



Photo by Seth Staskey
Linsly's sprint duo of Luca DiLorenzo, left, and Jy'Liek Johnson races against Wheeling Central's Lorenzo Ferrera during the 100M dash final at the 68th running of the Bellaire Relays at Nelson Field. Ferrera came from behind to win the race in a time of 11.14.

Athletes Battle Elements, Each Other In Bellaire

By SETH STASKEY
For The Intelligencer

BELLAIRE — When the meet features rain, significant wind, sunshine and a delay for thunder and lightning, it's officially track season in the Ohio Valley.

Those, combined with some impressive marks, equated to the joint running of the Bellaire Relays and the Bellaire Girls Invitational Saturday afternoon at Nelson Field.

Stuebenville Catholic Central's girls accumulated 94 points over the course of 18 events to claim the team title by 18.5 points over Buckeye Local.

The boys portion of the was even more competitive. Barnesville and Linsly battled back and forth for 18 events before the Shamrocks prevailed in the 4x400 and watched the Cadets finish third to pull out an 86-83 victory.

GIRLS

The Crusaders were fu-

eled to their total by victories in four events.

Senior Theresa Kerker won the high hurdles in 17.39.

Senior Jackie Okarma was the 800 champion in 2:42.52.

The Crusaders have produced solid relay teams for several seasons and that was no different on Saturday. They won the 4x8 in 10:58.12 and the 4x4 in 4:33.80.

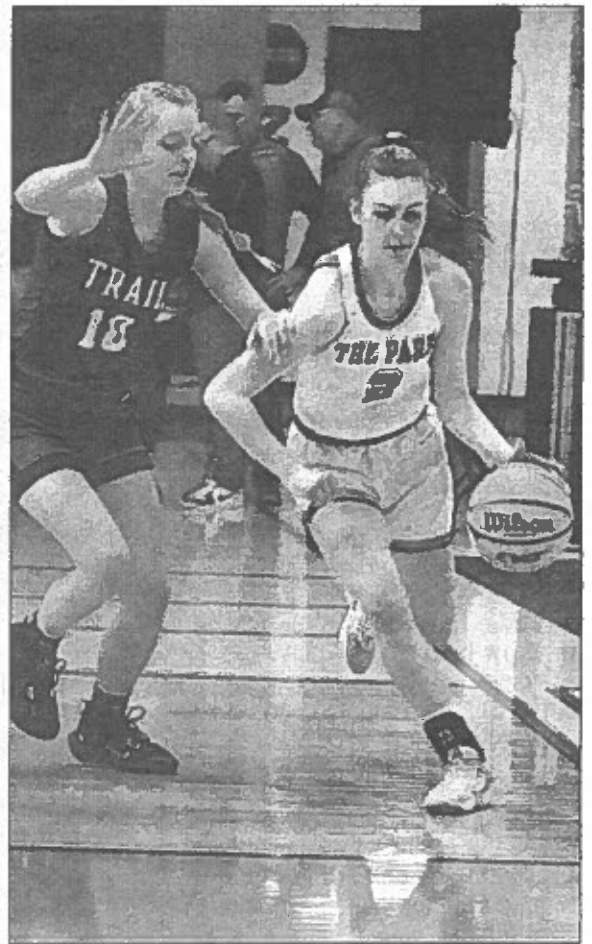
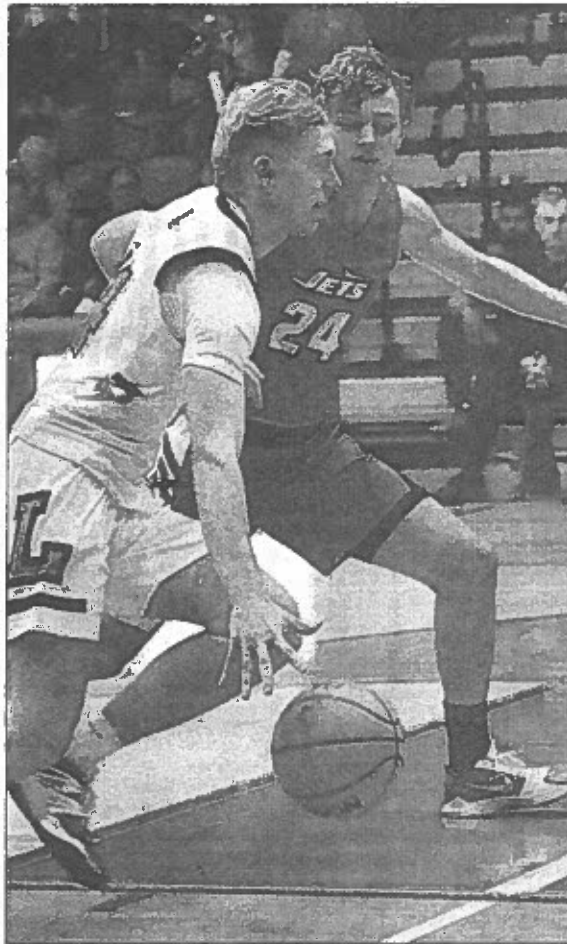
Buckeye Local is solid both in the field and on the track. Coach Donnie Yeager's squad won three events.

Senior Rylee Glover won the 100-meter dash in 13.36, while junior Brynn McKeever was the 200-meter champion in 28.17. Junior Pam Kandrach won the shot put with a mark of 37-4.

Barnesville had a strong showing, finishing third in the team standings.

Please see BELLAIRE,
Page 11

W.Va. Sweeps OVAC All-Star Showcases



Photos by Seth Staskey
LEFT: Linsly's Gavin Jackson drives toward the basket as Union Local's D.J. Butts defends during Saturday's 45th-annual OVAC Samuel A. Mumley All-Star Basketball Games. RIGHT: Wheeling Park's Sophie Abraham pushes the ball upcourt past Buckeye Trail's Kaydence Starr during the girls' game.

W.Va. Girls Lead Wire To Wire; Boys Prevail 105-86

By SETH STASKEY
For The Intelligencer

WHEELING — West Virginia flexed its basketball muscle Sunday afternoon at the Palace on the Hill inside Wheeling Park High School.

Actually, the Mountain State flexed not just once, but twice, against its Ohio rivals en route to posting a sweep of the 45th annual OVAC Samuel A. Mumley All-Star Basketball Games.

The West Virginia girls had little trouble in cruising to an 83-51 victory in which they led wire to wire.

The boys game, however, was a little bit more competitive. Ohio

had the lead with upwards of 12 minutes to play in the game, but West Virginia was simply too strong down the stretch en route to a 105-86 victory.

GIRLS

West Virginia put balanced groups on the floor and controlled the game from the outset against the Buckeyes.

Coached by Wheeling Central's Roberta Olejasz and Oak Glen's Ryan Wells, West Virginia won the OVAC Game for the third time in four tries.

West Virginia owned a 52-43 lead at halftime and then really took over in the second half.

All told, 12 players on the

West Virginia roster cracked the scoring column.

Playing her final game inside the Palace, Sophie Abraham had an impressive performance. She had a hot hand early and late and led all scorers in the game with 16 points.

Mia Henkins, who helped Morgantown win the Class AAAA state title last month, buried four bonus goals in the first half, all of which were from NBA range.

University's Emily Sharkey added nine. Madonna's Shea McCoy played well, accumulating eight points.

Please see ALL-STAR, Page 11

Pirates Fall To Reds 3-1 In Velasquez's Bucs Debut

CINCINNATI (AP) — Graham Ashcraft pitched seven solid innings. Jason Vosler and TJ Friedl hit solo home runs and the Cincinnati Reds beat the Pittsburgh Pirates 3-1 on Saturday.

Ashcraft (1-0) overcame Brian Reynolds' home run to last seven innings, allowing four hits and one run with a walk and six strikeouts.

"The last few starts in spring for Ashcraft carried over," manager David Bell said. "He really found momentum at the end of spring training and couldn't wait for the season to start. He just attacked and threw strikes. His slider got better as the game went on. Getting seven innings was really important for our bullpen and set

them up to finish it off."

The right-hander had the longest outing by a Reds starter in the young season as Cincinnati picked up a second straight victory after losing on Opening Day. Hunter Greene lasted 3-1/3 innings in the opener, and Nick Lodolo went five on Saturday.

"I liked the back half of the game," Ashcraft said. "The first part I was rushing my mechanics a little bit."

Tyler Stephenson also drove in a run and Vosler, Friedl and Jonathan India each had two hits for the Reds.

Alex Young and Derek Law got past two leadoff hits to keep it 3-1 in the eighth. Alexis Diaz pitched

the ninth for his first save.

Vince Velasquez (0-1), making his Pirates debut after signing in December as a free agent, lasted 4-2/3 innings, giving up five hits and three runs with one walk and three strikeouts. The temperature was 49 degrees at game time, Velasquez said he trouble gripping the ball at times, but he didn't want to use that as an excuse.

"I felt phenomenal," he said. "I felt like the ball was coming out good. I made a couple of mistakes. I had trouble putting them away. I need to close the door and shut them down. I have to minimize the damage."

Please see PIRATES, Page 11



AP Photo
Cincinnati Reds' Jonathan India scores on a Tyler Stephenson single against Pittsburgh Pirates catcher Austin Hedges in the third inning Sunday in Cincinnati.

LSU Women
Claim First



Aztecs Bring
Memories



playoff spot.

Letang skated in his 1,000th career game. Rickard Rakell scored two goals and the Penguins beat the Philadelphia Flyers 4-2 on Sunday night.

"It was a special night," Letang said. "There's a lot of emotion, but you have to refocus and say that two points are more important, so it was nice to get the win."

Bryan Rust scored in his 500th NHL game and Ryan Poehling added a late empty-net goal. Sidney Crosby and Evgeni Malkin each had two assists and Casey DeSmith stopped 31 shots.

Crosby is three points from 1,500 in the NHL. He recorded his 233rd multi-assist game, mov-



AP Photo

Pittsburgh Penguins' Bryan Rust (17) backhands a shot past Philadelphia Flyers goaltender Samuel Ersson (33) for a goal during the second period in Pittsburgh on Sunday.

ing past Joe Sakic for 11th in NHL history. Crosby also tied Hall of Famer Mario Lemieux for the most career points against the Flyers in NHL history with 124.

Pittsburgh rebounded from a one-goal loss against Boston on Saturday and overtook idle Florida for the second

wild card in the Eastern Conference. Pittsburgh and Florida both have five games remaining.

Travis Konecny scored his 29th of the season and Nicolas Deslauriers his sixth, both in the third period, but the Flyers couldn't rally from their early three-goal deficit. Samuel Ersson finished

Pittsburgh for the first time in franchise history.

Rakell scored the first two goals for Pittsburgh. His slap shot from the slot caromed off the glass, hit Ersson in the back and went in the net for the Penguins' first goal with 8:20 left in the first period. He added a power-play goal a little more than three minutes later as he redirected Malkin's pass behind Ersson from the slot for his 27th.

Rust gave Pittsburgh a 3-0 lead with his 19th of the season with 6:37 left in the second. He flipped a backhander past Ersson off the rush with Crosby. **BRUINS 4, BLUES 3, ST. LOUIS (AP)** — Charlie Coyle scored the winner in the shootout

CAPITALS 2
WASHINGTON (AP) — Alexis Lafreniere and Kaapo Kakko scored goals just over two minutes apart. Igor Shesterkin made 26 saves and New York snapped a two-game skid by beating Washington.

HURRICANES 2, ISLANDERS 1
RALEIGH, N.C. (AP) — Jordan Martinook scored for the first time in more than two months to break a third-period tie as Carolina edged New York.

BLUE JACKETS 4, SENATORS 3, OT
COLUMBUS, Ohio (AP) — Kirill Marchenko scored 16 seconds into overtime to rally Columbus past Ottawa to end a four-game losing streak

ty shot as Winnipeg routed New Jersey.

RED WINGS 5, MAPLE LEAFS 2
TORONTO (AP) — Dylan Larkin scored three times for his second career hat trick. Alex Nedeljkovic made 42 saves and Detroit defeated Toronto.

KINGS 4, CANUCKS 1
VANCOUVER, British Columbia (AP) — Alex Iafallo scored twice, Joonas Korpi made 21 saves and Los Angeles wrapped up a playoff spot with a victory over Vancouver.

ALL-STAR

(Continued from Page 9)

On the Ohio side, which was coached by Harrison Central's Chace Smith and Warren's Brad Venham, scoring the ball became a challenge in the second half.

River's Rylee Knight, who scored a team-high 13 in the game, had 11 of those in the second half. Only six players from the Buckeye State scored in the second half.

While Knight led the way for Ohio, her teammate at River, Hannah Raper, added seven in top support.

BOYS

There were several times in the first half when it looked as if another rout was on the horizon because of West Virginia's size and length advantage.

On top of that, the Mountain State buried eight, 3-point goals in the opening half. However, Ohio was able to stay close.

Parkersburg South's Nathan Plotner led West Virginia in the half with eight points, six of which came on three dunks. Carter Anderson of Linsly hit a pair of bonus goals.

On the other side, Shadyside's Elijah Brock scored all eight of his first-half points in the first rotation of players. Once he went to the bench, Steubenville's Phaeton Hill did his part to keep Ohio close by scoring half of his game-high 18 in his first-half minutes.

Thanks to Hill's trio of treys and the work of Buckeye Trail's Garrett Burga on the interior in the second half, the Ohio, which trailed 52-43 at halftime, took its first lead of game at 67-65.

However, it was short-lived. West Virginia got a bonus goal from South's Aiden Blake. Morgantown's Brody Davis and a pair of triples from Clay-Battelle's Kohlton St. Clair.

On top of those guys, John Marshall's Brennan Sobotka scored all eight of his points in the second half.

Wheeling Park's duo of Brett Phillips and Cole Wilkinson each had six

in the second half.

For the game, Garrison Kisner and Phillips were the leading scorers for West Virginia. Each had 10.

Plotner (9), St. Clair (9) and Danser (9) were next in line.

Hill's aforementioned production was complemented by Brock's 13, Burga's 12, Caldwell's Tyce DeVold and Martins Ferry's Denali Jackson went for nine and eight, respectively.

OVAC NOTES

PARK'S WILKINSON received a large ovation from his teammates when he took the only charge in the game.

ALL TOLD, there were eight dunks in the game, all of which were produced by Team West Virginia.

MORGANTOWN'S KISNER was the dunk champion, recording a perfect score of 90 in his three dunks.

WARREN'S Alex Frazee won the 3-point shootout at halftime of the girls' game.

ON TOP of the game, several special presentations were made during the course of the game. Those awards went to Erin DeSantis (girls coach), David Easterling (distinguished service), John Pizzutti (scorekeeper/timer), Mike Podlasiak (boys coach) and Butch Antill (officials).

THE CAMERON girls and Linsly boys teams were the respective winners of the Phil Lewton Sportsmanship Award.

The OVAC All-Star Game also presented \$2500 worth of scholarships to 12 different players. Receiving the scholarships were: Luke Amaismeier (Madonna), Bede Lori (Caldwell), Eden Gibson (University), Maddy Butler (Harrison Central), Kohlton St. Clair (Clay-Battelle), Ty Long (River), Sophie Abraham (Wheeling Park), Megan Malin (St. Clairsville), Mia Henkins (Morgantown), D.J. Butts (Union Local), Brett Phillips (Wheeling Park) and Brennan Sobotka (John Marshall).

BELLAIRE

(Continued from Page 9)

Shamrocks senior Aubrey Johnson won the 3200-meter run, which was the first event contested with a time of 12:13.80.

The Rocks also won the shuttles in 1:18.37.

Union Local had a pair of winners. Senior Josie Goodson claimed the 400-meter dash in 67.51 and junior Sydney McFarland was the pole vault champion with a mark of 7-3.

Linsly's Haylen Cook posted a 53.36 to win the 300 low hurdles.

Monroe Central's lone win came in the long jump where freshman Bayleigh Burdette prevailed with a mark of 14-11.

Shadyside senior Kenzy Beckett won the 1600-meter run in 5:42.98.

BOYS

Barnesville and Linsly boys hooked up in an 18-event battle that came down to the final event, which was won by the Shamrocks.

All told, Barnesville won just two events. Actually, those events were bookended and in between came a lot

to speedy senior Jy'Leik Johnson. He sprinted to a mark of 23.48.

Sophomore Colby Gibbons claimed the title in the intermediate hurdles by skimming eight timbers in 43.58 for the crown.

Union Local, which finished with 35 points, got 20 of those from talented junior Johnny Sabinski in the throwing events. Sabinski, an All-Ohioan last season, swept the shot put and discus with marks of 58-1 1/2 and 146-1.

The Jets' other win came in the pole vault where senior Lee Adkins soared over the bar at 12 feet to win the title. Shadyside won a trio of events.

In the field, senior Elijah Brock, who is out for track for the first time, won the high jump by soaring over 5-10.

On the track, senior Kooper Chimley won the 400 meters in 53.52.

Junior Dylan Booth was the champion in the 110 high hurdles with a time of 15.58.

Wheeling Central's talented distance junior Aiden Scott picked up

AZTECS

(Continued from Page 9)

"We got to college and started understanding the hypocrisy in the game, with the schools making millions and us sitting around poor as hell," said Fab Five guard Ray Jackson.

One of the greatest ironies is that the coach who essentially built the 21st-century version of San Diego State is Dutcher's longtime boss at both Michigan and SDSU, Steve Fisher. Fisher made his way to the West Coast after losing his job at Michigan in the wake of one of the most complex and sordid illicit-benefits scandals in NCAA history.

In essence, the coach, who retired and handed over the SDSU reins to Dutcher in 2017, got caught up in a series of events that, frankly, wouldn't be frowned upon nearly as harshly today. Back then, it was a shady booster with gambling ties trying to funnel money to players. These days, sports gambling is legal in many states (the NCAA brought the Sweet 16 to Las Vegas for the first time last week), while everyone from car dealers to social media conglomerates pay players in the open.

Fisher is in Houston this week, hanging with his son, Mark, a special assistant for the fifth-seeded Aztecs who has ALS.

PIRATES

(Continued from Page 9)

Vosler, who made the Reds as a non-roster player after signing a minor-league contract Feb. 1 as a free agent, smacked a 2-1 slider 365 feet into the right-field seats with one out in the second.

Stephenson made it 2-0, driving in India from second base with a single that glanced off shortstop Oneil Cruz's glove and trickled into short left field with one out in the third inning.

Reynolds, who led Pittsburgh with 27 homers last season, led off the fourth with a 410-foot home run to center field, his first of the season. Pittsburgh has scored three runs over the last two games.

"We've faced pretty good pitching," Pirates manager Derek Shelton said. "The top of their rotation is really good. They have good stuff. We had some opportunities early yesterday and we had some opportunities late. We just couldn't get the big hit."

UP NEXT

Pirates: RHP Johan Oviedo is scheduled to make his first career start against Boston on Monday in the opener of a three-game series at Fenway Park.

Reds: RHP Connor Overton is the scheduled starter Monday for the opener of a three-game home series against the Chicago Cubs.

GUARDIANS 6,

MARINERS 5, 10 INNINGS

SEATTLE (AP) — Jose Ramirez scored on a bases-loaded error by catcher Cal Raleigh in the 10th of the major leagues' first extra-inning game this season.

YANKEES 6, GIANTS 0

NEW YORK (AP) — Giancarlo Stanton hit a 485-foot home run, Aaron Judge also went deep and Jhony Brito won his brilliant major league debut as the New York Yankees beat San Francisco 6-0 on Sunday for their second shutout of the Giants in the opening three-game series.

A Final Four wasn't so much a dream as an expectation for the Fab Five — Jackson, Jalen Rose, Chris Webber, Juwan Howard and Jimmy King — who, in many opinions, remain the most electric single recruiting class in college history.

They showed up at Michigan in 1991 and made not one but two appearances in the national title game. They got blown out by Duke 1992 with Bobby Hurley, the brother of current UConn coach Dan Hurley, doing some of the damage. In 1993, it was Webber's costly timeout when the Wolverines didn't have one that made the difference in a close loss to North Carolina.

So, no title, but the Fab Five ended up with more — namely, they opened the world to embracing the style they brought to the playground, while making an indelible statement about the way they felt college players should be treated.

In many ways, Dutcher's group came together in the polar opposite fashion as the Fab Five. San Diego State's starters came from different places at different times. They could separate themselves from the Michigan greats in another way if they can win the title that eluded Dutcher & Co. for all those years.

ghost and a pitchfork in reference to his "ghost forkball."

NATIONALS 4, BRAVES 1

WASHINGTON (AP) — MacKenzie Gore allowed one run and three hits across 5 1/3 innings in his regular-season debut for the Nationals.

RAYS 5, TIGERS 1

ST. PETERSBURG, Fla. (AP) — Tampa Bay's Jeffrey Springs (1-0) was pulled after six hitless innings. Riley Greene got Detroit's first hit with an infield single off Colin Poche in the seventh and the Rays completed an opening three-game sweep.

TWINS 7, ROYALS 4

KANSAS CITY, Mo. (AP) — Joey Gallo homered twice to back Joe Ryan (1-0), who gave up one run and three hits in six innings as Minnesota swept its opening series for the first time since 2017, also against Kansas City.

CARDINALS 9, BLUE JAYS 4

ST. LOUIS (AP) — Nolan Gorman hit a pair of two-run homers in his second career multihomer game, including a drive in a three-homer first that included long balls from Brendan Donovan and Alec Burleson off Chris Bassitt (0-1). Donovan also had two doubles as the Cardinals banged out 16 hits.

BREWERS 9, CUBS 5

CHICAGO (AP) — Jesse Winker had two hits and three RBIs, including a key two-run single in a five-run sixth inning. Christian Yelich, Garrett Mitchell and Brice Turang also had two hits apiece as part of a 13-hit attack.

WHITE SOX 6, ASTROS 3

HOUSTON (AP) — Luis Robert Jr. and Yoan Moncada homered, and Mike Clevinger (1-0) allowed three hits in five shutout innings.

ANGELS 6, ATHLETICS 0

OAKLAND, Calif. (AP) — Rookie Logan O'Hoppe hit his first big league homer with a three-run drive in the fourth to break up a scoreless game. Mike Trout had a two-run shot the next

Classified/B7-8

SPORTS

Monday,
April 3, 2023

West Virginia sweeps OVAC ASG victories

By **SETH STASKEY**
Times Leader Sports Editor

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Actually, the Mountain State flexed not just once, but twice, against its Ohio rivals en route to posting a sweep of the 45th annual OVAC Samuel A. Mumley All-Star Basketball Games.

The West Virginia girls had little trouble in cruising to an 83-51 victory in which they led wire to wire.

The boys game, however, was a little bit more competitive. Ohio actually had the lead with upwards of 12 minutes to play in the game, but West Virginia was simply too strong down the stretch en route to a 105-86 victory.

GIRLS

West Virginia put balanced groups on the floor and controlled the game from the outset against the Buckeyes.

Coached by Wheeling Central's Roberta Olejasz and Oak Glen's Ryan Wells, West Virginia won the OVAC Game for the third time in four tries.

West Virginia owned a 52-43 lead at halftime and then really took over in the second half.

All told, 12 players on the West Virginia roster cracked the scoring column.

Playing her final game inside the Palace, Sophie Abraham had an impressive performance. She had a hot hand early and late and led all scorers in the game with 16 points.

Mia Henkins, who helped Morgantown win the Class AAAA state title last month, buried four bonus goals in the first half, all of which were from NBA range.

University's Emily Sharkey added nine. Madonna's Shea McCoy played well, accumulating eight points.

On the Ohio side, which was coached by Harrison Central's Chace Smith and Warren's Brad Venham, scoring the ball became a challenge in the second half.

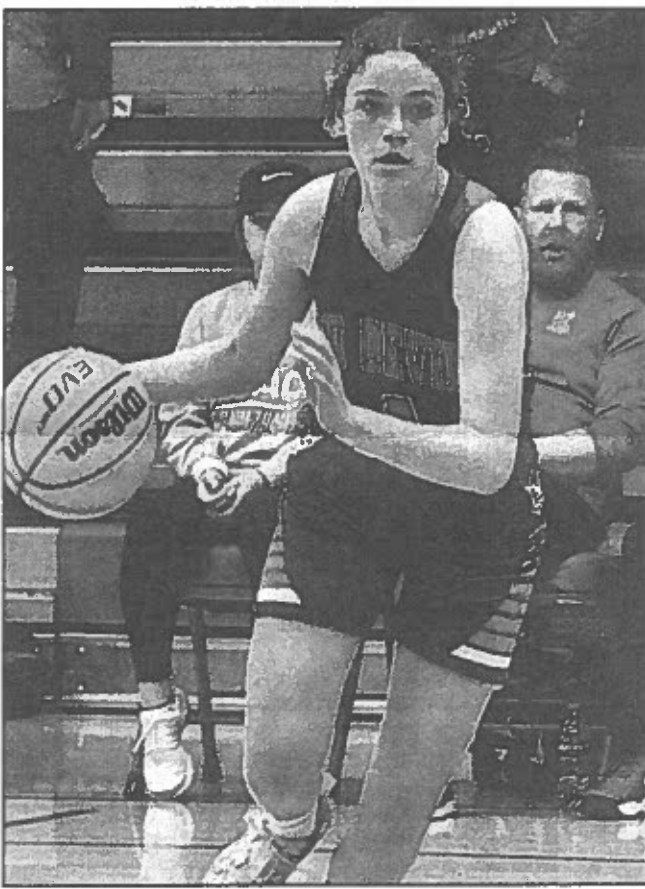
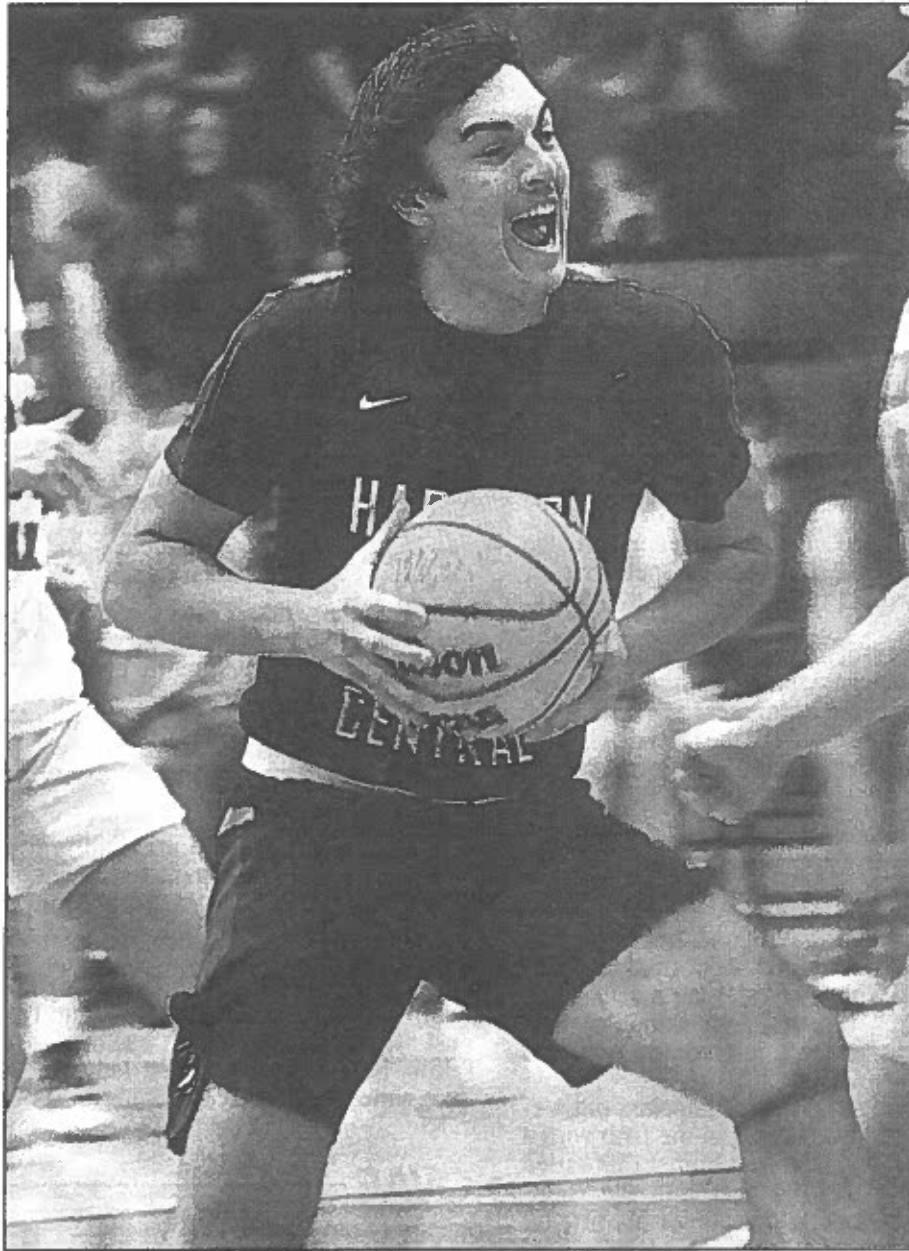
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BOYS

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See, **OVAC**, Page B2



ABOVE: OHIO'S Jace Madzia (Harrison Central) drives to the basket during Sunday's OVAC All-Star Basketball Game at Wheeling Park High School. West Virginia prevailed. **AT LEFT:** Ohio's Megan Malin (St. Clairsville) looks to drive during the second half of Sunday's OVAC All-Star Girls Basketball Game.

TL Photos/SETH STASKEY

LSU wins 1st NCAA championship by beating Hawkeyes

DALLAS (AP) — Kim Mulkey had tears of joy streaming down her face as she guided LSU to its first national championship.

Her Tigers used a record offensive performance to beat Caitlin Clark and Iowa 102-85 on Sunday and win the first basketball title in school history.

The victory made Mulkey the first women's coach to win national championships at two different schools. She won three at Baylor before leaving for LSU two years ago.

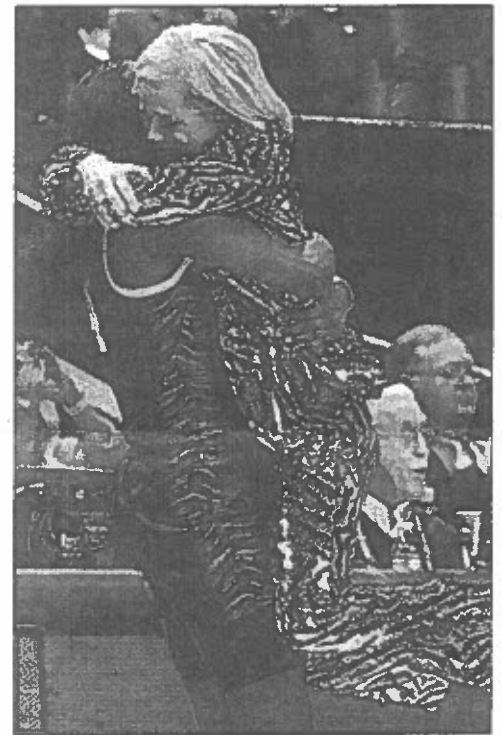
"Coaches coach a lifetime and this is the fourth time I've been blessed," Mulkey said. "Never in the history of LSU basketball, men or women, has (anybody) ever played for a championship."

The feisty and flamboyantly dressed Mulkey, who wore a sparkly, golden, tiger-striped outfit, now has the third-most titles of all time behind Geno Auriemma's 11 and Pat Summitt's eight. Mulkey has never lost in a championship game.

"My tears are tears of joy," she said. "I'm so happy for everybody back home in Louisiana."

Clark, The Associated Press national player of the year, couldn't lead the Hawkeyes to their first national title despite one of the greatest individual performances in NCAA Tournament history. The junior finished with 30 points. She scored 40 in the semifinals to knock out unbeaten South Carolina one game after she had the first 40-point triple-double in NCAA history in the Elite Eight.

See, **LSU**, Page B2



AP PHOTO

LSU HEAD coach Kim Mulkey celebrates with Flau'jae Johnson during the second half of the NCAA Women's Final Four championship game against Iowa Sunday in Dallas.

SDSU-UConn title game brings Fab Five memories

HOUSTON (AP) — Thirty years ago, a group of disrupters with baggy shorts and black socks changed college basketball as we know it, and took a good slice of American culture along for the ride.

Those freshmen known as the Fab Five ended up one win short of the title, which is exactly where San Diego State — a team coached by a former Fab Five assistant, Brian Dutcher — finds itself in 2023 during another transformative

period in college hoops.

The Aztecs (32-6) themselves certainly aren't trying to deliver change to the game or the culture when they face UConn (30-8) in the title game Monday.

But the fact that they're here — a team with Michigan bloodlines that was forged quickly through the newly liberated transfer portal and enriched by opportunities that have sprung from name, image and likeness deals — speaks vol-

umes about where those Fab Five superstars were trying to take the game three decades ago.

"We got to college and started understanding the hypocrisy in the game, with the schools making millions and us sitting around poor as hell," said Fab Five guard Ray Jackson. "We wanted to change the dynamics of that, get the athletes feeling empowered a little more."

One of the greatest ironies is that the coach who essentially built the

21st-century version of San Diego State is Dutcher's longtime boss at both Michigan and SDSU, Steve Fisher. Fisher made his way to the West Coast after losing his job at Michigan in the wake of one of the most complex and sordid illicit-benefits scandals in NCAA history.

In essence, the coach, who retired and handed over the SDSU reins to

See, **TITLE**, Page B2

Barnesville boys prevail in the



Vosler, Friedl homer to support Ashcraft in Cincinnati's victory

RAMIREZ SCORES on a bases-loaded error by catcher Cal Raleigh in the 10th, and the Cleveland Guardians beat the Seattle Mariners 6-5 on Sunday in the major leagues' first extra-inning game this season.

Cleveland's Tim Lincecum, a 26-year-old left-hander, struck out all four batters he faced in his major league debut, the first pitcher to accomplish that feat since the mound was moved to its current distance in 1893, according

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Larson wins in Richmond

RICHMOND (AP) -- Kyle Larson spent the week watching videos of his 10-win, 2021 championship season, he said, "to remind myself that I used to be good."

mate Josh Berry to his outside and beat Berry into the first turn. Berry, who is filling in for the injured Chase Elliott, held on for second, followed by Ross Chastain, Christopher Bell and Kevin Harvick.

legal part was overturned by a NASCAR appeals panel. It also came with a fill-in crew chief in Kevin Meendering because the appeals panel upheld the four-race suspensions of all four team crew chiefs.

• Pirates

Continued from Page B1 after signing in December as a free agent, lasted 4-2/3 innings, giving up five hits and three runs with one walk and three strikeouts. The temperature was 49 degrees at game time. Velasquez said he trouble gripping the ball at times, but he didn't want to use that as an excuse.

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• Track

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ished with 35 points, got 20 of those from talented junior Johnny Sabinski in the throwing events.

BYESVILLE -- St. Clairsville's boys racked up 90 points and captured the team title at the Joe Kasper Invitational held Saturday at Meadowbrook High School.

The Red Devils were more than six points better than runner-up New Philadelphia. Steubenville was a distant third.

The Red Devils were led by the double field victory of junior strong man Perry Patrone. He won the shot put with a mark of 54-6 1/2 and then captured the discus with a heave of 150-11.

Senior Karl Kain prevailed in the pole vault with a 12-6 clearance.

On the track, the Red Devils claimed the title in the 4x2 with a team of Gage Wolfe, Rece Spomer, Gavin Schoolcraft and Andrew Vera. The foursome posted a time of 1:33.44.

Individually, Rece Spomer circled the oval in 54.28 to win the 400 meter dash.

On the girls' side, St. Clairsville junior Emma Henry was the top-finishing Red Devil when she was second in the 100 meter dash with a solid time of 12.25.

BASEBALL
Edison 8, Union Local 1
RICHMOND -- The Wildcats picked up their second win in as many days Saturday and kept invading Union Local searching for its first victory of the campaign in the process.

LSU
Continued from Page B1 The dazzling guard, who grew up in Iowa, set the NCAA record for points in a tournament, passing the 177 that Sheryl Swoopes scored in 1993 en route to leading Texas Tech to the title that year.

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OVAC
Continued from Page B1 Parkersburg South's Nathan Plotner led West Virginia in the half with eight points, six of which came on three dunks.

On top of those guys, John Marshall's Brennan Sobotka scored all eight of his points in the second half.

Wheeling Park's duo of Brett Phillips and Cole Wilkinson each had six in the second half.

For the game, Garrison Kisner and Phillips were the leading scorers for West Virginia. Each had 10.

OVAC NOTES
PARK'S WILKINSON received a large ovation from his teammates when he took the only charge in the game.

ON TOP of the game, several special presentations were made during the course of the game. Those awards went to Erin DeSantis (girls coach), David Easterling (distinguished service), John Pizzutti (scorekeeper/timer), Mike Podlasiak (boys coach) and Butch Antill (officials).

THE CAMERON girls and Linsly boys teams were the respective winners of the Phil Lewton Sportsman-ship Award.

THE OVAC All-Star Game also presented \$2500 worth of scholarships to 12 different players. Receiving the scholarships were: Luke Amaismeier (Madonna), Bede Lori (Caldwell), Eden Gibson (University), Maddy Butler (Harrison Central), Kohlton St. Clair (Clay-Battelle), Ty Long (River), Sophie Abraham (Wheeling Park), Megan Malin (St. Clairsville), Mia Henkins (Morgantown), D.J. Butts (Union Local), Brett Phillips (Wheeling Park) and Brennan Sobotka (John Marshall).

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Title
Continued from Page B1 er in 2017, got caught ers. These days, sports up in a series of events gambling is legal in many that, frankly, wouldn't be states (the NCAA brought

SOFTBALL
Shenandoah at Beallsville
Cambridge at Bellare
Madonna at Bridgeport
Shadyside at River
Martins Ferry at St. Clairsville
Barnesville at Union Local
Harrison Central at East Liverpool
Brooke at Linsly
TRACK AND FIELD
Harrison Central at Manteo, N.C.

Prep Basketball

OVAC Samuel A. Mumley All-Star Games
(at Wheeling Park High School)
Girls
West Virginia 83, Ohio 51
OHIO (51) -- Bommer 1, 0-0 2; Knight 5, 2-3 13; Vinkovitch 2, 1-2 5; Medley 2, 0-0 5; Thompson 1, 0-0 2; Kellaway 1, 0-0 2; Raper 2, 2-2 7; Starr 1, 0-0 2; Frazier 1, 0-0 3; Malin 1, 3-6 5; Creighton 0, 0-0 0; Wickham 1, 0-0 3; Johnson 1, 0-0 2; Butler 0, 0-0 0; Ramsey 0, 0-0 0. Totals: 19, 8-13 51. WEST VIRGINIA (83) -- Abraham 5, 4-4 16; Henkins 4, 0-0 12; Bechtel 3, 1-1 7; Vogrin 2, 0-0 6; Rhodes 1, 1-3 3; Sharkey 4, 0-2 9; McCoy 3, 2-2 8; Eolen 3, 0-0 6; Barr 2, 0-4 4; Thomas 2, 0-0 5; Lopoli 1, 0-0 2; Downing 2, 0-0 5; Babiczuk 0, 0-0 0; Barr 0, 0-0 0; Gibson 0, 0-0 0; Kell 0, 0-0 0. Totals: 32, 8-16 83.
3-point goals: O -- Knight, Medley, Raper, Frazier, Wickham. WV -- Henkins (4), Abraham (2), Vogrin (2), Sharkey, Thomas, Downing.
BOYS
West Virginia 105, Ohio 86
OHIO (86) -- Brock 5, 0-0 13; Greathouse 1, 0-0 2; Kuczowski 2, 1-2 6; Hill 7, 0-0 18; Barga 5, 2-3 12; Dowling 2, 0-0 6; DeVold 4, 0-0 9; Jackson 3, 2-2 8; Long 1, 0-0 2; Madzia 2, 2-4 6; Stevenson 2, 0-0 4; Butts 0, 0-0 0; Fairchild 0, 0-0 0; Lollathin 0, 0-0 0; Porter 0, 0-0 0. Totals: 34, 7-11 86. WEST VIRGINIA (105) -- Anderson 2, 0-0 6; Plotner 4, 1-2 9; Davis 3, 0-0 8; Jackson 3, 0-0 7; Danser 4, 0-0 9; Turner 1, 0-0 3; Blake 3, 0-0 8; St. Clair 3, 0-0 9; Wilkison 3, 2-3 8; Kisner 4, 1-2 10; Phillips 3, 4-4 10; Burkett 1, 0-0 2; Sobotka 3, 0-0 8; Gray 1, 0-0 3; Amaismeier 1, 0-0 2. Totals: 39, 8-11 105.
3-point goals: OH -- Brock (3), Kuczowski, Hill (4), Dowling (2), DeVold. WV -- Anderson (2), Davis (2), Jackson, Danser, Turner, Blake (2), St. Clair (3), Kisner, Sobotka (2), Gray.

Sports on TV

Monday, April 3
COLLEGE BASKETBALL (MEN'S)
9 p.m.
CBS -- NCAA Tournament: San Diego St. vs UConn, National Championship, Houston
COLLEGE SOFTBALL
7 p.m.
SECN -- Kentucky at Georgia
MLB BASEBALL
2 p.m.
MLBN -- NY Mets at Milwaukee
7 p.m.
MLBN -- Regional Coverage: Philadelphia at NY Yankees OR Pittsburgh at Boston
NHL HOCKEY
8 p.m.
NHLN -- Vegas at Minnesota
SOCCER (MEN'S)
3 p.m.
USA -- Premier League: Tottenham Hotspur at Everton
5:15 p.m.
FS2 -- CONMEBOL U-17 Championship Group Stage: Chile vs. Uruguay, Group A, Guayaquil, Ecuador
7:45 p.m.
FS2 -- CONMEBOL U-17 Championship Group Stage: Brazil vs. Colombia, Group A, Guayaquil, Ecuador
TENNIS
10 a.m.
TENNIS -- Charleston-WTA Early Rounds
7 p.m.
TENNIS -- Charleston-WTA Early Rounds

NASCAR

NASCAR Cup Series Toyota Owners 400 Results
Sunday
At Richmond Raceway
Richmond, Va.
Lap length: 0.75 miles
(Start position in parentheses)
1. (9) Kyle Larson, Chevrolet, 400 laps, 52 points
2. (30) Josh Berry, Chevrolet, 400 0
3. (4) Ross Chastain, Chevrolet, 400, 48
4. (21) Christopher Bell, Toyota, 400, 45
5. (10) Kevin Harvick, Ford, 400, 41
6. (15) Michael McDowell, Ford, 400, 31
7. (18) Joey Logano, Ford, 400, 36
8. (1) Alex Bowman, Chevrolet, 400, 37
9. (14) Ty Gibbs, Toyota, 400, 29
10. (24) Brad Keselowski, Ford, 400, 34
11. (12) Martin Truex Jr. Toyota, 400, 33
12. (19) Chase Briscoe, Ford, 400, 26
13. (32) Aric Almirola, Ford, 400, 24
14. (2) Kyle Busch, Chevrolet, 400, 23
15. (13) Todd Gilliland, Ford, 400, 22
16. (5) Tyler Reddick, Toyota, 400, 26
17. (37) Chandler Smith, Chevrolet, 400, 0
18. (33) Ryan Preece, Ford, 400, 19
19. (26) Harrison Burton, Ford, 400, 18
20. (11) Denny Hamlin, Toyota, 400, 27
21. (16) Corey Lajoie, Chevrolet, 400, 16
22. (28) Bubba Wallace, Toyota, 400, 15
23. (20) Daniel Suarez, Chevrolet, 400, 14
24. (3) William Byron, Chevrolet, 400, 3
25. (27) Austin Dillon, Chevrolet, 399, 12
26. (17) Ryan Blaney, Ford, 399, 11
27. (25) AJ Allmendinger, Chevrolet, 399, 10
28. (6) Austin Cindric, Ford, 399, 9
29. (29) Justin Haley, Chevrolet, 399, 8
30. (7) Chris Buescher, Ford, 398, 7
31. (22) Erik Jones, Chevrolet, 398, 6
32. (56) Ty Dillon, Chevrolet, 398, 5
33. (35) Anthony Alitto, Chevrolet, 398, 0
34. (31) Cody Ware, Ford, 395, 3
35. (8) Ricky Stenhouse Jr. Chevrolet, 384, 2
36. (34) JJ Yeley, Ford, 383, 0
37. (23) Noah Gragson, Chevrolet, accident, 303, 1

MLB Schedule

Monday's Schedule
San Francisco (DeSofiani 0-0) at Chicago White Sox (Kopeck 0-0), 3:10 p.m.
Minnesota (Maltie 0-0) at Miami (Cuevo 0-0), 6:40 p.m.
Philadelphia (Walker 0-0) at N.Y. Yankees (Cortes 0-0), 7:05 p.m.
Tampa Bay (Rasmussen 0-0) at Washington (Williams 0-0), 7:05 p.m.
Pittsburgh (Oviedo 0-0) at Boston (Crawford 0-0), 7:10 p.m.
Toronto (Bennett 0-0) at Kansas City (Singer 0-0), 8:05 p.m.
Baltimore (Bradish 0-0) at Texas (Gray 0-0), 8:05 p.m.
Detroit (Boyd 0-0) at Houston (Brown 0-0), 8:10 p.m.
Cleveland (Plesac 0-0) at Oakland (Kaneffian 0-0), 8:10 p.m.

**MAJOR LEAGUE
BASEBALL**

■ 4 p.m. — Regional Coverage: Philadelphia at Texas or San Francisco at NY Yankees, FOX

■ 4:10 p.m. — Pittsburgh at Cincinnati, Great American Ballpark, Cincinnati, ATTSN

NHL

■ 3 p.m. — Boston at Pittsburgh, ABC

**SUNDAY'S BEST
AUTO RACING**

■ 3:30 p.m. — NASCAR Cup Series: The Toyota Owners 400, Richmond Raceway, Richmond, Va., FS1

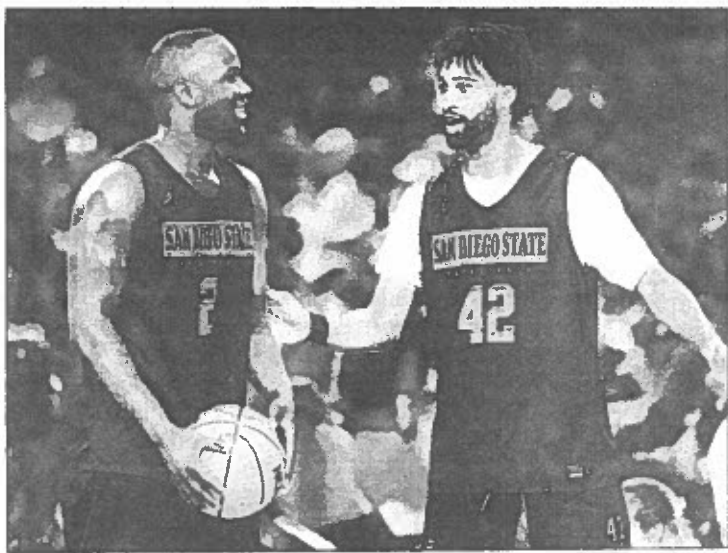
**WOMEN'S COLLEGE
BASKETBALL**

■ 3:30 p.m. — NCAA Tournament: National Championship, TBD, ABC

PRO GOLF

■ 2:30 p.m. — PGA Tour: The Valero Texas Open, Final Round, TPC San Antonio (Oaks Course), Tex., NBC

MAJOR LEAGUE BASEBALL
■ 1:40 p.m. — Pittsburgh at Cincinnati, Great American Ballpark, Cincinnati, ATTSN



AP Photo

San Diego State guard Adam Seiko, left, and guard Triston Broughton talk during practice for their Final Four college basketball game in the NCAA Tournament on Friday, in Houston. San Diego State and Florida Atlantic play on Saturday.

**Looking For Final Four Edge?
Think Offensive Efficiency**

HOUSTON (AP) — Adam Seiko and his San Diego State teammates are ready from the moment the ball is tipped to stalk ballhandlers, make aggressive switches and close out hard on any shooter.

They're true believers in the oft-repeated notion that defense wins championships.

"It should be a staple statement in every program," Seiko said.

Please see Edge, Page C2

**Lack Of Big-Name
Teams Could Take
Toll On FF Ratings**

By JOE REEDY
AP Sports Writer

Cinderella teams make for great stories and busted brackets. They don't necessarily make for great television ratings, though.

After getting a dream Final Four field last year, CBS and Turner Sports have something very different this weekend with Florida Atlantic, Miami, San Diego State and Connecticut making it to Houston.

The lack of recognizable names could affect the ratings. Upsets during the first two weeks have seemingly already taken a toll. The tournament is averaging 9.11 million viewers through the regional finals, which is down 6% from last year. This after the first round on March 16-17 averaged 9.2 million, a record for the most-watched round of 64.

Last year's Final Four of Duke, North Carolina, Kansas and Villanova resonated even with casual fans because it was loaded with national brands. It also included Mike Krzyzewski's final tournament as Duke's coach.

This year's group doesn't have the same cachet.

"The public is telling us that they would rather see the bluebloods. The ratings support that," said former CBS Sports president Neal Pilson, who now runs his own sports television consulting company. "I think it's because they're not familiar with teams like San Diego State, Miami or FAU. There was relatively little press attention paid to those teams during the year. Connecticut has a history,

Please see Ratings, Page C2

OVAC ALL-STAR BASKETBALL GAMES ARE SUNDAY AT WHEELING PARK



Photo by Seth Staskey

Pictured is the West Virginia girls team for the annual OVAC Samuel A. Mumley All-Star Game. Front row, from left, are Carrie Rhodes (South), Sophie Abraham (Wheeling Park), Lizzie Kell (Oak Glen), Emily Sharkey (University) and Mia Henkins (Morgantown). Middle row, from left, are McKenzie Thomas (Paden City), Shea McCoy (Madonna), Lindsay Bechtel (Morgantown), Lily Vogrin (Wheeling Central) and Carson Barr (Oak Glen). Top row, from left, are Coach Roberta Olejarsz (Wheeling Central), Keira Wilkinson (Wheeling Central), Lille Babiczuk (John Marshall) and Coach Ryan Wells (Oak Glen).



Photo by Seth Staskey

Pictured is the West Virginia boys team for the annual OVAC Samuel A. Mumley All-Star Game. Front row, from left, are Luke Amalsmeier (Madonna), Cam Danser (Morgantown), Gavin Jackson (Linsly) and Kohlton St. Clair (Clay-Battelle), Cole Burkett (Cameron), Cole Wilkinson (Wheeling Park), Carter Anderson (Linsly), Roman Gray (John Marshall) and Brennan Sobotka (John Marshall). Third row, from left, are Brody Davis (Morgantown), Nathan Plotner (South), Garrison Kinsner (Morgantown), Alden Blake (South), Damar Turner (Weir) and Brett Phillips (Wheeling Park).



Photo by Seth Staskey

Pictured is the Ohio girls team for the annual OVAC Samuel A. Mumley All-Star Game. Front row, from left, are Pamela Johnson (Edison), Kara Ramsey (Frontier), Megan Malln (St. Clairsville), Abby Thompson (Monroe Central) and Riley Medley (Marietta). Middle row, from left, are Maddy Butler (Harrison Central), Hallie Bommer (Monroe Central), Hannah Raper (River), Charli Wickham (Shenandoah), Emily Kellaway (Union Local) and Alex Frazee (Warren). Top row, from left, are Coach Chace Smith (Harrison Central), Rylee Knight (River) and Reagan Vinkovich (Union Local). Absent were Josie Creighton (Buckeye Trail), Kaydence Starr (Buckeye Trail) and Coach Brad Venham (Warren).



Photo by Seth Staskey

Pictured is the Ohio boys team for the annual OVAC Samuel A. Mumley All-Star Game. Front row, from left, are Denall Jackson (Martins Ferry), Logan Kuczykowski (Indian Creek), Phaeton Hill (Steubenville), Tyce DeVold (Caldwell) and Brody Lollathin (River). Second row, from left, are Bede Lori (Caldwell), Jace Madzia (Harrison Central), Isalah Greathouse (Wellsville), Jakob Dowling (Bellaire) and Tyler Stevenson (Dover). Third row, from left, are Xander Fairchild (Shenandoah), Elijah Brock (Shadyside), Garrett Burga (Buckeye Trail) and Ty Long (River). Top row, from left, are coach Aaron Foldi (Harrison Central), D.J. Butts (Union Local), Beezer Porter (Union Local) and Coach Mark Romick (River).

OVAC All-Star Hoops



T-L Photo/SETH STASKEY

PICTURED IS the Ohio boys team for the annual OVAC Samuel A. Mumley All-Star Game. Front row, from left, are Denali Jackson (Martins Ferry), Logan Kuczykowski (Indian Creek), Phaeton Hill (Steubenville), Tyce DeVold (Caldwell) and Brody Lollathin (River). Second row, from left, are Bede Lori (Caldwell), Jace Madzia (Harrison Central), Isaiah Greathouse (Wellsville), Jakob Dowling (Bellaire) and Tyler Stevenson (Dover). Third row, from left, are Xander Fairchild (Shenandoah), Elijah Brock (Shadyside), Garrett Burga (Buckeye Trail) and Ty Long (River). Top row, from left, are coach Aaron Foldi (Harrison Central), D.J. Butts (Union Local), Beezer Porter (Union Local) and Coach Mark Romick (River).



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Rine and Robinson selected to OVAC HOF's Class of 2023

By **JEFF HARRISON**
For The Times Leader

Manager.

Two individuals who've gone above and beyond in support of the Ohio Valley Athletic Conference are the latest additions to the OVAC Hall of Fame's Class of 2023.

Set for induction at the 19th Induction Ceremony scheduled Saturday, Aug. 12 at WesBanco Arena in Wheeling are Kelly Rine in the OVAC "Family" category and Bob Robinson as an OVAC "Contributor".

Previously announced inductees include Dick Reasbeck of St. John Central and Mike Tomasovich of Weir (1950s Athletes), Al Salvadori of Wheeling Central) and Ted Tomasovich of Weir (1960s Athletes), Steve Doe of Warwood and Lance LaFollette of Woodsfield (1970s Athletes), Tim McCrate of Barnesville and Shawn Straughn of Bishop Donahue (1980s Athletes), Jessica Hines of Barnesville and Fred Ray of Martins Ferry (1990s Athletes), Jenny Castle of Barnesville and Koel Davia of Union Local (2000s Athletes), Justin Fox of Magnolia and Max Nogay of Madonna (2010s Athletes).

In two weeks, the selections in the coaches and officials categories will be announced.

The OVAC Hall of Fame is sponsored by the Robinson Auto Group and is part of the OVAC Museum located in WesBanco Arena.

Here's a look at the inductees:

Kelly Rine

(Bridgeport HS, Class of 1979)

Rine has served the conference in countless roles, always working for the betterment of the student-athletes of the Ohio Valley.

After graduating from West Liberty State College with a Bachelor of Arts degree in Physical Education/Driver Education, his teaching career started at St. Clairsville High School where he also coached football under the late George Strager. After three years at St. C. (1985-87), he went onto Ohio University and received his Master of Science degree in Physical Education/Athletic Administration while also serving as a graduate assistant football coach for two seasons.

For the next 11 years (1990-2001), Rine was employed at Alexander Local Schools in Albany as teacher, coach, Dean of Students and Athletic Director. At Alexander, he co-founded and was chairman of the annual HOOPS Invitational, a one day high school basketball extravaganza held at the Ohio University Convocation Center.

In 2001, he accepted the Athletic Director position at Meadowbrook High School where he remained until 2006. He served a two-year stint as the President of the EOIAAA while at Meadowbrook.

In the fall of 2006, Rine became the Athletic Director at St. Clairsville, retiring from that position at the end of the 2018-19 school year. While he was at St. C., the annual OVAC Cal Giffin Track Championships were moved to Red Devil Stadium, with Rine serving as the Site

Manager. He served as President of SEOIAAA, representative to the OIAAA Board of Control and co-chaired the OIAAA State Conference in 1998 for the Southeast District. He was a committee member for the 2003 and 2009 State Conferences hosted by the East District. He attained his CAA (Certified Athletic Administrator) designation in 1997.

He was the Southeast District Athletic Administrator of the Year in 1999 and received the same honor in 2012 from the East District. In the spring of 2003, he received the NIAAA Distinguished Service Award presented by the EOIAAA, and the National Federation Citation award in 2004. He was inducted into the OIAA Hall of Fame in 2015 and was awarded the OVAC Cal Giffin Track & Field Service Award in 2019.

Rine has served on the OVAC Executive Board as the Class 4A representative since 2004; began serving as the OVAC Class 1/A-2A Golf Director in 2021 and is a member of OVAC Hall of Fame Committee. He also was the Founder/Director of the George Strager Memorial Camp for 25 years (1990-2014), which awarded more than \$30,000 in scholarships to participants in the OVAC Rudy Mumley All-Star Football Game. He is also a member of the Wheeling HOF Committee.

He is also a football official and softball umpire, and has worked the OVAC all-star games in both sports.

Robert "Bob" Robinson

(Harrisville (WV) High School, Class of 1963)

Robinson has been "the man" when it comes to supporting the Ohio Valley Athletic Conference Hall of Fame since its inception in 2004, serving as the presenting sponsor of the event.

His yearly contributions - which to date total in excess of \$70,000 - are the primary source of funds that enable the conference to honor and showcase the individuals who make up its rich history.

The owner of Robinson Auto Group located at The Highlands (he purchased his first auto dealership in New Martinsville, WV in 1974), he also served the OVAC in a coaching role, first as head girls' basketball coach at Mount de Chantal Visitation Academy and then for 20 year as an assistant to Penn Kurtz at Wheeling Central.

Robinson, a supporter of several individual schools within the conference as well, has had a heavy involvement with the YMCA of Wheeling, receiving the "Light of the Valley" award in 2009.

A graduate of West Virginia University, he is a lifetime member of the WVU Alumni Association and is a member of the Mountaineer Athletic Club. He was a 2013 inductee into the West Virginia University John Chambers College of Business and Economics Hall of Fame.

Robinson also received the OVAC Denny Magruder Distinguished Service Award in 2011, the second such honoree following the award's namesake.

