

Spartans Gain Covina Tournament Victory

South Seeks New Grid Mentor

Balance Secures Victory

Team scoring balance gave South High a 49-44 win over San Gabriel on Friday and moved the Spartans into the consolation quarter-finals of the annual Covina Basketball Tournament.

Missing its top scorer, Don Denson, South's non-veteran lineup rebounded from an opening round loss to San Diego Crawford with a final quarter rally that collared San Gabriel.

With center Dave Kuckenbecker flipping in 13 points and controlling the boards, the Spartans came back from a one-point deficit after three quarters and outscored San Gabriel, 16-9, in the last stanza to snare the upset win.

DENSON, WHO carries a 24-point-per-game average, is in Texas on vacation, but Kuckenbecker and Steve French, who also hit 13, were too much for the losers to handle.

San Gabriel grabbed a 12-11 first quarter lead, but trailed 21-20 at intermission. South trailed by one point when the final quarter opened after San Gabriel managed a 15-12 scoring bulge in the third stanza.

AFTER THE tight contest, South mentor Jim Hanny said, "More than anything, Dave won the game for us."

Crawford, one of the tournament's top-seeded teams, managed a 20-8 scoring edge over South in the opening period and went on to a 63-46 win.

South was red-hot at the start and jumped into a 6-0 lead, but that was almost all in the opening period as suddenly the San Diego invaders held the hot hand.

DENNIS GREY, a 6-7 center, controlled the offensive board and scored repeatedly on tips to handcuff the Spartans.

In other tournament action, top-seeded Pius X picked up a 55-34 win over St. Francis and an 89-40 triumph over Warren.

'WE WILL JELL'

West Cage Boss Optimistic Despite Winless Beginning

Although his team has yet to win a game in eight outings this season, West High basketball coach Tom Sutherland believes the Warriors may be the best quintet in the Pioneer League.

Two losses in the Covina Tournament notwithstanding, Sutherland believes he can field four of the league's finest individual performers and says his team will soon jell.

According to Sutherland,



NEW ROLE . . . Guard John Marsden, described as "the finest defensive player in the Pioneer League" by West High coach Tom Sutherland, switched to a gunnery role Thursday afternoon in a 67-50 loss to Fullerton. (Herald Photo)

Steele to Defend Figure Eight Title

Point champion Ben Steele and two darkhorses, Nestor Silveira and Milt Semlinger, will be favored in Wednesday afternoon's Figure Eight stock car races at Ascot Park in Gardena.

The five-event racing card will be topped by a double-header 100-lap main event. Qualifying runs start at 1 p.m. with the first race booked for 2:30 p.m.

IT WILL be the first race for 1964 point totals and Steele, the 1963 champ, will drive the same Chevrolet coupe in which he piled up six main event triumphs the past year.

Silveira and Semlinger failed to make the top 15 in 1963 point listings, but both will be darkhorses in Wednesday's program.

Semlinger was the surprise of the season, winning the final two races on the 1963 slate. Sil-

forward Richard Hall is the league's top scorer, center John Marsden is the league's top defensive man, John Cochran is the league's top rebounder, and Dan Thomas is the league's top guard.

"We are low, but we know we are a better team than we are showing. It is just getting started," Sutherland explained after the Warriors dropped consecutive games Thursday

and Friday in the Covina classic. WEST OPENED the Covina Tournament against Fullerton and lost a 67-50 decision in an error-plagued contest. Hall plunked in 16 points and Cochran added 8 more, but it was West's overall inability to take advantage of Fullerton errors that cost it the win.

In the third period, Fullerton handed the ball over on numerous occasions, but West missed nine shots and wound up being outscored, 16-11.

THE SMALLEST man on the court, 5-8 guard John Delgado, played havoc with the Warriors. Delgado broke up West's man-to-man defense with driving layups and finished with 18 points to top all scorers.

Lack of a big gunner cost West a 55-43 defeat at the hands of Cathedral on Friday in the consolation bracket of the six-day, 32-team tournament. Substitute Dave LaRoche, with 10 points, was the top Redskin scorer.

CATHEDRAL MOVED into a 16-15 lead after one quarter, but West came back to go ahead 25-23 at intermission. In the third period, the Phantoms outscored West, 15-9, and managed a 13-9 bulge in the last stanza to ice the contest. Forward Hall and Dan Galla each hit 8 points and Marsden canned 7 in Sutherland's low-scoring offense.

West will get one final practice game before moving into Pioneer League competition. The Warriors will joust with Sky League contender Beverly Hills on Tuesday, Jan. 7.

and Friday in the Covina classic.

WEST OPENED the Covina Tournament against Fullerton and lost a 67-50 decision in an error-plagued contest.

Hall plunked in 16 points and Cochran added 8 more, but it was West's overall inability to take advantage of Fullerton errors that cost it the win.

In the third period, Fullerton handed the ball over on numerous occasions, but West missed nine shots and wound up being outscored, 16-11.

THE SMALLEST man on the court, 5-8 guard John Delgado, played havoc with the Warriors. Delgado broke up West's man-to-man defense with driving layups and finished with 18 points to top all scorers.

Lack of a big gunner cost West a 55-43 defeat at the hands of Cathedral on Friday in the consolation bracket of the six-day, 32-team tournament. Substitute Dave LaRoche, with 10 points, was the top Redskin scorer.

CATHEDRAL MOVED into a 16-15 lead after one quarter, but West came back to go ahead 25-23 at intermission. In the third period, the Phantoms outscored West, 15-9, and managed a 13-9 bulge in the last stanza to ice the contest.

Forward Hall and Dan Galla each hit 8 points and Marsden canned 7 in Sutherland's low-scoring offense.

West will get one final practice game before moving into Pioneer League competition. The Warriors will joust with Sky League contender Beverly Hills on Tuesday, Jan. 7.



6 GREGG PETERSON, Sports Editor DECEMBER 29, 1963

REACH SEMI-FINALS

El Camino Cagers Surprise Two Sam Barry Opponents

El Camino College moved into the semi-final round of the 14th annual Sam Barry Tournament Friday night with an 81-71 triumph over defending titlist Glendale City College.

Former Torrance High competitor Jim Brennan came up with his highest scoring performance in two seasons at El Camino as he paced the Warriors to their third straight win and second triumph of the tournament.

Three Redskins wound up in double figures, but it was Brennan's 33 points that placed Camino among the final four teams. Last year Brennan averaged only 5.4 points over a 27-game haul and his high-point effort was 19.

STEADY Clark Canfield, a transfer from Glendale City College, dumped in 22 markers against his former mates. Guard Kirk Brown wound up with 11 points to give ECC the kick it needed.

Camino grabbed a 46-37 half-time edge over the Vaqueros and managed to sustain the margin through the final 20 minutes of play.

IN THE opening round of tournament competition on Thursday, the Warriors gained revenge against Trade Tech for an earlier one-point defeat. The decision was never in doubt this time as four Redskins hit in double figures and Camino notched a 75-55 triumph.

It was strictly a team effort for George Stanich's crew as the Redskins responded from two holiday scrimmages with their best-balance performance of the year.

CANFIELD led Camino with 16 markers while center Jim Lloyd hit 14 and Brennan and guard Bob Garcia wound up with 12 digits each.

At halftime, Camino managed a 35-25 edge, and the second period proved to be almost a replay of the first as the Warriors outscored Trade Tech, 40-30.

Defending state champ Fresno and tournament-wise Cerritos moved into the semi-finals with impressive triumphs. Fresno, beaten in the Sam Barry finals last year by Glendale in an upset, handed Metropolitan Conference pow-

erhouse Long Beach a 96-67 setback Friday night.

LONNIE HUGHEY, a 6-8 forward, carded 32 points to guide the Raisin City quintet in a wild splurge. Fresno led by a 46-30 margin at intermission and bolstered the lead with a 50-point performance in the second half.

On Thursday, Fresno opened the tourney with a surprisingly easy 91-76 win over East Los Angeles as Hughey potted 41 points from a center position.

CERRITOS, with three tourney appearance behind it in recent weeks, handed defending Metro Conference champ

Bakersfield a 91-66 licking in the quarter-finals.

In its first-round contest, Cerritos pinned an 80-54 defeat on Pasadena.

OTHER first-round games found Compton whipping Santa Monica, 84-79; Long Beach downing Harbor, 87-67; Bakersfield edging Los Angeles City College, 76-75; San Diego wall-

opping Pierce, 92-77; and Glendale blasting Valley, 93-75.

Consolation round action Friday night saw Trade Tech slip by Valley in an upset, 77-75; Pierce clobber Santa Monica, 107-94; Pasadena down Los Angeles, 77-69; and East Los Angeles down Harbor, 86-74.

Consecutive upset losses Thursday and Friday knocked highly-touted Harbor College out of the 14th annual Sam Barry Basketball Tournament held at Glendale City College.

Metropolitan Conference power Long Beach handed Harbor an 87-67 defeat on Thursday in the opening round of the classic and knocked the Seahawks into the consolation bracket.

ROMIE HARGROVE, a 6-3 forward, slipped 31 points through the nets to lead Long Beach in a wild second half comeback that gave the Vikings 56 points after intermission.

Tiny Jim Splitterger and huge Willie Montgomery turned in double-figure performances in a vain effort to keep Harbor in the ball game.

Well-balanced East Los Angeles limited Montgomery and Splitterger to four points each Friday night and raced to an 86-74 win in the consolation semi-finals.

Ten East L.A. cagers wound up in the scoring books and three men hit in double figures as the Huskies overcame a one-point Harbor halftime edge.

WITH MONTGOMERY and Splitterger held down, forward Ivory Wilson, forward Steve Frank and guard Harry Gravett took over the scoring chores for Harbor.

Gravett responded with a 16-point effort, Wilson canned 13 markers and Frank finished with 10 digits.

Splitterger, a 5-9, 140-pound freshman guard, dumped in 20 points and Montgomery, a 6-4, 203-pound center, canned 14 markers.

Well-balanced East Los Angeles limited Montgomery and Splitterger to four points each Friday night and raced to an 86-74 win in the consolation semi-finals.

Ten East L.A. cagers wound up in the scoring books and three men hit in double figures as the Huskies overcame a one-point Harbor halftime edge.

WITH MONTGOMERY and Splitterger held down, forward Ivory Wilson, forward Steve Frank and guard Harry Gravett took over the scoring chores for Harbor.

Gravett responded with a 16-point effort, Wilson canned 13 markers and Frank finished with 10 digits.

Tollefson Leaves Top Post Vacant

South High is without a head football coach for the first time in the school's seven-year history following the resignation of Dave Tollefson this week.

Tollefson, who has been head grid coach at South since the school opened in 1957, listed "personal reasons" for his resignation.

Currently coaching the frosh-soph wrestling squad at South, Tollefson said, "I will probably stay here," but he added, "I haven't positively decided."

UNDER TOLLEFSON'S guidance, South tied Aviation for the Pioneer League championship in 1959, but since that time, competing in the tougher Bay League, the Spartan grid fortunes have gone continuously downhill.

"The last two seasons killed us," Tollefson feels. During that period South failed to win or tie a contest and on both occasions finished in the Bay League cellar.

TOLLEFSON attributed the South football decline to a "general lack of interest" and pointed out, "There is good talent around that is just not playing."

Lack of available talent was never a problem for Tollefson. With an enrollment of approximately 2,800, South has one of the biggest pools in the Southland from which to draw its athletic material.

TOLLEFSON'S resignation brought to three the number of Bay League pigskin mentors who have recently given up their positions. Previously, Hawthorne's Otto Plum and Santa Monica's Don Kramer resigned.

Plum will take over as Director of Athletics at Hawthorne. Hal Chancey, a former HHS grid coach and current athletic director, will resume the top football spot.

SANTA MONICA has yet to find a replacement for Kramer, who resigned after guiding the Vikings to the Bay League championship and a place in the CIF playoffs.

Remaining at their head coaching positions in the Torrance Unified School District are William Parton at West, Ed Levy at North and Irv Kasten at Torrance.

Kasten moved up from an assistant coaching spot to head mentor in 1960. Levy took over as head coach, after serving an assistant apprenticeship, two years ago, and Parton assumed the top position at West when the school opened last year.



DAVE TOLLEFSON Resigns Position

Canadians Rip Three Area Clubs

Little doubt remains in the minds of Southland minor league ice hockey teams as to the superiority of the Canadian counterparts.

The Humber Valley Peewees, a minor league ice hockey team from Toronto, Canada, chalked up two wins over Southland teams this week before moving to San Diego to continue their 10-day tour.

Humber Valley totaled 56 points compared to 2 for their opponents in dismantling two area National Minor Hockey Assn. teams.

BURBANK was the first area squad to experience the skill of the invaders as Humber Valley carted off a 22-0 triumph. Friday night, Torrance dropped a 3-2 decision at the Olympic Ice Arena in Torrance.

Meanwhile, at the Culver Ice Arena, another Toronto team, the George Bell Bantams, scored an equally one-sided win over Culver City. The local club absorbed a 16-0 licking.

PLAYERS, parents and officials from the two Canadian Minor Hockey league teams arrived in Los Angeles Thursday for their tour of Southern California.

Yesterday, the two victorious Toronto squads journeyed to San Diego to continue their onslaught on local opposition.

Lomita Park Will Present Grid Awards

Lomita County Park will present its annual football awards today at 2 p.m.

Trophies will be presented to all boys who were on first place teams and to the all-star team members and coaches. Special awards for the Most Valuable Player and sportsmanship will also be given.

All boys who participated in the grid program and their parents are invited. Refreshments will be served after the presentations.

The park is still holding registrations for boys who wish to play basketball in an organized league. Boys from 8 to 18 years are eligible to register.

Volunteer coaches are still needed for several quintets. Those interested are asked to contact Herb Bonnet at Lomita Park, 24428 Eshelman Ave., or by phoning DAVIS 6-9949.



QUICK ACTION . . . Sun Valley Ski School Director Skigi Engl glides down a powdered slope in Warren Miller's movie, "The Sound of Skiing," which will be shown Wednesday, Jan. 8, at 8:30 p.m. in the Mira Costa High School auditorium. Admission is \$1.50 with proceeds going to the Los Angeles County Lifeguard Assn. Youth and Welfare Fund.