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NorCalPreps.com Basketball Analyst

One of Northern California's largest tournaments returned yesterday to the Bay Area. The Hoops on the Hill continually provides an opportunity to catch some of the regions top prospects and programs in action. On the event's first day, observers were treated to some quality match-ups.

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Here are the players who caught our eye:

Breanna Brown, 2013, CA Ballaz - Brown now appears to be completely removed from the ACL injury and now into her prior form. She is definitely a threat to alter and block shots around the basket as well as catching and finishing on the run. Against the Bay Area Lady Warriors she struggled to cement herself as a rebounding presence. She could pull those down that we above her, but avoided rebounding other shots which required her to deal with contact and work outside her space. Not just on the defensive side of the ball was her game affected by contact, but in scoring opportunities too. With her size we would like her to become more physical at both ends.

Charise Holloway, 2014, Bay Area Warriors - Right now the guard's best strength is her physicality and no nonsense approach to the game. The kid has a continuous motor and relentless effort that keeps her in plays and creating them. Things got start slowly for her along the perimeter so the guard to her man to the block punishing her with a move to the basket following that hustle play on the defensive side of the ball resulting in a lay up. She was more comfortable from 15 feet and in looking for her shot, using penetration, or capitalizing on a mismatch around the basket. Until she truly becomes comfortable on the perimeter she will rely on where she is most successful and that is around the paint. Holloway will be taking her talents to the already loaded St Mary's Stockton team.

Mariya Moore, 2014, Bay Area Warriors - The more and more I get a chance to watch Moore compete I'm reminded of another Northern California prospect when she was younger, former Piedmont and Berkeley High player Aarika Warren. Both at the same age were athletic physically strong forwards thriving in the open floor and around the basket. However, Moore has a little more tendency and ability to handle the ball in transition either all the way for the score or passing it off. Against the feisty CA Ballaz II team she committed a lot of hustle plays getting tips and fighting for rebounds. That same effort didn't quite translate into conversions on the offensive end. She was getting a lot of good looks at the basket, but they just weren't falling. At this point in her development she is dependent on pounding the ball on the drive all the way to the bucket. Would like to see her pull up off that strong dribble or attempting a few more perimeter shots to open herself up.

Asha Thomas and Aisia Robertson, 2015, CA Ballaz II - The Bishop O'Dowd Dragons have some more guard help on the way to assist with their already potent line up. Thomas and Robertson are two confident guards who can play together and contribute as lead guards and scorers. Their confidence flows from their willingness to makes plays under pressure or make the big play. They had their mistakes here and there, but kept playing through to make the next positive play for their team. In traffic both guards displayed an ability to use a floater in the lane and attacking the lane to lane to establish looks around the rim. Both rising freshmen were entertaining to watch at their best.

Geanna Summers Luauu, 2014, Bay Area Lady Warriors - Luauu flourished in the half court setting making the most out of her touches catching along the perimeter and on the move. She was her team's best pure scoring option in her team's opening game. Her scorer's mentality combined with that of her smooth release and touch found success across many spots of the floor. Early in the on setting of the game she earned several trips to the free throw line connecting on a high percentage of those chances. Luauu looked god pulling up off the dribble and effective as a catch and shoot threat from the three. Her handle is adequate enough where she could log time at both guards spots doing damage in a multiple of ways.

Regina Camera, 2012, Cal Stars Elite - The three point specialist from St Mary's Stockton did what she does best in her team's opening round blow out. Camera has a very good short term memory and doesn't let previous missed shot attempts get to her because eventually she finds rhythm and starts to drop them, and some from extended range. The shooter also hit in good spacing. She relocated along the perimeter in good distance away from penetration and in spots out of sight of the defense. She knows where she is best going to find her looks and it doesn't take long for her to get rid of the ball.

Sophie Taylor, 2012, Cal Stars Elite - Taylor doesn't truly have a set position, but operates as a finesse swing forward. She shot the ball ok from the perimeter, but doesn't handle the ball well enough to be out there full time as a wing. She can catch and finish in the open floor or cutting to the basket, yet doesn't set up at the blocks prepared to receive or deliver contact allowing her to be a formidable post. She possesses good size, length, and decent athleticism for someone to mold putting in the right setting of a system.

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Josetta Fatuesi, 2014, EBX Black I - Once Fatuesi caught the ball deep it was game over muscling and overpowering the defense. In the half court setting she cleared space and physically was a mismatch for Treyvonna Brooks. She finished moves going both right and left bowling through any attempt of the defense and converted a nice spin move from the middle. When there wasn't an early look in transition and the ball came through her she is not only an option to score, but to deliver to an open player.

[Hannah Huffman](#), 2012, EBX Black 1 - Huffman didn't have a great game, but she had some nice scoring looks off the dribble. The best thing of Huffman's performance Saturday evening was one individual defensive hustle play. A MRC player was taking the ball uncontested in the open floor for a lay up when Huffman caught her in a dead spring and rejected her shot in mid air tossing the ball out of bounds off the bleachers.

[Ivonne Cook-Taylor](#), 2012, MRC Blue - Cook Taylor can score, and score in a variety of ways she can for her veteran MRC Blue team. However, her biggest weakness is she becomes disinterested in contests removing herself from making plays. This mindset appeared in the first half of the opening round game against the EBX Black I team. She didn't pursue the ball nor did she initiate plays with the ball in her hand. In the second half of the game she asserted herself more involved in more possessions offensively both in the fast break and half court. Driving the mid post and baseline area she was effective pulling up and utilizing a floater. Had she shown up in the beginning this game might have had a chance to go the other way. Her team needs her to become a consistent scoring threat from tip to finish.

Cat Perez, 2012, JBS Purple - Sometimes those positive plays aren't made from a player's pure talent and ability, but come from their hard work and effort. An impressive effort is exactly how Perez impacted and was able to make plays for her team in the night cap against the CA Ballaz I team. Inside and outside Perez roamed looking to position herself to make the play. She demonstrated she can finish around the paint area and occasionally step out to knock down the three. The lefty also hit the glass with energy.

[Bernadette Fong](#), 2012, CA Ballaz I - Some post players seem to have troubles being physical or getting pushed around down low. Fong wouldn't be one of those players. She used her strong frame to impose herself upon that of the other players around the rim and a lot of the times she won the battle. With the ball in the air there were possessions she created space grabbed the ball and put it back in. Fong needs to work on improving her conditioning as there were moments she picked up unnecessary fouls and therefore removing herself from game out of frustration. Her team is better with her physical presence on the floor.

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