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Three preseason NCP Top 20 teams were in action at the Dougherty Valley Tournament on Thursday. While Berkeley, Deer Valley, Sacred Heart Cathedral and Dougherty Valley all won, it was the play of 2014 prospects that stole the show.

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Berkeley 55, California 36: Berkeley methodically built a 27-12 halftime lead and took firm control in the third quarter en route to the 19 point win. The Yellowjackets forced 18 first half turnovers and were paced by [Desire Finnie](#) (16 points) and [Rachel Howard](#) (12 points). Cal was led by seven points apiece from Grace Peng and Jessica Catson. Berkeley lacks size and dynamic guard play from recent teams. It will need to rely on easy baskets off turnovers to stay among the elite in NorCal, but this looks to be a step back for Berkeley this year.

Deer Valley 64, St. Patrick/St. Vincent 44: Deer Valley's pressure and up-tempo style was too much for St. Patrick/St. Vincent in the 20 point win. The Wolverines were able to get low post scoring from Shelby Eastom (18 points) and all-around good guard play from [Maranne Johnson](#) (14 points) with plenty of close looks in transition. St. Patrick/St. Vincent saw senior Taylor Faucett score 20 points. Deer Valley has plenty of athletes, but how they come together will determine how far it goes. It was the best team on display Thursday.



Center Shelby Eastom led Deer Valley with 18 points

Sacred Heart Cathedral 57, Foothill-Pleasanton 39: In a physical game throughout, Sacred Heart Cathedral was able to get consistent access to the paint and foul line and forced almost a turnover a minute to reach the semi-finals. The Fightin' Irish have a balanced group for new head coach LaRyan Russell, but received a game high 14 points from junior [GeAnna Summers-Luau](#). Foothill got nine points from Lindsey Allen and seven points from sophomore Emily Barrett and Caroline McMorro. Sacred Heart Cathedral will be in plenty of games this year, but how good it can actually be is uncertain.

Dougherty Valley 47, Logan 33: Preseason No. 20 and tournament host Dougherty Valley was tied at halftime at 20 before pulling away in the second half. The Wildcats had plenty of struggles at the free throw line, but used their size inside to gain advantage. Senior post Imani Buckner had 13 points. Marich Elzy finished with 11 points as an inside threat for the Colts. Dougherty Valley has some size to work with as well as steady play at point guard, but will be a work in progress early in the year. They don't have the same firepower to go on 10-0 type runs it had the past two years.

Player Notes

Taylor Faucett 5-foot-9 F St. Patrick/St. Vincent (2013): A deceptive athlete, Faucett is a weapon to lead the break and also fill the wing in transition. She is a good finisher, but needs to develop her off hand to keep defenses honest. Her outside shot needs work, but Faucett could be a nice undersized small forward for a Division II level program.

Rachel Howard 6-foot-0 F Berkeley (2013): Howard is the top unsigned prospect in the 2013 class. Plagued by foul trouble at different points, Howard finished second on the team in scoring with a pair of 10 footers and a nice right handed drive into the paint. She was 0-for-5 on three pointers in needing to expand her range. Brown is interested and Howard plans to visit at some point. She is also applying to UC Santa Barbara, UC Irvine and UC Davis as the process has slowed down for the 3-star prospect.

Jasmine Jenkins 6-foot-2 PF Dougherty Valley (2013): The Pacific signee picked up two fouls early and finished with just eight points. Playing more on the perimeter in spurts, Jenkins is best suited on the block. She is able to score on the move and made a couple of nice passes from the post in the second half. Jenkins also had a nice screen and quick seal to draw a foul. The potential is there for the 3-star prospect, but she didn't have the impact expected in this type of game. Pacific associate head coach Bradley Davis was in attendance walking the Tigers' recent signee.

Alejandra Cephas 6-foot-1 Post Deer Valley (2014): Cephas continued her good work from the fall with a solid night for Deer Valley. She has good, high ball placement on catches and rebounds and shows touch on her shots. She needs to finish better though. Always a player with potential, Cephas is starting to come into her own.

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Desire Finnie 5-foot-11 F Berkeley (2014): Activity is the name of Finnie's game. She had numerous deflections as part of Berkeley's full court defense and attacks well in the rebounding game. Finnie is at her best in transition and can operate in traffic with a solid 10 foot game. Her game is based on crashing the basket with quick reactions, but her shooting range can improve.

Maranne Johnson 5-foot-9 G/F Deer Valley (2014): The 2014 2-star prospect showed a much better feel for the game in Deer Valley's opening win. She was a terror on defense in jumping passing lanes and also has improved handles. Offensively, she had a nice 15 foot pull-up and made a strong dribble to split defenders and finish near the rim. She could be in line for a big year.

GeAnna Summers-Luaulu 5-foot-7 SG Sacred Heart Cathedral (2014): She can float in and out of action, but did make two 3s and six free throws. She moves well without the ball, but needs to impact the game in more ways. Her development is key to Sacred Heart Cathedral's success this year.

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