

SENTINEL SPORTS

Prep Basketball Experience leads Durango to win over Valley

Sadat leads way for Trailblazers

By Kevin Lewis
Sentinel-Voice

Durango High School's experience wore down the Valley Vikings in the fourth quarter last Tuesday, in their 87-69 season opening win at the Valley gymnasium.

The Trailblazers finished with five players in double figures and their defense was anchored with 6-foot-8 senior center Ra'ouf Sadat blocking seven shots in the game. He also scored a

game-high 25 points.

"Valley's a good team," said Durango head coach Al La Rocque. "The game was much closer than the final score. That's the team you won't want to play in March. But our guys in the low-post really played their hearts out and I think that was the difference tonight. Sadat is something special to watch."

Durango established themselves a superior low-post game with Sadat being complimented with senior forward Tyler Kidd scoring 20 points along with three

thunderous dunks.

"He's the player that really gave us trouble," said Valley coach Paul Aznarez, of Kidd. "I thought he gave them a great one-two punch with Sadat. We never really adjusted to the intangibles of Kidd's game. We were out of sync on defense. Not moving our feet."

Durango pulled out to an early 27-13 first quarter lead before the Vikings' cut into the deficit behind point guard LaRontae Johnson (9 points and 8 assists) and Jevon Banks, nephew of former UNLV star Freddie Banks (17 points); to trail 40-35 at the half.

Valley would get as close as

55-52 in the opening minute of the fourth quarter before suffering a fatal defensive lapse against the state defending champions. The Trailblazers took a 15-6 run down the stretch of the game and would finish with 32 points for the final quarter.

"There was no yelling in our lockerroom after the game," said

Aznarez. "But you really have to wonder what kind of man-to-man defensive we were in. I don't know. But hey, next time we'll have to put together four full quarters to win."

Also scoring for Durango was Thomas McTyer (10 points), Kevon Jones (14 points), and Jared Call (14 points).

Local League Announcements

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■ Wallyball leagues are forming through Aug. 1 at the Chuck Minek Sports Complex, 275 N. Mojave Road.

The City of Las Vegas-sponsored league, which costs \$40 per team, is open to all teens and adults.

Competition begins Aug. 3 and continues thereafter at 6:30 p.m. on random weekdays.

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■ Coed volleyball teams are being organized for a cost of \$160 at the Minker Complex. Leagues are open teens and adults.

Beginners play Tuesdays and intermediates compete Thursdays, both starting at 6:30 p.m.

Call 229-6563 for additional information on the ten-week league format.

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■ The City of Las Vegas Dula Gymnasium, 441 E. Bonanza offers a variety of opportunities for the mature population that would enjoy fitness activities.

Specializing in Active Sports For Seniors, Dula offers the game of indoor paddle tennis on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays. Games and instruction take place from 9-11 a.m. Registration is \$1.

From 9-11 a.m. on Tuesdays and Thursdays, the program changes to table tennis. There is no charge for table tennis.

Dula also offers Yoga classes Wednesday at 3:30 p.m. Suzanne Barnes teaches

the class by introducing a system of exercises for attaining physical and mental control. Classes are \$3 weekly.

All programs are designed for seniors, 55 or older. Call 229-6307 for details.

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■ Local organizations in need of facilities to sponsor sports tournaments, competitions or exhibitions, can now rent the gym at the City of Las Vegas Chuck Minker Sports Complex, 275 N. Mojave Road. Groups may reserve the facility for exclusive use at a cost of \$20/hour during business hours or \$30/hour at other times.

The facility is open weekdays, 7 a.m. - 9:30 p.m.; Saturdays, 9 a.m. - 5 p.m.; and Sundays, 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. Possibilities for use may include, but are not limited to, basketball, volleyball, gymnastics, dances, seminars, or workshops. Groups must include ten or more individuals. Call 229-6563 for reservation details.

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■ Please send your announcements to:

Las Vegas Sentinel-Voice League Announcements, 1201 South Eastern Ave. Las Vegas, Nevada 89104. Please include any age requirements for activity, dates for sign-ups as well as dates that activity will begin, phone number and any other pertinent information.

The Las Vegas Sentinel-Voice reserves the right to edit any announcement submitted for print.

National Final Rodeo African Americans ranked amongst rodeo's finest...



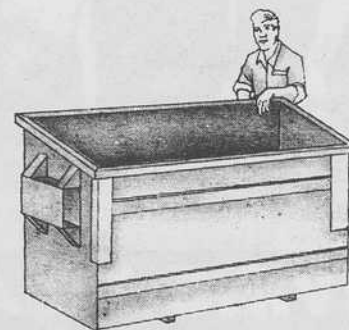
Tulsa, Oklahoma Bull rider Chris Littleton (above), ranked 14th in the world, shows his stuff at this year's National Finals Rodeo, while world champion calf roper Fred Whitfield of Hockley, Texas, currently ranked 4th in the world, received honors earlier this week.

Photos by Jonathan Olsen Front Row Photos

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