

# Beckman's Metcalf named MVP of Irvine all-city basketball team; profiles of all the players



The 2017 girls all-city basketball team. From left, Shannon O'Malley, Crean Lutheran; Kylie Needham, Crean Lutheran; MVP Katrina Metcalf, Beckman; Nina Baffo, Woodbridge; Lauren Lum, Woodbridge; Lyneya Turner, Irvine; Malia Goldsmith, University; Kaitlyn Luu, Irvine; Kaci Blailock, University; and Grayce Tuttle, Irvine. (Photo by Matt Masin, Orange County Register, SCNG)

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By **TIM BURT** | [tiburt@scng.com](mailto:tiburt@scng.com) | Orange County Register

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## **KATRINA METCALF, BECKMAN, MVP**

Katrina Metcalf, a 5-5 junior guard, who earned MVP honors of the Pacific Coast League, stepped into a bigger role with the team this season and helped the Patriots reach the CIF playoffs. Metcalf, the MVP of the Irvine all-city team, averaged 14.9 points and 3.1 rebounds. She also made 74 3-point field goals and averaged 2.1 steals and 1.3 assists a game.

"It was definitely a big season for me because we graduated so many key players the previous year," Metcalf said. "So this was definitely the year that I grew the most and learned the most about the game in general. It wasn't until league that I really reached my peak and felt super comfortable being a captain. I thought this year was definitely the most fun. I think the games we played in league were really close and they pushed me and the rest of my teammates to show our best."

Metcalf said the Patriots' second league game against Irvine at home stood out. Irvine won, 55-53, and Metcalf had 21 points. "It was double overtime and we lost by two," she said. "In the first half of league, when we faced off against Irvine, we had also lost by two (40-38). So, they were both really close games. Even though we lost, I thought it was the most fun game and I learned the most about myself as a player. It was nice to be able to push my teammates and push myself."

Metcalf also remembers the Patriots' 55-39 Pacific Coast League victory over Northwood on Jan. 19. She scored 29 points and sank seven 3-pointers. Coach Alex Andarza said Metcalf improved greatly.

"Katrina made huge strides this year; she was asked to do so much for us and she stepped up to every challenge thrown her way," Andarza said. "Katrina might be the hardest working player I've ever come across. She is extremely demanding on herself and works relentlessly to be the best she can for her teammates."

"It was that work ethic and competitive nature that helped her rise to the challenge this year. Words can't describe how proud I am of her she never ceases to amaze me. I can't wait to see her have an even better year this upcoming season."

Metcalf attributes her improvement to her coach. "Definitely, I would attribute a lot of my success to coach Alex Andarza," Metcalf said. "Since the beginning, he took a lot of time to focus on fundamentals and keep my game going moving forward." Metcalf is already excited about the prospects for next season. The Patriots were 13-14 overall this past season and qualified for the CIF playoffs with a 4-6 record. "I think it would be really great to win league finally and get first place for the first time and keep moving forward and keep improving as a team," she said.

#### **MALIA GOLDSMITH, UNIVERSITY**

Goldsmith, a sophomore point guard, averaged 13 points and 4.8 assists per game. She also had 4.5 steals a game and earned first team All-PCL honors.

#### **KACI BLAIBLOCK, UNIVERSITY**

Blailock, a senior, averaged 11.1 points and 5.1 rebounds a game. She also made 48 percent of her field goal attempts and earned second team All-PCL honors.

#### **LAUREN LUM, WOODBRIDGE**

Lum, a senior, averaged 8 points and 6 assists for the Warriors while earning first team All-PCL honors. Lum scored 16 points against Corona del Mar on Jan. 26.

#### **NINA BAFFO, WOODBRIDGE**

Baffo, a sophomore center, averaged 14.9 points and seven rebounds a game while earning first team All-PCL honors for the Warriors.

#### **LYNEYA TURNER, IRVINE**

Turner, a senior, earned first team All-PCL honors for the Vaqueros. She averaged 11 points, 10 rebounds and two blocks a game in league play.

#### **KAITLYN LUU, IRVINE**

Luu, a sophomore, earned first team All-PCL honors. She averaged 10 points, five rebounds and four assists a game. Luu averaged 17.5 points a game over the Vaqueros' last five games and hit the game-winning basket at the buzzer in a one-point victory over University.

#### **GRAYCE TUTTLE, IRVINE**

Tuttle, a senior, was second team All-PCL and earned second team All-CIF Division 3 honors. Tuttle averaged nine points and 10 rebounds a game in PCL play. She averaged 22 points a game in Irvine's two playoff games.

#### **SHANNON O'MALLEY, CREAN LUTHERAN**

O'Malley, a freshman guard, was Crean Lutheran's leading scorer with a 13 point a game average. She was also All-CIF first team and helped lead the Saints to the CIF finals. The Saints lost to top-seeded Heritage Christian, 59-46, in the CIF 5AA finals. A second team all-league player, O'Malley averaged 18 points a game in the playoffs.

#### **KYLIE NEEDHAM, CREAN LUTHERAN**

Needham, a senior, averaged 10 points and 10 rebounds a game, earned first team all-league honors. Needham was also second team All-CIF.

#### **ERIN MATSUTSUYU, NORTHWOOD**

Matsutsuyu, a junior point guard, averaged 16 points, three assists, three rebounds and three steals for the Timberwolves. She was named first team All-Pacific Coast League.