

Bona Gets Auburn Message: 'Big, Strong'

By BOB DAVIES

Times Herald Sports Writer

TAMPA — The scouting report assistant coach Fred Handler delivered to coach Larry Weise here Sunday afternoon is summed up in two words:

"BIG — STRONG."

St. Bonaventure University (5-0) meets Auburn (2-2) tonight (WHDL AM-FM, WESB, 9:15 o'clock) in the second game of the Tampa Invitational Basketball Tournament. Seattle (2-4) and Rutgers (3-2) meet in the first game. Finals will be Tuesday night here in Curtis Hixon Convention Hall.

Handler scouted Auburn Saturday night, in its 63-52 win over previously unbeaten Georgia Tech.

"YOU OUGHT TO see this club's size," Handler said. "They look like they just dropped the plows and stepped on to the court. They hit the boards. They love it. They really eat 'em up on the boards. They are big. They are strong. They beat Tech — at Tech — and Tech was favored by 10. Also remember, they lost by only a few at Vanderbilt."

Auburn is noted for its shuffle offense against man-for-man, "but," reported Handler, "fortunately, Tech threw a zone at them." Bona has zoned all year. "Against a zone, Auburn is very deliberate. Looking only for the good shot," Handler added.

AUBURN WILL GO with 6-3 Wally Tinker, the top scorer with 20 point average; 6-2 Tom Perry, 6-2 Alex Howell, 6-7 Bill Alexander and 6-6 Davie Hurt. Sixth man will be 6-6 Ron Jackson.

Auburn coach Bill Lynn, in discussing the win over Tech, commented: "This was a big

one for us. We had exams until noon Friday and we were mentally stale. We just stood around the first half. We're young as everything. Our top eight people include one senior (Howell), three juniors and four sophs."

Jackson, a sophomore, has started in three games but Lynn indicated he will go with Hurt,

"because he is a tougher defender."

Lynn added: "We'll need his 200 pounds against a team as strong as the Bonnies. We had Bona scouted against Xavier and we know they have a fine club, with a big strong center (6-11, 265-pound Bob Lanier) and have that other kid (Bill Butler). They'll be a big prob-

lem for us with that size. If we get by Bona, we can win this, but we're so young and still don't know just how well we can play. But let me tell you one thing, our kids will hustle."

COURT NOTES: Bona left Buffalo at 9:45 Sunday morning, arrived here at noon, greeted by several members of the Alumni

chapter who were waving welcoming signs. The traveling squad went to St. Joseph's Hospital where the Rev. Gordon Murphy, OFM, Bona vice-president, and the Rev. Canisius Connors, OFM, the Athletic Moderator, said mass. After mass, sisters of the Order of St. Francis, who operate the hospital, served the entire party

dinner. Bona had light workout at the University of Tampa. The Bonnies were just leaving when Auburn arrived for its workout. One of the Auburn players, moved his head, sort of pointing down where the Bonnies were standing: "There he is (it was Lanier)." Auburn lost its season opener to Citadel, the other win was over Wake Forest.

BONA FACES DUQUESNE IN DOUBLEHEADER OPENER

Lanier Makes Varsity Debut in Aud Tonight

By Cy Kritzer

They — the college recruiters — said that he was the best basketball player ever produced in the Buffalo scholastic area.

Bob Lanier, 6 feet, 11 inches from Bennett High, is on his

way to proving it as he makes his varsity debut this evening in Memorial Auditorium.

It's a meeting of undefeated teams as Lanier and the St. Bonaventure Brown Indians

play the Duquesne Dukes at 7:15 PM. Canisius and Catholic U. play in the second game of the doubleheader (WEBR).

So far the only weakness in Lanier is that he shoots too

much with his left hand, that he must develop the right to become the complete player.

"One of the many outstanding points about this Bona team," said former Canisius coach Joe

Niland, "is their hands. Lanier has big sure hands, rarely drops a rebound or a pass.

"But the best pair of hands in district basketball this year may belong to John Hayes, the 6-4 Bona forward. But all the Bonnies are sure-handed. . . Lanier, Billy Butler, Hayes, Jimmy Satalin and Billy Kalbaugh."

When you mention these five, that's the Bona team. Coach Larry Weise won't substitute for them unless they foul out or he piles up a commanding lead, which is not likely against Red Manning's seasoned Dukes. This is one of Red's best teams.

The inevitable comparison is going to be made between Lanier and the captivating Calvin Murphy of Niagara.

It's unfair to both, for Bob is a front-liner and Calvin a back-court man.

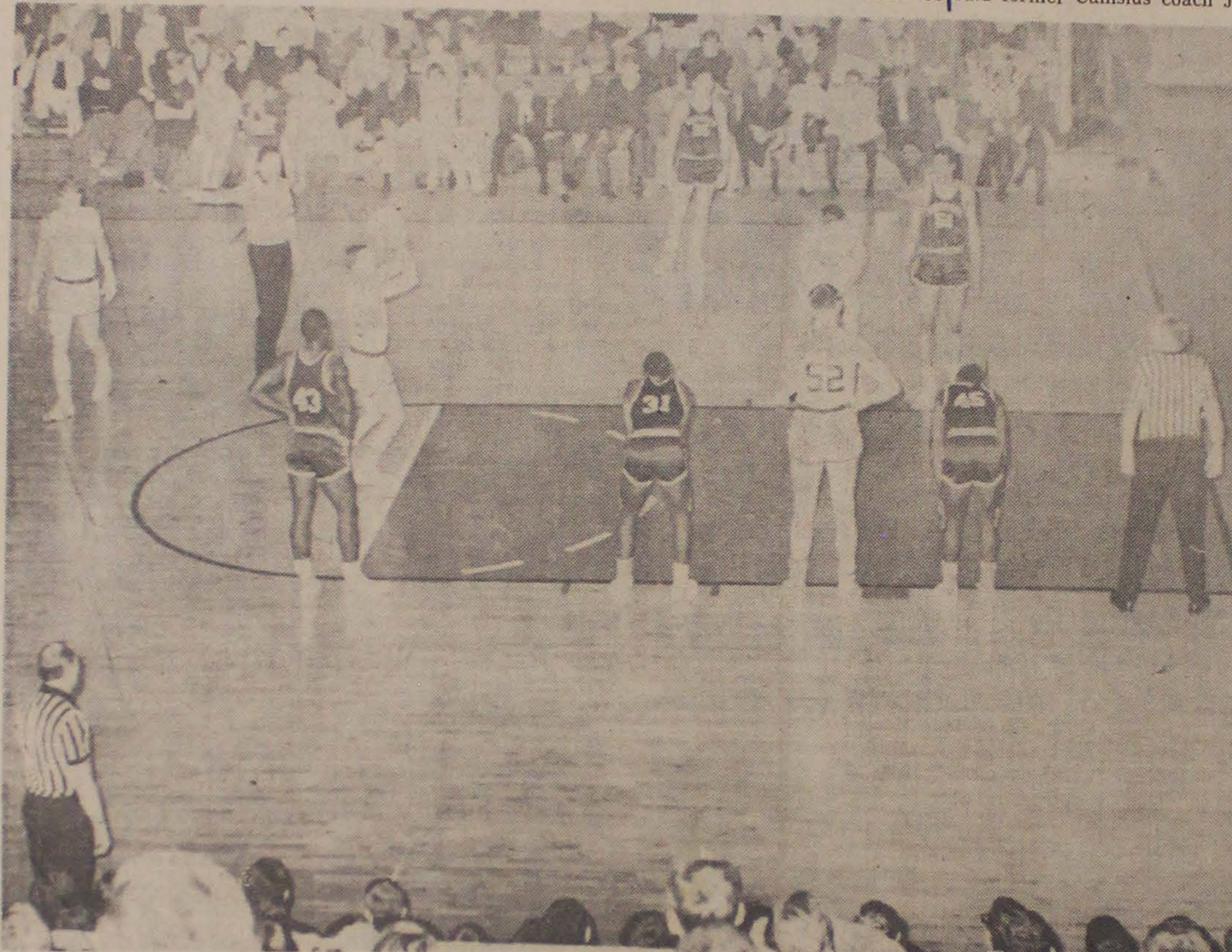
If a neutral coach was given the choice of which boy he would prefer to have on his team, the vote probably would go to Lanier, who's handled every big man he's ever played, as a freshman and in four varsity games.

Rebounding is still the integral part of the game, and Lanier is the best in the East on what he's shown.

The Cardinals of Catholic U bring an undefeated record (6-0) into the Aud to face Canisius. Coach Bob MacKinnon says his Griffs "will have to produce our best effort of the season" to handle the variety of defenses used by the Cards.

The rivals are about even in height. For Canisius it'll be 6-6 Tom Pasternak, 6-4 Tony Masiello, 6-4 Jack Hassett, 6-1 Terry Connors and 5-11 Roger Brown.

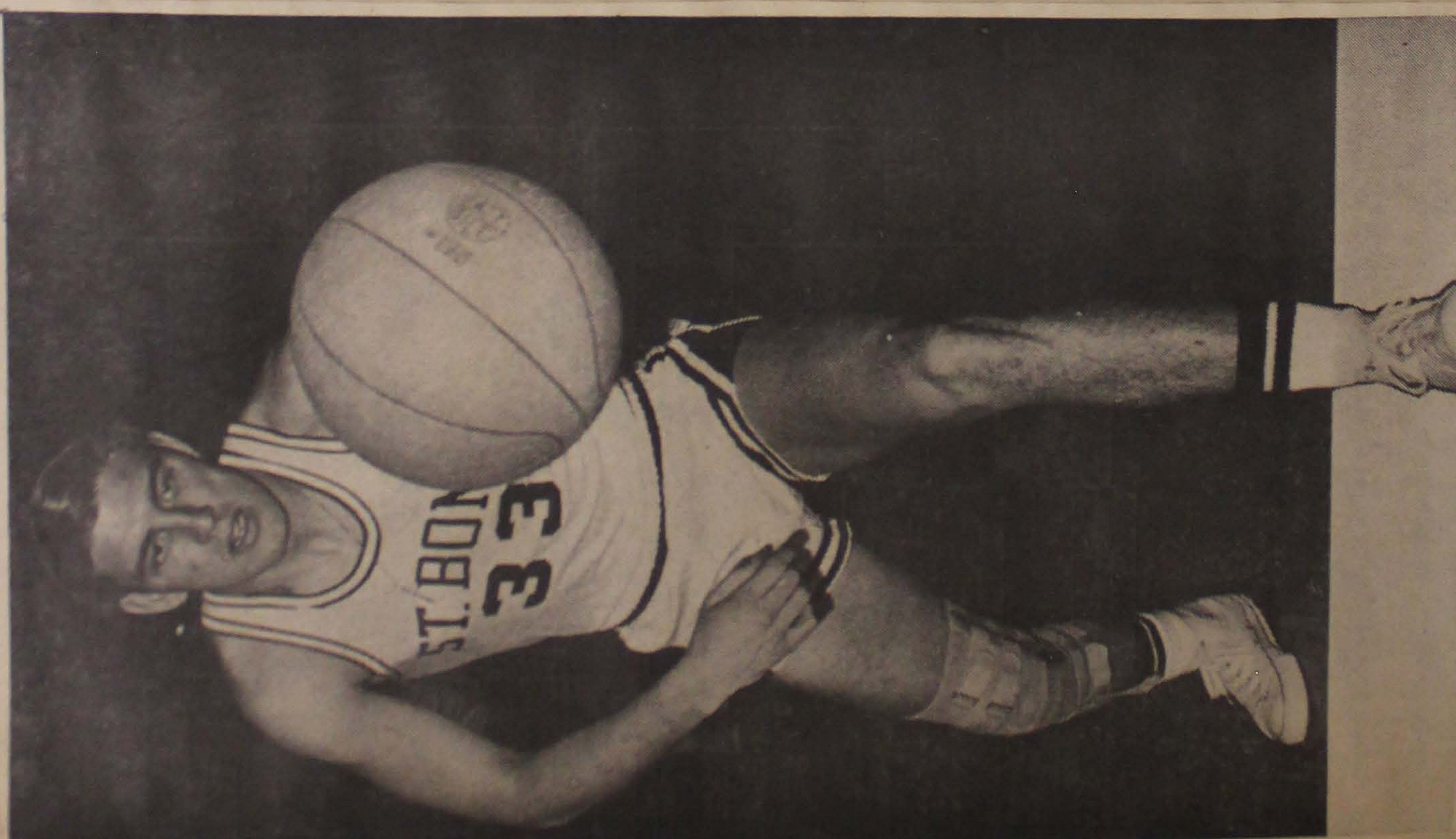
Catholic U will start with 5-10 Bob Goeke, 6-foot Bill Wilson, 6-3 Bob Cioffari, 6-6 Ron Krasinski and 6-4 Mike Block.



Innovation in Collegiate Basketball—Three Referees on Job

Use of three referees in an intercollegiate varsity basketball game got its first test Friday night in Philadelphia when St. Joseph's played Hofstra. Officials, players and coaches all felt the three instead of two-

referee system was a success. Officials were Harold Barr, Harry Pressman and Morrie Kaplan. They have a total of 32 years of basketball refereeing. St. Joseph's won, 77-69.



JOHN HAYES: Dribbling right out of the picture