

# ORANGE COUNTY REGISTER

## Crean Lutheran girls off to second round of regionals Saturday night

By [TIM BURT](#)

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Crean Lutheran's girls basketball team is off to the second round of the CIF Southern California Division V regionals after defeating Pacific Ridge of Carlsbad, 61-27, Wednesday night at Crean Lutheran.

The Saints (19-11) host Adventist Escondido in the next round Saturday at 7:30 p.m. at Woodbridge.

Crean Lutheran led from the start on Wednesday and built a 29-14 halftime lead. Crean coach Kelsi Walker was able to use all of her players in the game.

It was the first game that the Saints have played since falling to Heritage Christian, 59-46, in the CIF 5AA finals last weekend. [It was Crean Lutheran's first trip to the finals.](#)

"It's good to get all the girls playing," Walker said. "These girls just love playing together. I'm glad everybody got to play tonight and just have fun."

Shannon O'Malley and Kylie Needham led Crean Lutheran with 14 points each. O'Malley, an Irvine resident, also had two 3-pointers.

Jennifer Mazzarini added 11 points for Crean Lutheran, which finished the game strong by outscoring Pacific Ridge, 21-7, in the fourth quarter.

Walker said the focus was on defense and the Saints followed the game plan almost to perfection.

Mason Busler and Daisy Lammers added six points each for Crean Lutheran, which has 19 wins after recording four last season.

Now it's on to the second round in the Woodbridge gym where Walker played her final year of high school basketball after three years at Foothill.

"I'm excited about that," said Walker, a resident of Tustin.

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