

PENN FIVE BEATS COLUMBIA, 79-62

Quakers Inch Closer to 3d Straight Ivy Crown

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PHILADELPHIA, Feb. 26— Although Columbia made Pennsylvania work harder than the Quakers expected for the first 23 minutes at the Palestra tonight, the strong Penn team scored a 79-62 triumph to stay in front in the Ivy League basketball race with just two league games remaining.

Between Penn and its third straight Ivy League championship and third straight trip to the National Collegiate tournament are games at Yale Friday and at Brown Saturday. Yale and Brown lost to Penn in Philadelphia earlier in the season.

Villanova, looking for a spot in the National Collegiate championship as an independent, defeated La Salle, 86-73, in the second game of a double-header. Hank Siemiontkowski led the Wildcats to their 18th victory against six losses with 30 points. Tom Ingelsby had 26 for Villanova.

Against Columbia tonight the Quakers held only a 7-point lead as late as three minutes into the second half. Then the height, strength and talent of Penn, ranked fourth in the nation really showed as Columbia tired.

Led by Corky Calhoun, who finished with 21 points, and Bob Morse, who made 25, Penn ran 12 consecutive points. The Quakers outscored Columbia, 18-3, for the next six minutes to the delight of the capacity crowd of 9,235.

This drive assured Pennsylvania of its 20th victory of the season against only two losses and an 11-1 Ivy record. Columbia suffered its 18th loss of the year and ninth Ivy defeat.

Penn has won 64 of its last 66 regular-season games and 27 straight home Ivy contests.

PENN (79)			COLUMBIA (62)				
	G.	F.	P.		G.	F.	P.
Hankinson	0	1-1	1	Boyd	8	3-3	19
Morse	9	7-7	25	Evans	2	0-1	4
Littpage	4	1-2	9	Downing	6	2-3	14
Coller	5	1-2	11	Burns	3	3-4	9
Calhoun	5	11-13	21	Tillman	4	0-0	8
Billingslea	3	2-2	8	Boggan	1	4-5	6
Jablonski	0	2-2	2	Pellino	1	0-0	2
Sonnenberg	1	0-0	2				
Total	27	25-29	79	Total	25	12-16	62

Half-time score—Penn 40, Columbia 30.

Fouled out—Evans.

Attendance—9,235.