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All-County boys basketball team: First team

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By STEVE FRYER
STAFF WRITER

Eyassu Worku is the player of th...  



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The Register has selected its All-County boys basketball teams. The First Team includes Villa Park's Evan Battey, Los Alamitos Eyassu Worku, Esperanza's Kezie Okpala, Mater Dei's Spencer Freedman and Mater Dei's MJ Cage.

◀ 1 of 34 ▶

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The Register's All-County boys basketball first team.

[Eyassu Worku](#)

Los Alamitos, Guard, Sr.

[The Register's player of the year.](#)

[Evan Battey](#)

Villa Park, Forward, Jr.

He was All-Crestview League first team. Surprisingly nimble for being 6-foot-7 and 235 pounds, he averaged 24 points a game. His scoring high was 44 points against Adelanto. "You look at his body, and you see a post guy," Villa Park coach **Kevin Reynolds** told the Register's Brian Whitehead about Battey. "He's a strong kid, but he's a unique talent. He's big, but he can put the ball on the floor, and he's a willing passer. ... He's someone you build a team around."

[MJ Cage](#)

Mater Dei, Center, Sr.

The 6-foot-10 Cage was co-MVP in the Trinity League. He averaged 12 points and nine rebounds a game. He led the Monarchs to a 27-5 overall record, an undefeated record in league and the semifinals of the CIF-SS Open Division playoffs. He signed with Oregon.

[Spencer Freedman](#)

Mater Dei, Guard, So.

He was perhaps the most consistent player for the Monarchs. Freedman averaged 14 points and four assists a game. He was co-MVP in the Trinity League and first-team All-CIF in the Open Division. He was MVP of the North O.C. Championships and all-tournament in the Beach Ball

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Classic. The 6-foot-1 guard was second in the county in assists (116) and third for 3-pointers made (88).

Kezie Okpala

Esperanza, Forward, Jr.

He was Crestview League player of the year. The 6-foot-6, 175-pound junior averaged 23 points, which set a school record, according to Coach **Mark Hill**. Okpala also led the team in rebounding, assists and steals. He scored 30 or more points in three games. He is receiving recruiting interest from several colleges, including UC Irvine.

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- ☐ Baseball season. Great teams, great games.
- ☐ Softball season. Great games every day.
- ☐ Track season. Great meets every week.
- ☐ All of the spring sports. Great to be back outdoors.
- ☐ Spring break. (I need the sleep.)
- ☐ We're getting closer to summer!!
- ☐ Spring football.
- ☐ I hate this time of the year. I already miss basketball.

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