

Cathedral City's dynamic trio look in top playoff form in CIF girls' basketball opener

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(Photo: Zoe Meyers/The Desert Sun)

Fresh off an undefeated conference season and its first Desert Valley League title since 2004, the Cathedral City girls' basketball team showed no downshifting in the first round of the CIF Division 4A playoffs, storming past Crean Lutheran for a 75-63 home win Thursday night.

Coming out of the opening gates with ample steam and enthusiasm, the Lions made six 3-pointers in the first quarter and never looked back in the playoff win.

--Cathedral City's stellar junior backcourt duo of Nina Wallace and Dominique Urbina both continued their stellar seasons Thursday. Wallace made five 3-pointers on the night to finish with a game-high 24 points, while Urbina finished with 23 points, including 12 in the third quarter.

-- Working the interior with height and power, Lions junior forward Tatiana Witherspoon added 17 more for the Lions.

-- After suffering what appeared a nasty facial injury in the early going, Crean sophomore guard Shannon O'Malley led the visitors with 23 points.

--Despite not having played in a game decided by single-digits since its 70-67 win over Desert Christian Academy on Dec. 2, Cathedral City looked primed and playoff ready from the outset Thursday. While Crean came out with equal gusto, the hosts proved themselves ever-deserving of the division's No. 2 ranking from the opening bell, scoring 29 points in the first quarter and playing with instant speed and aggression.



Tatiana Witherspoon shoots for Cathedral City, Thursday, February 15, 2018. (Photo: Zoe Meyers/The Desert Sun)

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