

# Ohio overpowers West Virginia in Mumley Classic

• Buckeyes prevail, 102-78

By RICH GIBSON  
Times-Leader Sports Editor

A 62-point second half proved decisive in Ohio's 102-78 win over West Virginia in Saturday's Samuel Mumley OVAC All-Star Basketball Classic.

A crowd in excess of 1,000 looked on in OU-Eastern's Ney Center and watched the Buckeyes pull away after leading by only one point at halftime, 40-39.

"We kept sending five guys out there and eventually, wore them down," said Ohio coach Jeff Sabatino of Martins Ferry, now 5-0 in the OVAC showcase hoopfest. "I thought we were the quicker team and we took advantage."

In less than 24 hours, Sabatino and fellow coaches Mike Podlasiak (Union Local) and Rod Gray (Barnesville) produced two postseason triumphs. The trio were on the bench in a 98-96 East decision Friday in the District 12 All-Star tilt.

"As far as I'm concerned, the most beneficial aspect of these games are the lifelong friendships involved. They're priceless," Sabatino added.

Saturday's matinee encounter was closely competitive two-thirds into the fray before Ohio erupted for 14 unanswered points to take control.

The Buckeyes held a 45-43 upperhand prior to the 14-point spurt that resulted in a 59-43 lighting.

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**OHIO'S** Brett Jordan drives to the basket during action Saturday afternoon in the Sam A. Mumley OVAC Basketball Classic at the Robert Ney Center on the campus of Ohio University-Eastern. Ohio captured a 102-78 victory over their West Virginia counterparts.

T-L Photo/PAULA GINTHER

# Mountaineer girls pocket 83-72 verdict

By BUBBA KAPRAL  
T-L Executive Sports Editor

The West Virginia girls all-stars had a point to prove Saturday afternoon.

The Mountaineer girls entered the Samuel A. Mumley Basketball Classic as underdogs to their highly-touted Ohio counterparts -- a squad which featured five Division I college-bound athletes.

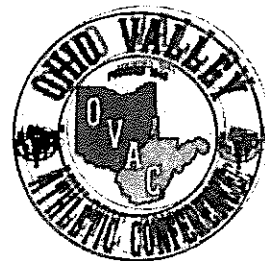
West Virginia, however, used a great start and a strong finish to post an 83-72 triumph at the Robert Ney Center on the campus of Ohio University-Eastern.

"We knew Ohio had some big time players, but we felt we had some nice talent, also," said Weirton Madonna's Mike Delre, who guided the Blue & Gold squad. "We divided our teams real well. All three rotations were well balanced.

"Rhythm was the key. We meshed real well," he added. "Our game plan was to get out and run and just let our girls play."

West Virginia got out of the box like bunched, sprinting to a 16-6 lead at the 15:23 mark of the opening half. Wheeling Central's Nathalie Paulis

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# SPORTS EXTRA

### ● Girls

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fueled the surge with six points.

Ohio -- under the guidance of Beallsville's Terry Jarrett -- clawed back to tie matters at 22-all on a goal by Tiffany Crum of Beallsville at the 8:40 lighting.

The balance of the half was nip-and-tuck with West Virginia emerging with a 42-40 edge at intermission.

The first 13 minutes of the second half was battled on even terms, with the final deadlock coming at 67-all. The final seven minutes belonged to West Virginia.

The Mountaineers went on a 15-5 spree to break matters open. Wheeling Park's Emily Duffin meshed two free throws with 1:40 left, giving West Virginia an 82-72 upperhand.

Ohio would never threaten again.

West Virginia displayed excellent offensive balance as four players reached double figures and 12 got into the scoring column.

Wheeling Park sharpshooter Lauren Gompers -- a St. Francis (Pa.) recruit -- led the winners with 16 points. She also prevailed in the three-point contest at halftime.

Weirton Madonna's Sarah Setcavage -- a 6 ft. 2 Wheeling Jesuit recruit -- finished with 11 counters while Duffin and Magnolia's Hannah Heinzman each netted 10 points.

"We knew Ohio had tons of talent, so we were pumped to play today," Setcavage noted. "We took it as a challenge and everybody stepped up and played well. It was a lot of fun."

Ohio had 13 players enter into the scoring, however, just one reached double figures. Steubenville Central dandy Jenn Fletcher paced the Buckeyes with 10 counters, including three treys.

St. Clairsville Lindsay Piccolini -- coming off a 16-point outburst in the District 12 game just the night before -- netted nine points for the Scarlet & Gray as did East Liverpool's Heather Smith and Meadowbrook's Chrissy Devore. Smith also buried three treys for the Buckeyes.

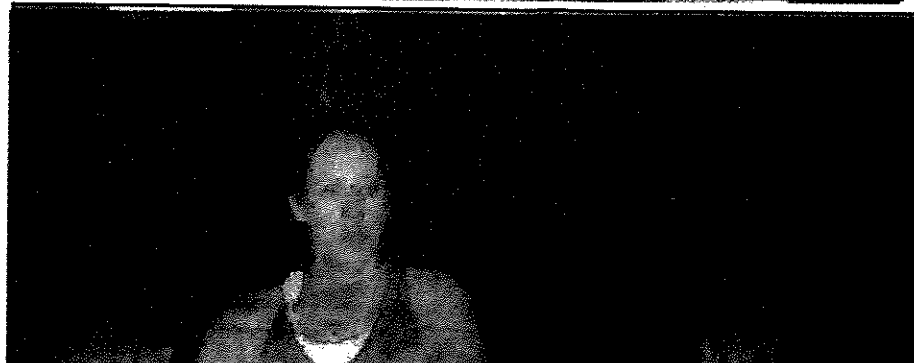
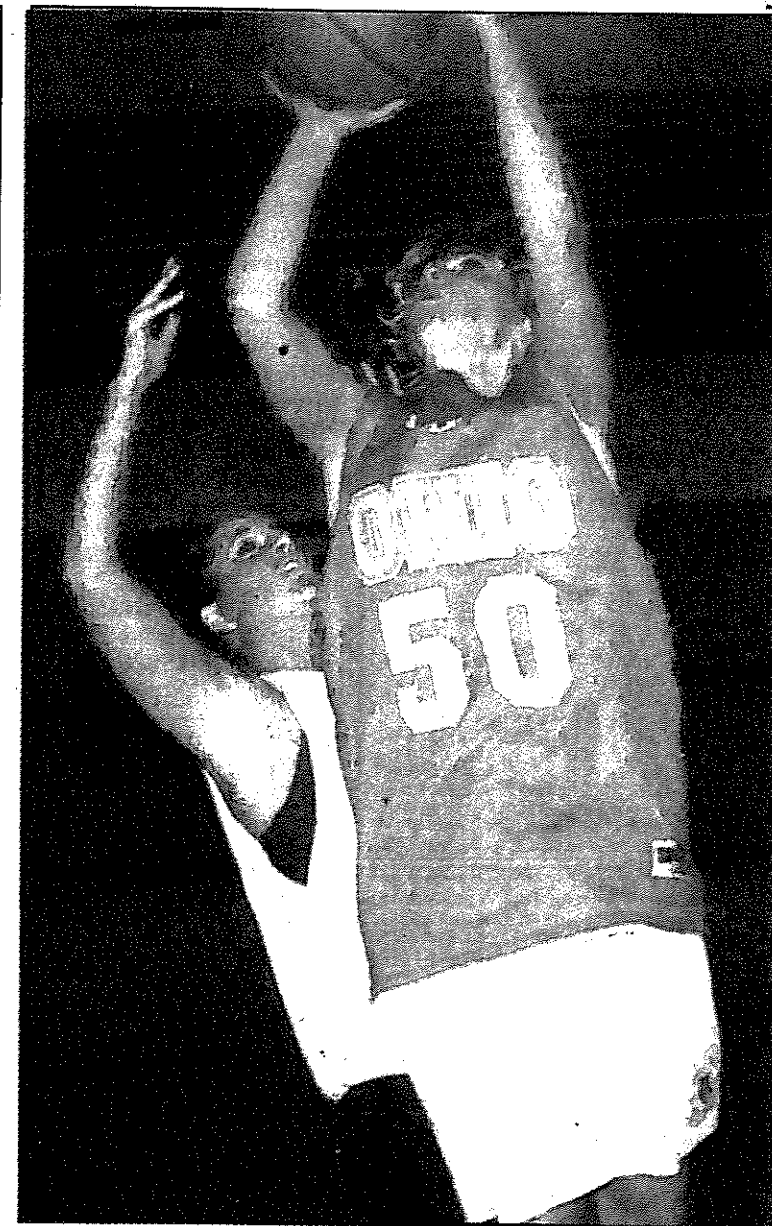
"It just wasn't our day," Jarrett said. "Give West Virginia credit, they played very well. But it was an honor to be a part of this game and I enjoyed coaching these girls."

Ohio drained 28-of-66 shots for 42 percent. The Mountaineers converted 37-of-75 attempts for just under 50 percent.

Both teams encountered problems at the charity stripe. Ohio misfired on eight-of-17 attempts while the winners were a rugged eight-of-18.

The game marked the final Ohio Valley appearance for three local Division I hoop recruits: Bellaire's Kacie Vavrek (Bellaire), St. John Central's Arin Kress (Winthrop) and River's Leighann Fry (Marshall).

Vavrek -- who will play one last prep game in



Central's Arin Kress (Winthrop) and River's Leighann Fry (Marshall).

Vavrek — who will play one last prep game in the Ohio-North South Classic in two weeks at Otterbein -- tallied four points Saturday as did Kress while Fry registered six markers. Kress also handed out four assists.

Scoring:  
WEST VIRGINIA (83) — Duffin 4, 2-2 10; Eckleberry 2, 0-0 4; Gompers 7, 1-1 16; Goysovich 0, 0-2 0; Heinzmar 5, 0-0 10; Lamantia 1, 0-0 2; Mason 0, 0-0 0; Mroczkowski 3, 0-0 6; Paulis 4, 0-0 8; Rohrig 2, 1-2 5; Schmidt 0, 1-2 1; Setcavage 5, 1-3 11; Sine 0, 0-0 0; Workman 3, 0-1 6; Yarter 1, 2-6 4. Totals 37, 8-18. OHIO (72) — Campbell 2, 1-4 5; Cline 2, 0-0 4; Crum 3, 0-0 6; Devore 4, 0-0 9; Fletcher 3, 1-2 10; Fry 3, 0-0 6; Gavarkavich 1, 0-1 2; Kress 1, 2-2 4; Liberati 1, 0-0 2; McGarvey 0, 0-0 0; Moore 0, 0-0 0; Morton 1, 0-0 2; Piccolini 2, 5-6 9; Smith 3, 0-0 9; Vavrek 2, 0-2 4. Totals 28, 9-17.

Three-point goals: West Virginia — Gompers (1); Ohio — Fletcher (3), Smith (3), Devore (1).



## Boys

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"I think we converted something like three or four straight turnovers into points which really got us going," Sabatino added.

The Buckeyes' boss was most pleased that all 15 Ohioans entered the scorebook with four registering double figure performances.

Steubenville's John Lester netted 12 tallies; Shadyside's Serge Gentile and Beallsville's Aaron Boughner tallied 11 apiece. St. Clairsville's Brett Jordan contributed 10 markers.

Ohio received nine points from Meadowbrook's Devon Singleton. Tossing in eight points apiece were Shenandoah's Jed Stephen and Edison's Jason Sanders, the slam dunk champion. Martins Ferry's Dareck Barr scored seven points.

"I don't know if there was a true MVP," Sabatino explained. "They all played well."

West Virginia also featured balanced

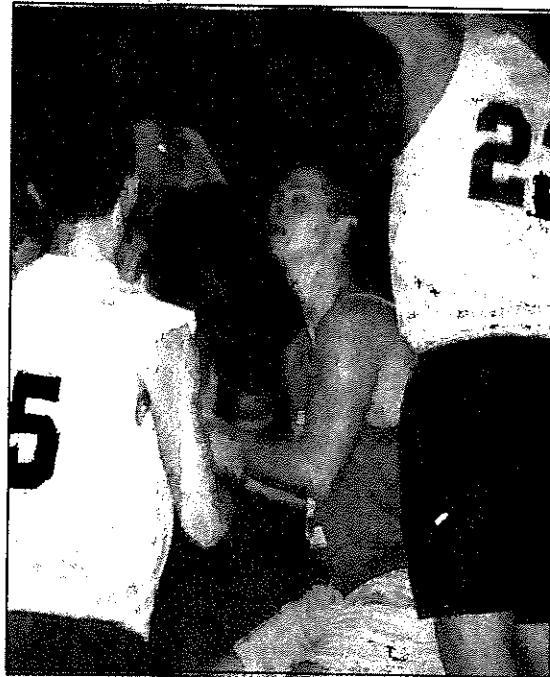
scoring. Brooke's Kirk Eastham and Wheeling Central's Ricky Yahn scored 10 apiece.

Brooke's Will Withers provided nine-point support. John Marshall's Pat Simons and Wheeling Park's Matt McGuane evenly divided 16 counters.

John Marshall's Mike Drahos landed eight rebounds. St. John's Kyle Greenlee grabbed six Buckeye boards.

Scoring:  
WEST VIRGINIA (78) — Walsh 0, 0-0 0; Ripley 0, 0-0 0; Fitzwater 1, 0-0 2; Zitzelsberger 1, 1-2 3; Dailer 2, 0-0 4; Battista 2, 0-0 5; Davies 3, 0-2 6; Patterson 3, 0-2 6; Drahos 2, 3-4 7; Simons 4, 0-0 8; McGuane 3, 2-2 8; Withers 2, 4-6 9; Yahn 4, 2-4 10; Eastham 3, 4-6 10. Totals — 30, 16-28. OHIO (102) — Thomas 1, 0-0 2; Greenlee 1, 0-0 2; Williams 1, 1-2 3; Miller 1, 2-3 4; Green 2, 0-0 4; Maximo 1, 3-4 5; Kroll 3, 0-0 6; Barr 3, 1-2 7; Sanders 3, 2-2 8; Stephen 2, 4-6 8; Singleton 4, 0-0 9; Jordan 4, 0-0 10; Gentile 5, 1-1 11; Boughner 4, 2-3 11; Lester 6, 0-0 12. Totals — 41, 16-23.

Three-point goals: West Virginia — Battista, Withers. Ohio — Jordan (2), Boughner, Singleton.



T-L Photos/PAULA GINTHER

**TOP LEFT:** Ohio's Lindsay Piccolini (51) goes up for a shot behind West Virginia's Shanda Mason (43) during Saturday's Sam A. Mumley OVAC Charity Girls' Basketball game at Ohio University Eastern.

**TOP RIGHT:** Ohio's Jenny Campbell (50) goes up for a layup as a West Virginia player defends.

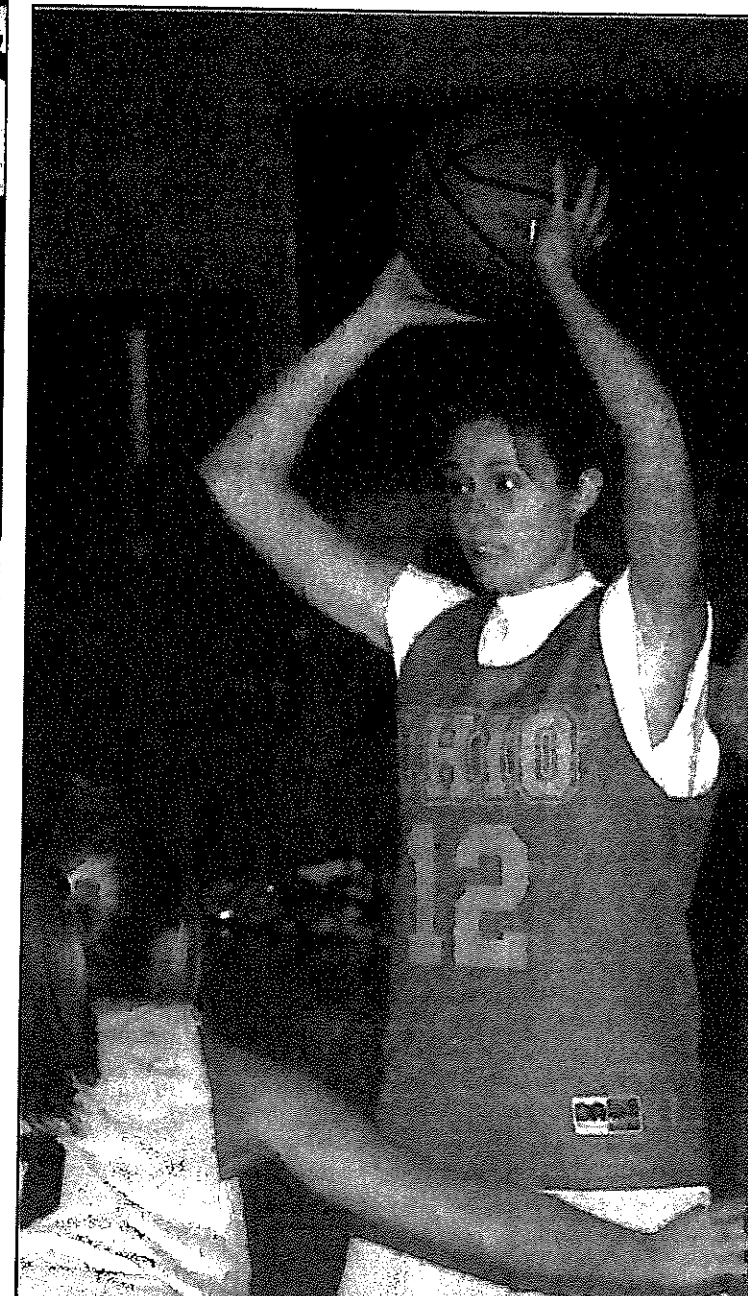
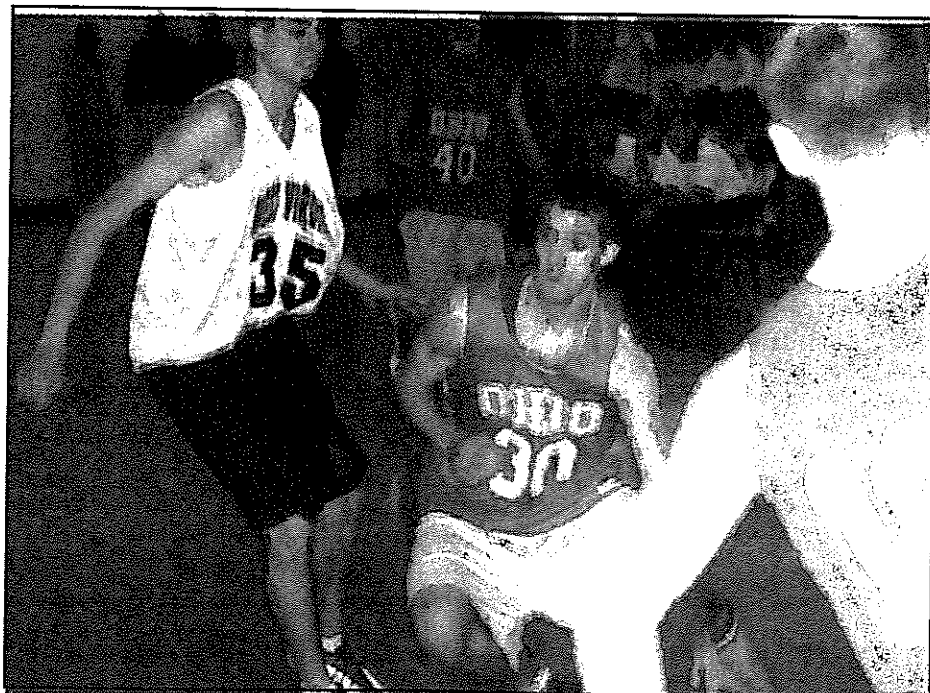
**MIDDLE LEFT:** Ohio's Kacie Vavrek (40) looks over the defense of West Virginia's Lauren Gompers (21) during action Saturday.

**MIDDLE RIGHT:** Ohio's Leighann Fry (14) goes in for a layup in front of West Virginia's Jessica Yarter (11).

**BOTTOM LEFT:** Ohio's Serge Gentile (30) dribbles around West Virginia's Matt McGuane (35) during the Sam A. Mumley Boys' game Saturday.

**BOTTOM MIDDLE:** Ohio Jed Stephen (12) looks for a teammate as he loses his footing.

**BOTTOM RIGHT:** Ohio's Arin Kress (12) looks for a teammate to pass to as West Virginia's Jade Eckleberry defends.





# Ohio's All-Stars Rout West Virginia

By NICK BEDWAY  
Executive Sports Editor

Martins Ferry High School boys' basketball coach Jeff Sabatino apparently knows a lot about coaching in all-star basketball games.

On Friday night, the Purple Rider mentor guided the East team to victory in the Ohio District 12 game played at Buckeye Trail High School in Old Washington.

Less than 24 hours after that contest, Sabatino was at the helm of the Ohio All-Stars as the Buckeyes took on West Virginia in the Samuel A. Mumley OVAC Memorial Charity Classic at Ohio University's Ney Center.

With a roster that featured many of the same players from the previous night, the Sabatino-coached team emerged victorious as the Buckeye boys scored 62 points in the second half to mow down the Mountaineers, 102-78.

"This is fifth straight win I've had in this game," said Sabatino, who was pleased with his Ohio squad's shot selection and unselfish play.

"Three-point shooting isn't going to win a lot of All-Star games," Sabatino pointed out. "We had a spell during the game when I thought we were shooting the ball too quickly. It was dribble and shoot."

Sabatino was referring to the final stages of the first half when Ohio, leading by 40-27, went into a cold spell and opened the



Photo by Scott McCloskey  
West Virginia's Kirk Eastham (5) leaps as Ohio's tandem of Jason Sanders (24) and Carson Williams (14) defend during the OVAC's boys all-star game Saturday.

door for the Mountaineers to score 12 consecutive points and just miss an opportunity to tie the game at halftime.

Linsly School's R.J. Zitzelsberger went to the foul line with just three seconds on the clock for two shots with the score at 40-38. He made just one of the two attempts, leaving the Buckeyes with a slim 40-39 advantage heading into the break. Wheeling Central all-stater Ricky Yahn, who led the Maroon Knights to the W.Va. state crown just a week ago, scored five points during the late first-half run.

The Buckeyes opened the second half with a basket from

underneath by Rory Kroll of Frontier for a three-point advantage but West Virginia's Adam Davies of Weir connected on a follow shot to make it 42-41.

Brett Jordan, St. Clairsville High School three-sport standout, then drained a three pointer for Ohio. With the score at 45-43 a few seconds later, the Buckeyes exploded for 14 straight points to take command. Shadyside's Serge Gentile began the run with back-to-back goals, followed by a basket and free throw from Shenandoah's Jed Stephen.

Devon Singleton then drained a 3-pointer for a 57-43 lead. On Ohio's next possession, Jon

Miller of Barnesville was fouled while putting up a 3-pointer. He drained two of the three charity shots to extend the advantage to 16. Wheeling Park's Matt McGuane then scored to end the West Virginia dry spell.

Both teams featured balanced attacks. Steubenville's John Lester, who had eight of his points during the first 10 minutes of the second half, finished with 12 to lead four double-figure Ohio scorers. Sharpshooters Aaron Boughner (Beallsville) and Serge Gentile (Shadyside) were next with 11 points each, while Jordan scored 10 points.

Yahn and Brooke's Kirk Eastham led West Virginia with 10 points each.

West Virginia outbanded Ohio, 41-39, but had 29 turnovers to 25 for the winners.

Several special awards were presented during the boys-girls doubleheader. Presented the Thomas E. Rataiczak Scorekeeper/Timer Award was Dorothy Pomento, from Buckeye Local.

Ohio 102, West Virginia 78  
O-Barr 3-5 1-2 7; Boughner 4-7 2-3 11; Gentile 5-8 1-1 11; Green 2-8 0-0 4; Greenlee 1-4 0-0 2; Jordan 4-7 0-0 10; Kroll 3-7 0-0 6; Lester 6-8 0-0 12; Maximo 1-3 3-4 5; Miller 1-4 2-3 4; Sanders 3-5 2-2 8; Singleton 4-8 0-0 9; Stephen 2-8 4-6 8; Thomas 1-2 0-0 2; Williams 1-1 1-2 3; Totals: 41-83 15-23 102  
WV-Battista 2-4 0-0 5; Daller 2-6 0-0 4; Davies 3-4 0-2 6; Drahos 2-4 3-4 7; Eastham 3-7 4-6 10; Fitzwater 1-5 0-0 2; Krupica 0-1 0-0 0; McGuane 3-5 2-2 8; Patterson 3-8 0-2 6; Ripley 0-2 0-0 0; Simons 4-9 0-0 8; Walsh 0-1 0-0 0; Withers 2-4 4-6 9; Yahn 4-8 2-4 10; Zitzelsberger 1-11 1-2 3; Totals: 30-78 15-18 78  
3-pt. Goals: Gentile, Jordan 2, Singleton; Battista, Withers. Halftime: Ohio 40, West Virginia 39



Photo by Scott McCloskey  
West Virginia's Jessica Yarter has her shot rejected by Ohio's Leighann Fry while Anna Morton (42) lends a hand during the OVAC's girls all-star game on Saturday.

## W.Va. Girls Win, 83-72

By NICK BEDWAY  
Executive Sports Editor

West Virginia went on a 13-2 run over the last four minutes game to move out to an 83-72 victory over Ohio in Saturday's girls Samuel A. Mumley Memorial OVAC Basketball Classic.

In the see-saw game played at Ohio University Eastern's Ney Center, Coach Mike DelRe's Mountaineer squad moved in front to stay at 72-70 on a stick-back goal from Magnolia High School's Hanna Heinzman.

The 6-ft. Heinzman, who scored six of her 10 points during the game's final stages, had previously put West Virginia up 70-67 with a baseline jumper. But the Lady Buckeyes forged one final tie when Heather Smith, from East Liverpool, swished a 3-pointer to knot the contest. It was the quick-triggered Smith's third trey of the afternoon.

After Heinzman put the Mountaineers back in front, Sarah Setcavage found Nathalie Paulus breaking to the hoop for a layup and a four-point advantage.

Ohio then got its last points when Chrissy Devore scored on a short jumper, trimming its deficit to 74-72. West Virginia then closed things out with nine straight points. Maria Rohrig's strong move inside boosted the lead to 76-72, followed by a rebound basket from Lauren Gompers and a bucket by Setcavage as the clock turned under two-minutes.

The only points the rest of the way came from the foul line as Emily Duffin cashed two free throws and Setcavage add another to pad the Mountaineer advantage.

"This was a lot of fun," said DelRe, who during the regular season coached Weirton Madonna to a W.Va. Class A state tournament berth. "It should be enjoyable with all these good players to coach."

DelRe felt the difference for his talent-laden squad had a lot to do with the Lady Mountaineers being willing to sacrifice personal goals. "Sometimes when good players come together they have to give up a little bit of themselves," he said. "Ohio had a big team and I didn't want to play toe-to-toe with them.

When we spread the floor some of our guards who ordinarily would be looking to shoot the ball, had to go stand in the corner a little bit."

Gompers, the three-year standout at Wheeling Park who is headed to St. Francis (Pa.) College next season, had a strong game for West Virginia.

The guard/forward scored 16 points, nine of which came in the second half. During halftime, Gompers displayed her outside shooting ability to the crowd by winning the 3-point girls' shootout as she nailed 11 bonus bombs. Her only trey during the game came early in the second half and it gave the Lady Mountaineers a 47-45 lead.

Joining Gompers in double-figures for the were Weirton Madonna's Setcavage, who scored 11 points and Emily Duffin of Park and Heinzman with 10 each.

The well-balanced Ohio squad had just one double-digit performer as Jenn Fletcher of Steubenville Catholic Central tossed in 10 markers. Devore (Meadowbrook), Lindsay Piccolini (St. Clairsville) and Smith (East Liverpool) finished with nine each.

The Lady Buckeyes terrific guard tandem of Arin Kress (St. John's Central) and Kacie Vavrek (Bellaire) were limited to four points each. Kress, bound for Winthrop (N.C.) College in the fall, played well handling the ball for Ohio and she got a favorable response from the crowd on one occasion with a terrific spin move to the basket for a layup.

The Mountaineers were able to use Jade Eckleberry, from Oak Glen; Jessica Yarter, a Brooke High standout, and Setcavage to run the point when needed.

### West Virginia 83, Ohio 72

O-Campbell 2-5 1-4 5; Cline 2-4 0-0 4; Crum 3-5 0-0 6; Devore 4-7 0-0 9; Fletcher 3-5 1-2 10; Fry 3-4 0-0 6; Gavarkovich 1-2 0-2 2; Kress 1-6 2-2 4; Liberati 1-3 0-0 2; McGarvey 0-4 0-0 0; Moore 0-0 0-0 0; Morton 1-2 0-0 2; Piccolini 2-4 5-8 9; Smith 3-6 0-0 9; Vavrek 2-8 0-2 4; Totals: 28-65 9-20

WV-Duffin 4-6 2-2 10; Eckleberry 2-7 0-0 4; Gompers 7-15 1-1 16; Goysovich 0-1 0-2 0; Heinzman 5-6 0-0 10; Lamantia 1-1 0-0 3; Mason 0-1 0-0 0; Mroczkowski 3-6 0-0 6; Paulus 4-4 0-0 8; Rohrig 2-3 0-2 4; Schmidt 0-3 1-2 1; Setcavage 5-10 1-3 11; Sine 0-4 0-0 0; Workman 3-8 0-1 6; Yarter 1-5 2-6 4; Totals: 37-81 7-19

3-pt. goals: Devore, Fletcher 3, Smith 3; Gompers, Lamantia Halftime: West Virginia 42, Ohio 40



Photo by Alex Kozlowski

Members of the West Virginia coaching staffs for today's Sam A. Mumley OVAC All-Star Basketball Classic are, from left: Linsly's Mark Dodd and Tyler Consolidated's Rick Leach — boys coaches. Girls coaches are Cameron's Tom Hart, and Weirton Madonna's Mike Del Re.

## OVAC All-Star Basketball Games

The annual showcase that is the Sam A. Mumley OVAC All-Star Basketball Classic is set for today at Ohio University Eastern's Ney Center.

Senior stars from the Mountain and Buckeye states will strut their stuff, beginning with the girls' game, which starts at 1 p.m. The boys' will tip it at 3:30 p.m.

As has been the case since the inception of this showcase, both sides of the river are loaded with scorers, which generally makes for crowd-pleasing, run-and-gun fireworks.

### GIRLS

Ohio head coach Terry Jarrett of Beallsville, along with his assistants — Kim Appolloni of Martins Ferry and Jackie Marook of Steubenville Central — will have a pair of first-team all-Ohio players, who played their high school ball right across the street from one another, at their disposal.

Bellaire's Kacie Vavrek led the OV in scoring this season at just under 24 ppg., and will take her considerable talents to Kent State University next fall.

She scored 1,631 career

points and was also named the District 12 Player of the Year.

Her backcourt mate will be Bellaire St. John's point guard Arin Kress. Kress, a three-time member of The Intelligencer's All-Valley first team, broke the state's career assist mark this season, finishing her career with 911. A 14.1 ppg. scorer this season for head coach Bubba Kapral and she will head to Winthrop University this season.

As well, there are two other members of this season's All-Valley team on the Ohio roster: Leighann Fry of River and Jenny



Photo by Alex Kozlowski

Members of the Ohio coaching staffs for today's Sam A. Mumley OVAC All-Star Basketball Classic are, from left: Martins Ferry's Jeff Sabatino, Barnesville's Rod Gray, Union Local's Mike Podlasiak — all boys coaches. Girls coaches are Martins Ferry's Kim Appolloni, Beallsville's Terry Jarrett, and Steubenville Central's Jackie Marook.

## On Tap

Campbell of Union Local. Both are two-time honorees.

Fry, who will play basketball next season at Marshall University, capped a brilliant career for head coach Tom Tisher's Pilots this season. She averaged 17 ppg. during her senior season. Finished her four years with 1,260 points, 815 rebounds and shot 70-percent from the free-throw line. An All-Ohio special mention selection, she will also compete in the Ohio-Kentucky all-star game.

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## Official Prettyman to be honored

Long-time Ohio Valley football and basketball official Jack Prettyman has been chosen as this year's recipient of the Robert Dawson OVAC Basketball Officials Award and will be honored during ceremonies at today's annual Sam Mumley OVAC All-Star Basketball Classic at OU Eastern's Ney Center.

One of the most recognizable faces on the valley officiating scene, Prettyman blew the whistle on OVAC sporting events for the better part of

four decades.

Not only was Prettyman one of the top high school officials in the tri-state area, he was also a highly-rated collegiate basketball and football arbiter.

He was a member of the Eastern 8 and Atlantic 10 basketball officials for 25 years and officiated 26 West Virginia Conference tournament championship games over the years.

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● OVAC

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staff.

Beallsville's Terry Jarrett will serve as the Lady Buckeyes' head coach after he led his Lady Blue Devils' quint to a school record in wins with a 19-3 mark and the OVAC 1-A crown.

"It is a real privilege to be coaching in this game," Jarrett said. "I don't take any of the credit because we had a super group of girls this past season that really worked hard."

"It is special to be a part of this game because it is such a prestigious event."

Martins Ferry head coach Kim Traversa-Appolloni will serve on the Ohio staff after she led the Lady Riders to an outstanding 22-3 record and a berth in Ohio's prestigious "Sweet 16." The Ferrians also captured the OVAC 3-A title.

The third coach for the Scarlet and Gray will be Steubenville Central head coach Jackie Marook who along with Traversa-Appolloni were honored as Division III East District co-coaches of the year.

The West Virginia staff consists of Mike Delrac of Weirton Madonna and Tom Hart of Cameron.

Like the coaches, the players know what an honor being selected to the OVAC game beholds.

The Ohio girls' team features three players who are headed to Division I-A basketball scholarships.

Bellaire's Kacie Vavrek, St. John Central's Arin Kress and River's Leighann Fry will all continue their basketball careers.

Vavrek, who is the all-time girls' scorer in Bellaire High history, will take her plethora of skills to Kent State University.

"Being chosen for this game is a great honor," the defending state high hurdles champion said. "It is fun to play with people you have spent your entire career playing against."

Kress, who is the Ohio all-time assists leader in a career, is bound for Winthrop University.

"It really means a lot to be selected to play in this game," Kress said. "Being able to play with players of this caliber is a great honor. Everyone is able to showcase their talents."

Fry, who is the all-time leading girls' scorer for Coach Tom Tisher, is headed to play at Marshall University.

Basketball is not the only sport that the Ohio squad features a Division I athlete. St. Clairsville's Lindsay Piccolini will continue her volleyball career at Eastern Michigan University.

The remainder of the Ohio roster consists of: Anna Morton (Zanesville), Holly Cline (Edison), Jenny Campbell (Union Local), Tiffany Crum (Beallsville), Chrissy DeVore (Meadowbrook), Caitlin McGarvey (Zanesville), J.J. Liberati (Bellaire), Jenn Fletcher (Steubenville Central), Meredith Moore (Buckeye Trail), Heather Smith (East Liverpool) and Holly Gavarkavich (Martins Ferry).

The Ohio boys' squad features size, talent, athleticism and

everything else that solid basketball teams possess.

Shadyside High's Serge Gentile is one of the featured players on the Ohio squad. The East District's Division IV Player of the Year is happy to be on the Ohio squad and is looking forward to the opportunity.

"It is an honor to be selected to this game," Gentile said. "There is a lot of talent in this game and I am looking forward to playing in it."

Another player excited to be on the Ohio roster is St. Clairsville guard Brett Jordan.

"Being selected to this game means you are one of the best in the OVAC," the modest Jordan said. "This is a great game to end your high school career in because you are getting the chance to play with the guys you have played against all season."

Beallsville's Aaron Boughner who was the leading small school scorer in the OVAC this past season is on the team as is Martins Ferry's go-to-guy Dareck Barr and two-time all-Ohioan Jed Stephen of Shenandoah.

Other members of the Ohio team include: John Lester (Steubenville), Brett Green (East Liverpool), Rory Kroll (Frontier), Kyle Greenlee (St. John Central), Devon Singleton (Meadowbrook), Jon Miller (Barnesville), David Thomas (Union Local), Chris Maximo (Cambridge), Jason Sanders (Edison) and Carson Williams (Buckeye Trail).

The West Virginia girls team looks like consists of: Lauren Gompers (Wheeling Park), Jessica Yarter (Brooke), Mindy Workman (John Marshall), Hannah Heinzman (Magnolia), Jade Eckleberry (Oak Glen), Cori Schmidt (Tyler), Sarah Setcavage (Madonna), Maria Rohrig (Linsly), Miranda Sine (Paden City), Janna Lamantia (Madonna), Emily Duffin (Wheeling Park), Ashley Mroczkowski (Linsly), Susan Goysovich (Weirton), Shanda Mason (Cameron), Nathalie Paulis (Wheeling Central).

The Mountaineers' boys team includes: Kirk Eastham (Brooke), Adam Davies (Weirton), Pat Simons (John Marshall), Ricky Yahn (Wheeling Central), Blake Patterson (Tyler Consolidated), Brett Ripley (Magnolia), R.J. Zitzelsberger (Linsly), Brandon Battista (Weirton Madonna), Troy Krupica (Bishop Donahue), Mike Drahos (John Marshall), Matt McGuane (Wheeling Park), Jacob Dailer (Wheeling Central), Will Withers (Brooke), Aaron Fitzwater (Tyler), Colin Walsh (Linsly).

The OVAC All-Star game is more than just a basketball game.

On game day, the players and two guests will receive brunch at Undos West in St. Clairsville.

There will also be a three-point shootout for the girls and a slam dunk competition for the boys.

Former Shadyside High boys' basketball mentor and current guidance counselor John Stanko is back for his second year as the game director.

## Hensler to earn Saffield Girls' Coach Award

One of the Valley's best girls' coaches, Charles "Chuck" Hensler, will be returning to the from Annapolis, Maryland this weekend...and for good a reason.

At this weekend's OVAC Charity basketball games, Hensler will be presented with the Richard Saffield Girls' Coaching Award.

Hensler graduated from Follansbee High School and was received his degree from West Liberty State College. After graduating from college, Hensler was forced to Vietnam, where he was a combat soldier.

Hensler took the Weirton Madonna head coaching job in 1989 and held the position for six more years, of which were very impressive.

During his reign as the Lady Dons boss, Hensler produced a host of titles including: two OVAC titles, four West Virginia Section I titles, four West Virginia Region I titles and the most prized title, a state championship in 1992.

Hensler ended his career with a brilliant 107-50 record, with only 12 of those losses coming to Single A opponents.

After leaving Madonna, Hensler went on to coach under Bill Smith at Weirton High from 1996-1999.

After retiring from Weirton Steel in 1999, Hensler and his wife, Stephanie, moved to Maryland, where he currently works as a Operations Supervisor for Central Atlantic Toyota.

Chuck and Stephanie have two children, a son Ryan and a daughter Kelly.



# OVAC

(Continued from Page 19)

Campbell was the model of consistency for head coach Rick Jones, scoring 1,318 points in her career and grabbed upwards of 600 rebounds. A third-team All-Ohio selection, Campbell is undecided on her college plans, though she will play basketball.

Other players on the Ohio girls roster are Bellaire's J.J. Liberati, Martins Ferry's Holly Gavarkavich, Buckeye Trail's Meredith Moore, Edison's Holly Cline, Zanesville's Caitlin McGarvey and Anna Morton, Beallsville's Tiffany Crum, Steubenville Central's Jenn Fletcher, St. Clairsville's Lindsay Piccolini and Meadowbrook's Chrissy Devore.

On the West Virginia girls' side, head coach Mike Del Re has numerous scoring options, including Madonna's own Sarah Setcavage, a first-team All-W.Va. honoree.

Setcavage scored an OV-best 24.5 points per game and became the Blue Dons' all-time leading scorer — both boys and girls. The Wheeling Jesuit recruit also averaged 18 rebounds per night and led her team to the state semifinals where it was defeated by eventual champion Mercer Christian.

Wheeling Park's Lauren Gompers, who's off to St. Francis, Pa. next season, can score with the

best of 'em. Another two-time All-Valley performer, Gompers, who was named to the W.Va. Class AA second unit, scored 22.5 ppg. this season and cashed in 1,631 career points.

Oak Glen's Jade Eckleberry, a first-team Class AA All-W.Va. selection, led her Golden Bears back to the state tournament this season, scoring more than 20 ppg. Her 59 3-point goals led the Valley this season and she hit seven in a 39-point effort against Madonna.

Del Re is assisted by Cameron's Tom Hart.

Other W.Va. girls performers include: Brooke's Jessica Yarter, John Marshall's Mindy Workman, Magnolia's Hannah Heinzman, Tyler Consolidated's Cori Schmidt, Linsly's Maria Rohrig, Paden City's Mirand Sine, Madonna's Janna Lamantia, Wheeling Park's Emily Duffin, Linsly's Ashley Mroczkowski, Weir's Susan Goysovich, Cameron's Shanda Mason and Nathalie Paulus of Wheeling Central.

## BOYS

Much like the girls, the boys' side of the ledger is not lacking in both the scoring and All-Valley departments.

Nine All-Valley members will showcase their talents for the last time, headed by three-time selec-

tion Serge Gentile of Shadyside.

In Gentile, Ohio head coach Jeff Sabatino and assistants Rod Gray of Barnesville and Mike Podlasiak of Union Local, get a player who is capable of doing the four things necessary to win ball-games: score, rebound, distribute the ball and hit free throws.

Gentile scored 19.7 ppg., averaged 5.1 assists, 4.5 rebounds and hit 81-percent of his free throws.

The Valley's leading scorer, Beallsville's Aaron Boughner also figures to be a force to be reckoned with today. Boughner pumped in 26.6 ppg. this winter for head coach Scooter Tolzda.

And don't forget all-everything Jed Stephen of Shenandoah. Stephen, who earned All-Ohio first-team laurels in both football and basketball, scored 26 point a night.

Other players on the Ohio roster: Martins Ferry's Dareck Barr, St. Clairsville's Brett Jordan, Bellaire St. John's Kyle Greenlee, Union Local's David Thomas, Barnesville's Jon Miller, Buckeye Trail's Carson Williams, Steubenville's John Lester, East Liverpool's Brett Green, Frontier's Rory Kroll, Meadowbrook's Devon Singleton, Cambridge's Chris Maximo and Jason Sanders of Edison.

West Virginia head coach Mark Dodd of Linsly and assistant Rick

Leach of Tyler Consolidated aren't exactly dealing with an empty cupboard either.

Leading the way are a pair of members from the W.Va. Class A state champion Wheeling Central Maroon Knights and a pair of standouts from Dodd's own Cadets.

Central point guard Ricky Yahn scored 13.7 ppg., 7.6 rebounds and 3.8 assists, while shooting 37-percent from 3-point land. His teammate Jacob Dailer also averaged 13.7 points a night and was deadly from behind the 3-point line.

But, if you're talking about deadly 3-point shooters, the conversation probably should begin with Linsly's R.J. Zitzelsberger. Zitzelsberger scored 21.5 ppg. — second in the 'Small School' ranks — and drilled a Valley-leading 78 bombs. His teammate for four years, Colin Walsh is a gritty competitor, who also starred as the quarterback on the football team.

Other W.Va. boys players:

Kirk Eastham and Will Withers of Brooke, Pat Simons and Mike Drahos of John Marshall, Weir's Adam Davies, Tyler Consolidated's Blake Patterson, Magnolia's Brett Ripley, Weirton Madonna's Brandon Battista, Bishop Donahue's Troy Krupica and Matt McGuane of Wheeling Park.

# Brinkman to receive Earl Haberfield Award

One of the Ohio Valley's most innovative coaches will be honored this weekend at this weekend's OVAC Basketball festivities.

Former Wheeling High Basketball coach V. Everett Brinkman will be given the Earl Haberfield OVAC Basketball Coaches Award for Boys' Coach.

A native of South Wheeling, Brinkman was most noted for bringing some nine state titles back to Wheeling.

Everett took his roundballers to the state tournament a total of seven times, and brought back the state title on five of those occasions.

Not only was he an outstanding basketball coach, but also very adept at football.

He piloted his teams to four state crowns -- at Union High in 1928 and '31, and also at Wheeling High in 1934 and '37.

Brinkman started his coaching career in

Wheeling in 1933 as both the football and basketball coach. During his tenure he owned a record of 43-27-11 and never had a losing season.

As a basketball mentor, Brinkman was a pioneer of the two-handed jump shot and the fast break. His combined Union-Wheeling basketball record was 405 victories against 193 losses.

Brinkman earned state titles in 1936, '38, '40, '43 and '50.

During his last season as head coach in 1955, his team established an Ohio Valley scoring record, which has since been broken, of 146 points in one game.

After retiring from coaching, he devoted himself to the field of school administration as he had a master's degree from the University of Pittsburgh.

Brinkman died on July 20, 1972.



## West Virginia All Stars



REPRESENTING West Virginia in the 2002 Sam A. Mumley OVAC Charity Basketball Game is this group of area performers. Front row, from left, are head coach Mike Delrae, Jade Eckleberry, Miranda Sine, Janna Lamantia, Cori Schmidt, Jessica Yarter, Shanda Mason, Nathalie Paulis and assistant coach Tom Hart. Back row, from left, are Susan Goysovich, Hannah Heinzman, Sarah Setcavage, Maria Rohrig, Emily Duffin, Ashley Mroczkowski, Lauren Gompers and Mindy Workman.

T-L Photo/SETH STASKEY



# Coaches, players honored to participate in OVAC tilt

By **SETH STASKEY**  
Times Leader Sports Writer

The basketball stars of the Ohio Valley Athletic Conference came out Monday evening at media night for the annual Samuel A. Mumley All-Star Game.

The annual classic, set for Saturday, March 30, pits the Ohio all-stars against the West Virginia all-stars at the Robert W. Ney Center on the campus of Ohio University-Eastern.

The coaching staffs are definitely quality ones since both the Ohio and West Virginia staffs are voted upon by their peers.

Set to guide the Ohio boys is Martins Ferry head coach Jeff Sabatino. Sabatino is back for his fifth go-around in the annual classic.

"I keep coaching in this game because it is an honor when the other coaches in the OVAC vote for you to coach in the game," Sabatino said.

"I really enjoy the chance to get to coach the

best players on the Ohio side. These are the kids you play against and prepare for, but now you get to have them on your team and I really like that."

Sabatino, who guided his Purple Riders to a 17-6 record, berth in the district tourney and the OVAC 3-A title, has a fine staff of coaches sitting next to him on the Ohio bench.

Union Local head coach Mike Podlasiak will serve as one assistant after he led the Jets to a district runner-up finish and an 18-6 record.

The third member of the Ohio staff is Barnesville head coach Rod Gray. Gray produced a 12-10 season for the Shamrocks.

The West Virginia head coach will be Linsly's Mark Dodd who led his Cadets to the 1-A OVAC championship and a fine 19-6 mark.

Dodd's assistant will be Tyler head coach Rick Leach who led the Silver Knights to the state tournament in Double A.

The Ohio girls' staff is as quality as the boys' See, OVAC, Page B2



T-L Photo/SETH STASKEY

**SELECTED** to coach the Ohio squads in the annual Sam Mumley OVAC All-Star Game are from left, Jeff Sabatino (Martins Ferry), Rod Gray (Barnesville), Mike Podlasiak (Union Local), Kim Traversa-Appolloni (Martins Ferry), Terry Jarrett (Beallsville) and Jackie Marook (Steubenville Central).

## BOYS

### Class A

#### First Team

Chris Blair, Jr., Weirton Madonna; \*Aaron Boughner, sr., Beallsville; Kyle Greenlee, sr., Bell, St. John; Jason Ogden, soph., Bell, St. John; \*R.J. Zitzelsberger, sr., Linsly.

#### Second Team

Brandon Battista, sr., Weirton Madonna; Jeff Bowers, jr., Paden City; Troy Krupica, Jr., Bishop Donahue; Choo Moughman, sr., Conotton Valley; James Wallace, jr., Linsly.

#### Honorable Mention

Beallsville: Zac Burkhardt; Joey Crum; Bridgeport: Donnie Wilson; Cameron: Adam Hartley; Logan Wendt; Conotton Valley: Eric Leggett; Linsly: Sam Milton; Paden City: Jared Feldmeyer; Weirton Madonna: Eric Sperlazza.

### Class AA

#### First Team

Dave Contraguerro, jr., Wheeling Central; \*Serge Gentile, sr., Shadyside; Rory Kroll, sr., Frontier; Jared Mike, jr., Ryan O'Leary, sr., Steub. Catholic; Ricky Yahn, sr., Wheeling Central.

#### Second Team

Heath Allen, jr., Fort Frye; Jacob Daller, sr., Wheeling Central; Brett Hambleton, sr., Wellsville; Evan Holmes, sr., Shadyside; Carson Williams, sr., Buckeye Trail.

#### Honorable Mention

Caldwell: Joe Chandler; Ryan Dimmerling; Derek Sidwell; Fort Frye: Matt Barton; Stephen Reeder; Frontier: Sam Rutherford; Monroe Central: Kenny Robinson; Derek Zwick; River: Kellen Kish; Steub. Catholic: Frank Petrella; Toronto: Josh Hughes; Mike Roney; Zach Thomas.

### Class AAA

#### First Team

\*Aaron Agnew, soph., Bellaire; Dreck Barr, sr., Martins Ferry; Brett Jordan, sr., St. Clairsville; Anthony Scarnecchia, jr., Union Local; Jedidiah Stephen, sr., Shenandoah.

#### Second Team

Jon Miller, sr., Barnesville; Blake Patterson, sr., Tyler Consolidated; Mike Saffle, sr., Indian Creek; Justin Schafer, jr., Union Local; Devon Singleton, sr., Meadowbrook; Ted Talkington, so., Magnolia.

#### Honorable Mention

Barnesville: Mike Welch; Bellaire: Ben Doyle; Harrison Central: Steve Coffman; Chace Smith; Indian Creek: Chris Duncan, Brett Schmied; Magnolia: Brett Ripley; Martins Ferry: Willie Krupa, Percy Walker; Oak Glen: Jared Gamble, Luke Samples; St. Clairsville: Sam Kraly; Tyler Consolidated: Aaron Fitzwater; Union Local: David Thomas.

### Class AAAA

#### First Team

Brett Green, sr., East Liverpool; John Lester, sr., Steubenville; Pat Simons, sr., John Marshall; \*Brandon Todd, jr., Cambridge; Kyle Witucky, sr., Zanesville.

#### Second Team

Pierre Curanton, jr., Weir; Michael Drahos, sr., John Marshall; Kirk Eastham, sr., Brooke; Tim Pancake, sr., Beaver Local; Jason Sanders, sr., Edison; Nick Stefanow, jr., Wheeling Park.

#### Honorable Mention

Beaver Local: Derek Smith; Brooke: Kyle Scherich; Will Withers; Buckeye Local: Josh Benton; Kyle Twardoski; Mike Yocum; East Liverpool: Roosevelt Kirby; Weir: Adam Davies; Wheeling Park: Matt McGuane; Charles Thomas; Zanesville: Jordan Lear.

## GIRLS

### Class A

#### First Team

Amanda Allison, soph., Cameron; \*Arin Kress, sr., Bell St. John; Maria

Rohrig, sr., Linsly; Sarah Setcavage, sr., Weirton Madonna; Charity Street, soph., Beallsville.

#### Second Team

Tiffany Crum, sr., Beallsville; Margaret DeCiman, jr., Mount de Chantal; Ashley Mroczkowski, jr., Linsly; Miranda Sine, sr., Paden City; Sarah Stalder, jr., Beallsville; Andrea Stojanovic, sr., Mount de Chantal.

#### Honorable Mention

Bishop Donahue: Lexi Fazio; Mallory Zearott; Bridgeport: Erin Harding; Cameron: Tori Campbell; Shanda Mason; Conotton Valley: Rachelle Cole; Linsly: Noelle Adams; Mount de Chantal: Lena Kalvans; Paden City: Ashley Cain; Rebekah Pryor; Bell, St. John: Jena Ehni; Marri Kafetz; Weirton Madonna: Janna Lamantia; Chantal Wujtow.

### Class AA

#### First Team

Krista Ferguson, sr., Fort Frye; Kayleen Fitzsimmons, jr., Wheeling Central; Jenn Fletcher, sr., Steub. Catholic; \*Leighann Fry, sr., River; Jenna Johnson, jr., Shadyside; Tristin Miracle, jr., Shadyside; Kim Shockling, jr., Caldwell.

#### Second Team

Heather Arnold, sr., Fort Frye; Kathleen Gilligan, jr., Wheeling Central; Mary Gilloon, jr., Steub. Central; Lindsay Romick, jr., River; Tabi Taylor, sr., Frontier.

#### Honorable Mention

Buckeye Trail: Meredith Moore; Kim Rose; Jessy Starcher; Caldwell: Heather Sayre; Frontier: Trista Murphy; Shadyside: Whitney Brown; Wellsville: Rachel Klavuhn; Lynsey Lyle; Wheeling Central: Chevon Robertson.

### Class AAA

#### First Team

Jenny Campbell, sr., Union Local; Lindsay Coyne, jr., Martins Ferry; Jade Eckleberry, sr., Oak Glen; Lyndsey Piccolini, sr., St. Clairsville; \*Kacie Vavrek, sr., Bellaire.

#### Second Team

Ashley Bruney, sr., Martins Ferry; Chrissy Devore, sr., Meadowbrook; Jenna Eckleberry, jr., Oak Glen; Hannah Heinman, sr., Magnolia; Shannon Leasure, soph., Shenandoah; Bethany Stranges, jr., St. Clairsville.

#### Honorable Mention

Barnesville: Karri Anderson; Amy Hines; Bellaire: J.J. Liberati; Kristina Tomlan; Harrison Central: Christa Eddy; Angela Schrader; Indian Creek: NaNa Taylor; Magnolia: Beth Swords; Martins Ferry: Holly Gavarkavich; Meadowbrook: Tiffany Youel; Oak Glen: Annie Chaney; St. Clairsville: Leslie Massey; Tyler Consolidated: Ashley Ferguson; Brittany Hagerty; Anna Meckley; Union Local: Emily Miller.

### Class AAAA

#### First Team

Holly Cline, sr., Edison; Lisa Costello, jr., Weir; \*Lauren Gompers, sr., Wheeling Park; Anna Morton, sr., Zanesville; Sherelle Vossen, jr., John Marshall; Jessica Yarter, sr., Brooke.

#### Second Team

Emily Duffin, sr., Wheeling Park; Julie Gompers, jr., Wheeling Park; Maddie Lawther, jr., John Marshall; Caitlin McGarvey, sr., Zanesville; Heather Smith, sr., East Liverpool.

#### Honorable Mention

Beaver Local: Rachel McCoy; Sarah McCoy; Brooke: Mandy DiPasquale; Jenna Frankenfield; Buckeye Local: Katie Graham; Cambridge: Julie Andrews; Michelle Todd; East Liverpool: Heather Brick; Yasmine Plumley; Edison: Emily Reed; John Marshall: Stephanie Luzader; Weir: Susan Goysovich; Jasmine Pandergast.

\*-denotes captain



T-L Photo/SETH STASKEY

**REPRESENTING** Ohio in the 2002 Sam A. Mumley OVAC Charity Basketball Game is this group of area performers. Front row, from left, are assistant coach Jackie Marook, Chrissy Devore, Meredith Moore, Arin Kress, Jenn Fletcher, J.J. Liberati, Tiffany Crum and assistant coach Kim Traversa-Appolloni. Back row, from left, are Heather Smith, Holly Cline, Jenny Campbell, Anna Morton, head coach Terry Jarrett, Leighann Fry, Holly Gavarkavich, Kacie Vavrek and Caitlyn McGarvey.