

Syracuse Routs St. John's by 79-55

By GORDON S. WHITE Jr.

Special to The New York Times

SYRACUSE, Feb. 19—Manley Field House is one of those basketball arenas that has a reputation as a "nice place to live but I'd hate to visit there." And it's only Syracuse University that lives there.

St. John's found out how true that was tonight as the strong and fast Syracuse team trounced the Redmen, 79-55, before 8,458 screaming fans. Such fans help make Manley a wonderful court for the Orange.

This was the worst beating St. John's had suffered since Lou Carnesecca returned from the New York Nets to start his second stint as the Redmen's coach in 1973.

Carnesecca, however, did not blame the court for anything tonight. He said: "They just beat us in all areas. I couldn't point to one thing we did. They are a good team, a deep team and we couldn't do anything."

Syracuse played so well that few persons, even St. John's fans, walked out into the falling snow believing the Redmen could have beaten the Orange anywhere this time.

The Orange moved their fast break perfectly to settle the issue early in the second half, they played their zone defenses very well to keep St. John's off the boards most of the time, and they got an excellent performance from little Jim Williams, one of the quickest guards around.

This little fast-break leader and sneaky baseline driver scored 21 points, 7 more than his team-leading average. He set up quick plays by feeding the giant freshman, Roosevelt Bouie, and Marty Byrnes, who had 13 and 16 points, respectively.

Asked if he would like to play in Manley as a member of a visiting team, Williams, a senior, emphatically replied no.

Then he said: "We're going to finish strong and win those last two games. Niagara and Rutgers [the last two Syra-

cuse opponents] are in for a rough time up here."

Syracuse, with a 21-3 won-lost record, is hoping to get the home-court advantage in the first round of this region's Eastern College Athletic Conference playoffs. The Orange then hope to advance to the National Collegiate Athletic Association championship for the fifth year in a row. They looked like they could do just about anything they wanted the way they played tonight.

Columbia 48, Yale 42

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NEW HAVEN, Feb. 19—Columbia stalled effectively for six minutes midway through the second half tonight and defeated Yale, 48-42, in an Ivy League game.

The Lions thus ended a losing streak at three games and improved their overall record to 15-7. They are 7-3 in Ivy League competition. Yale lost for the 16th time in 21 games and is now 3-6 in Ivy action.

Columbia held a 40-36 lead when the Lions began to stall, hoping to force the Elis out of their zone. Ultimately the Lions shook loose Alton Byrd for an uncontested layup and went on from there to the victory.

Ricky Free, a 6-foot-5-inch sophomore from Brooklyn, paced the Lions with 10 points and nine rebounds, while Byrd contributed 8 points and five assists. Jim Yent was the high scorer for Yale with 11 points.

Brown 66, Cornell 65

PROVIDENCE, R. I., Feb. 19 (AP)—Chuck Mack scored on a short jump shot with eight seconds remaining tonight, lifting Brown to a 66-65 Ivy League victory over Cornell.

Brown led most of the way, but Cornell edged in front late in the game, 63-62, on two goaltending calls against the Bruins.

Mack regained the lead for Brown,

but a third goaltending call put Cornell back in front, 65-64, with 1:45 left. Cornell tried to run out the clock, but Brown gained possession of the ball and Mack connected.

Princeton 59, Harvard 49

CAMBRIDGE, Mass., Feb. 19 (AP)—Princeton, led by Frank Sowinski, built an 18-point lead in the second half and held off a Harvard comeback for a 59-49 Ivy League victory tonight.

The Tigers, 17-4 over all and 9-1 in the league, led by 33-23 at halftime and then widened the advantage to 47-29 with 12:48 remaining.

Harvard then fought back, closing to within 6 points, 53-47, with 3:18 left and forcing Princeton to freeze. The Tigers did not score a field goal in the last seven minutes, but Harvard could not catch up.

Sowinski finished with 21 points, and a teammate, Bob Roma, had 14. Harvard, 5-15 over all and 2-7 in the league, was led by Bob Hooft and Jonas Honick, with 15 and 14 points, respectively.

Holy Cross 81, Army 77

WORCESTER, Mass., Feb. 19 (AP)—Ron Perry, the freshman sensation, scored 8 of his game-high total of 33 points in overtime tonight, lifting Holy Cross to an 81-77 victory over Army.

Army led most of the way in the second half, but Perry scored on a layup, and Bill Doran tallied on a free throw to put the Crusaders in front, 66-65, with 15 seconds left in regulation. Pat Harris then sent the game into overtime with a free throw with two seconds to go.

Penn 73, Dartmouth 68

HANOVER, N.H., Feb. 19 (AP)—Stan Greenc, a reserve guard, contributed two key baskets with less than three minutes left to help ward off a pesky Dartmouth drive and give Pennsylvania an Ivy League victory tonight, 73-68.

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