

Princeton Conquers Columbia by 57-47

Pete Carril has been coaching basketball at Princeton University for 13 years. Last night at Columbia's Levien Gymnasium he face the possibility of suffering his first losing season while at the same time losing an Ivy League championship.

His team avoided his suffering that fate, however, by turning in a characteristic Princeton performance. The Tigers, shooting better from the floor than they did from the free-throw line, salvaged a 57-47 triumph over Columbia that enabled the Tigers to tie Pennsylvania for the Ivy championship.

Penn and Princeton will meet next Tuesday night at Lafayette University in Easton, Pa., in a playoff to determine which team will advance to the National Collegiate tournament.

"Practice began in October," Carril said, "and here it is March 1, and you play one game which determines whether you're going to be happy or sad. And this was the most important game any Princeton team has ever played."

Princeton's record is now 15-14 over all and 11-3 in the Ivy League. The Lions finished at 10-16 and 5-9.

Princeton shot 66 percent from the floor in the first half, taking a 28-21 lead at halftime on the strength of six consecutive foul shots, two each by Randy Melville, Rich Simkus and Gary Knapp.

The Tigers clinched their victory in the second half with a 14-4 streak led by Melville, a junior forward, who contributed 6 points during the rally. Melville scored all his points on layups while Simkus added 4 points on short jumpers. That burst put Princeton ahead by 17 points, 42-25.

Meanwhile, the Tigers maintained an aggressive 3-2 zone defense and at

one point prevented the Lions from scoring for about 10 minutes. Richie Gordon broke the Columbia dry spell by hitting a short jump shot with five and a half minutes to play.

The Tigers shot 76 percent from the floor in the second half, 71 percent over all, but managed to connect on only 65 percent of their free throws. Columbia made only 34 percent of its field-goal attempts.

Penn 67, Cornell 46

ITHACA, N.Y., March 1 (AP) — James Salters scored 17 points tonight as Penn whipped Cornell, 67-46, and finished its regular season in a tie for the Ivy League leadership with Princeton.

The victory gave the Quakers an 11-3 league record. Penn now will meet Princeton on Tuesday night to decide the championship and a berth in the National Collegiate tournament.

Penn (15-11 over all) led, 31-23, at halftime. Cornell closed the gap to 35-31 with five minutes gone in the second half, but Penn scored the next 7 points and never was headed afterward.

Paul Little added 10 points for the Quakers. Mike Allen led Cornell (3-10 and 5-19) with 14 points.

Harvard 86, Yale 85

CAMBRIDGE, Mass., March 1 (AP) — Don Fleming scored 34 points tonight as Harvard edged Yale, 86-85, in an Ivy League game. Harvard (6-8 and 11-15) led by 47-33 at halftime, but Yale (8-6 and 16-10) roared back after the intermission behind the shooting of Steve Leondis, a freshman, who led the Elis with 24 points. However Fleming, who had a total of 62 points in two games in two nights this weekend, provided the victory with his scoring outburst.