

Article from Manila Bulletin: <http://www.mb.com.ph/articles/377878/barrios-henson-in-pssbc-opening#.UlrvjWlsNM8>

Samahang Basketbol ng Pilipinas (SBP) Executive Director Sonny Barrios and well-known sports analyst-columnist Qunito Henson will be the guest speakers in the opening of the Philippine Secondary Schools Basketball Championship (PSSBC) on Oct. 27 at The Arena in San Juan.

Both Barrios and Henson are expected to motivate and challenge the country's top high school players in the newly established youth league whose main objective is to further polish the skills of rising stars as they prepare for a much tougher task ahead.

"This tournament is a perfect vehicle for our high school players before going to college," said Wrangler's Edward Tio who initiated the noble project. "This is also our own way to support SBP in its effort to regain our status as Asia's No.1."

Out to provide the "wow" factor in the simple opening ceremony is National University Pep Squad which is going to display its form in finishing third in the recent UAAP cheer dance contest. A drum line presentation by Letran Band will usher the parade of teams with their respective muses.

League chairman Dr. Cecilio Pedro of Hapee will deliver the opening remarks while vice chairman Dioceldo Sy will declare the cagefest open.

The regular games of the tournament sponsored by Ironcon Builders, Jumbo Plastic Linoleum, Wrangler, Dickies Underwear, MEC Networks, Blackwater Sports, Hapee Toothpaste, and Welcoat House Paints will be held at the Chiang Kai Shek College gym in Manila.

This early, newly-crowned UAAP champion Far Eastern University, reigning NCAA titlist San Beda College and defending Metro Manila Tiong Lian Basketball Association champion Chiang

Kai Shek College have been installed as the teams to beat in the tournament.

“They are considered as the teams to beat but you can’t take the other teams for granted. They are the elite teams in Metro Manila so it’s going to be a close call,” added Tio.

Other participating teams are deposed UAAP titlist NU, University of Santo Tomas and Ateneo for UAAP while San Sebastian College, La Salle Greenhills and Letran will make up the NCAA cast. The two other teams from Tiong Lian are multi-titled Xavier School and Hope Christian High School.

Ato Badolato, the respected former high school of San Beda is the league commissioner. He will be assisted by Fr. Vic Calvo of Letran, coach Junel Baculi of NU, Bernard Yang of Hope Christian, Sunny Co of Chiang Kai Shek College and coach Edster Sy.