



Fisher's Peak All Conference for Volleyball

MVP - Holly Ringo, Aguilar
HTA; and Andrea Shaw, HTA.

Honorable Mention
Chelsea Huffman, Aguilar; Lacie Maonarco, Aguilar; Randi Cordova, Hoehne; Donna Tavakoli, Hoehne; Patsy Adams, HTA; Shelby Choate, HTA; Tynnia Fernandez, Primero; and Darcy Komoraski, Primero.

First team
Ale Cercero, Aguilar; Lexie Martinez, Aguilar; Haven Cappellucci, Hoehne; Nicole Paradisa, Hoehne; Alyssa Hernandez, Hoehne; Jordan East, Hoehne; Marley Schafer, Hoehne; Catherine Jimenez,

The TSJC basketball tournament starts today

By DAVID SANTISTEVAN JR. *The Chronicle-News*

It's that time of year again, as the 73rd edition of the annual TSJC Invitational boys' basketball tournament gets underway at Scott Gym in the newly named Coach Jim Toupal Court.



This may be in both brackets one of the most competitive tournaments in recent memory. In the upper division, teams come from three different Classifications. La Veta this season makes the jump from 1A to 2AA, and draws one of four squads from the Tri-Peaks league in 3AAA in one first round match up versus Trinidad. Hoehne a 2AA team takes on Manitou Springs. Colorado Springs Schools another 2AA team hits the hardwood against DPHP of Pueblo they are also from the Tri-Peaks League. We can't overlook a team from Class 4AAAA, Cañon City a team from the South Central league will battle Rye.

This division will be tough to win in on either side of brackets come Friday and Saturday. Manitou lost their leading scorer. Rye lost 4 to graduation. Trinidad is young. Colorado Springs is another young team, but gained experience last year. Hoehne is solid. La Veta is big, quick and can shoot the ball. DPHP and Cañon City also look to make a run.

In the lower division we have teams from Denver, Northern

New Mexico, Walsenburg, Blanca, and of course three local squads.

Shinning Mountain may just be the favorite. Primero may surprise us and make a run at the championship game. Sierra Grande loves an up tempo game. Maxwell and Wagon Mound both from New Mexico will pressure you, and try to run you into the ground. HTA and Aguilar are tough hard nosed teams and always bring their "A game" to this tournament. John Mall could also be a team to watch.

So between all of the Christmas shopping, wrapping gifts, and putting up the rest of the holiday lights go down to Scott Gym and enjoy this annual pre season hoops tourney. It should be a competitive and entertaining one to say the least.

The 'road' Broncos could easily beat the 'home' Broncos

Will the real Denver Broncos stand up to be counted and quit rattling the chains and cages of their fans, who are perched up on a Colorado 14er one week and covered with sand in the Great Sand Dunes National Park the next?



Mike Garrett

Who should we root for, the abysmal home Broncos or the scintillating road Broncos? Are they a playoff contender or a worse-case scenario pretender to the Not For Long League's throne room?

You have to be smarter than a rocket scientist to figure out these Jekyll and Hyde Broncos. After their totally unexpected rain-swept 34-17 victory over the 8-4 New York Jets Sunday at the Meadowlands and the league's most underachieving San Diego Chargers 22-16 home loss to the Atlanta Falcons, the Broncos have a three-game AFC West lead with four to play.

Only a total collapse in those four games will prevent the Broncos from taking over from San Diego as the 2008 AFC West champions. Who would have thought that at the beginning of this NFL season?

All the Broncos have to do is win two of their next four games, at home against lowly Kansas City Sunday, at a strong Carolina Panthers Dec. 14, at home Dec. 21 against the mediocre Buffalo Bills or on the

road at San Diego Dec. 28, and they're home free regardless of what the 4-8 Chargers do.

San Diego figures to win games at home against the baffling Oakland Raiders and on the road at the punchless Chiefs. They don't figure to win on the road Dec. 21 at Tampa Bay (9-3) so it would behoove the Broncos to take care of business Sunday against the Chiefs (2-10) and not have to worry about that last game in San Diego, which wins all tiebreakers against Denver if they finish with the same records.

The Chiefs game Sunday should be a gimme for Denver but then nothing ever is. The Broncos could again lose the takeaway battle and continue their string of three straight home losses at Invesco Field. Didn't the Broncos used to have the biggest home field advantage in the league when they played at old Mile High Stadium, especially with sea-level teams having to play at altitude?

The Broncos have already lost to the Chiefs once this year and Kansas City beat Oakland Sunday, the same team that dismantled the Broncos at Invesco the week before, 31-10. The Las Vegas bookmakers must be going crazy trying to figure out the odds of any Denver game and what it's going to do next.

Four of the five "expert" Denver Post football writers picked the Jets, who had won five straight games, including being the first team to beat Tennessee this season the week before, to blast the Broncos



New York Jets linebacker Eric Barton, right, attempts to tackle Denver Broncos fullback Peyton Hillis during the first quarter of an NFL football game Sunday, Nov. 30, 2008, at Giants Stadium in East Rutherford, N.J.

(AP Photo/Bill Kostroun)

rather handily. Instead, the Broncos played their best overall game of the season to win their third straight road game. Even the much-maligned (and deservedly so) defense stepped up and made the big plays when they had to against Hall of Fame and living legend quarterback Brett Favre.

The last-minute road win over the moribund Cleveland Browns could have been expected. But they were clear underdogs against the Atlanta Falcons (8-4) and Jets.

The Broncos just seem to

make a choice now on who will likely be playing in the Super Bowl Feb. 1, it would be the Tennessee Titans and New York Giants, each 11-1. The Giants are better than the Super Bowl winning team they had last year but losing their standout wide receiver Plexico Burress for the rest of the season after he shot himself in the leg in a nightclub last week, isn't going to help their chances. Why was Burress carrying a loaded gun into such a place in the first place? If you're expecting trouble, that's a likely place to find it.

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