

OVAC Plans All-Star Basketball Tripleheader At Civic Center

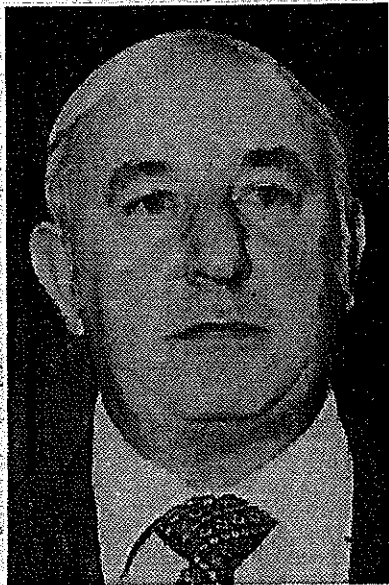
A colorful basketball extravaganza, featuring the brightest high school talent in the area, will be presented by the Ohio Valley Athletic Conference at the Wheeling Civic Center on Saturday night, June 17.

The News-Register and the Wheeling Intelligencer will join with the OVAC in sponsoring the big night of action.

The evening's card will consist of three games, each of them pitting stellar hoopsters from Eastern Ohio against those of Northern West Virginia, thus following the format which has been so successful in the annual valley all-star football game.

The initial contest of the evening will be a girls' game, with a 10-player squad selected from among the senior girls of the West Virginia panhandle clashing with their Ohio counterparts at 6 p.m.

At 7:30, there will be a boys' game, with the standouts from the double-A and single-A divisions of the conference involved in an Ohio-West Virginia



Earl Haberfield

Climaxing the program will be a tripleheader between the best players from the triple-A and four-A divisions (the big school divisions), again as an inter-state engagement.

Earl Haberfield, veteran basketball coach at Wintersville High School, will be the game chairman. His committees will include coaches from schools in each division of the conference.

Coaches for the various teams have already been selected and will be announced soon.

"We are planning to make this a gala night of basketball," Haberfield said. "We plan to have college coaches, who may be interested in some of the conference players, present to view the contests in hope that some scholarship offers may develop for our athletes."

The tripleheader will be surrounded by all of the color and flavor associated with all-star games. There will be bands and cheerleaders and between-halves entertainment.

The conference plans to make the all-star basketball classic an annual affair. The Ogden Newsman of

Wheeling are committed to sharing in the sponsorship of the game for at least two years.

"We are very happy to add this basketball event to our schedule of conference activities," Sam Mumley, executive secretary of the OVAC,

said. "With the OVAC Track Class on June 3, the basketball games on June 17, and the all-star football game on Aug. 5, we are offering fans of our area an opportunity to see the finest athletes of the conference in action. We are hopeful that it

will give the public an even greater awareness and appreciation of the caliber of competition within the conference. We are happy to have the Wheeling newspapers sharing in the sponsorship and appreciate their support."

NEWS-REGISTER—Wheeling, W. Va.—Friday, April 21, 1978



The first woman coach ever to pilot a team in an Ohio Valley Athletic Conference all-star event is Mrs. Joanne Hess, of St. Clairsville High School. She is shown here with the Ohio squad which she will send against West Virginia in the girls' clash which will open Saturday night's three-game basketball program at the Wheeling Civic Center. In front, left to right, are Beth Sproul, alternate from Union Local;

Angie Borkoski, Barnesville; Cheryl Martin, Wintersville; Cammie Beaven, alternate from Martins Ferry; and Debbie Taylor, Frontier Local. Standing are Mrs. Hess, Chris McCauley of St. Clairsville, Kim Domyan of St. Clairsville, Terry Swinehart of Jefferson Union, Ellie Leach of Martins Ferry, Chris Slocum of Toronto, and Anna Kay Brettell of Mingo.

(News-Register Photo—Matt Mumley)

OVAC's 3-Game Classic Saturday Night *Basketball In June At Civic* *Center*

NEWS-REGISTER—Wheeling, W. Va.—Friday, June 16, 1978

By BILL VAN HORNE

News-Register Sports Editor

June, the traditional month of brides, becomes basketball time Saturday at the Wheeling Civic Center where the Ohio Valley Athletic Conference pioneers a new addition to the local sports scene.

The occasion will be the first annual OVAC Basketball Classic, sponsored jointly by the conference and by the Wheeling News-Register and Intelligencer, and it will parade before fandom the greatest assemblage of local area hardwood stars ever brought together under one roof.

While there has been an encouraging advance sale of tickets, plenty of good seats remain available at the air-conditioned Civic Center, which

can accommodate over 6,000 customers for basketball. Tickets will be available at the Civic Center box office during the day on Saturday, as well as Saturday evening. All seats are reserved at the bargain price of \$3.

The excitement should be running high. All of the elements are there. Not only does the classic offer three contests pitting premier athletes from the West Virginia schools of the

conference against those of Eastern Ohio but it is also flavored by all of the colorful trappings—cheerleaders, music by the Paden City High band, the roar of the crowd and, at the Civic Center refreshment stands, hot dogs and cola.

An intriguing aspect of the program is that it will be tipped off at 6 p.m. by a girls' game, thus taking cognizance of the ever increasing emphasis on sports for the fair sex. All-stars Judy Ross, of Wheeling Park, and Joyce Kaczynski, of Weirton Madonna, and the high-scoring Rita Coyne, of Brooke, will lead the West Virginia young ladies into action against the Buckeyes.

Mike DalRe, of Madonna, and Pat Clutter, of Wheeling Park, are piloting the Mountaineer girls, while Joanne Hess, of St. Clairsville, and Dave Linn, of Buckeye Trail, direct the Ohioans. Mrs. Hess has two of her own Red Devil stars, Kim Domyan and Chris McCauley, to throw at the West Virginians.



In the 7:30 game, it will be the Ohio Class AA-Class A boys' team against that of West Virginia. And the Mountaineers will show two of the most publicized players in the state in Richard Summers, of Sistersville, and Gary Fonner, of Bishop Donahue. The 6-2 Summers, a deadly perimeter shooter, was the leading scorer in the state last winter with a spectacular 38.2 average. He piled up 74 points in one game.

Fonner was the second highest scorer in West Virginia as the 5-11 Donahue dandy averaged 33.4 points per start.

For size in the AA-A tussle, the Mountaineers will count largely on 6 ft. 6 Mike Krayzel, of Weirton Madonna; 6 ft. 5 Matt Hartley, of Cameron; 6 ft. 4 Jim Maurer, of Linsly Institute; and 6 ft. 3 Tim Fagert, of Paden City.

The Ohioans will counter with 6 ft. 4 Tom Miziker, of Guernsey Catholic; 6-6 Tom Putinsky, of Bellaire St. John's Central; 6-4 John Lyons, of Buckeye Trail; 6-3 Greg Stubbs, of Beallsville; and the high-jumping, 6-2 Dennis Johnson, of Buckeye North.

All-stater Miziker, who averaged a brilliant 31.4 points per game, and Johnson, with a 24.1 gait, are the top tally-makers for the Bucks in the middle game on the card.

Ohio's AA-A team will be piloted by the two Terrys, Leggett and Snively, who coached the Class A (Buckeye Trail) and Class AA (Shadyside) champions of the OVAC last winter.

Bob Burton, of Paden City, and John Stanko, of Bishop Donahue, will be the bench bosses for W. Virginia's Class AA-Class A forces.

In the "big school" (Class AAAA-Class AAA) setto at 9:30, Wheeling Park's Sam Andy and Weirton's Jack Kostur command the Mountaineers while Mark Matz, of Bellaire's 1978 OVAC triple-A kingpins, and Dick Potts, of River, winningest coach in valley basketball history, handle the Ohioans. In both boys' games West Virginia will have a coach who has directed a state champion team—Andy and Burton.

There'll be plenty of fire power on both sides in the nightcap but the Bucks could have an edge around the backboard with such outstanding performers as all-staters Pete Abuls, 6-6, of Cambridge; Brian Pruitt, 6-3, Steubenville and Brian Dawson, 6-2, Bellaire, along with Tom Orzolek, 6-6, Martins Ferry, and Greg Gray, 6-2, Bellaire.

West Virginia's tallest talent includes all-stater Jimmy Paige, 6-4, of Wheeling Park; muscular John Canel, 6-5, of Weirton; H.A. Savage, 6-4, of The Park; Mark Gundling, 6-3, of Brooke, and Steve Petrovich, 6-3, of Weir.

But also regarded as a strong board man is Magnolia High's do-everything marvel, Mike Dawson, at 6-1. He will be returning to the floor where he tallied 35 points against Wheeling Park in the Region One tourney final.

Except for Savage, who was inval-

able coming off the bench for the Patriots and won acclaim at the state tournament, every player involved in the evening's final game boasts a double figure average for his senior year in high school. But the West Virginia averages, in general, are not as high as those of the Ohioans, who have Abuls at 25.1, Pruitt at 24.2, River's Tim Tolzda at 22.4, Wintersville's John Haberfield at 21.4, Orzolek at 20.0 and Brian Dawson at 19.6. Paige, averaging 21 counters per outing, is the top point-maker on the Mountaineer roster.

Depth is important because in each of the three games, every athlete on the 10-player rosters must play one complete, uninterrupted quarter during the first half, with the only exceptions being allowed for injury, illness or an accumulation of three personals on any individual. That means the coaches will platoon, at least until the second half.

Zone presses may be used but must end after the first trap past midcourt. Thus, there will be no zone defenses permitted in the normal attacking area. Dunking will be allowed both during the games and in the warm-ups.

Harold Cook, Wintersville, and Joe Ripoly, formerly of Bellaire and now of Warwood, will work the girls' game. The Class AA-Class A boys' game will be officiated by Pat Duffy and Jim Murray, both of Wheeling. David "Peck" Pell, of Wheeling, and Jack Prettyman, of Glen Dale, will have the finale. This is appropriate in that Pell will end a 22-year officiating career with this contest.

Eari Haberfield, Wintersville High coach, is director for the classic. Tim McCormick, of Wheeling Park High, is trainer for the teams.

The boys' squads are now in camp at Wheeling College and the girls at West Liberty State College. They will be guests at Wheeling Downs tonight as they relax from the practice scrimmages that they have been sent through in preparation for Saturday's hoop spectacular.

Team rosters follow:

OHIO GIRLS

Cheryl Martin, Wintersville; Chris McCawley, St. Clairsville; Kim Domyan, St. Clairsville; Angie Borkock, Barnesville; Debbie Ellison, Meadowbrook; Terry Swinehart, Jefferson Union; Etta Leach, Martins Ferry; Debbie Taylor, Frontier; Anny Kay Bretall, Mingo; Chris Stocum, Toronto.

WEST VIRGINIA GIRLS

Carris Bell, John Marshall; Judy Ross, Wheeling Park; Rita Coyle, Brooke; Tisa Phillips, Weir; Sharon McEldowney, Mt. de Chantal; Almee Hamm, Wheeling Central; Joyce Kaczyski, Weirton Madonna; Susan McNealey, Pine Grove Valley; Lori Chambers, John Marshall; Marie Shipley, Wheeling Park.

OHIO CLASS AA-CLASS A BOYS

Brent Count, Buckeye Trail; Dan Johnson, Shadyside; Tom Miziker, Guernsey Catholic; Bob Smith, Mingo; Bob Yazrombek, Bellaire St. John's; Greg Andes, Shadyside; Greg Stubbs, Beallsville; Dennis Johnson, Buckeye North; Tom Putinsky, Bellaire St. John's; John Lyons, Buckeye Trail.

WEST VIRGINIA CLASS AA-CLASS BOYS

John Smith, Valley; Lynn Ullom, Cameron; Gary Fonner, Bishop Donahue; Matt Hartley, Cameron; Richard Summers, Sistersville; Tim Fagert, Paden City; Bill Shreves, Sistersville; Bob Berry, Paden City; Jim Maurer, Linsly; Mike Krayzel, Weirton Madonna.

OHIO CLASS AAA-CLASS AAA BOYS

Tim Tolzda, River; Derek Gaudin, Buckeye South; John Haberfield, Wintersville; Phil Hulse, River; Dan Evers, Wellsville; Greg Gray, Bellaire; Brian Pruitt, Steubenville; Brian Dawson, Bellaire; Pete Abuls, Cambridge; Tom Orzolek, Martins Ferry.

WEST VIRGINIA CLASS AAAA-CLASS AAA BOYS

Ralph Parillo, Brooke; Mike Bukovitch, John Marshall; Tracy Silva, Wheeling Central; Steve Petrovich, Weir; H.A. Savage, Wheeling Park; Glenn Didaktson, John Marshall; Jim Paige, Wheeling Park; Mark Gundling, Brooke; Mike Dawson, Magnolia; John Canel, Weir.

Ohio Conquers West Virginia, 86-76, In 'Big School' Struggle

By BILL VAN HORNE
News-Register Sports Editor

After leading only 31-29 at halftime and falling behind by a point late in the third period, Ohio's high-flying all-stars, playing above the rim much of the time, turned back West Virginia, 86-76, in the Class AAAA-Class AAA game which climaxed the Ohio Valley Athletic Conference's first annual charity basketball classic Saturday night before nearly 3,000 fans at the Wheeling Civic Center.

The last contest on the three-game card was not completed until after midnight because of a late start created when the opening tussle of the night, the Ohio-West Virginia girls' game, went two overtimes.

The Ohioans had a little too much size for the Mountaineers in what was an exciting, fast-paced contest, featuring some spectacular marksmanship and spirited board play.

The Bucks presented a balanced attack in the entertaining game. There were 10 lead changes in the

first period but the Ohioans were in front, 26-20, when the quarter ended.

The Ohio lead mounted to 39-28 at one stage of the second period but West Virginia closed to within two, 41-39, at halftime. However, the Mountaineers suffered a fatal dry spell at the start of the third period. They went over four minutes without scoring and the Bucks, coached by Mark Matz of Bellaire and Dick Potts of River High, rocketed their edge to 53-39.

But West Virginia fought back. The Mountaineers ran off 15 points without retaliation and took the lead, 54-53, with 3:21 left in the third round on two foul conversions by Magnolia's Mike Dawson.

Buckeye South's Derek Gaudio and Wheeling Central's Tracy Shia matched long bombs but then Bellaire's Brian Dawson converted two at the line and drove for a goal and Ohio was ahead to stay.

After three rounds, the count was 66-58 and it went to 70-58 before West Virginia tallied its first points of the fourth stanza. Midway through the fourth frame, it was 79-61.

The Mountaineers lost Brooke's Mark Gundling, Wheeling Park's Jim Paige, and Brooke's Ralph Perito on personals in the fourth quarter and Shia was carried off with a leg injury.

Ohio's scoring was led by Brian Dawson, with 18 points; Gaudio and Cambridge's Pete Abuls, with 12 each; and River's Tim Tolzda and Steubenville's Brian Pruitt, with 11 apiece.

The surprise scoring leader for West Virginia was Mike Bukovich, of John Marshall, with 17 markers. Mike Dawson added 11 and Shia 10 for the Mountaineers, who were coached by Wheeling Park's Sam Andy and Weirton's Jack Kosur.

With each side making 32 goals, Ohio won via 22 conversions in 38 free throws. The Mountaineers canned only 12 of 25 at the line.

The Buckeyes had 86 shots from scrimmage to 72 for the West Virginians.

Martins Ferry's Tom Orzolek pulled down 12 rebounds while Abuls and Brian Dawson grabbed eight each, Weir's John Canei and The Park's H.A. Savage collected 10 caroms apiece for the losers and Paige picked off nine.

All-Star Summaries

GIRLS GAME

WEST VIRGINIA — Bell 2, 1-4; Ross 6, 6-6; Coyne 4, 1-3; Phillips 2, 6-12; McEldowney 0, 0-1; Hamm 4, 0-0; Kaczynski 5, 4-10; McNeeley 1, 0-4; Chambers 2, 0-4; Shipley 1, 0-0. Totals, 28, 18-44. OHIO — Martin 1, 1-3; McCauley 0, 0-0; Domyan 9, 5-6; Borkoski 0, 0-1; Ellison 2, 0-0; Swinehart 2, 0-0; Leach 3, 0-2; Taylor 5, 9-14; Brettell 2, 0-0; Slocum 1, 6-9. Totals, 25, 21-35.

CLASS AA-A GAME

OHIO — Dan Johnson 2, 2-2; Miziker 10, 6-8; Yazrombek 6, 2-2; Andes 7, 0-0; Stubbs 1, 0-3; Dennis Johnson 7, 4-4; Putinsky 4, 0-0; Lyons 4, 7-8; Doult 2, 1-2. Totals, 43, 22-28. WEST VIRGINIA — Smith 3, 1-3; Ullom 0, 1-4; Fonner 9, 4-4; Hartley 2, 3-4; Summers 9, 5-6; Fagert 4, 0-2; Shreves 0, 3-6; Berry 3, 0-0; Maurer 7, 6-11; Krayzel 1, 1-2. Totals, 38, 25-41.

CLASS AAAA-AAA GAME

OHIO — Pruitt 3, 5-6; Orzolek 3, 1-3; Abuls 4, 4-6; Tolzda 5, 1-2; Gaudio 6, 0-0; Haberfield 0, 4-10; Byers 1, 0-1; Gray 3, 0-0; B. Dawson 5, 6-9; Hulsey 2, 2-2. Totals, 32, 22-38. WEST VIRGINIA — Paige 3, 1-2; Petrovich 3, 0-1; Canei 4, 0-0; Shia 4, 2-6; Perito 1, 2-5; Savage 1, 2-2; Gundling 2, 0-2; M. Dawson 4, 3-3; Bukovich 8, 1-2; Didreksen 2, 1-2. Totals, 32, 12-25.

It Was a Looooooooooooooooooooo Night of Basketball

Ohio Cage Stars Dominate First Classic

By CAL POKAS

Times-Leader Sports Editor

Six hours, 13 minutes and a few seconds after it began, the first Ohio Valley Athletic Conference Cage Classic at Wheeling Civic Center Saturday night (and part of Sunday morning) became history.

For Buckeye fans and hemorrhoid sufferers, it was welcome relief. For the latter, a long night of sitting had mercifully come to an end. For Buckeye fans, it was nice to see Ohio on the winning side of an all-star game with their West Virginia counterparts.

Ohio won both of the boys games and the Buckeye girls dropped a tough double overtime decision in the opening game of the tripleheader.

The West Virginia girls won

by a 74-71 count, but Ohio bounced back to capture the Class AA-A tussle, 108-101, before the Buckeyes wrapped up the night's honors with an 86-76 verdict in the Class AAAA-AAA finale.

The crowd, estimated at between 2,000 and 2,200, was somewhat disappointing, but it's believed that the OVAC will take another shot at sponsoring the Classic next year, although revisions to the format appear necessary.

THE FEATURE game on the card was the finale pitting the cage stars from the larger schools.

With Derek Gaudio of Buckeye South and Tim Tolzda of River connecting from outside, Ohio took the early lead, but West Virginia battled back,

but after several lead changes, still trailed the Buckeyes at the quarter, 26-20.

Ohio maintained a comfortable margin throughout most of the second period before a late Mountaineer surge brought the losers to within 41-39 at halftime.

The Buckeyes ran off the first 12 points of the second half, but West Virginia retaliated with a string of 15 unanswered markers to assume their first lead at 54-53. After the clubs traded goals, Bellaire's Brian Dawson connected inside and Ohio never trailed again. After three rounds, it was 66-58 and the Buckeyes built a 79-61 lead midway through the final panel before coasting home.

Dawson led Ohio's balanced offense with 16 points. Gaudio

and Cambridge's Pete Abuls had 12 apiece, while Tolzda, with five long-range buckets, and Steubenville's Brian Pruitt each connected for 11. Martins Ferry's Tom Orzolek hauled in a game-high 12 rebounds, while Dawson and Abuls had eight each.

Mike Bukovich of John Marshall led West Virginia's scoring with 17 markers.

THE OHIO CLASS AA-A all-stars never trailed after two goals by Dennis Johnson of Buckeye North and one by Bob Yazrombek gave them a 6-0 lead. West Virginia did pull even at 10, but another goal by Johnson put Ohio ahead to stay.

Ohio led 24-13 at the initial break and built a commanding 56-38 halftime advantage. With Linsly's Jim Maurer leading the

All-Star Classic Successful But Too Long

By **BILL VAN HORNE**
News-Register Sports Editor

It's back to the drawing board for Earl Haberfield, chairman of the Ohio Valley Athletic Conference Charity All-Star Basketball Classic, and his committee.

Saturday night's Great Experiment, the first presentation of the three-game all-star format at the Wheeling Civic Center, was a rousing success in most respects. But it lasted too long.

The Classic started on Saturday (at 6 p.m.) and ended on Sunday. The last buzzer didn't sound until about 12:15.

Thus, some streamlining has to be done before another year rolls around. But the feeling among coaches and others concerned with the classic, which was co-sponsored by the Wheeling News-Register and Intelligencer, is that none of the three games can be eliminated. Certainly not the girls' game, even though it was the big time-consumer, due to an excessive number of personal fouls and jump balls and the fact that the contest went two overtime periods before West Virginia eked out a 74-71 victory.

"We made some mistakes," Haberfield said. "But we did a lot of things right too. It was a tremendous learning experience. I hope to sit down with the coaches and others involved and discuss various aspects of the games, the training camps, the ticket sales, and other facets of the project. We were very much encouraged by the quality of the basketball and also by the fact that we had 14 or 15 college coaches, including a couple of women coaches, turn out for the games. If the SSAC ever changes its rules so we can stage this event in late March or early April, we could pack the Civic Center. But we will continue to work and we think we can improve the whole package. We are fortunate in having so many quality people to work with on this. We got it off the ground this year and we are extremely proud of that fact. A lot of work was put into the classic, most of it by volunteers, and I want to thank them all.

The final financial figures aren't in yet but there is certainly likely to be a profit on the classic. The rub is that much of the profit will go to various charities but not to the OVAC itself, which is in serious need of operating funds. Otherwise, there could be no NCAA sanction.

After West Virginia's girls squeezed by in the opener, Ohio won both boys' games, with the score in Class AA-Class A being 108-101, and that in Class AAAA-Class AAA being 86-76.

Even though 10-minute quarters were played in the boys' games, Mark Matz, who piloted the Ohio "big school" forces with the help of River's Dick Potts, says, "I really didn't think there would be that many points scored because both sides were keyed up and determined to play good defense. I was impressed by the fact that the two clubs were team-oriented most of the way, though play got a bit rough and ragged right at the end. I was very pleased with the attitude of our players. They worked their tails off and they were proud of that win."

Matz got 18 points out of his own Bellaire standout, Brian Dawson, while Buckeye South's Derek Gaudio and Cambridge's Pete Abulis tallied 11

VAN HORNE
ON
Sports

