

Inland Sports Volleyball CIF-SS Volleyball Championship Preview: Division 6
Notre Dame/Riverside v Loma Linda Academy

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The road to a CIF-SS title in Division 6 goes thru the Ambassador League as Notre Dame/Riverside & Loma Linda Academy meet in the final match. Below you will find breakdowns of the two teams along with keys to the match and other information.

Date: Friday, November 10, 2017

Site: Cerritos College

Time: 2pm

Streaming/Broadcast Information: This match will be livestreamed thru the NFHS Network. There is a fee to access this service.

Admission: \$12 General Admission, \$5 students **with** ID (without you pay \$12), \$5 children 5-13

Loma Linda Academy Roadrunners:

Head Coach: Jane Chafeh (2nd year current career record of 47-8)

Overall Record: 21-2

Ambassador League: 13-1 (League Champion)

Divisional Seed: #3

Road to the Final: Defeated Silverado 3-0, Defeated Beaumont 3-0, Defeated Gabrielino 3-0, Defeated Ontario Christian 3-1.

Players to Watch: SR OH Demari Webb (4.9 kills per set 329 kills, 90 errors, 680 attempts hitting percentage .351%; 35 aces, 86 digs), SR OH Morgan Hall (3.0 kills per set 191 kills, 54 errors, 492 attempts hitting percentage .278%; 47 aces & 72 digs), Setters Hannah McKee and Charis Rundle have recorded nearly 800 assists.

Notre Dame Titans:

Head Coach: Maikel Bastida (1st year)

Overall Record: 23-5

Ambassador League: 11-3 (2nd place)

Divisional Seed: #5

Road to the Final: Defeated Rialto 3-0, Defeated Grace Brethren 3-1, Defeated Paloma Valley 3-1, Defeated Aquinas 3-1

Players to Watch: SR OH Trinity Wycarver (4.2 kills per set 343 kills, 97 errors, 880 attempts hitting percentage .280%; 43 aces, 267 digs), SO OH Valeria Castaneda (3.1 kills per set 251 kills, 53 errors, 689 attempts hitting percentage .287%; 41 aces, 193 digs), SO OPP Samantha Rincon (1.7 kills per set 133 kills, 36 errors, 339 attempts hitting percentage .286% on the year), SR Setter Nicole Qui (690 assists, 97 digs, 52 aces), SR L Jasimin Suarez (81 kills, 30 aces, 229 digs on the year)

The Roadrunners reached a final 4 in 2015 and round of 8 in 2014 under former coach David

Mendoza along with last year's semifinal under Jane Chafeh in her rookie campaign. Five players on this roster were a part of the 2015 Final Four team (Demari Webb, Hannah McKee, Charis Rundle, Morgan Hall, and Kailee Rohmer). Two current players (Demari Webb and Kailee Rohmer) have been to either the quarterfinal or semifinal rounds all four years of High School.

The Titans are searching for their first sectional title since 2008 when former coach Amanda Vialpando led a side that prevailed over Bishop Conaty Loreto in a sweep. Last year's semifinal run was the Titan's deepest appearance since that championship season.

In Ambassador League play each side won when they were at home in 3-0 sweeps. I'm curious to see what effect the earlier start time of 2pm will have on this match since routine is everything with high school kids. Here are my keys to the match:

Player Thoughts: Notre Dame

I had the opportunity to speak by phone with Titan standouts Trinity Wyscarver, Nicole Qui, Valeria Castaneda and Jasmin Suarez about their second trip to Cerritos College.

DT: Aquinas is a big rival for you guys with the Holy War. Was there any more emotion than usually comes with the Holy War with what was on the line?

JS: Yes especially for the seniors knowing this would be our last Holy War match.

NQ: Yes with what was on the line there definitely was more emotion in the gym.

DT: You guys were on this stage nearly a year ago to the day in a Division 7 final. How much will having been here last year be an advantage against a side in Loma Linda Academy which despite having lots of quarterfinal and semifinal experience recently has not been here?

TW: We know what we need to do for this match after two previous matches against them and are ready to come out firing because it's our 2nd time here. There might be a small advantage in knowing the stage but that's just knowing the routine associated with a final. We know it's going to be a battle and are excited for tomorrow.

DT: Trinity- you mentioned having gotten to know Tia and Morgan thru club. Has it been weird at all playing them in a semifinal (Tia) or will it be weird playing Morgan in a final?

TW: It's no different than playing each other in club.

DT: What has the buzz been like on campus?

TW: It's been so great to have our classmates, teachers, and administration supporting us. We have a rooter bus going out there tomorrow. Basketball is coming out to support us. Teachers are letting classes out to come watch us play. All of that means a lot.

DT: What do you remember about last year's match?

VC: It was totally unexpected. We want to finish it this time for our seniors.

JS: We weren't ready for the big stage last year since it was so unexpected. Now everything we've done is built for this point.

NQ: We didn't know what to expect last year in terms of everything surrounding this match. This time we're ready.

TW: Our mentality has totally changed. Last year it was oh we're here let's see what happens. Now it's we're going to be here, we know we belong on this stage and are prepared for everything that comes with it.

Coaches Thoughts: Victoria Cachapero (Aquinas)

I had the opportunity via text message to chat with Aquinas coach Victoria Cachapero and get her insights on the final.

“Notre Dame’s defense has been amazing and Loma Linda Academy is strong offensively across the net. Both teams are exhausted at this point & it's a matter of who can outplay/smart the other.”

When I asked for a prediction she couldn't give one saying: “Notre Dame took them in three the last time which is fresh. Loma Linda Academy’s cumulative postseason experience could be huge. Both teams are worthy of this stage so it could come down to different swings in momentum and how the teams handle them.”