

Counsel/B3
Comics/B4
Classified/B5-6

SPORTS

Monday,
April 11, 2022

OHIO'S HANNAH Merritt (Union Local) makes a move to the bucket as West Virginia's Ally Hicks (Linsly) defends during the second half of the OVAC Samuel A. Mumley All-Star Basketball Classic held Sunday afternoon at Wheeling Park High School.



Photos/CODY NESPOR

Scheffler wins first Masters

AUGUSTA, Ga. (AP) — Scottie Scheffler capped off an amazing two months with his grandest feat of all, winning the Masters on Sunday to validate his new status as the best player in golf.

The only stumble came at the end when Scheffler needed four putts from 40 feet before he could claim his first major, and that only mattered in the record book.

He closed with a 1-under 71 for a three-shot victory over Rory McIlroy, who holed out from the bunker on the final hole for a record-tying final round of 64 that gave him the briefest moment of hope that Sunday pressure at Augusta National might get to Scheffler.

No chance. Not on Sunday. Not the last four days. Not the last two months.

And to think it was just 56 days ago that Scheffler was still searching for his first PGA Tour victory. The 25-year-old from Dallas, built for stardom from when he was a 10-year-old wearing long pants to look the part of a pro, now has four wins in his last six tournaments.

No prize was greater than that green jacket.

The Sunday theater, thrilling and tragic, belonged to everyone else. Scheffler overcame a nervy moment early in the round by chipping in for

See, **MASTERS**, Page B2

Ohio girls storm past West Virginia

By **CODY NESPOR**
For The Times Leader

WHEELING — For just the second time in the last 10 years, the Ohio girls OVAC All-Star team defeated the West Virginia squad 98-65 in the 44th Samuel A. Mumley All Star Basketball Classic Sunday afternoon inside the Palace on the Hill at Wheeling Park High School.

The Ohio team also won the game in 2018 but other than that, the Mountain State squad has won every meeting since 2012.

The Ohio team got it done Sunday with high-energy defense that kept the

West Virginians on their heels and produced easy scoring opportunities for the visitors.

After back-and-forth play to start, Ohio's second group of five that subbed into the game and started the string of smothering defense that would lift them to victory.

"(Steubenville Central) coach (Jess) Looman did a great job of putting the three groups together and then changing them into three different groups in the second half," said Monroe Central coach Troy Baker, who led the Ohio team. "I thought all three groups were really strong and played really well together."

That second group included Steubenville Central's Katie Zatta and Fort Frye's duo of Hannah Archer and MacKenzie Dalton. They held West Virginia to a single basket while on the floor, piecing together a 12-2 scoring run that put the Buckeye Contingent up 20-9.

Baker thought that Archer and Dalton's familiarity helped spark the team's defensive effort.

"Of course, they've played together down at Fort Frye for the past four years and have got great chemistry," he said. "The Dalton girl's a lot like (Monroe Central's) Kalista Friday, she's got a

See, **BOYS**, Page B2



OHIO'S KASON Powell (Barnesville) drives baseline against West Virginia's Brooks Gage (Morgantown) during the second half of Sunday's OVAC Samuel A. Mumley All-Star Basketball Game held at Wheeling Park High School. West Virginia won.

West Virginia boys too much for Ohio

By **CODY NESPOR**
For The Times Leader

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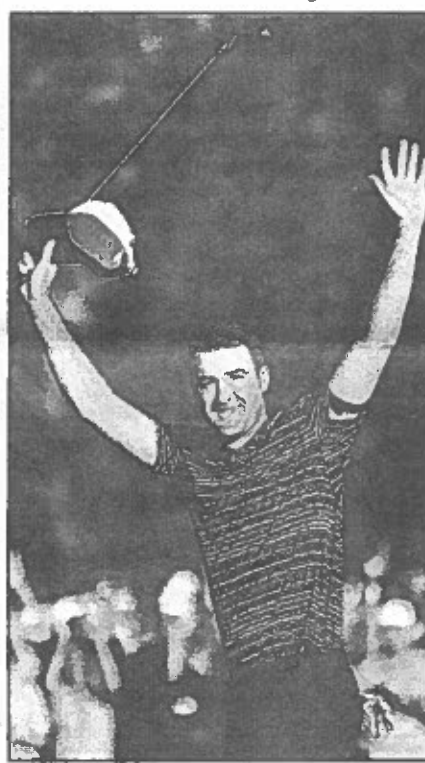
Played in the Palace on the Hill at Wheeling Park High School, both boys teams put on a show with long-range 3-pointers, sensational displays of passing and powerful dunks at the rim.

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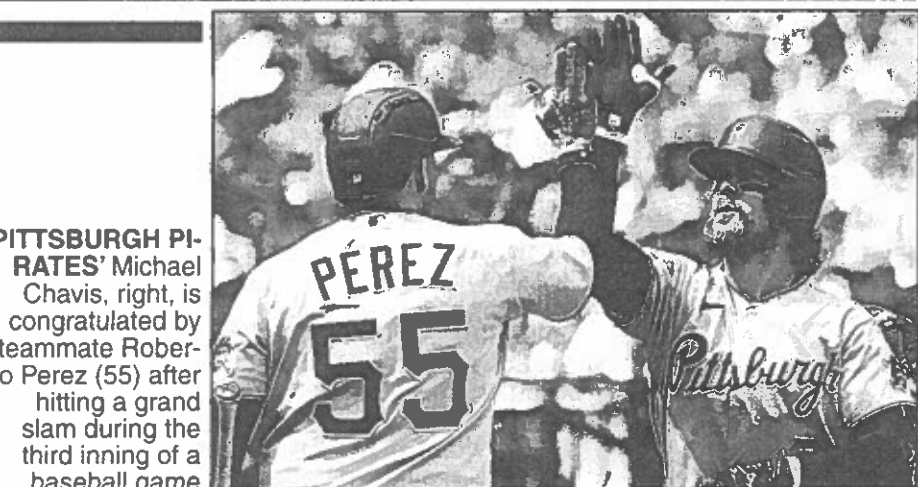
couple of times now and it's a fun game," said St. Clairsville coach Ryan Clifford, who led the contingent from the Buckeye State. "It's a nice all-star game because they play a little harder with it being Ohio versus West Virginia. It's good to have all these guys who battle all year against each other on the same team for a day and a couple of practices."

The 15-men rosters spent the first few minutes of the game feeling one another out and it was St. Clairsville's Avery Henry who grabbed the early spotlight. The big man bullied his way through West Virginia cen-

See, **BOYS**, Page B2



AP PHOTO
SCOTTIE SCHEFFLER celebrates after winning the 86th Masters golf tournament on Sunday in Augusta, Ga.



PITTSBURGH PIRATES' Michael Chavis, right, is congratulated by teammate Roberto Perez (55) after hitting a grand slam during the third inning of a baseball game

Chavis' grand slam lifts Pirates over Cardinals

ST. LOUIS (AP) — Michael Chavis has figured out the key to success with the bases loaded.

Chavis hit a go-ahead grand slam as the Pittsburgh Pirates overcame a three-run, third-inning deficit, and beat the St. Louis Cardinals 9-4 on Sunday for their first win this season.

Chavis made his first start of the season and homered off left-hander Steven

know the pressure is on the pitcher," Chavis said. "I'm huge on mental skills. I kind of change the perception from I need to produce to the pressure is on him and he has to produce. He has to make and execute pitches in order to get me out."

Chavis drove the first offering over the wall in left.

"It got us on the board and showed

Prep Schedule

Monday, April 11
BASEBALLRiver at Barnesville
Belkare at St. Clairsville
Bridgeport at Shadyside (D)
Brooke at Buckeye Local
Harrison Central at Indian Creek
Monroe Central at Steubenville Catholic
Cambridge at Union Local

SOFTBALL

Sarnesville at Shenandoah
Belkare at St. Clairsville
Bridgeport at Shadyside
River at Buckeye Local
Harrison Central at Indian Creek
Monroe Central at Bealsville
Cambridge at Union Local

OVAC ASG Boxes

OVAC ALL-STAR GAMES
BOYS

West Virginia 132, Ohio 104

OH — Beckett 3 0-0 8; Best 2 0-0 5; Bills 3 0-0 6;
Rose-Burton 2 0-0 4; Dailey 12 0-0 27; Henry 5 2-2 14;
Keenan 3 0-0 5; Louzon 1 0-0 3; McCort 2 0-0 4; Mates 4 1-2
9; Molk 5 2-2 14; Pappas 0 0-0 0; Powell 0 0-0 0; Vermillion
2 0-0 4; Ward 0 0-0 0.WV — Amstutz 2 0-0 4; Bone 0 0-0 0; Cross 1 0-0
2; Forbes 0 0-0 0; Gage 3 0-0 8; Goins 2 2-2 7; Hizer 3 0-0 5;
Howard 2 0-0 5; Isinghood 8 0-0 20; Murray 6 0-0 16; Neis-
wonger 3 0-2 6; Poland 5 0-0 13; Speranza 2 1-2 6; Wykes 3
0-0 22; Williamson 5 0-0 17.3 Pt. Goals — Ohio 9 (Beckett 2, Best 1, Dailey 3,
Louzon 1, Molk 2, West Virginia 25 (Gage 2, Goins 1, Howard
1, Isinghood 4, Murray 4, Poland 3, Speranza 1, Wykes 4,
Williamson 5).

GIRLS

Ohio 98, West Virginia 65

OH — Archer 4 0-0 11; Clark 1 0-0 2; Dalton 2 1-1 5;
Dunkle 3 0-0 6; Friday 6 4-4 17; Gebhart 1 2-3 4; Gorzy 0 0-2
0; Hastings 2 0-0 4; Hood 1 0-0 2; Jones 3 0-0 7; Kiser 2 0-0 5;
Merritt 1 1-2 3; Smith 5 1-1 11; Wray 2 1-2 5; Zatta 7 0-0 18.WV — Alatis 2 0-0 5; Ammons 3 3-4 12; Austin 1 1-2 3;
Brown 2 1-4 5; Grimm 5 0-0 10; Heitz 2 0-0 6; Helms 2 0-0 5;
Hicks 2 0-2 5; Hunnell 1 0-0 2; Platt 1 0-0 2; Mercure 1 0-0 3;
Sole 0 0-0 0; Tuttle 0 0-0 0; Walker 2 2-3 5.3 Pt. Goals — Ohio 10 (Archer 3, Friday 1, Jones 1,
Kiser 1, Zatta 4) West Virginia 11 (Alatis 1, Ammons 3, Heitz
2, Helms 1, Hicks 2, Mercure 1).

Sports on TV

Monday, April 11

AFRICA BASKETBALL LEAGUE

12 p.m.
NBATV — FAP vs. Espor Fukash (Tape)

COLLEGE GOLF

7 a.m.
GOLF — The Western Intercollegiate, First Round,

Pasadena Golf Club, Santa Cruz, Calif.

COLLEGE LACROSSE (MENS)

7 a.m.
ACCN — Cornell at Syracuse

COLLEGE SOFTBALL

7 p.m.
SECN — Alacama at Florida

MLB BASEBALL

6:30 p.m.
FS1 — NY Mets at Philadelphia9:30 p.m.
MLBW — Regional Coverage, San Diego at San Fran-

cisco OR Miami at LA Angels

NHL HOCKEY

7 p.m.
NHLN — Winnipeg at Montreal

TENNIS

5 a.m.
TENNIS — Monte Carlo-ATP Early Rounds5 a.m.
TENNIS — Monte Carlo-ATP Early Rounds

Boys

Continued from Page B1

centers Alex Isinghood from Brooke and Grant Neiswonger from John Marshall and scored at will early on.

Henry's efforts had Ohio up 21-20, but the trio from Morgantown responded in kind, as Class AAAA state champs Brooks Gage, Jalen Goins and Alec Poland all drained 3-pointers as the Mountain State squad built up a 32-26 lead midway through the first half.

"That was a lot of fun to get to coach some of these guys that we play against all year long and some of these guys that we don't really get to see," said Cameron coach Tom Hart, coaching the West Virginia side. "It's just a lot of fun seeing these guys play together. They compete against each other but then they come out passing the ball to each other and they're having fun. It was a great game, a great atmosphere and I'm just glad to be a part of it."

The action really started to pick up after the second round of substitutions as the West Virginians showed team chemistry that was far more advanced than their one week of playing together would suggest.

Oak Glen's Jontae Howard teamed with Weir's Anthony Cross, Linsly's Raef Wykes, Paden City's Brandon Hizer and Magnolia's Trevor Williamson to put on a dazzling display of team basketball. The high-flying quintet ran, passed, lobbed and shot their way to a 15-0 scoring run pushing the Mountain State's lead to 47-29.

"For the fact that we only practiced one time together and some of the guys couldn't make it, the chemistry was really good," Hart said. "They passed the ball really well, they were finding the open man a lot and they were making sure that everybody got involved in the game."

Ohio closed the half on an 11-2 run of their own, capped off by a trey by Dover's TC Molk, and W.Va. led 62-49 at the break.

The halftime entertainment was a dunk contest between three representatives from each state. Wykes and Caleb Murray from Linsly and Madonna's

Evan Bone represented West Virginia while Ohio put forth East Liverpool's Cole Dailey, Toronto's Shane Keenan and Jonathan Vermillion from Harrison Central.

Dailey won a tightly-contested decision with a pair of awe-inspiring dunks.

The start of the second half showcased even more stellar team work by West Virginia. This group also included Williamson and Wykes as well as a rotation of Isinghood, Neiswonger, Gage and Goins, among others. This scoring run stretched to 29-11 to push the hosts' lead to 93-68.

Ohio tried to fight back into the game thanks, in part, to 18 second-half points by Dailey but West Virginia got hot from range and put it away. Williamson, Wykes, Murray, Isinghood and even the big man Howard all started draining 3-pointers over the final few minutes, some from very deep. That included a near half-court shot from Howard that banked in off the backboard and drew a big cheer from the crowd. Ohio responded in kind as Dailey and Shadyside's Corey Beckett drained a few from deep as well.

"I told the guys before the game to have fun with it," Clifford said. "These are guys who, in meeting them in the last week and a half, they may make a friend that they'll have forever. It's a fun day and it's a celebration of basketball."

In total, West Virginia made 25 3-pointers, led by five from Williamson, four from each of Wykes, Murray and Isinghood and three from Poland.

Wykes led the team with 22 points, followed by 20 from Isinghood and 17 by Williamson. Murray finished with 16 and Poland had 13. Dailey led Ohio with a game-high 27 while Henry and Molk both had 14. Martins Ferry's Jaizen Miles scored nine. Beckett had eight. Keenan and Tanner Bills from Frontier each had six and Best had five. St. Clairsville's Ryan McCort, Monroe Central's Malachi Rose-Burton and Vermillion each scored four to cap off the scoring.

Pirates

Continued from Page B1

"When I do it, I'm really proud about it," Chavis said. "It's something I've had to work for. When I was growing up I was not a super-flexible person."

Diego Castillo added three hits for the Pirates, a day after the 24-year-old got his first hit in his second big league game.

Nolan Arenado hit a two-run homer in the first for St. Louis, which played its second straight game managed by bench coach Skip Schumaker, in charge while manager Oliver Marmol has the flu. Arenado has two homers and seven RBIs in three games.

Ke'Bryan Hayes, Kevin Newman and Jake Marisnick also had RBIs for the Pirates, who scored eight unanswered runs after falling behind 3-0 in the first.

Roberto Perez, Hayes and Bryan Reynolds singled in the third before Chavis' home run.

Miguel Yajure (1-0) pitched two scoreless innings. It was his first major league win in his eighth appearance. Yajure's teammates doused him with water in the clubhouse after the contest.

"It was good, everybody was yelling at me and saying congratulations," Yajure said. "I've worked really hard and it's good to finally get it."

Bryse Wilson surrendered three runs in the opening inning before tossing three scoreless innings.

"Three runs, we can overcome that," Wilson said. "The main goal was to keep the team in the game."

Matz allowed just one hit over the first two innings before imploding in the third.

"You want to go deep in games, it was really frustrating," Matz said.

Girls

Continued from Page B1

a motor that just does not quit and she got after it. Jules Hood and Abby Wayble from Buckeye Trail and Caldwell both gave us a lot of hustle plays too."

Needing a spark, West Virginia re-inserted starting center Carleigh Grimm from Linsly into the lineup and she responded with six straight points that made it 22-15 in favor of Ohio.

The boost from Grimm did not last long, however, as Ohio orchestrated a massive 24-5 run that closed out the first half and put them up 51-26 at the break.

The halftime show was a 3-point contest between three members of each squad. Zatta, Archer and Dover's Tori Jones represented Ohio while West Virginia had Grimm, Linsly teammate Haley Heitz and John Marshall's Landyn Helms. Jones won with a score of 19.

Ohio pushed its lead as high as 33 points at near the beginning of the second half, thanks to back-to-back 3-pointers by Archer.

Friday, who played for Baker at Monroe Central, also came alive in the second half. Her continuously-disruptive on-ball defense led to several steals and easy baskets in transition as she scored 11 of her 17 points after halftime.

West Virginia attempted to piece together a comeback attempt, but 3-pointers late by Zatta and Friday iced the game for the Ohioans to win 98-65.

Zatta led the victors with 18 points and four 3-points. She was followed by Friday's 17 and Archer's 11. Also standing out for Ohio was Warren center Abbie Smith, who also scored 11 points and played tough in the post against Grimm.

"Abbie's good on both sides of the floor," Baker said. "I thought she was extremely strong with the ball. If she catches it down in the post, it's pretty much two points."

Jones finished with seven while Harrison Central's McKayla Dunkle had six. Wayble, Dalton and Dover's Morgan Kiser each had five and Buckeye Trail's Kacey Hastings and Cambridge's Camryn Gebhart both scored four. Hannah Merritt from Union Local scored three and Maria Clark from Martins Ferry capped off Ohio's scoring with two points.

Clay-Battelle's Alivia Ammons led West Virginia with 12 points while making a trio of 3-pointers. Grimm was right behind her with 10 points. Linsly's Ally Hicks and Haley Heitz and Wheeling Park's Jai'lah Walker each scored six. Finished with five points were Madonna's Vanessa Alatis, John Marshall's Landyn Helms and Trinity's Avonna Brown.

Trinity's Olivia Austin and Maggie Mercure each scored three and Brooke's Madison Platt and John Marshall's Catherine Hunnell finished with two apiece.

Masters

Continued from Page B1

in for birdie. He delivered key putts to keep Cameron Smith at bay and never looked rattled, even as he was swatting at short putts at the end.

McIlroy was the runner-up. It was Smith who felt as though he let one get away. The Aussie was still in the game, three shots out of the lead, when he dumped his tee shot in Rae's Creek on the par-3 12th hole for triple bogey and ended his hopes.

Smith closed with a 73 and tied for third with Shane Lowry, who birdied the 18th for a 69.

Scheffler joined Ian Woosnam in 1991 as the only players to win a major — the Masters in both cases — in their debut at No. 1 in the world.

Everyone should have seen this coming. He won

OGDEN NEWSPAPERS
HALF MARATHON

Classic

MAY
28

his first PGA Tour victory, he capped off a most incredible 56-day stretch by making his fourth win the biggest of them all, the Masters by three shots over Rory McIlroy for his first major.

Even as a junior, he was wearing long pants in stifling Texas heat because he wanted to look the part of a tour pro he always wanted to be. Winning the Masters was beyond his

means that I'll be able to come back here for a lifetime."

The only stumble came at the end when Scheffler needed four putts from 40 feet before he could claim his first major, and that only mattered in the record book.

He closed with a 1-under 71 for a three-shot victory over McIlroy, who holed out from the bunker on the final hole for a record-tying final round of

them out because they, unfortunately, don't last forever," Justin Thomas said. "But he is doing it in the biggest tournaments. ... It's really, really impressive to see someone that young handle a moment this big so easily."

The Sunday theater, thrilling and tragic, belonged to everyone else. Scheffler overcame a nervy moment early in the round by chipping in for birdie.

THE AUSSIE WAS SUN IN THE game, three shots out of the lead, when he dumped his 9-iron in Rae's Creek on the par-3 12th hole for triple bogey and ended his hopes.

"Just a really bad swing at the wrong time," Smith said.

Smith closed with a 73 and tied for third with Shane Lowry, who birdied the 18th for a 69.

Scheffler joined Ian Woos-

Hill to win the Arnold Palmer Invitational. He rose to No. 1 in the world by winning the Match Play two weeks ago in Texas.

And now this. Scheffler, who finished at 10-under 278, won \$2.7 million from the \$15 million prize fund. That brings his total to \$8,872,200 over his last six starts.

OVAC ALL STAR BASKETBALL GAME

W.Va. Boys Put On a Show

West Virginia boys nail 25 3s in 132-104 win over Ohio

By CODY NESPOR
Sports Writer

WHEELING — In a game that more than lived up to its all-star billing, the West Virginia boys OVAC All-Stars defeated their Ohio counterparts 132-104 in the 44th Samuel A. Mumley All Star Basketball Classic Sunday afternoon.

Played in the Palace on the Hill at Wheeling Park High School, both boys teams put on a show with long-range 3-pointers, sensational displays of passing and powerful dunks at the rim.

"This game is always fun, I've been fortunate to do it a couple of times now and it's a fun game," said St. Clairsville coach Ryan Clifford, who led the contingent from the Buckeye State. "It's a nice all-star game because they play a little harder with it being Ohio versus West Virginia. It's good to have all these guys who battle all year against each other on the same team for a day and a couple of practices."

The 15-men rosters spent the first few minutes of the game feeling one another out and it was St. Clairsville's Avery Henry who grabbed the early spotlight. The big man bullied his way through West Virginia centers Alex Isinghood from Brooke and Grant Neiswonger from John Marshall and scored at will early on.

Henry's efforts had Ohio up 21-20, but the trio from Morgantown responded in kind, as Class AAAA state champs Brooks Gage, Jalen Goins and Alec Poland all drained 3-pointers and the Mountain State squad built up a 32-26 lead partway through the first half.

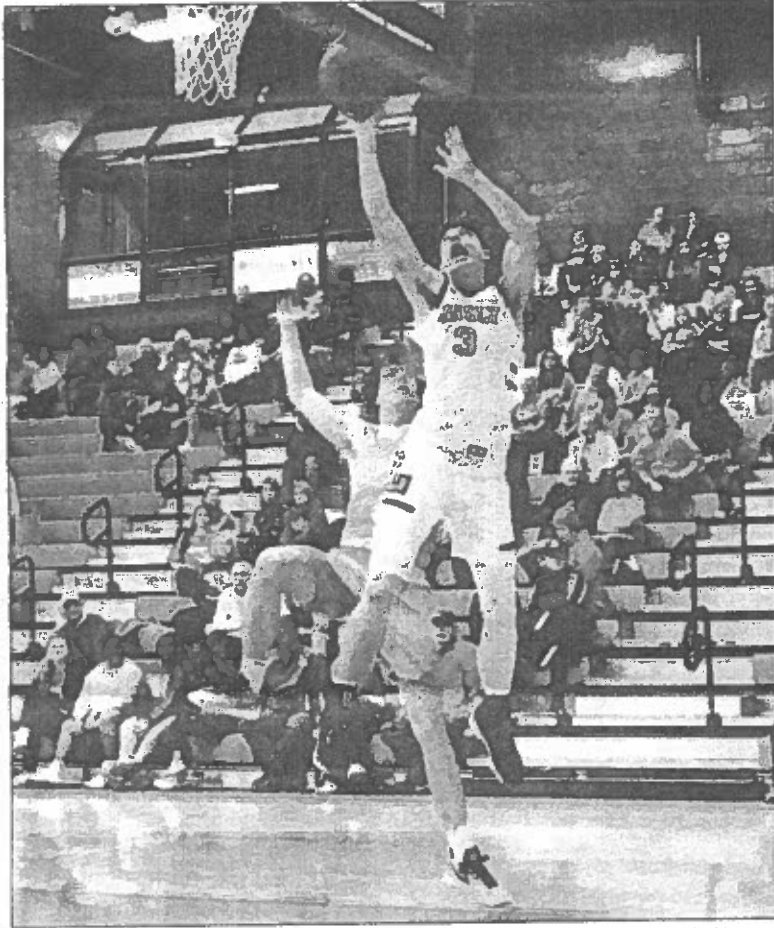


Photo by Cody Nespor

Linsly's Caleb Murray (3) scores an acrobatic layup past Frontier's Tanner Bills during Sunday's OVAC All-Star basketball game. In the game, Murray scored 16 points and made four 3-pointers.

"That was a lot of fun to get to coach some of these guys that we play against all year long and some of these guys that we don't really get to see," said Cameron coach Tom Hart, coaching the West Virginia side. "It's just a lot of fun seeing these guys play together. They compete against each other but then they come out passing the ball to each other and they're having fun. It was a great game, a great atmosphere and I'm just glad to be a part of it."

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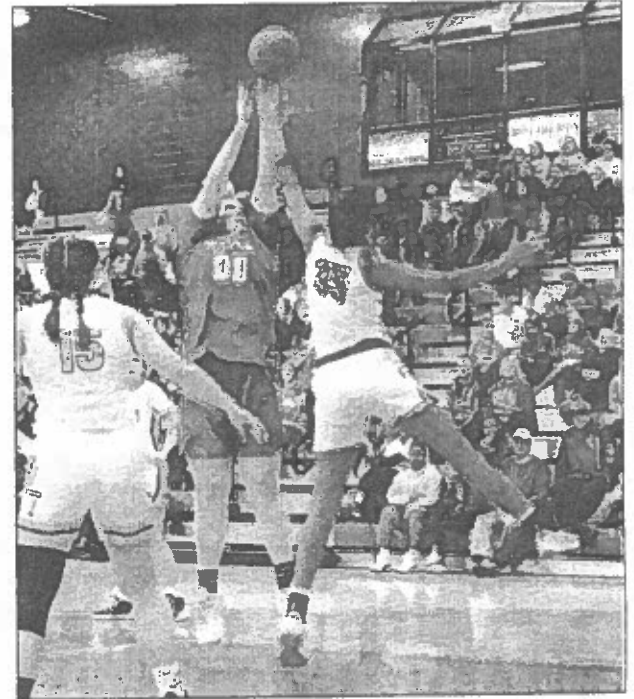


Photo by Cody Nespor

Warren's Abby Smith (00) makes a shot over Wheeling Park's Jai'lah Walker (35) during Sunday's OVAC All-Star basketball game.

Ohio Girls Buck Trend With Win

By CODY NESPOR
Sports Writer

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Please see **GIRLS**,
Page 11

Chavis' Slam Lifts Pirates Over Cards

By STEVE OVERBEY
Associated Press

ST. LOUIS — Michael Chavis has figured out the key to success with the bases loaded.

Chavis hit a go-ahead grand slam as the Pittsburgh Pirates overcame a three-run, third-inning deficit, and beat the St. Louis Cardinals 9-4 on Sunday for their first win this season.

Chavis made his first start of the season and homered off left-hander Steven Matz (0-1), who allowed seven runs and nine hits over three innings in his first start since signing a \$44 million, four-year contract.

It was the second slam of Chavis' big league career in 14 at-bats with the bases full. He finished a triple shy of the cycle.



AP Photo

Pittsburgh Pirates' Michael Chavis celebrates after hitting a grand slam against St. Louis Sunday.

Chavis drove the first offering over the wall in left.

Patriots Take Third at Dick Dei Classic

By CODY NESPOR
Sports Writer

WHEELING — The Dick Dei Classic was back in full form despite less-than-ideal weather conditions at Wheeling Park High School Saturday.

For the first time since 2019, teams from West Virginia, Ohio and Pennsylvania converged in Wheeling to participate in the day-long event.

"For the first time in about three years, it felt like normal," said Wheeling Park girls coach Bryan Arbes. "This was the kind of event we haven't seen since 2019. The biggest thing for me is getting to watch them run again and it feel like normal."

Fighting through spurts of sun, rain and sleet, Riverside from Cleveland, Ohio

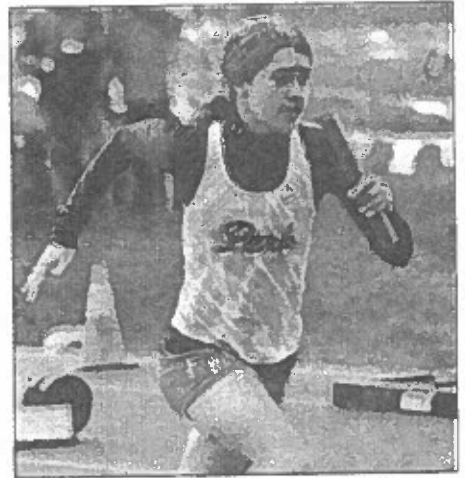


Photo by Cody Nespor

Wheeling Park's Katie Petticord runs the second leg of the 4x400 relay during the Dick Dei Classic Saturday.

nal team and Riverside has a phenomenal team," Arbes said. "There wasn't an event where I looked on the track and I didn't see a Canon McMillan or Riverside girl in the mix. Just to be in the team race with them is pretty good for us."

The Patriot girls had two event wins

Park Softball Sweeps Bridgeport

WHEELING — Shelby Crow hit a grand slam in the first inning of the first game of Saturday's doubleheader and Wheeling Park swept visiting Bridgeport, WV by scores of 6-5 in eight innings and 9-1.

In the nightcap, Katie Kozlowski doubled, singled twice and drove in three runs and Makenna Kelly delivered a double, a single and a RBI for the Patriots.

Tyler Consolidated 14-10, South Harrison 2-2

SISTERSVILLE — Braden Wall smacked two hits and plated five runs in the first game of a doubleheader, in which Tyler Consolidated swept South Harrison.

Leah Loudin had three hits and an RBI for the Silver Knights in the opener, while Havannah Lemasters added a hit and three RBI.

In the nightcap, Audrey Dennis homered, singled and drove in four runs, while Ramana Rice added three hits and four RBI.

PATRIOTS

(Continued from Page 9)

"The biggest thing was winning the shuttles, that's one of our bread and butter events," Arbes said. "Right when they started the shuttles it started sleeting so I'm happy to run what we ran in the straight sleet."

Reasbeck also logged a pair of second-place individual finishes in the 100 hurdles (16.69) and high jump (5-0). Hanna finished second in the 300 hurdles (49.85). Abby Barki came in third in the 400 (62.50). Kaylee Davis finished third in the 200 (28.24). Adriana Fazzini was the runner-up in the discus (101-01) and Olivia Charlton finished fifth in the pole vault (6-06). The team of Adlie Abraham, Gabby Romanek, Avalen Molina and Anna Brannare came in fourth in the 4x800 relay.

The Wheeling Park boys team faced an early setback when sprinter Jerre Hawkins was injured during his first race of the day and did not compete the rest of the event.

"Considering the conditions and the adversity we were fighting against, I think we did exceptionally well," said Park boys coach Barry Rideout. "Losing Jerre Hawkins in that first race really hurt our

BASEBALL

Hurricane 15, John Marshall 5

HURRICANE — Grant Neiswonger doubled and drove in two runs but Hurricane was too much for John Marshall.

Dillon Wright recorded a double and a single for the Monarchs, while teammate Ethan Neely continued to swing a hot bat with a double and an RBI.

COLLEGE

Amend Gets 600th Strikeout as WLU Takes Two from Concord

WEST LIBERTY, W.Va. - Makenzie Amend recorded her Mountain East Conference record 600th career strikeout and the West Liberty University softball team celebrated Senior Day by sweeping an MEC doubleheader from Concord Sunday afternoon at the WLU Softball Complex.

The Hilltoppers (21-12-1, 11-3) rode Amend's strong right arm to a 3-0 shutout win in the opener before holding off the upset-minded Mountain Lions (10-26, 3-13) by a 7-6 count in the second game.

Boys

(Continued from Page 9)

"For the fact that we only practiced one time together and some of the guys couldn't make it, the chemistry was really good," Hart said. "They passed the ball really well, they were finding the open man a lot and they were making sure that everybody got involved in the game."

Ohio closed the half on an 11-2 run of their own, capped off by a trey from Dover's TC Molk, and W.Va. led 62-49 at the break.

The halftime entertainment was a dunk contest between three representatives from each state. Wykes and Caleb Murray from Linsly and Madonna's Evan Bone represented West Virginia while Ohio put forth East Liverpool's Cole Dailey, Toronto's Shane Keenan and Jonathan Vermillion from Harrison Central.

Dailey won a tightly-contested decision with a pair of awe-inspiring dunks. The first was a double-dunk as he went up with a ball in each hand and flushed them both through the hoop in one motion. The second was even better as he leapt over Buckeye Local's Cameron Best, who was seated in a folding chair in the paint, and slammed the ball home.

"We've had an up-close look at Cole for four years and in just about every championship game you could be in, Cole was on the other side and we knew he was capable of that," Clifford said. "He just had a whole lot of fun with it, he was taking suggestions from the team on what to do. He wanted to jump over Avery, but Avery said 'no way' so we went with a little smaller guy."

The start of the second half showcased even more stellar team work by West Virginia. This group also included Williamson and Wykes as well as a rotation of Isinghood, Neiswonger, Gage and Goins, among others. This scoring run stretched to 29-11 to push the hosts' lead to 93-68.

"You can see their high level of basketball IQ all the way down through the

roster," Hart said. "Their basketball IQ and court knowledge is just through the roof and you could really tell from how they were playing together."

Ohio tried to fight back into the game thanks, in part, to 18 second-half points by Dailey but West Virginia got hot from range and put it away. Williamson, Wykes, Murray, Isinghood and even the big man Howard all started draining 3-pointers over the final few minutes, some from very deep. That included a near half-court shot from Howard that banked in off the backboard and drew a big cheer from the crowd. Ohio responded in kind as Dailey and Shadyside's Korey Beckett drained a few from deep as well.

"I told the guys before the game to have fun with it," Clifford said. "These are guys who, in meeting them in the last week and a half, they may make a friend that they'll have forever. It's a fun day and it's a celebration of basketball."

In total, West Virginia made 25 3-pointers, led by five from Williamson, four from each of Wykes, Murray and Isinghood and three from Poland.

Wykes led the team with 22 points, followed by 20 from Isinghood and 17 by Williamson. Murray finished with 16 and Poland had 13. Gage scored eight, Goins scored seven, Brooke's Cole Sperlazza, Neiswonger and Hizer each had six and Howard finished with five points and a couple of blocks on Henry. Madonna's Matt Amaismeier had four and Cross rounded out the scoring with two.

Dailey led Ohio with a game-high 27 while Henry and Molk both had 14. Martins Ferry's Jaizen Miles scored nine, Beckett had eight, Keenan and Tanner Bills from Frontier each had six and Best had five. St. Clairsville's Ryan McCort, Monroe Central's Malachi Rose-Burton and Vermillion each scored four to cap off the scoring.

GIRLS

(Continued from Page 9)

Baker thought that Archer and Dalton's familiarity helped spark the team's defensive effort.

"Of course, they've played together down at Fort Frye for the past four years and have got great chemistry," he said. "The Dalton girl's a lot like (Monroe Central's) Kalista Friday, she's got a motor that just does not quit and she got after it. Jules Hood and Abby Wayble from Buckeye Trail and Caldwell both gave us a lot of hustle plays too."

Needing a spark, West Virginia re-inserted starting center Carleigh Grimm from Linsly into the lineup and she responded with six straight points that made it 22-15 in favor of Ohio.

"She's a special kid, and not because of her athletic ability, but because of who she is," Linsly coach Rebecca Upton said of Grimm. "I was proud of all of the kids that were out here today."

Upton coached the West Virginia team alongside Trinity coach Mike Baldy.

The boost from Grimm did not last long, however, as Ohio orchestrated a massive 24-5 run that closed out the first half and put them up 51-26 at the break.

The halftime show was a 3-point contest between three members of each squad. Zatta, Archer and Dover's Tori Jones represented Ohio while West Virginia had Grimm, Linsly teammate Haley Heitz and John Marshall's Landyn Helms. Jones won with a score of 19.

Ohio pushed its lead as high as 33 points near the beginning of the second half, thanks to back-to-back 3-pointers by Archer.

Friday, who played for Baker at Monroe Central, also came alive in the second half. Her continuously-disruptive on-ball defense led to several steals and easy baskets in transition as she scored 11 of her 17 points after halftime.

"When there's a ball around, Kalista's

ready to play," Baker said. "She plays hard all the time, I never have to worry about effort, it's going to come."

"It was great to get that last win with Kalista Friday. Most of the time you don't get to end your career with an athlete with a win."

West Virginia attempted to piece together a comeback attempt, but 3-pointers late by Zatta and Friday iced the game for the Ohioans to win 98-65.

Zatta led the victors with 18 points and four 3-points. She was followed by Friday's 17 and Archer's 11. Also standing out for Ohio was Warren center Abbie Smith, who also scored 11 points and played tough in the post against Grimm.

"Abbie's good on both sides of the floor," Baker said. "I thought she was extremely strong with the ball. If she catches it down in the post, it's pretty much two points."

Jones finished with seven while Harrison Central's McKayla Dunkle had six. Wayble, Dalton and Dover's Morgan Kiser each had five and Buckeye Trail's Kacey Hastings and Cambridge's Camryn Gebhart both scored four. Hannah Merrit from Union Local scored three and Maria Clark from Martins Ferry capped off Ohio's scoring with two points.

Clay-Battelle's Alivia Ammons led West Virginia with 12 points while making a trio of 3-pointers. Grimm was right behind her with 10 points.

Linsly's Ally Hicks and Haley Heitz and Wheeling Park's Jai'lah Walker each scored six. Finishing with five points were Madonna's Vanessa Alatis, John Marshall's Landyn Helms and Trinity's Avonna Brown.

Trinity's Olivia Austin and Maggie Mercure each scored three and Brooke's Madison Platt and John Marshall's Catherine Hunnel finished with two apiece.

PIRATES

(Continued from Page 9)

Chavis was just as pleased with his play at first base. Twice, he had to do the splits to grab a throw from his infielders.

"When I do it, I'm really proud about it," Chavis said. "It's something I've had to work for. When I was growing up I was not a super-flexible person."

Roberto Perez, Hayes and Bryan Reynolds singled in the third before Chavis' home run.

Miguel Yajure (1-0) pitched two scoreless innings. It was his first major league win in his eighth appearance. Yajure's teammates doused him with

LOCAL CARD

Monday, April 11
Baseball

Cameron at Wheeling Central
Linsly at University
Ritchie County at Tyler
Magnolia at Valley
Jefferson County at Paden City
River at Barnesville
Bellaire at St. Clairsville
Bridgeport at Shadyside
Brooke at Buckeye Local
Harrison Central at Indian Creek
Monroe Central at Steubenville Catholic
Cambridge at Union Local

OVAC ALL-STAR

(at Wheeling Park High School)

GIRLS
Ohio 98, West Virginia 65
OH — Archer 4 0-0 11; Clark 1 0-0 2; Dalton 2 1-1 5; Dunkle 3 0-0 6; Friday 6 4-4 17; Gebhart 1 2-3 4; Gorby 0 0-2 0; Hastings 2 0-0 4; Hood 1 0-0 2; Jones 3 0-0 7; Kiser 2 0-0 5; Merritt 1 1-2 3; Smith 5 1-1 11; Wayble 2 1-2 5; Zatta 7 0-0 18.
WV — Alatis 2 0-0 5; Ammons 3 3-4 12; Austin 1 1-2 3; Brown 2 1-4 5; Grimm 5 0-0 10; Heitz 2 0-0 6; Helms 2 0-0 5; Hicks 2 0-2 6; Hunnell 1 0-0 3; Platt 1 0-0 2; Mercure 1 0-0 3; Soles 0 0-0 0; Tuttle 0 0-0 0; Walker 2 2-3 6.
3 Pt. Goals — Ohio 10 (Archer 3, Friday 1, Jones 1, Kiser 1, Zatta 4). West Virginia 11 (Alatis 1, Ammons 3, Heitz 2, Helms 1, Hicks 2, Mercure 1).
Ohio 51 47 — 98
West Virginia 26 39 — 65

BOYS
West Virginia 132, Ohio 104
OH — Beckett 3 0-0 8; Best 2 0-0 5; Bills 3 0-0 6; Rose-Burton 2 0-0 4; Dailey 12 0-0 27; Henry 6 2-2 14; Keenan 3 0-0 6; Louden 1 0-0 3; McCort 2 0-0 4; Miles 4 1-2 9; Molk 5 2-2 14; Pappas 0 0-0 0; Powell 0 0-0 0; Vermillion 2 0-0 4; Ward 0 0-0 0.
W.V. — Amaismeier 2 0-0 4; Bone 0 0-0 0; Cross 1 0-0 2; Forbes 0 0-0 0; Gage 3 0-0 8; Goins 2 2-2 7; Hizer 3 0-0 6; Howard 2 0-0 5; Isinghood 8 0-0 20; Murray 6 0-0 16; Neiswonger 3 0-2 6; Poland 5 0-0 13; Sperlazza 2 1-2 6; Wykes 9 0-0 22; Williamson 6 0-0 17.
3 Pt. Goals — Ohio 9 (Beckett 2, Best 1, Dailey 3, Louden 1, Molk 2, West Virginia 25 (Gage 2, Goins 1, Howard 1, Isinghood 4, Murray 4, Poland 3, Sperlazza 1, Wykes 4, Williamson 5).
Ohio 49 55 — 104
West Virginia 62 70 — 132

MLB

AMERICAN LEAGUE
Saturday's Games

Tampa Bay 5, Baltimore 3
Seattle 4, Minnesota 3
Toronto 4, Texas 3
Philadelphia 4, Oakland 2
KC 1, Cleveland 0, 10 innings
N.Y. Yankees 4, Boston 2
L.A. Angels 2, Houston 0

Sunday's Games

Oakland 4, Philadelphia 1
Chicago White Sox 10, Detroit 1
Tampa Bay 8, Baltimore 0
Texas 12, Toronto 6
Cleveland 17, Kansas City 3
Minnesota 10, Seattle 4
Houston 4, L.A. Angels 1
Boston at N.Y. Yankees

Monday's Games

Cleveland (Civale 0-0) at Kansas City (Hernandez 0-0), 2:10 p.m.
Milwaukee (Houser 0-0) at Baltimore (Zimmermann 0-0), 3:05 p.m.
Colorado (Gomber 0-0) at Texas (Hearn 0-0), 4:05 p.m.
Boston (Wacha 0-0) at Detroit (Manning 0-0), 5:10 p.m.
Oakland (Blackburn 0-0) at Tampa Bay (Patino 0-0), 6:40 p.m.
Toronto (Manoah 0-0) at N.Y. Yankees (Taillon 0-0), 7:05 p.m.
Seattle (Flexen 0-0) at Minnesota (Bundy 0-0), 7:40 p.m.
Miami (Hernandez 0-0) at L.A. Angels (Lorenzen 0-0), 9:38 p.m.

NATIONAL LEAGUE
Saturday's Games

St. Louis 6, Pittsburgh 2
Chicago Cubs 9, Milwaukee 0
Philadelphia 4, Oakland 2
Miami 2, San Francisco 1
Atlanta 2, Cincinnati 1
N.Y. Mets 5, Washington 0
Colorado 3, L.A. Dodgers 2
San Diego 5, Arizona 2

Sunday's Games

Oakland 4, Philadelphia 1
Washington 4, N.Y. Mets 2
Cincinnati 6, Atlanta 3
Milwaukee 5, Chicago Cubs 4
Pittsburgh 9, St. Louis 4
Colorado 9, L.A. Dodgers 4
San Francisco 3, Miami 2

SPORTS ON TV

Monday, April 11
AFRICA BASKETBALL LEAGUE
12 p.m.

NBATV — FAP vs. Espoir
Fukash (Taped)

COLLEGE GOLF

7 p.m.
GOLF — The Western
Intercollegiate: First Round,
Pasatiempo Golf Club, Santa Cruz, Calif.

COLLEGE LACROSSE (MEN'S)

7 p.m.
ACCN — Cornell at Colgate

ECHL

GOLF
 ■ 3 p.m. — PGA
 Tour: The Masters,
 Third Round, CBS

**SUNDAY'S BEST
 MLB**
 ■ 2 p.m. — Pitts-
 burgh at St. Louis, ATT
 ■ 7 p.m. — Boston at
 NY Yankees, ESPN

NHL
 ■ 1:30 p.m. — Bos-
 ton at Washington, TNT
 ■ 4 p.m. — Nashville
 at Pittsburgh, TNT

GOLF
 ■ 2 p.m. — PGA
 Tour: The Masters, Final
 Round, CBS

NBA
 ■ 3:45 p.m. — Indi-
 ana at Brooklyn, ESPN
 ■ 7 p.m. — Boston
 at Memphis, TNT
 ■ 9:30 p.m. — Gold-
 en State at New Orleans,
 TNT



Photo by Kim North

Linsly's Trey Prather attempts to tag Bellaire's Jaiden Kesterson Friday.

Bellaire Scores 4 Runs in Final 2 Innings in Win

**By KIM NORTH
 For the News-Register**
NEFFS — There are
 times, especially in high
 school sports, when
 team's records can be
 overlooked. Such was
 the case Friday on chill-
 filled John Blacker Field
 as Linsly rolled into Bel-
 mont County with a spot-
 less 10-0 record while
 host Bellaire was strug-
 gling along at 0-5.

The Big Reds stunned
 the Cadets with two runs
 in the bottom of the sixth
 and another pair in the
 seventh for a much-need-
 ed, 4-3, victory.

"Our record is deceiv-

ing ... very deceiving,"
 an elated Bellaire head
 coach Josh Kernik said.
 "The group of boys are
 fine ballplayers. They
 know how to carry them-
 selves. We really needed
 this (victory)."

Jakob Dowling
 sparked the game-win-
 ning rally with an infield
 single to the hole at short.
 Jake Heatherington bunt-
 ed back to the mound and
 reliever Adam Och threw
 to first as Dowling took
 second. Winning pitch-
 er Chance Maffe hit a
 dribbler in front of the
 mound that Och fielded
 and threw to first for the

second out, but Kaden
 Banal's chopper to third
 was thrown wildly to
 first as Dowling raced
 home to tie the game at
 3. Banal went to second
 on an errant pickoff at-
 tempt and rounded third
 and scored on Brayden
 Roth's infield single
 up the middle that was
 knocked down by Trey
 Prather behind second
 base, but Roth just beat
 the throw to first to ignite
 a bench-clearing celebra-
 tion and dogpile by the
 Big Reds.

Please see **Rally**
 Page C7



Photo by Cody Tomer

Wheeling Park third baseman Hayley Thompson makes a throw to first base Friday.

Weir Holds Off Late Park Rally

**By CODY TOMER
 Sports Writer**
WHEELING —
 Weir's softball team
 took a 6-0 lead early on
 Friday but coach John
 Leary felt his team got
 complacent.

The Red Riders held
 on for a 6-3 win over
 host Wheeling Park
 but Leary is hoping his
 team can learn from the
 victory.

"We hit early on and
 I was happy about that,"
 Leary said. "But I was
 upset with the fact that
 I think we got content.
 I know it's cold and we
 were playing a good
 team with good pitch-
 ers but we got six runs
 and just sat on it. I told
 them after the game,

"That could come back
 to haunt you." I was get-
 ting worried toward the
 end."

In the opposing dug-
 out, Park coach Pat
 Durkin was happy to
 see his team's late rally
 even though it fell
 short.

"I think our girls kind
 of woke up after the
 second inning," Durkin
 said. "I was really
 proud of them. We were
 down 6-0, we were fac-
 ing good pitching and it
 was cold. It could have
 been easy to give up
 but we put some walks
 together and some hits
 together and we didn't
 quit."

Please see **WEIR**,
 Page C2

OVAC All-Star Basketball Games Set for Sunday

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

The basketball stars of the Ohio Valley Athletic Conference are set to shine one more time.

Sixty seniors from all over the OVAC will converge on Wheeling Park High School's Palace on the Hill Sunday to play in the annual OVAC Samuel A. Mumley All-Star Basketball Game.

The girls game will begin the day's activities, tipping off at 1 p.m. and the boys game will follow at approximately 3 p.m.

The players and coaches in the game are:

Ohio Boys

Korey Beckett (Shadyside), Cameron Best (Buckeye Local), Tanner Bills (Frontier), Malachi Rose-Burton (Monroe Central), Cole Dailey (East Liverpool), Avery Henry (St. Clairsville), Shane Keenan (Toronto), Brandon Louden (Beallsville), Ryan McCort (St. Clairsville), Jaizen Miles (Martins Ferry), TC Molk (Dover), Skyler Pappas (Beaver Local), Kason

Powell (Barnesville), Jonathan Vermillion (Harrison Central), Owen Ward (Bellaire) and Garson Imes (Conotton Valley). Coaching the Ohio squad are Ryan Clifford (St. Clairsville) and Jon Perkins (Monroe Central).

West Virginia Boys

Matthew Amaismeier (Madonna), Evan Bone (Madonna), Anthony Cross (Weir), Aaron Forbes (University), Brooks Gage (Morgantown), Jalen Goins (Morgantown), Brandon Hizer (Paden City), Jontae Howard (Oak Glen), Alex Isinghood (Brooke), Caleb Murray (Linsly), Grant Neiswonger (John Marshall), Alec Poland (Morgantown), Cole Sperlazza (Brooke), Raef Wykes (Linsly) and Trevor Williamson (Magnolia). Coaching the West Virginia squad are Tom Hart (Cameron) and Adam Shinsky (Brooke).

West Virginia Girls

Vanessa Alatis (Madonna), Alivia Ammons (Clay-Battelle), Olivia Austin (Trinity), Avonna Brown (Trinity), Carleigh Grimm (Linsly), Haley Heitz (Linsly), Landyn Helms (John Mar-

shall), Ally Hicks (Linsly), Catherine Hunnell (John Marshall), Zariah Marling (Wheeling Park), Madison Platt (Brooke), Maggie Mercure (Trinity), Kimberly Soles (Valley), Addie Tuttle (Hundred) and Jailah Walker (Wheeling Park). Coaching the West Virginia squad are Mike Baldy (Trinity) and Rebecca Upton (Linsly).

Ohio Girls

Hannah Archer (Fort Frye), Maria Clark (Martins Ferry), Mackenzie Dalton (Fort Frye), McKayla Dunkle (Harrison Central), Kalista Friday (Monroe Central), Camryn Gebhart (Cambridge), Paige Gorby (Shadyside), Kacey Hastings (Buckeye Trail), Jules Hood (Caldwell), Tori Jones (Dover), Morgan Kiser (Dover), Hannah Merritt (Union Local), Abbie Smith (Warren), Abby Wayble (Buckeye Trail), Katie Zatta (Steubenville Central). Coaching the Ohio squad are Troy Baker (Monroe Central) and Jess Looman (Steubenville Central).

The Ohio boys squad actually has 16 names listed on its roster because

Conotton Valley's Garson Imes is injured and unable to play. He was injured in an automobile accident in February.

At halftime, the girls will compete in a 3-point shootout, while a slam dunk competition will be held at halftime of the boys game. Each state will select three competitors for both competitions.

Along with the games, there will be several special award presentations during the course of the afternoon.

Special award recipients are: Roxy Siburt (Thomas E. Rataiczak Timer/Scorekeeper Award), Al Kennedy (Richard Saffield Girls Coach Award), Joe Hissom (Robert Dawson Officials Award), Mike Granato (Earl Habersfield Boys Coach Award) and the late Bob Battista (Bob Burton Service Award).

On top of those, the Ohio Valley Board of Officials will present the annual Phil Lewton Sportsmanship Award to the St. Clairsville girls and Bridgeport boys programs.

Scheffler Builds 5-Shot Masters Lead

**By DOUG FERGUSON
 AP Golf Writer**

AUGUSTA, Ga. — The wind roaring through the Georgia pines gave Tiger Woods and so many others all they could handle Friday in the Masters.

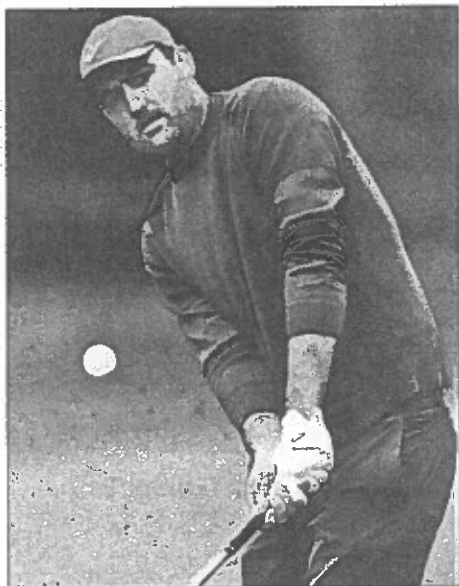
And then Scottie Scheffler made it feel even tougher.

In his debut as the new No. 1 player in the world, Scheffler looked the part. He was bogey-free over the final 15 holes for a 5-under 67, tying the Masters record by building a five-shot lead going into the weekend.

Only four other players in Masters history have led by five shots after 36 holes, most recently Jordan Spieth in 2015. All of them went on to win.

"I put myself in position, where I'm in position to win this golf tournament. I couldn't ask for anything more after 36 holes," Scheffler said. "My game feels like it's in a good spot. I've just got to keep doing what I'm doing and not overthink things."

Scheffler, the 25-year-old Texas



AP Photo

Scottie Scheffler chips to the 14th green during the second round at the Masters golf tournament on Friday.

Longhorn, has won three of his last five starts on the PGA Tour and doesn't appear to be overwhelmed by the stage of Augusta National.

He was at 8-under 136, five shots clear of defending champion Hideki Matsuyama (69), former champion Charl Schwartzel (69), former British Open champion Shane Lowry (68) and 18-hole leader Sungjae Im (74).

Please see **MASTERS**, Page C5

Goaltending, Defense Shine In 2-1 Win

INDIANAPOLIS, IN — The Wheeling Nailers started their road trip in a Field of Dreams, and as they leave the trip, the dream of returning to third place has come true. On Friday night, Wheeling got early second period goals from Adam Smith and Tim Doherty, then looked to goaltender Louis-Philip Guindon, who made 21 saves. The Nailers were victorious 2-1 over the Indy Fuel at Indiana Farmers Coliseum, and did not take a single penalty in the entire contest.

The Nailers came out with all sorts of energy, and although the first period concluded with a scoreless deadlock, it was only going to be a matter of time before the visitors broke through. The opening marker came at the 38-second mark of the middle frame. Sam Houde dangled his way toward the slot to get a shot off, which was blocked. However, the rebound came out to Adam Smith, who jammed away on the right side, and got the puck to slide under netminder Justin Kapelmaster. Wheeling added to its lead less than four



Photo by Joe Lovell

Wheeling goaltender Louis-Philip Guindon makes a save in a game earlier this season. Guindon made 21 saves in a victory Friday night.

minutes later. Sean Josling held onto the puck in the right circle, before shoveling a pass to Tim Doherty in the middle of the slot. Josling's patience forced Kapelmaster to lunge across his crease, as Doherty flew his shot into the cage.

The Nailers continued their strong defensive play in the third period, and came less than two minutes away from putting a zero on the opposing side of the scoreboard.

Please see **SHINE**, Page C3

Bellaire and Roger Hordinsky of Moundsville (1950s); Bob Bruney of Martins Ferry and Gary "Tony" Marvin of Wheeling (1960s); Courtney Snyder of Steubenville and Richard Summers of Sistersville (1970s); Lori Heady of Buckeye Trail and Jeff Woofler of Oak Glen (1980s); Darin Ford of Cambridge and Curtis McGee of Wheeling Central (1990s); D.J. Duke of River and Stephanie Morgan of Barnesville (2000s); and Teddy Jo Maslowski of Steubenville Catholic (2010s).

The OVAC Hall of Fame is sponsored by the Robinson Auto Group. The "Hall" and the OVAC Museum are located inside WesBanco Arena.

Next week, this year's selections in the "Legends of OVAC Schools" category will be announced. Those individuals, who played or coached either before the OVAC began (1943) or before their school joined the conference, will also be honored

in West Virginia) with nine OVAC tournament or regular season titles (1976, '80, '82, '94, '98, 2000, '01, '02, '09), 10 regional championships, one West Virginia Class AA State Championship (2006 with 24-7 record) and three state runner-up finishes (1984, 2003, 2013). His teams enjoyed nine 20-wins seasons and five 30-win seasons.

Cisar was the 2007 West Virginia State High School Baseball Coach of the Year.

He went 158-107 in 24 seasons as head football coach with four OVAC titles (1981, '91, '92, '98); seven WVSSAC playoff appearances (1978, '81, '83, '86, '88, '92 and '93) and three state runner-up finishes (1981, '92 and '93). He was the winning coach in the 1979 OVAC Rudy Mumley All-Star Football Game and he also coached in the 1982 West Virginia North-South All-Star Football Classic. He was the 1981 and 1988

the quarterback in football at Bishop Donahue in 1964. Cisar transferred to West Liberty State College after one year at Miami-Dade Junior College and was a three-year standout pitcher on the diamond (1967-69) and two-year captain. The Hilltoppers were 1969 WVIAC champions and went 30-5 in league play during Cisar's three years on the diamond.

New Martinsville named the road near the athletic fields "Dave Cisar Way".

Terry Depew (Coach) (Juniata (Pa.) High School, Class of 1969)

This versatile coach spent more than a quarter century patrolling the sidelines of Lockhart Alumni Field on the Linsly campus in Wheeling and he was also the valuable right-hand man to a fellow Hall of Famer with the highly-successful Cadet baseball program.

Depew served as head football coach at Linsly for 26 seasons (1980-

and Class 1A in 1996 and 2004.

He coached the West Virginia squad in the OVAC Rudy Mumley All-Star Football Game five times (1984, '87, '92, '97 and 2005).

Depew - who coached three Hall of Fame grid-ers in Willie Clay, Eddie Drummond and Dan Stephens - received the Carl Hamill Award for coaches from the Upper Ohio Valley Dapper Dan Club in 1993. He was succeeded as Linsly's head football coach in 2006 by his son, B.J. Depew, who led the Cadets to their fourth unbeaten season (10-0) in 2011, meaning a member of the Depew family has led Linsly's football team for more than four decades.

In the spring, Depew served as an assistant coach under Hall of Famer Gary Sprague, helping lead the Cadets to 13 OVAC championships.

In addition to his coaching, Depew - a native of Mifflintown (Pa.) and a

the Ohio Valley Board of Approved Basketball Officials (he's was awarded honorary lifetime membership upon his retirement), Coyne worked primarily in the Ohio Valley Athletic Conference but called games throughout Ohio and West Virginia.

All told, Coyne worked a total of 24 state basketball tournaments (17 in Ohio and seven in West Virginia) as well as countless sectional/district/regional level contests, OVAC Tournament games and OVAC Samuel A. Mumley All-Star Basketball Games.

Coyne also refereed the highly-publicized match-up featuring LeBron James and Akron St. Vincent-St. Mary against Carmelo Anthony and Oak Hill in Columbus in 2002.

Coyne was honored with induction into the Ohio High School Athletic Association's Officials Hall of Fame in 2008. He was named the OHSAA Official of the Year in

ing six WVSSAC State Tournaments in either Parkersburg or Charleston. He also had 31 West Virginia Sectional games and 20 Region 1 Tournament games to his credit along with eight Ohio Valley Athletic Conference Tournament games.

DiBacco also spent 31 years working college baseball contests, including the NCAA Division III Regional Tournament in Marietta and home games for countless teams including Bethany, West Liberty, Washington & Jefferson, Pitt, West Virginia, Kent State, Duquesne, Point Park and LaRoche.

He also had 32 years with American Legion action, including eight West Virginia State Tournaments, six National Legion Regional Tournaments and the 1991 American Legion World Series in Boyertown, Pa.

DiBacco umpired at the U.S Olympic Trials in 1992 in Millington Tennessee.

OVAC Samuel A. Mumley all-star basketball games tip Sunday

By **SETH STASKEY**
Times Leader Sports Editor

The basketball stars of the Ohio Valley Athletic Conference are set to shine one more time.

Sixty seniors from all over the OVAC will converge on Wheeling Park High School's Palace on the Hill Sunday to play in the annual OVAC Samuel A. Mumley All-Star Basketball Game.

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(Beaver Local), Kason Powell (Barnesville), Jonathan Vermillion (Harrison Central), Owen Ward (Bellaire) and Garson Imes (Conotton Valley). Coaching the Ohio squad are Ryan Clifford (St. Clairsville) and Jon Perkins (Monroe Central).

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West Virginia Girls

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Carleigh Grimm (Linsly), Haley Heitz (Linsly), Landyn Helms (John Marshall), Ally Hicks (Linsly), Catherine Hunnell (John Marshall), Zariah Marling (Wheeling Park), Madison Platt (Brooke), Maggie Mercure (Trinity), Kimberly Soles (Valley), Addie Tuttle (Hundred) and Jailah Walker (Wheeling Park). Coaching the West Virginia squad are Mike Baldy (Trinity) and Rebecca Upton (Linsly).

Ohio Girls

Hannah Archer (Fort Frye), Maria Clark (Martins Ferry), Mackenzie Dalton (Fort Frye), McKayla Dunkle (Harrison Central), Kalista Friday (Monroe Central), Camryn Gebhart (Cambridge), Paige Gorby (Shadyside), Kacey Hastings (Buckeye Trail), Jules Hood (Caldwell), Tori Jones (Dover), Morgan Kiser (Dover), Hannah Merritt (Union Local), Abbie Smith (Warren), Abby Wayble (Buckeye Trail), Katie Zatta (Steubenville Central). Coaching the Ohio squad are Troy Baker (Monroe Central) and Jess Looman (Steubenville Central).

The Ohio boys squad actually has 16 names listed on its roster because Conotton Valley's Garson Imes is injured and unable to play. He was injured in an automobile accident in February.

At halftime, the girls will compete in a 3-point shootout, while a slam dunk competition will be held at halftime of the boys game. Each state will select three competitors for both competitions.

Along with the games, there will be several special award presentations during the course of the afternoon.

Special award recipients are: Roxy Siburt (Thomas E. Rataiczak Timer/Scorekeeper Award), Al Kennedy (Richard Saffield Girls Coach Award), Joe Hissom (Robert Dawson Officials Award), Mike Granato (Earl Haberfield Boys Coach Award) and the late Bob Battista (Bob Burton Service Award).

On top of those, the Ohio Valley Board of Officials will present the annual Phil Lewton Sportsmanship Award to the St. Clairsville girls and Bridgeport boys programs.

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OVAC All-Star Basketball Classic rosters released

By **SETH STASKEY**
Times Leader Sports Editor

The senior basketball stars of the Ohio Valley Athletic Conference will get one final opportunity to shine one more time.

The annual Samuel A. Mumley OVAC All-Star Basketball Classic will be held on Sunday, April 10 at Wheeling Park High School. The girls game will begin at 1 p.m. and the boys game will tip off at 3 p.m.

Along with the games, several special presentations and awards will occur during the course of the day.

The Ohio girls coaches chosen are Monroe Central's Troy Baker and Steubenville Catholic Central's Jess Looman.

The Buckeye State boys coaches are St. Clairsville's Ryan Clifford and Monroe Central's Jon Perkins.

The West Virginia girls coaches are Linsly's Rebecca Upton and Trinity's Mike Baldy.

The Mountain State's boys squad will be led by Cameron's Tom Hart and Brooke's Adam Shinsky.

Here are a look at the players who were selected through a voting process, involving the coaches in the respective states:

OHIO

The Ohio girls roster represents 12 schools. The only schools with multiple picks are Buckeye Trail, Dover and Fort Frye.

Representing the Warriors are Kacey Hastings and Abby Wayble. The Tornadoes selected are Tori Jones and Morgan Kiser.

Fort Frye's dynamic back-court duo of Hannah Archer and Mackenzie Dalton earned a spot.

The balance of the Ohio girls roster includes: Katie Zatta (Steubenville Catholic), Abbie Smith (Warren), Hannah Merritt (Union Local), Kalista Friday (Monroe Central), Paige Gorby (Shadyside), McKayla Dunkle (Harrison Central), Camryn Gebhart (Cambridge), Jules Hood (Caldwell) and Maria Clark (Martins Ferry).

On the Ohio boys' squad, there are 14 schools represented in the 15 roster spots.

The only school with multiple rep-

resentatives is St. Clairsville. Its inside-outside combination of Avery Henry and Ryan McCort were both chosen after impressive final prep campaigns.

The remainder of the squad includes: Korey Beckett (Shadyside), Shane Keenan (Toronto), Cole Dailey (East Liverpool), Cameron Best (Buckeye Local), Jaizen Miles (Martins Ferry), T.C. Molk (Dover), Tanner Bills (Frontier), Kason Powell (Barnesville), Malachi Rose-Burton (Monroe Central), Owen Ward (Bellaire), Skylar Pappas (Beaver Local), Jonathan Vermillion (Harrison Central), Brandon Louden (Beallsville) and Garson Imes (Conotton Valley). Imes is injured and won't be able to play, but will still be recognized.

WEST VIRGINIA

The Mountain State's girls' squad has just nine schools with a representative in the game.

Linsly and Trinity are the only schools to have three representatives on the girls squad. They are Carleigh Grimm, Haley Heitz and Ally Hicks for the Cadets. Representing Trinity are Avonna Brown, Olivia Austin and Maggie Mercure).

The schools with two selections are John Marshall (Landyn Helms and Catherine Hunnell), Wheeling Park (Jailah Walker and Zariah Marling).

The balance of the roster includes: Madison Platt (Brooke), Alivia Ammons (Clay-Battelle), Vanessa Alatis (Madonna), Addie Tuttle (Hundred) and Kimberly Soles (Valley).

The boys squad features a representative of 10 schools.

Morgantown, which played in the Class AAA state semifinals on Friday, earned three bids. They are Alec Poland, Brooks Gage and Jalen Goins.

Linsly has a pair of players in Caleb Murray and Raef Wykes.

Madonna's representatives are Matt Amaismeter and Evan Bone.

Brooke's duo of Cole Sperlazza and Alex Isinghood both went over 1,000 points in their career and earned a nod.

Other West Virginia all stars are Trevor Beresford (Cameron), Ryan Reasbeck (Wheeling Central), Trevor Williamson (Magnolia), Grant Neiswonger (John Marshall), Jontae Howard (Oak Glen) and Aaron Forbes (University).



AP Photo

PITTSBURGH STEELERS wide receiver JuJu Smith-Schuster (19) plays against the Indianapolis Colts, Sunday, Dec. 27, 2020, in Pittsburgh. Smith-Schuster signed with Kansas City.

AP: Chiefs agree with Smith-Schuster on deal

KANSAS CITY, Mo. (AP) — The Kansas City Chiefs have agreed with former Steelers wide receiver JuJu Smith-Schuster on a \$10.75 million deal for next season, a person familiar with the negotiations told The Associated Press on Friday.

The person spoke on condition of anonymity because the contract is pending a physical, which should be completed soon.

Smith-Schuster wasted little time in announcing the move himself, tweeting to Chiefs fans: "Let's Go!"

The Chiefs have been searching for a high-profile wide receiver to take the pressure off Tyreek Hill and tight end Travis Kelce in the passing game. They tried several bargain options last season, including Demarcus Robinson and Byron Pringle, but nobody has been able to fill the role since Sammy Watkins left for Baltimore after the 2020 season.

Pringle signed a \$6 million deal with the Bears for next season on Thursday.

The 25-year-old Smith-Schuster, who caught 323 passes for 3,855 yards and 26 touchdowns during his first five seasons in Pittsburgh, should fill the void nicely. And he comes on a relatively low-risk one-year contract after he sustained a shoulder injury in Week 5 last season that ultimately limited him to just 15 catches for 129 yards in five games.

In a coincidence, though, Smith-Schuster managed to return from the injury in time for the wild-card round of the playoffs in Kansas City in January. He caught five passes for 26 yards in a 42-21 loss to the Chiefs.

In another social media post, Smith-Schuster thanked the Steelers and their fans for their support over the years.

"Thank you for taking me in and making me a part of the family from the moment that I was drafted," he said. "You all took me in so quickly, and I really needed it. I was a wide-eyed 20-year-old who was sent to the East Coast away from my family for the first time in my life, and you made me feel right at home, despite all of the loneliness I should have felt."

"These have been the best five years of my life," he added. "I owe so much to the fans who embraced me and who made playing on Sundays in Pittsburgh so special. It was an honor to wear the black and gold for you all."

Smith-Schuster heads from Pittsburgh, where there is uncertainty at quarterback following the retirement of longtime stalwart Ben Roethlisberger, to the Chiefs, where Patrick Mahomes is under contract for most of the next decade. He also joins one of the NFL's most potent offenses with Hill, Kelce and running back Clyde Edwards-Helaire around him.

McLaughlin looks to open first IndyCar winning streak

FORT WORTH, Texas (AP) — The lone bright spot in Scott McLaughlin's rough rookie IndyCar season was a eye-popping debut at challenging Texas Motor Speedway.

The New Zealander made his career debut on an oval last May at Texas in his fourth IndyCar start.

He leaned on Team Penske mentor and four-time Indianapolis 500 winner Rick Mears for advice and finished second to Scott Dixon in a race in which his fellow Kiwi led all but six of the 212 laps.

That runner-up finish was the lone 2021 podium for McLaughlin, the three-time Australian V8 Supercars champion brought to the United States by Team Penske and advertised as a future IndyCar star.

The results were unacceptable for the 28-year-old struggling through the biggest slump of his young career. McLaughlin knew he needed to improve in qualifying. Penske made a team leadership change and tasked race engineer Ben Bretzman with rebuilding the driver's confidence.

McLaughlin responded by winning the IndyCar season-opener at St. Petersburg from the pole — his first win, his first pole — and now returns to Texas capable of putting together back-to-back wins. The Penske group strongly believes McLaughlin is going to be special and he's determined to live up to his hype.

After all, he arrived at the North Carolina headquarters for Team Penske in late 2020 already ranked third on Penske's all-time win list after a dominant run with DJR

Team Penske in Australia. With his breakthrough victory on the streets of St. Petersburg last month, McLaughlin now has 57 victories as a Penske driver.

"To win on both sides of the world is pretty cool," McLaughlin said. "It's a great monkey off the back and a tremendous confidence booster as a team."

"We're not kidding ourselves. We've got to keep working, keep working harder because all the teams are going to come back at us strong."

"Just keep pushing on and we'll be OK."

TEXAS FUTURE

Texas Motor Speedway is one of the longtime and original partners of what is now known as the IndyCar Series. Then-track general manager Eddie Gossage made Texas a staple of the fledgling IRL in 1997 and Sunday's race will be the 35th at the track.

But attendance has dwindled and the cars used in the series have struggled mightily at Texas since the track began using a traction compound in the turns to help create a second passing lane when NASCAR is in town.

The PJI compound doesn't match with the Firestone tires used in IndyCar and that high lane is far too slick and dangerous.

That means the IndyCar races have been a lot of single-groove, follow-the-leader snoozers. Sunday's race is the first of five ovals on the IndyCar schedule and the only oval race before the Indianapolis 500 in May. The last contract Gossage signed with IndyCar expires after Sunday's race and he retired last year.

"Losing Texas would

be a huge hit," said Scott Dixon, a five-time winner at Texas and the six-time series champion. "I feel like we are missing (enough) ovals at the moment and need to add them."

Texas was a double-header last season and Dixon routed the field in the first race. The next day was far more spirited with 12 lead changes among nine drivers before Pato O'Ward — a Mexican driver who lives in San Antonio — won his first career race.

IndyCar on Friday added an additional 30 minute practice to follow Saturday qualifying in which seven drivers will go out on track in an attempt to create grip for a second lane.

The drivers who volunteered to try to create grip are: Ed Carpenter, Helio Castroneves, Pato O'Ward, Will Power, Graham Rahal, Felix Rosenqvist and Takuma Sato.

The drivers will use a combined total of 10 sets of Firestone tires from last year's race. Each driver will have a set to use, except Power and Rahal will receive two sets.

NEW FACES

There are five rookies scheduled to race Sunday and both Callum Illott and Christian Lundgaard will be making their oval debuts.

It will be the first IndyCar race at Texas for Devlin DeFrancesco, Kyle Kirkwood, David Malukas and Romain Grosjean. Seven-time NASCAR champion Jimmie Johnson, a seven-time winner at Texas in a stock car, is making his IndyCar oval debut.

Ed Carpenter and JR Hildebrand are making their season debuts.

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 ■ 7:45 p.m. — Saint Peter's vs. Murray State, CBS
 ■ 8:40 p.m. — New Mexico State vs. Arkansas, TNT
 ■ 9:40 p.m. — Memphis vs. Gonzaga, TBS

WOMEN'S

■ 1 p.m. — Mercer vs. UConn, ABC
 ■ 1:30 p.m. — Charlotte vs. Indiana, ESPN2
 ■ 2 p.m. — Longwood vs. NC State, ESPN
 ■ 2:30 p.m. — Missouri State vs. Ohio State, ESPNU
 ■ 3 p.m. — Buffalo vs. Tennessee, ABC
 ■ 4 p.m. — Princeton vs. Kentucky, ESPN

MLB

■ 1 p.m. — Toronto vs. Philadelphia, MLB Network

NBA

■ 7 p.m. — Dallas at Charlotte, NBATV

NHL

■ 2 p.m. — Chicago at Minnesota, NHL Network
 ■ 8 p.m. — New York Rangers at Tampa Bay, ABC



Photo by Cody Nespor

Wheeling Central's Ryan Reasbeck (11) attempts to get past Shady Spring defender Jaeden Holstein during Friday's WVSSAC Class AAA semifinal game.

Shady Spring Uses 14-0 Run to Pull Away

By **CODY NESPOR** Sports Writer
 CHARLESTON — A rematch of last year's Class AAA title game ended with the same result Friday night as Shady Spring defeated Wheeling Central 59-49 in a WVSSAC semifinal match inside the Charleston Coliseum & Convention Center.

After falling to the Tigers 55-43 in last year's title game, Central was looking forward to taking Shady Spring on again, with another trip to the championship on the line.

"Anytime you lose, especially in the state championship game, you're going to remember that

one," said senior leader Ryan Reasbeck. "I think ever since last year we've been working at it to get a second chance. (Friday) we had that second chance, but we just fell a little bit short."

Suffocating ball pressure by Shady Spring lifted the No. 1 Tigers past a slow start and kept Central's usually-explosive offense in check throughout the contest.

"They're so good in the half-court defensively and they push you so far out that they make it so tough on you," said Central coach Mel Stephens. "Even though we executed and did what we wanted on the defensive end, we still strug-

gled on the offensive end."

The Maroon Knights held Shady to just 3-16 shooting in the first quarter and held a 9-7 advantage, but the Tigers turned up the heat defensively and gave Central serious trouble.

The Knights scored seven points in the first four minutes of the game, but only seven more in the next 12 before halftime. Shady Spring held Central scoreless for more than six minutes in the second quarter, going on a 14-0 scoring run and grabbing a 25-14 lead at the break.

Please see CENTRAL Page C8



Photo by Cody Nespor

Bethany's Lindsey Garrison left her mark this season and she has the hardware to prove it.

Awards Abound For Local College Basketball Stars

By **CODY NESPOR** Sports Writer

Bryce Butler won multiple player of the year awards, Lindsey Garrison took home several first-year player honors and Audrey Tingle was named the Academic All-American of the Year. Those were a few of the many awards college hoopsters in the Ohio Valley earned this past season.

It was a college basketball season marked by success for many of the programs in the valley. The West Liberty men's team qualified for their 13th-straight NCAA Tournament following their third MEC Tournament Championship, all four local teams won at least one game in the MEC Tournament and the Bethany women's team had one of their best seasons in a decade, advancing to the PAC Tournament semifinals.

No one received more recognition than West Liberty's Butler, who was named both the MEC Player of the Year

and the Atlantic Region Player of the year after averaging 18.1 points and 7.5 rebounds in 32 games this season.

"I think it's a testament to the time he's put into his own individual craft," said WLU men's coach Ben Howlett. "I think it just speaks volumes to him and I still think there's a whole other level he's going to get to because he works nonstop. He's very deserving of the accolades that he's collected and I certainly don't think these will be the last ones he gets."

Butler was also named first-team All-Atlantic Region. Classified as a third-year sophomore, Butler appeared in 54 games for the Hilltoppers in the two seasons prior to his breakout year.

"When he was a freshman, I trusted him more than any other freshman I've ever had in the program," Howlett admitted.

Please see STARS, Page C4

OVAC Basketball All-Star Game Rosters Announced

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

The senior basketball stars of the Ohio Valley Athletic Conference will get one final opportunity to shine one more time.

The annual Samuel A. Mumley OVAC All-Star Basketball Classic will be held on Sunday, April 10 at Wheeling Park High School. The girls game will begin at 1 p.m. and the boys game will tip off at 3 p.m.

Along with the games, several special presentations and awards will occur during the course of the day.

The Ohio girls coaches chosen are Monroe Central's Troy Baker and Steubenville Catholic Central's Jess Looman.

The Buckeye State boys coaches are St. Clairsville's Ryan Clifford and

Monroe Central's Jon Perkins.

The West Virginia girls coaches are Linsly's Rebecca Upton and Trinity's Mike Baldy.

The Mountain State's boys squad will be led by Cameron's Tom Hart and Brooke's Adam Shinsky.

Here are a look at the players who were selected through a voting process, involving the coaches in the respective states:

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Representing the Warriors are Kac-

ey Hastings and Abby Wayble.

The Tornadoes selected are Tori Jones and Morgan Kiser.

Fort Frye's dynamic back-court duo of Hannah Archer and Mackenzie Dalton earned a spot.

The balance of the Ohio girls roster includes: Katie Zatta (Steubenville Catholic), Abbie Smith (Warren), Hannah Merritt (Union Local), Kalista Friday (Monroe Central), Paige Gorby (Shadyside), McKayla Dunkle (Harrison Central), Camryn Gebhart (Cambridge), Jules Hood (Caldwell) and Maria Clark (Martins Ferry).

On the Ohio boys' squad, there are 14 schools represented in the 15 roster

spots.

The only school with multiple representatives is St. Clairsville. Its inside-outside combination of Avery Henry and Ryan McCort were both chosen after impressive final prep campaigns.

The remainder of the squad includes: Corey Beckett (Shadyside), Shane Keenan (Toronto), Cole Dailey (East Liverpool), Cameron Best (Buckeye Local), Jaizen Miles (Martins Ferry), T.C. Molk (Dover), Tanner Bills (Frontier), Kason Powell (Barnesville), Malachi Rose-Burton (Monroe Central), Owen Ward (Bellaire), Skylar Pappas (Beaver Local), Jonathan Vermillion (Harrison Central), Brandon Loudon (Beallsville) and Garson Imes (Conotton Valley).

Please see OVAC, Page C2

Young Makes Big Impact In Return for OSU

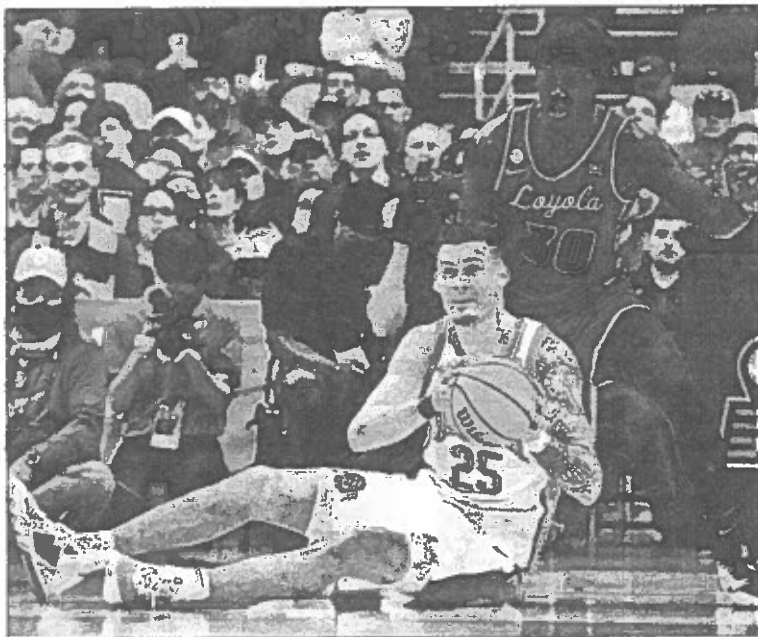
By **SETH STASKEY** For the News-Register

PITTSBURGH — What a difference a player makes.

It was obviously more than one player, but Kyle Young's presence in the Ohio State lineup is certainly felt.

After missing the last three games with lingering concussion symptoms, the fifth-year senior returned to the starting lineup on Friday, played almost 35 minutes, scored nine points, collected seven rebounds and provided the boundless energy that he's been known for throughout his Buckeye career that helped pave the way for a 54-41 Buckeye victory against Loyola of Chicago in the first round of the NCAA Tournament's South Regional at PPG Paints Arena.

"It felt amazing to be back out there with the guys," Young



AP Photo

Ohio State's Kyle Young (25) looks to pass as Loyola of Chicago's Aher Uguak (30) defends during the first half of Friday's game in the first round of the NCAA tournament in Pittsburgh.

watching these guys (play) and not able to be out there with them."

Young, who played his prep ball at Massillon Jackson, wasn't the only key inside play-

a late-season injury. Sophomore Zed Key, who has played sparingly the last couple of weeks after sustaining an ankle injury, was also back.

Nailers Just Miss Points In Indy

INDIANAPOLIS, IN- five Nailers with multiple points.

The Wheeling Nailers and Indy Fuel are going to see a lot of each other in the next few weeks, and Friday night's 112 penalty minute tussle at Indiana Farmers Coliseum definitely set the tone. Unfortunately, the Nailers ended up on the wrong end of the scoreboard.



Spencer Watson and Chad Yetman snapped a third period deficit with goals 1:27 apart from each other, as the Fuel collected the 6-4 win on home ice. Cam Hausinger had a Gordie Howe Hat Trick for

Coming off of a coaching change earlier in the week, the Fuel started the game with some energy, and found themselves ahead 3-1 after the first period.

Indy opened the scoring at the 8:05 mark. Jordan Schneider had his point shot stopped, but the rebound was scooped in by Riley McKay on the right side of the crease. The Nailers answered just 55 seconds later during 4-on-4 play.

Duke Rolls In Opening Round

GREENVILLE, S.C. (AP) — Duke began retiring all of Famer Mike Krzyzewski's final NCAA Tournament with minimal stress, eating Cal State Fullerton 8-61 on Friday night.

The Buckeyes (20-11) advanced to play Villanova on Sunday while preventing another March run by the Ramblers (25-8), who shot 27% (15 of 56) from the floor.

TEXAS TECH 97
MONTANA STATE 62
SAN DIEGO (AP) — Terrence Shannon Jr. scored 20 points and set a dominating tone in the opening minutes for Texas Tech, which overwhelmed Montana State with one of the best-shooting games in the first round since the tournament expanded to 64 teams in 1985.

VILLANOVA 80
DELAWARE 60
PITTSBURGH (AP) — Justin Moore scored 21 points, Collin Gillespie added 14 and second-seeded Villanova had little trouble with 15th-seeded Delaware.

NOTRE DAME 78
ALABAMA 64
SAN DIEGO (AP) — Cormac Ryan scored a career-high 29 points, including seven 3-pointers, and 11th-seeded Notre Dame recovered from a grueling First Four win and late-night flight to beat sixth-seeded Alabama.

ILLINOIS 54
CHATTANOOGA 53
PITTSBURGH (AP) — Alfonso Plummer scored 15 points, including the go-ahead free throws with 12 seconds to go, and fourth-seeded Illinois escaped 13th-seeded Chattanooga.

SOUTH REGION
OHIO STATE 54
LOYOLA CHICAGO 41
PITTSBURGH (AP) — E.J. Liddell scored 16 points, Big Ten Freshman of the Year Malaki Branham added 14 and seventh-seeded Ohio State shut down 10th-seeded Loyola Chicago from start to finish.

ARIZONA 87
WRIGHT STATE 70
SAN DIEGO (AP) — Christian Koloko scored 17 points, grabbed 13 rebounds and keyed a big second-half surge for top-seeded Arizona, which beat Wright State.

TEXAS 81
VIRGINIA TECH 73
MILWAUKEE (AP) — Andrew Jones scored 21 points, Marcus Carr beat the halftime buzzer with a shot from well beyond halfcourt to put Texas ahead for good, and the Longhorns beat Virginia Tech.

MIDWEST REGION
AUBURN 80
JACKSONVILLE STATE 61
GREENVILLE, S.C. (AP) — Freshman Jabari Smith had 20 points and 14 rebounds as second-seeded Auburn pulled away from Jacksonville State late in the first half.

MIAMI 68, SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA 66
GREENVILLE, S.C. (AP) — Charlie Moore made two free throws with 3 seconds left and finished with 16 points to lift 10th-seeded Miami over No. 7 seed Southern California.

IOWA STATE 59, LSU 54
MILWAUKEE (AP) — Freshman Tyrese Hunter scored 23 points and Iowa State used its hard-nosed defense to beat No. 6 seed LSU. Izaiah Brockington added 19 points as the 11th-seeded Cyclones (21-12) got their first win in the NCAA tourney since 2017 — also in Milwaukee.

YOUNG

Continued from Page C1

He came off the bench and grabbed seven rebounds in just over 11 minutes of action.

"Having those guys elevates the confidence of the group," Ohio State head coach Chris Holtmann said. "We're (still) not at full strength, but we're closer to it. We've really not had the team we thought we'd have all year, but we've won some big games with this group and there are games we've lost with this group. But, having these guys does so much for the confidence."

Young was with the team during the Big Ten Tournament in Indianapolis, but it wasn't until a few days leading up to the NCAA Tournament when Young firmly believed he'd be able to play.

"I made a big jump, especially just waking up in the morning and feeling good," Young said. "It was a tough process, and I definitely took a moment to reflect and appreciate the opportunity."

Having Young and Key available for Loyola was more important than just leadership. Their style of play was needed, too. Holtmann called the game "a rock fight." And that's just the way Young, especially, likes it.

"I love the challenge of physical games," Young said.

Knowing that each time he puts on the Scarlet and Gray from this point forward could be last, Young certainly wasn't going to change the way he plays, which falls into the aforementioned en-

ergy category. He was diving all over the floor for loose balls and playing very physically on the defensive end.

"Every game he's been out, I've talked about how we lack versatility without him," Holtmann said. "He provides so much on both ends. I've been saying it for two years now and it's really evident in a game like this."

With the likes of Young, All-American E.J. Liddell and freshman Malachi Branham leading the way, the Buckeyes turned in their "best defensive performance in a couple of years," according to Holtmann.

Ohio State limited the Ramblers to 26.8% shooting from the field and forced 14 turnovers. Ohio State's strength on the interior yielded a 41-31 edge on the glass.

"We felt like we could hang our hats on our defense," Holtmann said. "Our defense has been sound, but not sound enough for long enough (stretches)."

While some of that clearly stems from Young and Key's presence, Liddell believed it may go even deeper.

"We played with an edge," Liddell noted. "People were counting us out ... big time. We have to come with the same mindset (on Sunday). Having Kyle and Zed back was great, but everyone who stepped foot on the floor had the mentality that we can't and won't be beat. If we can keep that mindset, we'll be fine."



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OVAC

Continued from Page C1

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Free initial consultation. No fee unless we recover money for you.
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