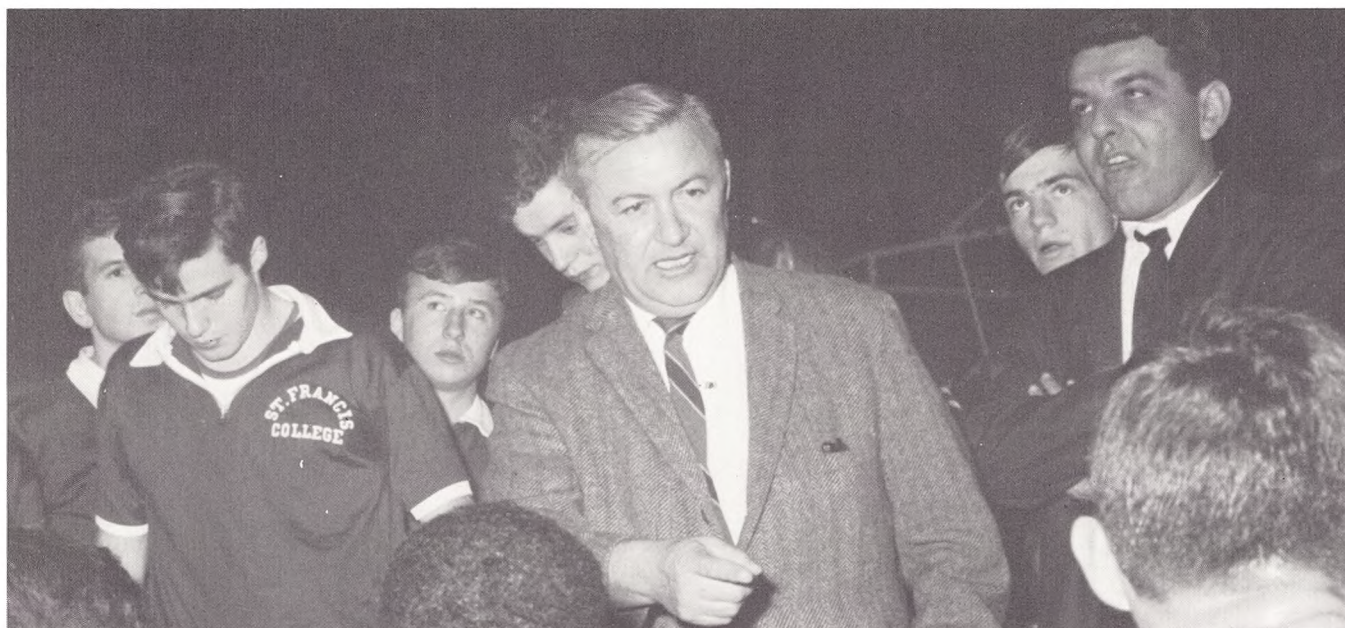


# BASKETBALL



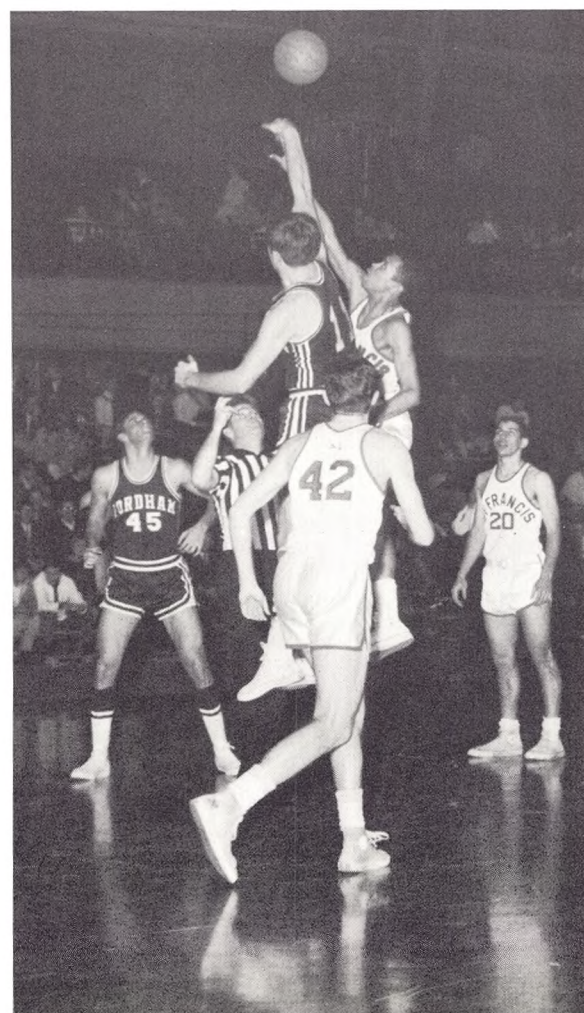
"Remember fellas, be careful with the ball because it's rented," advises coach Dan Lynch.

St. Francis was looking forward to a winning season in 1967-68, coming from the previous year with a fine 14-8 record, including a share of the Metropolitan Conference Championship. But fate struck two blows that were to dim the Terrier hopes. Starting center John McMahon was hurt in an auto accident before the season began, sidelining him for the season. Then, to make matters worse, McMahon's back-up man, promising sophomore Dan Gallagher was only able to play in the first four games. He had to undergo surgery for an injury sustained the previous year.

Things did manage to get off brightly though as the Terriers ripped through their first two opponents, Pace 90-68 and Kings 68-64. As is traditional every year, our true strength would probably show in our third game—against Providence. The Friars could have been taken, but the Terriers fell short, 80-66. A tremendous all-around game against Connecticut brought our record to 3-1, as we won 82-62. Successive losses to Fordham (85-64), L.I.U. (72-46), and Bucknell (84-81) in the Christmas tourney at Syracuse, revealed our basic weakness all too vividly—no rebounding. Vermont was defeated in the consolation game of the tourney, but then Hofstra walloped the visiting Terriers 89-67 to put a quick end to any ideas of a winning streak.

After an unimpressive victory (72-64) over much smaller Le Moyne, the toughest part of the schedule proved to be just that. With St. Francis playing gamely, Wagner pulled out a 92-90 win. This was followed by losses to St. John's (83-50) and Manhattan (83-64). A double-overtime loss to Adelphi (94-89) coupled with the news that playmaker Mickey Mahoney would be out of action for three weeks made the picture just a little more dismal.

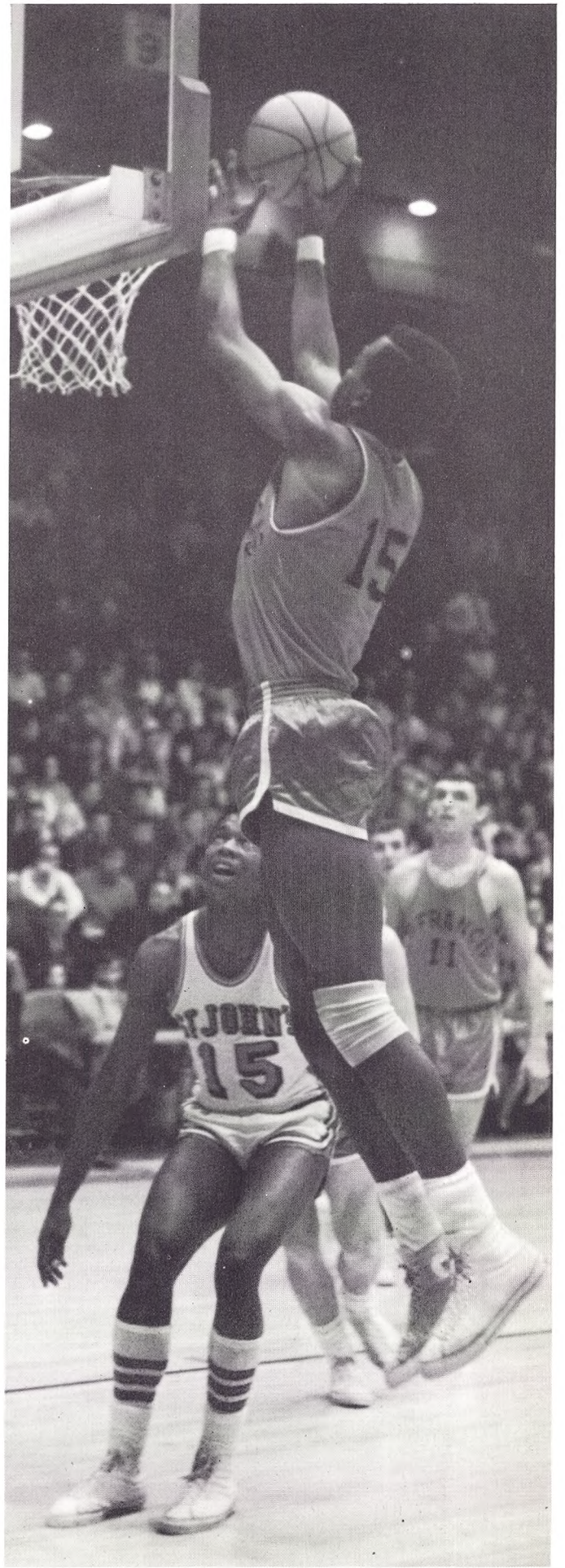
The only bright spots thus far for Coach Dan Lynch have been senior forward Doug Smith and sophomore guard John Conforte. Doug carried the team through the first half of the season, consistently hitting near or above 20 points per game. Conforte came into his own during the Connecticut game, when he scored 19 points during the first fifteen minutes he played. Since then he has been averaging over twenty points per game, with a high of 32 against Manhattan. His great desire and hustle accompany a great amount of ability and should make him one of the greatest players in St. Francis history.



Frank Jones opens up the third quarter for the Terriers.



John Conforti shows how to properly *spray* the opposition.



Ed Grant, the Terriers' human pogo-stick, chalks up another two points.