

St. Perpetua 6th Grade Girls National Basketball Team wins CYO MVP Flight Holiday Classic Tournament



Photo Ellie Guthrie

Front row, from left: Charlotte Gellman, Alexa Weyland, Sam Murdin; back row: coach Kevin Guthrie, Olivia Whipple, Sela Sarbiewski, Grace Guthrie, Annabelle Brekke, Piper Coy, coach Tony Brekke (not pictured Grace Wolpert, Julia Lyons, & Abby Thomas

Submitted by Kevin Guthrie

The St. Perpetua Sixth-Grade Girls National Basketball Team captured the Championship in the highly competitive CYO MVP Flight Holiday Classic

Tournament Dec. 21-23. Determination, tenacity, and teamwork were the keys to their success as the Panthers won the first of their three victories in overtime and the second in double overtime.

The St. Perpetua 6th Grade boys win championship game in the MVP Holiday Tournament

Submitted by Andrea Hilsabeck



Back row, from left: coach Ronell Jones, Graham Schlicht, coach Brad Hilsabeck and Jack Cooney; front row: Corbin Gallegos, Jack Moran, Curtis Resnick, Preston Hilsabeck, Mason Briones, Illias Kaplanes-Jones, Joey Cronin

Lamorinda girls basketball shines in West Coast Jamboree

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Against Salesian, the Matadors trailed 22-4 after one quarter. It was a unique experience for Miramonte to trail by so much in the first period, said Sopak: "We're more used to the opposite score. We also trailed Buchanon early but we weathered it. You can't get down to a team like Salesian. It was absolutely a learning experience."

Miramonte did battle back to close the margin to 4 points with four minutes to go in the game before Salesian closed out the game. Mia Mastrov and Jordan Allred were selected to the all-tournament team for the Diamond Bracket.

Head coach Kelly Thomas, in her fifth year at Bentley, competed in the tournament when she attended Campolindo and appreciated the exposure for her team: "As a small school, we get to play a lot of big schools that we normally would not get to play against. We're a young team with only two seniors and half of our team has never been on a varsity team before. If we execute what we've been working on, then whatever the score says, it's still a victory for us because we're really focusing on competing for a full 32 minutes and playing our best basketball."

Bentley, with the smallest enrollment of all the schools in the tournament, defeated Deer Valley in their first game

behind senior Grace Kim's 22 points, lost to Gregori and then to Las Lomas 47-45 to finish in fourth place. Junior Alex Wechser was named to the Onyx All-Tournament team.

Campolindo head coach Matt Kirby particularly enjoys this event because "it's one of our more local tournaments with a lot of teams from out of state." Campolindo defeated Central Valley, lost to Granada and then defeated Foothill 57-39 to finish in third in the Ivory Bracket and bring their record for the year to 9-4. "Our half-court man defense has been a key to our success. It's been a pleasant surprise in how comfortable the girls have been playing that defense."

Senior Kate Brown and freshman Allie Cummins were named to the All-Tournament team for the Ivory Bracket.

Acalanes head coach Michelle Sasaki welcomes all tournaments, but the Jamboree in particular: "It's always an opportunity to play teams out of our area and it's a luxury that it's in our backyard. Our players look forward to play in a tournament like this of such high caliber. Anytime you play in a tournament, you're playing for something. For a championship, third place or consolation. That sense of urgency is good for team growth."

The Dons defeated Los Altos in their first game and lost to Montgomery and then defeated James Logan 54-42 to

finish third in the Emerald Bracket. Grace Gebhardt and Lauren Kobashigawa were chosen to the Emerald All-tournament team.

It proved to be a successful tournament from several perspectives, said Abend: "The fact we were able to over double the amount of sponsorship money with the help of some dedicated girls basketball fans, and to be able to bring the Paradise girls to the Jamboree at no expense to the school or families, made the 20th anniversary Jamboree even more special than it already was. Work on the 2020 West Coast Jamboree has already begun."

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