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BurlisonOnBasketball all-junior selections

Written on May 11, 2017 by [Frank Burlison](#)

LAGUNA NIGUEL, Ca. – The identity of the 2016-17 BurlisonOnBasketball Southern California Most Outstanding Junior shouldn’t exactly come as any kind of seismographic shock to anyone who follows high school hoops anywhere it’s played.

Marvin Bagley III’s dazzling play helped lead Chatsworth Sierra Canyon High to the No. 1 seed in the CIF Southern Section’s Open Division playoff bracket and a Top 5 or so national ranking for much of the season.

Sierra’s Canyon’s season ended well short of the expectations that had been set in place for it going into a campaign in which the Trailblazers returned four starters (Bagley was ineligible after transferring to the school in January of 2016) from a team that lost to Chino Hills in the 2016 CIF Southern Section Open championship game.

Sierra Canyon was upset by eventual state champion Torrance Bishop Montgomery in the semifinals of the CIF SS Open semifinals. And then it was stunned in the first round of the State Open Regional competition, at home, by San Diego St. Augustine.

But those stumbles didn’t negate from the superb junior season turned in by the multi-skilled Bagley.

As was the case with my all-freshman and all-sophomore selections, players from the CIF Southern, L.A. City and San Diego Sections were eligible for the “all” selections, and each player should have been a starter or at least, if a reserve, often played something approaching “starters’ minutes”.

And players were selected based upon their individual accomplishments coupled with their teams’ successes – not on “college potential” or “how many scholarships offers” they may have received at this point of their prep careers.

One notable absence: 7-foot-2 **Bol Bol** was not placed on any of the teams listed below because he played less than half of Santa Ana Mater Dei’s games after transferring to the school from Kansas City in January.

Bol Bol, who played in 15 of Mater Dei’s 36 games, would have likely been a first team selection he had played in three more games.

The “Junior” selections follow:

Player of the Year

Marvin Bagley III 6-9 Chatsworth Sierra Canyon

Meet Frank

Frank Burlison is a well-regarded basketball writer who was inducted into the U.S. Basketball Writers Association Hall of Fame in 2005. His opinions on the potential of high school and college players are widely respected and sought by college coaches and NBA scouts, personnel directors and general managers from coast to coast. Oh, yes – he can offer plenty of thoughts on movies, television and pop music. Yes, he can rank those, too. Hint: He’s a big The Godfather, Larry Sanders, The Wire and The Beatles loyalist.



To learn more about Frank's scouting services, [click here](#).

Endorsements

“I’ve known Frank since he was a student at Long Beach State and no writer ever worked harder at studying and understanding basketball. When I was coaching I always put more stock into what he said about (high school) players than anyone I knew. As far as I’m concerned, he’s the best there is at evaluating the potential of basketball players.”

Lute Olson, Hall of Fame and NCAA Championship Winning Coach

"I have known Frank for 15 years and there is no one outside of those in the Clippers' organization that I trust more than Frank when it comes to player evaluations."
Neil Olshey, Portland Trail Blazers' General Manager

“Frank Burlison has always been a proponent of my talent and, even more so, of my potential – far before it was evident to most. Even as a smaller and determined player who was being overlooked by most high-major colleges and national scouting services, Frank always served as a friendly voice who got me into the door to most events to help me prove my talents.”
Russell Westbrook, the No. 4 overall selection in the 2008 NBA Draft out of UCLA and an all-star guard for the Oklahoma City Thunder

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First Team

- Matt Bradley** 6-4 San Bernardino
- Taeshon Cherry** 6-8 San Diego St. Augustine
- Devonaire Doutrive** 6-5 Lake Balboa Birmingham
- Spencer Freedman** 6-1 Santa Ana Mater Dei
- David Singleton** 6-4 Torrance Bishop Montgomery

Second Team

- Riley Battin** 6-8 Oak Park
- Jules Bernard** 6-5 Los Angeles Windward
- Kessler Edwards** 6-6 Etiwanda
- Bryce Hamilton** 6-4 Pasadena
- Taurus Samuels** 6-1 Vista

Third Team

- Kihei Clark** 5-8 Woodland Hills Taft
- Jamal Hartwell** 6-1 Los Angeles Fairfax
- D.J. McDonald** 6-0 Mission Hills Alemany
- Miles Norris** 6-9 La Mesa Helix
- Fletcher Tynen** 6-6 Torrance Bishop Montgomery

Fourth Team

- De’Sean Allen-Eikens** 6-6 Santa Monica
- Wayne Arnold** 6-3 Compton Dominguez
- Jordan Guest** 6-8 RSM Santa Margarita
- Joel Mensah** 6-9 San Juan Capistrano JSerra
- Cameron Shelton** 6-2 La Verne Damien

Fifth Team

- Dawson Baker** 6-2 Mission Viejo Capistrano Valley
- Jacob Eyman** 6-7 Los Alamitos
- Fred Odhiambo** 6-11 Mission Hills Alemany

Darryl Polk Jr. 5-9 Long Beach Poly

Dezmond Washington 6-6 Pasadena Blair

Sixth Team

Trey Anderson 6-6 Chula Vista Mater Dei Catholic

Harrison Butler 6-4 Santa Ana Mater Dei

Mehkel Harvey 6-8 Huntington Beach Ocean View

Antwan January 6-8 Woodland Hills Taft

Wes Slajchert 6-4 Oak Park

Seventh Team

Jeremiah Martin 6-5 San Bernardino Cajon

Eli McCullough 6-2 La Verne Damien

Michael Wang 6-8 Santa Ana Mater Dei

Ofure Ujadughele 6-3 Chino Hills

Warren Washington 6-9 San Marcos Mission Hills



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