

CIF Basketball Begins For Montgomery High



JUNIOR WHIZ . . . Paul Westphal of Aviation High goes to the basket to score two of his 29 points against West High last night. He led the Aviation Falcons to a 76-62 win over the Warriors to gain the Pioneer League's second place berth in the CIF "AA" playoffs. The loss ended the basketball season for West. (Press-Herald Photo by Mike Eggers)

90 Schools In Playoffs

Three CIF basketball championships will be decided during sudden death playoffs commencing Friday. A total of 90 high schools are involved in the "Southern Section" tournaments.

A simple identification of "AAA," "AA," and "A" is associated with each group of 32, 32 and 26 schools.

Although during the football season the Bay League was in the "AAAA" (4-A) playoffs, the Sky League was in the "AAA" (3-A) playoffs and the Pioneer League was in the "AA" (2-A) playoffs, all three leagues are assigned to the top ranking 3-A playoffs in basketball.

This arrangement will place El Segundo (Pioneer), North High (Bay), Torrance (Sky) and Morningside (Sky) in one big kettle. They are considered among the top eight basketball teams among the 32 participants in the 3-A division. The official pairings will be withheld until CIF officials have a good look at yesterday's game results.

The "AA" pairings were announced last weekend. Although some berths were not certain until last night's games, competition starts Friday. The only local representation is Bishop Montgomery High which won the Camino Real League last Friday. The Knights have a home game against runner up Corona del Mar of the Irvine League.

The basketball playoffs will follow almost the same format as in the past. The Triple-A semi-finals and finals are March 10 and 11 at the Long Beach Arena. The Double-A championship will be a preliminary March 11 at the giant Arena. The Class "A" championship game will be March 10 at a neutral court.

Third place games have been eliminated for 1967. The "AA" division quarter-final games will henceforth be played on neutral courts following similar action taken two years ago when all "AAA" quarter-finals were moved to neutral locations.

"We have found over the years that there is really very little fan appeal in the AAA consolation (third place) game," said Ken Fagnans, CIF commissioner.

"The teams are flat after losing in the semi-finals on Friday because their hopes of winning a CIF championship have been thwarted," the commissioner said.

Coaches have commented it is impossible to get the boys 'up' for the third place game and attendance has indicated that even the participating student bodies are not interested.

Each league is permitted two entries in the playoffs. If a tie for first place exists, both teams will be invited; if an outright champion is declared the second place team is entered, too. No league is permitted more than two entries.

If a three-way tie occurs or a tie for second place exists, the league involved must determine its play-off entrants.

Determination of play-off divisions was based on average enrollment of all students in all grades, number of schools in a league, number of boys in the upper grades, relative strength of leagues and the record made by representatives from each league in previous play-offs.

Leagues assigned to the "AAA" division are: Bay, Catholic, Channel, Citrus Belt, Coast, Foothill, Freeway, Garden Grove, Montview, Moore Pacific, Pioneer, San Gabriel Valley, Sky, Suburban and Sunset.

"AA" division—Angelus, Camino Real, Crestview, Desert-Valley, Frontier, Golden, Imperial Valley, Inland, Irvine, Ivy, Rio Hondo, San Antonio San Luis Athletic, Santa Barbara County, Santa Fe and Sierra.

"A" division—Academy, Arrowhead, Concor, De Anza, Desert-Inyo (major and minor), Delphic, Hacienda, Mountain-Desert, Olympic, Orange, Prep, Tri-County and Tri-Valley.

Three free lance schools—Bosco Tech, Eagle Mountain and Needles—have had their schedules evaluated by the CIF Executive Committee and have been informed that in order to qualify for the play-offs they must win eight of a stipulated 10 games.

Sierra High of Whittier is defending "AAA" titleholder while Santa Maria won the "AA" crown and Lutheran the "A" division championship last year.

Aviation Earns Trip To Playoffs

Aviation buttoned down second place in the Pioneer League basketball race last night with a 76-62 win over host West High as Paul Westphal scored 29 points.

The victory gave the Falcons a 7-3 league record and left West High with a 5-5 mark.

The Warriors won the first meeting between the two teams, 62-54. Westphal and teammate Gary Miller had just returned to action after being sidelined by injuries for several games.

Neither of the Falcon aces showed any effects of those injuries last night. Miller hit for 16 points, as did Fran Hickey. Aviation moved into an early lead and never trailed.

Barry Hyde led West in scoring with 17 points. Guard Mike Tomas had 12.

West (62) Hyde (17) Miller (16) Hickey (16) Harrington (7) Boyer (2) Tomas (12) West High (62) Hyde (17) Marks (9) Bell (9) Bramhall (10) Tomas (12) West (62) Hyde (17) Marks (9) Bell (9) Bramhall (10) Tomas (12)

Torrance National Little League will begin its tryouts this weekend at Del Amo Field.

The schedule for each age:

Sat., Feb. 25, 9 a.m. for 12 year olds. Sun., Feb. 26, 12 noon for 8 year olds; Sat., March 4, 9 a.m. for 11 year olds; Sun., March 5, 12 noon for 9 year olds; and Sat., March 11, 9 a.m. for 10 year olds.

Registration of players will be held throughout the tryouts, according to Hal Foley, league president.

L.A. Shuffles Schools For Spring Semester

Releaguings of Los Angeles city schools brings about formation of an eighth league, thus affecting all but one of the existing leagues.

Addition of the Mid-Valley League marks the first expansion since 1959 when the Valley League was partitioned into two sections, East Valley and West Valley. The three Valley Leagues consist of five teams each.

Monroe, San Fernando, and Sylmar have been shifted from the East Valley, while Birmingham and Granada Hills of the West Valley round out the new combination.

That leaves Canoga Park, Chatsworth, Cleveland, Reseda, and Taft in the West Valley.

Grant, North Hollywood, Polytechnic, and Van Nuys are in the East Valley league, with Verdugo Hills going from the Northern League to fill out the EVL.

With Verdugo Hills vacat-

Tartars Conquer Titans

Rolling Hills and Torrance played a routine Sky League basketball game last night and Coach Will Boerger's Tartars won, 96-58. The game was at Rolling Hills.

If anything was different or unusual about the game, it happened at the end of the half.

The clock had one second to go with Torrance inbound- ing the ball. A poor pass was made three-fourths the length of the court, but the clock was allowed to run out with the ball in flight and it was intercepted by Daryl Arenstein.

As the teams departed for the dressing room, Coach Boerger said the clock was not to start until the inbound- ed ball was touched. The technicality necessitated a replay. A subsequent long pass was grabbed by Bart Johnson who was fouled attempting a shot. He made two free throws on the play.

Johnson had 8 field goals and 8 free throws for 24 points and his sidekick Dick Kruehl had 13 goals and 4 free throws for 30 points.

The Tartars entertain Leuzinger in the Sky League finale Friday night.

Torrance (96) Roll. Hills (58) Johnson (24) F. Schiff (2) Kruehl (13) F. Merrill (18) Jasper (15) C. Arenstein (15) Fisher (17) G. Devine (11) Galyardt (9) G. Krug (8) Torrance (96) Roll. Hills (58) Johnson (24) F. Schiff (2) Kruehl (13) F. Merrill (18) Jasper (15) C. Arenstein (15) Fisher (17) G. Devine (11) Galyardt (9) G. Krug (8)

Scoring subs: Torrance—Fernaly (2), Brown (2), Albright (2), Vocke (2), Grim (2); Rolling Hills—Roedel (3), Baumann (4), Lindsay (1), Belcher (3).

Lakers Play Cincinnati

Beginning an important span of four games in five nights, the Los Angeles Lakers host the Cincinnati Royals tonight at 8:30 in the Sports Arena.

Following tonight's clash with Oscar Robertson and company, the Lakers go on the road for games in Detroit on Friday night and St. Louis on Saturday night.

This is the seventh Laker-Royal meeting of the 1966-67 season. Coach Fred Schaus, defending Western Division champions hold a 4-2 bulge in the series.

There are only six home games remaining to the Laker schedule after tonight.

Los Angeles won the first three games of this season's series with the Royals but since then managed only a single victory at Cincinnati while losing at the Sports Arena and again in Cleveland.

Hawthorne Crushed by South Five

Chuck Fernandes scored 27 points, pumping in 13 field goals, as South High battered Hawthorne in a home court victory last night, 78-62.

The win gave South a 6-5 Bay League record. The game climaxed a hapless season for the Cougars who won 1-of-12.

The Spartans got a full effort from their combination of Fernandes, Jim Owens, Jerry Turner, Tom Gammon and Jerry Wang. Turner had 19 points and Owens 16.

Owens returned to the line-up last week after missing half the season with a knee injury.

South will wind up its regular season Friday night at Inglewood.

North did not play last night. The Saxons will attempt an undefeated league campaign against Redondo Friday night.

South (78) Hawthorne (62) Fernandes (27) F. Litton (9) Gammon (5) F. Martin (16) Owens (16) C. Crowell (23) Turner (19) G. Lee (9) Wang (2) G. Volk (12) South (78) Hawthorne (62) Fernandes (27) F. Litton (9) Gammon (5) F. Martin (16) Owens (16) C. Crowell (23) Turner (19) G. Lee (9) Wang (2) G. Volk (12)

Scoring subs: South—Fuller (2), Hopmizian (2), Marshall (1), Kier (1); Hawthorne—Richards (2).

American LL Holds Tryouts

Tryouts and late registration for Torrance American Little League will be completed Saturday from 8:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. at Seaside Field, Doris Way and Sharynne Lane.

Boys who wish to play this year must register, and attend two tryouts unless presently assigned to a major team. Boys should be accompanied by a parent and provide a birth certificate in order to register.

First tryouts were held yesterday at the field.

The loss in LA was a 126-124 thriller, with four men—Lucas, Adrian Smith, Oscar Robertson and Connie Dierking—scoring 102 of the Royals' 126 points.

Golden State Basketball Launched

Tournament basketball for boys 10-14 years of age will be held under the direction of Golden State Boys Basketball.

Class B division games will be played Saturday at Hermosa Beach. Teams from Hermosa, Santa Monica, Manhattan Beach and Orange County will compete in the play-offs. State finals will be March 20-24 at Westside Jewish Center in Los Angeles.

Other preliminary tournaments in A and B divisions are set for Duarte, San Pedro, Santa Monica, Westside and Los Felis Center.

The Golden State program was formed by a group headed by Eli Sherman, an authority on youth basketball.

"It just seemed that everyone was overlooking a good thing," said Sherman, state commissioner. "Because of the great number of courts available everywhere, basketball is more easily accessible to boys than any other sport. No big diamonds as in baseball, and no large fields as in football are needed."

Sherman contacted various boys clubs, municipal recreation departments, Jewish centers, churches, YMCAs, and playgrounds around the state to form teams for the program.



REBOUNDER . . . Steve Patterson, reserve center for Bishop Montgomery, will see action in the CIF basketball playoffs against Corona del Mar Friday night. The teams will compete in the 32-team "AA" playoffs. (Press-Herald Photo)

Long Beach Eyes Perfect Season

After successfully defending their Metropolitan Conference basketball title by snuffing out the upset bids of two foes last week, the Long Beach Vikings will try to pad their sensational 24-1 season record Friday.

Friday's schedule has Long Beach at Bakersfield, Rio Hondo at Valley, Cerritos at El Camino, and East Los Angeles at Santa Monica.

In last week's action, Long Beach stopped Santa Monica, 83-70, and then cut down East Los Angeles, 102-89.

In other results Cerritos polished off Rio Hondo, 77-62; El Camino trounced East Los Angeles 121-101; and Bakers-

field surprised Valley, 84-83; Cerritos smashed Bakersfield, 92-56; Valley out-scored El Camino, 107-103; and Santa Monica whipped Rio Hondo, 97-85.

Scoring champ of the week for one game was East Los Angeles' Dwight LeeRay, who connected for 40 in the Huskies' loss to El Camino.

In other notable efforts, El Camino's Walt Hale had 37 against East Los Angeles and Bakersfield's Bill Winston totaled 33 against Valley.

Meanwhile, the Metro scoring lead changed hands again, but stayed in the Santa Monica family—Terry Schofield (285) replacing Frank Flack (278).

Knights To Host Opener

The 32-team CIF "AA" basketball playoffs get off to a "twi-light" start Friday night with Corona del Mar invading Bishop Montgomery High gym. The "AAA" playoff begins Tuesday.

Corona del Mar is the runner up in the Irvine League, having posted a 11-3 record. The Sea Kings have a 17-6 season record. They lost to Estancia last night, 63-61.

Coach Dave Benedaret's Montgomery quintet went through a 10-game Camino Real League schedule unbeaten. The team's season record is 20-3. Two of the three teams that beat the Knights may wind up in other parts of the playoffs. Loyola is leading the Catholic League with a 9-1 record and Bosco Tech is a freelance possibility.

Montgomery lost to both of them by 55-53 scores, but in a return match the Knights clubbed Bosco Tech, 78-53.

Bishop was also beaten by South High, third place team in the Bay League, by a 67-65 margin.

Benedaret's starting lineup has consisted of Jon Yarmolovich and Rick Sabosky at forward, Jim Garbanati at center, and Dan Graham and Steve Sciarra at guard.

Benedaret is in his second year at Montgomery High and this is his first championship team. Two years ago his St. Monica's team finished second in the CRL and was beaten by Torrance High in the first round of the play-offs.

Season Record

Opponent	Score
Rolling Hills	53-48
Lennox	74-36
Serra	66-44
Verbum Dei	64-57
Bosco Tech	lost 55-53
San Gabriel Mission	49-49
St. Genarieve	72-55
South	lost 67-65
West	62-58
Germán Lacson	64-57
Notre Dame	62-61
Loyola	lost 55-53
Murphy	64-53
Crespi	64-57
St. Bernard's	67-49
Bosco Tech	79-63
Fernán Lacson	64-49
St. Monica's	65-43
Murphy	78-35
Crespi	84-49
St. Bernard's	90-54
Fernán Lacson	53-48
St. Monica's	48-32
Record: 20 Wins, 3 Losses	



C'MON FELLAS . . . Little Emil DeSimone, 5, of the Santa Monica Boys Club is loaded down with basketballs for the trip to Hermosa for the Golden State playoffs Saturday. State finals will be March 20-24 at Westside Jewish Center. Santa Monica players are Alan Brady, Jonas Willis, Pat McKenna, John Martin and Duane Espy.