

Lewis Named CIF Player of Year

BY AVRUM DANSKY
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Raymond Lewis, whose skill with a basketball helped Verbum Dei High win three consecutive CIF basketball championships, Wednesday was named AAAA Player of the Year.

The selection of Lewis, a swift 6-0 guard with a remarkable shooting touch, was no surprise.

A starter two years ago as a 10th grader when the Eagles won the Class AA crown, he was Player of the Year in the AAA division last season as Verbum Dei moved up and won its second title.

And this season, Lewis was the key offensive performer as Verbum Dei successfully jumped up another notch and won the AAAA crown with a 51-42 victory over previously undefeated Crescenta Valley.

Smarter Player

"Raymond had super skills as a 10th grader but in the last two seasons he has become a smarter player. He has learned to perform without the ball and to submerge himself into the team aspect of the game," said Verbum Dei coach George McQuarn.

"But he is, basically, a one-on-one player, and it would be silly not to take

CIF AAAA TEAMS

FIRST TEAM

Pos.	Player, School	Ht.	Year	Avg.
F	Bill Boyd, Crescenta Valley	6-7	Sr.	22.5
F	Gary Dean, Morningside	6-5	Sr.	16.2
F	Jeff Reinke, Pasadena	6-2	Sr.	20.5
F	Pat O'Leary, Bishop Amat	6-8	Sr.	18.2
C	Don Ford, Santa Barbara	6-8	Sr.	24.9
C	Dave Baker, Warren	6-8	Sr.	27.8
G	Biff Burrell, Compton	6-2	Sr.	21.1
G	Raymond Lewis, Verbum Dei	6-0	Sr.	24.0
G	Mike Moon, Torrance	6-2	Sr.	20.2
G	John Seymour, Servite	6-1	Sr.	21.6

SECOND TEAM

F—Steve Brooks (Huntington Beach), 6-3, Jr., 21.1; Joey Ward (Keppel), 6-3, Sr., 25.3; Charles Phillips (Blair), 6-4, Sr., 22.4; Randy Echols (Verbum Dei), 6-4, Sr., 12.0. C—Lewis Brown (Verbum Dei), 6-9, Soph., 16.9; Troy Jones (Crescenta Valley), 6-8, Sr., 15.9. G—John Sagehorn (LB Wilson), 6-2, Sr., 22.3; Jim Smith (Pioneer), 6-1, Jr., 24.0; Mike Alexander (Notre Dame), 5-11, Sr., 20.0; Bob Sutterfield (Warren), 6-1, Sr., 17.1.

THIRD TEAM

F—Dale Marks (North Torrance), 6-2, Sr., 15.5; James Mason (Santa Monica), 6-5, Sr., 15.4; Bob Manker (La Habra), 6-5, Jr., 20.0; Gary Bowman (Buena), 6-5, Sr., 20.0. C—Bill Kolodziejczak (West Torrance), 6-5, Sr., 25.2; David Stroud (La Serna), 6-5, Sr., 18.9. G—Al Erskine (Santa Monica), 6-0, Sr., 13.4; Chris Cowie (Loyola), 6-1, Sr., 19.9; Rick Mallicoat (Pasadena), 5-11, Sr., 12.9; Jeff Paul (Ventura), 6-2, Sr., 16.5.

advantage of his ability. He has great moves off the dribble, a quick jumper, a fine touch and unlimited range.

"And he is confident of his ability. He knows he can make that shot and most of the time he did it," added McQuarn.

Lewis, who faced numerous gimmick defenses during the year, averaged 24.0 and shot 55% from the field, most of his shots jumpers from 16 to 18 feet.

McQuarn said Lewis' finest game of the season came in a Santa Fe League encounter with Cantwell. "You couldn't be much better," McQuarn said. "Raymond hit 41 points with 18 of 21 from the floor, 5 of 5 from the

free throw line, had 14 assists and 6 steals."

Lewis' selection marked only the second time in CIF history that a player has repeated as Player of the Year. Bob Bedell of Bell Gardens was Small

Schools MVP in 1961 and '62.

Lewis, who has announced he will attend Cal State Long Beach, is joined on the first team by Crescenta Valley's Bill Boyd, the CIF's all-time scoring leader; guard Biff Burrell of Compton, a first-team repeater, and Don Ford of Santa Barbara, who was a second-team choice last year.

Also selected to the top unit were Morningside's Gary Dean, Pasadena's Jeff Reinke, Bishop Amat's Pat O'Leary, Warren's Dave Baker, Torrance's Mike Moon and Servite's John Seymour.

Two other Verbum Dei

players were picked on the second team. They were senior forward Randy Echols and sophomore center Lewis Brown. The selection of Brown marked only the second time in CIF history that a sophomore had been honored on any team. The other player was guard Bill Risley of Boulder City, Nev. in 1952.

WHERE ARE THEY NOW

—From last year's first team, Keith Wilkes (Santa Barbara), the Player of the Year, and Hank Babecek (Notre Dame) are at UCLA, Scott Kay (Pacific) is at Loyola, Mure Palmer (Crescenta Valley) is at USC, John Parker (Monrovia) is at Cal Poly (SLO), Jan van Breda Kolff (Palos Verdes) is at Vanderbilt, Dave Frost (Millikan) is at Long Beach CC, Dan Broderick (Westminster) is at Stanford and Burrell was a returnee.

CIF'S BEST.—Raymond Lewis of Verbum Dei High Wednesday was named CIF AAAA Player of Year. The 6-foot guard, who will attend Cal State Long Beach next year, averaged 24 points per game.

Times photo by Art Rogers

