a nice, little city series matchup featuring Saint Joseph’s and La Salle — was rolling along nicely early in the second half, when during a timeout . . . well, the feathers and other things flew.

It was then that a number of La Salle’s male cheerleaders rushed to center court and tried to carry off St. Joe’s student Frank Simone . . . who just happened to be dressed as the Hawk, SJU’s mascot, at the time. Before they could fly away with him, Hawk cheerleaders came to his aid, followed closely by the St. Joe’s team and

head coach Jim Boyle. Center Rodney Blake actually dragged the mascot out of the middle of the melee and then shielded him from further trouble.

The 7,000-plus in the stands (as well as the scouts) stayed in their seats and order was restored long enough for the Hawks to secure a 73-63 victory.

Smits, overcoming a sore ankle, shot 12-for-15 and scored 27, but Drexel's 5-11 Michael Anderson (22 of his 29 points after intermission, 8 rebounds, 8 assists) led the Dragons to a 76-67 victory.

MARCH 20, 1969

Trailing Tennessee by five with 6 1/2 minutes to play in an NIT semifinal, Temple head coach Harry Litwack decided to unleash the Owls' zone press. Two minutes later, they were ahead en route to a 63-58 win.

Joe Cromer (15 points) scored five quick points off turnovers and a John Baum steal led to a bank shot by Bill Strunk (5 points, 4 assists) that put Temple ahead to stay, 51-49, with 4:38 to go.

It would be 5:34 before the Vols would score another field goal, by which time the ironmen Owls (who went with the five starters for the duration) were making their free throws to clinch a shot against Boston College in the championship game. The Owls also won that, 89-76.

Eddie Mast led Temple (21-8) with 24 points and 12 rebounds, Baum added 10 points and 11 boards and Tony Brocchi added nine points and seven assists.

DEC. 13, 1994

Jerome Allen, shooting 2-for-10 to that point, threw in a running, no-trajectory one-hander from 10 feet with 4.4 seconds to go as Penn shrugged off a late charge and topped No. 25 Michigan, 62-60.

The visiting Quakers (4-1) had exploded out to a 28-7 lead in the first 10 minutes and still had a 49-30 bulge with 17 minutes remaining before the Wolverines (4-4) closed down the stretch, tying the game when Jimmy King rattled one in off the glass with 15.3 seconds to go.

After Allen's heroics, Michigan's Maurice Taylor missed an open 12-footer at the buzzer.

Matt Maloney and Eric Moore (10-for-10 from the line) each scored 18 points to lead the Quakers. Teammate Shawn Trice, a Detroit native, was scoreless but had 11 rebounds, two assists, two steals and a block. Penn would finish 22-6 and lose in the NCAA Tournament to Alabama.

FEB. 4, 1995

Loyola of Chicago had come into the Civic Center, made 11 of their first 14 shots and led La Salle, 26-15, when Kareem Townes decided to lift the Explorers to a 92-71 victory and make a little history.

Townes scored 24 points in the final 9:57 of the first half, lifting his total to 30 and La Salle to a 46-38 lead at intermission. He wasn't done.

He helped increase that margin in the second half, and a lean-in jumper at the 8:12 mark put the Explorers (11-8) up 17 and Townes just four points shy of Michael Brooks' La Salle and Big 5 scoring record of 51 set in 1979. Townes added a pair of free throws at the 3:15 mark and then was fouled taking a three-pointer 45 seconds later.

He calmly sank the first free throw, turned and pumped his fist after depositing the second and was mobbed by teammates as he headed to the bench — and the record books — after nailing the third.

FEB. 23, 1963

When you hear the term "triple-double," it normally brings to mind the names Magic Johnson or Larry Bird. Not Jimmy Boyle.

But that's just what the Saint Joseph's forward nearly pulled off in a 66-49 victory over La Salle that secured the title of the Middle Atlantic Conference (university division) and an NCAA berth.

In addition to helping to hold Explorers star Frank Corace in check (10 points), Boyle scored 12 points, grabbed 10 rebounds and had nine assists. (One report, in fact, credited him with 10 assists.)

Tom Wynne scored 20 points and Jimmy Lynam added 16 as the Hawks (20-3, 8-0 MAC) notched their 10th straight victory.

MARCH 15 & 24, 1985

Basketball players will make thousands of layups in their careers. Here are two that will probably stick out in Harold Jensen's memory:

In a tight NCAA first-round game with Dayton on the Flyers' home floor, Harold Pressley's steal gave Villanova the ball back with 2:40 left and the score tied at 49. The Wildcats went into their four-corners offense, setting up for the final shot. But with just over a minute to go, Dayton clumsily switched from a trap defense to a man-to-man. Jensen saw an opening, quickly knifed through the lane — seemingly unnoticed — and dropped in the game-winner.

Nine days later, Villanova was starting to pull away from North Carolina in a regional final in Birmingham, Ala. An errant Tar Heel pass bounced toward the sideline near midcourt, when Jensen swooped by and glided in for an uncontested bucket. That put Villanova up, 47-36, and pretty much punched its Final Four ticket to Lexington, Ky., where the 'Cats would defeat Memphis State and Georgetown.

JAN. 6, 1968

Bobby Knight and Mike Krzyzewski have had a few nice wins in Philadelphia, such as Indiana's two national championship victories and Duke's exciting overtime victory over Kentucky in a 1992 regional final.

But their first win here was as a Palestra opening act to a 103-71 drubbing La Salle was to put on Saint Joseph's.

Knight's third Army team, with Guard K, as he might have been known then, came into the Palestra and outwrestled Temple, 61-55.

Steve Hunt, a 6-7 junior center, made his first seven shots of the second half en route to 26 points to lead the Cadets (9-3). Clarence Brookins had 22 points and John Baum added 15 for Temple (8-3).

Krzyzewski fouled out with just under seven minutes remaining, having failed to shoot from the floor. He made both his foul shots and added six rebounds and four assists.

With that victory, Knight raised his coaching record to 40-19. He is now 865-343, a total of 14 wins behind Dean Smith, the all-time leader.

MARCH 7, 1970

When Calvin Murphy dropped 52 points on La Salle in a Niagara victory at the Palestra in December 1967, he was not yet done dealing heartache out to the Big 5.

Murphy had 35 points, eight assists and five rebounds as the Eagles won, 79-69, in an NCAA first-round game at Princeton.

Penn (25-2) opened up a 29-20 lead with 6:35 left in the first half before its bubble burst. Niagara closed to 35-34 at intermission and forced ties at 37 and 39 before Murphy grabbed a loose ball and went in for a layup to put the Eagles ahead to stay, negating a second-round matchup pitting the Quakers against Villanova. The Wildcats won that game 98-73, then lost to St. Bonaventure in a game at Columbia, S.C.

And as if that weren't enough damage to the Philly psyche, Murphy's third point of the night raised his career total to 2,463 and moved him into eighth place on the all-time Division I scoring list . . . one point ahead of La Salle's Tom Gola.

FEB. 17, 1981

Villanova and Syracuse were treating a Palestra crowd to a game typical of the early days of the Big East — rough, physical and extremely emotional. Both teams felt they were getting the unjust brunt of lousy officiating and were none too quiet about it.

Center Danny Schayes, who would finish with 24 points and 14 rebounds, was doing his best to keep Syracuse close when he fouled out on a questionable offensive foul with the score tied at 70 and 3:34 remaining. From there, the Wildcats were able to pull away, 88-78.

Only then did the fireworks start.

As a Syracuse assistant coach Brendan Malone was addressing referee Ed Batogowski under the East basket following the game, former Sixers coach Dolph Schayes — Danny's father — came down out of stands and made a beeline for the conversation. He was quickly escorted out of harm's way and into the nearby locker room being used by La Salle, who was about to face Penn in the doubleheader's nightcap.

Schayes calmed down and left the arena without further incident.

Alex Bradley, still recuperating from a fractured thumb, scored eight of his 10 points down the stretch for the Wildcats (15-8, 7-5), who were led by sophomores Stewart Granger (24 points on 8-for-9 shooting, five assists) and John Pinone (18 points).

Syracuse's revenge would come less than a month later in the Big East title game, a 83-80 triple-overtime victory at the Carrier Dome.

JAN. 5, 1985

There were 3 seconds left in the game, but it was far from over. In fact, it was 48 hours far from over.

Trailing Saint Joseph's, 50-49, with 3 seconds remaining and inbound under its own basket, West Virginia's Renardo Brown tossed it downcourt to the foul line, where Lester Rowe caught it and quickly flipped to Vernon Odom, who shot from 18 feet out. Rowe then went right to the basket and, after Odom's shot grazed the right side of the rim, stuffed the ball into the hoop in one motion — either just before or just after the final buzzer.

Referee Dutch Shample signaled that the basket was good, but the other officials — Stan Rote and Ernie Cage — told Shample that the Rowe shot might have been

after the buzzer. An announcement was made that the game was not official and the referees went to their locker room to discuss it.

Seven minutes later, after the Mountaineers had left the Palestra to catch a plane, the officials decided to nullify the winning hoop and thus give St. Joe's the victory. Two days later, Atlantic 10 commissioner Charles Theokas, citing an NCAA rule, restored the West Virginia win. It evened West Virginia's record at 5-5. St. Joe's fell to 4-6.

“When the referee signaled Rowe's field goal was successful and the officials subsequently left the floor, the game was over,” he said. “Therefore, West Virginia was declared the winner.”

DEC. 10, 1955

Temple's zone defense befuddled Kentucky into 7-for-49 shooting (14 percent) in the first half as the Owls pulled away to a 73-61 victory, dealing the Wildcats just their second loss in 141 home games.

Temple, which shot 43 percent in the first half to lead by 41-27, increased its margin to 51-33 with under 17 minutes to go.

The Wildcats (1-1), ranked behind only defending champion San Francisco in the preseason, used their fastbreak to close to 60-57, but could get no closer. Hal Lear's free throw and a Guy Rodgers two-pointer iced the victory.

Rodgers scored 24 and Hal Lear added 19 for the Owls (3-0). They won their first 13 games (before losing to Muhlenberg) and finished 27-4, losing to Iowa in the national semifinals.

DEC. 22, 1962

John Wideman rolled in for a layup with 18 seconds left and Jeff Sturm added two free throws at :07 to lift Penn (5-0) to a 78-77 triple-overtime victory over Saint Joseph's. Jimmy Lynam, who had dribbled away almost all of the first overtime, had given the Hawks (5-2) a 75-74 lead by hitting one of two free throws with 35 seconds remaining.

Saint Joseph's, which trailed by nine twice in the second half and by 67-60 down the stretch, tied the game with an Ed Walsh shot from the baseline with 4 seconds to go in regulation. Bob Purdy's 60-footer at the buzzer would have won it for Penn, but it bounced off the rim.

The Hawks' John Tiller had a tap go in and out at the end of a scoreless first overtime. Bob Purdy's follow for the Quakers at 1:21 forged a tie at 72, which is how the second extra frame ended.

There was a scuffle between the teams early in the second half. Six players, three from each side, fouled out. St. Joe's was already minus shooting star Billy Hoy, who had suffered a broken ankle a week earlier.

MARCH 11, 1979

With 33 seconds remaining, Booney Salters converted a fast-break layup and free throw after a long pass from Tony Price to give the Quakers a four-point lead in what would become a 72-71 victory over third-ranked North Carolina in a NCAA second-round game at Raleigh, N.C.

Price would finish with 25 points (on 12-for-18 shooting), nine rebounds and six assists. Tim Smith had 16 points and seven rebounds and Matt White added 10 points and eight rebounds.

Two free throws by Kenny Hall and another by Salter in the final 17 seconds clinched the win for Penn (23-5). It would win two more NCAA games before losing to Michigan State in the semifinals.

Al Wood (20 points) and Mike O'Koren (15) led the Tar Heels (23-6).

St. John's then capped off the "Black Sunday" doubleheader by beating sixth-ranked Duke, 80-78.

FEB. 21, 1969

With no NCAA tournament on the horizon, La Salle's great 1968-69 team had one last major hurdle left — Detroit and its spectacular forward, Spencer Haywood.

Fatty Taylor made both ends of a one-and-one with 2:47 remaining to break a tie and the Explorers (22-1) held off Detroit, 92-90, despite 41 points and 32 rebounds from Haywood.

La Salle's Larry Cannon managed a triple-double (32 points, 12 rebounds and 11 assists). The Explorers jumped to a 12-3 lead and went on an 11-0 run late in the second half to extend their lead to 86-74.

But the Titans kept fighting back. La Salle needed the contributions of Kenny Durrett (19 points, 13 rebounds), Bernie Williams (29 points) and Taylor (16 points, eight rebounds, six assists) to win its school-record 14th straight. It ended the season by beating West Chester.

MARCH 1, 1958

Bob Alden scored on a drive down the lane with 1:25 remaining to put La Salle ahead to stay in an exciting 89-86 win over Morehead State.

Morehead's Dave Keleher scored 20 of his game-high 26 points in the first half. When teammate Steve Hamilton was forced to the bench late in the first half after a wayward elbow split open his scalp, fellow senior Bernie Shimfessel came off the bench to register 16 points and nine rebounds. Hamilton took three stitches to close the wound, then returned and scored 14 of his 20 points. He also had 14 rebounds.

Joey Heyer led the Explorers (14-9) with 20 points, seven rebounds and four assists. Al Ferner and Charlie Eltringham each added 17.

There were 12 ties and 16 lead changes.

JAN. 17, 2004

Just about everything went right for the Saint Joseph's Hawks in 2003-04, and that was especially true for Delonte West in this game.

Facing their first halftime deficit of the season (six points) as well as their largest deficit (nine), the visiting Hawks (15-0) used the expert marksmanship of West (12-for-12 from the floor, 6-for-6 from the line) to battle back and top Xavier, 81-73.

He made long jumpers, pull-ups, drives and follows. In addition, he completed a nearly impossible three-point play, connecting on a hanging in-the-lane jumper after being knocked off balance and losing the ball for a split second. West got fouled and made the free throw.

He finished with 33 points, six rebounds, five assists and three steals.

JAN. 9, 2000

Malik Allen's 4-foot baseline jumper teetered on the edge of the rim before slipping in with eight-tenths of a second left and Villanova escaped a furious rally by Michael Jordan and the Penn Quakers, 67-65.

The Wildcats (7-4) led 61-51 with 3:55 remaining before Jordan (17 points, including three free throws with no time left in the first half) scored all of the Quakers' points during an 11-4 run that cut their deficit to 65-62.

After Villanova's Brian Lynch (20 points), an 80 percent free-throw shooter, missed the front end of a one-and-one with 27.4 seconds left, Matt Langel (19 points) swished a three-pointer for Penn (3-6) to tie the game. That set up Allen's heroics before 8,722 at the Palestra.

DEC. 2, 1985

Before they transferred across the city of Los Angeles to play in the run-and-gun attack for Paul Westhead at Loyola Marymount, Dobbins Tech products Bo Kimble and Hank Gathers matriculated at Southern Cal. They made an appearance at the Palestra as freshmen with the Trojans, who were upended by Penn, 63-54.

The Quakers trailed by eight twice in the second half and by 46-40 with 6:07 to go when a Chris Elzey 18-foot jumper in the midst of a 10-0 spurt put them ahead to stay, 47-46, with 4:20 to go. Freshman John Stovall made two key steals during the run that overtook USC (1-3).

Penn (2-0) made 16 of 17 free throws in the last 5 minutes.

Elzey led Penn with 20 points. Kimble, who fouled out, and Gathers each had four points in limited minutes for the Trojans.

FEB. 23, 1974

You have to hand it to Saint Joseph's and Villanova, who can put on a show even when their game is less than stellar.

The theatrics for this matchup started earlier in the week when a group of Wildcat fans stole the St. Joe's drum.

Hawks center Kevin Furey then showed up for the pre-game meal with a shaved head. Teammates Gene Prybella and Lou Peltzer then also trimmed down to the skin, and the three of them convinced (physically, by some reports) Mike Moody to join them in shunning locks.

The schools' fans got into the action early too, with a rumble in the Palestra corridors before tipoff. And they kept it up with a constant stream of litter thrown during the physical contest.

Saint Joseph's (17-10) made 14 of 17 free throws in the final 7:20 and held off the Wildcats (6-17), 59-53.

Ron Righter (8-8 from the line) led the Hawks with 18 points. Chubby Cox had 24 points, 13 rebounds for 'Nova.

JAN. 24, 1979

The Louie and Bowie show made its way to the Palestra, complete with flashing lights, loud noises, a fine supporting cast and a late-arriving opening act.

Before Louis Orr and Roosevelt Bowie could help Syracuse extend its Palestra winning streak to 10 games with a 78-76 overtime victory against Temple, La Salle was to face Vermont in the 7 p.m. opener. The only trouble was that the Catamounts were having difficulty getting to Philadelphia due to inclement weather.

That game didn't start until 7:35 and the Catamounts hung tough before Michael Brooks (29 points, 19 rebounds) took over in the second half and led the Explorers to a 100-88 win.

Then Syracuse (15-2) outlasted the Owls (14-2), mostly due to OT foul shots by Hal Cohen (24 points) and Marty Headd (16), but not before lightning struck a PRISM truck outside the Palestra in the second half, knocking the game off the air for about 3 minutes.

DEC. 27, 1965

Brigham Young entered the 1965 Quaker City Tournament undefeated (6-0) and was running-and-gunning its way to 106.0 points per game. It had beaten Saint Joseph's the previous week in Provo, Utah, by a 103-83 score. The Cougars' first-round opponent was a 2-4 La Salle team that was seemingly no match for the pyrotechnics.

The Explorers took control of the tempo just enough for a 71-69 win.

There were 11 ties and 12 lead changes before the deliberate Explorers went ahead to stay, 58-57, on a jumper by Hubie Marshall (21 points) with just under 8 minutes to go. The Cougars would get no closer than two points down the stretch.

Dave "Lefty" Ervin had 20 points, eight rebounds and five assists for the Explorers, who would fall to Temple (10-0) in an overtime semifinal.

NOV. 28, 1989

Vince Curran had Temple's throat in his hands. Unfortunately, the 6-foot-7 Penn forward also had 7-foot, 230-pound Donald Hodge in his face.

All Curran could do was throw up a 17-foot, double-clutch prayer — which sailed wide right — and the Owls (ranked 16th in the AP preseason) opened their season with a 55-54 escape at the Palestra.

Macon shot 8-for-17 and scored 21 for the Owls, who went without a field goal for the final 4:48.

Jerry Simon had 19 to lead the Quakers, who also had a chance to go ahead with 15 seconds left when Paul McMahan (15 points) missed an uncontested layup. That rebound went out of bounds off a Temple player to set up the final sequence.

DEC. 11, 1954

Down 62-45 with 11:34 to go, Villanova used a 16-0 run and a red-hot Bob Schafer (37 points) to top St. Francis (Pa.), 76-71.

Maurice Stokes had 19 points, 26 rebounds (24 in the first half) and four assists for the Red Flash, but was relegated to the bench when he picked up his fourth foul with 11 minutes to go. By the time he re-entered, the Wildcats had made a game of it and Schafer's offense and Jack Devine's defense proved to be the difference.

Schafer, 13-for-32 from the floor and 11-for-13 from the line, put Villanova (3-0) ahead to stay, 69-68, with two free throws at the 2:48 mark.

MARCH 4, 1978

La Salle's Darryl Gladden — with Temple's Tim Claxton in his face — nailed a 27-footer from the left side with 2 seconds remaining to lift the Explorers to a 73-72 victory in the championship game of the East Coast Conference tournament at Easton, Pa.

La Salle, which trailed almost the entire second half, had scored five points in 34 seconds to take a 71-70 lead before Rick Reed made an 18-footer to put the Owls up by one with 10 seconds left.

Jim Wolkiewicz (19 points on 7-for-9 shooting from the floor) and Mo Connolly (17 points, six rebounds and the assist on the game-winner) led the Explorers (18-11), who won despite early foul trouble for Michael Brooks (seven points, one rebounds). The win qualified the Explorers for the NCAA tourney, where they lost in the first round to Villanova.

Claxton led Temple (24-4) with 25 points, 11 rebounds, three assists.

FEB. 6, 1990

Penn's Hassan Duncombe nudged Princeton's Kit Mueller under the basket just enough to make room to deposit a two-hand stick-back of a Paul Chambers missed free throw, and Penn (8-10) pulled off victory No. 600 in its illustrious history, 51-50. Princeton fell to 13-5.

The Quakers, who held a 23-11 lead early, found themselves trailing 50-49 in the final seconds when Chambers raced upcourt following a missed free throw by George Leftwich. Chambers was about to throw up a shot from 20 feet out on the right wing when the Tigers' Matt Lapin was called for a foul. Chambers, a 50 percent foul shooter who was 4-for-6 in the game to that point, was sent to the line for a one-and-one.

Chambers' shot twirled around the rim and off the front, where Duncombe — and history — were waiting.

DEC. 14, 1957

Wilt Chamberlain, making what would be his only Palestra appearance as a collegian, had seven points as Kansas opened the second half with an 8-0 run and turned a 26-23 deficit to Saint Joseph's into a five-point lead the Jayhawks (5-0) would not relinquish.

Chamberlain shot 11-for-15 from the floor and 9-for-15 from the line en route to 31 points, which was just under his 32.2 average. He also had 22 rebounds and five blocked shots in the 66-54 win before a sellout crowd of 9,036.

St. Joe's (1-3) was led by Bobby McNeill (14 points, six rebounds, four assists) and Al Cooke (12 points, all in the second half).

JAN. 11, 1986

Harold Pressley recorded the first triple-double in Big East history, complementing 19 points and 15 rebounds with 10 blocked shots, to help Villanova eek out a 78-77 double-overtime victory at Providence.

Pressley, who also had four assists, knocked away a layup by Billy Donovan at the regulation buzzer and did the same to a layup by Alan Roth with 2 seconds left in the first overtime.

Kenny Wilson, who had scored nine of his 13 points in the first overtime, made a pair of free throws with 19 seconds left in the second to lift the Cats (10-7).

MARCH 3, 1951

Temple's Bill Mlkvy used the final game of his junior season to rack up 73 points in a 99-69 victory over Wilkes College in Wilkes-Barre, Pa. That set the record for most points scored in a game between two college teams, breaking the mark of 66 set two weeks earlier by Washington & Lee's Jay Hanlon.

Mlkvy, who shot 32-for-69 from the floor and 9-for-12 from the line, also set the collegiate mark for scoring average (29.3). With a pre-game average of 27.4, and 27 points by intermission, he was already assured of surpassing Ernie Calverley (Rhode Island State, 26.8, 1943-44) before his 46-point second half. Temple finished the season at 12-13.

DEC. 30, 1969

To most of today's Philadelphia sports fan, he's the head men's basketball coach at Penn. But Fran Dunphy also could play a little, as he proved by being named the MVP of the 1969 Quaker City Tournament, which included collegiate superstars Ken Durrett, Howard Porter and Columbia's Jim McMillian. It was played at the Spectrum.

Dunphy shot 9-for-11 — nailing eight straight at one point — in the 89-74 title game victory over Columbia, and put the Explorers ahead to stay on a free throw with 10 minutes to go.

For the tourney, Dunphy shot 25-for-44 from the floor and 13-for-14 from the line en route to 63 points. He also had 17 rebounds and 11 assists in La Salle's three double-digit victories.

MARCH 25, 1961

The Final Four did not always used to be "one and done." For many years there were national (and regional) third-place games to be contested. So, following a 95-69 thrashing by Ohio State in the national semifinals the day before, Saint Joseph's had to come back a day later and play one more against Utah.

Make that 1 1/2 more — a regulation and four overtimes.

The Hawks held a 56-44 lead early in the second half, but Billy McGill (34 points) led the Utes back. Shortly after St. Joe's center Vince Kempton fouled out with 6 1/2 minutes left, Utah took a 78-77 lead with 5:24 to go. The teams would be tied four more times in regulation, the last at 89-89.

The Hawks' Billy Hoy opened the first overtime by draining a 15-footer right off the tip — into the Utah basket. Despite that setback and a four-point deficit, the Hawks forced a second OT, tied at 97. Two free throws by Jack Egan (42 points) tied the game at 101 in the final minute of the second extra period, and Utah flicked the ball away to negate a last-second shot by the Hawks at the end of the third overtime (112-112).

The fourth overtime started with an Egan field goal and two free throws. Then Jimmy Lynam (31 points, 13-of-14 on free throws) added seven points and dribbled away the clock. Finally, the Hawks (26-5) could go home, with third place and a 127-120 victory.

FEB. 12, 1949

When the basketball team at Willow Grove Naval Air Station had to be disbanded due to personnel transfers, the Naval Air Material Center picked up a game with Villanova. It did not go well.

The Wildcats' Paul Arizin set a still-standing city collegiate record of 85 points in a 117-25 win. That Division I mark stood nationally until February 1954, when Furman's Frank Selvy scored 100 vs. Newberry.

Arizin had 31 points in the first half, during which Villanova jumped out to a 17-0 lead en route to a 58-15 bulge at intermission.

Despite double- and triple-teaming in the second half, Arizin recorded 54 of the Wildcats' 58 points, taking all but one of their field-goal attempts.

He finished 35-for-63 from the floor and 15-for-21 from the line.

JAN. 29, 1989

Mark Macon was stripping the ball from Notre Dame players all over the court, but the Owls' offense disappeared down the stretch and visiting Temple lost, 64-60. It was Temple's first-ever visit to Notre Dame.

Macon snatched a still-standing Big 5 record of 11 steals, but shot just 5-for-19 en route to 14 points.

The Owls (9-7) used a 6-0 run to post a 57-53 lead on a three-pointer by Mike Vreeswyk (17 points) with 3:37 remaining, but that was to be their only field goal in the final 5:12.

Keith Robinson (10 points, 11 rebounds) and Tim Singleton (11 points in the last 15 minutes, 7 assists) led the Irish (10-3).

DEC. 5, 1981

Penn held Stanford scoreless for the final 4:49, outscoring the Cardinal 14-0 to overcome a six-point deficit and capture the inaugural Stanford Invitational with a 71-63 victory.

The Cardinal eased to a nine-point halftime lead by making 23 of 26 first-half foul shots, and led 58-51 (with 8:55 to go) and 63-57 before Paul Little (who scored 14 of his 16 points after intermission) led the Quakers' charge.

Little's 12-foot jumper with 2:30 left put Penn ahead for good, 65-63. David Lardner added 14 points as the Quakers opened the season with their third consecutive win. Nine straight losses would follow, but the Quakers would then win 14 straight en route to the Ivy League title.

JAN. 11, 1958

Villanova stormed back from a 63-45 deficit with 7 minutes, 30 seconds left to force one overtime . . . Then the Wildcats' George Emma scored on a layup with one second on the clock to force a second overtime . . . And La Salle's Tom

Garberina had a putback as the clock struck :05 and the teams went to a third extra period . . .

At which time the Explorers pulled away, going ahead for good on a layup by Bob Alden (13 points, 17 rebounds) en route to a 111-105 victory. Bill Katheder scored 26 points to lead La Salle (9-2) in its fifth overtime game of the young season. The Explorers would wind up going overtime with Penn and Saint Joseph's that season, too.

Tom Brennan had 29 points and 13 rebounds for Villanova (4-5), despite fouling out with three minutes to go in regulation.

MARCH 4, 1978

As though winning its first conference championship ever weren't enough, longtime independent Villanova had even more to celebrate when it held off West Virginia, 63-59, in the final of the Eastern Eight title game at Pittsburgh.

Battling problems to his right Achilles' and left knee, senior Keith Herron had 14 points to pass Bob Schafer (2,094) and become the Wildcats' all-time scoring leader. (Kerry Kittles since has broken that mark.)

It was freshman Alex Bradley who led VU to the title, scoring 19 in the championship and 54 in the tournament's three games to be named MVP. The Wildcats then won two NCAA games before losing to Duke.

MARCH 3, 2002

When "That was as good as it gets," is uttered by the losing coach, you know you've had some ballgame.

That's what Saint Joseph's coach Phil Martelli said after Lynn Greer nailed a baseline jumper from 15 feet — as well as the subsequent foul shot — with 1.2 seconds showing to lift Temple to an 87-84 double-overtime victory at the Palestra.

That shot had followed a three-pointer by the Hawks' Bill Phillips that tied the game with 5.4 seconds remaining in the first overtime . . . which was after Greer's first heroics, a trey to tie it with three seconds remaining in overtime.

All of which followed Temple's 21-6 run to open the second half, which was needed because St. Joe's had forged a 41-25 lead at intermission.

DEC. 15, 1979

Exclamation points usually come at the end of a sentence. Michael Brooks stamped his at the beginning of his senior season.

La Salle's explosive 6-7 forward set a then-school record by scoring 51 in a 108-106 triple-overtime loss to No. 18 Brigham Young in the championship game of the Cougar Classic in Provo, Utah.

Brooks, who scored 28 consecutive points at one point in the second half, shot 24-for-36 from the floor, 3-for-6 from the line and found time to dish five assists and grab 14 rebounds (his 25th consecutive double-digit game off the boards).

And if it wasn't for teammate Kurt Kanaskie hitting a follow 12-foot jumper at the buzzer in regulation, Brooks would have finished with just 41 points.

DEC. 17, 1957

"Saxenmeyer stole the ball" just doesn't have the same ring as "Havlicek stole the ball," but for the Penn Quakers, it music to their City Series ears.

Having gone 0-4 in the newly formed Big 5 each of the first two seasons, Penn opened the third annual round-robin with a tight game against La Salle. The Quakers found themselves trailing, 57-55, with 15 seconds left, with Explorers' Tom Garberina inbounding at halfcourt.

That's when Jack Sexenmeyer snatched the inbounds pass out of a scramble at midcourt and raced in for a tying layup to force overtime.

Saxenmeyer then added five points in the overtime, including a made free throw (after he had missed his first six attempts of the game) for point No. 67, ultimately the game-winner in a 67-66 victory.

DEC. 2, 1987

Rodney Blake recorded 18 points and a still-standing city school record of 12 blocked shots, but Saint Joseph's fell to visiting Cleveland State, 77-72.

Trailing 53-52, freshmen Richard Stewart and Marlon Miller sparked a 13-0 run that put the Hawks ahead, 65-53. But SJU began to turn the ball over and Frenchy Tomlin hit a three-pointer with 2:53 to go to put Vikings ahead to stay.

CSU All-America candidate Ken "Mouse" McFadden, suffering from a sore rotator cuff in his left shoulder, scored 14 points in the first half, but played just 3 1/2 scoreless minutes after intermission.

MARCH 30, 1994

Kerry Kittles scored 16 of his 18 points in the final 15 minutes and Jonathan Haynes (19 points, nine assists) nailed a three-pointer with 3:19 left to put Villanova ahead for good as the seniorless Wildcats captured the NIT championship with a 80-73 comeback victory over Vanderbilt at Madison Square Garden.

Villanova (20-12), which trailed by 17 with 42 seconds remaining the first half, shot 61.3 percent after intermission for second-year head coach Steve Lappas.

The 'Cats were 8-19 in Lappas' first year.

FEB. 23, 1989

Check out the box score lines that La Salle's Lionel Simmons and Florida State's George McCloud put up in the Explorers' scintillating 101-100 victory at the Palestra:

Simmons: 12-21 FG, 2-2 3FG, 10-12 FT, 36 Pts., 10 Reb., 5 Ast., 4 BS, 1 Stl.

McCloud: 11-22 FG, 10-17 3FG, 4-4 FT, 36 Pts., 7 Reb., 6 Ast., 2 Stl.

La Salle opened a 12-0 lead, had another 12-1 run after the Seminoles closed to within two points, and got 22 first-half points from Simmons in easing to a 50-33 lead at intermission.

McCloud, who scored 25 points in the second half, brought FSU back and could have tied the game with a three-pointer he launched with :05 left, but it fell short and was laid in by Theron Mayes at the buzzer.

JAN. 4, 1956

It wasn't that Bill Lynch rang up 16 points and 21 rebounds in Saint Joseph's 69-56 victory over La Salle that sketches this game in the historic archives.

Nor was it that the Hawks exploded out of intermission, extending a one-point halftime lead to as much as 22 before cruising home in the nighthcap of a doubleheader that opened with Villanova's 60-52 victory over what was then West Chester State Teachers College.

More so, the 2,710 in attendance were the first lucky fans to get a glimpse of an icon almost as iconic as the Big 5 itself:

The Saint Joseph's Hawk.

DEC. 11, 1982

Anthony Arnolie proved that height and experience can mean nothing when you're shooting free throws.

The 5-11 sophomore reserve guard, shooting 60 percent from the line to that point, drilled all 10 of his attempts in the final 2 minutes, 29 seconds as Penn held off No. 10 Villanova, 84-80, in a city series game at the Palestra.

Paul Little (23 points) led the Quakers, who ended a seven-game losing streak to the Wildcats.

JAN. 11, 1975

Having been an assistant at Penn, Notre Dame coach Digger Phelps knew the in-and-outs of Philadelphia collegiate basketball.

So when sophomore Adrian Dantley was having his way with Villanova in the second half of what would become a 125-90 Irish victory, he asked the members of press row, “Shall I take him out or leave him in?”

With 11 minutes still to go, Phelps took him out, Dantley having burned the Wildcats for 37 points in 23 minutes and securing the Big 5’s Most Outstanding Visiting Player award as voted by the press.

Dantley would win the award again the next season with a 41-point, 17-rebound performance against La Salle at the Spectrum.

FEB. 6, 1989

The matchup of teams bearing records of 5-15 (Saint Joseph’s) and 1-18 (George Washington) might not seem appealing . . . until someone starts throwing in three-pointers from everywhere.

Hawk senior Brian Leahy nailed seven of 11 from the arc — including four of five in his 24-point second half — as SJU battled back from an early seven-point deficit, eased to a 12-point lead late in the game and survived a late GW three-point barrage to hold on for an 83-81 victory.

Leahy (33 points, seven rebounds, three assists) connected on his last trey with 2:21 left to give the Hawks a 76-64 lead. Then the 83 percent foul-shooter, who had made his first eight free throws, missed the front ends of ones-and-ones with 1:12 and 0:56 left and GW drilled three three-pointers of its own in the final 28 seconds to make it close.

FEB. 8, 1969

There are great Palestra doubleheaders . . . and then there are Great Palestra Doubleheaders!!!

In this opener, Jim McMillan and 14th-ranked Columbia — 15-2 and fresh off suffering a drubbing at Princeton the night before — became among the first to suffer what would become the 3-year wrath of Bilsky and Wohl.

The sophomores scored 57 points (Steve Bilsky had 35), combined to shoot 17-for-34 from the floor and dealt eight assists (Dave Wohl totaled five). They also managed a cool 23-for-27 from the line.

The 91-81 win was the Quakers' fourth in a row, the very early stages of a 2 1/2-year stretch in which they would go 61-5.

The nightcap did not start well for La Salle's Larry Cannon (he missed his first seven shots), but ended beautifully, with him atop his teammates shoulders cutting down the Palestra nets following the Explorers' spectacular 74-67 victory over Villanova.

Quite possibly the most anticipated city series game ever pitted the 17-1 Explorers (serving a 2-year probation that left them with no postseason aspirations) against the 16-2 Wildcats.

Villanova used a 9-0 run in the first half to erase an eight-point deficit. The lead seesawed before La Salle reeled off 11 points in a row to forge a 49-42 lead with 13 minutes to go. The Wildcats hung close until a disputed three-point play by Ken Durrett — he came very close to dunking the ball, a tactic that was illegal that season — lifted the lead to seven to with 2:27 to go.

Durrett finished with 20 points, 15 rebounds; Cannon had 11 points, 11 rebounds and eight assists.

Villanova's Howard Porter (21 rebounds) and Johnny Jones (11 boards) each scored 21 points and combined to block 11 shots.

MARCH 23, 1956

Some consolation! After falling to Iowa, 83-76, in a national semifinal the day before, Harry Litwack and his Temple Owls had to face a 25-3 Southern Methodist team that had fallen hard to eventual champion San Francisco. Hal Lear, Guy Rodgers and Jay Norman unfurled masterpieces as the Owls pulled away in the second half to a 90-81 victory.

Lear, who became the first member of a third-place team to be named the Most Valuable Player, scored Temple's first eight points of the game and 12 in a row in

the second half en route to a tournament-record 48 points. He shot 17-for-30 and 14-for-17, finishing with 160 points in Temple's five NCAA games (also a record).

Rodgers managed only 14 points, but dished out 20 assists. Norman owned the inside with 17 points and 22 rebounds.

JAN. 2, 1985

Months before Villanova met up with conference brethren Georgetown in a Final Four that also included St. John's, the Wildcats opened their Big East season against another powerhouse.

Fifth-ranked Syracuse showed up at the Palestra undefeated (8-0) and were derailed by a couple of guards.

Gary McLain scored 18 points (on 6-for-9 shooting) and dealt seven assists and sophomore Harold Jensen shook off a less-than-torrid first season-and-a-half to score 12 points as 'Nova (8-1) shot 60 percent from the floor and 85 percent from the line in front of a frenzied, sellout crowd.

Pearl Washington, who averaged 28.5 points and six assists in three wins against 'Nova the season before, was held to 17 points and 12 assists.

MARCH 12, 1981

Keith Parham drained nine of 12 shots en route to 25 points and freshman Terence Stansbury scored 12 of his 13 points in the second half as Temple held off Clemson, 90-82, in an NIT first-round game before 9,500 zealots in the Tigers' intimidating Littlejohn Coliseum.

Temple had started the season 15-4, but had dropped three of its previous seven, including an ECC quarterfinal loss to Saint Joseph's.

The Owls shot 60 percent from the floor in registering their first postseason victory since winning the 1969 NIT title. Poor foul-shooting down the stretch kept the Tigers and Larry Nance (34 points) close.

FEB. 23, 1980

Rollie Massimino's Saturday started better than it ended.

He began the day by helping to return the Saint Joseph's Hawk Mascot costume, which had been pilfered earlier in the week, to SJU athletic director Don DiJulia via Don's son, Chris. Rollie went so far as to walk into the DiJulia home wearing the Hawk headpiece and flapping his arms.

The only thing Rollie was flapping about later was St. Joe's Boo Williams not being called for a foul on a last-second shot attempt by Alex Bradley. Williams' block preserved not only a 60-59 lead, which came via a jumper by Bryan Warrick (26 points) with 12 seconds left, but a city series title for the Hawks.

The game marked the second time since the city series began that two 3-0 teams met to decide the title.

BILL BRADLEY

Bill Bradley made an indelible mark in many places during his 3-year collegiate career at Princeton, including these half-dozen trips to the Palestra with the Tigers' varsity:

Jan. 5, 1963: Penn 65, Princeton 62 (6-19 FG; 14-18 FT; 16 Reb.; 3 Ast.; 26 Pts.)

*March 11, 1963: Saint Joseph's 82, Princeton 81, OT (12-21 FG; 16-16 FT; 16 Reb.; 3 Ast.; 40 Pts.)

March 4, 1964: Princeton 76, Penn 66 (10-20 FG; 9-13 FT; 12 Reb.; 7 Ast.; 29 Pts.)

*March 9, 1964: Princeton 86, Virginia Military 60 (12-22 FG; 10-11 FT; 12 Reb.; 8 Ast.; 34 Pts.)

Jan. 30, 1965: Princeton 83, Penn 72 (10-14 FG; 16-19 FT; 13 Reb.; 3 Ast.; 36 Pts.)

*March 8, 1965: Princeton 60, Penn St. 58 (7-22 FG; 8-9 FT; 9 Reb.; 6 Ast.; 22 Pts.)

Totals (4-2): 57-118 FG; 73-86 FT; 78 Reb.; 30 Ast.; 187 Pts.

*NCAA Tournament.

DEC. 16, 1967

For one game, no opposing player captured the heart of a Palestra crowd as Niagara's Calvin Murphy did, scoring 52 points in just his fifth collegiate game, a 100-83 victory over La Salle.

Murphy shot 19-for-36 and nailed all 14 of his free throws in breaking the Palestra mark of 46 points that had been set by Villanova's Bob Schafer in 1954, and tied by Gene Harris (Holy Cross, 1961) and Andy Anderson (Canisius, 1966). It also broke the mark of any Big 5 opponent (51, Kentucky's Cliff Hagen, 1954, vs. Temple).

Murphy, who had scored 41, 57, 37 and 41 in his first four appearances, left to a 1-minute standing ovation from a sold-out crowd of 9,125 when head coach Jim Maloney took him out with 37 seconds left.

DEC. 30, 1963

Wali Jones poured in 31 points (on 12-for-22 shooting, mostly long-range jumpers) and added six assists as Villanova held off Minnesota, 77-73, to win the 12th ECAC Holiday Festival in New York's Madison Square Garden.

Jim Washington, who added 17 points and 21 rebounds, blocked a half-dozen shots in the last 5 minutes and tapped in a missed free throw with 14 seconds left to hold off the Gophers.

NOV. 20, 1998

Capping a 13-3 run over the final 2:19, Pepe Sanchez made two free throws with :00.5 showing on the clock as seventh-ranked Temple nipped No. 5 Michigan State, 60-59.

It was the only lead of the game for the Owls, who became the sixth Division I school with 1,500 victories.

DEC. 29, 1964

With all five starters playing the whole game, Saint Joseph's captured the 1964 Quaker City Tournament title with a 76-69 victory over No. 2 Wichita State. And Shocker coach Gary Thompson was none too happy with the officials (who called 23 fouls on his Shockers, just 10 on the Hawks) or the crowd (whom he accused of berating his bench with unpleasantries he would not repeat).

"It was a damn farce," he said . "No wonder your local teams have won this tournament for the last four years . . . I'll say this, I would never bring Wichita back to this tournament unless something was done about the conditions here."

Marty Ford led the Hawks with 27 points.

JAN. 28, 1971

After trailing by seven with 2:19 to go, Corky Calhoun nailed a 25-footer from the top of the key with two seconds left in regulation to tie the game and Bob Morse hit a 22-footer to put Penn ahead to stay midway through the overtime as the Quakers (16-0) topped Princeton, 66-62. Calhoun and Dave Wohl led Penn with 16 points.

DEC. 1, 1991

Doug Overton sank a 10-foot driving shot in the lane with eight seconds left to force overtime, then scored nine of his 35 points in the extra session to carry La Salle to an 84-80 victory over Penn in the season's city series opener at the Palestra.

Overton, coming off a 31-point game in La Salle's season-opening win over Loyola (Baltimore), had converted both ends of a one-and-one with 33 seconds left in regulation to give La Salle a 70-69 advantage.

The Quakers' Paul McMahan then hit a scoop shot and made a free throw to give Penn, who had trailed by 10 with 17 minutes to go, a 72-70 lead with 22 seconds remaining before Overton tied it.