



B A S K E T B A L L

Frustration but not disappointment has collected around members of the '68-'69 basketball squad. Injuries among the hoopsters and a very demanding schedule accounted for a great deal of the trouble experienced by the team during the season. St. Francis this year had the unenviable distinction of facing four teams that have received national ranking. Yet the team gamely plugged away and almost pulled off some surprises. The Redmen of St. John's were shocked to find themselves leading the smaller Terriers by only three points at the half. A great second half surge was needed by the Redmen to maintain their home court victory. Another team with tournament aspirations, Fordham faced the St. Francis five at their home court with national television looking in. The Rams were fighting for their lives as they squeezed a 65-61 victory out in the final seconds of the contest. LIU also managed to sneak away with a cheap win. So it continued . . .

Coach Dan Lynch presiding in his twenty first year as head of the team chalks this year up as experience for his young team. John Conforti had an unbelievable season, setting a college scoring record of 560 points for the season. Conforti averaged 24.3 points per game and was ranked number 20 in the nation. Conforti was named to the All-Met Team and finished as the number one scorer in the league. Jim Sullivan came on strong after a slow beginning, winding up with a 9.4 average. Earl Roberts showed outstanding promise this season and should continue to develop in his two remaining seasons of eligibility. Roberts pulled down 182 rebounds and averaged 9.1 per game. Bob Christie, 8.1 and Ed Grant, 7.3 also provided offensive punch. Christie was also very effective as a ballhandler.

A strong nucleus for next year is present in Conforti, Sullivan and Roberts and one can predict better fortunes next year.



