

So Does B.C., 63-62

By JOE CONCANNON
Staff Reporter

COLLEGE PARK, Md.—Boston College, scrambling every inch of the way, released all of its pent-up energy in a final frantic minute of pressure basketball to soar to its grandest victory ever Thursday night and advance to the N.C.A.A. Eastern Regional finals.

The turbulent finish, tacked on to a sometimes sluggish game, lifted the fighting Eagles to a 63-62 victory over St. John's before 13,043 who filled every corner of Maryland's spacious Cole Field House.

And it now comes down to B.C. and North Carolina in the final tonight for the trip to the national championships next week-end in Louisville.

The third-ranked Tarheels watched as Princeton battled from six points back in the second game to tie it in the closing minutes before racing on to win, 78-70, in overtime.

It took one of the greatest stretches of free throw shooting ever seen in the N.C.A.A. tournament to keep the Eagles in this one during a constant game of catch-up once St. John's had gained the initial upper hand.

But, in the end, it was a masterful exhibition of pressure basketball coupled with an official's reversal that was ever so right, yet, when it was made, served to spell the end for St. John's. At least, it led up to it.

The Redmen, playing the final minutes and a good portion of the second half without the much publicized Sonny Dove, had been coming up with a back-breaking play every time it seemed B. C. was ready to get back in the game.

But they were living on borrowed time.

The big play, with St. John's up by a point and less than one minute on the clock, was an out of bounds play that called for B.C.'s little Billy Evans to get it in to sophomore Terry Driscoll underneath for a layup or close-in shot.

The ball was deflected by St. John's pressing Brian Hill and it hit the backboard. The inside official Len Wirtz, gave it to St. John's, as the 13,043 who saw it the other way wondered what was going on.

All the time, however, the outside official, George Conley, had called it the other way. But it wasn't until a huge outcry was made that it was changed.

Willie Wolters, the inspirational captain of this B.C. team, gathered the very next pass-in and was fouled by St. John's Rudy Bogad. He made them both and the

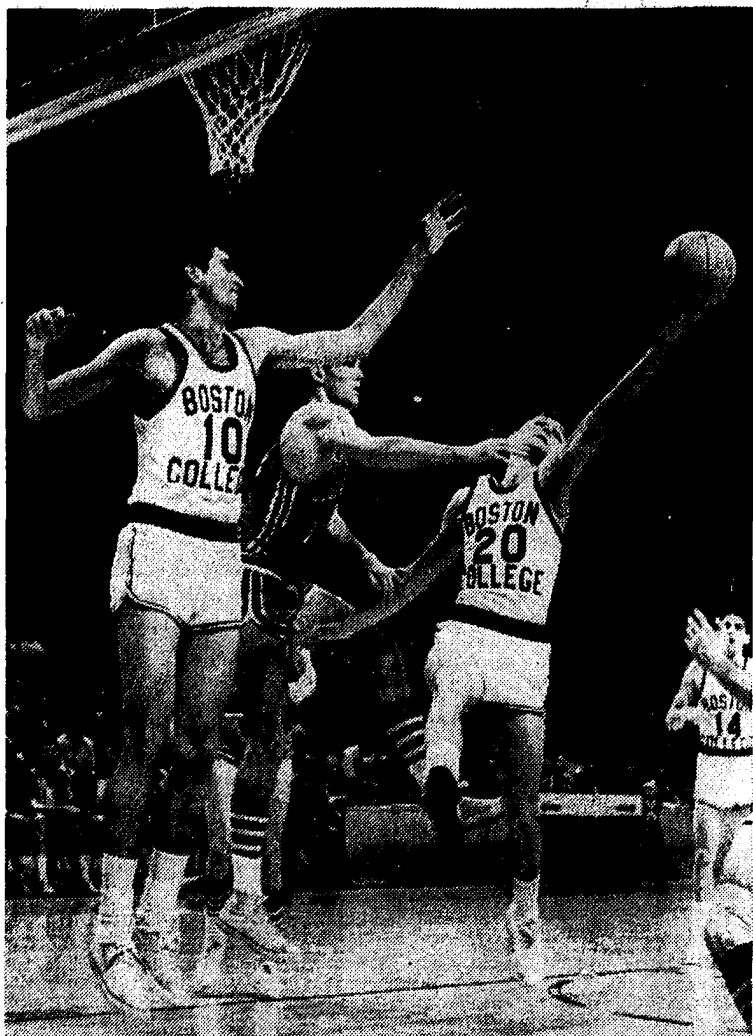
Eagles had a lead, 61-60, for the first time since the opening moments. Fifty-five seconds remained.

St. John's called a time out with 27 seconds left. When they put it back in play Evans, the dynamic little guy from New Haven, came up with the biggest steal of his ever-loving basketball life, as the Eagles were applying the pressure.

He was fouled intentionally by Hill, with eight rapidly expiring seconds to go, and Billy calmly converted them both. St. John's made the only basket of the game that counted for nothing, at the buzzer.

B.C.

Page 18



B.C.'S DOUG HICE USES FINGERTIPS IN BID TO SCORE (UPI)

★ B.C.

(Continued from Page 17)

The Eagles had come out tight, the Redmen weren't much better, and, at the half, this one was beginning to look like a nervous evening when two teams, capable of much better, just could not get untracked.

St. John's, up by two at the half, hit on three quick baskets just after the start of play and with Bogad, who sometimes plays in the shadow of Dove, coming up with so many important baskets, it was almost enough.

But the Eagles, in the all-important one-on-one situation early, made an unbelievable 21 consecutive free throws right up to little Billy's final two to keep pace when they could not buy a basket for love nor money.

	B.C.			ST. JOHN'S			
	G	F	T	G	F	T	
Adlman	5	7	17	Swartz	2	0	4
Kissne	1	5	7	Calzi	5	2	12
Wolters	2	5	9	Warren	2	0	4
Kvancz	3	3	7	Dove	6	3	15
Evans	2	6	10	Bogad	7	7	21
Driscoll	2	1	5	Hill	1	0	2
Hice	1	4	8	Brunner	2	0	4
Keleher	1	0	2				
Totals	16	31	63	Totals	25	12	62

	NO. CAROLINA			PRINCETON			
	G	F	T	G	F	T	
Miller	7	2	18	Heiser	8	2	18
Bunting	4	1	9	Walters	1	0	2
Clark	3	7	13	Thomforde	6	2	14
Grubar	2	12	18	Haarlow	1	0	2
Lewis	4	6	14	Hummer	6	2	14
Tuttle	0	3	3	Lucchino	2	0	4
Gauntlett	1	0	2	Lawyer	3	2	8
J. Brown	2	1	5	R. Brown	3	2	8
Totals	23	32	78	Totals	30	10	70

79