



Photo by Art Limann

Wheeling Park's Brienne Basilone (6) and Brooke's Lindsay Caprarese, right, get tangled up battling for a ball during the OVAC Cup girls' championship at Wheeling Island Stadium Monday.

## Park Wins 5th Straight Title

By RYAN GEORGE  
Staff Writer

Wheeling Park's dynasty continued Monday night with its fifth OVAC soccer Cup, and sixth in seven years, defeating the Brooke girls 4-1 at Wheeling Island Stadium.

"We pretty much dominated," said Park head coach Russ Hutchins. "We played the ball wide to the outside and controlled the midfield. We controlled in the middle and that was the difference in the game. It was great to see Julie (Gompers) and her sister Lauren control and pass the ball around and keep possession."

In big games big name players leave their mark. Although Julie

### GIRLS CHAMPIONSHIP

Gompers only scored once in the game, she controlled much of the play at midfield and also had seven first-half shots, more than the Bruins managed in the entire game. Gompers rang four shots of the post in the first half alone.

"It was a just a little frustrating at the beginning when you're completely dominating but just couldn't seem to finish," said Julie Gompers. "Once we got that first goal everything started falling into place."

The first goal of the game didn't come until over four and a half minutes into the third quarter.

Moments into the game Park controlled play using its forwards effectively by pushing the ball to the outside then sending crosses back to center.

Julie Gompers unleashed a shot moments into the game that rang off the crossbar then continued with another shot moments later that was stopped by Bruins keeper Tiffany Lafimer.

The single scoring chance for Brooke came on a direct kick which was taken by star forward Jessica Yarter. The shot was blocked by Lauren Gompers and quickly turned into an odd attack toward the Bruin net.

Please See GIRLS, Page 17

## Linsly Tops Patriots in Marathon

### BOYS CHAMPIONSHIP

By CHRISTOPHER S. NASH  
Staff Writer

If there is one certainty in Ohio Valley Athletic Conference boys soccer play, it would be that when Wheeling Park and Linsly face off, its going to be a thriller.

The two clubs had already met twice earlier this season, with Linsly (15-3-2) winning both games by a single goal.

The first encounter, at The Memorial Cup, Linsly edged Park (10-6-2) in a penalty kick shootout by a 2-1 margin. The second time, Linsly won again by a score of 2-1, in the game that turned out to be the OVAC Division I championship game.

Consider this game above both.

In a game lasting five overtimes and nearly three and a half hours, Linsly defeated Park 3-2 in a penalty kick shootout, Monday Night in the OVAC Cup finals at Wheeling Island Stadium.

Stephen Reihner was credited with the game winning goal for the cadets, when his shot gave Linsly a 4-2 penalty kick advantage. Each team is awarded five shots.

"I've been in soccer for over 35 years, and this has to be the most incredible game I have been apart of," remarked Linsly coach Dave Coutts. "There was good hard play between both teams, and it just had a little bit of everything."

Everything would include Cadets goalkeeper Brandon Regan feeding an assist, with less than 30 seconds left in the second overtime, to Jake Mozney tying the score at 2-2 and forcing the golden goal (sudden death) periods.

Please See BOYS, Page 16



Photo by John Wickline

Linsly's Rasto Kret (19) tries to shield Wheeling Park's Mike Gaydosh (3) from the ball during the OVAC Cup boys' championship game at Wheeling Island Stadium on Monday.

## Boys

(Continued from Page 23)

Linsly perhaps may have the mental edge for this year's version of the annual showdown, as the Cadets have defeated Park twice during the regular season. One was a 2-1 victory in the finals of the Memorial Cup, with the Cadets pulling out a late victory via a shootout. Freshman Jason Adams was the hero of that contest.

To get to the finals, Wheeling Park received a hat trick from Chris Crews, as well as a pair of scores from Nathan Evans in a 5-2 romp over Brooke.

The Cadets spread the scoring wealth around in their semifinal matchup with Weir, as Kyle Regan, Bo Zyzniewsky, Matt Waris and Joseph Blaylock all found the back of the net in a closely-contested 4-3 victory over the Red Riders. Branden Regan had four saves in triumph for Linsly.

## Girls

(Continued from Page 23)

Both teams qualified for the finals in convincing fashion.

Brooke defeated Weir by a 6-1 count, led by Jessica Yarter's three goals and two assist, while Amy Bullock added a goal and a pair of assist.

Wheeling Park defeated cross-town rival Linsly by an 8-1 margin. Julie Gompers led the Park assault with two goals and two assist, while Brienne Basilone and Lauren Gompers each added a pair of goals.

## Girls

(Continued from Page 15)

Despite constant pressure from Julie Gompers and all three Park forwards Latimer turned away everything she faced during the first 40 minutes of play. She stopped Hutchins in the second quarter on a point-blank shot and then confirmed the post her best friend when Aimee Reisinger rang another shot off the post.

Going into the half the game was knotted at zero, while Park couldn't find a way to beat Latimer the Bruins were still in the contest.

Bruins head coach Chris Noyes told his girls going into the half, "Remember last year. Play with all heart, and they did."

Last season in the OVAC Cup championship game the Bruins led 1-0 at the half.

Although Brooke was tied it was only a matter of time before balls began finding their way to the back of the Bruin cage.

Julie Gompers fired a shot high off the hands of Latimer and into the net for a Park lead moments in the second half.

Later in the third quarter, Brienne Basilone scored the first of her two goals on the night, the first one coming on a corner kick that was screened by junior forward Natalie Wheeler.

As the game went along the Patriots

only found themselves getting stronger. The few scoring opportunities that were offered to Brooke were turned away by strong defensive play by the defending champs.

Yarter found herself trying to break behind the Park defense but couldn't manage, including moments into the fourth when she sprinted down the field, yet couldn't manage a shot.

Basilone gave the Patriots a 3-0 advantage after scoring off a pass from right in front of the cage.

Park keeper Jillian Wright conjured up a roar from the faithful at Wheeling Island Stadium with an outstanding save on a Natalie Reitter shot by coming out of the net to break down the angle.

The powerful foot of Lauren Gompers put the icing on the championship cake for Park as she skied a shot over the head of Latimer with 9:41 remaining in the game.

"Obviously Park played fabulous. They deserved everything they earned," said Noyes. "They are skilled and very smart with the ball. They are a very tough team. You can only hold for so long."

Besides the outstanding performance from Latimer the only other bright spot came with under two minutes remaining in the game as Yarter broke behind three Park defenders and netted the shot behind Wright.

## Boys

(Continued from Page 15)

Everything would also include two disallowed goals, one by each squad, and perhaps even a fantastic display of goal tending from both keepers.

"This is one of those games that neither team should have to lose," said Wheeling Park coach Mario Julian. "I can't say I am not disappointed, but both teams just gave everything they had."

In regulation it was Linsly that got on the board first.

With 2:10 remaining in the opening stanza, the Cadets Matt Waris connected on a penalty kick for the 1-0 edge.

Linsly's defense held tough in the first and throughout the game. Wheeling Park got off just six shots, including none in first or third periods, and only one shot in the four extra quarters.

Park was able to find a seam in the second quarter however, tallying four of its six shots in the period, and its regulation goal.

Joey Burkland was able to slip

through the Cadets defense for the Patriots, taking a long kick off a Steve Fox give that found the back of the net with 3:42 left in the period to knot the score at one each.

At the end of regulation OVAC rules dictated two-10 minute overtimes, to be followed by two five-minute sudden death overtimes.

The first overtime ended with no winner, sending the game on.

With the clock showing 6:15 to go, Wheeling Park's Chris Crews had a ball deflected off his shoulder, the ball pulled Regan out of the goal, giving Steve Fox an open look for his shot, and a hard-fought score.

Linsly then clawed its way back.

Regan came out of the net to give Linsly the extra attacker, with less than two minutes remaining. Regan proceeded to take the ball nearly the length of the field for the game tying dish to Mozney.

"The play was just one of the most amazing I have ever seen," continued Julian.

"He had a chance to make the play, and he did."

## OVAC SOCCER



**GIRLS: Wheeling Park vs. Brooke**

5:30 p.m., Wheeling Island Stadium



**BOYS: Wheeling Park vs. Linsly**

7:30 p.m., Wheeling Island Stadium

### Familiar Foes Meet Tonight

The Wheeling Park and Brooke girls soccer teams will meet on Monday night in the Ohio Valley Athletic Conference Soccer Cup, at 5:30 at Wheeling Island Stadium.

It's the fifth consecutive year that the two squads will meet in the finals.

Since the OVAC began its Cup tournament in 1995, Wheeling Park has made the finals every year, winning five of the six titles. The Patriots only defeat came to Brooke in 1996.

However, Wheeling Park has had its way since.

The Patriots have beaten the Bruins in the finals four straight years, using the OVAC Cup as a

springboard to three straight West Virginia Class AAA state championships, and a couple of spots in the National Top 50 soccer rankings.

Then again, perhaps the OVAC Cup is nothing more than bragging rights.

After all, tournament does not crown the OVAC Soccer champion. The OVAC Soccer championship is decided during the season, based on the team's records in divisional play.

Wheeling Park has won four straight OVAC Soccer championships, including this seasons Division I title.

Please See **GIRLS**, Page 25

### Park Goes for 3rd vs. Cadets

It is said that *deja vu* is the sensation that you are seeing something you have already seen.

Tonight at Wheeling Island Stadium, the top-ranked Linsly Cadets will take on No. 3 ranked Wheeling Park Patriots in a battle for boys OVAC cup supremacy — again.

The Cadets and Patriots have met five times in the finals — including last season — with Park holding a 3-2 edge.

That means 50 percent of the time, a Patriots vs. Cadets matchup will be the finals matchup — so in essence, *deja vu* doesn't quite cut it anymore.

The 2001 edition will mark the eighth time in 11 tries that 2000

defending champion Linsly has fought its way to the finals.

Wheeling Park, which will be making its fifth-straight appearance, and seventh overall, has not won a OVAC cup championship since a 1999 victory over Brooke in the finals.

In fact, the last non-Park/Linsly team to take a OVAC cup championship was in 1996 when Weir defeated the Bruins. Indian Creek took the Cup title in 95, also by defeating Brooke, and that brief span of two years is sandwiched in between the Cadets and Patriots eight years of 'Cup' supremacy.

Please See **BOYS**, Page 25

# Park, Bruin Girls Back in Finals

*Patriots, Linsly set up rematch in boys' Cup championship*

By RYAN GEORGE  
Staff Writer

Same song, sixth verse.

The Wheeling Park and Brooke girls soccer teams set their sixth straight date to meet in the OVAC Cup finals after breezing to easy semifinal wins Saturday afternoon in Wellsburg.

The Bruins and four-time defending champion Patriots will settle OVAC Cup girls' matters at 5:30 p.m. Monday at Wheeling Island Stadium.

In the nightcap of Monday's championship doubleheader, the Linsly boys will attempt to defend their Cup title against Wheeling Park in another rematch of the 2000 finale.

The Brooke girls, who ran away to a 7-2 victory over Weir in Saturday's semis, haven't defeated Park for the Cup since the 1996 championship.

The Park girls banged home eight unanswered goals race past Linsly, 8-1.

The Patriots found three two-goal games from Julie Gompers, Lauren Gompers, and Brianna Basilone in the dominating performance.

"We had a lot of opportunities," said Park head coach Russ Hutchins. "When you have that many opportunities the ball is going to go in the back of the net. Going into a final you have to play well and our kids played well today."

Early on, though, the three-time defending state champion Patriots found themselves in an unaccustomed position, looking up from the wrong end of a 1-0 deficit.

The Cadets came alive in the opening moments of the contest, as Ann Riley surprised Park keeper Jillian Wright with the first goal of the game. Nadia Sawtarie assisted giving Linsly the advantage.

"These girls are really excited to play them," said Linsly head coach Jill Regan.

"Unfortunately, we aren't allowed to play in the state tournament (Linsly is not an SSAC member) so this is our state championship.

"I think that gives us a little edge in being pumped up and excited for the game."

Unfortunately for the Cadets, the quick goal also served to draw the Park's attention to the task at hand in the rare morning encounter.

"They scored right out off the bat and we've done that with teams before but these kids are very resilient," said Hutchins. "It just gives them a push, they wake up and go to work."

When the alarm clock sounded midway through the first stanza, the Park girls stole the momentum of the game and never relinquished it.

Five minutes into the second period, Park's Lauren Hutchins scored off a pass from Ashley Adamovich as she sneaked it just past Linsly keeper Ashley Neal.

A short time later Basilone converted an assist from Julie Gompers to put the Patriots ahead to stay.

Linsly's only other highlight came when Julie Gompers fired what seemed certain to be the Park's third goal of the game only to see Neal dive to her left for a dazzling save.

Any hopes the Cadets may have had of drawing inspiration from the play were quickly dashed, however, as Patriot senior Lauren Gompers put the game out of reach.

The Park sweeper put the nails in the Cadets' casket with two more second quarter goals, the first coming on a penalty kick and the second one a powerful blast that sailed over Neal's head, setting Park up with a 4-1 lead at the half.

"Once that goal went in the heads went down and they got discouraged," said Regan.

Moments into the second half Julie Gompers scored her first of two in the half with the assist coming from Basilone.

Basilone scored her second goal



Photo by Art Limann

Wheeling Park's Lauren Hutchins (20) is pursued by Linsly's Courtney Lough (7) during Saturday's OVAC Cup semifinals at Brooke High.



of the game to open the final chapter netting a pass from Casey Tominack. A short time later Tominack set up a Julie Gompers goal from the right wing. Jenna Bonitatibus scored also in the fourth with the assist this time coming from Brooke Basilone.

"Park is very good with controlling the ball. They are very good with that first touch," said Regan.

"We just started running around a bit leaving key players unmarked and you just can't afford to do that."

"They're just too good for that."  
**Brooke 7, Weir 2**

Jessica Yarter put on a show for the hometown faithful, scoring five times and adding an assist in the dominating win.

Andrea Hvizdzak and Amy Bullock added goals for the Bruins.

Bullock also added two helpers in the win.

Brandy Reed scored for Weir in the second quarter and Katie Mills added a penalty kick goal. Tiffany Latimer made four saves for Brooke.

Kerri Phillips stopped three shots and Michelle Fabian stopped nine while splitting the netminding duties for Weir.

## BOYS

### Wheeling Park 5, Brooke 2

Chris Crews scored three times, and Chad Evans scored twice in leading Park to the morning win.

Mike Gaydosh added two assists, while Evans and Crews added one each.

Lee Wepler scored on a penalty kick in the third, and Colin Rojak netted a goal for the Bruins in the fourth. Matt Henry had an assist on Rojak's goal for Brooke.

Bruin keeper Keith Connell stopped eight Park shots while Kyle Ackermann made three saves to get the win for the Patriots.

### Linsly 4, Weir 3

The Cadets found goals from four different players to hold off Weir.

Kyle Regan, Bo Zyznewsky, Matt Waris and Joseph Blalock scored for Linsly.

Waris, Jake Mozney, and Jason

Adams assisted.

Weir got goals from Adam Allen, Rich Fair, and Brandon Bertovich, with assists coming from Chad Marsh, Adam Meador, and Eric Alatis.

Linsly keeper Brandon Regan denied four Weir shots, while Joe Kraina stopped seven and Matt Lamp two for Weir.

## BOYS

### Wheeling Park 5, Brooke 2

WP: Goals: Crews 3, Evans 2. Assists: Gaydosh 2, Fox, Hladak. Keeper: Ackermann (6 saves), Roth (1 save)

Brk: Goals: Wepler, Rojak. Assist: Henry. Keeper: Connell (8 saves)

### Linsly 4, Weir 3

Lin: Goals: K.Regan, Zyznewsky, Waris, Blalock. Assists: Waris, Mozney, Adams. Keeper: B.Regan (4 saves)

Wr: Goals: Allen, Fair, Bertovich. Assists: Marsh, Meador, Alatis. Keepers: Kraina (7 saves), Lamp (2 saves)

## GIRLS

### Wheeling Park 8, Linsly 1

WP: Goals: Brk.Basilone 2, L.Gompers 2, J.Gompers 2, Hutchins, Bonitatibus. Assists: J.Gompers 2, Tominack 2, Brk.Basilone, Brk.Basilone, Adamovich. Keeper: Wright (4 saves)

Lin: Goal: Coutts. Assists: Sawtarie. Keeper: Neal (19 saves)

### Brooke 6, Weir 2

Br: Goals: Yarter 4, Hvizdzak, Reitter. Assists: Bullock 3, Yarter 2. Keeper: Latimer (4 saves)

Wr: Goals: Mills, own goal. Keepers: Phillips (3 saves), Fabian (9 saves)

## Crusaders, 'Cats Knotted at 3

The Steubenville Central boys' soccer team stormed back from a 2-1 halftime deficit to take a 3-2 lead into the game's final minute, but a penalty-kick by Edison's Billy Mills knotted the score at 3-all after time had expired in East Springfield.

The Crusaders were led by Carlo Camilletti and Luke Sengenberger, who each scored in the second half to key the comeback.

Andrew Danaher also found net for Steubenville Central (5-5-4) during the first half.

Anthony Dustolfo and Ken Vescovi accounted for the Wildcats (5-3-5) two first half scores.

### St. Clairsville 2, Steubenville 1

At Steubenville, Aaron Delcotto buried a penalty kick midway through the second half to snap a 1-all tie and lift the Red Devils (4-9-0).

Kevin Pollock had the other goal for St. Clairsville while Trey Gillison scored for the hosts.

### St. Clairsville 2, Steubenville 1

StC: Goals: Delcotto, Pollock. Keeper: Marcus (4 saves)

Stu: Goal: Gillison. Keeper: Szyplski (8 saves)

### Edison 3, Steub. Central 3

Ed: Goals: Vescovi, Dustolfo, Mills. Assst: Pinnell. Keeper: King (8 saves)

SCC: Goals: Danaher, Sengenberger, Camilletti. Assists: Gonzalez, D'Ortenzio. Keeper: Hoover (6 saves)

# OVAC Cup Finals Today

Wheeling Park High School will make a strong showing at the OVAC Cup finals today at Wheeling Island Stadium.

Both the Park boys' and girls' soccer teams will be playing in the finals tonight in hopes of sweeping the Cup championships.

The Wheeling Park girls advance to defend their title after shutting out Linsly 3-0 in semifinal action on Saturday.

Lauren Gompers, Brianna Basilone and Katie Frazier all scored goals for the Patriots in the semi-final match.



They will face the Brooke Bruins, who scraped by John Marshall 2-1 in their semifinal match. Jessica Yarter scored both goals for the Bruins in the win.

On the boys side, the Patriots will play Linsly. The Park boys beat out Wheeling Central in shoot-out style 2-1, behind the goal-tending of Jame Alberts who blocked two shots in a penalty-kick shootout. Geoff Strauch scored the only goal in regulation for the Patriots, while Brent Dye scored the tying goal for the Maroon Knights.

Linsly upset the top-seeded Red Riders of Weir, 3-0, in their semifinal game. Jake Mozney, Bo Zyznewsy and Kyle Regan all scored goals for the Cadets. They also got 16 saves from goalkeeper Brandon Regan in the upset.

The Wheeling Park-Brooke starts at 5:30 p.m. to kick off the girls championship, while the Wheeling Park-Linsly game will follow at 7:30 p.m.

## OVAC SOCCER

OVAC CHAMPIONSHIP SERIES  
(Does not include Monday's games)

**BOYS**

Division I				
School	W	L	T	Pts
Weir	5	1	1	16
St. Clairsville	4	0	2	14
Linsly	3	1	3	12
Wheeling Park	2	0	3	9
Brooke	2	1	2	8
Magnolia	2	3	1	7
Beaver Local	0	6	1	1
Oak Glen	0	6	1	1

  

Division II				
School	W	L	T	Pts
Madonna	5	1	0	15
Wheeling Central	5	1	0	15
Steub. Central	3	2	1	10
Edison	3	2	0	9
Steubenville	3	3	0	9
Indian Creek	2	4	1	7
East Liverpool	1	3	1	4
John Marshall	0	6	1	1

**GIRLS**

Division I				
School	W	L	T	Pts
Brooke	5	1	1	16
Wheeling Park	5	0	0	15
John Marshall	4	1	1	13
Linsly	3	3	0	9
Wheeling Central	2	2	2	8
Weir	1	3	2	5
Beaver Local	1	5	1	4
St. Clairsville	0	6	1	1

  

Division II				
School	W	L	T	Pts
East Liverpool	5	1	0	15
Magnolia	4	2	0	12
Steub. Central	3	1	1	10
Edison	2	2	1	7
Oak Glen	2	3	1	7
Indian Creek	2	4	0	6
Steubenville	0	5	1	1

Note: Three points for win, one point for tie. Championship series ends Wednesday.

## OVAC Soccer Standings

**BOYS**

Division I				
School	W	L	T	Pts
Magnolia	3	0	1	10
Linsly	3	0	0	9
Brooke	3	2	0	9
Madonna	2	0	1	7
Wheeling Park	2	1	0	6
Weirton	2	3	0	6
St. Clairsville	0	4	0	0
Wheeling Central	0	5	0	0

  

Division II				
School	W	L	T	Pts
Oak Glen	4	0	1	13
Edison	2	0	4	10
Steubenville Central	2	1	2	8
Beaver Local	2	1	1	7
Steubenville	1	0	1	4
John Marshall	1	4	0	3
East Liverpool	0	2	1	1
Indian Creek	0	4	0	0

  

**GIRLS**

Division I				
School	W	L	T	Pts
Wheeling Park	4	0	0	12
Brooke	3	1	0	9
Weirton	3	1	0	9
Wheeling Central	1	0	1	4
Linsly	1	2	0	3
East Liverpool	1	3	0	3
John Marshall	0	2	1	1
Steubenville Central	0	4	0	0

  

Division II				
School	W	L	T	Pts
St. Clairsville	5	1	0	15
Edison	3	1	0	9
Indian Creek	2	2	0	6
Magnolia	2	2	0	6
Steubenville	1	1	1	4
Beaver Local	1	2	0	3
Oak Glen	0	5	1	1

## OVAC SOCCER STANDINGS

OVAC CHAMPIONSHIP SERIES  
(Does not include Saturday's games)

**BOYS**

Division I				
School	W	L	T	Pts
Weir	5	1	1	16
St. Clairsville	3	0	2	11
Linsly	2	1	2	8
Wheeling Park	2	0	1	7
Magnolia	1	2	1	4
Brooke	0	4	1	2
Oak Glen	0	4	1	2
Beaver Local	0	4	1	1

  

Division II				
School	W	L	T	Pts
Weir, Madonna	5	1	0	15
Wheeling Central	3	0	0	9
Edison	3	2	0	9
Steubenville	3	2	0	9
Steub. Central	2	2	1	7
Indian Creek	2	4	1	7
East Liverpool	1	3	0	3
John Marshall	0	5	0	0

  

**GIRLS**

Division I				
School	W	L	T	Pts
Brooke	4	0	0	12
Wheeling Park	3	0	0	9
Linsly	3	0	0	9
John Marshall	2	1	1	6
Beaver Local	2	1	0	6
Wheeling Central	1	3	0	3
Weir	1	1	0	3
St. Clairsville	0	3	1	1

  

Division II				
School	W	L	T	Pts
East Liverpool	3	1	0	9
Oak Glen	2	1	1	7
Indian Creek	2	3	0	6
Edison	2	2	0	6
Magnolia	2	2	0	6
Steub. Central	1	1	0	3
Steubenville	1	1	1	4
Beaver Local	0	3	0	0

NOTE: 3 points for a win; 1 point for a tie.