
Search:
[Home](#) | [Boys sports](#) | [Girls sports](#) | [Steve Fryer](#) | [Recruiting](#) | [Photos/video](#) | [Coaches](#) | [Blog](#) | [About us](#)
Other Varsity coverage: [Inland Empire](#)
[Sports](#) > [Boys Basketball](#)

Font Size [A](#) [A](#) [A](#) [A](#)

ADVERTISEMENT

Free-throw shooting battle goes to No. 1 Mater Dei

January 05, 2016 10:16 PM

[Share This](#) | [Print Story](#) | [E-Mail Story](#)

By **STEVE FRYER**
STAFF WRITER

OCVarsity Hoops: League previ...



enlarge

KEVIN SULLIVAN, STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Mater Dei's MJ Cage shoots past Orange Lutheran's KaVaughn Scott during the Monarchs' 71-62 Trinity League victory Tuesday night at Orange Lutheran.

1 of 7

7

Tweet

0

Recommend

G+1

ORANGE – Top-ranked Mater Dei beat No. 4 Orange Lutheran, 71-62, Tuesday night in a Trinity League boys basketball opener that was largely decided at the free-throw line.

Orange Lutheran was 12 for 25 at the free-throw line in its home gym. Mater Dei was 20 for 24 at the line.

Spencer Freedman was 8 for 8 at the line in the fourth quarter. Freedman, a sophomore guard who transferred from Santa Monica, made all 14 of his free throws and finished with a game-high 19 points.

Justice Sueing, a 6-foot-7 junior, scored 14 points for the Monarchs, who improved to 14-2. **MJ Cage**, a 6-10 senior who signed with Oregon, had 10 points, 11 rebounds and four blocked shots. Sophomore forward **Harrison Butler** scored 10 points and had five rebounds.

Orange Lutheran 6-3 junior guard **Chris Williams** scored 17 points, including four 3-pointers, to lead the Lancers (12-3). Junior point guard **Joseph Riley** scored 16 for Lutheran.

Riley was 8 for 9 at the free-throw line, and his teammates were 4 for 16.

The Lancers trailed by 14 points early in the fourth quarter. Riley and Williams made two 3-pointers each to propel a Lutheran rally. Riley's second 3 reduced Mater Dei's lead to 61-55 with 1:22 remaining.

Lutheran fouled Freedman to stop the clock, but Freedman's faultless free-throw shooting kept the Monarchs on top.

Mater Dei shot 23 for 50 from the floor. Lutheran was 20 for 53.

The Monarchs, who were 2-2 last week in the prestigious, national-level Beach Ball Classic in South Carolina, had a 100 percent healthy roster Tuesday for one of the few times this season. Mater Dei coach **Gary McKnight** said it might take awhile for the players to become synchronized.

"It's just not flowing right," McKnight said of the Monarchs offense. "We're coming together slowly."

Most Viewed Stories

- Free-throw shooting battle goes to No. 1 Mater Dei
- Six O.C. players nominated for McDonald's All-American Games
- Fairmont Prep pulls away once defense takes over
- No. 3 Laguna Hills dominates showdown with Trabuco Hills
- Villa Park's Battey making a sizable impact

LONG BEACH, CA TO
AUSTIN FROM

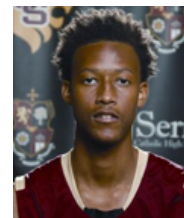
\$94
one-way

Restrictions apply.

Players

Players of the week

Brought to you by


Boys basketball
athlete of the week:
Alec Hickman,
JSerra

Girls basketball
athlete of the week:
Cierra Hall,
Fairmont Prep


Search Players

Search player by last name

OC Varsity Blog

- Wrestling: Thomas Brothers in action at Doc Buchanan
- Boys basketball: Tonight's Foothill-Tustin game postponed
- OCVarsity Hot Shots: Tuesday's girls basketball (1-5-16)
- OCVarsity Hot Shots: Tuesday's wrestling (1-5-16)

Top Videos

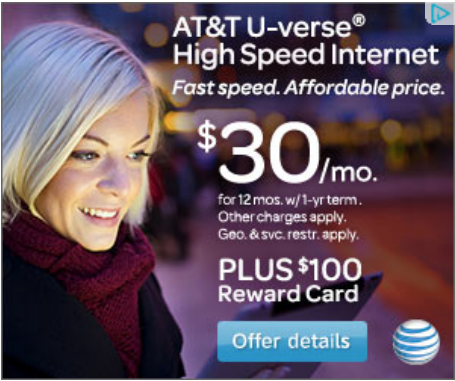
He said he was pleased to get the win against the Lancers, who were consistently energetic.

"It was a great effort by both teams," McKnight said. "A typical opening night in the Trinity League. Another battle."

Contact the writer: sfryer@ocregister.com

[See archived 'Sports' stories »](#)

Ads by Google



0 Comments

Sort by

Oldest



Add a comment...

 Facebook Comments Plugin

THE VIDEO YOU ARE TRYING TO WATCH IS CURRENTLY UNAVAILABLE. PLEASE CHECK BACK SOON.

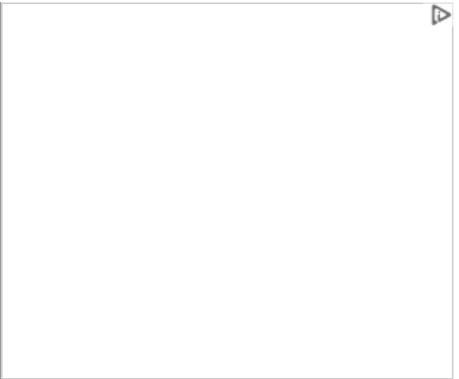
Poll

OCVARSITY.COM POLL

What's your favorite thing about this time of the year?

- ☐ The Register's All-County football team is released.
- ☐ Football season is finally (!) over.
- ☐ Going to the local basketball tournaments.
- ☐ Spending all day at the local soccer tournaments.
- ☐ Shopping ... shopping ... and more shopping.
- ☐ Sleeping ... sleeping ... and more sleeping.
- ☐ We're that much closer to summer.

Vote!



ADVERTISEMENT

Live Latest Fan Scores

- Basketball:** Santa Ana 40, Kennedy 68 - 00:00 4th QT - **Completed**
- Basketball:** Fountain Valley 18, Kennedy 27 - 00:00 3rd QT - **Completed**
- Soccer:** Beckman 5, Knight/Palmdale 1 - 40:00 2nd Half - **Completed**
- Basketball:** Beckman 14, El Modena 0 - 02:03 3rd QT - **Completed**
- Basketball:** Santiago 15, Costa Mesa 13 - 02:01 1st QT - **Completed**
- Basketball:** Corona del Mar 55, Capistrano Valley Christian 63 - 00:00 4th QT - **Completed**
- Water Polo:** Huntington Beach 10, El Toro 8 - 59:59 4th QT - **Completed**
- Basketball:** Mission Viejo 40, Tustin 32 - 02:03 4th QT - **Completed**

