

# Verbum Dei, Pasadena Gain Finals

## BY AVRUM DANSKY

Times Staff Writer

Los Alamitos couldn't control the big man and Pasadena could, and that was the story Wednesday night at the Sports Arena.

Verbum Dei's 6-9½ Lewis Brown did anything he wanted to in the opener of the CIF 4-A semifinal basketball doubleheader as the Eagles gained a 65-60 victory.

But Pasadena shackled La Habra's 7-foot Steve Manker in the nightcap as the Bulldogs rolled to a 60-46 victory before 5,782 fans.

Verbum Dei, bidding for its fourth straight title overall and its second in a row in the 4-A division, will meet Pasadena Saturday night at the Arena in the windup of a championship quadrupleheader. The 1-A and 2-A title games will be played in the afternoon and the 3-A and 4-A games in the evening.

Brown, who had about a 7-inch height advantage on any Los Alamitos player, scored 25 points (11 of 20 from the floor) and grabbed 20 rebounds in an overpowering performance.

But Manker, guarded first by 6-4 Tom Gillett and then by 6-2 Doug Zopfi, was held in check when it counted. He connected on only 1 of 7 shots in the first half and had 9 of his 15 points in the final period.

"We sagged off a guard on Manker trying to stop him from getting his hook shot and we tried to force him away from his normal spot on the baseline for his jumper. That left (center Bob) Taylor free to get the rebounds," said Pasadena coach George Terzian.

### Pressure Applied

Pasadena took a 25-18 lead midway in the second period and then went to a delay game against La Habra's 2-1-2 zone.

"With the lead, we were trying to put even more pressure on Manker, trying to make him feel that every shot he took was that much more important," said Terzian, whose team was beaten by Verbum Dei, 78-55, in last year's semifinals.

Leading 34-31 early in the final period, Pasadena took command when Zopfi scored on a jumper and junior George Tucker then stole the inbounds pass and hit an acrobatic layin to give the Bulldogs (29-1) a 38-31 lead. The closest La Habra, which finished 26-2, could get the rest of the way was 5 points back.

## BOX SCORES

Verbum Dei (65)				Los Alamitos (60)			
G	F	T		G	F	T	
Williams	2	0-1	4	Quinn	6	6-8	18
Hawthorne	5	2-5	12	Hamilton	2	0-1	4
Brown	11	3-3	25	Ungerman	3	1-4	7
Slaughter	8	4-6	20	Miller	7	4-4	18
Daniels	1	2-2	4	Alvers	4	3-4	11
Pvie	0	0-1	0	Moore	1	0-0	2
<b>Totals</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>11-18</b>	<b>65</b>	<b>Totals</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>14-21</b>	<b>60</b>

Verbum Dei				Los Alamitos			
G	F	T		G	F	T	
	19	15	14	17	45		
	12	13	19	16	40		

Fouled out—None.  
Total fouls—Verbum Dei 16, Los Alamitos 13.

Pasadena (60)				La Habra (46)			
G	F	T		G	F	T	
Gillett	2	0-0	4	Read	4	2-4	10
Kennedy	2	3-3	7	B Manker	4	0-1	8
Taylor	6	5-6	17	S Manker	6	3-3	15
Johnson	3	1-1	7	Hill	1	0-0	2
Tucker	4	9-10	17	Schmalzb	3	0-1	6
Davis	2	0-0	4	MacPherson	0	1-1	1
Zopfi	1	2-3	4	Carlson	1	2-3	4
<b>Totals</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>20-23</b>	<b>60</b>	<b>Totals</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>8-13</b>	<b>46</b>

Pasadena 13 13 8 25-60  
La Habra 12 9 8 17-46

Fouled out—None.  
Total fouls—Pasadena 10, La Habra 16.  
A—5,782.

Pasadena hit 11 straight-free throws in the final 3:20 to insure the victory.

Taylor, Pasadena's 6-5½ senior center, turned in another strong performance with 17 points and 12 rebounds.

Los Alamitos put on a gallant performance in the opener but there was no way the Griffins could overcome Brown's height advantage. Brown dominated the action.

A bank shot by Donald Daniels midway through the first quarter put Ver-

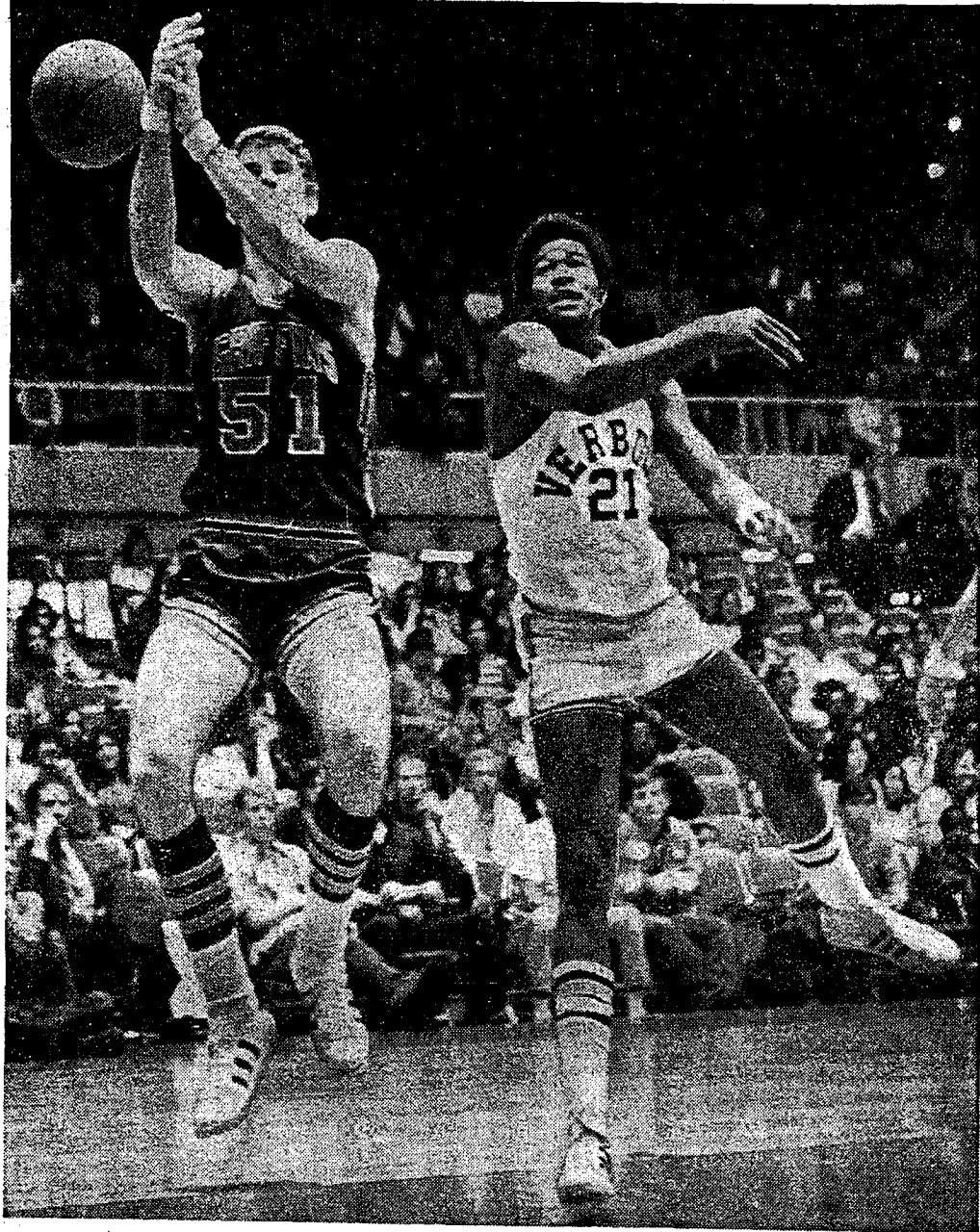
num Dei ahead, 6-4, and the Eagles led the rest of the way despite numerous challenges.

A 3-point play by Rick Miller opening the fourth period moved Los Alamitos within 48-47, but Brown hit a follow shot to give Verbum Dei breathing room.

Twice more in the final period, Los Alamitos closed to within 2, but on both occasions Brown got the next basket to keep his team in front.

His jumper with 3:26 remaining gave the Eagles a 56-54 lead and 2 free throws by Daniels and a follow shot by Brown after a pair of Los Alamitos misses finally sealed the issue with 1:54 left.

Brown was credited with 6 blocked shots but that doesn't tell the story. His presence under the basket forced the Los Alamitos players to shoot unnaturally and most of their scoring was done from the outside.



**AAAA FOR ACTION-** -Los Alamitos' Rick Quinn (51) and Verbum Dei's Dwight Slaughter (21) battle unsuccessfully for a rebound during Verbum Dei's 65-60 CIF 4-A semifinal victory Wednesday night at Sports Arena. Eagles will meet Pasadena, 60-46 winner over La Habra, for title Saturday.

Story on Page 3

Times photo by Ben Olender