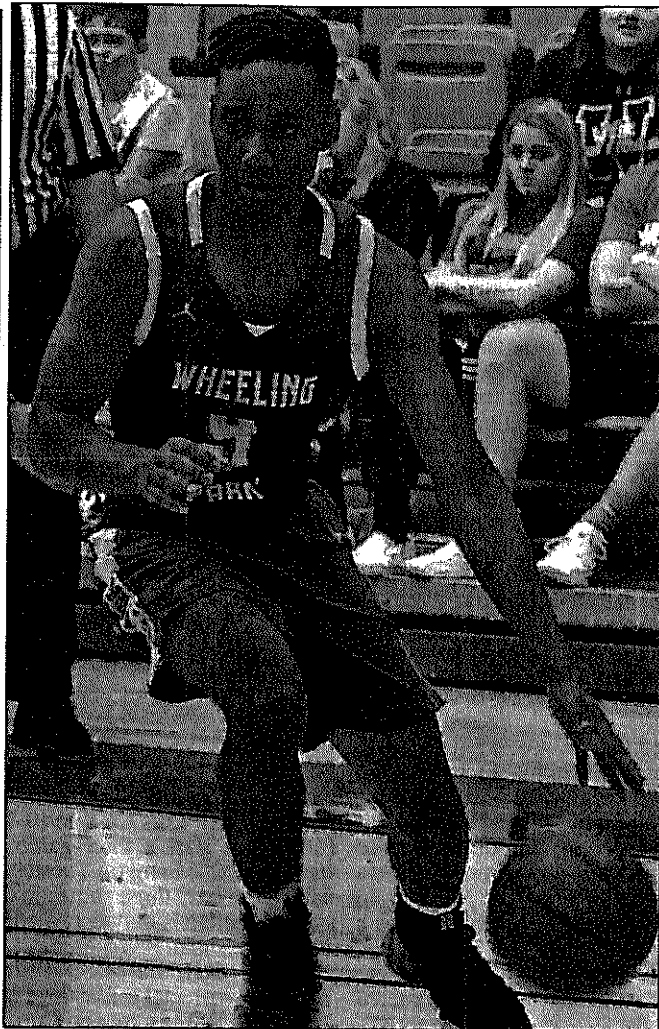
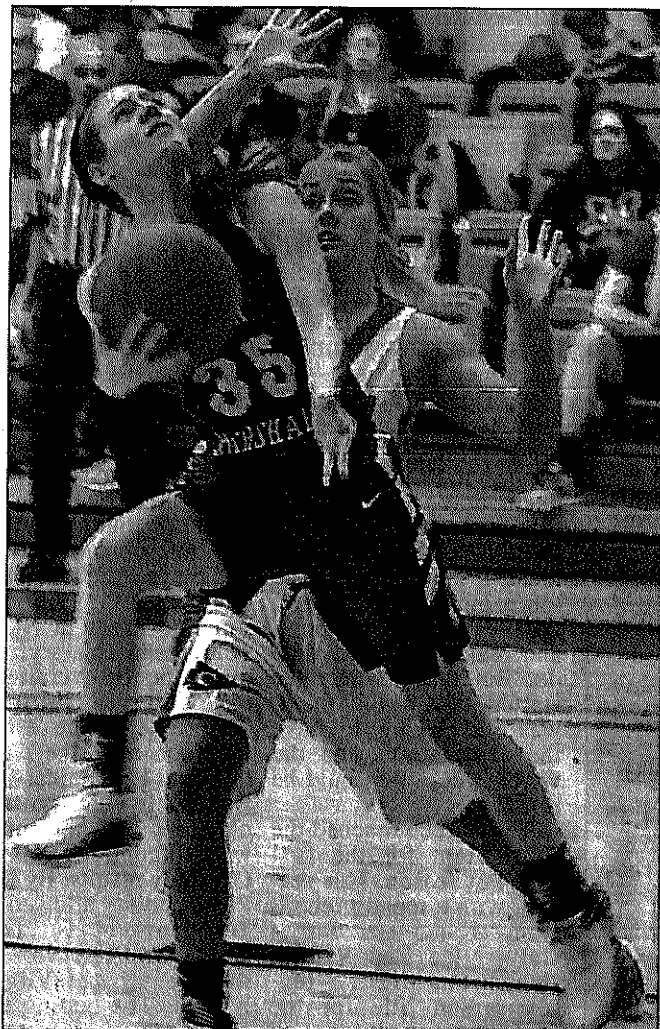


W.Va. Girls, Ohio Boys Win OVAC All-Star Games



Left: John Marshall's Shay Straughn goes up for a shot against Caldwell's Cloe Siddle during Sunday's OVAC All-Star Game at OUE. Right: Wheeling Park's Keondre' King looks to drive the basket.

Photos by Kristin Mazgel

Buckeye State and Mountain State split contests held at OUE

By **SETH STASKEY**
For *The Intelligencer*

ST. CLAIRSVILLE — The 42nd annual OVAC Samuel A. Mumley All-Star Basketball Games had a little bit of everything Sunday afternoon.

One thing it didn't supply was clear bragging rights for neither Ohio nor West Virginia.

The two states split the contests held at Ohio University Eastern's Health and Physical Education Center.

The West Virginia girls got things started with a 77-68 victory against Ohio, but then the Buckeye State rallied from as many as 14 down in the second half to pull out a thrilling 94-91 victory in the second game of the

doubleheader.

It took the West Virginia girls a while, but they finally found the right combination of players to exploit size advantages on the Ohio squad.

The Mountaineers owned a 40-31 lead at halftime and watched Ohio score the first eight of the second half as River's Lauren Flannery got hot and scored four consecutive field goals in the spurt.

That, however, proved to be as close as Ohio would get. West Virginia simply had an answer each time Ohio seemed to gain some momentum. Usually, it was Morgantown's Sydni Clawges or Brooke's Hope Bowman doing work on the interior.

Clawges scored eight of her nine points in the second half, while Bowman, who stands

no less than 6-3 scored eight of her 15 in the second half, many of which came on second-chance opportunities.

Still, however, the Buckeyes found themselves down just six after Buckeye Local's Emily Holzopfel hit a trey from the wing.

From there, though, the Mountain State scored nine in a row to stretch the margin to 15. Ohio never got the deficit to less than 10 until the final two free throws of the game.

Along with Clawges and Bowman's work on the interior, Morgantown's Lexi Hughes, Linsly's Josie Purpura and Trinity Christian's Reagan Sharp all played well.

They went for 12, 10 and nine, respectively.

Please see **ALL-STAR**, Page 10

ALL-STAR

(Continued from Page 9)

Ohio, which saw three of its players fail to record a point, was led by Flannery's 14. She was complemented by Bellaire's Maci Crozier who finished with 12. Holzopfel added nine.

On the boys' side, the back-and-forth affair appeared that it was going to be a West Virginia run away in the second half.

Ohio, which owned a 53-48 lead at halftime, found itself trailing, 80-66 with under seven minutes to play.

St. Clairsville's Matt Busby wasn't going to let his team go down without a fight. He hit back-to-back treys to ignite the rally and a goal by Toronto's Nate Karaffa quickly shaved the deficit to five.

Cameron's Dillon Meintel and Paden City's Matt Saxon both tallied for West Virginia to stop the bleeding and push the Mountaineer lead back to nine.

Ohio kept plugging away, though. The Buckeyes scored five straight, including a goal by Steubenville's Josh Zimmerman and a bucket from Martins Ferry's Deandre Pugh.

The teams traded free throws, but a driving bucket from Indian Creek's Michael Allen got Ohio to within three, but West Virginia hit one-of-two at the line.

That though proved to be the final points for the Mountain State. Caldwell's Clark Jennings got the Buckeyes

to within one when he connected on a 3-pointer. Zimmerman tallied again after a steal, giving Ohio its first lead since it was 55-52 in the early moments of the second half.

Another missed shot by West Virginia resulted in it having to foul. East Liverpool's Gabe Roach knocked home both and West Virginia's last-second try ended with a turnover, preserving the victory for Ohio.

Busby led all scorers in the game with 18, while Allen closed with 15. Zimmerman chipped in 13. Roach and Karaffa finished with nine and eight, respectively.

West Virginia was led by Wheeling Central's Anthony Robbins, who went for 12, including 10 in the second half. Morgantown's Cam Selders and University's Rodney Bucklew each had 10. Hundred's Travis McCoy and Wheeling Park's Keondre King both bucketed nine.

OVAC NOTES

■ Shadyside's Syd Destifanes caught fire in a tie-breaker round at halftime of the girls' game to win the 3-point shootout title. She fended off Madonna's Andrea Alimario for the title.

■ Indian Creek's Michael Allen soared to the slam dunk title at half-

time of the boys' game. He finished with a combined score of 86 out of 90 possible points to win the title. Included in his bevy of dunks was one in which he literally jumped over St. Clairsville's Craig Bober for the flush.

■ Several scholarships were awarded during the pre-game luncheon held at Undo's in St. Clairsville. Steubenville Central's Julia Zatta, Caldwell's Cloe Siddle, John Marshall's Shay Straughn and Trinity's Reagan Sharp received the Betty Ann Ponzio Memorial Scholarship. Shadyside's Destifanes received the Susan K. Stanko Memorial Scholarship, Southern Local's Riley Felton received the Pam Ammirante Memorial Scholarship.

■ On the boys' side, the recipients were Wheeling Park's Keondre King and St. John's Matt Fouty won the Ray Ponzio Memorial Scholarship, St. Clairsville's Boner and Trinity's Daniel Woods won the Richard Potts Memorial Scholarship and Weir's Reed Reitter won the Richard Saffield Memorial Scholarship.

■ The Ohio Valley Board of Approved Basketball Officials presented their annual sportsmanship awards during the game. The River girls' team and the Linsly boys' team received the awards.

BAYLOR

(Continued from Page 9)

Ogunbowale was instrumental in all those victories, forever becoming a part of the Final Four during last year's title run. She made a shot with one second remaining to beat UConn in the semifinals, then hit a tiebreaking 3-pointer with one-tenth of a second left to top the Bulldogs in the title game.

Ogunbowale led the charge again Sunday, scoring 17 of her 31 points in the second half. That included a buzzer-beating 3 at the end of the third quarter, sparking an 11-0 Notre Dame run.

It helped the Irish that the Lady Bears had to play the last 11 minutes without Cox. She got tangled up with Kalani Brown on the defensive end and went down clutching her left knee with about a minute to go in the third quarter. The 6-foot-4 junior was crying in agony for a few minutes be-

fore they took her off the court in a wheelchair. Her mom was tearing up in the stands, and her dad had his hands over his face.

"I'm emotional for a lot of reasons, but mostly for Lauren Cox, and I'm so happy," Mulkey said. "These are tears of joy, but they're also tears of thinking about injuries."

Cox came back to the bench in the fourth quarter on crutches, with a big brace on her left knee. She was the first one to hold the trophy after the game.

"I'm one of the leaders on the team, so just to have my voice there (on the bench) and tell them I'm still OK, they told me they were going to do this for me," Cox said.

Mulkey was able to celebrate her third title with her family close by. Daughter Makenzie is on the coaching staff, and infant grandson

Kannon Reid was sitting in the front row behind the bench. As the final second ticked off, she hugged her daughter and the rest of the staff at midcourt.

With the game tied at 80, Jackson drove with her right hand and hit a layup that bounced off the rim before dropping in.

Sunday's game marked the eighth time in the past 20 years that there have been two women head coaches in the title game but only the second time since 2008. The last time was in 2012 with these same coaches. As of 2018, only 59.5 percent of head coaches in Division I women's basketball are female.

The victory broke a tie for third all-time between Mulkey and McGraw for career NCAA titles. Mulkey has three, placing her behind Geno Auriemma (11) and Pat Summitt (8).

TIP-INS: The Irish remained at 999 victories in school history. McGraw has been the coach for 835 of them.

STRONG ATTENDANCE: Nearly 275,000 people attended the NCAAs, which ranked eighth all-time, including 20,127 for the title game. It was the highest attendance in over 15 years.

"We've had a really great championship. Our first and second round numbers is the best we've seen in 11 years," NCAA vice president for women's basketball Lynn Holzman said.

The regionals provided a strong boost. Portland, Oregon, a first-time site, averaged over 11,400 fans and will host again next year. The regional attendance was its highest since the NCAA switched to neutral sites after the 2014 season.

PIRATES

(Continued from Page 9)

And when Archer was allowed to stay in the game, tempers quickly escalated.

The excitable Puig, in his first sea-

like that, you're going to pay for it. We're trying to play the game like we have to, respect the game. He shouldn't do it. Jovv (Votto) can do it because

Polanco went 0 for 2 with two walks.

UP NEXT

Reds: RHP Luis Castillo (0-1, 1.42 ERA) will start a three-game home-

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Sunday News-Register

APRIL 7, 2019

SPORTS

INSIDE:

Kapral Column/C2
Prep Roundup/C2
Pirates Beat Reds/C4
Scoreboard/C5

OVAC All-Star Basketball Games Set for Today

Girls Tip Off at 3 p.m.,
Followed by Boys at OUEBy SETH STASKEY
For the News-Register

ST. CLAIRSVILLE — The premier 60 senior basketball players in the Ohio Valley Athletic Conference will receive one final time to shine in their high school uniforms Sunday afternoon.

The annual OVAC Samuel A. Mumley All-Star Basketball Games will unfold at Ohio University Eastern's Health and Physical Education Center with tipoff slated for 3 p.m. for the girls and the boys will begin 20 minutes following the completion of the girls' game.

The afternoon of events will begin at 12:30 p.m. with a brunch for the players and their parents. Several scholarships will be presented during the event, which will be emceed by OVAC Hall of Fame elect,

Al Glitch.

During the course of the afternoon, numerous special awards will be presented. Included are Roger Levi (Robert Dawson Officials Award), Kim Clifford (Earl Haberfield Boys Coach Award), Roger Micker (Richard Saffield Girls Coach Award), Thomas Owings (Thomas E. Rataiczak Timer and Scorekeeper Award) and Dr. Donald Hofreuter (Bob Burton Distinguished Service Award).

The Buckeye State boys are being coached by St. Clairsville's Ryan Clifford and Toronto's Sean Tucker.

The Ohio squad, like the others, have had a handful of practices and the coaches will try to balance their five-player groupings as much as possible.

Clifford is especially excited for one more chance to coach two of his own play-



ers. Craig Bober and Matt Busby will put on their Red Devil uniforms one more time today.

Tucker will have two of his players in the game as well with Trillion West and Nate Karaffa.

The balance of the Ohio boys squad includes: Davis Black (Meadowbrook), Zac Jones (Monroe Central), Cal Kildow (Union Lo-

cal), Deandre Pugh (Martins Ferry), Mike Allen (Indian Creek), Matt Fouty (St. John), Evan Stine (Harrison Central), Clark Jennings (Caldwell), Josh Zimmerman (Steubenville), Gabe Roach (East Liverpool) and Garrett Scott (Wellsville).

The West Virginia boys are being led by Wheeling Central's Mel Stephens and Oak Glen's Jerry Everly.

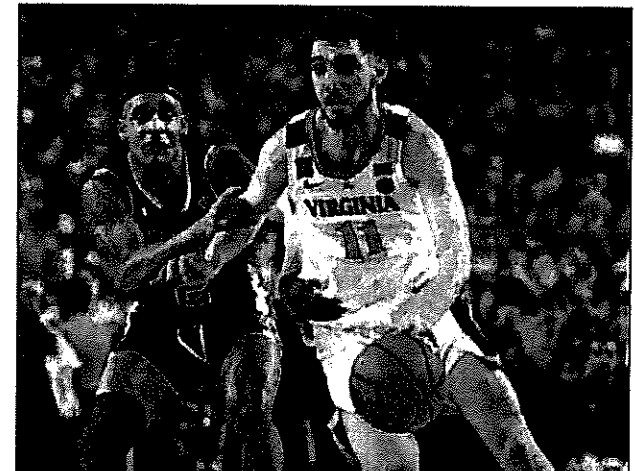
Stephens and Everly had just one practice, but the Knights' boss really liked the chemistry the players showed during that workout.

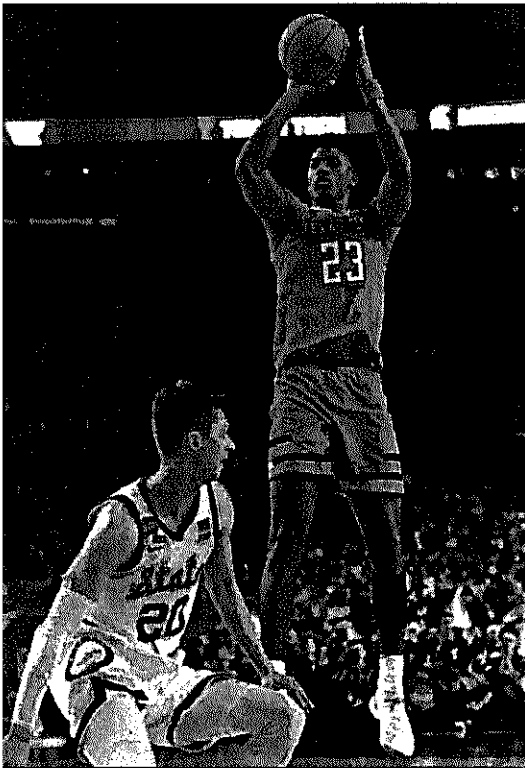
The Mountain State roster is comprised of Joel Robertson (Trinity), Ethan Travis (Oak Glen), Reed Reitter (Weir), Daniel Woods (Trinity), Travis McCoy (Hundred), Dillon Meintel (Cameron), Matt Saxon (Paden City), Garrett Haines (Morgantown), Anthony Robbins (Wheeling Central), Nick Malone (Morgantown), Cam Selders (Morgantown), Keondre King (Wheeling Park), Luka Haught (Weir), Rodney Bucklew (University) and Bryce Yoho (John Marshall).

The Ohio girls squad originally had 16 players, but one elected not to play, meaning coaches John Farrier of Bellaire and Bubba Kapral of St. John Central will have the ability to substitute evenly throughout the game.

Please see All-Star, Page C3

Nailers Fall In Home Finale Shootout, 5-4





AP Photo
Tech's Jarrett Culver (23) takes a shot during second half in the semifinals of the Final Four.

each.
 Mooney is the fifth-year player who made his way as Tech after graduation from South Dakota school he transferred to a rough year at Air

t all these Red Raiders a story like that.
 Mooney is on his 12th stop en route to a career in college over a few years. He kept battling despite the rough start, as Tech overcame a first half to head locker room leading not-so-scintillating of 23-21. It was the scoring first half Final Four since the

Spartans took a 19-17 lead over Wisconsin in a 2000 slugfest.

"We threw a lot of punches tonight," Beard said. "We tried a lot of things on defense, and fortunately most of them worked."

Culver had one block and rim protector Tariq Owens, also a grad transfer, had three more before leaving late in the second half with a leg injury.

Owens came jogging back in toward the end to the cheers of the Texas Tech crowd, which included alum Patrick Mahomes, the high-flying QB for the Chiefs.

"Pretty cool to have the MVP of the NFL on our side, cheering for us," Mooney said.

Turns out, the quarterback isn't the only Red Raider who can light up that scoreboard.

more or less at any other time during the game."

Guy swished the first two free throws to tie it and Auburn called a timeout to ice

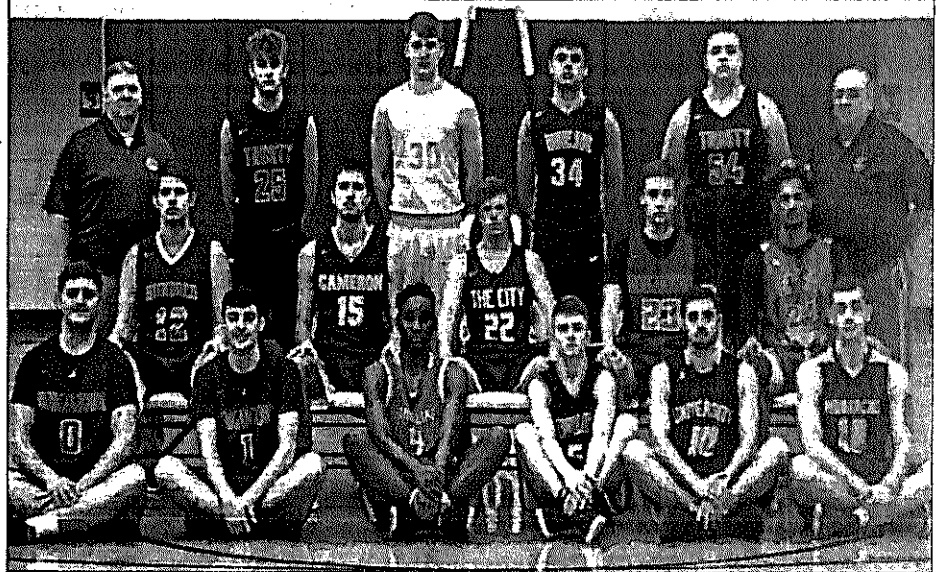


Photo Provided
Pictured is the West Virginia boys team for the annual Samuel A. Mumley OVAC All-Star Basketball Game. Front row, from left, are Nick Malone (Morgantown), Cam Selders (Morgantown), Keondre King (Wheeling Park), Luka Haught (Weir), Rodney Buckley (University) and Bryce Yoho (John Marshall). Middle row, from left, are Travis McCoy (Hundred), Dillon Meintel (Cameron), Matt Saxon (Paden City), Garrett Haines (Morgantown) and Anthony Robbins (Wheeling Central). Back row, from left, are coach Jerry Eyerly (Oak Glen), Joel Robertson (Trinity), Ethan Travis (Oak Glen), Reed Reitter (Weir), Daniel Woods (Trinity) and Coach Mel Stephens (Wheeling Central).



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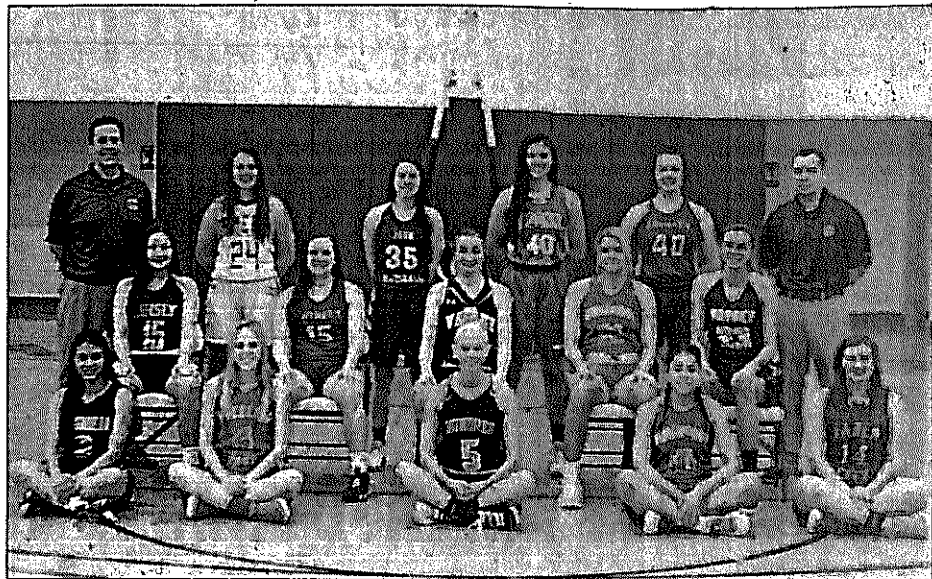


Photo Provided

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ALL-STAR

Continued from Page C1

Both Farrier and Kapral are veterans of the OVAC game. And Farrier considers it an honor each time he's invited.

Farrier also jumped at the opportunity to coach three of his own players — Maci Crozier, Natalie Stoner and Michaela Flaherty — one more time, too.

Kapral, meanwhile, has one of his own players — Kaylin Nixon — in what will be the last time St. John Central a nerenni-

ville), Cloe Siddell (Caldwell), Lauren Flannery (River).

The West Virginia girls, meanwhile, are being coached by John Marshall's Brock Melko and Madonna's Rodney Boniti.

Melko guided his Lady Monarchs to the OVAC Class 5A final, while Boniti and the Blue Dons fell short in the 1A final.

Both coaches will be joined by a representative from their teams. The Monarchs will



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Kapral, meanwhile, has one of his own players — Kaylin Nixon — in what will be the last time St. John Central, a perennial girls basketball power, is recognized in the game as the school will close after this school year.

The remainder of the Ohio squad roster consists of Sydney Starr (Harrison), Hannah Porter (Union Local), Alaire Destifanes (Buckeye Local), Emily Holzopfel (Buckeye Local), MacKenzie Orban (Indian Creek), Julia Zatta (Steubenville Catholic), Riley Felton (Southern Local), Syd Destifanes (Shadyside), Rileigh Simpson (St. Clairs-

ville), Cloe Siddell (Caldwell), Lauren Flannery (River).

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SPORTS

Sunday,
April 7, 2019

OVAC A-S hoop games set for today

By **SETH STASKEY**
Times Leader Sports Editor

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BOYS

The Buckeye State boys are being coached by St. Clairsville's Ryan Clifford and Toronto's Sean Tucker.

"Coaching the OVAC game is a really neat experience," Clifford said. "The OVAC does a great job of making this a special event and hopefully the players are able to look back this as a perfect ending to a really good basketball career."

The Ohio squad, like the others, have had a handful of practices and will the coaches will try to balance their five-player groupings as much as possible.

"We have competed against a lot of these

See, **OVAC**, Page C2



Photo/KRISTIN MAJGAJ

PICTURED IS the Ohio boys' team for the annual Samuel A. Mumley OVAC All-Star Basketball Game. Front row, from left, are Matt Busby (Toronto), Craig Bober (St. Clairsville), Trillion West (Toronto), Gabe Roach (East Liverpool), Nate Karaffa (Toronto) and Garrett Scott (Wellsville). Middle row, from left, are Mike Allen (Indian Creek), Matt Fouty (St. John), Evan Stine (Harrison Central), Clark Jennings (Caldwell) and Josh Zimmerman (Steubenville). Back row, from left, are Coach Ryan Clifford (St. Clairsville), Davis Black (Meadowbrook), Zac Jones (Monroe Central), Cal Kildow (Union Local), DeAndre Pugh (Martins Ferry) and Coach Sean Tucker (Toronto).



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St. John



en ly due to health issues, some fans felt it wasn't the same without her there.

re "There's one gentleman n- who comes to the games, he re comes to all of the Bellaire re games and he's not from se Bellaire," she said. "He told me, 'You weren't here.' I e- told him I was sick and now as I'm back."

Marinacci is certainly a t familiar face, not just with ie the locals, but with with vis- iting fans with rival schools at like Martins Ferry, St. Clairsville and Union Local. l, She enjoys seeing former n Big Red players return with l- their children.

o "It's nice to see the kids n who've come through," she :- said. "I just enjoy seeing all

the kids, especially all of the ones who've done so well. It's nice to see that."

Linda and John Mike have one daughter, Dawn. Linda said many of their daughter's former classmates come to the games with their families and it's good to see them and their children, some of which call her "grandma."

"I just enjoy seeing the people and being around the kids."

If you know of someone in sports in the Ohio Valley whom I could feature as an Ohio Valley Unsung Hero, drop me a line at rthorp@timesleaderonline.com or via Twitter @RickThorp1

• OVAC

Continued from Page C1

guys for years and it's nice to get to know them in a different way," Clifford said. "It's also nice to not have to game plan to stop them."

Clifford is especially excited for one more chance to coach two of his own players. Craig Bober and Matt Busby will put on their Red Devil uniforms one more time today.

"That's the best part for me," Clifford said of coaching his duo, which averaged almost 37 points a game. "We have been together for a long time and it's to be able to see them end their playing career this way."

Tucker will have two of his players in the game as well with Trillion West and Nate Karaffa.

The balance of the Ohio boys squad includes: Davis Black (Meadowbrook), Zac Jones (Monroe Central), Cal Kildow (Union Local), Deandre Pugh (Martins Ferry), Mike Allen (Indian Creek), Matt Fouty (St. John), Evan Stine (Harrison Central), Clark Jennings (Caldwell), Josh Zimmerman (Steubenville), Gabe Roach (East Liverpool) and Garrett Scott (Wellsville).

The West Virginia boys are being led by Wheeling Central's Mel Stephens and Oak Glen's Jerry Everly.

Stephens has become a veteran of sitting on the Mountain State bench for the annual game, but enjoys it each time.

"It's a privilege to have the chance to coach in an all-star game," Stephens said. "It's really fun to coach a lot of the kids that you've played against or watched play."

Stephens and Everly had just one practice, but the Knights' boss really liked the chemistry the players showed during that workout.

"The kids got along really well," Stephens said. "Ohio has a very good team, but I think we can be competitive. This is a chance for the players to show their abilities and for some it may be the last time they play a competitive game, so hopefully it's a good experience."

The Mountain State roster is comprised of Joel Robertson (Trinity), Ethan Travis (Oak Glen), Reed Reitter (Weir), Daniel Woods (Trinity), Travis McCoy (Hundred), Dillion Meintel (Cameron), Matt Saxon (Paden City), Garrett Haines (Morgantown), Anthony Robbins (Wheeling Central), Nick Malone (Morgantown), Cam Selders (Morgantown), Keondre King (Wheeling Park), Luka Haught (Weir), Rodney Bucklew (University) and Bryce Yoho (John Marshall).

GIRLS

The Ohio girls squad originally had 16 players, but one elected not to play, meaning coaches John Farrier of Bellaire and Bubba Kapral of St. John Central will have the ability to substitute evenly throughout the game.

Both Farrier and Kapral are veterans of the OVAC game. And Farrier considers it an honor each time he's invited.

"There is great talent on both (teams)," Farrier, who guided his Lady Reds to an OVAC 3A title and a trip to the district championship game. "It's neat seeing the players you don't always get to see during the season."

Farrier also jumped at the opportunity to coach three of his own players - Maci Crozier, Natalie Stoner and Michaela Flaherty - one more time, too.

"It's a privilege to get to enjoy this with three of my players," Farrier continued.

"The OVAC is a class (organization) and does a great job of honoring these seniors."

Kapral, meanwhile, has one of his own players Kaylin Nixon - in what will be the last time St. John Central, a perennial girls basketball power, is recognized in the game as the school will close after this school year.

The remainder of the Ohio squad roster consists of Sydney Starr (Harrison), Hannah Porter (Union Local), Alaire Destifanes (Buckeye Local), Emily Holzopfel (Buckeye Local), MacKenzie Orban (Indian Creek), Julia Zatta (Steubenville Catholic), Riley Felton (Southern Local), Syd Destifanes (Shadyside), Rileigh Simmonson (St. Claire-

WSPAPERS

weekend YOUR LIFE

WEST VIRGINIA

SUN, MAY 26, 2019

ODDLY NEWSWAPERS

TOUGH AS NAILS

Urban Challenge

Heritage Trail Bicycle Tour

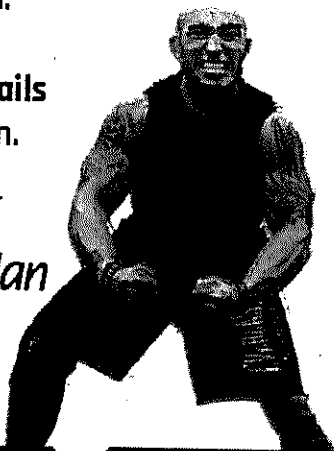
🕒 8:00 a.m.

Tough As Nails

🕒 12:00 p.m.

PRESENTED BY

The HealthPlan



ENTERTAINMENT

Weekend LIFE

May 26, 2019

DAVEICH
SHAS NAILS
Challenge

il Bicycle Tour



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CITY OF
Wheeling
WEST VIRGINIA

OHIO COUNTY
COMMISSION



It's a privilege to have the chance to coach in this game," Stephens said. "It's really fun to coach a lot of the kids that you've played against or watched play."

Stephens and Everly had just one practice, but the Knights' boss really liked the chemistry the players showed during that workout.

"The kids got along really well," Stephens said. "Ohio has a very good team, but I think we can be competitive. This is a chance for the players to show their abilities and for some it may be the last time they play a competitive game, so hopefully it's a good experience."

The Mountain State roster is comprised of Joel Robertson (Trinity), Ethan Travis (Oak Glen), Reed Reitter (Weir), Daniel Woods (Trinity), Travis McCoy (Hundred), Dillion Meintel (Cameron), Matt Saxon (Paden City), Garrett Haines (Morgantown), Anthony Robbins (Wheeling Central), Nick Malone (Morgantown), Cam Selders (Morgantown), Keondre King (Wheeling Park), Luka Haught (Weir), Rodney Bucklew (University) and Bryce Yoho (John Marshall).

GIRLS

The Ohio girls squad originally had 16 players, but one elected not to play, meaning coaches John Farrier of Bellaire and Bubba Kapral of St. John Central will have the ability to substitute evenly throughout the game.

Both Farrier and Kapral are veterans of the OVAC game. And Farrier considers it an honor each time he's invited.

"There is great talent on both (teams)," Farrier, who guided his Lady Reds to an OVAC 3A title and a trip to the district championship game. "It's neat seeing the players you don't always get to see during the season."

Farrier also jumped at the opportunity to coach three of his own players - Maci Crozier, Natalie Stoner and Michaela Flaherty - one more time, too.

"It's a privilege to get to enjoy this with three of my players," Farrier continued.

"The OVAC is a class (organization) and does a great job of honoring these seniors."

Kapral, meanwhile, has one of his own players - Kaylin Nixon - in what will be the last time St. John Central, a perennial girls basketball power, is recognized in the game as the school will close after this school year.

The remainder of the Ohio squad roster consists of Sydney Starr (Harrison), Hannah Porter (Union Local), Alaire Destifanes (Buckeye Local), Emily Holzopfel (Buckeye Local), MacKenzie Orban (Indian Creek), Julia Zatta (Steubenville Catholic), Riley Felton (Southern Local), Syd Destifanes (Shadyside), Rileigh Simpson (St. Clairsville), Cloe Siddell (Caldwell), Lauren Flannery (River).

The West Virginia girls, meanwhile, are being coached by John Marshall's Brock Melko and Madonna's Rodney Boniti.

Melko guided his Lady Monarchs to the OVAC Class 5A final, while Boniti and the Blue Dons fell short in the 1A final.

Both coaches will be joined by a representative from their teams. The Monarchs will be represented by Shay Straugn, while Madonna's Andrea Alimario got the nod.

"This is my second time coaching in the OVAC game, but this time is a little more special, having one of my own players playing in the game," Melko said. "We have a nice mixture of diverse players who have seemed to work well with the others. I am looking forward to watching some of the girls who have been rivals the last four years come together, compete and represent West Virginia."

The balance of the roster includes: Aquera Cabral (Magnolia), Emily Pavlic (Wheeling Park), Katherine Henderson (Hundred), Lexi Hughes (Morgantown), Hanna Loy (Paden City), Josie Purpura (Linsly), Reagan Sharp (Trinity), Caitlyn Underwood (Valley), Sydni Clawges (Morgantown), Hope Bowman (Brooke), Jordyn Hughes (Cameron) and Leighton Croft (Trinity).

OVAC Sets All-Star Basketball Rosters

By **SETH STASKEY**
For the News-Register

BELLAIRE — Though many prep basketball players are still competing for their respective teams, 61 seniors know they'll have at least one more game in their high school jersey.

OVAC All-Star Game Director J.R. Battista released the rosters for the annual game, which is slated for Sunday, April 7 at Ohio University Eastern's Health and Physical Education Center. The girls game will tip at 3 and the boys begin approximately 20 minutes after the girls' game concludes.

Along with the games, the players — and their parents — will be recognized at a luncheon at Undo's West in St. Clairsville. Numerous special awards will be presented during the course of the day as well.

Here's a look at the teams:

GIRLS

There are an odd amount of girls because the voting, which is done by the conference-member coaches, resulted in a tie in the top 15 for the Ohio girls, so the OVAC elected to include all 16 of those players.

See All-Star, Page C4



ALL-STAR

Continued from Page C1

The Bellaire Big Reds, who claimed the OVAC Class 3A title, lead all schools on the Ohio side of the river with three representatives. Included are Maci Crozier, Natalie Stoner and Michaela Flaherty.

Along with those three players, Bellaire's John Farrier has been named the head coach.

Buckeye Local is the only other school in Ohio to have multiple selections. Emily Holzopfel, who scored her 2,000th point in the sectional, will be joined by Alaire Destifanes.

St. John Central's final representative will be Kaylin Nixon. The All-Ohioan will play under head coach Robert "Bubba" Kapral one more time as he'll join Farrier on the Buckeye State bench.

The balance of the Ohio roster includes: Morgan Borich (Fort Frye), Syd Destifanes (Shadyside), Riley Felton (Southern Local), Lauren Flannery (River), Mackenzie Orban (Indian Creek), Hannah Porter (Union Local), Cloe Siddle (Caldwell), Raleigh Simpson (St. Clairsville), Sydney Starr (Harrison Central) and Julia Zatta (Steubenville Catholic).

The West Virginia side, which is being coached by John Marshall's Brock Melko and Madonna's Rodney Boniti, has one school with multiple representatives. Morgantown garnered two spots with Sydni Clawges and Lexi Hughes garnering a spot.

Each of the coaches will get to coach one of their premier players one more time. Representing the Monarchs will be Shay Straughn, while Andrea Alimario will represent the Blue Dons.

The remainder of the Mountain State roster includes: Hope Bowman (Brooke), Aquera Cabral (Magnolia), Leighton Croft (Trinity), Katherine Henderson (Hundred), Jordyn Hughes (Cameron), Maggie Kovalcik (Oak Glen), Hannah Loy (Paden City), Emily Pavlic (Wheeling Park), Josie Purpura (Linsly), Reagan Sharp (Trinity) and Caitlyn Underwood (Valley).

BOYS

The Ohio boys' squad will be coached by St. Clairsville's Ryan Clifford and Toronto's Sean Tucker after both guided their respective teams to the 4A and 2A title games last month.

Each coach will have two of his players on the squad, too. The Red Devils will be represented by Craig Bober and Matt Busby. Meanwhile, the Red Knights' selections are Nate Karaffa and Trillion West.

Similar to the girls, the final time a St. John Central basketball jersey is worn will come in the OVAC All-Star Game. Matt Fouty was voted into the game to represent the Irish.

The remainder of the Ohio roster includes: Mike Allan (Indian Creek), Davis Black (Meadowbrook), Clark Jennings (Caldwell), Zac Jones (Monroe Central), Cal Kildow (Union Local), Deandre Pugh (Martins Ferry), Gabe Roach (East Liverpool), Garrett Scott (Wellsville), Evan Stine (Harrison Central) and Josh Zimmerman (Steubenville).

The West Virginia squad, which will be coached by Wheeling Central's Mel Stephens and Oak Glen's Jerry Everly, will feature a heavy Morgantown flavor.

Seven players from the home of West Virginia University will be making the trip to OUE from Monongalia County.

Those from Morgantown High include Garrett Haines, Nick Malone and Cam Selders. Representing 5A OVAC champion University is Rodney Bucklew and from 1A champion Trinity are Joel Robertson and Daniel Woods.

Stephens, who guided his team to another 2A title, will coach Anthony Robbins for the last time, while Everly will have the opportunity to coach Ethan Travis again.

The remainder of the West Virginia roster includes: Luka Haught (Weir), Keondre King (Wheeling Park), Travis McCoy (Hundred), Dillon Meintel (Cameron), Reed Reitter (Weir), Matt Saxon (Paden City) and Bryce Yoho (John Marshall).

OVAC All-Star hoop rosters set

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Times Leader Sports Editor

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MEDIA NIGHT NOTE TO O.V.A.C. ALL STAR COACHES

SAMUEL A. MUMLEY OVAC ALL STAR BASKETBALL GAME OHIO vs. WEST VIRGINA MEDIA NIGHT ITINERARY SUNDAY, MARCH 24, 2019 OHIO UNIVERSITY EASTERN- 7:00 PM

- Please join us for Media Night at O.U.E.
- In an effort to organize our Media Night, please comply with the following time schedule.
- Team signs will be located through the gym area. Teams and their staffs will be available in those marked areas
- Individuals interviews may occur at any other times other than those listed.
- Sunday, April 7, 2019- **GIRLS GAME 3:00 PM- BOYS GAME 5:00 PM**

6:30-7:15 PM - Players dress in appropriately marked locker rooms

7:15 PM - Team photo Ohio All Star Boys & Coaches

7:25 PM - Team photo Ohio All Star Girls & Coaches

7:35 PM - Team photo WV All Star Boys & Coaches

7:45 PM - Team photo WV All Star Girls & Coaches

1. *Teams have been assigned areas with the signs spread throughout the gym. **Remain in those areas** so that the media will know where to locate specific coaches and players.
2. Because some of the media will be running late, All Star coaches and players are to remain in the gym for the individual or group interviews, photos, etc. until 8:00 p.m. unless dismissed.
3. Coaches **align your squads** for the picture according to the format given. **Double check their numbers.** Be sure to **note absent players** on the absent line.
4. *See **Lindsay Ammirante** and notify her of your **squads (3) 3- point shooters & slam dunk participates**
5. You may distribute the long sleeve shooting shirt or hold it until game day (they must take the size marked on the bag). Remind them they need to wear it on game day or hold it until game day. It's up to you.
6. *Coaches are to turn in the completed **luncheon reservation forms to Lindsay Ammirante** so we can turn in our totals to Undo's. **Players are free rest are \$20** which will be paid at the door the day of the luncheon.

OHIO BOYS ALL STARS

Standing: Ryan Clifford, Davis Black, Zac Jones, Cal Kildow, DeAndre Pugh, Sean Tucker

Chairs: Mike Allen, Matt Fouty, Evan Stine, Clark Jennings, Josh Zimmerman

Floor: Matt Busby, Trillion West, Craig Bober, Gabe Roach, Nate Karaffa, Garrett Scott

OHIO GIRLS ALL STARS

Standing: John Farrier, Riley Felton, Sydney Starr, Hannah Porter, Alaire Destifanes, MacKenzie Orban, Bubba Kapral

Chairs: Julia Zatta, Natalie Stoner, Morgan Borich, Emily Holzopel, Michaela Flaherty

Floor: Sydnie Destifanes, Rileigh Simpson, Cloe Siddle, Maci Crozier, Lauren Flannery, Kaylin Nixon

WV BOYS ALL STARS

Standing: Jerry Everly, Joel Robertson, Ethan Travis, Reed Reitter, Daniel Woods, Mel Stephens

Chairs: Travis McCoy, Dillion Meintel, Matt Saxon, Garrett Haines, Anthony Robbins

Floor: Nick Malone, Cam Selders, Keondre King, Luka Haught, Rodney Bucklew, Bryce Yoho

WV GIRLS ALL STARS

Standing: Rodney Boniti, Jordyn Hughes, Shay Straughn, Andrea Alimario, Leighton Croft, Brock Melko

Chairs: Josie Purpura, Reagan Sharp, Caitlyn Underwood, Syndi Clawges, Hope Bowman

Floor: Aquera Cabral, Emily Pavlic, Katherine Henderson, Lexi Hughes, Hanna Loy

OHIO BOYS ASG ROSTER-2019

Allan	Mike	Indian Creek	5
Black	Davis	Meadowbrook	22
Bober	Craig	St. Clairsville	2
Busby	Matt	St. Clairsville	1
Fouty	Matt	St. John	5
Jennings	Clark	Caldwell	12
Jones	Zac	Monroe Central	22
Karaffa	Nate	Toronto	4
Kildow	Cal	Union Local	24
Pugh	Deandre	Martins Ferry	55
Roach	Gabe	East Liverpool	3
Scott	Garrett	Wellsville	4
Stine	Evan	Harrison Central	10
West	Trillion	Toronto	1
Zimmerman	Josh	Steubenville	12

Coaches: Ryan Clifford-St. Clairsville, Sean Tucker-Toronto

OHIO GIRLS ASG 2019-ROSTER

Borich	Morgan	Fort Frye	14
Crozier	Maci	Bellaire	10
Destifanes	Alaire	Buckeye Local	24
Destifanes	Sydney	Shadyside	2
Felton	Riley	Southern Local	22
Flaherty	Michaela	Bellaire	15
Flannery	Lauren	River	10
Holzopfel	Emily	Buckeye Local	14
Nixon	Kaylin	St. John	10
Orban	Mackenzie	Indian Creek	32
Porter	Hannah	Union Local	23
Siddle	Cloe	Caldwell	5
Simpson	Raleigh	St. Clairsville	3
Starr	Sydney	Harrison Central	22
Stoner	Natalie	Bellaire	11
Zatta	Julia	Steubenville Central	10

Coaches: John Farrier-Bellaire, Bubba Kapral-St. John

WV BOYS ASG ROSTER-2019

Bucklew	Rodney	University	10
Haines	Garrett	Morgantown	23
Haight	Luka	Weir High	5
King	Keondre'	Wheeling Park	4
Malone	Nick	Morgantown	0
McCoy	Travis	Hundred	12
Meintel	Dillon	Cameron	15
Reitter	Reed	Weir High	34
Robbins	Anthony	Wheeling Central Catholic	24
Robertson	Joel	Trinity Christian School	25
Saxon	Matt	Paden City	22
Selders	Cam	Morgantown	1
Travis	Ethan	Oak Glen	30
Woods	Daniel	Trinity Christian School	54
Yoho	Bryce	John Marshall	10

Coaches: Jerry Everly-Oak Glen, Mel Stephens-Wheeling Central

WV GIRLS OVAC ASG-2019 ROSTER

Alimario	Andrea	Madonna	40
Bowman	Hope	Brooke	23
Cabral	Aquera	Magnolia	3
Clawges	Sydni	Morgantown	21
Croft	Leighton	Trinity	40
Henderson	Katherine	Hundred	5
Hughes	Jordyn	Cameron	24
Hughes	Lexi	Morgantown	10

Loy	Hannah	Paden City	14
Pavlic	Emily	Wheeling Park	4
Purpura	Josie	Linsly	15
Sharp	Reagan	Trinity Christian School	15
Straughn	Shay	John Marshall	35
Underwood	Caitlyn	Valley	20

Coaches: Rodney Boniti-Madonna, Brock Melko-John Marshall