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The holiday hoop season brings the West Coast Jamboree to the East Bay for the 12th time. At Miramonte High, host of the Platinum Division, several upperclassmen caught our eye.

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Randi Jackson, Bishop O'Dowd, 2012: She is one of a very few seniors with game experience playing along side a lot of underclassmen. Jackson is a nice compliment to the other players on the very talented Dragon roster. She knows her role and can contribute to the team when on the floor. On occasion she hit the open shot and finished in the fast break. She defended along the perimeter and every possession she played with a good motor. Off the court she has excelled in the classroom carrying extraordinary academic standing being a viable option for a program school that might come calling from back east. Dragon personnel that contains youth and talented pieces you need someone like Jackson who doesn't need to be the star, but will go out there and do the little things to help the team win.

Breanna Brown, Bishop O'Dowd, 2013: Brown is one of the trio that holds down the paint for the Dragons. She has the best body of all three, but can get lost in the shadows among the other two of KC Waters and Oderah Chidom. She can be a force on the glass and at the block defensively when she is assertive. At times, she appeared complacent and others she took on a meaner more aggressive approach going after the play. She was, and is, best at the offensive end at grabbing the offensive rebound and going back up for the score or taking advantage of those scoring opportunities that allow her to go right at the basket without using the dribble. She finished in double figures and, again, had some nice stretches throughout the durations of her team's opening round win.



Bishop O'Dowd's Beanna Brown can be a force on the glass and in the block defensively

Shannon Mauldin, Saint Mary's Berkeley: One of the few remaining talented unsigned seniors Mauldin can play and on the first day her abilities carried over helping the team in more than one way. Highly touted super sophomore Gabby Green and Taylor Berry still out nursing injuries she is counted on to be the veteran leader and carry the load for the Panthers. The physical and tough forward was inside and out at both ends. She hit an outside shot, another from mid range, and a weak side put back for a score all early in the game. She was smart enough to know when she had a mismatch and took advantage of it taking her man at the block and in the paint. Not the tallest player on the floor in the game, but she got in there down low and worked.

Valerie Moore, Modesto Christian, 2012: The first day this senior from Modesto came away with the highest scoring output and had to work for every single one of them. She has the size to make a play around the perimeter, going to, and around the basket. A smart player she understood where and how to come about getting those points and didn't force the issue. Quite mobile she went around her defender at times and sprinted in the full court getting out in front for an easy look. She was a mainstay at the free throw line and knocked them down with a high percentage connecting on 10-13. She finished with 25 points and 16 of those coming by way of the second half and over time period.

Veanne Navarro, Modesto Christian, 2012: Navarro wasn't too shabby either in her team's narrow defeat to Narbonne. Contact and physical play wasn't something this 5-foot-6 guard shied away from. Time and time again she gave up her body on penetration and off the dribble creating an advantage and opening up space to teammates. When she wasn't distributing from the drive she was drawing contact getting into the lane to the basket. All over the floor the senior guard was active getting involved in the play and trying to make things happen.

Ivonne Cook-Taylor, Terra Nova, 2012: Although she finished with double figures it was a very quiet performance for the Texas Tech bound senior. She has the ability to create her offense at any given time and can do so with and without the ball. She had a lot of good looks, but struggled finishing consistently. A couple of shots she did knock down looked nice coming off of the dribble attacking her defender going baseline and pulling up at the middle of the floor. I expect her at some point during the tournament to break out and have a solid scoring performance.

Ayanna Edwards, Sacramento, 2014: Two things are for certain about this sophomore; she has improved since last year and she has demonstrative size. Now Edwards made her first score from the block a drop step going with the right hand, but even though she had some decent looks that were similar she couldn't get many of them to fall. That size she possesses she needs to be more of a force rebounding the ball and in the paint. Currently she just isn't getting good pursuit of the ball and is missing out on those rebounding

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chances. During the game with Bullis there were possessions when she got aggressive securing the ball and became noticeable on the floor. Watching her during the contest you can see the game still moves a little fast for her both physically and mentally, but with that said college coaches are still going to come see her performs and how she develops.

[Jasmine Ware](#), Sacramento, 2012: The future Gaucho generated offense for herself and team from her pressure at the defensive end. Her play and effort helped spark momentum at times throughout the game for her team. The rest of her Dragon teammates fed off of her intensity building these positive spurts. She was the driving force that helped get them the lead and stay in the game till the end. Her buzzer beating 3 point shot at the half helped give her team some life going into the second half. However, down the latter stages of the game she went away from what was working for her earlier and started to settle for jump shots away from the basket where she wasn't too successful.

[Caroline Hughes](#), Dougherty Valley, 2012: A nose for the ball Hughes found herself getting her hands on passes and making plays in the passing lanes. Dougherty Valley got a lot of points in transition scoring off of those turnovers. Call it being in the right spot at the right time, but she was there for the steal and coming through with her length grabbing an offensive rebound. She finished in double figures scoring and many steals and rebounds of both ends.

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