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The Lessons of Lapchick's Scrapbook



St. John's Coach Joe Lapchick with Gus Alfieri (11), the all-American Alan Seiden (33) and the assistant Lou Carnesecca, right, in 1959.

By GEORGE VECSEY
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NOTES & SCANDAL

Every autumn, Joe Lapchick took out the scandal scrapbook, with the photographs of tall young men with the snappy brims of their fedoras turned down over their faces to hide their shame.

The scrapbook was filled with clippings about college basketball players who had ruined their lives, giving up points for the benefit of gamblers. The old coach made his St. John's players take the scrapbook home and sign their names, attesting that they had read it.

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