

OVAC ALL-STAR BASKETBALL

Samples, Talkington Fuel W.Va. Victory

By RICK THORP
Staff Writer

Two days after being named first team all-state, a pair of West Virginia's top Class AA performers got a chance to prove the honors were well-deserved.

Oak Glen's Luke Samples and Magnolia's Ted Talkington scored 24 and 20 points, respectively, to lead West Virginia to a come-from-behind 92-82 victory over Ohio in the 2004 boys' edition of the Sam Mumley OVAC All-Star Basketball Classic at Ohio University Eastern.

Samples, the Golden Bears' all-time leading scorer, and Talkington, the captain of the Class AA squad, were the catalysts behind a 55-40 scoring outburst in the second half that doomed the Buckeyes.

For West Virginia and Oak Glen coach Dave Smith, the victory was a great way to end the season.

"Not too many coaches get to end the season with a win," said Smith, who led Oak Glen to its first state tournament berth this year. "I got to coach a lot of superior kids and it was a lot of fun for me."

While Samples and Talkington dominated in the scoring column for the Mountaineers, it was Wheeling Central's Paul McCormick who started the final push toward the win.

One of the key pieces in the Maroon Knights' run to the West Virginia Class A title, McCormick completed a 3-point play at the 8:10 mark of the second half to give the visitors a 68-65 advantage.

The game was played using two 20-minute halves, rather than four 8-minute quarters.

Talkington followed that up with two free throws to make it a 70-65 game.

Following two free throws by the Buckeyes' Jake Robinson of Beaver Local, Samples, who is headed to Glenville State, scored four straight points to give West Virginia its biggest lead of the day at 75-67.

After a bucket by Bellaire St. John's Matt Ianzito brought the Bucks to within 75-69, West Virginia rattled off three more points to take a 78-69 lead.

The closest Ohio would come the rest of the way was six points, after Meadowbrook's Ryan Thompson converted a layup that made it an 82-76 game with a little more than three minutes remaining.

After shooting well during the first half, Ohio's shooting percentage tailed off during the second stanza.

"We looked like we were a little fatigued at the end," commented Ohio head coach Kim Clifford of St. Clairsville. "We had some guys who played in an all-star game Friday night, but that's no excuse."

Ohio jumped out to a 9-2 lead early in the game behind four points from Cambridge's Tyler Felt, a University of Findlay recruit.

The Buckeyes maintained the seven-point lead until the midway point of the first half when a Samples bucket tied the game at 22. Beaver Local's Pat Woods and Beallsville's Greg Darby made back-to-back buck-

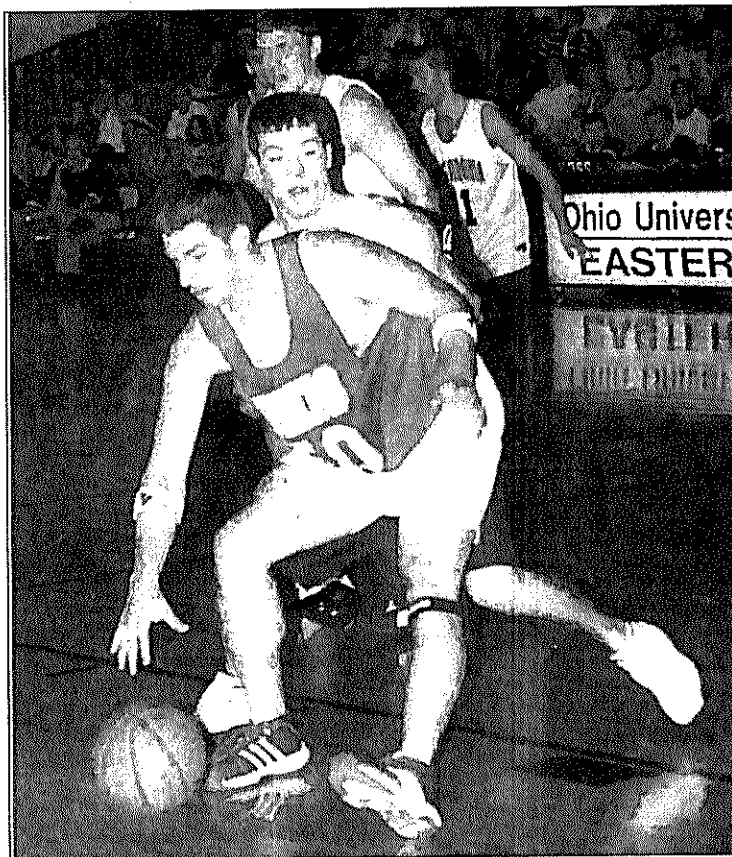


Photo by Art Limann

Ohio's Kenny Robinson (50) tries to keep the ball away from West Virginia's Ted Talkington during Saturday's game.

ets to give Ohio a 26-22 lead.

The lead went to 33-27 with 5:23 left in the half after a Thompson layup and Ohio led 42-37 at the break.

West Virginia grabbed its first lead at 47-46 when Talkington completed a 3-point play early in the second half. They would hold the lead the rest of the way.

Weir's Keith Hazel was the only other West Virginia player to hit for double-figures with 14 points.

St. Clairsville's Andrew Mertz paced Ohio with 17 points, including a trio of treys. Thompson finished with 12

points, while Robinson, Woods and Ianzito all tallied eight markers.

Sam Mumley OVAC Boys All-Star Basketball Classic (at Ohio University Eastern) West Virginia 92, Ohio 82

W—Bonar 1-4 0-0 3, Banal 2-6 1-1 5, Kouski 1-4 0-0 3, Kemp 0-0 0-0 0, Surface 1-4 0-0 3, Talkington 7-18 4-4 20, Gamble 2-6 3-4 7, Blair 1-3 0-0 2, Hazel 6-18 0-0 14, Sandreth 0-1 0-0 0, Wright 1-4 1-2 3, Samples 8-13 8-11 24, McCormick 2-4 2-3 6, McCulley 1-2 0-0 2, Totals 33-97 19-25 92.

O—Mertz 6-10 2-2 17, Huntsman 0-2 3-4 3, Carter 0-2 0-0 0, J.Robinson 1-7 6-6 8, Kish 3-5 0-0 6, Woods 3-6 2-4 8, Darby 3-7 0-0 6, Felt 4-7 0-2 8, Chandler 1-7 0-0 2, Thompson 5-7 2-2 12, Ianzito 3-8 0-1 6, K.Robinson 1-6 4-6 6, Totals 30-74 19-27 82.

3-Point Goals—Talkington 2, Hazel 2, Bonar, Kouski, Surface; Mertz 3.
West Virginia 37 55 — 92
Ohio 42 40 — 82

Ohio Girls Hold Off Mountaineers, 71-62

By RICK THORP
Staff Writer

All-star games present different challenges to a coach.

Rather than trying to devise a complex game plan, coaches usually let their talent speak for themselves.

That's exactly what happened Saturday afternoon as Ohio downed West Virginia 71-62 in the girls' edition of the annual Sam Mumley OVAC All-Star Basketball Classic at Ohio University Eastern's Ney Center.

"In an all-star game you don't try to coach, you let the athletes control the game," noted Buckeye State mentor Tom Tisher, who picked up his second coaching victory in the post-season hoops contest.

In the early stages of Saturday's game, it was the ladies from the Mountain State that held the upper hand.

West Virginia burst out to a 15-8 advantage behind a taller lineup that featured, among others, Ohio State recruit Alice Jamen of Mount de Chantal, West Liberty-bound Amanda Allison of Cameron, and John Marshall's Nikki Zarnoch.

Jamen posted five points during the opening run, while Zarnoch scored four.

Tisher responded by inserting a second group of five players at about the 15-minute mark of the first of two 20-minute halves that featured a little more size, but importantly, more speed.

The strategy paid off as the Buckeyes scored seven straight points, all at the free throw line, to knot the game at 15 at the 10-minute mark. All-Ohioan Shannon Leasure of Shenandoah

and Union Local's Krista Kinney each netted three points from the charity stripe during the run.

Ohio's speed and ability to pound the ball inside continued to frustrate the Mountaineers as the Buckeyes scored seven of the next nine points to grab a 22-17 advantage at the seven minute mark.

Leasure and Barnesville's Amy Hines controlled the outside, while the Shamrocks' Nicole Anderson and Beaver Local's Rachel McCoy manned the paint.

"Rachel was our tallest player (6-0), so we had to make some adjustments with our guards," Tisher explained. "What we tried to do was keep them from entering the ball where they wanted to."

Cameron's Chad Clutter, in his first game leading the West Virginia squad, said Ohio's quickness caused a lot of problems for his team.

"Their quickness bothered us all day," he said.

"They just outthusted us on the floor with some loose balls and I think that's what made the difference."

"I think the girls came out here with a lot of heart and had a good time."

Turnovers were also a culprit for West Virginia. All told, they coughed up the ball more than 30 times during the game.

Anderson scored four points during a 6-0 run that pushed the Ohio lead to 29-20. The Buckeyes were on top 38-26 at the half.

West Virginia came out on fire during the opening moments



Photo by Art Limann

West Virginia's Alice Jamen (51) tries to get an open look as Ohio's Krista Kinney (34) as Kristen Scheibelhood (43) looks on.

of the second half, going on an 8-2 run behind four points each from Allison and Wheeling Park's Amy Sampson, who finished with 11 points.

Jamen, who finished with a game-high 15 points, trimmed the Ohio lead to 45-40 with a layup near the 15-minute mark.

Ohio responded with a 12-4 run that pushed the lead to 57-44 with nearly 10 minutes remaining.

Sampson converted a 3-point play at the 1:52 mark to make it a 66-60 game, but Ohio came through at the foul line during the last two minutes to secure the win.

East Liverpool's Breezy Nelson paced a balanced Ohio scoring attack with nine points, while Anderson and McCoy each tallied eight points.

Zarnoch also reached double-figures for West Virginia, finishing with 10 markers.

"I love my River High School team, but I'll tell you what, my kids really busted their butts today," Tisher said. "It was a good group of kids."

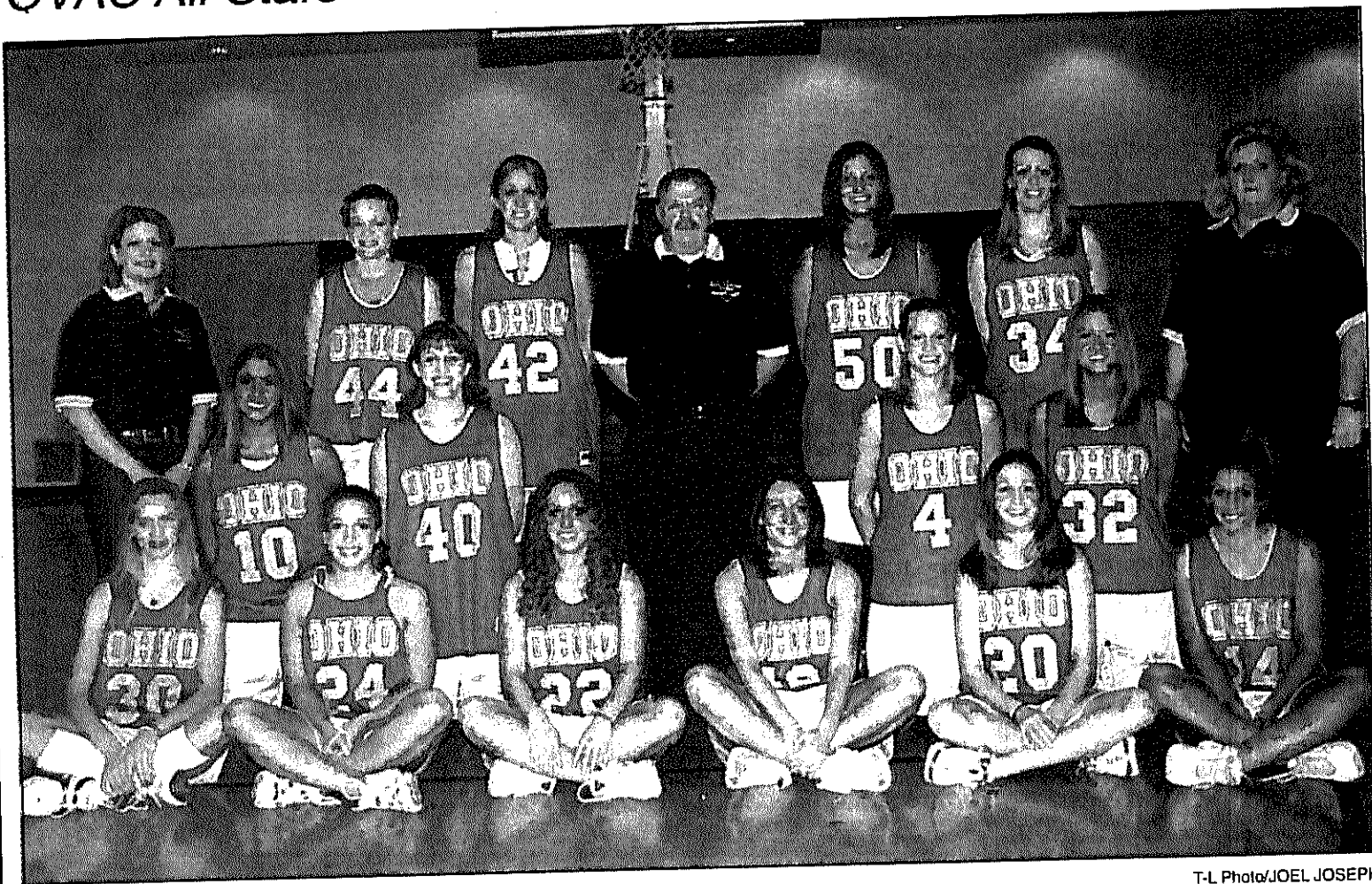
Sam Mumley OVAC Girls All-Star Basketball Classic Ohio 71, West Virginia 62 (at Ohio University Eastern)

W—Maple 0-0 0-0 0, Reid 0-1 0-2 0, Glover 0-3 3-4 3, Zarnoch 5-7 0-1 10, Padlow 0-1 0-0 0, Stumpp 0-1 0-0 0, Wodusky 0-0 0-0 0, Neal 0-2 0-1 0, Allison 3-3 3-4 9, Herron 0-1 0-0 0, Snyder 0-0 2-4 2, Scheibelhood 2-5 0-0 4, Robertson 2-6 4-8 8, Jamen 6-12 3-7 15, Sampson 4-5 2-2 11, Totals 22-47 17-33 62.

O—Street 2-5 1-2 5, Sawon 1-2 2-3 4, Hines 2-7 3-6 9, Falbo 0-1 0-2 0, Schafer 0-5 0-0 0, Nelson 3-6 2-3 9, Snyder 1-4 0-0 2, Leasure 2-7 3-4 8, Elni 2-3 0-0 4, Kinney 1-3 3-6 5, Hulse 2-4 0-0 5, Brunay 0-3 0-0 0, King 2-9 0-1 4, Anderson 1-3 6-13 8, McCoy 2-8 4-4 8, Totals 21-70 24-44 71.

3-Point Goals—Sampson; Hines 2, Nelson, Leasure, Hulse.
West Virginia 28 38 — 62

OVAC All-Stars



T-L Photo/JOEL JOSEPH

PICTURED is the Ohio girls' team for the Samuel A. Mumley OVAC All-Star Basketball Classic. Front row, from left, are Shannon Leasure (Shenandoah), Leah Snyder (Edison), Breezy Nelson (East Liverpool), Amy Hines (Barnesville), Ashley Schafer (Caldwell) and Katelyn Falbo (Shadyside). Middle row, from left, are Ashley Sawon (Steubenville Central), Mariah Hulse (River), Charity Street (Beallsville) and Jena Ehni (St. John Central). Back row, from left, are assistant coach Angela Fowler-Hicks (Buckeye Local), Kristen King (Buckeye Local), Erin Heidelbaoh (St. Clairsville), head coach Tom Tisher (River), Nicole Anderson (Barnesville), Krista Kinney (Union Local) and assistant coach Kim Appolloni (Martins Ferry). Absent was Amy Bruney (Martins Ferry).

OVAC All-Star Games

• Conference's finest seniors set for Saturday's 1 p.m. tipoff

By **SETH STASKEY**
Times Leader Sports Writer

Basketball season has come and gone.

But Ohio Valley hoop fans will have the opportunity to watch the best of the best one more time.

The annual Samuel A. Mumley OVAC All-Star Classic will be held Saturday afternoon at the Ney Center on the campus of Ohio University Eastern.

The girls' game will tip off at 1 p.m. and the boys' contest will begin at 3:15 p.m.

St. Clairsville's Kim Clifford was selected to guide the Ohio stars after leading his Red Devils to a 16-5 mark this past winter. He will be joined on the Buckeye bench by Barnesville head coach Ben Porter and Frontier boss Roger Kirkpatrick.

"We are really looking forward to the

game," Clifford said. "We feel we have a good group of kids, and this is a great showcase for the players. Kids who decide not to take part in this game will really regret it somewhere down the road."

The Ohio girls will be coached by River High's Tom Tisher who led his Lady Pilots to the OVAC 2-A title and a 17-5 record. He will be assisted by Martins Ferry's Kim Appolloni and Buckeye Local's Angela Fowler-Hicks.

"This game is always an honor to be a part of both as a player and coach," Tisher offered. "The kids have been great during our practices, so we are hoping they go out Saturday and enjoy themselves."

The West Virginia boys will be led by Oak Glen head coach David Smith who guided the Golden Bears to an undefeated 22-0 regular season, a state tournament berth and the

OVAC 3-A title. He will be assisted by Magnolia head coach Dave Tallman and Cameron's Jack Hart.

The Lady Mountaineers will be headed up by Cameron's Chad Clutter. He will be assisted by Wheeling Central's Penn Kurtz who led his Lady Maroon Knights to a state 1-A championship. John Marshall's Stanley Blankenship is also on the staff.

THE BOYS' GAME figures to once again be up-tempo, but the Ohio squad features a post-oriented squad.

"We are in a situation where we don't have many guards," Clifford said. "We are a bigger team, but our big guys are so athletic and versatile that we think they can handle the ball."

Clifford -- who has put his team through several practices -- has chosen his starting

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lineup for Saturday's game.

The Red Devils' Andrew Mertz who tallied 25 points a game last winter will headline the squad. He will be the lone guard on the floor when the game begins.

Cambridge's Tyler Felt (6-ft-5) who scored 14.9 points a game for Coach Gene Ford this past season will be one of the inside forces.

He will be complemented by Monroe Central's Kenny Robinson who averaged 18 points a game for the Seminoles this past season.

St. John Central's Matt Ianzito (6-ft-3) has also earned himself a starting spot. He averaged close to 17 points a night for first-year coach Mike Calvert.

Meadowbrook's Ryan Thompson will be the fifth starter for the Buckeyes. He averaged some 17 points a night this past season.

"We have had some real good practices," Clifford explained. "All of these kids are talented, but those five have really stood out (at our practices)."

Coming off the Ohio bench will be the Beaver Local duo of Jake Robinson (5-ft-11) and Pat Woods (6-ft-4).

Providing more depth in the post is River's Kellen Kish (6-ft-4) and Caldwell's Joe Chandler (6-ft-3).

Able to provide minutes at the guard spot are Barnesville's Brock Huntsman (5-ft-11), Bridgeport's Josh Carter (6-ft-2), Toronto's Zac Thomas (6-ft-3) and Beallsville's Greg Darby (6-ft-1). East Liverpool's Scott Scales (5-ft-10) is a viable option at the point.

"We are definitely going to keep the playing time as equal as we can," Clifford noted. "But, the final five minutes, we are going to try to win the game, so we will put the best five on the floor."

Ohio's coaching staff has been stressing playing to its strengths, which is on the interior.

"We put in some basic stuff both offensively and defensively," Clifford said.

"We want to get out in transition as much as we can, but in the halfcourt we

want to try to get the ball to our post players."

The defensive end of the floor is something that sometimes lacks in all-star games, but the Buckeyes feel they have a solid defensive unit.

"We haven't been talking about (defensive) technique, but more about (defensive) attitude," Clifford stressed. "(West Virginia) is loaded with guys who can score, so we have to contest shots and block out."

The Mountaineer boys are led by a trio of first-team all-stars. Magnolia's Ted Talkington is the leading scorer in the game after averaging 31 points per game. He came up just short in a quest for 2000 points.

Oak Glen's Luke Samples will be one of the top players. He scored almost 24 points a night in helping the Golden Bears to the state tournament.

Linsly's Chris Banal was a force both inside and outside for the Cadets. He scored almost 25 points a game this past season.

Paul McCormick -- who helped lead Wheeling Central to its third straight state title -- has been named to the team. Handling the point guard for the Mountaineers is Wheeling Park's Brad Kouski.

The Mountaineers also have size with 6-ft-9 center Brian McCulley from Bishop Donahue.

The remainder of the West Virginia squad includes: Matt Blair (Weir Madonna), John Bonar (John Marshall), Adam Ferro (John Marshall), Jared Gamble (Oak Glen), Jonathan Kemp (Magnolia), Ricky Sandreth (Brooke), Scott Surface (Paden City) and Matt Wright (Tyler).

THE GIRLS' GAME figures to be quite entertaining as both Ohio and West Virginia are balanced with inside and outside talent.

"We tried to simplify our offense to make sure all of the players' talents shine," Tisher said. "These kids have all been successful during their career. We

have 1,000 point scorers, all-time leading scorers in respective schools and so on, so we are excited about the game."

The Lady Buckeyes are highlighted by first-team all-everything Charity Street from Beallsville. Street was a first-team all-Ohio and OVAC pick and will take part in the North-South Game. He averaged 24 points a game to lead the Lady Blue Devils to the district tournament.

Martins Ferry's Amy Bruney will provide punch on the low block on both ends of the floor. She averaged nearly 14 points a game this past winter. She also finished her prep career with more than 1,000 rebounds.

Shenandoah's Shannon Leasure -- a first-team all-stater -- comes into the game as the leading scorer in Lady Zep history. She averaged more than 23 a night a season ago.

Barnesville will have its inside-outside duo of Nicole Anderson and Amy Hines taking part. Anderson averaged a double-double this past winter, while Hines became the second all-time leading scorer in Lady Shamrock history.

Buckeye Local's Kristen King was one of the valley's leading scorers a season ago, netting 23 points a night. She moved into first place on the Lady Panthers' scoring list.

St. John Central's Jena Ehni enjoyed a strong final season. She averaged close to 14 points an outing and was a strong rebounder.

Tisher will have one of his own players in the mix as Mariah Hulsey was chosen after a season in which she scored 14 points a game.

Shadyside's Katelyn Falbo did many of the intangibles for the Lady Tigers during her senior campaign. After coming back off a knee injury, Falbo averaged only eight points a game, but she played relentless defense.

Krista Kinney -- a 5-ft-11 post player from Union Local -- blossomed into one of the premier forwards in the area this season. She averaged close to a double-double with 15 points and nine boards.

Beaver Local's Rachel McCoy was selected to the team. The 6-footer finished her prep career with more than 1,000 points.

Stuebenville Central's Ashley Sawon will be in action Saturday. She averaged close to 15 points a game this winter.

Caldwell's Ashley Schafer enjoyed a fine prep career, including a senior year in which she netted 16 points a game.

Edison's Leah Snyder and East Liverpool's Breezy Nelson round out the Lady Buckeye roster. St. Clairsville's Erin Heidebach was selected to the team, but will be unable to play after suffering a knee injury during the Lady Devils' tournament run.

"We haven't come up with a lineup yet," Tisher offered. "We are going to try to keep each group (of five) as balanced as we can."

Tisher knows his team must defend a high-powered Lady Mountaineer squad.

"We have been working hard on defense," Tisher said. "We have to take advantage of our quickness to off-set some of (West Virginia's) size by getting people in the passing lane and stopping the dribble."

The West Virginia girls are highlighted by Ohio State recruit and Mt. DeChantal product Alice Jamen.

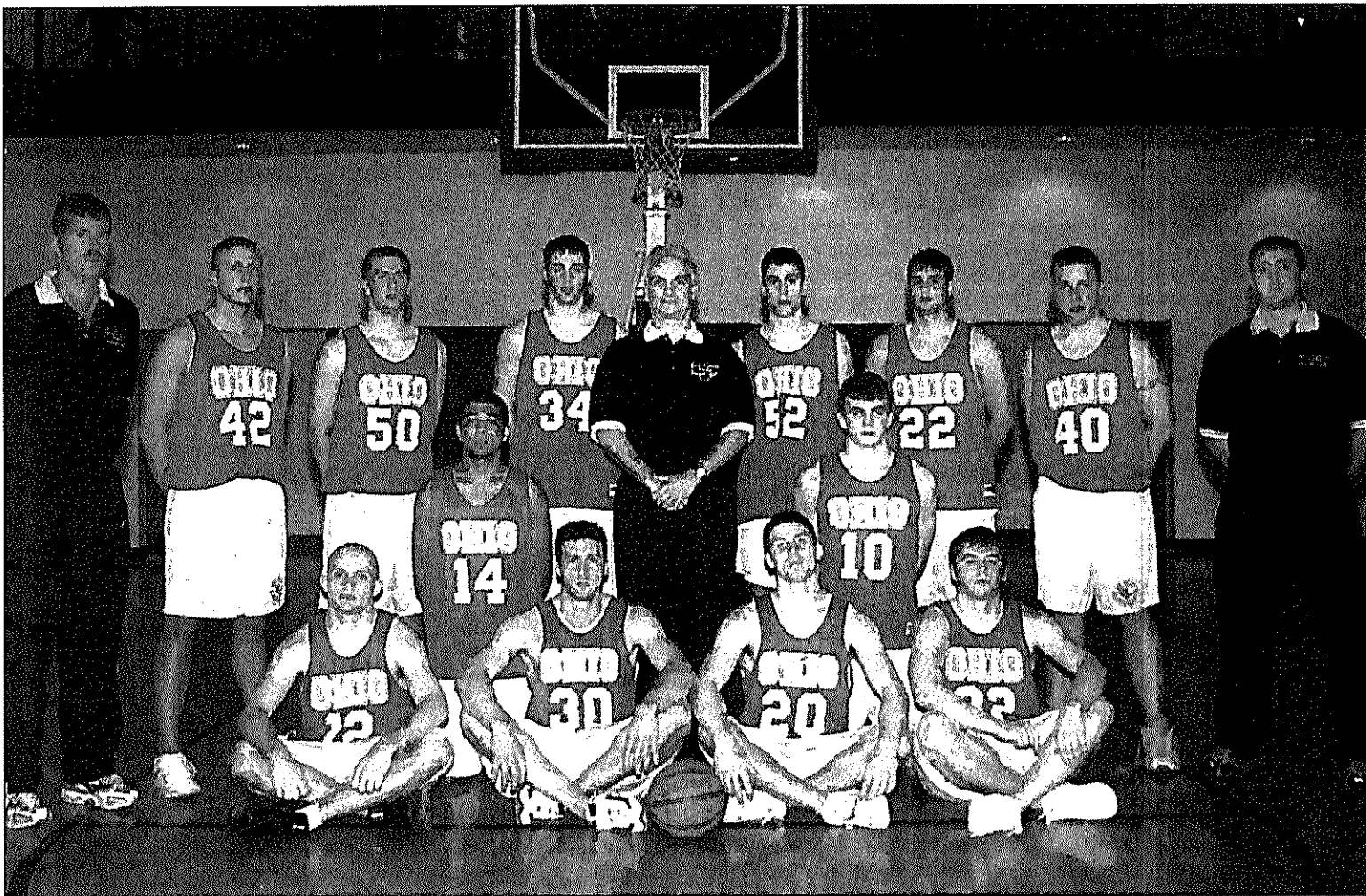
John Marshall's Nikki Zarnoch and Brittany Padlow will provide depth on the inside.

Wheeling Central's duo of Katie Stumpp and Amanda Wodusky are fresh off their state title run. Wheeling Park's duo of Amy Sampson and Chevon Robertson should help provide steady guard play.

Cameron's Amanda Allison was one of the area's premier scorers this winter, netting some 20 points a game.

The remainder of the West Virginia girls' squad includes: Stephanie Glover (Weir Madonna), Shannon Herron (Oak Glen), Marcy Maple (Oak Glen), Ashley Neal (Linsly), Chelsie Reid (Cameron), Kristen Shelbhood (Magnolia), Brittany Snyder (Weir).

OVAC All-Stars



T-L Photo/JOEL JOSEPH

PICTURED is the Ohio boys' team for the Samuel A. Mumley OVAC All-Star Basketball Classic. Front row, from left, are Brock Huntsman (Barnesville), Pat Woods (Beaver Local), Jake Robinson (Beaver Local) and Greg Darby (Beallsville). Middle row, from left, are Josh Carter (Bridgeport), head coach Kim Clifford (St. Clairsville) and Andrew Mertz (St. Clairsville). Back row, from left, are assistant coach Roger Kirkpatrick (Frontier), Ryan Thompson (Meadowbrook), Kenny Robinson (Monroe Central), Tyler Felt (Cambridge), Matt Ianzito (St. John's), Kellen Kish (River), Joe Chandler (Caldwell) and assistant coach Ben Porter (Barnesville). Absent were Scott Scales (East Liverpool) and Zac Thomas (Toronto).



File photo by Alex Kozlowski

Magnolia's Ted Talkington, with ball, and Oak Glen's Luke Samples, far right, are just two of the stars participating in today's Samuel A. Mumley All-Star Classic at OUE.

Game for Fun, And Winning

By SAM AMICO
Sports Editor

Ted Talkington of Magnolia and Paul McCormick of Wheeling Central are teammates in today's Samuel A. Mumley OVAC All-Star Classic.

Already, there's been a little bit of ... well, for lack of a better word, *friction*.

"Winning isn't that important," Talkington said of the game. "The idea is just to move the ball around, showcase our skills and have some fun."

McCormick smiled, looked at Talkington, and offered the following contradiction:

"I want to win," he said with a laugh. "I don't care if it means having to sit on the bench and watch. I definitely want to win."

The boys game is scheduled to tip off at 3 p.m. at Ohio University-Eastern's Ney Center. It follows the girls game (1 p.m.).

Each contest pits the best OVAC seniors from West Vir-

ginia against the best from Ohio. And both Talkington and McCormick are correct — the competition is about having fun, and trying to win.

"Most of all, it's a big honor just to play in the game," Talkington said, "a chance to play with the best players from around here."

Of course, McCormick thinks it's special for another reason.

"I'm just happy to finally not have to play *against* Ted," he said.

Talkington led the state in scoring for two consecutive seasons, having averaged 30.9 points per game this year. The 6-foot-1 guard also has captained the W.Va. Class AA all-state team and The Intelligencer's All-Valley team each of the past two seasons.

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Game

(Continued from Page 17)

McCormick, a 6-2 forward, was a member of three straight Class A state championship teams at Central, having played a starring role this year as a guy who got it done with pure hustle and all-out enthusiasm.

Those two alone would make a nice team — but as is always the case, this game offers so much more.

For starters, the West Virginia squad is coached by Oak Glen's Dave Smith and Magnolia's Dave Tallman.

Smith led the Golden Bears to a 24-1 record, their first-ever spot atop the Associated Press poll, and their first-ever state tournament berth.

All Tallman has done is lead Talkington and the Blue Eagles to the state title during Talkington's junior season, and a 20-4 mark this season (Magnolia lost to Oak Glen in overtime of the Region One final).

Joining Talkington and McCormick on the court are notables such as Oak Glen's Luke Samples and Jered Gam-

ble, John Marshall's Adam Ferro and John Bonar, Wheeling Park's Brad Kouski, and Linsly's Chris Banal.

Then there's Brian McCulley, a 6-10 immovable object from Bishop Donahue, and Weir shooting star Keith Hazel — not to mention Weirton Madonna's Matt Blair, Paden City's Scott Surface, Brooke's Ricky Sandreth, Tyler Consolidated's Matt Wright, as well as Jonner Kemp, Talkington's energetic teammate at Magnolia.

"There will be a lot of talent out there, that's for sure," Samples said.

And that's just the West Virginia side.

Among the Ohio stars is St. Clairsville's Andrew Mertz, who led all OVAC scorers located West of the Ohio River with 24.3 points per game.

Mertz will be playing for his own coach, Kim Clifford — who will be assisted by Roger Kirkpatrick of Frontier and Ben Porter of Barnesville.

"I think it's about having fun, and just going out and getting the

chance to play one more game," Mertz said.

"I didn't expect to be here at the beginning of the season. I just figured I would play hard, and if it worked out, fine."

Other top Ohioans include: Barnesville's Brock Huntsman; Bridgeport's Josh Carter; Toronto's Zac Thomas; River's Kellen Kish; Frontier's Samuel Rutherford; Caldwell's Joe Chandler; Monroe Central's Kenny Robinson; Beallsville's Greg Darby; and Matt Ianzito of Bellaire St. John's.

"We've worked pretty hard in practice," Ianzito said when asked if the game is about winning, or merely having fun.

"I think we'll be trying to win."

Perhaps Ianzito's comments summed it up best. Perhaps even if it is just an all-star game, winning always results in feeling like you had some fun.

Even Talkington and McCormick should be able to agree on that.

Staff writer Jim Elliott contributed to this report.

Girls

(Continued from Page 17)

Other talented players inside include John Marshall's Brittany Padlow and Nikki Zarnoch, Magnolia's Kristen Scheibelhood, and Weir's Brittany Snyder.

On the perimeter, West Virginia's skillfulness includes Oak Glen's Marcy Maple and Shannon Herron, Linsly's Ashley Neal, Cameron's Chelsie Reid, and Weirton Madonna's Stephanie Glover.

Also included in this versatile group are Chevon Robertson and Amy Sampson of Wheeling Park, and Katie Stumpp and

Amanda Wodusky of W.Va. Class A state champion Wheeling Central.

Meanwhile, Ohio's capable pack of players includes Buckeye Local's all-time leading scorer, Kristen King, and one of the most well-rounded players ever to come out of Beallsville in Charity Street.

Other top names include River's Mariah Hulsey, Martins Ferry's Amy Bruney, Steubenville Central's Ashly Sawon, East Liverpool's Breezy Nelson, Union Local's Krista Kinney.

Then there's Shannon Leasure, who will graduate as one of the best players in Shenandoah history, as well as Bransville's Nicole Anderson and Amy Hines, Shadyside's Katelyn Falbo, Caldwell's Ashley Schafer, Edison's Leah Snyder, Bellaire St. John's Jenna Ehn, and Beaver Local's McCoy, a first-team All-Ohio selection.

Mount de Chantal's Minna Aronen and St. Clairsville's Erin Heidelberg were selected to the West Virginia and Ohio squads, respectively, but will not play because of injury.

Girls to Provide Classic Matchup

By SAM AMICO
Sports Editor

It will be the West Virginia talls versus the Ohio smalls at the Samuel A. Mumley OVAC All-Star girls basketball game today at Ohio University-Eastern's Ney Center.

Tip-off is scheduled for 1 p.m.

That's not say both teams don't have talented players of all sizes, but there's no secret that West Virginia will try to get the ball down low first — while Ohio will be relying especially on its stellar perimeter play.

"We should be pretty powerful inside," said West Virginia coach Chad Clutter of Cameron. "We have a few good guards as well,

but I think we should be able to score inside.

"Ohio has a more guard-oriented team, and we are more post-oriented."

Ohio coach Tom Tisher of River said, "I think the (OVAC coaches) did a nice job of picking the players. Everyone on this team is an all-star, so it's going to be up to us as a coaching staff to make sure we get everyone to gel."

For West Virginia, the talent in the low post begins with Alice Jamen, an Ohio State recruit from Mount de Chantal, and Amanda Allison, an all-stater for Clutter's Dragons.

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SPORTS

WV boys, Ohio girls win OVAC contests

By GREG HARKNESS
Times Leader Sports Writer

It was a split decision Saturday afternoon in the Samuel A. Mumley Charity Basketball Classics at the Robert Ney Center on the campus of Ohio University-Eastern.

West Virginia's boys and Ohio's girls claimed victories in the annual games that match the conference's best seniors against each other.

WEST VIRGINIA'S big guns -- Luke Samples and Ted Talkington -- combined for 44 points as the Mountain State posted a 92-82 victory on the boys side.

Samples, who led Oak Glen to a 24-1 record and state tournament berth, tossed in 22 points and landed nine rebounds.

Talkington -- who finished his career at Magnolia with better than 2,000 points, added 20 points and also collected nine rebounds.

"There was a bunch of good athletes in the game and it was really up and down," Ohio head coach Kim Clifford said.

"I thought our guys were very unselfish and really passed the ball around and got each other involved.

"They really had their big name players play well," Clifford added. "I thought every one of our guys got to play a lot of minutes and show what they were capable of doing. It was a good experience for all of the players and coaches."

The Mountain State trailed 42-37 at the intermission, but sparked by Samples and Talkington built an eight-point lead midway through the second half.

Samples' conventional three-point play with 6:10 remaining gave West Virginia a 76-67 lead.

West Virginia nursed a six-point cushion until the 2:11 mark when Talkington's conventional three-point play made it 85-76.

Samples' high school teammate, Jared Gamble, added a free throw with just under 2:00 remaining to make it a double-digit lead and seal the verdict.

The only other West Virginia player in twin-figures was Weir's Keith Hazel with 14 points -- a dozen of which came in the first half.

Ohio was led by St. Clairsville's Andrew Mertz with 17 points. Meadowbrook's Ryan Thompson added 12 markers.

The Beaver Local duo of Jake Robinson and Pat Woods, along with Cambridge's Tyler Felt had eight points each.

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T-L Photos
TOP PHOTO: West Virginia's Stephanie Glover loses the basketball as she is defended by Ohio's Breezy Nelson during action Saturday afternoon in the Samuel A. Mumley OVAC Basketball Classic at the Robert Ney Center on the campus of Ohio University-Eastern.

LEFT: Ohio's Andrew Mertz gets fouled by a West Virginia player as the Mountaineers' Ted Talkington also defends during action Saturday in the boys' game.

● OVAC

Continued from Page C1

Scoring:
OHIO (82) -- Mertz 6, 2-2, 17; Huntsman 0, 3-4, 3; Carter 0, 0-0, 0; J. Robinson 1, 6-6, 8; Kish 3, 0-0, 6; Woods 3, 2-4, 8; Darby 3, 0-0, 6; Felt 4, 0-1, 8; Chandler 1, 0-0, 2; Thompson 5, 2-2, 12; K. Robinson 1, 4-6, 6; Ianzito 3, 0-1, 6. TOTALS: 30, 19-26, 82. WEST VIRGINIA (92) -- Bonar 1, 0-0, 3; Banal 2, 1-1, 5; Kouski 1, 0-0, 3; Kemp 0, 0-0, 0; Surface 1, 0-0, 3; Talkington 7, 4-4, 20; Gamble 2, 3-4, 7; Blair 1, 0-0, 2; Hazel 6, 0-0, 14; Sandreth 0, 0-0, 0; Wright 1, 1-3, 3; Samples 8, 8-11, 24; McCormick 2, 2-3, 6; McCulley 1, 0-0, 2. TOTALS: 33, 19-26, 92.

Three-point field goals: Ohio -- Mertz (3), WV -- Hazel (2), Talkington (2), Bonar (1), Kouski (1), Surface (1)

OHIO'S girls managed a split on the afternoon with a 71-62 victory in the opener.

"It was a lot of fun," River head coach Tom Tisher said. "I really liked all of these kids. They were great kids."

"We gave up size, but we won with defense and our ball-handling," Tisher added. "I thought we passed the ball extremely well and our athletic talent came through."

The Buckeye-State girls were down by eight points early thanks in large part to Mount de Chantal's Alice Jamen. The Ohio State recruit had five early points and rebounds, but when she went to the bench, Ohio made a run to take the lead.

Ohio spurred to a 38-26 lead at intermission.

The Buckeyes held a 40-29 lead early in the second half before West Virginia went on a 12-4 run to cut the lead to 42-38.

Again Jamen went to the bench in the substitution pattern and Ohio responded with a 12-4 run of its own.

The spurt was fueled with three-pointers from Amy Hines, Shannon Leasure and Breezy Nelson.

Wheeling Park's Amy Sampson converted an old-fashioned three-point field goal to pull the Mountaineers to within 66-60 with 1:52 showing.

Nelson converted two free throws to make it an eight-point game with under a minute remaining before Hines made one free throw and Beaver Local's Rachel McCoy scored inside to seal the game.

Nelson -- who played at East Liverpool -- was the lone player in double figures for Ohio with 10 points. Hines, a Barnesville standout, added nine points.

Leasure, a Shenandoah product, and McCoy added eight points each. McCoy also landed 10 rebounds. Barnesville's Nicole Anderson contributed seven points and eight rebounds.

West Virginia was led by Jamen's 15 points, 16 rebounds and five blocks. Sampson added 11 and John Marshall's Nikki Zarnoch had 10 markers.

Scoring:
OHIO (71) -- Street 2, 1-2, 5; Sawon 1, 2-3, 3; Hines 2, 3-6, 9; Falbo 0, 0-2, 0; Schafer 0, 0-0, 0; Nelson 3, 3-3, 10; Snyder 1, 0-0, 2; Leasure 2, 3-4, 8; Ehni 2, 0-0, 4; Kinney 1, 3-6, 5; Hulsey 2, 0-0, 5; Bruney 0, 0-0, 0; King 2, 0-1, 4; Anderson 1, 5-12, 7; McCoy 2, 4-4, 8. TOTALS: 21, 24-43, 71. WEST VIRGINIA (62) -- Maple 0, 0-0, 0; Reid 0, 0-2, 0; Glover 0, 3-4, 3; Zarnoch 5, 0-0, 10; Stumpp 0, 0-0, 0; Wodusky 0, 0-0, 0; Neal 0, 0-1, 0; Allison 3, 3-4, 9; Herron 0, 0-0, 0; Snyder 0, 2-4, 2; Scheibelhood 2, 0-0, 4; Robertson 2, 4-8, 8; Jamen 6, 3-7, 15; Sampson 4, 2-2, 11; Padlow 0, 0-0, 0. TOTALS: 22, 17-32, 62.

Three-point field goals: Ohio -- Hines (2), Nelson (1), Leasure (1), Hulsey (1), WV -- Sampson (1).

GAME NOTES

■ THE RICHARD Potts Girls Scholarships were awarded to Linsly's Ashley Neal and Martins Ferry's Amy Bruney.

■ THE HENRY Lasasz Boys Scholarships were awarded to Beaver Local's Jake Robinson and Talkington.

■ THE RICH Saffield Girls Coach Award went to Tisher, who has been head coach at River High School for some 23 years.

■ THE TOM Rataiczak Scorekeeper/Timekeeper Award went to longtime John Marshall helper Les Crisswell.

■ THE EARL Haberfield Boys' Coach Award went to former Brooke head coach Dick Paruett.

■ BEAVER LOCAL'S Pat Woods and Tyler Consolidated's Matt Wright put on a nice display in the slam dunk contest. Wright brought the crowd to its feet with a dunk over the top of a crouched down Talkington, but Woods earned the title with three superb efforts.

■ THE ROBERT DAWSON basketball officials award went to Pat Duffy.

■ FIVE-YEAR-OLD Taylor Paruett turned a nice rendition of the National Anthem before the boys game.

■ TOM BECTHEL -- with the help of his quality staff -- did a fine job in his first season as the game director.

OVAC releases Ohio boys roster for Samuel A. Mumley Classic

BY SETH STASKEY
Times Leader Sports Writer

With the girls rosters for both Ohio and West Virginia set, the Ohio Valley Athletic Conference released the Buckeye boys team for April 3's Samuel Mumley All-Star Basketball Classic.

The Ohio roster features 15 of the top players from the conference. Selected to coach the squad was St. Clairsville's Kim Clifford who led his Red Devils to a strong 16-5 mark.

"Coaching in these games is fun because you get to be around all of the players you coached against through the season," Clifford said. "These kids have all proved they deserve to be here, so we just have to find the right combination of guys to play."

This assignment marks the second time Clifford has been selected as the head coach. He was the head man at Cadiz the previous time he was picked. He has also served as an assistant. The Ohio roster features a little bit of

everything, including size, quickness and most importantly in all-star games scoring punch.

"I really like the way this team is put together," Clifford said. "I think there is a lot of balance because we aren't heavy in guards or big men, so that will make it easier to put groups together."

As is the case for most coaches in all-star games, playing time is the toughest thing to determine. "All of these players deserve equal playing time," the Devils' boss relayed.

"These guys didn't have to try out, so they have already proven they can play, but if it gets late in a game we are going to put the group that gives us the best chance to win out there."

Clifford and his staff, which consists of Barnesville's Ben Porter and Frontier's Roger Kirkpatrick expect just two things from their players. "We're just going to try to emphasize the fact that they need to share the ball and play as hard as they can," Clifford offered. "Some of these guys won't probably be in that good of shape, but we still have to play some defense."

The Buckeyes feature several of the Ohio Valley's premier scorers. St. Clairsville's Andrew Mertz (6-ft-2) was the valley's third-leading scorer at 24.3 points per game. He was an all-Eastern District pick. Frontier's Samuel Rutherford (5-ft-11) was the second-leading scorer in the small-school ranks, netting 21.9 points

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● OVAC

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an outing.

Beaver Local's Jake Robinson (6-ft-0) enjoyed a superb season for the Lisbon-based school. He tallied some 22 points a night and was selected as an all-Eastern District pick.

Robinson's inside running-mate Pat Woods (6-ft-5) donated 14 points a night for Coach Mike Clutter's team.

St. John Central's Matt Ianzito (6-ft-3) earned one of the Class I-A automatic bids thanks to a season in which he poured in 18.7 points a night.

Toronto's Zac Thomas (6-ft-5) slashed his way to a strong season for the Red Knights. He helped lead his team to the district tournament thanks to a 18.6 points per game scoring clip.

One of the Ohio Valley's premier point guards will be running the show for the Buckeyes. Ultra-quick Scott Seales (5-ft-10) -- of East Liverpool -- was named to the team after scoring some 15 points a night for Coach Nick Aloï's team.

Versatile Meadowbrook forward Ryan Thompson (6-ft-3) was named to the team after a fine campaign. He scored some 17.4 points a night and was also selected as an all-district pick.

Cambridge's Tyler Felt (6-ft-6) figures to be

one of the players in good shape after he helped lead the Bobcats to the Division II regional tournament. Felt -- who scored a shade under 20 points a game -- will continue his basketball career at Findlay.

Athletic Bridgeport guard Josh Carter was named to the team. He led the Bulldogs in almost every statistical category, including scoring where he ripped off 14.5 points a game.

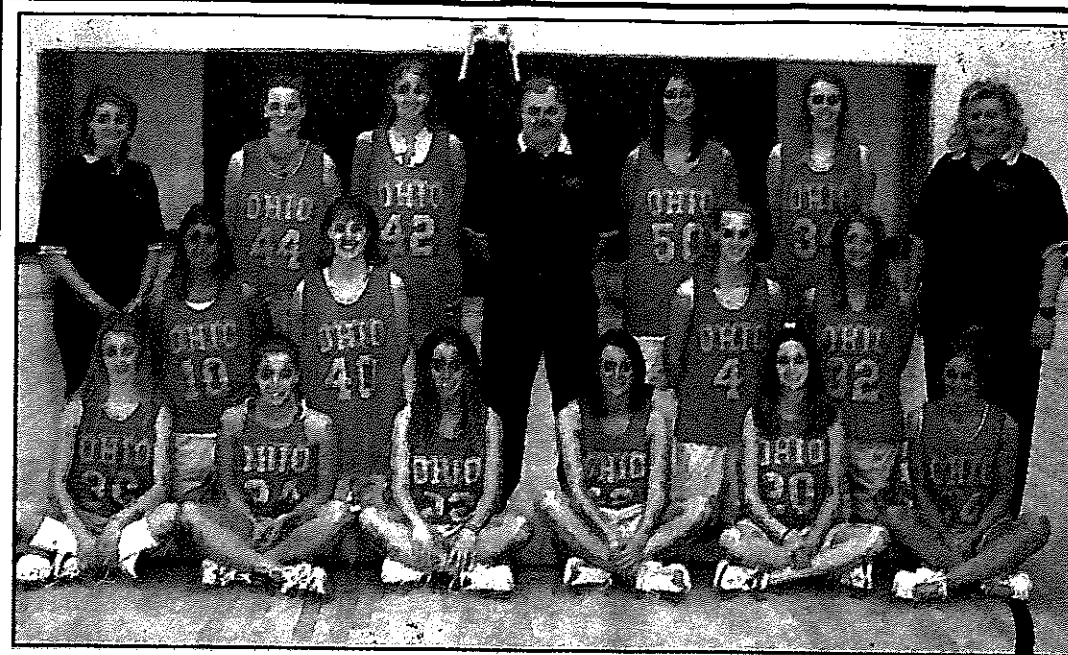
Barnesville's Brock Huntsman -- who was a tireless defender and floor leader -- will be suiting up for the Scarlet and Grey. He scored a shade under 10 points a game for Porter's team.

Caldwell forward Joe Chandler was named to the team. He helped guide the Redskins to the district tournament where they eventually fell to Hiland. Chandler netted 14 points a game for Coach Terry Rowe's team.

Monroe Central's Kenny Robinson enjoyed a strong season for Coach Greg Taylor's Seminoles. He scored 16.3 points per game this past winter.

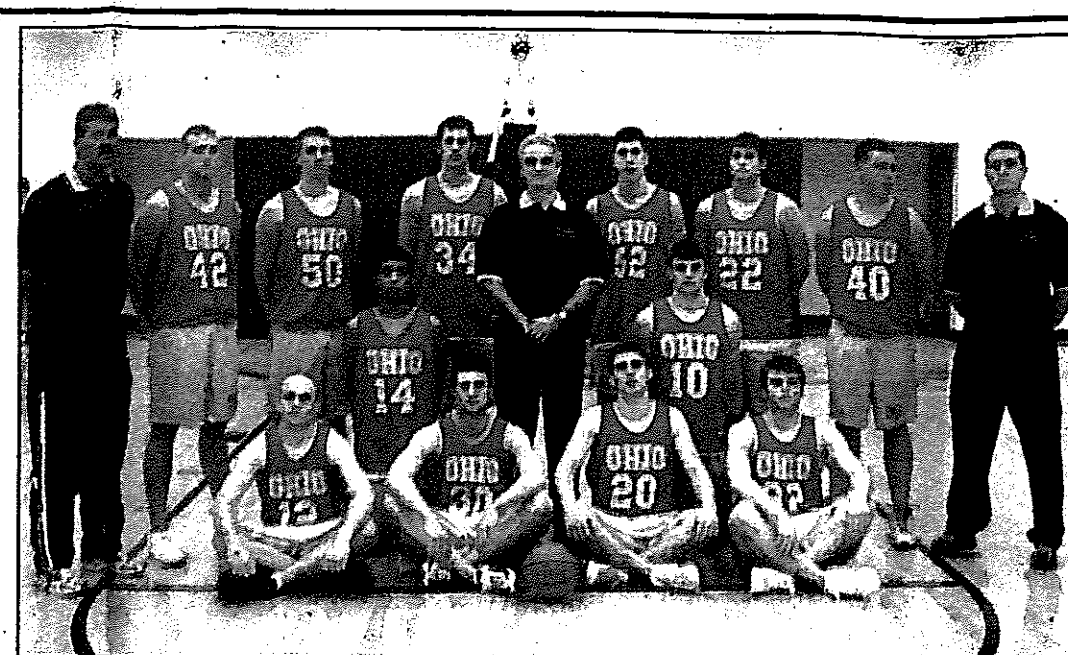
River's Kellen Kish capped a strong prep career, averaging some 12.8 points a game. Beallsville's Greg Darby rounds out the roster for the Ohio. He finished his prep career, averaging 13.3 points per game.





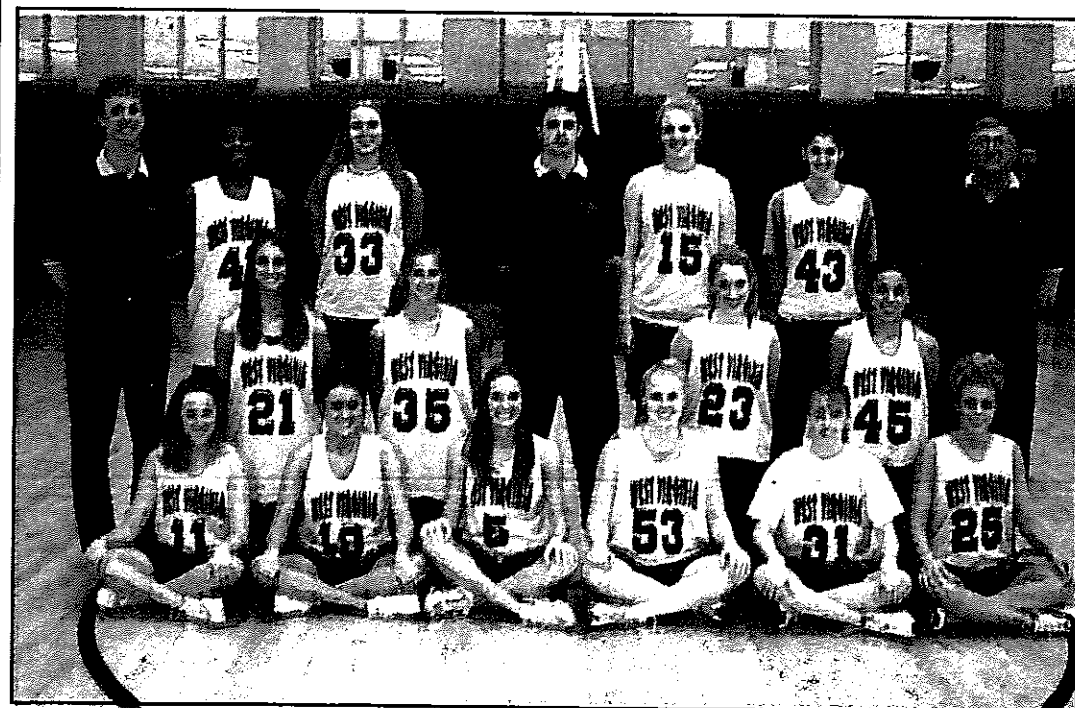
Jeff Harrison/The Daily Jeffersonian

The Ohio girls' squad for the Sam Mumley/OVAC All-Star Basketball Classic slated Saturday, April 3 at Ohio University Eastern includes, front row l to r, Shannon Leasure of Shenandoah, Leah Snyder of Edison, Breezy Nelson of East Liverpool, Amy Hines of Barnesville, Ashley Schafer of Caldwell and Katelyn Falbo of Shadyside; second row, Ashley Sawon of Steubenville Catholic; Mariah Hulsey of River, Charity Street of Beallsville and Jenna Ehni of St. John Central; third row, assistant coach Angie Hicks of Buckeye Local, Kristen King of Buckeye Local, Erin Heidelbach of St. Clairsville, head coach Tom Tisher of River, Nicole Anderson of Barnesville, Krista Kinney of Union Local and assistant coach Kim Appolloni of Martins Ferry. Absent were Amy Bruney of Martins Ferry and Rachel McCoy of Beaver Local.



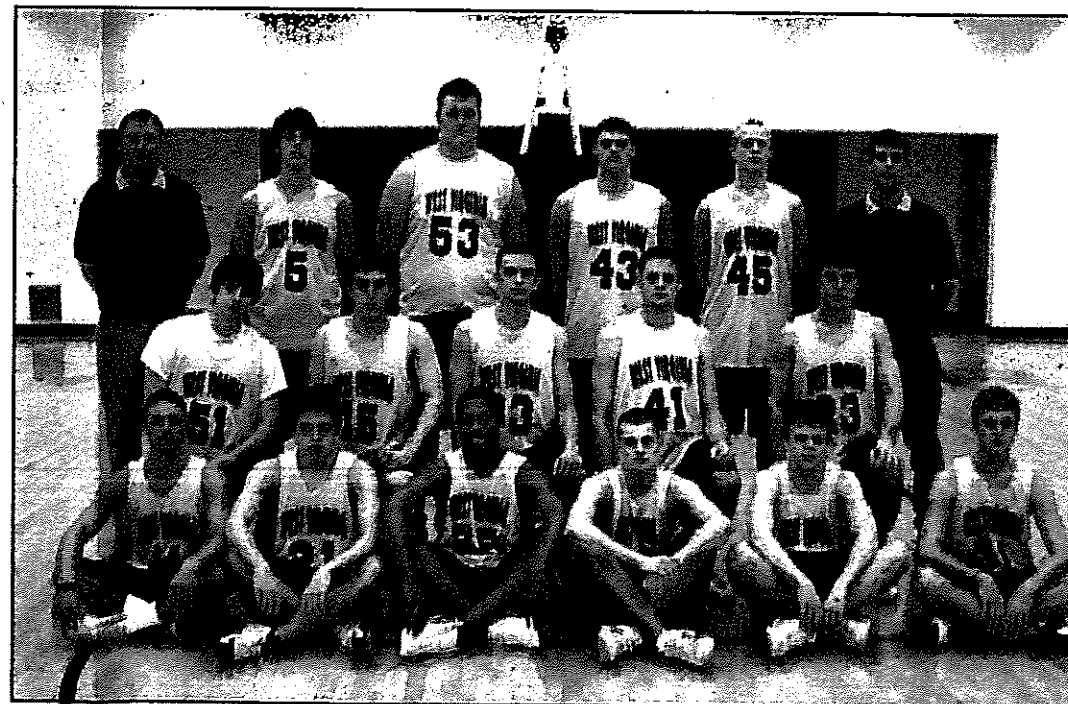
Jeff Harrison/The Daily Jeffersonian

The Ohio boys' team for the Sam Mumley/OVAC All-Star Basketball Classic slated Saturday, April 3 at Ohio University Eastern includes, front row l to r, Brock Huntsman of Barnesville, Pat Woods of Beaver Local, Jake Robinson of Beaver Local and Greg Darby of Beallsville; second row, Josh Carter of Bridgeport, head coach Kim Clifford of St. Clairsville and Andrew Mertz of St. Clairsville; third row, assistant coach Roger Kirkpatrick of Frontier, Ryan Thompson of Meadowbrook, Kenny Robinson of Monroe Central, Tyler Felt of Cambridge, Matt Ianzito of St. John Central, Kellen Kish of River, Joe Chandler of Caldwell and assistant coach Ben Porter of Barnesville. Absent were Scott Scales of East Liverpool, Zac Thomas of Toronto and Sam Rutherford of Frontier.



Jeff Harrison/The Daily Jeffersonian

The West Virginia girls' team for the Sam Mumley/OVAC All-Star Basketball Classic at Ohio University Eastern includes, front row l to r, Chelsie Reid of Cameron, Stephanie Glover of Weirton Madonna, Marcy Maple of Oak Glen, Amy Sampson of Wheeling Park, Ashley Neal of Linsly and Amanda Wodusky of Wheeling Central; second row, Brittany Padlow of John Marshall, Shannon Herron of Oak Glen, Katie Stumpp of Wheeling Central and Chevon Robertson of Wheeling Park; third row, assistant coach Penn Kurtz of Wheeling Central, Brittany Snyder of Oak Glen, Amanda Allison of Cameron, head coach Chad Clutter of Cameron, Nikki Zarnoch of John Marshall, Kristen Sheelhood of Magnolia and assistant coach Stan Bunker of John Marshall. Absent were Alice Jamen and Mirna Aronen of Mount de Chantal.



Jeff Harrison/The Daily Jeffersonian

The West Virginia boys' team for the Sam Mumley/OVAC All-Star Basketball Classic includes, front row l to r, Brad Kouski of Wheeling Park, Scott Surface of Paden City, Keith Hazel of Weir, Jared Gamble of Oak Glen, John Bonar of John Marshall and Adam Ferro of John Marshall; second row, Paul McCormick of Wheeling Central, Jonathan Kemp of Magnolia, Matt Blair of Weirton Madonna, Ricky Sandreth of Brooke and Ted Talkington of Magnolia; third row, assistant coach Dave Tallman of Magnolia, Chris Banal of Linsly, Brian McCulley of Bishop Donahue, Matt Wright of Tyler Consolidated, Luke Samples of Oak Glen and head coach Dave Smith of Oak Glen. Absent was assistant coach Jack Hart of Cameron.

Several players from the local area earned recognition on the Ohio Valley Athletic Conference all-star basketball teams announced today.

OVAC All-Star basketball teams announced

Several players from the local area earned recognition on the Ohio Valley Athletic Conference all-star basketball teams announced today.

First team honorees among the boys include Cambridge High senior Tyler Felt in Class 4-A and Barnesville High senior Brock Huntsman in Class 2-A. Girls' first team honorees locally include senior Shannon Leasure of Shenandoah and senior Nicole Anderson of Barnesville in Class 2-A.

Area players gaining second team recognition include senior Ryan Thompson of Meadowbrook in Class 3-A and senior Joe Chandler of Caldwell in Class 2-A for the boys while girls' second team berths were awarded to Cambridge senior Jessica Lynn in Class 4-A along with Barnesville senior Amy Hines and Caldwell senior Ashley Schafer in Class 2-A.

Local boys' honorable mention picks are senior Brian Gognat of Cambridge in Class 4-A; junior Brad Mitchell of Meadowbrook in Class 3-A; Buckeye Trail senior Bryan Bates, junior Aaron Carpenter and junior Shane Stephens, Shenandoah senior Eric McVicker and Caldwell senior Jason Shaw in Class 2-A.

Girls from the area gaining honorable mention include sophomore Lacy Baker and junior Sam Lilienthal of Cambridge in Class 4-A; sophomores Katie Lee and Jen Woodby and freshman Lauren Valentine of Meadowbrook in Class 3-A; juniors Kim Rose and Brittni Borrero and freshman Amy Kittle of Buckeye Trail, senior Kenzi Waite and freshman Molly Cruz of Shenandoah and senior Ramsey Miller of Barnesville.

On the boys' team, the four captains are Drake Aronhalt of Zanesville in Class 4-A; Ted Talkington of Magnolia in Class 3-A; Pat McCormick of Wheeling Central in Class 2-A; and Sam Rutherford of Frontier in Class 1-A.

For the girls, the captains are Liz Repella of Steubenville in Class 4-A; Amy Bruney of Martins Ferry in Class 3-A; Kayleen Fitzsimmons of Wheeling Central in Class 2-A; and Charity Street of Beallsville in Class 1-A.

Here's a look at the all-OVAC boys' and girls' all-star teams:

Boys Class 4-A First Team

Drake Aronhalt, Zanesville (captain), Sr.; Tyler Felt, Cambridge, Sr.; Brian Kreefer, East Liverpool, Jr.; Steven Repella, Steubenville, Sr.; Scott Scales, East Liverpool, Sr.

Second Team

Adam Ferro, John Marshall, Sr.; Chase Groves, Buckeye Local, Jr.; Keith Hazel, Weir, Sr.; Brad Kouski, Wheeling Park, Sr.; Jake Robinson, Beaver Local, Sr.; Eric Turner, Weir, Sr.; Pat Woods, Beaver Local, Sr.



Honorable Mention

Chris Baldauf, Brooke, Jr.; C.J. Bescec, Buckeye Local, Sr.; Johnny Bonar, John Marshall, Sr.; Brian Gognat, Cambridge, Sr.; Steve Mercer, Beaver Local, Jr.; Rick Sandreth, Brooke, Sr.; Corey Sweat, Edison, Sr.; Jamie Zeigler, Wheeling Park, Sr.

Class 3-A First Team

Ted Talkington, Magnolia (captain), Sr.; Aaron Agnew, Bellaire, Sr.; Nate Davis, Bellaire, So.; Andrew Mertz, St. Clairsville, Sr.; Luke Samples, Oak Glen, Sr.

Second Team

Ryan Church, Martins Ferry, Jr.; Jered Gamble, Oak Glen, Sr.; Ryan Thompson, Meadowbrook, Sr.; Matt Wright, Tyler Consolidated, Sr.

Honorable Mention

Richie Crowe, Indian Creek, Sr.; Ben Hodkinson, Harrison Central, Fr.; Todd Keenan, Indian Creek, Sr.; Jonner Kemp, Magnolia, Sr.; Dan Milleson, Harrison Central, So.; Scot Mirich, Martins Ferry, So.; Brad Mitchell, Meadowbrook, Jr.; Rich Oaklief, Union Local, Sr.; Bruce Palmer, Indian Creek, Jr.; Alex Rader, Magnolia, Sr.; A.J. Twardoski, St. Clairsville, Jr.

Class 2-A First Team

Paul McCormick, Wheeling Central (captain), Sr.; Brock Huntsman, Barnesville, Sr.; Kenny Robinson, Monroe Central, Sr.; Ryne Romick, River, Jr.; Zac Thomas, Toronto, Sr.

Second Team

Joe Chandler, Caldwell, Sr.; Kellen Kish, River, Sr.; Shaun McCordy, Fort Frye, Sr.; Bill McNicol, Wellsville, Jr.; Eric Novick, Wheeling Central, Jr.

Honorable Mention

Matt Anderson, Fort Frye, Sr.; Bryan Bates, Buckeye Trail, Sr.; Michael Bettinger, Caldwell, Jr.; Aaron Carpenter, Buckeye Trail, Jr.; Chad Daugherty, Toronto, Sr.; Jim Funow, Steubenville Catholic, Sr.; Colin Hudson, Barnesville, Jr.; D.L. Lawrence, Toronto, Jr.; Eric McVicker, Shenandoah, Sr.; Sam Miller, Monroe Central, Sr.; Tyler Morando, Wheeling Central, Jr.; Bojan Supurik, Steubenville Catholic, Jr.; Jason Shaw, Caldwell, Sr.; Shane Stephens, Buckeye Trail, Jr.; Derek Thompson, Wellsville, Jr.; Brady Walters, Fort Frye, Sr.

Class 1-A First Team

Sam Rutherford, Frontier (captain), Sr.; Chris Banal, Linsly, Sr.; Matt Blair, Weirton Madonna, Sr.; Matt Ianzito, St. John Central, Sr.; Steve Lukhardt, Shadyside, Jr.

Second Team

Jason Fazio, Bishop Donahue, Sr.; Eric Leggett, Conotton Valley, Sr.; Dann Lutes, Frontier, Jr.; Brian McCulley, Bishop Donahue, Sr.; Casey Tolzda, Beallsville, Jr.

Honorable Mention

Josh Carter, Bridgeport, Sr.; Erik Cwalinski, Shadyside, Jr.; Greg Darby, Beallsville, Sr.; J.J. Guida, Weirton Madonna, Sr.; Tim Hammel, Paden City, Sr.; Lee McCune, Weirton Madonna, So.; Seth

third row, assistant coach Dave Tallman of Magnolia, Chris Banal of Linsly, Brian McCulley of Bishop Donahue, Matt Wright of Tyler Consolidated, Luke Samples of Oak Glen and head coach Dave Smith of Oak Glen. Absent was assistant coach Jack Hart of Cameron.

Sam Mumley/OVAC All-Star Basketball Game set Saturday

The annual Samuel A. Mumley/OVAC All-Star Basketball Classic is slated for Saturday, April 3 at the Ney Center on the campus of Ohio University Eastern.

The first game will feature the Ohio vs. West Virginia girls' matchup at 1 p.m. while the boys' contest is set for a 3:15 p.m. tip-off. There will also be a three-point shootout for the girls and a slam dunk contest for the boys at halftime of their respective games.

Several special awards will be presented,

including Dick Pannett of Brooke as the recipient of the Earl Haberfield Boys' Basketball Coaches Award; Tom Tisher of River as the Rich Saffield Girls' Basketball Coaches Award winner; Pat Duffy of Wheeling as the Robert Dawson Basketball Officials' Award winner; and Les Criswell of John Marshall as the Thomas E. Rataiczak Scorekeeper/Timer Award winner.

The day's activities begin at 10 a.m. with an All-Star Brunch at Undo's Restaurant in St. Clairsville.

Murphy, Frontier, Sr.; Brian Nardo, St. John Central, Sr.; Derrick Sadlowski, Shadyside, Sr.; Scott Surface, Paden City, Sr.; Zac Tolzda, Beallsville, Fr.

Girls

Class 4-A First Team

Liz Repella, Steubenville (captain), Fr.; Maggie Gompers, Wheeling Park, So.; Kristen King, Buckeye Local, Sr.; Jaimie Merinar, John Marshall, So.; Brittany Snyder, Weir, Sr.

Second Team

Allison Lawyer, Zanesville, Jr.; Jessica Lynn, Cambridge, Sr.; Maddie McGarvey, Zanesville, So.; Breezy Nelson, East Liverpool, Sr.; Chevon Robertson, Wheeling Park, Sr.; Nichole Zarnoch, John Marshall, Sr.

Honorable Mention

Jennifer Angler, Zanesville, Sr.; Laci Baker, Cambridge, So.; Amy Bullock, Brooke, Jr.; Rochelle Byers, Weir, So.; Liz Connor, East Liverpool, Sr.; Missy Evans, Edison, Sr.; Lauren Flood, Edison, Jr.; Melissa Henry, Weir, So.; Michaelene Jones, Steubenville, Jr.; Jamie Koher, Brooke, So.; Sam Lilienthal, Cambridge, Jr.; Rachael McCoy, Beaver Local, Sr.; Chantell Nevels, Wheeling Park, So.; Brittany Padlow, John Marshall, Sr.; Karly Saccoccia, Steubenville, Jr.; Leah Snyder, Edison, Sr.

Class 3-A First Team

Amy Bruney, Martins Ferry (captain), Sr.; Katie Blatt, Magnolia, Jr.; Erin Heidelbach, St. Clairsville, Sr.; Emily Miller, Union Local, Jr.; Allison Rothlisberger, Magnolia, Jr.

Second Team

Leigh Ann Hobbs, Oak Glen, Jr.; Krista Kinney, Union Local, Sr.; Ashley McSweeney, Magnolia, So.; Aimee Riethmiller, Martins Ferry, So.; Aimee Vavrek, Bellaire, Sr.; Ashley Vavrek, Bellaire, So.

Honorable Mention

Katie Lee, Meadowbrook, So.; Lauren Valentine, Meadowbrook, Fr.; Jen Woodby, Meadowbrook, So.; Kerri Ferguson, Indian Creek, Sr.; Kristin Ferguson, Indian Creek, Sr.; Brenna Hagerty, Tyler Consolidated, Jr.; Jenna Heaton, Harrison Central, So.; Shannon Herron, Oak Glen, Sr.; Julia Hodkinson, Harrison Central, Jr.; Marcy Maple, Oak

Glen, Sr.; Lyncee Perkey, Tyler Consolidated, Jr.; Kelly Polen, St. Clairsville, So.

Class 2-A First Team

Kayleen Fitzsimmons, Wheeling Central (captain), Jr.; Nicole Anderson, Barnesville, Sr.; Shannon Leasure, Shenandoah, Sr.; Mariah Hulsey, River, Sr.; Ashley Sawon, Steubenville Catholic, Sr.

Second Team

Amy Hines, Barnesville, Sr.; Ashley Schafer, Caldwell, Sr.; Kellee Isaly, River, Sr.; Mallory Moore, Toronto, Jr.; Kylie Wise, Wheeling Central, Sr.

Honorable Mention

Brittni Borrero, Buckeye Trail, Jr.; Amy Kittle, Buckeye Trail, Buckeye Trail, Fr.; Kim Rose, Buckeye Trail, Jr.; Kenzi Waite, Shenandoah, Sr.; Molly Cruz, Shenandoah, Fr.; Ramsey Miller, Barnesville, Sr.; Kaleena Allen, Fort Frye, Sr.; Melody Allison, Wellsville, Sr.; Sarah Huck, Fort Frye, So.; Krista Huffman, Monroe Central, Sr.; Michelle Kerr, Wellsville, Sr.; Abby Nolan, Fort Frye, So.; Jasmine Richardson, Wellsville, Fr.; Katie Stumpp, Wheeling Central, Sr.; Miranda Wiley, Monroe Central, Sr.

Class 1-A First Team

Charity Street, Beallsville (captain), Sr.; Amanda Allison, Cameron, Sr.; Jena Ehni, St. John Central, Sr.; Brittany Hocker, Bridgeport, Sr.; Shayla Holenka, Shadyside, Jr.

Second Team

Breanna Burkhardt, Shadyside, So.; Katelyn Falbo, Shadyside, Sr.; Stephanie Glover, Weirton Madonna, Sr.; Alice Jamen, Mount de Chantal, Sr.; Ashley Neal, Linsly School, Sr.; Carrie Stalder, Beallsville, Sr.

Honorable Mention

Minna Aizonen, Mount de Chantal, Sr.; Natalie Bonomo, St. John Central, Sr.; Lara Brunoni, Frontier, Jr.; Maggie Brunoni, Frontier, Fr.; Erin Harding, Bridgeport, Sr.; Jen Hill, Bishop Donahue, So.; Jessie Miller, Paden City, Jr.; Dana Mroczkowski, Bridgeport, Jr.; Jesse Natali, Paden City, Sr.; Chelsie Reid, Cameron, Sr.; Lauren Rinard, Frontier, Sr.; Leann Schumacher, Beallsville, Sr.; Britta Strobe, Cameron, Sr.

Duffy Will Get Official Honor

Wheeling resident in line for Dawson award

By NICK BEDWAY
Executive Sports Editor

Wheeling resident Pat Duffy, former board president and an Ohio Valley Board of Basketball Officials member for 23 years, has been selected to receive a prestigious award.

Tom Bechtel, game director for this year's Samuel A. Mumley OVAC Basketball Classic, said that Duffy will be presented the Robert Dawson Basketball Officials Award.

"Pat Duffy was one of the great guys in high school officiating. He achieved the highest levels as far as working in Ohio and West Virginia," Bechtel said.

"He is still giving back to the game of basketball by serving as an intrepeter in the OVAC and the state of West Virginia."

Duffy will be on hand to accept the award during the Mumley Classic to be held Saturday, April 3 at Ohio University-Eastern's Ney Center.

"I look at this award as quite an honor," said Duffy.

"Officiating opened many doors for me. I had the opportunity to meet and work with some great people."

Pat, one of nine children, is the second member of his family to be selected for the Dawson Award. His brother, Ed Duffy, was the 2003 recipient. Two other brothers, Tom and Joe Duffy, were also Ohio Valley sports officials.

Along with Pat and Ed Duffy, the list of Dawson Award recipients is quite impressive. It represents a "Who's Who" of Ohio Valley basketball referees.

The Dawson Award was first presented in 1989 when it was awarded to A. Wilson Murray, an officiating legend and former secretary of the Ohio Valley Board of Approved Basketball Officials.

Others, cut from the same officiating cloth, included: Evan Reese (1990), John "Streaky" Haloszka (1991); Earl Klevins (1992); Charles "Arlie" Keith (1993); Albert M. Cerullo (1994); John Hollister (1995); Dave "Peck" Peil (1996); Chester Grossi (1997); Walter Heil (1998); Bill Paolisso (1999); Duane Powell (2000); Bill Waller (2001) and Jack Prettyman (2002).

"I was fortunate and blessed to have started my officiating career under the wing of many of those previous award winners," Pat Duffy said. "The late George McCulley also gave me a great boost along the way. He was one of my supporters and closest friends."

Duffy joined the Ohio Valley

Board in 1963 and served as its president three times and was a member of the executive board for nine years.

He was selected to officiate sectionals, district and regional tournaments in West Virginia and Ohio numerous times.

In 1979, Duffy said he was chosen as the first area West Virginia resident to work the Ohio state high school tournament at St.

John Arena in Columbus. He was assigned the state final, which matched two undefeated teams, Cincinnati Country Day and St. Henry.

Pat officiated in four West Virginia state boys' tournaments, where he was selected to blow the whistle in three Class AAA championship games.

Duffy, always known as a cool official on the court, admitted having a case of the nerves once early in his career. "I was in my second year of officiating and working JV ball when Wilson Murray asked me to work with him in the championship game of the St. Vincent's tournament," Pat related.

"In those days, some of the greatest college players from across the country were brought in to play. I was so nervous I couldn't sleep the night before the game. But the experience was a good one for me."

Duffy was a 1957 graduate of Wheeling Central, where he played football and basketball. He was one of the standouts on the Maroon Knights' 1956 basketball team that won the West Virginia Catholic state tournament. Several years later, he was named an official for that event.

After high school, he was hired by the Columbia Gas Company, where he spent the next 42 years before retiring in 2000.

Although Duffy has not officiated for many years, he has remained active as a state and OVAC observer. He previously was commissioner of the Wheeling Parochial League — a post he held for 30 years.

Duffy is married to the former Jane Ann Termin of Moundsville. They have a 3-year-old son, Patrick. He has two children by a previous marriage. Son Shawn Duffy is now an attorney while daughter Erin graduated from Yale University and is now the director of a pharmaceutical company.



Duffy

Duffy wins Dawson Award

FOR THE TIMES LEADER

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(1994); John Hollister (1995); Dave "Peck" Peil (1996); Chester Grossi (1997); Walter Heil (1998); Bill Paolisso (1999); Duane Powell (2000); Bill Waller (2001) and Jack Prettyman (2002).

"I was fortunate and blessed to have started my officiating career under the wing of many of those previous award winners," Pat Duffy said. "The late George McCulley also gave me a great boost along the way. He was one of my supporters and closest friends."

Duffy joined the Ohio Valley Board in 1963 and served as its president three times and was a member of the executive board for nine years.

He was selected to officiate sectionals, district and regional tournaments in West Virginia and Ohio numerous times during his career.



Nick's Notebook

By NICK BEDWAY

The Ohio Valley Athletic Conference made a wise decision recently with the appointment of Tom Bechtel as director for the 13th annual Samuel Mumley OVAC Basketball Classic.

This year's Ohio-West Virginia boys and girls basketball all-star games are scheduled for Saturday, April 3, at Ohio University Eastern's Ney Center.

Bechtel agreed to step in and take over the duties handled very well the past three years by John Stanko, a former coach and a teacher at Shadyside High School.

Stanko certainly deserves the thanks of the media along with all the players and coaches who participated in the Mumley Classic during his reign.

I can't think of any one with better knowledge about how to put on such an important Ohio Valley sports event than our good buddy, "Bear" Bechtel.

Wheeling's City Recreation Director for 30 years, Tom has done a superb job of setting up programs to benefit the youth of our town.

The city's youth girls' softball programs are second to none in this area. This June, will mark the 14th year that Bechtel has served as director of the Boys' Basketball Shootout, which brings in teams from a multi-state area. Also this summer, the Girls' Shootout will be held for the 11th time.

This writer couldn't even begin to list the many other services the former Wheeling Central Catholic and Wheeling Jesuit University athlete has provided the youth from the entire Ohio Valley.

Bechtel also serves as the OVAC softball director and he has been a football official for 26 years. He is in his 30th year as a member of the Ohio Valley Board of Approved Basketball Officials.

Although Tom hasn't officiated a boys or girls high school varsity basketball game for the last 17 years, there have been seasons when he's worked close to a 100 parochial, grade school, middle school and junior high games.

Whenever a school needed an official, Bechtel would willingly fill in, often at a moment's notice.

Although Tom has experienced heart problems in recent years, he has continued to work at a near breakneck pace.

His lifelong friendship with Bellaire High boys' basketball coach Gene Ammirante, who helped revive the OVAC all-star hoop games, was among the reasons he has taken on duties for the Mumley Classic.

"The all-star games are good for the Ohio Valley," Bechtel said.

"When you think about it, not every kid in the Mumley Classic will be going on to play college basketball. For many of them, it will be the last organized game they will ever have the opportunity to play.

"We want to continue to make it an worthwhile experience they can remember for the rest of their lives," Bechtel added.

He has been involved in past Mumley Classics, including providing his services as "color" commentator for the live telecasts of the Ohio-West Virginia contests the past five years. Sadly, the all-star games won't be telecast this year.

Bechtel's decision to become game director was also made easier when his long-time assistant at the rec department in Wheeling, Barb Janetski, agreed to serve as the secretary for the Mumley Classic.

Currently, the game committee is busily putting the final touches on the players' roster.

The selection meeting of all the OVAC coaches has already been held and the committee is now receiving confirmation from the players.

Announcements of the all-star squads and coaches will be handled differently this year. Each week, one of the teams and coaching staff members will be released in the *Sunday News-Register* beginning on March 7.

See, Notebook, Page B5

IN FOCUS

Bechtel eyes new challenge



By BUBBA KAPRAL
T-L Executive Sports Editor

Tom Bechtel and Ohio Valley sports are synonymous.

The personable Wheeling native has his hands involved in a myriad of athletic endeavors.

He is the City of Wheeling's recreation director...a position in which he does a tremendous job of getting thousands of area youths and adults involved in a countless number of programs, leagues and activities.

Bechtel is also one of the premier football, basketball and baseball/softball officials in the area. He is the OVAC's softball commissioner. Bechtel is also the director of the Wheeling Basketball Shootouts, which attract boys and girls teams from some five states.

"Bear," as he is known to his friends, also has been known to to radio and television color work.

Bechtel, 52, definitely has a full plate.

The adage goes: When you want something done, you give it to a busy man. Bechtel has just gotten a little busier.

Bechtel has taken on the duties of game director for the 13th Annual Samuel Mumley OVAC Basketball Classic. It a position he is well suited for and one in which he will flourish in.

He replaces John Stanko in that position. Stanko -- long-time successful basketball boss at Bishop Donahue and Shadyside high schools -- ran the classic for three years, proving the model of organization, cooperation and reliability.

Stanko's quality leadership placed the bar at a high level for Bechtel.

"We want to continue to make it a great experience that the players and coaches can remember for the rest of their lives," Bechtel said. "For many of the players it will be their final organized game, so we want to make it a positive experience.

"John has done a great job running the Mumley Basketball Classic and I hope to be able to follow in his footsteps," Bechtel said.

Stanko was also lavish in his praise for the classic as well as Bechtel.

"The game itself is a great opportunity for area high school athletes and coaches to showcase their skills one more time in a great setting. I appreciate the committee, coaches and players for their cooperation.

"Tom is a basketball junkie who I have known for 30 years. His work and training with the rec department will prepare him greatly as Mumley game director," Stanko said. "Tom will do a great job in the role. It is a great fit.

"I enjoyed my association with the game. I had great help from the committee and coaches as well as Gina Magistro Chirpas, who served as my program director," said Stanko, who led Bishop Donahue to a state title before matriculating to Shadyside. "I would also like to thank OUE for providing the

"I enjoyed my association with the game. I had great help from the committee and coaches as well as Gina Magistro Chirpas, who served as my program director," said Stanko, who led Bishop Donahue to a state title before matriculating to Shadyside. "I would also like to thank OUE for providing the game with a first class venue. It is a great experience for everyone involved."

Bechtel -- in his 30th year as Wheeling's recreation director -- has been a football official for 26 years and has served as a member of the Ohio Valley Board of Approved Basketball Officials for some 30 years.

"I am honored..... they have had good directors in the history of the Classic," Bechtel said.

See, BECHTEL, Page C3

● Bechtel

Continued from Page C1

"Gene Ammirante and I have been best of friends since seventh graders and when he said they needed someone, I couldn't say no.

"I know all the coaches, so I wasn't hesitant to accept the challenge," Bechtel said. "Barb Janetski -- my secretary for 30 years -- has agreed to serve as my secretary for the game which will make it much easier. I am looking forward to it."

NOTEBOOK

Continued from page B1

Several special awards are to be presented during the Mumley Classic on Saturday, April 3. Included are the Tom E. Rataiczak Scorekeepers/Timekeepers Award; the Robert Dawson Officials' Award; Earl Haberfield OVAC Boys' Basketball Coaches Award; and the Richard Saffield Girls' Basketball Coaches Award.

OVAC releases 2004 boys, girls hoops all stars

The 2003-04 All-OVAC boys and girls basketball teams have been announced and several area players earned spots on the first teams.

On the boys side, Linsly's Chris Banal, St. John Central's Matt Ianzito and Shadyside's Steve Luckhardt were all first team selections in Class 1-A. The captain is Frontier's Sam Rutherford.

In Class 2-A, Barnesville's Brock Huntsman, Monroe Central's Kenny Robinson and River's Ryne Romick were among five players on the first team. Wheeling Central's Paul McCormick is the captain.

The Class 3-A team is stacked with the Bellaire duo of Nate Davis and Aaron Agnew, along with St. Clairsville's Andrew Mertz. Magnolia's Ted Talkington is the captain.

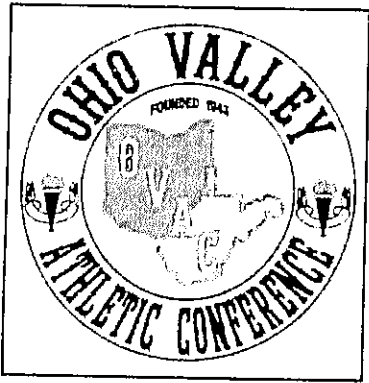
In 4-A, Zanesville's Drake Aronhalt is the captain.

On the girls side, Beallsville's Charity Street serves as the captain of the Class 1-A squad. Bridgeport's Brittany Hocker, St. John Central's Jena Ehni and Shadyside's Shayla Holenka join her on the team.

In 2-A, Barnesville's Nicole Anderson and River's Mariah Hulsey are among the first team picks. Wheeling Central's Kayleen Fitzsimmons is the captain.

In 3-A, Martins Ferry's Amy Bruney is the captain. She is joined by St. Clairsville's Erin Heidelbach and Union Local's Emily Miller on the first team.

In 4-A, Buckeye Local's Kristen King is a first-team member. Steubenville's Liz Repella is the captain.



Twardoski (St. Clairsville)
CLASS AAAA

FIRST TEAM
Drake Aronhalt* (Zanesville), Tyler Felt (Cambridge), Brian Koefler (East Liverpool), Steve Repella (Steubenville) and Scott Scales (East Liverpool).

SECOND TEAM
Adam Fetto (John Marshall), Chase Groves (Buckeye Local), Keith Hazel (Weirton), Brad Kouski (Wheeling Park), Jake Robinson (Beaver Local), Eric Turner (Weirton) and Pat Woods (Beaver Local).

HONORABLE MENTION
Chris Baldauf (Brooke), C.J. Bescec (Buckeye Local), Johnny Bonar (John Marshall), Brad Goddard (John Marshall), Brian Gognat (Cambridge), Steve Mercer (Beaver Local), Rick Sandreth (Brooke), Corey Sweat (Edison) and Jamie Ziegler (Wheeling Park).

GIRLS CLASS A

FIRST TEAM
Brittany Hocker (Bridgeport), Jena Ehni (St. John Central), Amanda Allison (Cameron), Shayla Holenka (Shadyside) and Charity Street* (Beallsville).

SECOND TEAM
Breanna Burkhardt (Shadyside), Katelyn Falbo (Shadyside), Stephanie Glover (Weirton Madonna), Alice Jamen (Mt. deChantal), Ashley Neal (Linsly) and Carrie Stalder (Beallsville).

HONORABLE MENTION
Milina Alzonon (Mt. deChantal), Natalie Bonomo (St. John Central), Lara Brunoni (Frontier), Maggie Brunoni (Frontier), Erin Harding (Bridgeport), Jen Hill (Bishop Donahue), Jesse Miller (Paden City), Dana Mrzezowski (Bridgeport), Jesse Natali (Paden City), Chelsie Reid (Cameron), Lauren Rinard (Frontier), Leann Schumacher (Beallsville), Britta Stroppe (Cameron).

CLASS AA

FIRST TEAM
Nicola Anderson (Barnesville), Kayleen Fitzsimmons* (Wheeling Central), Mariah Hulsey (River), Shannon Leasure (Shenandoah) and Ashley Sawon (Steubenville Central).

SECOND TEAM
Amy Hines (Barnesville), Kellee Isaly (River), Mallory Moore (Toronto), Ashley Schafer (Caldwell) and Kylie Wise (Wheeling Central).

HONORABLE MENTION
Katelyn Allen (Fort Frye), Melody Allison (Wellsville), Britni Borrero (Buckeye Trail), Molly Cruz (Shenandoah), Sarah Huck (Fort Frye), Krista Huffman (Monroe Central), Michelle Kerr (Wellsville), Amy Kittle (Buckeye Trail), Rainey Miller (Barnesville), Abby Nolan (Fort Frye), Jasmine Richardson (Wellsville), Kim Rose (Buckeye Trail), Katie Stump (Wheeling Central), Kenzi Waite (Shenandoah) and Miranda Wiley (Monroe Central).

CLASS AAA

FIRST TEAM
Katie Blatt (Magnolia), Amy Bruney* (Martins Ferry), Erin Heidelbach (St. Clairsville), Emily Miller (Union Local) and Allison Rothlisberger (Magnolia).

SECOND TEAM
Leigh Ann Hobbs (Oak Glen), Krista Kinney (Union Local), Ashley McSweeney (Magnolia), Aimee Reithmiller (Martins Ferry), Aimee Vavrek (Bellaire) and Ashley Vavrek (Bellaire).

HONORABLE MENTION
Keri Ferguson (Indian Creek), Kristen Ferguson (Indian Creek), Breanna Haggerty (Tyler Consolidated), Jenna Heaston (Harrison Central), Shannon Horron (Oak Glen), Julia Hodgkinson (Harrison Central), Katie Lee (Meadowbrook), Marcy Maple (Oak Glen), Lynce Perky (Tyler Consolidated), Kelly Polen (St. Clairsville), Lauren Valentine (Meadowbrook) and Jen Woodby (Meadowbrook).

CLASS AAAA

FIRST TEAM
Maggie Gompers (Wheeling Park), Kristen King (Buckeye Local), Jamie Marlar (John Marshall), Liz Repella* (Steubenville) and Brittany Snyder (Weirton).

SECOND TEAM
Allison Lawyer (Zanesville), Jessica Lynn (Cambridge), Maddie McGarvey (Zanesville), Breezy Nelson (East Liverpool), Chevon Robertson (Wheeling Park) and Nicole Zarnoch (John Marshall).

HONORABLE MENTION
Jennifer Angler (Zanesville), Laci Baker (Cambridge), Amy Bullock (Brooke), Rachelle Byers (Weirton), Liz Connor (East Liverpool), Missy Evans (Edison), Lauren Flood (Edison), Melissa Henry (Weirton), Michaelene Jones (Steubenville), Jamie Kocher (Brooke), Sam Lillianthal (Cambridge), Rachel McCoy (Beaver Local), Chantell Nevels (Wheeling Park), Brittany Padlow (John Marshall), Karli Saccoccia (Steubenville) and Leah Snyder (Edison).

* Denotes Captain

HIGH SCHOOL BASKETBALL

Clifford to Lead Ohio All-Stars

Buckeye squad released for OVAC All-Star basketball tilt

From Staff Reports

St. Clairsville's Kim Clifford will lead the Ohio boys team into April 3's Ohio Valley Athletic Conference Sam Mumley All-Star Basketball Classic.

The Ohio roster features 15 of the top players from the conference.

Clifford led his Red Devils to a strong 16-5 mark this past season.

"Coaching in these games is fun because you get to be around all of the players you coached against through the season," Clifford said.

"These kids have all proved they deserve to be here, so we just have to find the right combination of guys to play."

This assignment marks the second time Clifford has been selected as the head coach.

He was the head man at Cadiz the previous time he was picked. He has also served as an assistant.

The Ohio roster features a little bit of everything, including size, quickness and most importantly in all-star games scoring punch.

"I really like the way this team is put together," Clifford said. "I there is a lot of balance because we aren't heavy in guards or big men, so that will make it easier to put groups together."

As is the case for most coaches in all-star games, playing time is the toughest thing to determine.

"All of these players deserve equal playing time," the Devils' boss relayed.

"These guys didn't have to try out, so they have already proven they can play, but if it gets late in a game we are going to put the group that gives us the best chance to win out there."

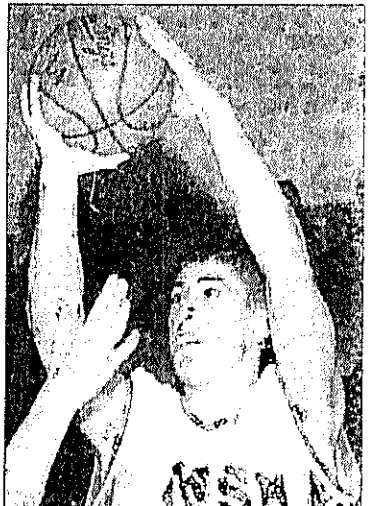
Clifford and his staff, which consists of Barnesville's Ben Porter and Frontier's Roger Kirkpatrick expect just two things from their players.

"We're just going to try to emphasize the fact that they need to share the ball and play as hard as they can," Clifford offered. "Some of these guys won't probably be in that good of shape, but we still have to play some defense."

The Buckeyes feature several



Josh Carter



Matt Ianzito

of the Ohio Valley's premier scorers.

St. Clairsville's Andrew Mertz (6-2) was the valley's third-leading scorer at 24.3 points per game. He was an all-Eastern District pick.

Frontier's Samuel Rutherford (5-11) was the second-leading scorer in the small-school ranks, netting 21.9 points an outing.

Beaver Local's Jake Robinson (6-0) enjoyed a superb season for the Lisbon-based school. He tallied some 22 points a night and was selected as an all-Eastern District pick.

Robinson's inside running-mate Pat Woods (6-5) donated 14 points a night for Coach Mike Clutter's team.

St. John Central's Matt Ianzito (6-3) earned one of the Class 1-A automatic bids thanks to a season in which he poured in 18.7 points a night.

Toronto's Zac Thomas (6-5) slashed his way to a strong season for the Red Knights.

He helped lead his team to the district tournament thanks to a 18.6 points per game scoring clip.

One of the Ohio Valley's premier point guards will be running the show for the Buckeyes. Ultra-quick Scott Scales (5-10) - of East Liverpool - was named to the team after scoring some 15 points a night for Coach Nick Aloi's team.

Versatile Meadowbrook forward Ryan Thompson (6-3) was named to the team after a fine campaign. He scored some 17.4

points a night and was also selected as an all-district pick.

Cambridge's Tyler Felt (6-6) figures to be one of the players in good shape after he helped lead the Bobcats to the Division II regional tournament.

Felt - who scored a shade under 20 points a game - will continue his basketball career at Findlay.

Athletic Bridgeport guard Josh Carter was named to the team. He led the Bulldogs in almost every statistical category, including scoring where he ripped off 14.5 points a game.

Barnesville's Brock Huntsman - who was a tireless defender and floor leader - will be suiting up for the Scarlet and Grey. He scored a shade under 10 points a game for Porter's team.

Caldwell forward Joe Chandler was named to the team. He helped guide the Redskins to the district tournament where they eventually fell to Hiland.

Chandler netted 14 points a game for Coach Terry Rowe's team.

Monroe Central's Kenny Robinson enjoyed a strong season for Coach Greg Taylor's Seminoles. He scored 16.3 points per game this past winter.

River's Kellen Kish capped a strong prep career, averaging some 12.8 points a game.

Beallsville's Greg Darby rounds out the roster for the Ohio. He finished his prep career, averaging 13.3 points per game.

OVAC names Ohio girls

By **SETH STASKEY**
Times Leader Sports Writer

The female basketball stars of the Ohio Valley will be shining brightly April 3.

The Samuel A. Mumley OVAC All Star Basketball Game will be staged at the Robert W. Ney Center on the campus of Ohio University Eastern.

The coaching staff and roster for the Lady Buckeyes was released today to local media by game director Tom Bechtel.

River High head coach Tom Tisher was selected for the third time to guide the Ohio squad. He will be assisted by Martins Ferry's Kim Traversa-Appolloni and Buckeye Local's Angela Hicks.

"I am really honored to be selected to coach in this game," Tisher said. "I am looking forward to getting to work with such talented players and coaches."

The Ohio roster features size, quickness, scoring punch and intangibles.

"I think the (coaches) did a nice job of picking the players," Tisher said. "Everyone on this team is an all-star, so it's going to be up to us as a coaching staff to make sure we get everyone to gel."

The Lady Buckeye squad is headlined by Division IV Eastern District Player of the Year Charity Street who led the Ohio Valley small schools with a 23.5 points per game average.

Shenandoah's Shannon Leasure will also provide scoring punch. She checked in with a 23.2 average this past season for the Lady Zeps.

Buckeye Local's all-time leading girls scorer was named to the squad. Kristen King -- who poured in 21.8 points a night this past winter -- will be one of the swing players on the Lady Bucks' roster.

The two-headed Barnesville monster of Nicole Anderson and Amy Hines were both selected. Barnesville was the only school with two representatives selected.

Anderson -- who was a force on the inside -- scored 21.2 points a night and snared 13 rebounds a game.

Hines, meanwhile, averaged 18.9 points and moved into sec-

See, **OVAC**, Page C3

Ohio All-Stars



Photo by Alex Kozlowski

Members of the Ohio Girls OVAC All-Star team are front row, from left: Shannon Leasure, Leah Snyder, Breezy Nelson, Amy Hines, Ashley Schafer, and Katelyn Falbo. Second row: Ashly Sawon, Mariah Hulsey, Charity Street, and Jenna Ehni. Back row: Assistant coach Angela Hicks, Kristen King, Amy Bruney, head coach Tom Tisher, Nicole Anderson, Krista Kinney, and assistant coach Kim Appolloni.

● OVAC

Continued from Page C1

ond place on the all-time Barnesville scoring list -- behind her older sister, Jessica.

Caldwell's Ashley Schafer was named to the team after a senior season in which she tallied 15.1 points a game.

Union Local will be represented by center Krista Kinney. She enjoyed a fine 12th grade season, averaging 14.1 points and 10 rebounds a night.

St. Clairsville senior guard Erin Heidelberg was selected to the team. Heidelberg's status for the game is still up in the air after she injured her knee during the Lady Devils' district tournament game. During the season, she netted 14.9 points a game.

Martins Ferry's Amy Bruney -- a relentless defender and rebounder -- was named to the team after she tallied 13.8 points a night.

St. John Central's Jena Ehni earned a spot on the team after a season in which she netted 12.2 points and some nine rebounds a game.

Tisher will have one of his own players with him. Mariah Hulsey was selected to the team. She netted 14.1 points a game in helping the Lady Pilots to the OVAC 2-A title.

Steubenville Central's Ashley Sawon earned a spot on the team with a 14.6 points a game average. East Liverpool's Breezy Nelson earned a spot on the team after scoring some 15 points a game for the Lady Potters.

Edison's Leah Snyder was also picked to the team. She scored 12.1 points a game for the Lady Wildcats.

Shadyside's Katelyn Falbo was selected to the team. Falbo was a tireless defender for the Lady Tigers who advanced to the district final again this season.

Beaver Local's Rachel McCoy was also selected to the team.

"We want to get a lot of people involved in the game," Tisher said. "We hope we represent Ohio well. This is a great opportunity for the kids and we are hoping that everyone gets into the spirit of the game."

The West Virginia girls' squad will be announced next week, followed by the Ohio boys and West Virginia boys, respectively.

WHEELING INTELLIGENCER -- Wheeling, W.Va. -- Tuesday, March 23, 2004

OVAC All-Stars Prep for Classic

Conference holds hoops media night

By **RICK THORP**
Staff Writer

There were plenty of smiles to go around Monday night as the participants for the Ohio Valley Athletic Conference Sam Mumley All-Star Basketball Classic gathered for the first time at Ohio University Eastern's Ney Center.

Players chatted with players and coaches talked strategy with other coaches as the boys' and girls' squads from West Virginia and Ohio received their game jerseys and posed for team photos during the game's Media Night festivities.

The contest is slated for Saturday, April 3 at the Ney Center.

While winning the game is a goal of the players and coaches involved in the annual event, having fun seems to be the most important objective.

"We're going to make sure this is a memorable experience for the kids, the coaches and myself," said River's Tom Tisher, who is leading the Ohio girls for the second time and is coaching in the game for the third time.

"The OVAC really does a nice job with this," Tisher added. "We want to make sure we give a good show."

"We're going to play hard when we're on the floor and we hope to practice hard, but we're going to have a good time I can guarantee you that."

Who can blame Tisher for being excited with a roster that includes a number of all-state and all-district honorees?

Tisher's roster includes Barnesville's Nicole Anderson and Amy Hines, Martins Ferry's Amy Bruney, Bellaire St. John's Jena Ehni, Shadyside's Katelyn Falbo and the Pilot's Mariah Hulsey.

Also on the Ohio roster are Buckeye Local's Kristen King, Union Local's Krista Kinney, Shenandoah's Shannon Leasure, Beaver Local's Rachel McCoy, East Liverpool's Breezy Nelson, Steubenville Catholic's Ashley Sawon, Caldwell's Ashley Schafer, Edison's Leah Snyder

and Beallsville's Charity Street. St. Clairsville's Erin Heidelberg was selected to play, but will not participate due to injury.

Street, the Blue Devils' all-time leading scorer, said playing in the game is a dream come true.

"It's a really big honor," she said. "I've watched it for about three or four years now and I've always wanted to play in it."

Tisher will be assisted by Kim Appolloni of Martins Ferry and Angela Hicks of Buckeye Local.

While Tisher is a veteran of the all-star tilt, Cameron's Chad Clutter will be leading the Mountaineer ladies for the first time.

"I've only been at Cameron for two years, so I'm pretty excited and very honored that the coaches selected me for this."

While his Dragons had some pretty good talent this past season, Clutter was somewhat overwhelmed by the wealth of talent he'll have to work with in this game.

"It's nice to come in and see all of these stars," he said. "Hopefully, we'll get everything together and play a good game."

"It's overwhelming to see the talent, and especially the size, that we have."

Clutter has a pair of his own players on the team in West Liberty-bound Amanda Allison and Chelsie Reid.

The rest of the West Virginia roster includes Wheeling Park's Chevon Robertson and Amy Sampson, Wheeling Central's Katie Stumpp and Amanda Wodusky, and Oak Glen's Shannon Herron and Marcy Maple.

Other members of the squad are Madonna's Stephanie Glover, Linsly's Ashley Neal, John Marshall's Nikki Zarnoch and Brittany Padlow, Magnolia's Kristen Scheibelhood, Weir's Brittany Snyder and Mount de Chantal's Alice Jamen. The Lions' Minna Aronen was selected, but will not play due to injury.

Please See **OVAC**, Page 20

OVAC

(Continued from Page 18)

Clutter will be assisted by the Maroon Knights' Penn Kurtz and John Marshall's Stan Blankenship.

Another coach making a return trip to the sidelines for the game is St. Clairsville's Kim Clifford, who will be leading the Ohio boys for the first time since 1986.

"It's a fun game and everybody should get a chance to do it," he said.

Clifford has a versatile roster mixed with size and speed.

"It's a well-rounded roster," he noted. "We have some really good kids."

Beaver Local has two players on the squad in Pat Woods and

Jake Robinson.

Other members of the team include Bridgeport's Josh Carter, St. Clairsville's Andrew Mertz, Caldwell's Joe Chandler, Beallsville's Greg Darby, Cambridge's Tyler Felt, Barnesville's Brock Huntsman, Bellaire St. John's Matt Ianzito, River's Kellen Kish, Monroe Central's Kenny Robinson, Frontier's Sam Rutherford, East Liverpool's Scott Scales, Toronto's Zac Thomas and Meadowbrook's Ryan Thompson.

Clifford is assisted by Ben Pater of Barnesville and Roger Kirkpatrick of Frontier.

Members of the West Virginia boys squad will be released Sunday.

Ohio OVAC Girls' Roster Set

Beallsville's Street, Shenandoah's Leasure highlight strong team

For The News-Register

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Charity Street

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Anderson -- who was a force on the inside -- scored 21.2 points a night and snared 13 rebounds a game.

Hines, meanwhile, averaged 18.9 points and moved into second place on the all-time Barnesville scoring list.

Caldwell's Ashley Schafer was named to the team after a senior season in which she tallied 15.1 points a game.

Union Local will be represented by center Krista Kinney. She enjoyed a fine 12th grade season, averaging 14.1 points and 10 rebounds a night.

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after she injured her knee during the Lady Devils' district tournament game.

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SPORTS

SUNDAY NEWS REGISTER Wheeling, W. Va. Sunday, March 14, 2004

OVAC All-Star Girls' Roster Set for W. Va.

By MIKE HUGHES
Staff Writer

When the 2004 Samuel A. Mumley OVAC All-Star basketball game gets underway at the Ney Center, there will be a stark contrast between the Ohio and West Virginia girls teams.

While both teams have talent-laden squads, the scoring punch for the Buckeyes will likely come from its talented backcourt, while the Mountaineers boast a strong contingent down low.

Of West Virginia's 15-member roster, nine players spent the majority of the season on the low block, which is where the bulk of its offensive production will likely come from.

"We should be pretty powerful inside," West Virginia and Cameron head coach Chad Clutter said. "We have a few good guards as well, but I think we should be able to score inside."

"Ohio seems to have a more guard oriented team, and we are more post oriented."

"Hopefully we'll have some fun with it."

Clutter, in just his second year at the helm at Cameron, was selected to head up the West Virginia squad, and in terms of post players, Clutter will bring along a doozy from his own 15-6 Dragons' squad.

Amanda Allison capped a fine, four-year career with the Dragons by becoming the school's all-time leading scorer and rebounder. Allison, who earlier signed to play at Division II power West Liberty, is a load to handle in the paint. She averages 21 points per game, double digits in rebounds, and is an apt defender on the other end of the court. Cameron also will supply Chelsie Reid to play guard. Reid, who averaged nine points a game and made nearly 30 three-pointers, was a last minute replacement for Wheeling Central's Kylie Wise, who is unable to attend the game.

Mount de Chantal's Alice



Stephanie Glover

Jamen is a 6-3, one woman wrecking crew in the paint, and her services next season have already been acquired by Ohio State. She averaged double figures in both rebounds and points, and is the school's career rebound leader. Yamen scored only 14 points per game for the Mount, but place her on a team that doesn't have the depth that the Mount does, and that number grows exponentially. She will be joined by teammate Minna Aronen, a 5-4 point-guard with the ability to score as well as pass.

The John Marshall Monarchs will supply a towering tandem in six footers Nikki Zarnoch and Brittany Padlow. Zarnoch's 13 points per game and solid defensive play were a main reason for the Monarchs success this season. And although Padlow's stats aren't as eye-popping as Zarnoch's, her play in the post was just as invaluable.

Although sometimes overshadowed by junior teammate Allison Rothlisberger, you can't look at Magnolia's regional-championship season and overlook the contributions made by



Chevon Robertson

Kristen Scheibelhood. Another six-footer, Scheibelhood averaged over nine points per contest for the Blue Eagles and grabbed just as many boards. An injury in a sectional victory over Tyler Consolidated slowed her a bit, but she should be back at full strength by game time.

Wheeling Central is supplying a three-point threat from its W.Va. Class A state championship team in Katie Stumpp. Stumpp has deadly range from the perimeter.

After a rough start to the season, the Oak Glen Bears battled back, claimed a sectional victory over rival Weir, and lost a tough 55-29 contest to Magnolia in the regional. They finished up at 12-12, and a lot of that can be attributed to post players Shannon Herron and Marcy Maple. Although neither averaged over double figures in scoring, both hovered right around the 10 ppg mark and both pulled down their fair share of rebounds.

The Red Riders meanwhile were absent a scoring threat following the departure of Lisa Costello to graduation, but Brittany Snyder filled the roll nicely

in her departure. Snyder checked in at nearly 13 points per game down low, and whenever the Red Riders needed a big bucket, the ball found its way into her capable hands.

Amy Sampson and Chevon Robertson were both key members of Wheeling Park's No. 5 ranked regional runner-up team. Robertson led the Patriots at 13.5 per game and can spot up and hit from anywhere on the floor. Sampson was just below 10 per contest, but her efforts away from the ball were just as important, as she grabbed her fair share of rebounds and assists.

It was a bit of a down year for the Linsly Cadets and first-year head coach Kathy Roten, but the play of Ashley Neal was one of the bright spots. A three-sport athlete at Linsly, Neal ran the show from her point-guard position, dished out assists and was a capable scorer when need be.

Weirton Madonna's Stephanie Glover is a threat to score whenever she touches the ball. This past season, the Blue Dons guard averaged 18 points a night, and is just as adept driving the lane as she is pulling up from the outside.

While Clutter may have only two years of head coaching experience, he will be joined by a pair of tenured coaches that have experience in excess.

He will be joined by John Marshall head coach Stan Blankenship, and Wheeling Central mentor Penn Kurtz. Blankenship holds the record for career wins as a girls' coach in the state of West Virginia, while Kurtz has taken his teams to the state tournament in Charleston in nine of his 13 years at the helm.

"This is a great honor to be coaching this team," Clutter said. "And the two guys with me, Stan Blankenship and Penn Kurtz, they have spent more time down state than I can even count."



Pannett to Receive Earl Haberfield Coaching Award

By NICK BEDWAY
Executive Sports Editor
Richard "Dick" Pannett, a stellar athlete at Follansbee High School and West Liberty State College who went on to have a highly-successful coaching career, will be the recipient of this year's Earl Haberfield OVAC Basketball Coaches' Award.

Presentation of this prestigious award will take place during this year's Samuel Mumley/OVAC Basketball Classic to be held Saturday, April 3, at Ohio University Eastern's Ney Center.

Several awards will be presented during breaks in the action at the Ohio and West Virginia boys and girls' all-star games. The girls' contest starts at 1 p.m., followed by the boys' game at approximately 3 p.m.

Pat Duffy was named last week as the recipient of the Robert Dawson Basketball Officials' Award.

To be announced during the next two weeks are winners of the Richard Saffield Girls' Basketball Coach Award and the Thomas E. Rataiczak Scorekeeper/Timer Award.

Pannett, a teacher and coach for 39 years, was thrilled when he was informed he had been selected to receive the Haberfield Award. "It's definitely an honor anytime you are recognized by your peers. I enjoyed my years of teaching and coaching. I miss the



Pannett

kids and that checker game you got into against the other coaches on game nights."

Pannett, however, has no regrets about those days being behind him. "It's also nice to enjoy that free time that comes with retirement. I just got off the golf course about an hour ago," he said during a phone interview earlier this week.

The ex-Hilltopper stalwart probably was the most versatile coach of any past recipients on this award. Along with coaching basketball, Pannett has coached football, track, baseball and tennis during his long career.

From 1961 through 1964, he coached several sports at Edge-wood Junior High in Brooke County. Pannett then joined the coaching staff at Mingo High School, also now part of the Indi-

an Creek consolidation, at the outset of the 1964-65 school year. During this span, he also was a volunteer assistant in basketball at Bethany College during the 1967-68 season.

He became Wintersville High's head coach in 1969, a position he held through 1975 before returning to Mingo as the Indians' basketball mentor. While at Wintersville in 1972, he was selected as Ohio District 5's Class AAA Coach of the Year.

During his three season as Mingo, he led the Indians to the school's first OVAC basketball crown (1975-76).

Pannett returned to Brooke County as head coach of the Brooke High boys' team from 1978 through the 1985 season.

With the girls' and boys' bas-

ketball seasons still being held at different times during the school year then, Pannett also coached the Bruins' girls from 1982 through 1990.

His girls' teams won seven sectional championships and four regional titles, including one state runner-up finish. Three times, his Lady Bruins also earned OVAC championships.

Pannett also had three sectional title winners during his first three seasons at the Brooke boys' helm. His 1981 Bruins set a school record of 17 victories in a single season but lost to Wheeling Park for the third year in a row in the regional final.

Two years after turning over the boys' job to his assistant coach Dave Reitter, the 1987 Bruins shattered that record by going 25-1 and winning the

state Class AAA crown.

"We had to play Sam (Park Coach Sam Andy) too many times in the regional," Pannett said about the Bruins three defeats just one step away from a berth in the state tournament.

Pannett enjoyed his experience of being a girls' coach. "The girls were a lot more receptive to coaching and eager to learn what you were trying to teach them," he said. "We had some great kids in the program then and that helped us have several very successful teams."

After his coaching career, Pannett served a four-year term on the Brooke County Board of Education and he is an adjunct professor at West Liberty State College.

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Pannett

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He currently resides in Weirton with his wife, Karen Carp Pannett. They have two children, Pam and Tim, and six grandchildren.

The award to be presented to Pannett was established in 1983 and presented to former Wheeling Central Catholic mentor Earl Haberfield, who also coached in the area at Bishop Donahue, Meadowbrook and Wintersville.

It was renamed after Earl Haberfield some 13 years ago.

Criswell Always Knows the Score

Longtime John Marshall scorekeeper will be honored during Saturday's OVAC All-Star Basketball Classic

By DON CLEGG
Sports Editor

If you've seen a John Marshall basketball game in the past three decades, you've seen Les Criswell.

The Moundsville native started working the scorer's table at Moundsville High School nearly 40 years ago and is still going strong.

His efforts on behalf of the youths of Marshall County will be rewarded during Saturday's Sam Mumley OVAC All-Star Basketball Classic when Criswell will become the 12th annual recipient of the OVAC's Thomas E. Rataiczak Scorekeeper/Timer Award.

"It's a terrific honor and I'm really looking forward to Saturday," said Criswell. "but I

wouldn't trade the memories for anything."

Criswell certainly isn't lacking for memories.

The Moundsville High graduate said he started helping out at Moundsville High School basketball games in the mid-1960s.

"I still remember that team," he said. "Bobby Hummel (who would go on to be a 1,000-point scorer at WVU) was the star and 'Floats' Pelaez was the head coach.

"I was working with 'Bananas' Menendez. That's how I got my start.

"He'd have me keep score for the reserve game and he'd do the varsity game."

That arrangement continued when Moundsville High School was consolidated with Union and

Sherrard to form John Marshall High School and Criswell moved up to the varsity book for the 1974-75 season.

He just wrapped up his 30th season as the head scorekeeper at JM.

Head coaches he worked with include Rudy Zatezalo, Tom Ackerman, Dave O'Dell and current Monarch mentor Pancho Flores.

"I'd really like to thank the coaches I've worked with," said Criswell. "I've enjoyed working with every one of them."

Criswell also handles the girls' basketball scoring at John Marshall and has been in that role since Stan Blankenship arrived on the JM scene in the late 1970s.

Blankenship turned the JM

girls' program into one of the Mountain State's elite and Criswell says he's enjoyed every bit of the ride.

"Stanley, Bevo (Gary) Blair and I have all been together through thick and thin," said Criswell.

"My biggest thrill was probably keeping score at the state tournament the year (1982) Amy Gamble led us to the state championship.

"We didn't even have a close game at the tournament and beating Elkins in the state championship game was the perfect finish.

"Elkins was the only team that had beaten us during the regular season."



Les Criswell

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Criswell

(Continued from Page 17)

In addition to his duties with John Marshall, Criswell stays busy during postseason play as the official scorer for sectional and regional games hosted by John Marshall.

There's more to Criswell than basketball, of course.

Generations of little league baseball players in Marshall County still have fond memories of Criswell standing in the third-base coaching box with scorebook in hand.

He began helping out with a little league baseball team in

1960 and wound up spending the better part of four decades as one of the more familiar faces involved with the Marshall County Baseball Association.

Criswell recently added girls' softball to his scorekeeping resume.

He's been John Marshall's official scorer for the past three seasons and is also active in summer softball leagues.

Criswell spent 36 years working in sales at Gordon's Auto Parts in Moundsville — a unique job for a man who has never owned a car — and also

worked four years at the Journal office in Moundsville.

Now?

"I'm just retired and taking it easy," he smiled. "Like everybody else, I'm waiting for the weather to break."

Advance tickets for Saturday's all-star doubleheader at Ohio University Eastern's Ney Center are now on sale at Kroger's stores in Wheeling, Moundsville, Bel-laire and St. Clairsville.

They're priced at \$5 for adults and \$4 for students. All tickets sold at OUE on Saturday will be priced at \$6.

OVAC announces West Virginia boys' squad

FOR THE TIMES LEADER

When the West Virginia boys OVAC All-Star team takes the floor at the Ney Center next weekend, it will have plenty of firepower.

The Mountaineer roster boasts a bevy of high scorers, including three players who averaged at least 24 points per game.

The main question is, will there be enough basketball's to go around. "We're hoping we do," W.Va. and Oak Glen head coach Dave Smith said. "Hopefully the kids take it the

right way, and know that it's something for all of them."

Smith will be joined on the bench by Magnolia head coach Dave Tallman and Cameron head coach Jack Hart as his assistants.

Magnolia's Ted Talkington headlines the 2004 Mountaineer boys squad after winning the W.Va. Boys scoring title for the second year in a row after averaging 30.9 points per contest.

Talkington's ability to put the ball in the hole is known far and wide, but the Blue Eagles' mainstay

is more than adapt at finding the open man, or pulling down a tough rebound.

He will be joined by teammate Jon Kemp, who totaled 16.1 points per game for a Magnolia squad that won the W.Va. Class AA state championship in 2003, and lost in overtime to Oak Glen this season in the regional.

Two members from that Golden Bears' squad that finished the regular season with a spotless mark are also on the team in forward Luke

Samples and guard Jared Gamble.

Samples was the catalyst to the Golden Bears' attack this season, checking in at 24.9 points per game. A dominating inside player, rarely does the ball find its way into his capable hands down low and subsequently find its way into the net.

Gamble scored his fair share of points, averaging 11.4 per game, but it was his ability to run



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OVAC

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the Bears offense that made him most valuable.

"It's a great opportunity to do that and coach Tallman and I talked about that," Smith said about coaching his own players one last time. "He's getting to coach John and Ted and I'm getting to coach Jared and Luke in their final high school games."

The third member of the 24-plus scorers on the W.Va. Squad is Linsly's Chris Banal.

It wasn't uncommon this season to see the Cadets' senior pouring in 30 points a night, and he finished up averaging a shade under 25 per game.

The Mountaineers aren't just loaded with a host of scorers, as this roster also packs some quality talent in the rebounding department.

You need to look no further than a trio of big men, on each from each class in W.Va; Class AAA's Rick Sandreth from Brooke, Class AA's Matt Wright from Tyler Consolidated and Bishop Donahue's Brian McCulley in Class A.

Sandreth was a key factor in the Bruins' late-season push after totaling 13.6 points per game and 120 total boards. Sandreth was solid from the floor, making 54-percent of his shots.

Matt Wright was one of the top running back in all of W.Va. this season and that success carried over to the hardwood where he totaled 12.2 points per game.

Wright is a man amongst boys in the paint, and rarely does a rebound escape his grasp. McCulley will be easy to spot on the court, as his 6-8 frame will tower over the other competitors. A three-year starter for head coach Tom Wise, McCulley averaged 17.3 points, 12 boards and three blocks per game his senior season.

The Class AAA sectional champion John

Marshall Monarchs will be represented by two players in Adam Ferro and Johnny Bonar. Ferro led JM in scoring with 14.5 points and five boards per night, while Bonar checked in with 10.7 points from his guard position.

Paul McCormick, who showed his worth during the W.Va. State tournament in Charleston, will represent three-time defending Class A champion Wheeling Central. McCormick scored 11.9 points per game and added just over seven rebounds for the Maroon Knights.

Somewhat forgot about in the Oak Glen-Magnolia saga in Class AA's region one, Weir had its own host of talent, and Keith Hazel will represent the Red Riders on the team. Hazel, although some of his shots appear of balance, can hit from just about anywhere across the timeline, and did just that this season by totaling 18.5 points per game for the Red Riders.

Point-guard Brad Kouski will represent Wheeling Park after scoring 13.3 points per game for the Patriots' during their up-and-down season.

Weirton Madonna post Matt Blair and Paden City guard Scott Surface round out the W.Va. team. Blair totaled nearly 17 points a night for the Blue Dons, while Surface checked in with 12.6 and canned 39 treys his senior season.

The Mountaineers squad is loaded with guards, and most of their post players can also handle the ball, so don't be surprised if Smith's team comes out and pushes the tempo of the game early.

"I certainly would like to play up tempo and we will suggest that too them" Smith said. "Most of the times, kids like to do that, and we will try to push the ball up the floor the best we can, and try to go up and down (the floor)."

Criswell to receive OVAC's Rataiczak Award Saturday

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Following is a list of the 11 previous honorees:

PAST HONOREES

- 2003: Chuck Blue, River
- 2002: Dorothy Pomento, Buckeye Local
- 2001: Bob Reeves, Linsly
- 2000: Randy Ray, Beallsville
- 1999: Bill Nicholson, Cambridge
- 1998: Ron Sebring, River
- 1997: Chuck Koehler, Wheeling Park
- 1996: Ray Ponzo, Shadyside
- 1995: Gary Barks, Paden City
- 1994: Henry McCue, Martins Ferry
- 1993: Joe Bechtel, Wheeling Central

2004 ALL-OVAC BASKETBALL TEAMS

Boys
Class AAAA
First Team
Drake Aronhalt, sr., Zanesville (c)
Tyler Felt, sr., Cambridge
Brian Kreifer, jr., East Liverpool
Steve Repella, sr., Steubenville
Scott Scales, sr., East Liverpool

Second Team
Adam Ferro, sr., John Marshall; Chase Groves, jr., Buckeye Local; Keith Hazel, sr., Weir; Brad Kouski, sr., Wheeling Park; Jake Robinson, sr., Beaver Local; Eric Turner, sr., Weir; Pat Woods, sr., Beaver Local

Honorable Mention
Brooke: Chris Baldauf, Rick Sandreth; John Marshall: Johnny Bonar, Brad Goddard; Buckeye Local: C.J. Besce; Cambridge: Brian Gognat; Beaver Local: Steve Mercer; Edison: Corey Sweat; Wheeling Park: Jamie Ziegler

Class AAA
First Team
Aaron Agnew, sr., Bellaire
Nate Davis, so., Bellaire
Andrew Mertz, sr., St. Clairsville
Luke Samples, sr., Oak Glen
Ted Talkington, sr., Magnolia (c)

Second Team
Ryan Church, jr., Martins Ferry; Jared Gamble, sr., Oak Glen; Ryan Thompson, sr., Meadowbrook; Matt Wright, sr., Tyler Consolidated

Honorable Mention
Indian Creek: Richie Crowe, Todd Keenan, Bruce Palmer; Magnolia: Jon Kemp, Alex Rader; Harrison Central: Ben Hodgkinson, Dan Milleson; Martins Ferry: Scott Mirich; Meadowbrook: Brad Mitchell; Union Local: Rich Oakhof; St. Clairsville: A.J. Twardoski

Class AA
First Team
Brock Huntsman, sr., Barnesville
Paul McCormick, sr., Whg. Central (c)
Kenny Robinson, sr., Monroe Central
Ryne Roenicke, jr., River
Zac Thomas, sr., Toronto

Second Team
Joe Chandler, sr., Caldwell; Kellen Kish, sr., River; Shaun McCordy, sr., Fort Frye; Bill McNicol, jr., Wellsville; Eric

Novick, jr., Wheeling Central
Honorable Mention

Buckeye Trail: Bryan Bates, Aaron Carpenter, Shane Stevens; Caldwell: Michael Bettinger, Jason Shaw; Fort Frye: Matt Anderson, Brady Walters, Stoub, Central: Jim Fonow, Bojan Sapurik; Toronto: Chad Daugherty, D.L. Lawrence; Barnesville: Colin Hudson; Monroe Central: Sam Miller; Shenandoah: Eric McVicker; Wellsville: Derek Thompson; Wheeling Central: Tyler Morando

Class A
First Team

Chris Banal, sr., Linsly
Matt Blair, sr., Weirton Madonna
Matt Lanzito, sr., Bellaire St. John
Steve Luckhardt, Shadyside
Sam Rutherford, Frontier (c)

Second Team
Jason Fazio, sr., Bishop Donahue; Eric Leggett, sr., Conotton Valley; Dan Lutz, jr., Frontier; Brian McCulley, sr., Bishop Donahue; Casey Tolzda jr., Beallsville

Honorable Mention
Beallsville: Greg Darby, Zac Tolzda; Paden City: Tim Hammel, Scott Surface; Shadyside: Erik Cwalinski, Derrick Sadlowski; Weirton Madonna: J.J. Guida, Lee McCune; Bridgeport: Josh Carter; Bellaire St. John: Bryan Nardo; Frontier: Seth Murphy

Girls

Class AAAA

First Team

Maggie Gompers, so, Wheeling Park
Kristen King, sr., Buckeye Local
Jaimie Menner, so., John Marshall
Liz Repella, jr., Steubenville (c)
Brittany Snyder, sr., Weir

Second Team
Allison Lawyer, jr., Zanesville; Jessica Lynn, sr., Cambridge; Maddie McSorvey, so., Zanesville; Breezy Nelson, sr., East Liverpool; Chevon Robertson, sr., Wheeling Park; Nikki Zarnoch, sr., John Marshall

Honorable Mention
Edison: Missy Evans, Lauren Hood, Leah Snyder; Brooke: Amy Bullock, Jamie Kocher; Cambridge: Laci Baker, Sam Lilienthal; Steubenville: Michaelene

Jones, Karyl Saccoccia; Weir: Rochelle Byers, Melissa Henry; Beaver Local: Rachel McCoy; East Liverpool: Liz Connor; John Marshall: Brittany Padlow; Wheeling Park: Chantell Nevells; Zanesville: Jennifer Angler

Class AAA
First Team

Katie Blatt, jr., Magnolia
Amy Bruney, sr., Martins Ferry (c)
Erin Heidelberg, sr., St. Clairsville
Emily Miller, jr., Union Local
Allison Rothlisberger, jr., Magnolia

Second Team

Leigh Ann Hobbs, jr., Oak Glen; Krista Kinney, sr., Union Local; Ashley McSweeney, so., Magnolia; Amie Reithmiller, so., Martins Ferry; Aimee Vavrek, sr., Bellaire; Ashley Vavrek, so., Bellaire

Honorable Mention
Meadowbrook: Katie Lee, Lauren Valentin; Jon Woodby; Harrison Central: Jenna Houston, Julia Hodgkinson; Indian Creek: Kerri Ferguson, Kristin Ferguson; Oak Glen: Shannon Herron, Marcy Maple; Tyler Consolidated: Brenna Hagerty, Lyncea Perkey; St. Clairsville: Kelly Polen

Class AA
First Team

Nicole Anderson, sr., Barnesville
Kayleen Fitzsimmons, jr., Whg. Central (c)
Mariah Hulsey, sr., River
Shannon Leasuro, sr., Shenandoah
Ashley Sawan, sr., Steub. Central

Second Team

Amy Hines, sr., Barnesville; Kellie Isaly, sr., River; Mallory Moore, jr., Toronto; Ashley Schafer, sr., Caldwell; Kylie Wine, sr., Wheeling Central

Honorable Mention

Buckeye Trail: Britni Borrero, Amy Kittle, Kim Rose; Fort Frye: Kaleena Allen, Sarah Huck, Abby Nolan; Wellsville: Melody Allison, Michelle Kerr, Jasmine Richardson; Monroe Central: Krista Huffman, Miranda Wiley; Shenandoah: Molly Cruz, Kenzi Waite; Barnesville: Ramsey Miller; Wheeling Central: Katie Stumpp

Class A
First Team
Amanda Allison, sr., Cameron

West Virginia girls roster announced for Mumley Classic

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● OVAC

Continued from Page C1

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Although sometimes overshadowed by junior teammate Allison Rothlisberger, you can't look at Magnolia's regional-championship season and overlook the contributions made by Kristen Scheibelhood.

Another six-footer, Scheibelhood averaged over nine points per contest for the Blue Eagles and grabbed just as many boards. An injury in a sectional

victory over Tyler Consolidated slowed her a bit, but she should be back at full strength by game time.

Wheeling Central is supplying a three-point threat from its W.Va. Class A state championship team in Katie Stumpp. Stumpp had deadly range from the perimeter.

After a rough start to the season, the Oak Glen Bears battled back, claimed a sectional victory over rival Weir, and lost a tough 55-29 contest to Magnolia in the regional. They finished up at 12-12, and a lot of that can be attributed to post players Shannon Herron and Marcy Maple. Although neither averaged over double figures in scoring, both hovered right around the 10 ppg mark and both pulled down their fair share of rebounds.

The Red Riders meanwhile were absent a scoring threat following the departure of Lisa Costello to graduation, but Brittany Snyder filled the roll nicely in her departure. Snyder checked in at nearly 13 points per game down low, and whenever the Red Riders needed a big bucket, the ball found its way into her capable hands.

Amy Sampson and Chevon Robertson were both key members of Wheeling Park's No. 5 ranked regional runner-up team. Robertson led the Patriots at 13.5 per game and can spot up and hit from anywhere on the floor. Sampson was just below 10 per contest, but her efforts

away from the ball were just as important, as she grabbed her fair share of rebounds and assists.

It was a bit of a down year for the Linsly Cadets and first-year head coach Kathy Roten, but the play of Ashley Neal was one of the bright spots. A three-sport athlete at Linsly, Neal ran the show from her point-guard position, dished out assists and was a capable scorer when need be.

Weirton Madonna's Stephanie Glover is a threat to score whenever she touches the ball. This past season, the Blue Dons guard averaged 18 points a night, and is just as adapt driving the lane as she is pulling up from the outside.

While Clutter may have only two years of head-coaching experience, he will be joined by a pair of tenured coaches that have experience in excess.

He will be joined by John Marshall head coach Stan Blankenship, and Wheeling Central mentor Penn Kurtz. Blankenship holds the record for career-wins as a girls coach in the state of West Virginia, while Kurtz has taken his teams to the state tournament in Charleston in nine of his 13 years at the helm.

"This is a great honor to be coaching this team" Clutter said. "And the two guys with me, Stan Blankenship and Penn Kurtz, they have spent more time down state than I can even count."

"I hope to learn a bit from them and just have a good time with it."

● Tisher

Continued from Page B1

my career."

Tisher -- who personifies sportsmanship and team play -- has sent 15 of his players onto the collegiate ranks, ranging from D-I to D-III as well as NAIA.

The West Liberty State College product also is quite proud of how the girls' game has evolved.

"Girls' basketball has grown by leaps and bounds in my time. We used to have to pull out just one set of bleachers at our games. Basically it was just the parents coming to games," Tisher said. "Now girls' basketball attracts fans not just family. Girls' basketball has earned a great deal of respect in the Ohio Valley."

Tisher hasn't confined his coaching expertise to just the hardwood.

He is now in his fifth year as the River High athletic director. Tisher, who teaches social studies, was also the Pilots' head baseball coach for eight seasons before turning the reigns over to Kyle Rose.

Tisher has also assisted the Pilots' football program for some 13-14 years.

Tisher to receive Saffield Award

By BUBBA KAPRAL
T-L Executive Sports Editor

Class and character. Those two worlds are synonymous with Tom Tisher.

Tisher represents what is good about high school sports.

In his 20 plus seasons as head girls' basketball coach at River High School, the soft-spoken court genius has won nearly 400 games and a handful of OVAC championships.

Moreover, Tisher has epitomized sportsmanship and fair play during his illustrious tenure at the Hannibal-based school.

As a fitting tribute to his coaching exploits, Tisher has been named the recipient of the Richard Saffield OVAC Girls Basketball Award. Tisher will receive the Saffield Award at the OVAC Samuel Mumley Basketball Classic on Saturday,



TOM TISHER

April 3 at Ohio University Eastern's Ney Center.

As fate would have it, Tisher has been voted by his Ohio peers to serve as head coach of the Buckeye girls in the prestigious

contest.

"It's a great honor," Tisher said about the Saffield Award. "It's an award that is shared by the many great assistant coaches and all the players who I have had the pleasure to work with at River High School."

"We have built everything within the team philosophy at River," Tisher said. "This award is an extension of that."

Tisher has been involved with the Lady Pilots' hoop program for 27 years, the last 23 as head coach. He served as the assistant to Charlie Thomas for four years, before assuming the head post.

"I agreed to take the job for one year because no one else was interested," Tisher admitted. "I thought someone else would take over the following year."

Fortunately for River High faithful, Tisher opted to continue on, transforming the Hannibal-

based school into a girls' basketball juggernaut.

During his long and sparkling tenure, Tisher has guided his alma mater to a staggering 373 victories against just 135 setbacks.

In addition, his Lady Pilots have claimed nine sectional crowns and four OVAC banners, the latest of which came following this year's sparkling 17-5 campaign.

For all his accomplishments, Tisher has been named OVAC and district coach-of-the-year on numerous occasions.

"I have been very fortunate to have quality assistants such as Mark Miracle, Bob Cicogna, Rick Isaly, Phil Hulsey and Bill Hinegardner. They have made my job much easier," Tisher said. "And obviously we have had a lot of fine players during

See, TISHER, Page B2

Mountaineer Boys' Roster Set for OVAC

All-Star game will take place Saturday at Ohio University Eastern's Ney Center

By MIKE HUGHES
Staff Writer

When the West Virginia boys OVAC All-Star team takes the floor at the Ney Center next weekend, it will have plenty of firepower.

The Mountaineer roster boasts a bevy of high scorers, including three players who averaged at least 24 points per game.

The main question is, will there be enough basketball's to go around.

"We're hoping we do," W.Va. and Oak Glen head coach Dave Smith said. "Hopefully the kids take it the right way, and know that it's something for all of them."

Girls tipoff is set for 1 p.m. with the boys following at approximately 3 p.m.

Smith will be joined on the bench by Magnolia head coach Dave Tallman and Cameron head coach Jack Hart as his assistants.

Magnolia's Ted Talkington headlines the 2004 Mountaineer boys squad after winning the W.Va. Boys scoring title for the second year in a row after averaging 30.9 points per contest.

Talkington's ability to put the ball in the hole is known far and wide, but the Blue Eagles' mainstay is more than adapt at finding the open man, or pulling down a tough rebound.

He will be joined by teammate Jon Kemp, who totaled 16.1 points per game for a Magnolia squad that won the W.Va. Class AA state championship in 2003, and lost in overtime to Oak Glen this season in the regional.

Two members from that Golden Bears' squad that finished the regular season with a spotless mark are also on the team in forward Luke Samples and guard Jared Gamble.

Samples was the catalyst to the Golden Bears' attack this season, checking in at 24.9 points per game. A dominating inside player, rarely does the ball find its way into his capable hands down low and subsequently find its way into the net.

Gamble scored his fair share of points, averaging 11.4 per game, but it was his ability to run the Bears offense that made him most valuable.

"It's a great opportunity to do that and coach Tallman and I talked about that," Smith said about coaching his own players one last time.

"He's getting to coach John and Ted and I'm getting to coach Jared and Luke in their final high school games."

The third member of the 24-plus scorers on the W.Va. Squad is Linsly's Chris Banal.

It wasn't uncommon this season to see the Cadets' senior pouring in 30 points a night, and he finished up averaging a shade under 25 per game.



Photo by Alex Kozlowski

Pictured is the 2003-2004 W.Va. boys OVAC All-Star basketball team. First row, left to right, Brad Kouski, Scott Surface, Keith Hazel, Jared Gamble, Johnny Bonar and Adam Ferro. Second row, Paul McCormick, Jon Kemp, Rick Sandreth, Matt Blair and Ted Talkington. Third row, assistant coach Dave Tallman, Chris Banal, Brian McCulley, Matt Wright, Luke Samples and head coach Dave Smith. Not pictured, assistant coach Jack Hart.

The Mountaineers aren't just loaded with a host of scorers, as this roster also packs some quality talent in the rebounding department.

You need to look no further than a trio of big men, on each from each class in W.Va; Class AAA's Rick Sandreth from Brooke, Class AA's Matt Wright from Tyler Consolidated and Bishop Donahue's Brian McCulley in Class A.

Sandreth was a key factor in the Bruins' late-season push after totaling 13.6 points per game and 120 total boards. Sandreth was solid from the floor, making 54-percent of his shots.

Matt Wright was one of the top running-back in all of W.Va. this season and that success carried over to the hardwood where he totaled 12.2 points per game.

Wright is a man amongst boys in the paint, and rarely does a rebound escape his grasp. McCulley will be easy to spot on the court, as his 6-8 frame will tower over the other competitors.

A three year starter for head coach Tom Wise, McCulley averaged 17.3 points, 12 boards and three blocks per game his senior season.

The Class AAA sectional champion John Marshall Monarchs will be represented by two players in Adam Ferro and Johnny Bonar. Ferro led JM in scoring with 14.5 points and five boards per night, while Bonar checked in with 10.7 points from his guard position.

Paul McCormick, who showed his worth during the W.Va. State tournament in Charleston, will represent three-time defending Class A champi-



"It would be nice to have this kind of talent every game. I think that in West Virginia, if you had this type of talent, it would be real difficult to be beaten."

W.Va. head coach Dave Smith

on Wheeling Central. McCormick scored 11.9 points per game and added just over seven rebounds for the Maroon Knights.

Somewhat forgot about in the Oak Glen-Magnolia saga in Class AA's region one, Weir had its own host of talent, and Keith Hazel will represent the Red Riders on this team.

Hazel, although some of his shots appear of balance, can hit from just about anywhere across the timeline, and did just that this season by totaling 18.5 points per game for the Red Riders.

Point-guard Brad Kouski will represent Wheeling Park after scoring 13.3 points per game for the Patriots' during their up-and-down season.

Weirton Madonna post Matt Blair and Paden City guard Scott Surface round out the W.Va. team.

Blair totaled nearly 17 points a night for the Blue Dons, while Surface checked in with 12.6 and canned 39 treys his senior season.

Smith and his assistants have assembled a quality bunch of players, and the coach joked

about what it might be like playing with this team game-in, game-out during the W.Va. regular season.

"It would be nice to have this kind of talent every game," Smith admitted.

"I think that in West Virginia, if you had this type of talent, it would be real difficult to be beaten."

The Mountaineers' squad is loaded with guards, and most of their post players can also handle the ball, so don't be surprised if Smith's team comes out and pushes the tempo of the game early.

"I certainly would like to play up tempo and we will suggest that too them" Smith said. "Most of the times, kids like to do that, and we will try to push the ball up the floor the best we can, and try to go up and down (the floor)."

Tickets for the 13th Annual Samuel Mumley OVAC All-Star Basketball Classic are now on sale at Krogers in Wheeling, Moundsville, Bellaire and St. Clairsville. Prices are \$5 for adults and \$4 for students in advance. All tickets will be \$6 at the gate.



T-L Photo/JOEL JOSEPH

PICTURED is the West Virginia boys' team for the Samuel A. Mumley OVAC All-Star Basketball Classic. Front row, from left, are Brad Kouski (Wheeling Park), Scott Surface (Paden City), Keith Hazel (Weir), Jared Gamble (Oak Glen), John Bonar (John Marshall) and Adam Ferro (John Marshall). Middle row, from left, are Paul McCormick (Wheeling Central), Jonathan Kemp (Magnolia), Matt Blair (Weir Madonna), Ricky Sandreth (Brooke) and Ted Talkington (Magnolia). Back row, from left, are assistant coach Dave Tallman (Magnolia), Brian McCulley (Bishop Donahue), Matt Wright (Tyler Consolidated), Luke Samples (Oak Glen) and head coach Dave Smith (Oak Glen).



T-L Photo/JOEL JOSEPH

PICTURED is the West Virginia girls' team for the Samuel A. Mumley OVAC All-Star Basketball Classic. Front row, from left, are Chelsie Reid (Cameron), Stephanie Glover (Weir Madonna), Marcy Maple (Oak Glen), Amy Sampson (Wheeling Park), Ashley Neal (Linsly) and Amanda Wodusky (Wheeling Central). Middle row, from left, are Brittany Padow (John Marshall), Shannon Herron (Oak Glen), Katie Stumpp (Wheeling Central) and Chevon Robertson (Wheeling Park). Back row, from left, are assistant coach Penn Kurtz (Wheeling Central), Brittany Snyder (Weir), Amanda Allison (Cameron), head coach Chad Clutter (Cameron), Nikki Zamoch (John Marshall), Kristen Schiebelhood (Magnolia) and assistant coach Stan Blankenship (John Marshall).

W.Va. Boys All-Stars

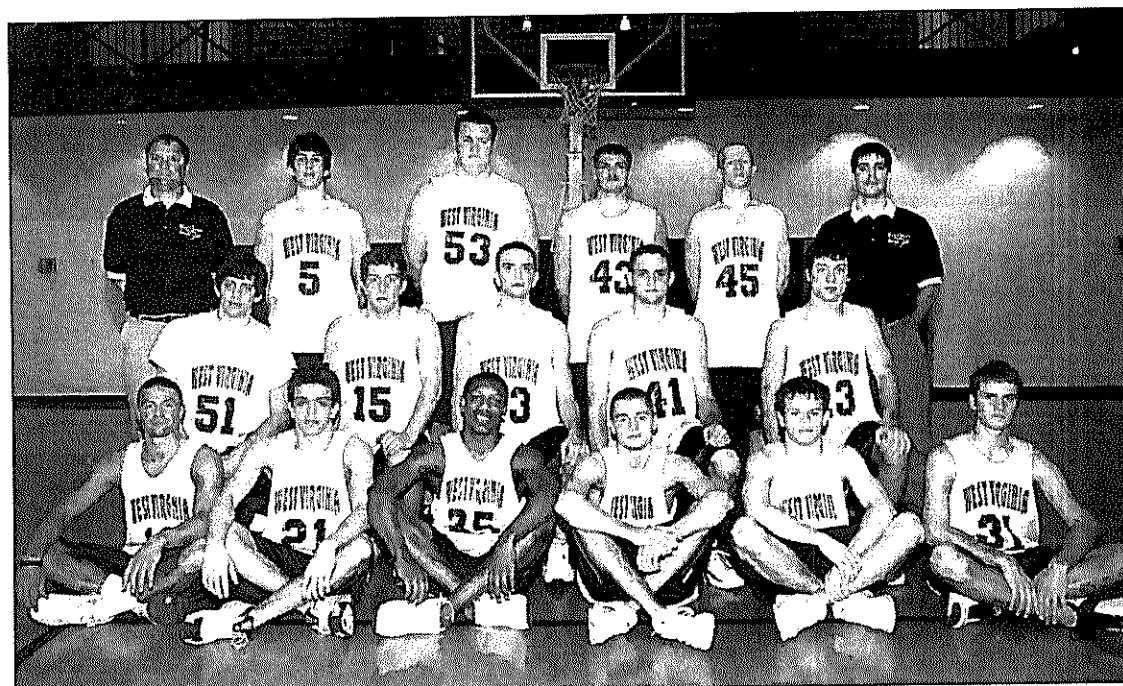


Photo by Alex Kozlowski

Members of the W.Va. Boys' team who will be playing in Saturday's OVAC All-Star game are, bottom row from left: Brad Kouski, Scott Surface, Keith Hazel, Jared Gamble, Johnny Bonar, and Adam Ferro. Second row, from left: Paul McCormick, Jon Kemp, Matt Blair, Rick Sandreth, and Ted Talkington. Back row from left: Assistant coach Dave Tallman, Chris Banal, Brian McCulley, Matt Wright, Luke Samples, and head coach Dave Smith.

Ohio Boys All-Stars

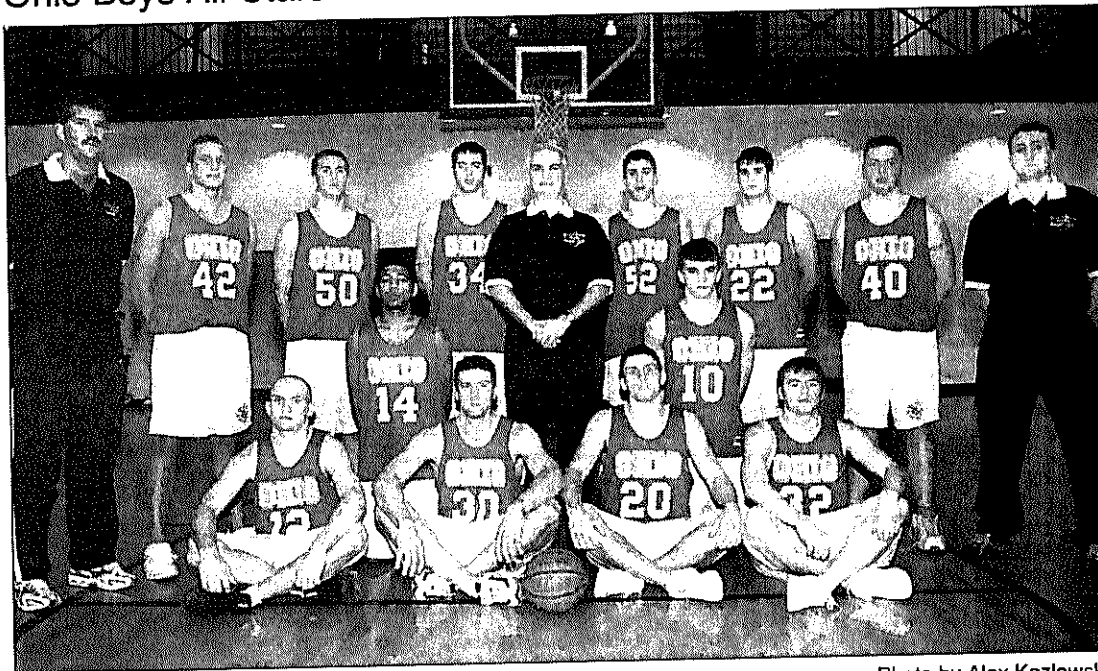
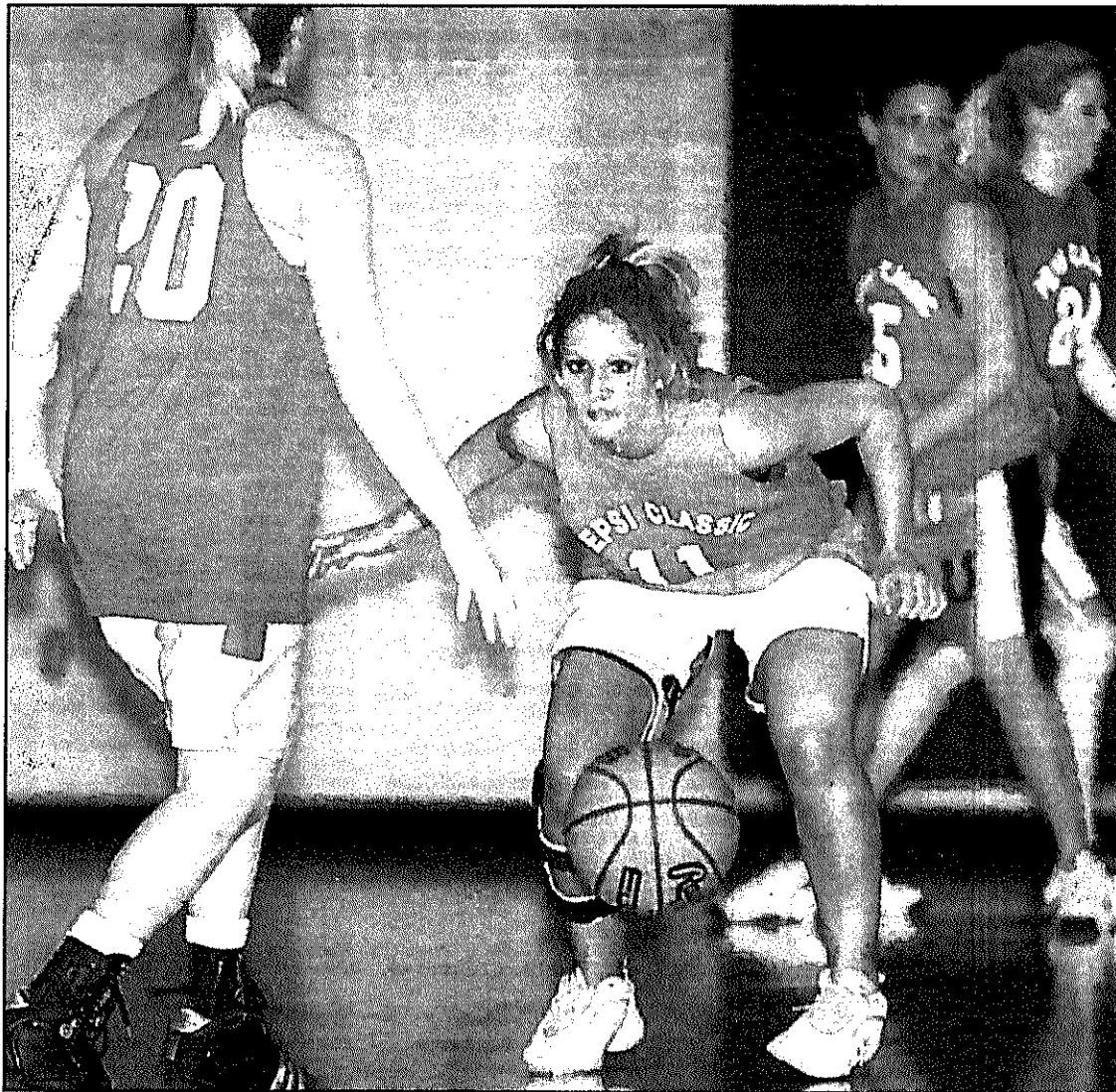


Photo by Alex Kozlowski

Members of the Ohio boys basketball team competing in today's Samuel A. Mumley All-Star Classic: Front row, from left, Brock Huntsman, Pat Woods, Jake Robinson, and Greg Darby. Middle row, from left, Josh Carter, head coach Kim Clifford, and Andrew Mertz. Back row, from left, assistant coach Roger Kirkpatrick, Ryan Thompson, Kenny Robinson, Tyler Felt, Matt Lanzito, Kellen Kish, Joe Chandler, and assistant coach Ben Porter.



ABOVE: Shadyside's Katelyn Falbo digs in defensively on Thornville Sheridan's Amanda Krofft (right) at night at Buckeye Trail High School.

AT RIGHT: St. John Central's Jena Ehni prepared to go up for a jump shot over Sheridan's Darcy Williams.

West girls prevail in D

• John Glenn's 6 ft. 3 Moody is selected

By **BUBBA KAPRAL**
T-L Executive Sports Editor

Size matters.

At least it did Friday night at Old Washington where the West used its decided height advantage to subdue their Eastern counterparts, 82-53, in the District 12 All-Star Game at Buckeye Trail High School.

The West boasted a roster with four girls at least six foot tall or better. The East had none.

The West -- coached by West Muskingum's Jo Mobley and John Glenn's Amy Tooms -- pounded the paint early and often in leading from wire-to-wire.

The East had no answer for Sheridan's Darcy Williams. The 5 ft. 11 widebody -- who led the Lady Generals to the Division II

state tournament this season -- powered her way for a game-high 20 points while also grabbing 10 boards.

She was complemented quite nicely by John Glenn's fluid Jennifer Moody. The 6 ft. 3 Kent State recruit was voted the game's most-valuable-player after tallying eight points, grabbing 15 rebounds and also blocking 10 shots.

The West also got quality production from West Muskingum's Lisa Richardson. The 5 ft. 9 dandy tossed in 13 counters. Cambridge's Jessica Lynn added seven markers and much hustle to the winning attack.

St. John Central's multi-dimensional Jena Ehni was the star of stars for the East squad. The 5 ft. 7 wing displayed a nice

inside-outside game in being the lone Easterner to reach double figures. Ehni knocked down 14 points while also grabbing eight boards.

Ehni's top support came in the tandem of Barnesville's Amy Hines and Union Local's Krista Kinney, each of who garnered eight points.

Caldwell's Ashley Schafer and Barnesville's all-Ohioan Nicole Anderson tossed in six and five points, respectively, for Coach Tom Strasser's hard-playing club.

The West grabbed an 18-15 edge after the opening quarter. Williams led the winners first quarter surge with six points while Ehni kept the East close with four markers.

The game was still up for grabs at intermission, with the