

CHAMP--77-63!

La Salle Crushed; Russell and Jones Spark Triumph

By BOB BRACHMAN
MUNICIPAL AUDITORIUM, KANSAS CITY, March 19.—One of the great sagas of basketball history was completed in all its blazing glory here tonight when the University of San Francisco's magnificent Dons went all the way.

With one of the mightiest championship game efforts in the seventeen years the NCAA basketball tournament has been in existence, this San Francisco "team of destiny" crushed La Salle's defending champions, 77-63, to give the Pacific coast its first title in thirteen years.

At this moment, the 10,500 who witnessed a supposed dream game that was turned into an utter rout by this determined team of Dons, are cheering to the rafters the green clad men from the city by the Golden Gate and their wonderful coach, Phil Woolpert. **DONS CRY, SCREAM, LAUGH.**

The Dons, themselves, are crying, screaming, laughing and just going plain berserk.

Their 200 or more loyal rooters, including a deliriously happy Mayor Elmer Robinson and Supervisor George Christopher, are milling wildly, acclaiming Jones Hilltopper who met every challenge, ran their sensational winning string to twenty-six straight and completed one of the great seasons of collegiate basketball history with a 28-1 record.

San Francisco can be ever so proud of this team of men who, on December 4 last, began this season in Chico, as far from this moment they celebrated tonight as the earth is from the moon. Unknown, unranked, unthought of as anything that would cut much of a caner, even within the limitations of the State they represented so brilliantly tonight, and totally disregarded in eastern reckoning, the Dons truly were a "Cinderella team."

They might they were supposed to meet their masters, La Salle had the greatest player of all time, didn't it?

And the Explorers from Philadelphia had played much the tougher opposition, hadn't they? Or so it was claimed. And they were the defending champions who weren't going to let anybody lift the crown off their heads without a tremendous battle?

RUSSELL GREATER THAN THE GREATEST.
Well, right here and now, it should be recorded for posterity that if Gola is the "greatest player of all time," then Bill Russell the remarkable is greater than the greatest.

And it should be added that, on this particular night, Gola, a terrific player in his own right, must take a back seat not only to Russell, but to a Casey Jones who was completely out of this world and with Russell built the fire that burned so brightly the entire night.

It is farthest from our minds to create the impression that this was a one or two man effort. It wasn't. Captain Jerry Mullen, Stan Buchanan, Hal Perry and Bob Wiebusch, and even the Dons who sat on the bench, had a huge part in the writing of this great story.

But Russell and Jones were the superman the Dons needed to write the perfect finish.

Big Bill, a kid who told us before the game that he came here for two reasons—(1)—to win the tournament and (2)—to take away the most valuable player award—took such total charge of the boards that Gola himself, a renowned rebounder, almost was lost in the shuffle. **RUSSELL SETS MARK.**

When Bill had concluded a mighty two night stand during which he scored 47 points—23 tonight—he had himself a new NCAA five game series scoring record of 118 points. That bettered the old mark of 114 set by Gola last year.

And the highest possible tribute was that paid by George Mikas, "Mr. Points," himself when he volunteered:

"He's the greatest I've ever seen."

Jones? What a tremendous specimen of basketball performer he was tonight.

Given the difficult assignment of covering Gola, six inches taller, this Jones put out under pressure as few men in similar situations have.

Not only did he lock the hardwood on the 67 three time All-American as few players have, but he delivered the almost unbelievable by completely outscoring his man, 24-6.

"DONS GREATEST."
Because of these two men, Coach Ken Loeffler of conquered La Salle, made this observation about the Dons:

"That's as great a college team as I've ever seen."

And to this, Gola, who played his heart out in a futile attempt to bring La Salle through again, added:

"I've played bigger men than Russell, but this is it. I've had it."

To this we must add the ac-

Dons' Big Win in Brief

San Francisco	G	F	T	P	LaSalle	G	F	T	P
Mullen, J.	4	2	5	10	O'Malley, J.	4	2	1	10
Kirby, J.	0	0	1	0	Maples, J.	0	0	0	0
Buchanan, F.	3	2	1	8	Singley, F.	0	0	0	0
Wiebusch, F.	0	0	0	0	Richter, F.	4	0	1	29
King, J.	0	0	0	0	Gola, C.	4	0	1	8
Russell, C.	9	5	1	23	Fredericks, C.	0	0	0	0
Lawless, C.	1	0	0	2	Lewis, G.	1	1	1	6
Jones, G.	10	4	2	24	Greenberg, G.	1	1	1	3
Bush, G.	0	0	0	0					
Perry, G.	1	2	4						
Zannini, G.	1	0	0	2					
Baxter, G.	0	0	0	0					
Totals	31	15	11	77	Totals	24	15	12	63

Half-time Score—San Francisco, 26; La Salle, 24.
Missed Free Throws—San Francisco: Mullen 3, Russell 2. La Salle: O'Malley, Gola, Lewis 5, Greenberg.

K. C. Jones Hero in Dons' Win

Even Too Tall for Russell



HEAT OF BATTLE!—Stan Buchanan (left), University of San Francisco forward, gets a face full of the arm of Alanzo Lewis (5), LaSalle University guard, during NCAA championship game in Kansas City last night.

SPORTS

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Guarding of Gola, Bill's Work on Boards Praised

By CURLEY GRIEVE
Sports Editor of The Examiner

Bill Russell's work on the boards and K. C. Jones' job in guarding Tom Gola were the keys to USF's title clinching 77-63 victory over La Salle at Kansas City last night, coaches and players said over the telephone not long after they had achieved the thrilling conquest.

Russell played up to expectations as the No. 1 cager in America, with talents obviously superior to Gola, heretofore acclaimed as the greatest.

But there was no question in the minds even of Russell that Jones was the hero of a game that, heard over radio, thrilled the entire city for which the university is named.

"Jones played the greatest basketball game seen by anyone at any time," Russell asserted. "He wins my vote as the most valuable player on the team."

Mullen, Woolpert Add Plaudits
Captain Jerry Mullen inserted:

"It was tremendous, unbelievable."
Coach Phil Woolpert, who described the game as the most thrilling experience he ever had, declared:

"Jones did things they have never seen in the middle west. His blocks, his leaps to wrest the ball from Gola—you'd say they were impossible. But K. C. did them with the greatest game of his life."

Assistant Coach Ross Giudice added:
"All that has been said about K. C. is true. And let's not forget that he scored 24 points and broke the backs of La Salle with his one-hand overhead shots in the second half. I felt sorry for Charles Singley, trying to guard Jones. He was faked out of his shoes."

Jones was still treading the clouds when I talked to him, thrilled that he had "the privilege of guarding Gola" and "happy that we won."

He said he had a peaceful sleep on Friday night, never dreaming that he would be singled out for the job of containing the college player whose clippings stretch from coast to coast.

"Coach Woolpert never told me who would be my man until just before game time," K. C. explained. "Then I got butterflies in my stomach. I had heard and read so much about Gola. Could I hold him? Would he run away from me and La-

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Russell Gola Duels 'No Contest'--AP

By JERRY LISKA
KANSAS CITY, March 19.—(AP)—San Francisco, No. 1 team in the Associated Press poll, tonight rout behind terrific play by 6-10 All-American Bill Russell to a 77-63 victory which dethroned La Salle in the National Collegiate (NCAA) championships.

Veteran Coach Phog Allen of Kansas said that Russell's performance was the most exciting he had ever seen in his coaching career of forty-five years.

Although San Francisco team-mate K. C. Jones outscored him, the lanky Russell made it "no contest" against La Salle's heralded Tom Gola in their long-awaited showdown.

Russell tallied 23 points to set a 5-game NCAA scoring record of 118 while Gola, who held the former composite mark of 114 scored 16.

Gola never lived up to expectations here, while Russell did everything expected of him, really sewing up the game with an 18-point first half performance which had a capacity municipal crowd of 10,500 in stitches.

Jones, a rugged 6-ft., 202-pounder, capped scoring honors with 24 points on 11 field goals and four free throws.

Latin Upsets Santee But U. S. Nabs Track

By TED SMITS
MEXICO CITY, March 19.—(AP)—Little known Juan Miranda of Argentina upset the mighty Wes Santee with a fierce stretch run in the 1,500 meters today but the United States finished the track and field phase of the Pan-American Games in a blaze of glory.

Rafer Johnson, 19 year old UCLA freshman, beat out teammate Bob Richards in the rigorous two day decathlon and three more Jung championships were rung up by the men's 400 and 1,600 meter relay teams and the women's 400 meter relay quartet.

These accomplishments on the last day of track competition gave the United States sixteen of the twenty-two championships and four of the seven gold medals in the women's events for a complete rout of defending champion Argentina.

The classic marathon is a grueling 26 miles, 385 yards—went to Doroteo Flores of Guatemala, who lumbered into the big stadium exactly 2 hours, 59 minutes and 2 seconds after a field of eleven left the starting line. Onesimo Rodriguez of Mexico was second and Luis Vainsquez of Guatemala third.

RICHARDS SKIPS RACE.
Johnson, who hails from Kingsburg, Calif., just twenty-five miles from the Tulare home of Olympic Decathlon Champion Bob Mathias, clinched the decathlon crown when Richards, exhausted from the grind,

Dukes Beat Dayton, Nab NIT Crown

NEW YORK, March 19.—(INS)—All-Americans Silvano Green and Dick Ricketts won top seeded Duquesne the National Invitation Basketball Tournament tonight by putting on a phenomenal two man show to defeat second seeded Dayton, 70-58.

A record NIT crowd of 18,490 saw the exciting finale at Madison Square Garden.

Green scored 33 points and Ricketts had 23. It was their complete domination of the game that stood out in the Duke's triumph.

Despite their tremendous effort, however, the tournament's most valuable player went unanimously to sensational Maurice Stokes of St. Francis College of Loretto, Pa. Stokes tallied 31 points in a losing case as third seeded Cincinnati defeated the Franciscans, 96-91 in an overtime battle for third place.

The crowd of 45,000 in the big stadium, however, received its prime shock of the day when Miranda, a stubborn Argentine, stood off a strong bid by Santee in the stretch and won the 1,500 meter race in 3 minutes, 53.2 seconds, a games' record.

STRIDE BEHIND.
Santee, who has been flirting with the four minute mile, hit the tape in the same clocking but a full stride behind the lunging South American. Fred Dwyer was third in 3:53.3 and Bob McMillen fourth in 4:04.4.

The world record for the distance—120 yards short of the mile—is 3:41.8, which Australia's John Landy did in his record.

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