

# Not A Loss At The Ranch

W.G. Ramirez

With the holiday tournaments out of the way, and the conference schedule one week old, there is only one high school boys basketball team boasting an undefeated record - Rancho at 13-0.

The Rams have run roughshod through the competition thus far, including the Jasper Invitational in Edmonton, Alberta Canada and the local Sundevil Classic last week.

A showdown with Green Valley (11-3) in the semi-finals of the Sundevil Classic proved who the dominant team in the Southern Conference is at the present time, as Rancho went on to win the championship over Cimarron-Memorial.

Head Coach Tony Hopkins, who is in his fourth term at Rancho, has created a championship caliber squad led by nine seniors looking to tear through the competition.

"We were expected to do alot and I think we've done over and above the call of duty," says Hopkins. "It's a pleasant surprise for us to be sitting here undefeated but I'm not really surprised in the way that we've played because we've had this group of kids here for three years.

I guess (all) the hard work is finally starting to pay off."

Leading the way is All-State candidate Michael Johnson. The senior point guard is capable of taking over a game at any time, and has developed a reputation of keeping his game in control at all times.

"He always keeps his eyes open when he's on the court," admires Green Valley senior Wade Perkins. "He shoots well and he is always in control of what he is doing. You can just tell they're well coached because they're well disciplined."

Hopkins has had the pleasure of watching his star pupil evolve into one of the most sought after prep basketball players in the local area.

"The natural leader on this particular basketball team is Michael Johnson," says Hopkins. "Whenever our kids are having problems on the floor, they know they can always look to Mike for some type of leadership and guidance. He's done a fantastic job up to this point.

"I didn't think we were getting those things from him last year. He's grown and matured so much as a basketball player and a person, it's unbelievable."

Johnson says that there isn't

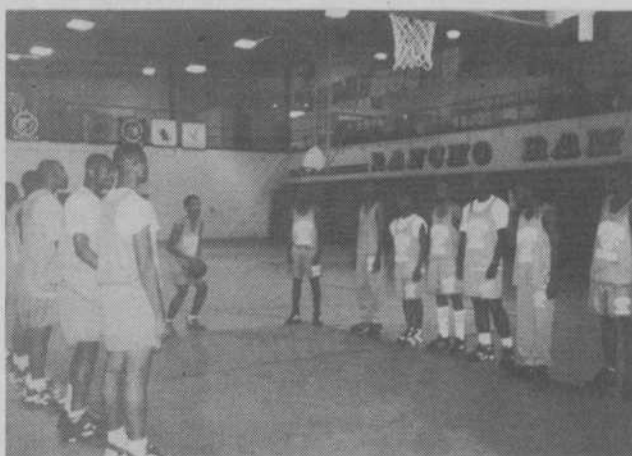


PHOTO: Ramirez/LVS-Voice

**The Rancho Rams have bolted out to a 13-0 record, including two holiday tournament championships.**

much to creating a winning attitude for his teammates, but whenever it's needed, he'll be there.

"I work with them and try to keep them motivated at all times," says Johnson, the MVP of both tournaments the Rams captured over the holidays. "I let most of my talking take place on the court."

Johnson's on-court dialogue has rubbed off impressively, as four of Rancho's five starters are averaging double figures in scoring, with none of them being lower than 16.0.

Larry Treadwell leads the pack with 20.2, Johnson is pouring in 18.3, Jameel Harper has a

solid 18.0 and Bobby Smith is contributing 16.3. Damian Thomas, who has been hampered by a sore hip, has a 7.0 scoring average.

"What that says, is that when we got these kids as sophomores, on the varsity squad," explains Hopkins, "it was a short-term loss for a long-term gain. The games we lost by two or three points back then, we're now winning big."

Hopkins realizes that he must control all twelve of his players' egos, in hopes of maintaining the solid output they have been

demonstrating.

"We can't let our expectations, or the way we practice, or the way we prepare for a particular basketball team to interfere with what we're actually doing right now," concedes Hopkins. "We can't put too much emphasis on the fact that we are undefeated at this point. Attempting to go undefeated is not even a thing that we talk about."

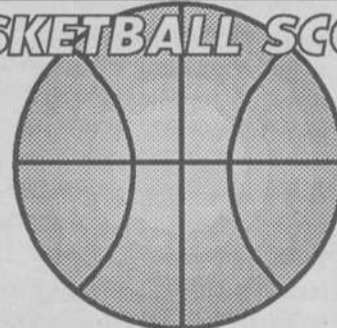
While most prep enthusiasts may be used to traditional rivalries such as: Clark-Bonanza, Valley-Gorman or Rancho-El-

(See Rancho, Page 20)

## PREP BASKETBALL SCOREBOARD

### SUNRISE DIVISION

	Div.	Overall.
RANCHO	2-0	13-0
CHAPARRAL	2-0	6-4
LAS VEGAS	2-0	6-6
GREEN VALLEY	1-0	11-3
VALLEY	1-1	9-4
BOULDER CITY	0-1	3-9
VO-TECH	0-2	4-7
ELDORADO	0-2	5-9
BASIC	0-2	1-8



### SUNSET DIVISION

	Div.	Overall.
CIMARRON	1-0	9-4
CHEYENNE	1-0	8-5
GORMAN	1-0	7-7
DURANGO	1-0	7-8
BONANZA	0-1	6-9
CLARK	0-1	6-9
WESTERN	0-1	5-10
SILVERADO	0-1	2-10

### TUESDAY'S RESULTS

Valley 76, Eldorado 62  
 Las Vegas 81, Basic 74  
 Gorman 74, Bonanza 62  
 Rancho 88, Vo-Tech 44  
 Cimarron-Memorial 68, Western 63  
 Cheyenne 76, Clark 71  
 Durango 108, Silverado 66  
 Chaparral 53, Boulder City 33

### FRIDAY'S GAMES (all 7 p.m. start)

Valley at Boulder City  
 Eldorado at Vo-Tech  
 Rancho at Chaparral  
 Green Valley at Las Vegas  
 Cheyenne at Silverado  
 Cimarron-Memorial at Bishop Gorman  
 Western at Bonanza  
 Durango at Clark

## Coaching Clinic In Anaheim Reaches Out Further Than Southern California

W.G. Ramirez

For many young aspiring athletes, sports clinics are exactly where their skills are honed for further success. Clinics have always played a special role for many professional athletes, including Dan Marino, Greg Maddux, Andre Agassi, Rickey Henderson, Michael Jordan, and the list goes on.

In the same respect, many successful high school and college coaches around the country sharpen their techniques at coaching clinics, which will usually feature coaches that have already reached the summit.

One clinic that has evolved as one of the most respected in the country is the Stovall's All-Sports Clinic, held in Anaheim, Calif. The 25th annual event will take place January 13, 14 and 15 at the Anaheim Convention Center.

The clinic was originally started by Jack Stovall in an attempt to fill up rooms in seven different Stovall Inn's. Although the Disneyland crowd was steady, tourists dwindled during the NFL's off-season, and it was Stovall's intent to keep business flowing. Former Los Angeles Times sportswriter Will Kern and present Houston Oilers offensive coordinator Dick Coury assisted in the startup of the clinic in 1969.

Since then, the clinic has been visited by some of the greatest head coaches in the history of collegiate athletics, including: Paul "Bear" Bryant, Eddie Robinson, Jackie Sherrill, Denny Crum, Joe Paterno, Woody Hayes, John Wooden and Barry Alvarez.

According to Executive Director John Coury, three of Stovall's properties have been bought by Disneyland as a part of the theme park's \$3-billion expansion program. Of the four hotels remaining, two will undoubtedly sell out as 2-3,000 coaches will attend this year's event, which will be highlighted by a visit from Bill Walsh.

Besides California, Stovall's All-Sports Clinic draws alot of attention from Oregon, Washington, Arizona, Utah and Nevada. Over 50,000 brochures are sent out to coaches twice a year, as a committee works continuous on the event throughout the year.

"Because of the recent Orange County financial troubles, it has put a damper on the attendance for this year's event," says Coury.

(See Clinic, Page 20)

Serving The Las Vegas Valley!

**RHYTHM RADIO**  
**FM 88.1**  
LAS VEGAS  
KCEP • FM 88.1  
©1992 EOB

**SHERMAN RUTLEDGE JR.**  
General Manager

**LOUIS CONNOR JR.**  
Program Director

**BILL "CAT" LEE**  
Air Personality

**CLARENCE "QUARTEZ" SIMPSON**  
Underwriter and Air Personality

**ANDRE MYCHALS**  
Music Director

**ANDRE "BIZ" ANDERSON**  
Management Intern

**CAROLYN WARE**  
Office Manager

**CARLAYA ARMOUR**  
Air Personality

**DELWYN X CAMPBELL**  
Gospel Air Personality

**GREG "MC" DREW**  
Air Personality

**JAMIE WASHINGTON**  
Gospel Air Personality

**SHARON SAVAGE**  
Air Personality

**ZENJA DUNN**  
Management Intern

The Station Making A Difference

Owned and Operated By  
The Economic Opportunity Board  
Of Clark County

Phone: (702) 648-0104 • Studio Hotline: 647-FM88