

california

Cal's experienced team could be Pac-8 sleeper

By NEIL GRUENFELDER
Of the Emerald

Youth and experience should compose the California Golden Bears into a solid team of the future as well as a 1977-78 Pac-8 contender, despite two opening losses.

Eight of the top 10 ball players are veteran varsity performers and only Doug Vilotti is a senior. In addition, the Bears will nurse along highly-touted Eric Vial, a 6-10 freshman center.

Head Coach Dick Edwards hopes the Bears will start playing where they left off last year. California started slow, with a league record of 1-5. After the freshmen and sophomore starters began to gel, however, the Bears knocked off all four of the Northwest schools and finished with a commendable 7-7 mark.

"I'm satisfied so far," Edwards said regarding his team's early exhibition play. "We're going to be an aggressive, tenacious, basketball team. We could develop into a fine young team."

Edwards said he was extremely pleased with his guard play — notably junior starters Gene Ransom and John Caselli. Ransom is a 5-8 speedster who was second team Pac-8 last year and the Bears' leading scorer with 14.8 points per game. He is one of the league's most complete players, owning several California records including assists. The 6-3

Caselli is very much like Oregon's John Murray. He is also a dandy defensive demon and his hot shooting from the perimeter has broken many zones.

Subbing the guards will be 6-6 swingman Kevin Singleton. The sophomore leaper will serve double duty at forward and is regarded by his coach as "one of the better pure shooters." Walt Gillespie, a 6-3 sophomore, and Tyrone Davis, a 6-1 transfer, should see considerable playing time.

As is true with most basketball teams, the big men will either make or break California's season. The Bears are fortunate in that they have a true big man — 6-7 Doug True. The 19-year-old started every game as a freshman and finished with a scoring average of over 10 points. He was third leading rebounder and second on assists.

The Bear's success will depend on center Tom Schneiderjohn's improvement. He is an excellent shooter, connecting on 48 per cent of his shots for a 12.6 average as a sophomore. He is 6-11 and even at 210 pounds, he isn't too frail for the rigors of Pac-8 basketball. Subbing him is Vial, whom Edwards describes as having "tremendous potential."

Oregon split its two games with California last season. The Ducks won in Eugene but lost a 5-overtime, 107-102 heartbreaker in Berkeley.



Photo by Steve Schneider

Cal's John Caselli, here guarding Oregon's Rob Closs, reminds some of John Murray. But his tough defense makes him a smooth partner of Gene Ransom in the Bear backcourt.

USC

(Continued from page 8B)

game last year for Western Texas College.

Four freshman recruits round out what Boyd considers to be as strong a recruiting class as he has produced at Southern Cal.

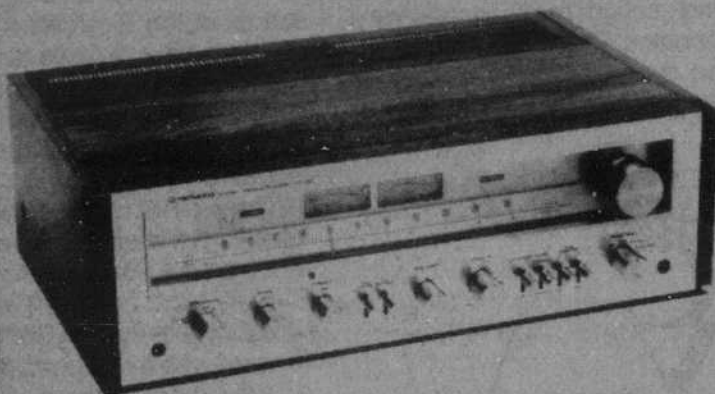
Purvis Miller and Cliff Robinson are two big men who should help

the Trojans this season.

Miller, a 6-7 forward, averaged 23.5 points and 11.6 rebounds last year for Compton High. Boyd said of Miller, "He has tremendous physical gifts. He's very quick, very strong and very fast going down the court."

"Cliff's rebounding on both ends will be an important factor for our team," said Boyd of the 6-9 Robinson. "He's got tremendous potential, and I don't say that lightly," added Boyd. "He really can be almost as good as he wants to be."

PIONEER ELECTRONICS SUPER SALE!!



SX650 AM/FM Stereo Receiver

National
Advertised
Value \$325

Thompson's
Sale Price

\$239

Thompson's Electronics is having a special sale "for one week only," including most Pioneer Audio Products. And sale items include Thompson's famous in-store warranty service.

Items Limited To Stock On Hand

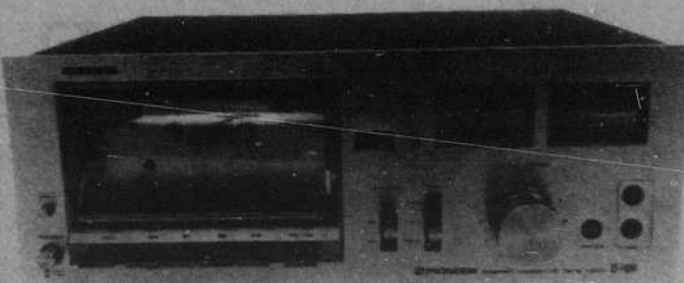


PL 530 Direct Drive Turntable

National
Advertised
Value \$250

Thompson's
Sale Price

\$185



CT-F 4242 Stereo Cassette Deck

National
Advertised
Value \$225

Thompson's
Sale Price

\$165

ONLY A FEW EXAMPLES

	National Ad Price	Thompson's Price
• PL-115 Beltdrive Turntable	\$125.00	\$ 84.50
• SX-550 AM/FM Receiver	\$225.00	\$189.00
• SX-450 AM/FM Receiver	\$225.00	\$169.00
• SX-750 AM/FM Receiver	\$425.00	\$299.00



Thompson's Electronics

11th & Oak — 343-9273

Eugene's most respected audio store since 1936