

ORANGE COUNTY REGISTER

Crean Lutheran boys reach CIF 4A basketball semis

By [TIM BURT](#)

2016-02-24 14:48:52



Crean Lutheran's boys basketball team is headed to the CIF-Southern Section Division 4A semifinals to host top-seeded Viewpoint of Calabasas on Friday night at 7.

The fourth-seeded Saints (25-4) advanced to the semifinals for the first time with a 62-57 victory over Crossroads on Tuesday night in the quarterfinals in Santa Monica.

It was Crean Lutheran's second consecutive road win; the Saints defeated St. Bonaventure, 61-51, Friday night.

"It's kind of like it's been all year. When the game gets tight, and the pressure increases, that's when our kids are at our best," said Crean Lutheran coach Josh Beaty. "Our senior twins (Even Kittelsen and Brett Kittelsen) continue to impress me when the game gets tight.

"It got tight at the end and I had all the confidence in the world we would find a way to win the game, and that's what happened."

Michael Bagatourian had 20 points, Even Kittelsen had 13 points and Tim Ghita and Brett Kittelsen had 12 points each to lead the Saints.

Crean Lutheran, which advanced to the quarterfinals last year, is one step from reaching the championship game. The winner of Friday's game will face the winner of the Campbell Hall-LaSalle game next weekend. Viewpoint (24-6) advanced with a 61-59 victory over Valley Christian.

Crean Lutheran opened the playoffs with a 73-67 victory over Whittier Christian on Feb. 17, and now the Saints are headed back to the compact on-campus gymnasium where they are very tough to beat.

Seating capacity is about 800.

Contact the writer: tburt@oregister.com

© Copyright 2016 Freedom Communications. All Rights Reserved.
[Privacy Policy](#) | [User Agreement](#) | [Site Map](#)