

# WRITE ON SPORTS WORKSHOP

## Seton Hall v Marquette | Men's Basketball

January 31, 2026 | Prudential Center, Newark NJ



WITH SPECIAL GUEST  
BROADCASTER  
DAVE POPKIN



**WS**  
Write on Sports



On Saturday, January 31st, Write on Sports hosted a workshop at the Prudential Center in Newark. The workshop focused on the Division 1 Men's College Basketball game between the Seton Hall University Pirates and the Marquette University Golden Eagles.

Students began the day entering the arena with other members of the press and receiving their media credentials. Prior to the game, students interviewed longtime Seton Hall basketball radio broadcaster Dave Popkin. In the pre-game interview, Dave Popkin offered an overview of Seton Hall's team and season, as well as a preview of the match-up against Marquette including players and potential game trends. The students asked insightful questions about the team, broadcasting, and the state of college basketball. We then headed to our seats for tip-off.

During the game, students recorded videos of key plays, discussed specific players, and enjoyed the atmosphere of a college basketball game. After the game, the students conducted a post-game interview with Seton Hall senior and team captain, David Gabriel. The students asked for his perspective on the team's performance, especially in the second half when Seton Hall took over the game. He also shared tips for those interested in pursuing college athletics. The students spent the remaining time writing or recording stories reporting on the experience and offering their analysis. You can check out the students' work below.

## **0 vs. 0 - [Post-Game Video](#)**

*By Jarren Brown and Christian Escano*

## **SHU and March Madness - [Post-Game Video](#)**

*By Brandon Bellefantier, Lucas Brown, and Mateo Moncada*

## **Seton Hall Pirates vs. Marquette Golden Eagles**

*By Isabella Barrantes and Jas Barrantes*

Seton Hall Pirates versus the Marquette Golden Eagles basketball game took place on Saturday, January 31st at the Prudential Center in Newark, New Jersey. David Gabriel, captain of the Pirates stated that this game was crucial to the future of the season. How did the entirety of the game go?

The game was taken in two halves, and in the first Seton Hall was falling behind. Despite this, fans still cheered and roared throughout the stadium. Marquette continued to get past Seton Hall's defense, yet the game's score remained within a range of 10 points. Each timeout consisted of fun activities that kept the viewers entertained as the teams discussed their next plays. Seton Hall and Marquette finished the first half with a score of 33-41.

Moreover, in the second half Seton Hall had a sudden burst in points, so it didn't take long for the Pirates to take the lead from Marquette. Budd Clark took advantage of his quick and shifty moves, and scored multiple mid-range shots and layups. The rest of the Pirates took advantage of their defense. They prevented Marquette from scoring on multiple shots, and the audience helped them boost morale. Because of Seton Hall's versatile offense and defense, they took home a win with a score of 69-64.

In conclusion, the Seton Hall Pirates defeated the Marquette Golden Eagles for the second time this season. Today, they came back in the second half after finishing the first down 8 points. Fans were kept on their toes during this fluctuating game. Will Marquette get their revenge in the games to come.

## ***Eagles Fail to Take Flight Against the Pirates***

*By Gabriel Duhaney*

On Saturday, January 31, 2026 at the Prudential Center in Newark, New Jersey, the Seton Hall Pirates went against the Marquette Golden Eagles in a Big East Men's Basketball game. Adam "Budd" Clark, a junior at Seton Hall University scored 19 points, 3 rebounds, 6 assists, and played a total of 34 minutes. In the first half, it was Marquette that was leading Seton Hall 33-41 and then in the second half Seton Hall ended up coming from behind to win with a score of 69-64. This win puts Seton Hall on a 2-game win streak. After the game, the Write on Sports students interviewed captain David Gabriel and asked him a few questions regarding the changes of the game.

Overall, as a Seton Hall fan, the game was phenomenal as I got to watch my first college basketball game. I hope to continue to watch the Seton Hall Pirates progress during the season and hopefully into the Big East tournament. This game adds a boost of confidence to the Pirates as they travel to Villanova and face their former coach.

## ***Seton Hall Heats the Game Up with Big Win***

*By Alejandro Mayorga*

Today's game of Seton Hall vs Marquette on January 31st was interesting. Seton Hall did not have their head in the game in the first half but Marquette played well and the half ended with a score of 41-33, Marquette up by 8 points. Seton Hall played better in the second half but they made too many fouls. In total there were 14 blocks 19 steals 27 turnovers 23 personal fouls the game. The best players were Adam Clark who put up 19 points, A.J. Staton-McCray with 11 points, Nigel James Jr who scored 16 points, and Royce Parham who put up 17 points. AJ Staton-McCray made a 3 pointer to take the lead at the end of the game and Seton Hall won 64-69. It was my first basketball game and the experience was great and fun.

## ***The Seton Hall Shutdown***

*By Sophia Mehalaris*

Going into the game the pressure was on, this was a crucial game for Seton Hall as they are in the hunt for a March Madness spot. The energy in the arena was high and all fans were praying for a win. This was intended to be a very tight and scrappy game as Marquette was coming for the win after losing to Seton Hall earlier in the season.

Now entering the first half it was almost more relaxed. The effort certainly wasn't 100% and there were a lot of wide open threes and offensive rebounds. The two teams were pretty much going shot for shot and it was a very close half. Towards the end of the half Marquette ran away with it and were up by almost 10 at half time.

Coming out in the second half Seton Hall looked to be energized and were playing lock up defense. It was a complete switch from what we saw last half with no shots unguarded and there was a tenacity on the rebounds. Seton Hall dug out of the deficit and took the lead back with being up by as much as 5. Although they came back and took the lead, Marquette was still in striking distance and came back to tie the game at 60-60 with close to 4 minutes left. After this, buckets were difficult to come by and with very little time left the two teams were tied at 64-64. Both teams were trying to create a shot when AJ Staton-McCray put up a three that was looking like just what Seton Hall needed. The ball shot straight through the net and the crowd erupted, taking Seton Hall up by 3 with a little more than a minute left on the clock. After calling a timeout, Marquette turned the ball over and Seton Hall missed their shot, with the defensive rebound Marquette was going for the fast break and missed their final chance at winning this game. Having to foul, Marquette sent Adam Clark to the free throw line where he knocked both shots down, sealing the game for Seton Hall at home. Talking to one of the captains after the game he said that the team just tried to come out the second half with more energy and in the end that was the one switch that they needed to come out victorious.

## ***Nail Bitter Ends in a Marquette Eagle Bleeding Blue as Pirates Win 69-64***

*By Sebastian Mejia*

Today's game was intense. Seton Hall beat Marquette by 5 points in a nail-biter here at the Prudential Center. The Seton Hall Basketball team played Marquette today in a crucial game that will help them get into March Madness as Seton Hall is #4 in the Big East. In the first half, Seton Hall started off slow. As Seton Hall was more bunched up in the first half and they shot more in the paint than three pointers. They were more spaced out trying to guard all the players that did end up with them leaving people wide open in the paint. At half time the score was 41 to 33 and Seton Hall went to the locker room tired and losing and the Prudential Center had less energy than a wedding (and that says a lot). They came back out and ready to win and ohh boy they came out hot scoring back to back and having more bunched up defense to try and turn the ball over. This was a good strategy from Seton Hall as this forced more turnovers from Marquette. This strategy helped Seton Hall as they ended up forcing 16 turnovers but they did turn the ball over 14 times themselves.

After a 9 point comeback Seton Hall tied it up 64 to 64 with 1:00 minute left. As the clock hit one minute, Seton Hall got the ball and brought it up court, faked the shot and passed it out to AJ Staton-McCray who shot it cleanly and made it 67 to 64. That stadium erupted with happiness as everyone was up on their feet clapping and jumping. Seton Hall came back after a rebound, took it back up court to take a shot and BOOM, foul called and the stadium felt like an earthquake as Seton Hall made it 69-64 and then Budd Clark brought it up and held it as the clock winds down. The Prudential Center is bleeding blue as the Pirates win with a final score of 69-64.

After the game we got to interview David Gabriel. We asked about their defense and he said, "try to rush the other team...and try to make them play uncomfortable". On the topic of offense coming out to the second half he said, "coach gave a good speech at halftime...and energy was big time" as Seton Hall came out like prime Jordan and the Bulls and scored 36 in a thriller that ended in a Pirates win, winning 69-64.

## ***Seton Hall Pirates Vs. Marquette Golden Eagles***

*By Mackenzie Sosa*

On Saturday, January 31st at the Newark, New Jersey Prudential Center, the Seton Hall Pirates versed the Marquette Golden Eagles. At the start of the game it was expected for Seton Hall to win but for it to be a close game even though Seton Hall beat them the first time they played them. Due to the new transfer players, Seton Hall has been able to build up their defense and currently has the 8th best defense in the nation.

Once the game started, Seton Hall started off a bit slow in the first half putting themselves behind. Ending the first half in an 8 point deficit, Marquette had 41 points and Seton Hall had 33. According to David Gabriel, one of the team captains, this is something the team has been struggling with. During half time the energy was there, the team got a good half time speech from their coach, the Flag Man beat his record of 15 by 3 and got 18 laps, and the crowd was ready for a comeback.

Seton Hall came back in the second half showing the defense everyone expected. The game was still tight but this time they only let up 23 points which is almost half the points compared to the first half. As the game started coming to an end Marquette started to pick up the pace and started heading for the win. They tied the game with 1 minute and 44 seconds left. Then Seton Hall came back with a 3 pointer with a bit more than a minute left on the clock by AJ Staton-McCray breaking the tie. It was less point for point and by the end of the half Seton Hall pulled ahead.

## ***Seton Hall Basketball Game***

*By Michalla Sosa*

Saturday afternoon, the Seton Hall Pirates and the Marquette Golden Eagles played at the Prudential Center in Newark NJ. In the first half of the game, Marquette was winning by 8 points, but by the second half, Seton Hall had upped their defense and was winning by 13 points. The Seton Hall Pirates and the Marquette Golden Eagles had versed one another before which gave each team leverage, and an idea of how their opponents play. In the beginning of the game, Marquette made eight 3 pointers. By the second half Seton Hall blocked most of Marquette's shots and took the lead, the final score being 69-64 with Seton Hall winning the game.