

SPORTS COVER STORY

Plodzeen leads Loyola in win over Notre Dame

War on the Shore benefits Danny Did Foundation

TODD MARVER, Staff Writer

Loyola Academy senior Tom Plodzeen sat out of the Ramblers' win over St. Francis on Jan. 22, but he came back with a vengeance the following weekend. Plodzeen netted 12 points in a 54-45 win over Notre Dame, who has been a fixture in area top 25 rankings this season, at the sixth annual War on the Shore at Loyola Academy on Saturday, Jan. 30. Plodzeen knocked down three trifectas during a 16-2 Loyola Academy run that turned a 12-12 tie into a 28-14 Ramblers advantage. He then played more limited minutes in the second half due to pre-existing injuries. "I think just building on momentum and hitting shot after shot keeps you going and keeps you wanting to shoot more," Plodzeen said. "Just resting up and coming back, you're eager to play and you just want to contribute all you can to your team. Last night it was with rebounding and assists and today it was a little bit of scoring, so you just try to do what you can.

"When we met with the team today before the game, I talked about Will and Eddie (Trapp) and how they've exceeded expectations in their senior years to this point," Loyola Academy coach Tom Lavitolo said. "So it didn't surprise me that Will Plodzeen netted 12 points and he's got a hip (injury) and he's got a lot of things. It's why he didn't play as much in the second half. He couldn't move a whole lot."

The day prior in a 44-41 loss to St. Ignace, Plodzeen recorded nine rebounds and five assists.

Evans led the Ramblers Loyola Academy's Ramier Evans makes a heaping pass to avoid a Notre Dame double team on Saturday, Jan. 30, in Wilmette, TRACY ALLEN/22ND CENTURY MEDIA



Loyola Academy's Ramier Evans makes a heaping pass to avoid a Notre Dame double team on Saturday, Jan. 30, in Wilmette, TRACY ALLEN/22ND CENTURY MEDIA

scends sport. I think that you can understand that there's so many things you're in control of and you've got to take care of those things.

Whether it's your academics, character or how you treat your family. There's so many different things you're in control of and so

strive to get that every week. Player of the Week, so we have a board for Intangible

Mike and Martin Stannum to prevent deaths caused by seizures. It was founded by The foundation's mission is to provide life-saving devices for people with epilepsy. It's a very important to me personally. We're lucky to be associated with them."

Ramier's been leading it, but it just shows that he does the intangibles every week."

Lavitolo was proud of how his squad bounced back from a tough loss to St. Ignace. Plodzeen was proud of how his squad bounced back from a tough loss to St. Ignace. Plodzeen was proud of how his squad bounced back from a tough loss to St. Ignace. Plodzeen was proud of how his squad bounced back from a tough loss to St. Ignace.

Evans noted that freshman Andre White Jr.'s Twitter post served as motivation to beat Notre Dame after a close loss the day prior.

"Bouncing back is always hard after a loss," Evans said. "Andre White missed the game-winning shot and was kind of down about it. We rallied around him though. He posted something on Twitter and it said that even though he can't get the shot back, let's come back today and get a win. That's what motivated us to go out and get a win."

Proceeds from the annual War on the Shore benefit a couple weeks and do a basketball clinic like we always do with a bunch of other schools. So it's important for the school to understand and help other people, especially when it's a family situation. It's a Loyola family and a Loyola community event and a family that's very important to me personally. We're lucky to be associated with them."

Evans noted that freshman Andre White Jr.'s Twitter post served as motivation to beat Notre Dame after a close loss the day prior.

"Bouncing back is always hard after a loss," Evans said. "Andre White missed the game-winning shot and was kind of down about it. We rallied around him though. He posted something on Twitter and it said that even though he can't get the shot back, let's come back today and get a win. That's what motivated us to go out and get a win."

Proceeds from the annual War on the Shore benefit a couple weeks and do a basketball clinic like we always do with a bunch of other schools. So it's important for the school to understand and help other people, especially when it's a family situation. It's a Loyola family and a Loyola community event and a family that's very important to me personally. We're lucky to be associated with them."