

# Mountain State Boys Prevail

West Virginia holds off Ohio in 12th annual all-star tussle

By RYAN GEORGE  
Staff Writer

All-Star games usually aren't this competitive.

Don't tell that to West Virginia coach Mike Granato or Ohio mentor Mark Masloski.

The 12th Annual Samuel A. Mumley OVAC All-Star proved to be a close affair with West Virginia holding on for a 95-90 win Saturday at the Ney Center on the campus of Ohio University Eastern.

West Virginia led almost the entire contest as Granato's unit managed to hit well from the floor early, while Masloski's team started sluggish.

"I think we were able to jump out in the lead because we crashed the boards," said Granato, coach of the Weir Red Riders.

"We didn't have many bad shots and we had total unselfish play from the kids today."

On the Ohio side of the court, Masloski felt the West Virginia corps of guards' strong play made the difference in the game.

"West Virginia's quickness this afternoon really hurt us. Their guards pushed the ball up the floor well and that was a strength for them," said Masloski, Steubenville's coach.

Granato felt that after three days of practice his team was prepared, although he felt like his team was the underdog coming into the contest.

"I don't think many people thought we had much of a chance, but the boys played today the way they practiced this week."

Wheeling Central's David Contraguero led the charge for team West Virginia, scoring a game-high 22 points in the game, while managing to help his team down the stretch in holding on to the five-point win.

"We expected David to play this well. He went out man-to-man and didn't have to worry about the defensive play in a



Photo by Art Linnann

West Virginia's Aaron Wargo (21) of Brooke drives around Ohio's Caleb Meyer (52) of Edison during Saturday's 12th annual Samuel A. Mumley Memorial OVAC All-Star Basketball Classic at Ohio University Eastern's Ney Center.

game like this," said Granato.

While Contraguero's play late made the difference, it was Weir High's Pierre Currenton's

ability to hit three crucial buckets from behind the arc, including two in the second half at key moments that also played a key part.

Currenton finished with 13, while Wheeling Park standout Nick Stefanow added 13, including a perfect 6-for-6 shooting from the floor.

West Virginia also found 12 points from Brooke High product Kyle Scherich, who hit two 3-pointers in the game.

Ohio fell behind early and trailed by 13 at the half, but managed the better play much the first 10 minutes of the second half.

The Buckeye state squad got a team-high 13 points from Beaver Local's Derek Smith, while Cambridge's Brandon Todd added 12 on four 3-point field goals and T.J. Mitchell of Meadowbrook added 11.

"I was pleased with our effort in the second half, but in the first half our legs were really slow," said Masloski.

"I'm just happy I got to meet 15 quality kids."

For Granato, the coaching strategy for the All-Star game was simple.

"We decided to go with five man units that played together during the course of the year.

"In the last five minutes of each half we would go with the hot hand," said Granato.

West Virginia 95, Ohio 90

WV—Currenton 4-14 3-4 14, Scherich 3-8 4-4 12, Thomas 2-7 2-5 6, Jones 0-0 1-2 1, Paulaskas 0-0 0-0 0, Kochoer 1-4 1-2 3, Blair 2-3 3-4 7, Wallace 2-6 0-0 4, Kuca 3-6 0-1 6, Contraguero 10-13 2-3 22, Bowers 0-2 1-2 1, Wendt 1-4 0-0 2, Stefanow 6-6 1-2 13, Stephens 2-3 0-0 5, Wargo 0-3 0-0 0, Totals 35-73 18-29 95.

O—Todd 4-11 0-0 12, Pruitt 1-2 0-0 2, Scarnecchia 2-7 0-0 6, Allen 3-5 0-2 7, Mike 2-4 0-0 4, Knox 3-6 2-4 11, Burkhardt 2-5 0-0 6, Kraly 0-0 0-0 0, Mirich 2-5 0-0 4, Smith 5-11 3-5 13, Meyer 3-3 0-0 7, Kirby 2-5 0-0 5, Mitchell 4-6 0-0 11, Zwick 0-1 0-0 0, Schafer 1-4 0-0 2, Totals 34-75 6-11 90.

3-Pt. Goals: Todd 4, Mitchell 3, Scarnecchia 2, Allen, Meyer, Kirby, Currenton 3, Scherich 2, Stephens.  
West Virginia 49 48-95  
Ohio 36 54-90



## All-Star Special Honorees

RICH SANTILLI  
Earl Haberfield

Boys' Coaches Award

Rich Santilli is no stranger to the OVAC All-Star Game as he coached in four of them during an illustrious coaching career.

Santilli is perhaps best known for his two decades at the helm of Weirton Madonna's boys' program, where he won more than 200 games and brought the Hancock County parochial school its first two OVAC championships (1977, 1983).

His Madonna teams won three city championships, four sectional championships and a regional title from 1974-94. His 1983 team set a school record that still stands with a 21-3 mark and Santilli took two teams to state tournaments — the W.Va. Catholic tournament in 1975 and the West Virginia Class A tournament in 1980.

He also enjoyed great success as an assistant football coach, where he served on the staff of state championship teams at Steubenville Central (1971), Weirton Madonna (1987) and Weir High (1998).

Santilli retired from coaching in 1999 but continues to teach at Madonna. He and his wife Judy are lifelong residents of Follansbee and have three daughters.

JOHN NESE  
Rich Saffield

Girls' Coaches Award

A former standout cager at the College of Steubenville, Nese produced winners at every stop on his lengthy coaching tour.

His first championship came as the boys' basketball coach at now-defunct Follansbee St. Anthony, where he led the squad to the 1961 West Virginia Class B Catholic championship.

He won more than 120 games from 1963-73 as boys' basketball coach at Steubenville Central, with his 1973 OVAC championship team setting a school record of 22-2 that still stands.

Nese returned to Steubenville Central to coach the girls' team from 1987-90, winning two sectional championships and a pair of OVAC crowns. The 21-2 record in 1989 remains a school standard.

He was also a successful baseball coach at Central, posting a 197-77 record from 1963-75 and leading the Crusaders to the 1965 state championship game. Central's 24-4 record in 1974 is still the best in school history.

Nese and his wife, Marlene, have been married for 42 years and have four children and seven grandchildren.

ED DUFFY

Robert Dawson  
Officials Award

Duffy joined the Ohio Valley Board of Approved Basketball Officials in 1955 and promptly began an officiating career that stretched well over three decades.

Although he got his start working grade school and city league games, Duffy quickly shot up the officiating ranks and soon established himself as one of the area's top whistle-tooters.

See, OVAC Awards, Page B3

LEADER • Wednesday, March 26, 2003 • Page B3

## Former Madonna coach to receive Haberfield Award

Serving as this year's Earl Haberfield Boys' Coach honoree is Rich Santilli in conjunction with the OVAC Samuel Mumley Basketball Classic.

Santilli began his coaching career at Follansbee St. Anthony's in 1962, where for six years he coached both seventh and eighth grade football and basketball.

In 1969, Santilli joined the staff of Steubenville Central Catholic where he was an assistant football and basketball coach. During the 1971 season, the Crusader football team won the Class AA State Championship. Over the course of his tenure with Central, the Crusaders amassed a 73-13 record on the hardwood and also made two regional appearances.

Rich worked with the Crusaders staff until 1973 when he joined the Brooke High football staff as the coach of the freshman team.

In 1974, Santilli was offered the position of head basketball coach at Weirton Madonna High School, where he eventually spent the next 20 years.

During those years, his teams reached the State Catholic finals in 1975 and the West Virginia

State finals in 1980. His teams won the first two OVAC championships in school history in 1977 and 1983.

His 1983 team still holds the season school record of 21-3, while Santilli owns 206 wins as a varsity coach. He resigned his coaching position at Madonna in 1994.

Santilli also served on the Blue Don football staff as the Blue Dons made three state playoff appearances and won the State A Championship in 1987.

Santilli then took a position as a member of the Weir High football staff serving as an assistant coach.

During that span, Weirton won the Class AA state Championship in 1998, while Santilli also served on the 1998 OVAC All-Star game staff.

In 1999, Rich retired from all of coaching, while still continuing to teach at Madonna High School.

Santilli is a lifelong resident of Follansbee, where he resides with his wife Judy. They are the parents of three girls.



## SPORTS

Sunday, March 30, 2003

## Vossen sparks WV girls

By GREG HARKNESS  
Times Leader Sports Writer

Pressure! Pressure! Pressure!

West Virginia forced 39 Ohio turnovers and received a game-high 24 points from John Marshall standout Sherele Vossen en route to posting a convincing 104-91 victory Saturday in the OVAC Sam Mumley Basketball Classic at the Ney Center.

"We had a few too many turnovers and West Virginia shot the lights out," Ohio head coach Tad Sechrest commented. "We knew coming in Vossen could stroke it. But her range is unlimited...as soon as she steps on the floor you have to find out where she is."

Facing a considerable size disadvantage against a Buckeye squad featuring five six-footers, the Mountain State stars relied on their quickness to provide unrelenting pressure.

"We wanted to take advantage of our size, but it is tough to get the ball inside in games like this," Sechrest said. "West Virginia really took advantage of its quickness. In an all-star game that is so up-and-down, its tough to get the big kids involved."

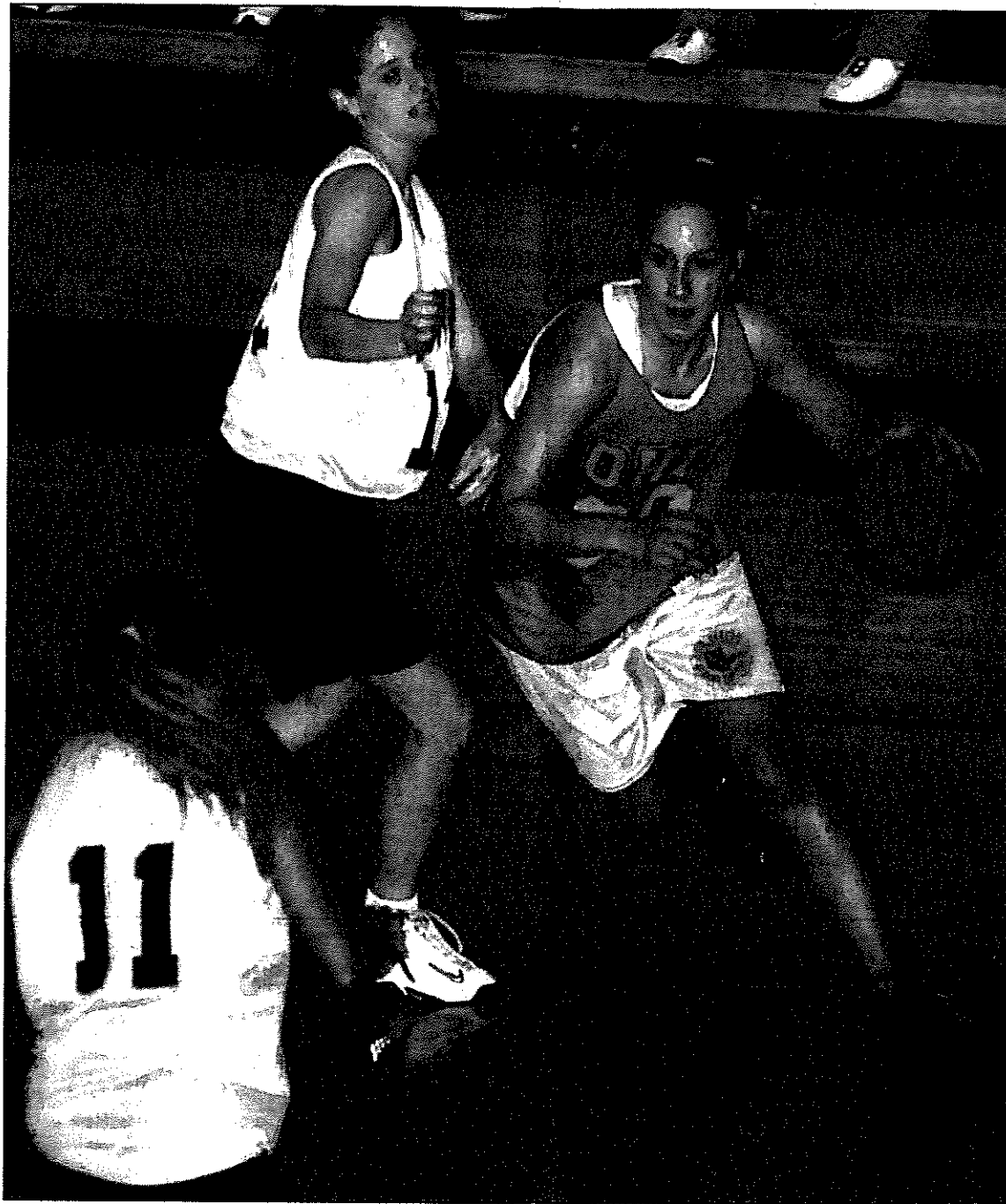
After a nip-and-tuck first half handed West Virginia a 52-49 intermission lead, coach Penn Kurtz elected to turn the heat up and his quint responded with a 10-0 fueled by seven Vossen markers.

The lead swelled to 17 behind the defensive play of Lisa Costello (Weir), Stephanie Luzader (John Marshall) and Jenna Eckleberry (Oak Glen) with 15 minutes showing.

Jenna Johnson's (Shadyside) putback with 5:52 pulled the Ohio stars within seven, 91-84, but that would be as close as the Buckeyes would get.

After West Virginia pushed the lead back to double figures, Lindsay Coyne (Martins Ferry) goaled to cut the deficit to nine with under three minutes showing.

However, Vossen had the answer.



## West Virginia boys hold off Buckeyes in OVAC contest

By SETH STASKEY  
Times Leader Sports Writer

West Virginia proved having more schools to choose from doesn't always result in wins.

The Mountaineers made it a clean sweep Saturday afternoon at the Robert W. Ney Center on the campus of Ohio University-Eastern, winning both the boys and girls OVAC All-Star Basketball games.

The West Virginia boys built a big lead in the first half and were able to withstand a furious Ohio rally in the second half to score a 95-90 win.

"I thought our kids did a great job," said West Virginia and Weir High head coach Mike Granato. "The key to us winning was how unselfish the kids played throughout the game."

According to Granato his squad relished the underdog role and really responded.

"I don't think too many people thought we had much of a chance quite frankly," Granato said. "Our kids played just how they practiced all week and we were able to come out with a win."

The Mountaineers took full advantage of Ohio's slow start, racing to a 49-36 lead at the break. The first-half cushion grew to as many as 14 in favor of the West Virginians at 46-32 and 48-34.

"The first was pretty ugly," said Ohio and Steubenville High head coach Mark Masloski. "We just didn't play with much intensity and couldn't make a shot."

Ohio clawed its way back into the game in the second half behind sharp outside shooting

See, BOYS, Page C4



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However, Vossen had the answer.

The first-team all-stater drained a three from NBA-range on the right wing to seal the verdict with 2:30 showing.

"We got it back to single digits and on the game's key possession, Vossen made a huge shot," Sechrest said. "We were able to turn the defensive pressure up and get back into the game, but she got loose and nailed a big shot."

Vossen was hardly alone in shining for the West Virginia squad.

Luzader, who is headed to Fairmont State to continue her career, buried 13 points and dished out five assists.

A trio of performers checked in with 11 counters including Bowling Green-bound Lauren Gompers (Wheeling Park), Chantel Wujtow (Weirton Madonna) and Eckleberry.

Kathleen Gilligan provided an inside presence for the Mountain State with eight points and seven rebounds.

Costello, who will play soccer at Wheeling Jesuit, provided a fine all-around floor game with eight points, eight rebounds and five assists.

"I thought Costello played a fine all-around game for them," Sechrest said. "And Eckleberry was quick and could handle the ball under pressure. She gave them another true point guard to handle the ball."

Ohio was led by Johnson's 15 points and eight rebounds.

"She really got going in the second half," Sechrest said. "If she catches it where she wants, it is a bucket."

Sechrest's own guard Kim Schockling (Caldwell) was the only other Buckeye in

See, **GIRLS**, Page C4



the first half and were able to withstand a furious Ohio rally in the second half to score a 95-90 win.

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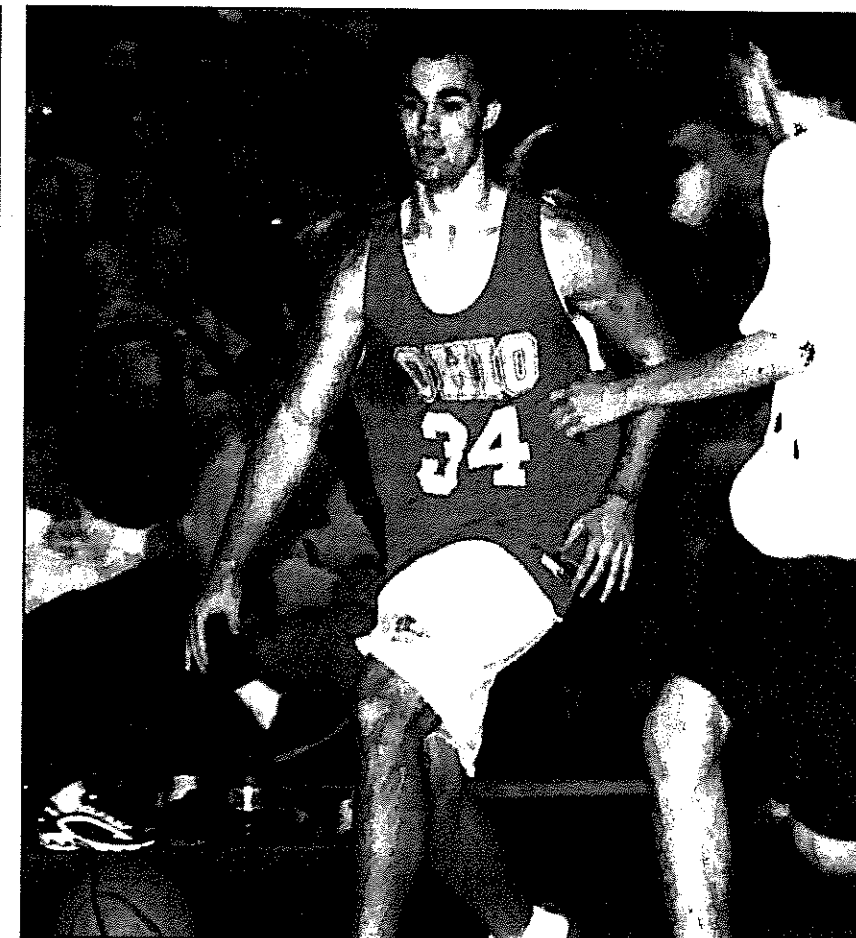
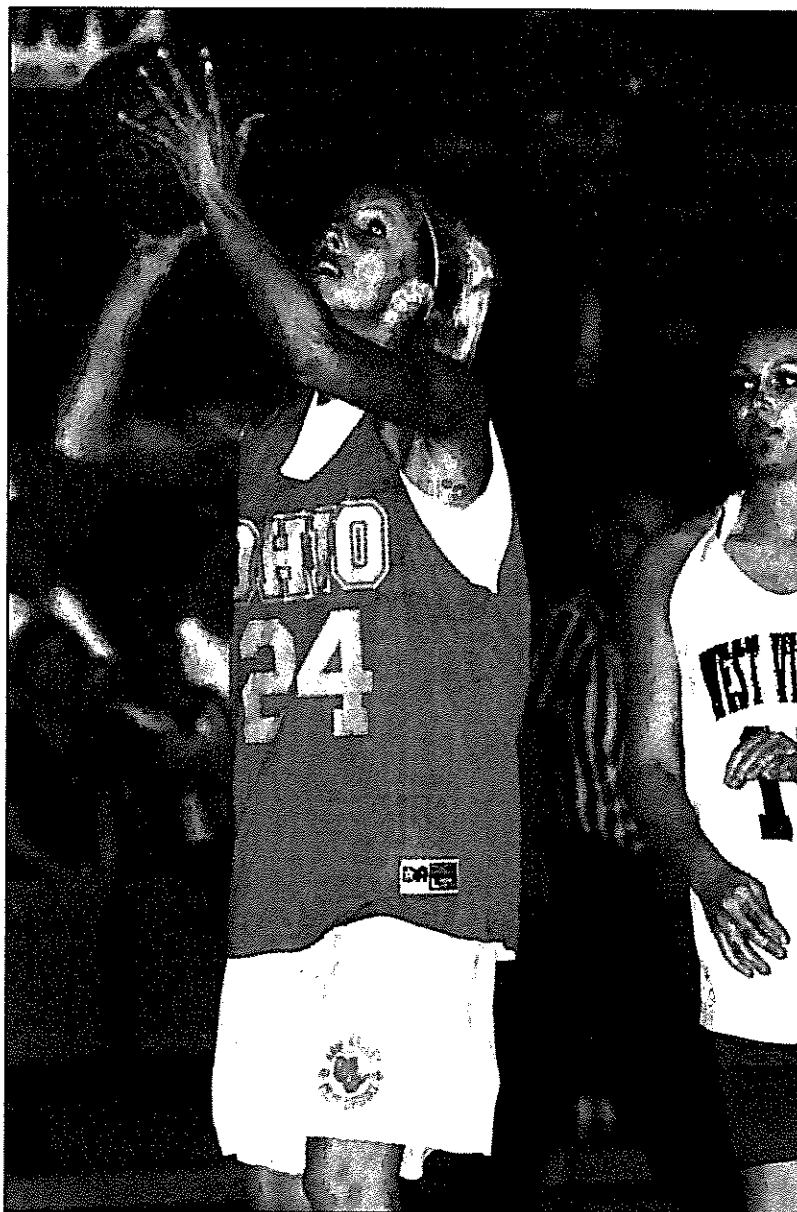
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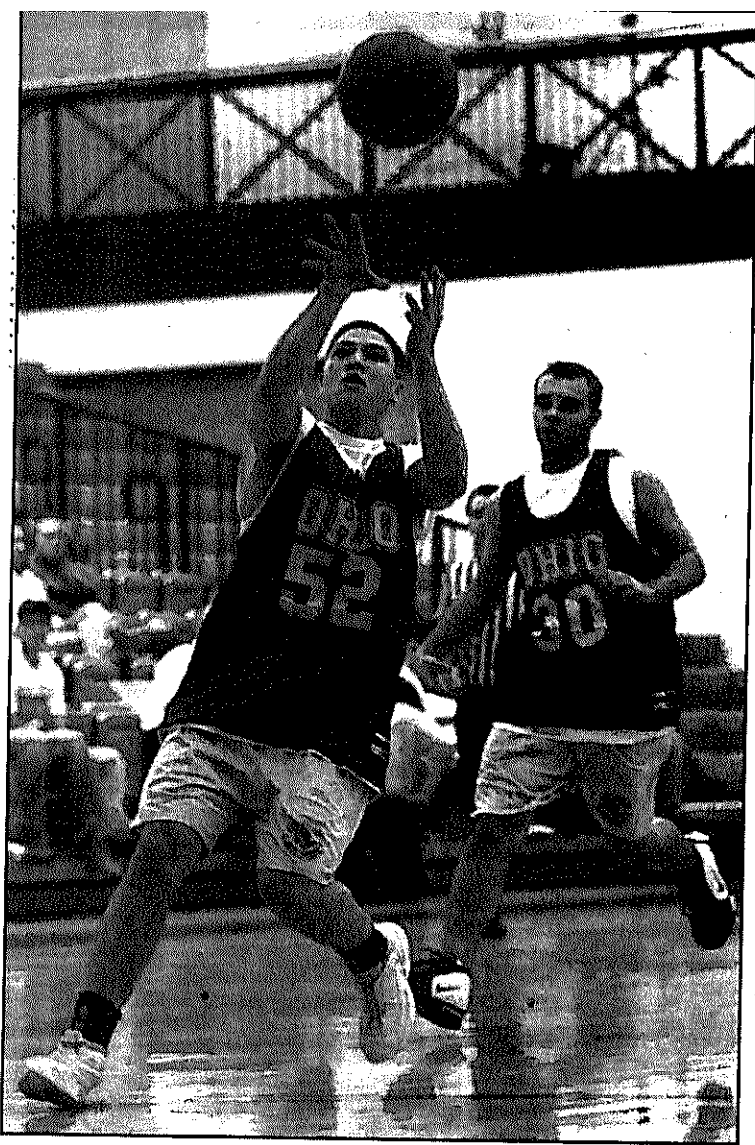


T-L Photos/JOEL JOSEPH

**TOP PHOTO:** Ohio's Lindsay Coyne (30) drives to the basket against a West Virginia defender during action in the OVAC All-Star Game Saturday at the Ney Center.

**AT LEFT:** Ohio's Jenna Johnson (24) goes up for a layup in front of West Virginia's Chantel Wujtow.

**ABOVE:** Union Local's Justin Schafer (34) drives to the basket against West Virginia's Mike Kuca.



T-L Photo/JOEL JOSEPH

**OHIO'S** Caleb Meyer (52) throws a pass to a teammate as the Buckeyes' Zach Burkhardt trails during action Saturday in the Sam Mumley OVAC Basketball Classic at the Ney Center.

## Boys

Continued from Page B1

and an opportunistic defense. "I thought our effort defensively in the second half was a lot better," Masloski said. "We got after them a little bit more and that got us going in the second half."

The Buckeyes watched West Virginia score the first five points of the second half to build a 54-36 upperhand. From there, Ohio exploded on a 22-8 run to get within four at 62-58 with 10 minutes to play.

Ohio kept it coming with a 10-4 run, giving Masloski's quint a 68-66 lead with 8:17 to play. That upperhand was Ohio's first since it was 15-14 in the early going.

That lead also proved to be Ohio's last as West Virginia came back with a 18-6 run to push the lead back to 84-74.

Behind three triples by Meadowbrook's TJ Mitchell, Ohio went on a 13-5 run to shave the deficit to 89-87.

"The biggest coaching today was making sure we were able to get the ball in bounds and into the right people's hands," Granato said. "I thought we did a good job of getting on the boards and also knocking down foul shots down the stretch."

West Virginia connected on six free throws in a row down the stretch to preserve the victory.

The 'Eers able to negate the clear size advantage its Ohio counterparts had with more than solid guard play.

"West Virginia had really good guard play," Masloski noted. "I thought the way they were able to push the ball up the floor and force us to run with them and that was a big key for them."

The Mountaineer guard play was fueled by Wheeling Central's David Contraguerro.

The 6-ft-2 player who led the Maroon Knights to back-to-back state titles netted a game-high 22 points. Included in that production was 14-second half points.

"David didn't score 1,600 points for no reason," Granato said. "He can excel in a game like this because defenses aren't gearing everything toward him."

Weir High's Pierre Currenton made his presence felt with 14

points, including two second-half triples, which thwarted Ohio runs.

Brooke's Kyle Scherich added 10 points. The Mountaineer inside force was Wheeling Park's Nick Stefanow. The Duke football recruit went for 13 points and added seven boards.

Ohio had four players reach double figures to lead the way in the scoring column.

Beaver Local's Derek Smith led the Buckeyes with 13 points. Cambridge's two-time all-Ohioan Brandon Todd added four bonus baskets en route to 12 markers.

St. John Central's Kevin Knox and Mitchell evenly divided 22 points.

"Coaching these kids has been an absolute pleasure for me," Masloski said. "We had a great two weeks and it is an honor for me to have gotten to meet all of these kids."

West Virginia held a 46-44 edge on the glass. Both teams were guilty of 17 turnovers.

### GAME NOTES

• **WELLSVILLE'S** Jared Mike captured the slam-dunk competition at halftime of the boys game.

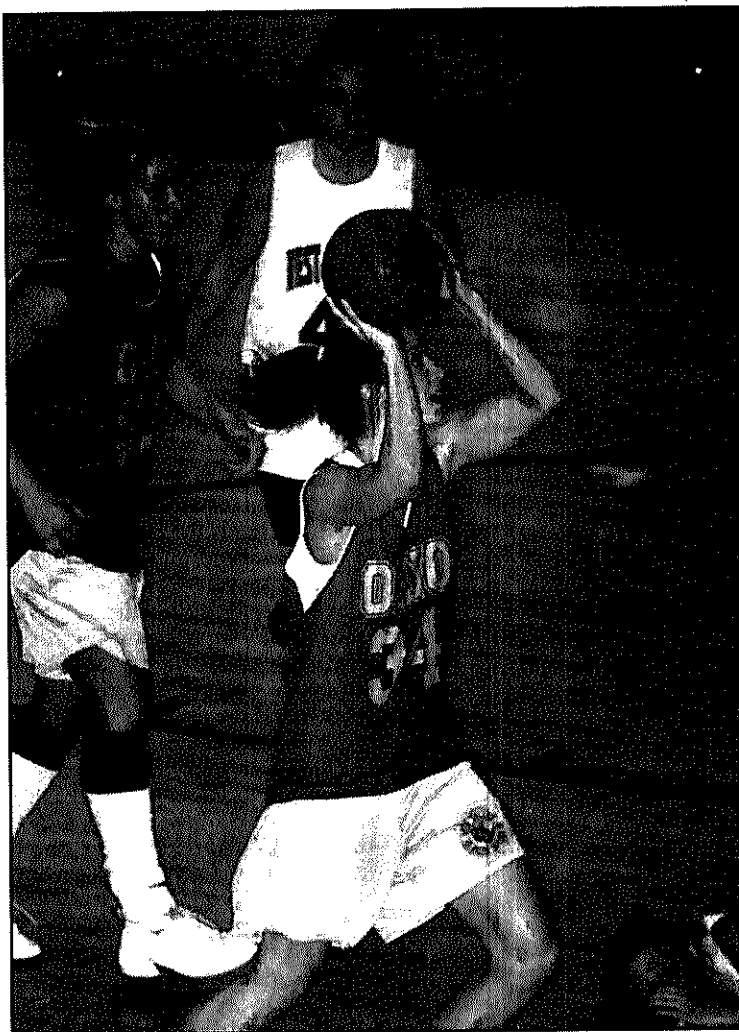
• **BEALLSVILLE'S** Zach Burkhardt and Wheeling Central's Chris Stephens were presented with the Dick Potts Memorial Scholarships.

• **CHUCK** Blue of River High School received the Scorer/time-keeper award.

• **ED** Duffy won the Dawson's Officials Award.

Game Scoring:  
WEST VIRGINIA (95) -- Currenton 4, 3-4 14; Contraguerro 10, 2-3 22; Thomas 2, 2-5 6; Wargo 0, 0-0 0; Scherich 2, 4-4 10; Stephens 2, 0-0 5; Kocher 1, 1-2 3; Stefanow 6, 1-1 13; Jones 0, 1-2 1; Kuca 3, 1-1 7; Wallace 2, 0-0 4; Blair 2, 3-4 7; Paulaukas 0, 0-0 0; Bowers 0, 1-2 1; Wendt 1, 0-0 2; Totals: 35, 19-28 90. OHIO (90) -- Todd 4, 0-0 12; Kraly 0, 0-0 0; Zwick 0, 0-0 0; Allen 3, 0-0 7; Mitchell 4, 0-0 11; Knox 3, 2-4 11; Scarnecchia 2, 0-0 0; Burkhardt 2, 0-0 6; Pruitt 1, 0-0 2; Schafer 1, 0-0 2; Smith 5, 3-5 13; Kirby 2, 0-0 5; Mike 2, 0-0 4; Mirich 2, 0-0 4; Meyer 3, 0-0 7; Totals: 34, 5-11 90.

Three-Point Goals: WV -- Currenton (3), Scherich (2), Stephens (1). OH -- Todd (4), Allen (1), Mitchell (3), Knox (3), Burkhardt (2), Kirby (1), Meyer (1).



T-L Photo/JOEL JOSEPH

**OHIO'S** Bethany Stranges (34) looks to make a move to the bucket during Saturday afternoon's Sam Mumley OVAC Basketball Classic at the Ney Center.

## Girls

Continued from Page B1

double figures with 10 markers.

Three players who impressed Sechrest followed with nine points each.

Coyne finished with six assists and five rebounds to go with her point production.

"Lindsay really impressed me," Sechrest said. "We played them in the sectionals, but it is tough to realize how good she is when you are coaching against her. She is good off the dribble and has excellent body control."

Tristin Miracle, coming off a MVP effort in the District 12 game, also had nine points. She added five assists.

"Tristin is just a pure point guard," Sechrest offered. One of the Ohio's squad's six-footers, Emily Reed (Edison) also finished with nine points and grabbed five rebounds.

"The two girls from Edison (Reed and Jessica Shepherd) impressed me," Sechrest said. "I never got to see them play during the season, but I was impressed with their ability."

Scoring:  
WEST VIRGINIA (104) -- Gompers 5, 1-2, 11; Gilligan 4, 0-0, 8; Luzader 6, 0-0, 13; Frankenfeld 1, 0-0, 2; Costello 3, 1-2, 8; Eckleberry 4, 1-1, 11; Meckley 0, 1-2, 1; DiPasquale 1, 0-0, 2; Blacker 2, 0-0, 5; Lauderman

1, 1-1, 3; Wujtow 4, 3-4, 11; Vossen 10, 0-0, 24; Howell 1, 0-0, 2; Ammirante 0, 0-0, 0; Gordon 1, 1-2, 3. TOTALS: 43, 9-14, 104. OHIO (91) -- Stranges 1, 2-4, 4; Coyne 4, 1-5, 9; Schockling 3, 2-4, 10; Miracle 3, 3-6, 9; Reed 3, 3-4, 9; Hython 2, 1-2, 5; Johnson 7, 1-2, 15; Massey 3, 0-0, 6; Romick 1, 1-3, 3; Taylor 0, 1-2, 1; Bradshaw 0, 0-2, 0; Tomlan 2, 0-0, 5; Brokaw 2, 1-2, 5; Shepherd 0, 3-4, 3; Magistro 3, 0-0, 7. TOTALS: 34, 19-40, 91.

Three-point field goals: WV -- Vossen (4), Eckleberry (2), Blacker, Costello, Luzader. OH -- Schockling (2), Tomlan, Magistro.

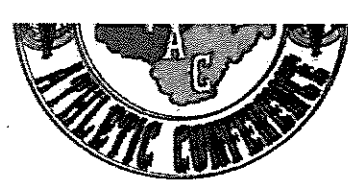
### OVAC NOTES

• **SHADYSIDE'S** Tristin Miracle and Linsly's Kara Blacker were the girls recipients of the Henry Lazasz Scholarship Awards.

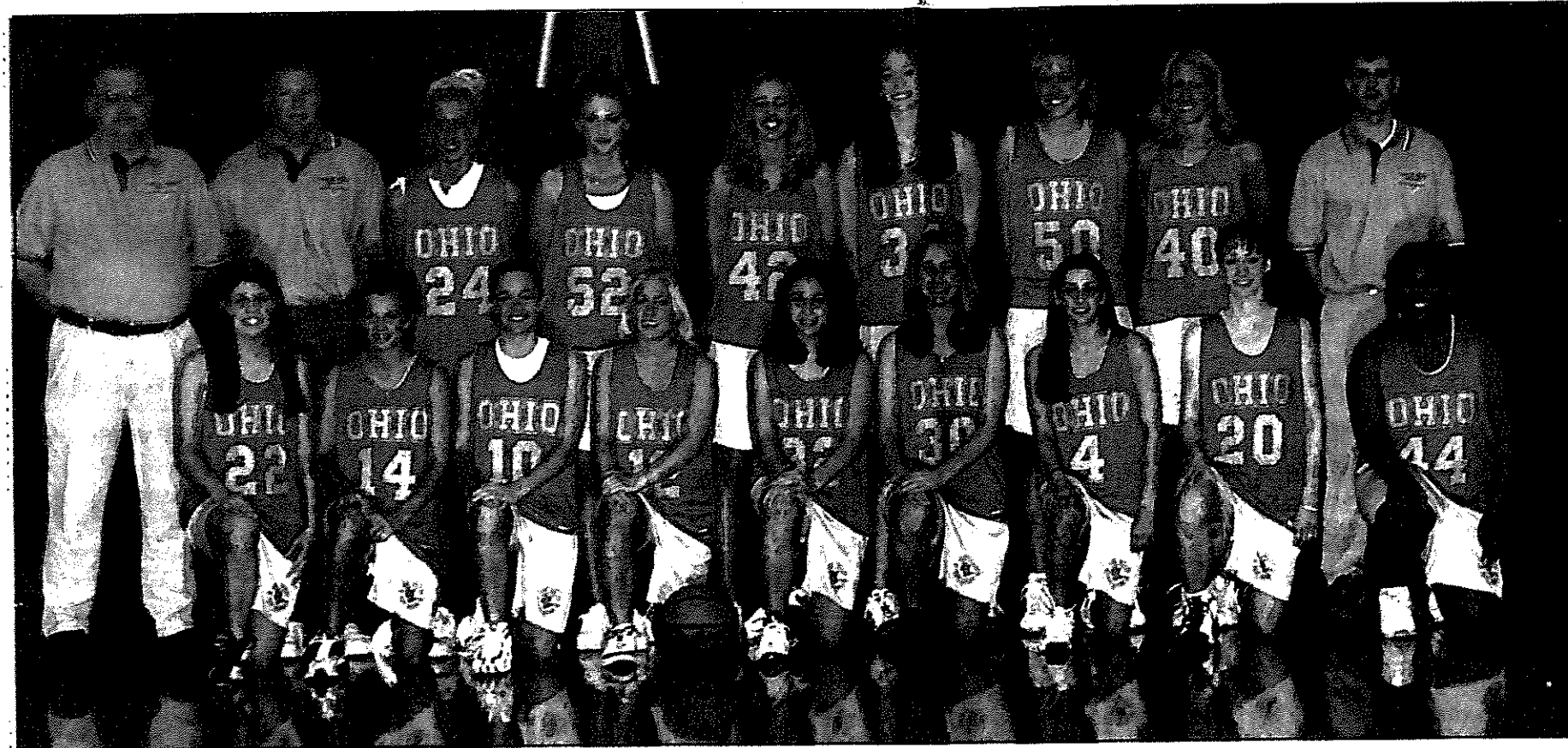
• **FORMER** Steubenville Central, Indian Creek and Follansbee St. Anthony's head coach John Nese was the recipient of the Rich Saffield Girls' Coach Award.

• **ST. JOHN** Central's Jonni Jo Magistro, Wheeling Central's Lindsey Ammirante, Weir's Lisa Costello and Oak Glen's Jenna Eckleberry tied for the three-point shootout.

• **GAME** director John Stanko and his first-rate staff deserve kudos for putting on another top of the line event.



## Ohio OVAC All-Star Teams



T-L Photo/JOEL JOSEPH  
**THE OHIO** girls OVAC All-Star team includes, front row, from left Lindsey Romick, Kristina Tomlan, Tristin Miracle, Kim Schockling, Jonni Jo Magistro, Lindsay Coyne, Erin Taylor, Katie Bradshaw and Marcella Hython. Second row are assistant coach Mickey Blatnik, assistant coach Ron Smyth, Jenna Johnson, Marla Brokaw, Leslie Ann Massey, Bethany Stranges, Emily Reed, Jessica Shepherd and head coach Tad Sechrest.



T-L Photo/JOEL JOSEPH  
**THE OHIO** boys OVAC All-Star team includes, front row, from left Sam Kraly, Brian Pruitt, Kevin Knox, Zac Burkhart, Derek Zwick, Brandon Todd and T.J. Mitchell. Second row are assistant coach Mike Podlasiak, head coach Mark Masloski, Heath Allen, Justin Schafer, Anthony Scamecchia, Lance Mirich, Roosevelt Kirby, Jared Mike, Derrick Smith and assistant coach John Visser.



Visser.

# OVAC lists 2003 hoops all-star teams

The 2002-03 OVAC All-Star basketball teams have been announced and several area athletes have received honors.

In Class A on the boys' side, Weirton Madonna's Chris Blair was selected as the team's captain. He is joined on the first team by Beallsville's Zac Burkhardt and Joey Crum, St. John Central's Matt Ianzito and Linsly's James Wallace.

In Class AA, Wheeling Central senior guard David Contraguero was selected as the team's captain. Joining him on the first team were Fort Frye's Heath Allen, Wellsville's Jared Mike, Steubenville Central's Frank Petrola and Toronto's Zac Thomas.

In Class AAA, Bellaire junior stand-out Aaron Agnew is the captain. Agnew is joined by teammate Nate Davis, Magnolia's Ted Talkington and the Union Local duo of Justin Schafer and Anthony Scarnecchia on the first team.

In Class AAAA, Wheeling Park senior Charles Thomas is the captain. Also on the first team were Weir's Pierre Currenton, Zanesville's Jordan Lear, East Liverpool's Josh Reed and Cambridge's Brandon Todd.

On the girls' side in Class A, Shadyside senior Jenna Johnson was chosen as the captain. She is joined on the first team by her teammates Tristin Miracle and Whitney Brown, Beallsville's Charity Street and Cameron's Amanda Allison.

In Class AA, Caldwell's Kim Schockling and River's Lindsey Romick were chosen as co-captains. The first team is rounded out by Steubenville Central's Mary Gilloon, and Wheeling Central's Kayleen Fitzsimmons and Kathleen Gilligan.

In Class AAA, Martins Ferry senior Lindsay Coyne was named the captain. Joining her on the first team were Oak Glen's Jenna Eckleberry, Shenandoah's Shannon Leasure, Union Local's Emily Miller and St. Clairsville's Bethany Stranges.

In Class AAAA, Steubenville's Marcella Hython and Wheeling Park's Julie Gompers shared the captain honors. Weir's Lisa Costello, Edison's

Emily Reed and John Marshall's Sherele Vossen round out the first team.

The 2002-03 OVAC Teams:

## BOYS

### CLASS 1-A

First Team -- Chris Blair, (CAPTAIN) (Weir Madonna); Zac Burkhardt (Beallsville); Joey Crum (Beallsville); Matt Ianzito (St. John Central); James Wallace (Linsly).

Second Team -- Chris Banal (Linsly); Jeff Bowers (Paden City); Kevin Knox (St. John Central); Nick Ongley (Shadyside); Vince Sternkowski (Bridgeport).

Honorable Mention -- Matt Blair (Weir Madonna); Greg Darby (Beallsville); Jason DeVlenzio (Shadyside); Paul Duffy (Weir Madonna); Jared Feldmeier (Paden City); Mike Kuca (Bishop Donahue); Rick Leigh (Bridgeport); Eric Leggett (Conotton Valley); Steve Luckhardt (Shadyside); Sam Milton (Linsly); Kyle Moore (Bridgeport); Bryan Nardo (St. John's); Logan Wendt (Cameron).

### CLASS 2-A

First Team -- Heath Allen (Fort Frye); David Contraguero, (CAPTAIN) (Wheeling Central); Jared Mike (Wellsville); Frank Petrola (Steubenville Central); Zac Thomas (Toronto).

Second Team -- Jason Linn (Buckeye Trail); Samuel Rutherford (Frontier); Jason Shaw (Caldwell); Brandon Skinner (Fort Frye); Chris Stephens (Wheeling Central).

Honorable Mention -- Anthony Antonucci (Toronto); Pete Bowersock (Frontier); Josh Brooker (Fort Frye); Kyle Carpenter (Buckeye Trail); Joe Chandler (Caldwell); Michael Jorris (Monroe Central); Kellen Kish (River); Paul McCormick (Wheeling Central); Kenny Robinson (Monroe Central); Mike Romey (Toronto); Ryne Romick (River); Joe Ronevich (Steubenville Central); Derek Zwick (Monroe Central).

### CLASS 3-A

First Team -- Aaron Agnew (CAPTAIN) (Bellaire); Nate Davis (Bellaire); Justin Schafer (Union Local); Anthony Scarnecchia (Union Local); Ted Talkington (Magnolia).

Second Team -- Jered Gamble (Oak Glen); Sam Kraly (St. Clairsville); Anthony Reasbeck (Martins Ferry); Luke Samples (Oak Glen); Matt Wright (Oak Glen).

Honorable Mention -- Aaron Bane (Indian Creek); Richie Crowe (Indian Creek); Tyler DeVold (Shenandoah); Cory Doty (Martins Ferry); Mike Fisher (Bellaire); Eric Gay (St. Clairsville); Robbie Jones (Tyler); Todd Keenan (Indian Creek); Brandon Kelly (Harrison Central); Jonathan Kemp (Magnolia); Eric McVicker (Shenandoah); Lance Mirich (Martins Ferry); Brad Paulauskas (Oak Glen).

CLASS 4-A

First Team -- Pierre Currenton (Weir); Jordan Lear (Zanesville); Josh Reed (East Liverpool); Charles Thomas (CAPTAIN) (Wheeling Park); Brandon Todd (Cambridge).

Second Team -- Drake Aronholt (Zanesville); Roosevelt Kirby (East Liverpool); Caleb Meyer (Edison); Kyle Scherich (Brooke); Derek Smith (Beaver Local).

Honorable Mention -- C.J. Besece (Buckeye Local); Johnny Bonar (John Marshall); Matt Farus (Zanesville); Tyler Felt (Cambridge); Adam Ferro (John Marshall); Chase Groves (Buckeye Local); Justin Polley (John Marshall); Brian Pruitt (Steubenville); Jon-Michael Rea (Steubenville); Steve Repella (Steubenville); Eric Turner (Weir); Pat Woods (Beaver); Jamie Ziegler (Wheeling Park).

## GIRLS

### CLASS 1-A

First Team -- Amanda Allison (Cameron); Whitney Brown (Shadyside); Jenna Johnson (CAPTAIN) (Shadyside); Tristin Miracle (Shadyside); Charity Street (Beallsville).

Second Team -- Brittany Hocker (Bridgeport); Alice Jamen (Mount DeChantal); Jonni Jo Magistro (St. John Central); Sarah Stalder (Beallsville); Mallory Zearott (Bishop Donahue).

Honorable Mention -- Kara Blacker (Linsly); Ashley Cain (Paden City); Jena Ehl (St. John's); Stephanie Glover (Weir Madonna); Amanda

Gordon (Weir Madonna); Lindsey Hocker (Bridgeport); Marri Kaftez (St. John's); Lena Kalvans (Mount DeChantal); Coty Marcum (Beallsville); Dana Mrczkowski (Bridgeport); Ashley Neal (Linsly); Rebekah Pryor (Paden City); Alana Reisinger (Linsly); Kathrin Ress (Mount DeChantal); Tahnee Taylor (Bishop Donahue); Chantel Wujtow (Weir Madonna).

CLASS 2-A

First Team -- Kayleen Fitzsimmons (Wheeling Central); Kathleen Gilligan (Wheeling Central); Mary Gilloon (Steubenville Central); Lindsey Romick (CO-CAPTAIN) (River); Kim Schockling (CO-CAPTAIN) (Caldwell).

Second Team -- Melody Allison (Wellsville); Katie Bradshaw (Buckeye Trail); Jessica Dinch (Wellsville); Lori Lynn Hamann (Steubenville Central); Krista Huffman (Monroe Central); Mariah Hulse (River); Ashley Schafer (Caldwell).

Honorable Mention -- Lara Brunoni (Frontier); Heather Heckathorn (Toronto); Shari Johnson (Buckeye Trail); Mallory Moore (Toronto); Tiffany Pringle (Frontier); Lauren Rinard (Frontier); Marideth Rock (Toronto); Kim Rose (Buckeye Trail); Chelsey Watson (Caldwell); Kylie Wise (Wheeling Central).

CLASS 3-A

First Team -- Lindsay Coyne (CAPTAIN) (Martins Ferry); Jenna Eckleberry (Oak Glen); Shannon Leasure (Shenandoah); Emily Miller (Union Local); Bethany Stranges (St. Clairsville).

Second Team -- Katie Blatt (Magnolia); Amy Bruney (Martins Ferry); Erin Heidelbach (St. Clairsville);



AGNEW



COYNE



JOHNSON



ROMICK

Leslie Ann Massey (St. Clairsville); Allison Rothlisberger (Magnolia); Kristina Tomlan (Bellaire); Ashley Vavrek (Bellaire).

Honorable Mention -- Lynsey Agnew (Martins Ferry); Nicole Anderson (Barnesville); Ashley Carpenter (Meadowbrook); Ginny Carpenter (Indian Creek); Annie Chaney (Oak Glen); LeAnn Cline (Indian Creek); Kate Eckleberry (Oak Glen); Amy Hines (Barnesville); Jessica Howell (Magnolia); Krista Kinney (Union Local); Emma Niswonger (Shenandoah); Emily Pelakan (Tyler); Kelly Polen (Harrison Central); Kenzi Waite (Shenandoah); Tiffany Youel (Meadowbrook).

### CLASS 4-A

First Team -- Lisa Costello (Weir); Julie Gompers (CO-CAPTAIN) (Wheeling Park); Marcella Hython (CO-CAPTAIN) (Steubenville); Emily Reed (Edison); Sherele Vossen (John Marshall).

Second Team -- Mandy DiPasquale (Brooke); Courtney Downs (Zanesville); Jenna Frankenfield (Brooke); Maddie Lawther (John Marshall); Jess Shepherd (Edison).

Honorable Mention -- Jamie Andrews (Cambridge); Heather Brick (East Liverpool); Marla Brokaw (Buckeye Local); Amy Bullock (Brooke); Jessica Douglas (Cambridge); Katie Graham (Buckeye Local); Kristen King (Buckeye Local); Stephanie Luzader (John Marshall); Maddie McGarvey (Zanesville); Breezy Nelson (East Liverpool); Chevon Robertson (Wheeling Park); Brittany Snyder (Weir); Brooke Walker (East Liverpool).

# West Virginia Stars Outrun, Outgun Buckeyes

By RICK THORP  
Staff Writer

You could have called it a case of the irresistible force against the immovable object.

The quickness and speed of West Virginia went up against the staunch inside presence of Ohio in Saturday's Samuel A. Mumley Memorial Ohio Valley Athletic Conference Girls' All-Star Basketball Classic.

When the dust settled at the Ney Center on the campus of Ohio University Eastern it were the ladies from the Mountain State that showed their might.

Backed by a 24-point effort from John Marshall's Sherel Vossen, West Virginia stormed back from an early 14-point deficit to earn a 104-91 victory in the game's 12th edition.

"I think the advantage was we had a lot of good guards," said Wheeling Central head coach Penn Kurtz, who handled head coaching duties for the West Virginia squad.

"When you control the basketball...pass the ball and shoot the ball you look good. We wanted to feature those guards that we had and I think we did it to our advantage."

Caldwell's Tad Secrest, who mentored the Ohio team, agreed.

"We were a lot bigger than they were," he said. "In all-star games it's kind of hard to get your kids to throw the ball inside because everybody wants to shoot and score."

"But when you get in that style of game when you're going up and down the floor, your big kids kind of seem to get lost. It's not on purpose, that's just the way the game is."



Photo by Art Limann

West Virginia's Jessica Howell (53) of Magnolia splits the Ohio defense of River's Lindsay Romick, right, and St. Clairsville's Leslie Ann Massey during Saturday's game at OU Eastern.

Trailing 30-16 in the first of two 20-minute halves, West Virginia took charge with an 18-3 run keyed by some keen accuracy from some of the OVAC's most talented shooters.

Weir High School's Lisa Costello and Brooke's Jenna

Frankenfield got the roll going with a pair of buckets to cut the lead to 30-21.

Another Costello basket was followed by back-to-back hoops from Vossen that trimmed the advantage to 30-27 with 8:25 remaining in the half.

On the next West Virginia possession, Wheeling Park's Julie Gompers completed a three-point play. Vossen's next bucket at the 7:50 mark gave West Virginia its first lead at 32-31.

"The shots started to go in for us and that got us back in the game," Kurtz said of his team that shot 50 percent from the field (43-86) for the game.

Leading 52-49 at the half, West Virginia quickly extended its lead by going on a 10-0 run that made it 62-49.

Trailing 84-67, Caldwell's Kim Schockling made a free throw and then scored on a layup to make it 84-70. Two more layups by the Shadyside duo of Tristin Miracle and Jenna Johnson made it a 10-point game at 84-74.

The lead was trimmed to eight points at 91-84 with 5:52 remaining after Johnson, who paced Ohio with 15 points, scored six straight points but that was as close as Ohio could get.

In addition to Johnson, Schockling also finished in double figures with 10 points.

John Marshall's Stephanie Luzader added 13 points for West Virginia, while Oak Glen's Jenna Eckleberry, Gompers and Weirton Madonna's Chantel Wujtow each netted 11 points.

Kurtz, who was assisted by John Marshall's Stan Blankenship and Oak Glen's John Weber, said it was an honor to work with such a talented group of players.

"It's a blast," he said. "When you get to coach 15 outstanding basketball players and you take one or two minutes to show them something (in practice) and they pick it up right away it just makes it so easy."

"They were a lot of fun and they really worked well together."

## OVAC AWARDS

Continued from page B2

Before long, he was working the top regular season high school games and would move on to officiate at the sectional, regional and state tournament level.

Duffy also met with similar success on the football field where he spent 34 years as a member of the Ohio Valley Board of Approved Football Officials.

Now retired, he remains an active member of the Wheeling Elks Club and donates much of his time to the children's sporting activities sponsored by the organization.

When not working with the kids, Duffy spends his leisure time with his wife of 52 years, Eileen Templin Duffy.

■■■  
**CHUCK BLUE**  
Tom Ratalczak  
Scorekeeper/Timer Award

A graduate of Dana (Ind.) High School and Indiana State University, Blue has served as the boys' basket-

ball clock operator and announcer at River High School for the past 26 seasons.

He's also performed similar duties for the girls' basketball program over the past 16 years and the past 13 River High freshman teams.

In addition, Blue has been the scorekeeper for the 7th-8th Grade Tournament for the past 18 years and has worked on the River High football chain gang for 26 seasons.

Blue was selected by the OHSAA Board of Control as a finalist for the prestigious honorary scorekeeper award at the 1997 state boys' basketball tournament and was River High School's 2000 recipient of the Distinguished Service Award.

Retired from Ormet after 35 years as an information services supervisor, Blue resides in Sardis with his wife Roberta.

They have been married for 41 years and have three grown children and four grandchildren.

West Virginia 104, Ohio 91

WV-Frankenfield 1-1 0-0 2,	Costello 3-
13 1-2 8,	Luzader 6-10 0-0 13,
Gilligan 4-6	0-0 8,
Eckleberry 4-6 1-1 11,	Meckley 0-5
1-1 1,	Blacker 2-3 0-0 5,
Lauderman 1-2 1-	1 3,
Wujtow 4-5 3-4 11,	Vossen 10-18 0-0
24,	Howell 1-1 0-0 2,
DiPasquale 1-1 0-0 2,	Ammirante 0-2 0-0 0,
Gompers 5-11 1-2	11,
Gordon 1-3 1-2 3,	Zearott DNP
(injured). Totals 43-86 9-13 104.	
O-Stranges 1-4 2-4 4,	Coyne 4-10 1-5 9,
Reed 3-7 3-4 9,	Schockling 3-8 2-4 10,
Romick 1-4 1-3 3,	Hython 2-4 1-2 5,
Johnson 7-10 1-2 15,	Magistro 3-5 0-0 7,
Miracle 3-6 3-6 9,	Shepherd 0-2 3-4 3,
Massey 3-5 0-0 6,	Taylor 0-0 1-2 1,
Brokaw 2-6 1-2	5,
Tomlan 2-5 0-0 5,	Bradshaw 0-1 0-2 0.
Totals 34-77 19-40 91.	
3-Point Goals-Vossen 4,	Eckleberry 2,
Costello, Luzader, Blacker,	Schockling 2,
Magistro, Tomlan.	
West Virginia	52 52-104
Ohio	49 42-91





# Nese to receive Saffield Award

This year's Samuel Mumley OVAC Basketball Classic Richard Saffield Girl's Coaching honoree has made quite a list of accomplishments for himself.

Receiving the honor at the OVAC All-Star Basketball game will be John Nese.

Nese began coaching in 1960 at Follansbee St. Anthony's, where he captured the Class B state title with a 17-5 record in his first year.

From 1961-1963, Nese held a position at East Pittsburgh High School in Pennsylvania, where he worked as an assistant in both basketball and baseball.

From East Pittsburgh, he moved on to Steubenville Central Catholic High School, taking jobs in both the basketball and baseball programs.

During a 10-year span as the Crusader coach, Nese compiled a record of 121-87, winning three sectional and district titles, while collecting the OVAC AAA championship in 1973.

His 22-2 record in that year still stands as the school's best.

Other honors Nese received during the decade were: Eastern Ohio Basketball Coach of the Year ('71), Eastern District AA Coach of the Year ('71), District 5 Coach of the Year ('73), Dapper Dan Achievement Award ('73), Co-Coach of the United States All Stars ('73).

The Crusader baseball team was no slouch between 1963-73 either.

Central racked up a record of

197-77 during that span, winning seven sectionals, five district and one regional title.

The Crusaders were state runner-up in 1965 losing 4-0 to Shaker Heights in the title game.

His team in 1974 still holds the school record, 24-4.

In 1987, Nese returned to the coaching ranks, again at Steubenville Central, compiling a record of 56-10 in three years.

He won two sectional championships and two OVAC titles, while also earning the school record for wins, 21-2.

His final stab at coaching came during the 2000-2001 season at Indian Creek High School, where he guided the Lady 'Skins to a 4-17 record.

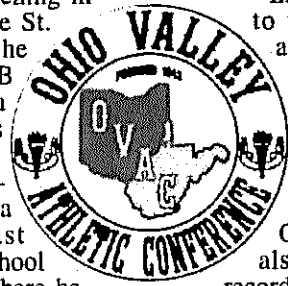
Nese graduated from East Pittsburgh High in 1956, where he was co-captain of the Class B Pennsylvania State Basketball runner-ups. He was a three-year letterwinner.

In 1960, he graduated from the College of Steubenville, where he was a four-year letterwinner.

He was a member of the number one-ranked small college team in the country (1957-58), where they finished with a 24-1 record. He was co-captain his senior year.

For the past eight years, he has been a guidance counselor at Indian Creek High School.

Nese lives with his wife of 42 years, Marlene, and is the parent of four children and seven grandchildren.



# Rosters released for '03 OVAC All-Star Classic

The 2003 OVAC Samuel A. Mumley All-Star Classic rosters have been announced.

The games will be held at Ohio University Eastern's Ney Center on Saturday, March 29. The girls' game will be played at 12:40 p.m., with the boys game following shortly after around 3 p.m.

The following girls have been chosen to represent Ohio: Bethany Stranges and Leslie Ann Massey (St. Clairsville); Lindsay Coyne (Martins Ferry); Emily Reed and Jessica Shepard (Edison); Kim Shockling (Caldwell); Lindsay Romick (River); Marcella Hython (Steubenville); Jenna Johnson and Tristin Miracle (Shadyside); Jonni Jo Magistro (St. John Central); Erin Taylor (Union Local); Marla Browkaw (Buckeye Local); Kristina Tomlan (Bellaire) and Katie Bradshaw (Buckeye Trail).

The head coach for the Ohio girls' will be Caldwell's Tad Secrest, while his assistant will be Ron Smyth (Edison) and Mickey Blatnik (St. Clairsville).

On the West Virginia side will be: Jenna Frankenfield and Mandy DiPasquale (Brooke); Lisa Costello (Weir); Stephanie Luzader and Serele Vossen (John Marshall); Kathleen Gilligan and Lyndsey Ammirante (Wheeling Central); Jenna Eckleberry (Oak Glen); Anna Meckley (Tyler); Kara Blacker (Linsly); Cagney Lauderman (Paden City); Chantel Wujtow and Amanda Gordon (Weirton Madonna); Jessica Howell (Magnolia), Mallory Zearott (Bishop Donahue) and Julie Gompers (Wheeling Park).

The head coach for the Blue and Gold will be Penn Kurtz of state runner-up Wheeling Central, while Stan Blankenship (JM) and John Weber (OG) will be his assistants.

IN THE BOYS' GAME, for Ohio will be: Brandon Todd (Cambridge); Brian Pruitt (Steubenville); Justin Schafer and Anthony Scarnecchia (Union Local); Heath Allen (Fort Frye); Jared Mike (Wellsville); Kevin Knox (St. John Central); Zac Burkhart (Beallsville); Sam Kraly (St. Clairsville); Lance Mirich (Martins Ferry); Derek Smith (Beaver Local); Caleb Myer (Edison); Roosevelt Kirby (East Liverpool); T.J. Mitchell (Meadowbrook) and Derek Zwick (Monroe Central).

The head coach for the Buckeyes will be Mark Masloski of Steubenville. His two assistants will be John Visser of Bridgeport and Mike Podlasiak of Union Local.

For the Mountaineers will be: Pierre Currenton (Weirton); Kyle Scherich and Aaron Wargo (Brooke); Charles Thomas and Nick Stefanow (Wheeling Park); Robby Jones (Tyler Consolidated); Brad Paulaukas (Oak Glen); Derek Kocher (Magnolia); Chris Blair (Weirton Madonna); James Wallace (Linsly); Mike Kuca (Bishop Donahue); David Contraguerro and Chris Stephens (Wheeling Central); Jeff Bowers (Paden City) and Logan Wendt (Cameron).

The head coach for the Mountain State will be Mike Granato of Weirton, assisted by Tom Wise of Bishop Donahue and Mark Dodd of Linsly.

# River's Blue to receive OVAC Rataiczak Award

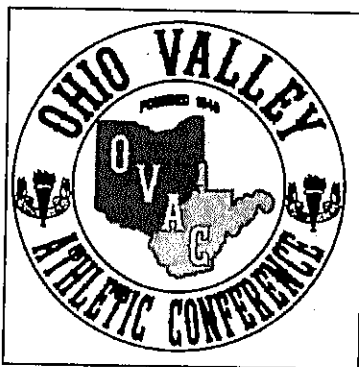
This year's Tom Rataiczak Scorer-Timer Award winner is Chuck Blue of River High School.

He will be honored Saturday during the OVAC's Samuel Mumley Basketball Classic at Ohio University Eastern.

Blue has been the boys' clock operator and announcer for the past 26 years, while also serving for the girls' team the past 16 years, freshman boys 13 years, and Sardis Grade School for eight years.

He has also been the seventh and eighth grade basketball tournament scorekeeper for the last 18 years, and also was the clock operator/announcer for the 1985 and 1990 Division III Boys Sectional Tournament, as well as the Division III Girls Sectional Tournament in 1993 and 1994.

He was been selected by the OHSAA Board of Control as a finalist for the Honorary



Scorekeeper at the 1997 High School State Basketball Tournament.

Blue was also the recipient of the Distinguished Service Award at River High School in 2000.

During his tenure at the school, Blue has worked for the likes of Marty Flannery, Terry Snively, Tom Tisher, R.L. Potts, Lou Tolzda, Mark Romick and Charlie Thomas.

Blue is a graduate of Dana High School and is also an alumni of Indiana State University.

Chuck enjoys watching his son, Tim, and OVAC official for basketball and baseball, officiate through Ohio and West Virginia. He also enjoys playing with his two young grandsons and watching the two older ones play soccer, basketball and baseball.

He is retired from Ormet after 35 years of service, where he was an information services supervisor, but enjoys substitute teaching in the Switzerland of Ohio School District. He also works part-time at Grisell Funeral Homes.

Blue has been married to the former Roberta Collins for the past 41 years.

They reside in Sardis and have three grown children, Trudy, Tim and Rob. Their four grandsons are: Davey, Matt, A.C. and Parker.