



PROVISO WEST HOLIDAY TOURNAMENT

Proviso West – Where Basketball is Best

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2007 PROVISO WEST HOLIDAY TOURNAMENT PREVIEW



Peter Boehm
New Trier
Harvard



Kevin Dillard
Homewood-Flossmoor
Southern Illinois



Mike DiNunno
Von Steuben
Northern Illinois



Ryan Hare
Marshall
Oregon State

There's a lot of "new" scheduled for the 47th Annual Proviso West Holiday Tournament. Off the court a new ticket policy will allow fans to purchase a season ticket book in a reserved seat (complete with a back rest) good for all 28 games. You'll also see a new look in the Sports Arena with new a playing floor and new bleachers. There's also two new teams, in newcomer Chicago Marshall and charter member Morton -- who played in the first ever Proviso Christmas Classic in 1961.

But one thing that's not new is the best in holiday hoops will gather again on the Hillside hardwood, as this year's event features two nationally ranked teams and a plethora of top-line players. Living up to its motto -- Proviso West is Where Basketball is Best!

Let's start with two of the top teams in the state – both recognized in national publications – as Whitney Young is rated 14th in The Sporting News Pre-Season Poll and Marshall was picked 24th by USA Today. Whitney Young boasts a load of top ranked individuals in their class in senior AJ Rompza; juniors Chris Colvin and Marcus Jordan; and sophomore Anthony Johnson. Marshall, which has finished in third place at the state tournament in each of the last two years, has four of their five leading scorers back from last year, including senior Ryan Hare (Oregon State) and junior Darius Smith.

South suburban standout Homewood-Flossmoor features a dynamic duo in Kevin Dillard (Southern Illinois) and Supo Sanni as the Vikings advanced to the supersectional last year. Dillard was selected to the Proviso West All-Tournament's First Team as sophomore in 2005.

Also returning to the Proviso West Holiday Tournament field is a pair of two more supersectional participants from 2007 in Evanston and Hillcrest. The Wildkits are paced by forward Jeremy McCray and the Hawks will be led by new varsity coach Don Houston.

New Trier looks to return to championship form with Peter Boehm (Harvard) and sophomore Alex Rossi at the helm. Also looking for big things is Fenwick with their terrific twosome of senior Derek Tartt and junior Xavier Humphrey.

Von Steuben's Mike Dinunno (Northern Illinois) returns from last year's second five All-Tournament Team for the Panthers, which has won four tournament trophies in their five years of competition.

Oh by the way, don't count out the defending three-time champ Saint Joseph. A pair of talented underclassmen in Diamond Taylor and DeAndre McCamey are rated among the best in their junior and sophomore classes respectively.

Other top players include Tyler Ponticelli, Glenbrook North; Markus Rogers, Morgan Park; Tremel Owens, Proviso East; Robert Covington, Proviso West; Luke Scarlatta; Morton; David Campbell, Saint Patrick and TF North's Marcus Deloney.

Tournament action begins on Wednesday, December 26 and runs through Saturday, December 29 in the Proviso West Sports Arena. Additional information can be found on the tournament's website --- www.pwhoops.com