

Mater Dei's Freedman, Crean Lutheran's Johnson receive CIF-SS player of the year recognition



Crean Lutheran's Isaiah Johnson(25) was named CIF-Southern Section Division 3AA player of the year. (Photo by Kyusung Gong/Contributing Photographer)

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Spencer Freedman of Mater Dei and Crean Lutheran's Isaiah Johnson were named CIF-Southern Section boys basketball players of the year.

Player of the year honors usually go to a player from a team that wins a CIF-SS championship, which held true for Freedman and Johnson.

Freedman is CIF-SS Open Division player of the year. A 6-foot senior point guard, Freedman averaged 17 points and five assists a game for the Monarchs who won the CIF-SS Open Division championship.

[Full list of the All-CIF Boys Basketball Teams](#)

Johnson, a 6-6 sophomore forward, is CIF-SS Division 3AA player of the year. He had some spectacular performances as he led Crean Lutheran to the 3AA title, including 42 points in a playoffs win over Cerritos.

Mater Dei's Gary McKnight was named CIF-SS Open Division coach of the year. Crean's Josh Beaty is 3AA coach of the year.

Other Orange County players were made All-CIF: Jake Kyman, junior, Santa Margarita, Open Division; Dawson Baker, senior, Capistrano Valley, Division 2AA; AJ Perry, junior, Canyon, 2AA; Jared Brown, junior, Cypress, 2A; Mehkel Harvey, senior, Ocean View, 3AA; Jakob Alamudun, junior, Marina, 3A; A.J. Espinosa, senior, Segerstrom, 4AA; Uriel Batista, senior, Orangewood Academy, 4A; Sebastian Castro, junior, Garden Grove, 5AAA; Dominick Harris, sophomore, Pacifica Christian, 5AAA; Eduardo Sorto, freshman, Century, 5AA.

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Steve Fryer

Steve Fryer covers high school sports at the Orange County Register. He writes a weekly column on the county high school sports scene and also covers games and writes features. Steve also writes a weekly column that covers pro and college sports, and other topics. Steve does concert reviews for the Register, too, when time permits. Steve's first byline appeared in the Register in 1979. He was in the inaugural class inducted into the Santa Ana Unified School District Sports Hall of Fame. Steve also is in the Southern California Interscholastic Basketball Coaches Hall of Fame, and was the first journalist to receive the Contribution to Education award from the Orange County Department of Education. Steve was honored as Champion for Character by the CIF-Southern Section.