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NCP Staff

The 2011-2012 season is in the books and with three state championships for the region, the future remains bright for Northern California. Three of the five divisional players of the year are sophomores plus see which emerging powers are led by coaches of the year.

Division I Player of the Year: Elisha Davis G Berkeley

The top returner for the Yellowjackets, Davis helped guide Berkeley to another section and NorCal title. She averaged 13 points, four rebounds, four assists and two steals in making first-team, All-East Bay by the Bay Area News Group. Also selected first-team, all-Metro by the San Francisco Chronicle, the senior lead guard will head to Arizona State next year.



Elisha Davis led Berkeley to another NorCal regional title

Division I Coach of the Year: Dave Parsh Kennedy-Sacramento

Despite finishing tied for second in the Metro League, Kennedy-Sacramento knocked off favorite Pleasant Grove and former state champion Oak Ridge to win the Sac-Joaquin Section Division I title. The Cougars finished the year 29-6, including a trip to the NorCal finals. Kennedy had an eight game winning streak prior to the Berkeley loss to end the year.

Division II Player of the Year: Kelli Hayes F Mitty

A talented sophomore, Hayes was named the San Jose Mercury News Player of the Year after helping Mitty beat Carondelet and St. Mary's-Stockton for the NorCal Division II title and a state title win over JW North. She averaged 15 points, six rebounds, two assists and two steals per game in continually showing off her versatility. She was first-team, All-Metro by the San Francisco Chronicle.

Division II Coach of the Year: Dan Sack Casa Grande

With just three seniors and no Division I prospects, Casa Grande put together a 31-3 season in making the Division II regional quarterfinals. The three Gaucho losses came against powers Miramonte, Carondelet and St. Ignatius. A well-schooled team under Sack, Casa Grande relied on tough defense in holding opponents to less than 40 points per game.

Division III Player of the Year: Kendall Waters PF Bishop O'Dowd

The Dragons ended the year at No. 1 in Northern California putting together an impressive run to the Division III state title. Waters was the top player for Bishop O'Dowd as the HAAL MVP and the East Bay Player of the Year by the Bay Area News Group with 14 points, 12 rebounds, three assists and three steals. The junior was first-team, All-Metro by the Chronicle.

Division III Coach of the Year: Kelly Sopak Miramonte

Under Sopak, Miramonte started the year 28-0 utilizing an up tempo system able to overwhelm opponents with good shooting and forcing turnovers. The Matadors lost twice to No. 1 overall Bishop O'Dowd, but reached the NorCal Division III finals after winning on the road at Sacramento. The Matadors outscored their opponents by 28 points per game.

Division IV Player of the Year: Mariya Moore G/F Salesian

Another sophomore on this list, Moore was the leader in the Pride's run for a NorCal Division IV title. It is the first regional title for the program behind Moore's 16 points, seven rebounds, six assists and three steals per game. She was first-team, All-East Bay by the Bay Area News Group and first-team and first-team, All-Metro by the San Francisco Chronicle. She put together two big games in knocking of St. Mary's-Berkeley in the section and NorCal finals.

Division IV Coach of the Year: Steve Pezzola

Salesian had a breakthrough year by stopping the two year NorCal run for St. Mary's-Berkeley. After losing

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to the Panthers in the team's first meeting, Salesian beat St. Mary's in the North Coast Section and NorCal Division IV finals. They lost to La Jolla Country Day in the state finals for a 31-5 record and the best season in program history.

Division V Player of the Year: [Tiara Tucker](#) G Brookside Christian

The Knights are an emerging small school power with Tucker leading the way. Just a sophomore, she averaged 25 points, two rebounds, three assists and five steals as Brookside Christian beat Mission Prep for the Division V state title. In the championship game, she had 28 points in shooting better than 50 percent. She has scored 1,778 points in her two year career.

Division V Coach of the Year: [Que Ngo](#) Brookside Christian

Getting to 30 wins and winning a state title are difficult feats in their own right. Doing it with nine of the 11 players being freshman or sophomores is a whole different story. This is what Ngo did this past season in introducing Brookside Christian as a possible Division V power in this area. The Knights' four losses this year came to Sacramento, Pleasant Grove, Heritage and Sheldon.

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