

Indian Creek, Madonna, Edison, Trail capture OVAC volleyball crowns

By RICK DeLUCA
Times Leader Sports Writer

OVAC 3-A

On unfamiliar ground, Indian Creek strolled into the OVAC playoffs with a rare title - the No. 4 seed, but the Lady Redskins did what they were accustomed to doing - winning.

After disposing of top-seeded Oak Glen in the semi-finals, the Lady Redskins held off a gutsy bunch from St. Clairsville en route to an unprecedented fifth OVAC Class 3-A title with a 15-10, 15-3 win over the Lady Red Devils at Union Local High School in Morristown Saturday morning.

Coach Erin DeSantis' Indian Creek netters, winners of four previous OVAC 3-A title matches boosted their record to 17-5.

St. Clairsville, coached by Greg Bizzarri and Jay Tazar, saw their record dip to 15-7 with the day's split. The Lady Devils topped second-seeded Martins Ferry in the other semi-final, 15-13, 15-8.

In the championship finals, Indian Creek jumped out to a 9-0 lead in the first set, before the Lady Red Devils battled back to pull to within 12-9. In the second set, the winners opened another big lead at 11-0 before St. C got on the boards.

Mindy Batton led the winners past St. C. with 12 spikes, seven kills, five blocks and three points. NaNa Taylor added 12 spikes, nine kills and two points while Liz Bottorf had seven spikes, four kills, six points, 52 sets and 30 assists.

Krissy Siburt helped the Lady Redskins with seven spikes, three kills and eight points while Denise McNeman had five spikes and three kills. Kelly Mackle had five points, 17 sets and six assists.

St. C was paced by Lindsay Piccolini in the finals with 12 kills, eight blocks and four assists. Juliette McNamara had four assists, six points and one ace. Erin Rose closed with three points and two blocks while Bethany Stranges had six kills.

"They were determined," DeSantis said after the win. "They decided that they wanted to win this (OVAC) for the fifth time because they knew that nobody else had probably done that before."

"They had a goal and they wanted to reach that goal with or without all the starters," she added, pointing out that her Creek netters were still playing without one starter and with a second still not playing at 100 percent. "I took my chances with this schedule (regular season), but we knew that if we wanted to get better that's what we needed to do."

In Creek's win over Oak Glen, Batton had 12 spikes, seven kills and five points, Taylor added 20 spikes and 12 kills, Bottorf closed with 13 spikes, five kills, 47 sets and 23 assists. Siburt had 14 spikes and four kills while Muckle had two points, 27 sets and 11 assists.

St. C's win over Martins Ferry was led by Piccolini with 10 kills, nine blocks and six assists while McNamara had nine points, one ace and 10 assists. Stranges had 10 kills, Abbie Wojchowski had five points and two blocks and Roe had seven points.

Martins Ferry, falling to 17-4, was led by Lindsay Coyne with seven points and nine kills, Jessica Jones with four points and six assists, Jennifer Rice with seven points, Holly Gavarkovich with four kills and six blocks. Stephanie Suiriano contributed six assists, Bianca Piergallini had five blocks and Shae Marchbank had five spikes.

OVAC 4-A

Lynn Meyer knew just when to come back to coaching and may not have known just how long it would take to get on top.

Entering the OVAC tourney with a sub-.500 record, Meyer's Edison Wildcats pull off a mild upset with a thrilling three-set win over 1999 4-A champion East Liverpool in the big school title match at Union Local High School in Morristown Saturday afternoon.

In boosting their season mark to 10-10, Meyer's Lady Wildcats held off a tough Lady Potter squad, 15-12, 13-15, 15-11 in the title match. Edison advanced to the finals with a 15-13, 8-15, 15-8 win over Weir in the semi-finals.

East Liverpool, coached by veteran Bob Shansky, gained the finals with a 15-4, 14-16, 15-11 win over Steubenville Bib Red in the semi-finals. The Lady Potters were OVAC champs in '98 and '99. Edison was the '96 Class 4-A champion.

"We had a couple big leads and let them come back in the game, but the seniors came through," Meyer said after the win. "They wanted this bad and they did a good job."

"It's hard to beat a team three times in a year and East Liverpool beat us twice this year," the Lady Wildcat coach added.

"They've been doing everything and more than we've ask them. They just get better and better everytime we practice and everytime we play."

In the finals, Edison was paced by Holly Cline with eight points, two aces, 23 spikes, eight kills and 10 blocks. Trista Plunkett had 25 spikes and six kills, Jenny Kovalsky added 10 points, 76 sets and 14 assists and Sam Steele had eight points.

Shana Keenan closed with 11 spikes and two kills.

Amber Cronin had 11 spikes and three blocks and Leah Snyder had 44 sets and four assists.

East Liverpool was paced by Ashley Shaw with 24 spikes and two kills, Krystal Adkins had 25 spikes and 10 kills and Rachael Shansky had 84 sets and 32 assists.

OVAC 1-A

Weirton Madonna has played just one match on its home floor this season, so the Lady Blue Dons are accustomed to playing on the road.

Second-seeded Madonna twice rallied from huge deficits to pull off a major upset as the Lady Blue Dons swept top-seeded and defending champion Cameron, 15-12, 15-11, in the Class 1-A OVAC championships at Union Local High School in Morristown Saturday afternoon.

Coach Dawn Hawthorne's Lady Blue Dons boosted their record to 11-7 on the season with the two wins on Saturday. Madonna topped St. John Central, 9-15, 15-4, 15-8 in the semi-finals.

Cameron, entering the playoffs with a 17-1 season mark needed three sets to dispose of a youthful Bridgeport club in the other semi-final, 15-2, 12-15, 15-2.

"I'm very pleased with my girls," Hawthorne said after the win. "We hadn't beaten Cameron and we lost to them in the finals last year, so it meant a lot to us."

In the title match, Sarah Setcavage led the winners with 11 spikes, 10 kills and four blocks while Janna Lamantia added seven points and five assists. Laurie Reis had five

points, five spikes while Amanda Cox had 10 points, six aces and seven assists.

Sara Courtwright led Cameron with seven points and five assists while Ashley Porter closed with five points, two aces and three spikes. Chelsa Walton had eight kills.

In the semis, Setcavage paced the Lady Blue Dons with six points, three aces, four spikes and six kills. Amy Switzer added six points and four spikes while Chantel Wujtow had four assists, two blocks, two kills and four spikes.

St. John Central fell to 9-12 and was led by Angie Soos with 14 points, six aces and four digs while Lindsay Bowman had 26 spikes and nine kills. Alyson Poland added 12 spikes and four kills and Cassie McConaughy had four points, six digs and eight assists. Samantha Misenhelder had four kills.

In the other semi-final, Dana Mroczkowski paced the Lady Bulldogs with four points, five spikes, two kills. Courtney Tomolinis had four points and three assists, Brandy Burghy had three points and two blocks, Erin Harding added 14 spikes, three kills and three assists and Brittany Grover closed with 19 spikes.

OVAC 2-A

Buckeye Trail coach Jeff Beros has been out of the winner's circle at the OVAC tournament the past few years, but his Lady Warriors netters are back.

Coming off a hard-earned three set win over Steubenville Central in the Semi-finals, Trail surprised previously unbeaten Wellsville, 15-10, 15-6 in the Class 2-A Title match of the OVAC volleyball tournament at Union Local high school in Morristown Saturday night.

With the win, Beros' netters boosted their record to 18-4 on the season. Wellsville the dominant force in the OVAC this season, lost for the first time this season after winning 21 straight.

Trail advanced to the finals with an exciting 15-4, 10-15, 15-3 win over Steubenville Central. Wellsville moved into the title match with a 15-8, 15-2 over Frontier.

"We have had trouble this year putting together two consecutive good games," Beros said referring to the semi-final win.

"I feel our schedule is a lot tougher than their schedule," he added. "So I think it is a bit misleading with us coming in 17-4 and their record at 21-0. I told our girls that the pressure is on them. It took our girls a while to believe, and then the momentum switched our way."

In the championship, Bethany Lucas, who had eclipsed the school record for kills in the semis, paced the winners with nine points 18 spikes nine kills and five blocks.

Katie Powell added eight points to the lady Warrior attack while Jaime Stafford finished with 19 spikes, 13 kills and nine blocks, Katie Canel had 30 assists.

Wellsville was paced by Dana Flint who closed with five points.

In their semi-final win over Central the Lady Warriors were led by Lucas who finished with 39 spikes, 24 kills and 14 blocks. Powell added 10 points, Stafford added 36 spikes 12 kills and six blocks while Canel had 35 assists and Jen Treherne closed with 12 points and one ace.

Katie Stanley led Wellsville in its win over Frontier collecting eight points.

OVAC grid races close following week seven

OVAC Grid Standings

By RICK DeLUCA
Times Leader Sports Writer

Just when it appeared that some of the leaders in the OVAC division races were putting some room between themselves and the competition, Week Seven happened.

East Liverpool, Monroe Central and Martins Ferry, leaders the previous week, suffered tough losses over the weekend and with the exception of Monroe Central, the losses were costly.

While coach Jay Circosta's Seminoles were losing for the first time this season against Shenandoah, their lead in the OVAC's Class 2-A race remained somewhat secure as runnerup Wheeling Central dropped its second straight decision. Third-place Shadyside handed Bishop Donahue a 79-0 setback, yet saw its average drop.

Monroe Central continued to lead the 2-A race with its 6-1 record by 8.6 points over Wheeling Central and 14.3 points over Shadyside. Continuing to make its move is Wellsville which improved to 4-3 with an impressive win over Toronto and jumped into fourth place.

In Class 1-A, state-ranked East Liverpool's apparent invincible lead was dealt a major blow with the Potter loss to Edison over the weekend.

The Potters, the only other unbeaten OVAC team heading into last weekend's action, saw its 16.7-point lead of a week ago slip to just 1.5 over second place

John Marshall.

John Marshall, improving to 5-2 over the weekend, is being challenged by East Liverpool's conqueror, Edison, for the second spot. Coach Dave Everson's Wildcats of Edison boosted their record to 5-2 and moved ahead of Steubenville into third just 7.5 points behind the leader.

Big Red did increase its total with a win over Zanesville on Friday, but slipped to fourth.

Just two weeks after Monroe Central and Wheeling Central broke their tie atop the 2-A board, Martins Ferry's hard-luck loss to Indian Creek on Friday slipped the Purple Riders into a deadlock with the Redskins in the Class 3-A race.

Coach Dave Bruney's Riders lost for only the second time this season on Friday to coach Brian Mays' Creek and the loss was enough to wipe out a 13.3-point lead of a week ago and put the two teams in a dead heat.

Oak Glen and Shenandoah give the 3-A race its other tie as the two teams are deadlocked for third place with identical 4-3 records and 47.1 averages. The later pair is just 2.9 points behind the leaders.

St. John Central was the lone OVAC leader to extend its lead as the Fighting Irish's weekend win boosted their lead to 7.1 points over three Class 1-A teams tied for second place.

While the Irish's 5-2 record is good for first, Paden City, Weirton Madonna and Cameron, all at 5-2, are knotted in second.



CLASS 4-A			
	W	L	CP Ave
East Liverpool	6	1	440 62.9
John Marshall	5	2	430 61.4
Edison	5	2	390 55.7
*Steubenville	5	2	370 52.9
Beaver Local	4	3	250 35.7
Wheeling Park	2	4	190 31.7
Brooke	3	4	220 31.4
*Zanesville	2	5	110 15.7
Buckeye Local	1	6	100 14.3
*Cambridge	1	6	80 11.4
Weir	1	6	50 7.1

CLASS 3-A			
	W	L	CP Ave
Martins Ferry	5	2	350 50.0
Indian Creek	5	2	350 50.0
Oak Glen	4	3	330 47.1
Shenandoah	4	3	330 47.1
Magnolia	4	3	320 45.7
Union Local	4	3	300 42.9
Barnesville	5	2	280 40.0
Bellaire	3	4	180 25.7
*Tyler Consolidated	4	3	180 25.7
St. Clairsville	1	6	70 10.0
*Meadowbrook	1	6	50 7.1
Harrison Central	0	7	0 0.0

CLASS 2-A			
	W	L	CP Ave
Monroe Central	6	1	460 65.7
Wheeling Central	5	2	400 57.1
Shadyside	6	1	360 51.4
Wellsville	4	3	300 42.9
River	4	3	240 34.3
Frontier	4	3	230 32.9
Toronto	5	2	210 30.0
*Staub. Central	3	4	170 24.3
Caldwell	3	4	170 24.3
Buckeye Trail	2	5	110 15.7
Fort Frye	2	5	90 12.9

CLASS 1-A			
	W	L	CP Ave
St. John Central	5	2	260 37.1
*Paden City	5	2	210 30.0
*Weirton Madonna	5	2	210 30.0
*Cameron	5	2	210 30.0
*Linsly	3	4	140 20.0
Beallsville	1	6	40 5.7
Bridgeport	1	6	30 4.3
Bishop Donahue	0	6	0 0.0
*Conotton Valley	0	7	0 0.0

Through games played 10/6/2001
* denotes team is ineligible for non-conference bonus points.

OVAC Volleyball pairings set

• EL, Oak Glen, Wellsville, Cameron earn top seeds

By RICK DeLUCA
Times Leader Sports Writer

What a difference a week makes? Not in OVAC girls' volleyball.

With the top four teams qualifying for this week's OVAC playoff tournament at Union Local High School, the list of qualifiers was finalized with the release of this week's conference standings.

Surprisingly, only one team that was among the top four in any of the classes last week failed to advance this week.

While East Liverpool, Oak Glen, Wellsville and Cameron head into this weekend's playoffs as top seeds in their respective divisions, only Fort Frye will be staying home after holding the fourth spot in the Class 2-A race a week ago. The Lady Cadets slipped to fifth behind Frontier this week and failed to qualify.

Class 3-A action over the past week provided the only change in leadership as Indian Creek, which has led the 3-A division each week over the past three years, dropped from first to fourth. Coach Erin Desantis' Lady Redskins posted a 5-3 mark over the past week and as a

result fell 8.9 points off the lead.

Oak Glen, which owns a 24-4 overall record and a 15-3 mark in the conference, has taken over the lead in 3-A and in doing so, gained the top seed in this week's playoffs. Coach Tom Suriano's Martins Ferry netters grabbed the second seed as they closed the regular season at 17-3, 7.5 points behind the Lady Bears.

St. Clairsville, is a lone point behind the Lady Riders in third with a 14-5 season mark.

In Class 4-A, only one team owns a winning record as East Liverpool and its' 11-7 record nailed down the top seed as the Lady Potters of coach Bob Shansky hold a 10.3-point lead over runnerup Edison, at 8-9.

Weir's steady climb has enabled the Lady Riders to take the third spot with their 6-7 mark while two points separate third and fourth place with Steubenville grabbing the final spot with its 7-10 record.

Wellsville is the only unbeaten in the OVAC and the Lady Tigers of veteran coach Dave McKinstry easily took the top spot in the Class 3-A race.

At 18-0, Wellsville earned the

top-seed by a 11.7-point margin over Buckeye Trail.

Coach Jeff Beros' Lady Warriors earned the second seed with a fine 14-3 mark and a 50.9 average. Steubenville Central is third with a 13-6 mark and is six points behind the Lady Warriors. Frontier nailed down the final 2-A spot by edging Fort Frye by 3.2 points. Frontier stands at 14-3 while Fort Frye is 14-4.

Cameron coasted to a top seed in the Class 1-A race as the Lady Dragons of coach Sam Bayza hold a 14-1 record and a 13.8-point lead over second place Weirton Madonna. The Lady Blue Dons, at 7-7, are the only other team in 1-A with a .500 or better record.

St. John Central, at 8-9, snared the third spot closing the week 3.9 points behind Madonna. Bridgeport, which along with Linsly posted a 7-11 mark, grabbed the fourth spot, finishing three points ahead of the Lady Cadets.

Ironically, Class 4-A leader East Liverpool and Class 1-A leader Cameron closed with point averages below that of the fourth place finishers in both the Class 3-A and 2-A races.

OVAC VB Standings

CLASS 4-A			
	W	L	CP Ave
*East Liverpool	11	7	776 43.1
*Edison	8	9	558 32.8
*Weir	6	7	376 29.1
*Steubenville	7	10	460 27.1
Beaver Local	6	10	380 23.8
Brooke	6	12	370 20.6
Wheeling Park	4	10	226 16.1
Cambridge	4	14	268 14.9
Zanesville	3	17	190 9.5
Buckeye Local	2	16	126 7.0
John Marshall	2	14	78 4.9

CLASS 3-A			
	W	L	CP Ave
*Oak Glen	15	3	1072 59.6
*Martins Ferry	17	3	1042 52.1
*St. Clairsville	14	5	972 51.1
*Indian Creek	14	5	964 50.7
Meadowbrook	13	5	760 43.9
Bellaire	10	5	556 37.1
Shenandoah	10	8	588 32.7
Magnolia	10	9	568 29.9
Union Local	9	9	530 29.4
Tyler Consolidated	12	7	546 28.7
Barnesville	6	10	318 19.9
Harrison Central	6	11	332 19.5

CLASS 2-A			
	W	L	CP Ave
*Wellsville	18	0	1126 62.8
*Buckeye Trail	14	3	866 50.9
*Staub. Central	13	6	854 44.9
*Frontier	14	3	742 43.6
Fort Frye	14	4	728 40.4
Monroe Central	12	5	652 38.4
Caldwell	7	8	406 27.1
River	3	14	162 9.5
Wheeling Central	4	13	148 8.7

CLASS 1-A			
	W	L	CP Ave
*Cameron	14	1	558 37.2
*Weirton Madonna	7	7	328 23.4
*St. John Central	8	9	332 19.5
*Bridgeport	7	11	304 16.9
Linsly	7	11	250 13.9
Beallsville	5	15	206 10.3
Conotton Valley	4	13	164 9.6
Paden City	5	13	166 9.2
Bishop Donahue	1	9	30 3.0
Mt. de Chantal	0	12	0 0.0

Through games played 10/6/2001.
* Denotes OVAC playoff qualifier.

OVAC Pairings

The 2001 OVAC Girls Volleyball Playoff Schedule Saturday, October 13 at Union Local High School, Morristown
9:30 a.m. - Class 3-A (1) Oak Glen vs. (4) Indian Creek on court #1; (2) Martins Ferry vs. (3) St. Clairsville on court #2. Finals to follow immediately.

12 noon - Class 4-A (1) East Liverpool vs. (4) Steubenville on court #1; (2) Edison vs. (3) Weir on court #2. Finals to follow immediately.
2:30 p.m. - Class 1-A (1) Cameron vs. (4) Bridgeport on court #1; (2) Weirton Madonna vs. (3) St. John Central on court #2. Finals to follow immediately.

5 p.m. - Class 2-A (1) Wellsville vs. (4) Frontier on court #1; (2) Buckeye Trail vs. (3) Steubenville Central on court #2. Finals to follow immediately.

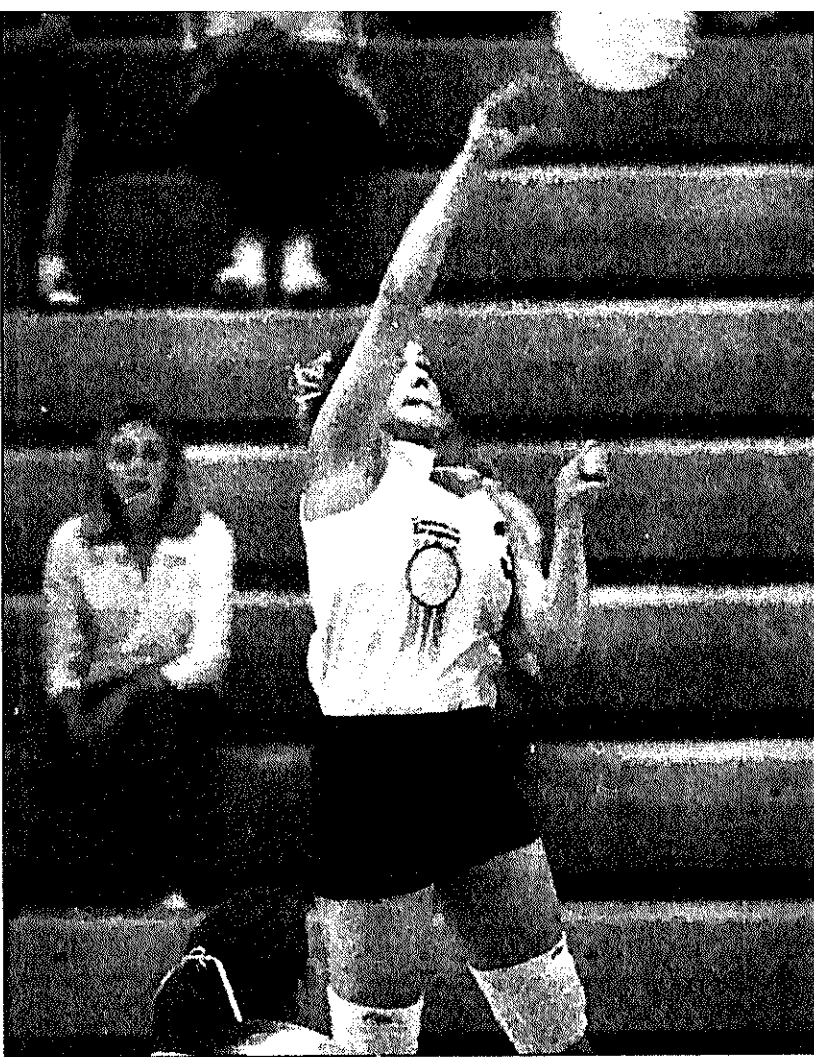


Photo by Scott McCluskey

Cameron outside hitter Tori Campbell (3) makes an overhead return during Saturday's OVAC volleyball championships at Union Local High School. The defending Class A champion Dragons were upset in the finals by Weirton Madonna, 15-12, 15-11.

Blue Dons Stun Cameron

OVAC volleyball champions crowned

By RYAN GEORGE
Staff Writer

The Weirton Madonna girls volleyball team hadn't beaten Cameron in two seasons.

Saturday afternoon at Union Local High School they chose the perfect time to play with confidence and the result was a 15-12, 15-11 win that gave them the OVAC Class A volleyball championship.

"We love playing them. It's a real nice rivalry," said Lady Dons head coach Donna Hawthorne.

"They're real good sports.

"I'm really excited for the girls. They just worked so hard and everyone was talking. I'm so proud."

Amanda Cox led the Blue Dons with 10 points in the game, and used strong serves to keep the momentum swaying in the direction of Madonna.

"Our serves are kind of our downfall," said Hawthorne, "but she (Cox) came through for us tonight and we got a good job from everybody."

Madonna came into the tournament 7-7 but knocked off Bellaire St. John Central in the semifinals in a tough three-set match before upsetting the two-time defending champion Dragons, who were a sizzling 14-1 during the regular season.

In the first game of the championship match, Madonna came from behind to grab a late lead which held up.

In the second game they rallied to take a late lead again then frustrated the Lady Dragons to hold on for the win.

Jana Lamantia finished with seven points in the finals, and Laurie Reis added five points for the Lady Dons.

Cameron's Sara Courtwright finished the match with seven points, Ashley Foster added five, and Annie McCulley finished with four points.

The Lady Dragons beat Bridgeport 15-2, 12-15, and 15-2 to advance to the finals.

Chelsea Walton scored 15 points in the semifinal, and Tori Campbell added 14 points for Cameron.

Bridgeport's Courtney Tomolonis, and Dana Mroczkowski led the Lady Bulldogs with four points each.

In the other Class A semifinal match, the Blue Dons rallied past the Irish 9-15, 15-4, 15-8 to advance to the finals.

Reis scored nine points in the contest, while Amy Switzer and Sara Setcavage added six points.

St. John Central got a 14-point effort from Angie Soos, while Cassie McConaughy scored four.

Following are capsule wrapups of the day's other three championship



"Final Fours."

CLASS AAAA

Finals

Edison d. East Liverpool

15-12, 13-15, 15-11

Jenna Kovalsky scored 10 points to lead the Wildcats past the No. 1-seeded Potters in the big-school final.

Sam Steele and Holly Cline backed Kovalsky with eight points each.

Lyndsey Shannon scored eight points for East Liverpool while Britney Jordan helped out with seven points.

Semifinals

Edison d. Weir

15-12, 13-15, 15-11

Kovalsky scored 14 points and Steele added seven as Edison survived a tough three-set semifinal with the Red Riders.

Tiffany Board led Weir with 10 points while Jamie Russell finished with nine.

East Liverpool d. Steubenville

15-4, 14-16, 15-11

Rachel Shansky finished with 12 points to lead East Liverpool in scoring.

Jenna Bryan had 13 points for Big Red.

■■■
CLASS AAA

Finals

Indian Creek d. St. Clairsville

15-10, 15-3

Krissy Siburt Siburt scored eight points for Indian Creek and Saressa Psharce added five as the Creek rose from the No. 4 seed to claim its fifth straight triple-A crown.

The Lady Red Devils got six points from Jill McNamara and three from Erin Rose in the loss.

Semifinals

Indian Creek d. Oak Glen

15-13, 15-6

The Redskins punched their ticket to the championship match by sweeping the top-seeded Golden Bears. Psharce led the way with six points while Mindy Batton added five markers.

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OVAC Volleyball tourney unfolds Saturday at UL

By RICK DeLUCA
Times Leader Sports Writer

With the Class 4-A bracket guaranteed a new champion, three defending champs will return to Saturday's OVAC Girl's Volleyball Championship Playoffs set for Union Local High School in Morristown.

Four exciting regular season races set the stage for four exciting championship matches last season and this year's tourney should be no different.

East Liverpool, Oak Glen, Wellsville and Cameron head into Saturday's playoffs as the top seeds in their respective classes. Unbeaten Wellsville and once-beaten Cameron enter the tourney as defending champions.

Coach Bob Shansky's Lady Potters, Class 4-A champs in 1999 and '98, earned the top seed just as they did a year ago. East Liverpool lost in the semi-finals to eventual OVAC champion Cambridge. The Lady Bobcats are the only 2000 champion not back to defend its crown this season.

Powerful Oak Glen, coached by Ethel Riser, earned the top seed in Class 3-A.

The Lady Golden Bears were OVAC champions in Class 4-A in '97 and Class 3-A in '96. Oak Glen will have the task of dethroning four-time Class 3-A champion Indian Creek.

Indian Creek has been reigning as 3-A OVAC champion since Oak Glen took the '96 crown. Fans will not wait long for a IC-OG matchup as the teams square off in the tourney opener at 9:30 a.m.

Wellsville, the OVAC's lone unbeaten team at 18-0, will be looking to hand veteran coach Dan McKinstry a second straight OVAC crown on Saturday as the Class

2-A's top seeded team. The defending 2-A titlists are not strangers to the conference playoffs, making numerous appearances during McKinstry's long tenure.

Cameron easily grabbed the top seed in Class 1-A and enters the OVAC playoffs as a two-time defending champ. Coach Sam Bayza's Lady Dragons have held the 1-A crown since dethroning Conotton Valley in '99.

Saturday's matchups in the semi-finals will present as much excitement as the championship finals.

In the opener at 9:30 a.m., Class 3-A qualifiers square off in the semi-finals with Oak Glen and Indian Creek battling on Court #1 and second-seeded Martins Ferry (17-3) taking on third-seeded St. Clairsville (14-6) on Court #2. The title match will take place immediately following the semi-finals as will be the case in each division.

At noon, 4-A semi-final action is slated to get underway with East Liverpool facing fourth-seeded Steubenville on Court #1 and second-seeded Edison matched up with third-seeded Weir on Court #2.

Slated to get underway at 2:30 p.m. are the Class 1-A semi-final matches with Cameron battling fourth-seeded Bridgeport on Court #1 and second-seeded Weirton Madonna matching tips with third-seeded St. John Central on Court #2.

Playoff action wraps up at 5 p.m. with Wellsville taking to the nets against fourth-seeded Frontier on Court #1 and second-seeded Buckeye Trail squaring off with third-seeded Steubenville Central on Court #2.

Five qualifiers from the 2000 tourney failed to earn a berth in this year's tournament. Along with Cambridge, qualifiers from a year ago that will not be returning to this year's tourney are Shenandoah, Monroe Central, Brooke and Beallsville.

Buckeye Trail is another former champion having

taken the Class 2-A titles in 1998 and '96. St. John Central is another past champion winning in '97 while Edison earned the Class 4-A crown in '96. Since 1996, only 10 different schools have held the four different division titles in OVAC volleyball.

In Class 1-A, Bridgeport earned another trip to the playoffs after posting a pair of wins over St. John Central and Linsly and single victories over Wheeling Central, Weirton Madonna and Bishop Donahue.

Cameron breezed through a schedule that includes multiple wins over Beallsville, Mt. de Chantal, Paden City and Valley while also knocking off Magnolia, Bishop Donahue, Bridgeport, Wheeling Central and West Greene.

St. John Central's up-and-down season saw the Lady Irish score wins over Wheeling Central, Linsly and Bishop Donahue twice and Paden City and Weirton Madonna once.

In Class 2-A, Buckeye Trail's big school-loaded schedule saw the Lady Warriors topple Wheeling Park, Shenandoah, Zanesville, Cambridge and Caldwell twice along with wins over Barnesville, Harrison Central, Indian Valley and Tusky Central.

Frontier showed little signs of weakness to subduing Fort Frye, St. Marys, River, St. John Central, John Marshall, Tyler Consolidated, Shenandoah and Beallsville.

Steubenville Central, another school with a schedule top heavy in big school competition, disposed of Linsly, Edison, Harrison Central, Steubenville, Martins Ferry, East Liverpool, Buckeye Local and Valley en route to its playoff berth.

Wellsville completely dominated in gaining wins over Harrison Central, East Liverpool, Oak Glen, Beaver Local, Brooke, Steubenville Central and non-conference foes Jefferson Milton, Brookfield, Malvern, Southern and Lisbon.

In Class 3-A, Indian Creek won its first 10 games and closed with a season that saw the Lady Redskins edge opponents East Liverpool, Buckeye Trail, St. Clairsville, Oak Glen, Weir, Strongsville, Logan, Edison, Weir, Twinsburg and Villa-Angela St. Joseph.

Martins Ferry sailed through its schedule that included wins over River, Steubenville Central, Buckeye Local, Wheeling Park, Harrison Central, Bridgeport, Union Local, Zanesville, Steubenville, Barnesville and Bellaire.

Oak Glen started a little slow before racking up wins over teams like Edison, East Liverpool, Weir, Beaver Local, Wheeling Park, Magnolia, Weirton Madonna, Meadowbrook, Indian Creek, Cambridge and Monroe Central.

St. Clairsville finished another fine season with wins over Buckeye Local, Union Local, Martins Ferry, Brooke, Harrison Central, Bellaire, Cambridge, Zanesville and Wheeling Park.

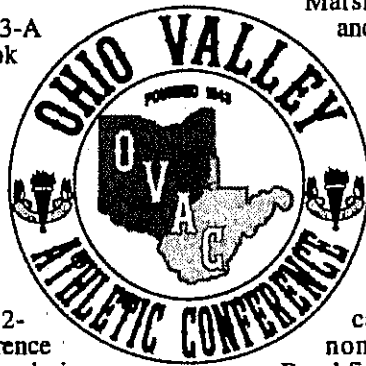
On Class 4-A, East Liverpool's list of wins includes Edison, Zanesville, Beaver Local, Buckeye Local, Youngstown Rayen, Brooke, Steubenville Central, Indian Creek and Steubenville.

Edison's see-saw season watched the Lady Wildcats knock off Steubenville, Buckeye Local and Brooke twice along with Zanesville and Weir.

Steubenville put wins together over Zanesville and Buckeye Local twice and singles wins over East Liverpool, Weir and St. John Central.

Weir heads to the playoffs after posting wins over Wheeling Park and Wheeling Central twice and Steubenville and Brooke once.

Gates open for Saturday's playoffs at 8 a.m. with ticket prices set at \$5.00 for adults.



OVAC Playoff Team Capsules

Playoff Qualifiers' capsule reports:

CLASS 1-A
BRIDGEPORT LADY BULLDOGS
 Head coach: Bob Krajnyak (8th year).
 Assistant coaches: Jim Swalon, Maria Bullock, Kat Stewart.
 2001 record: 7-11
 2000 record: 9-17
 Graduation losses: Maria Bullock, Jessica Beal, Kat Stewart
ROSTER
 Seniors: none.
 Juniors: Courtney Tomolonis, Dawn Zoladz.
 Sophomores: Brittany Grover, Erin Harding, Alicyn Murad, Ashley Wilson, Kessie Suparik, Brittany Davis.
 Freshmen: Brandy Burgy, Megan Carter, Dana Mroczkowski, Sarah Zimmermen, Krista Gessler, Valerie Foote.
CAMERON LADY DRAGONS
 Head coach: Sam Bayza (11th year).
 Assistant coach: Bill Porter.
 2001 record: 14-1
 2000 record: 23-1
 Graduation losses: Nora Shalaway, Sarah Lilley.
ROSTER
 Seniors: Allison Butler, Tori Campbell, Sara Courtright, Brea Ray, Tracy Siburt, Chelsea Walton.
 Juniors: Annie McCullay, Kelli Martin, Ashley Butler.
 Sophomores: Amanda Allison, Jessica Morris, Kelly Parry, Chelsea Reid, Christina Riggie.
 Freshmen: Kayla Frye, Sara Lyons.
ST. JOHN CENTRAL LADY FIGHTING IRISH
 Head coach: Ron Kelly (1st year).
 Assistant coach: Terri Reynolds.
 2001 record: 8-9
 2000 record: 8-12
 Graduation losses: Jessica Seivertson, Megan George, Amelia Benner.
ROSTER
 Seniors: Lindsay Bowman, Cassie McConaughy, Amber Clark.
 Juniors: Tierney Bumgardner, Angela Soos, Brianna Tomolonis, Alyson Poland, Samantha Mayer.
 Sophomores: Laurienne Chesnick, Courtney Ogilbee, Samantha Misenhelder.
 Freshmen: Kaitlin Seivertson, Jessica Vavra.
WEIRTON MADONNA LADY BLUE DONS
 Head coach: Donna Hawthorne (2nd year).
 Assistant coach: None.
 2001 record: 7-7.
 2000 record: 22-7.
 Graduation losses: Megan Finneran, Nathalie Wujtow.
ROSTER
 Seniors: Amanda Cox, Jenna LaMantia, Leslie Reis, Sarah Selcavage, Jessica Swanson, Amy Switzer.
 Juniors: Danielle Binkoek, Christina Bologna, Sara Fracasso, Ashley Hamilton, Jennifer Maurer, Marisa Mato, Charli Wukow.
 Sophomores: Courtney Ceran, Amanda Law, Lindsey Patrelle.
 Freshmen: Serona Selcavage.
CLASS 2-A
BUCKEYE TRAIL LADY WARRIORS
 Head coach: Jeff Boros (11th year).
 Assistant coach: Mike Beaver, Lori Smith.
 2001 record: 14-3.
 2000 record: 18-6.
 Graduation losses: Ashley Bales, Jamie Booth, Angela Gibson.
ROSTER
 Seniors: Bethany Lucas, Jamie Stafford, Jennifer Trehema, Katie Powell, Libby Bond.
 Juniors: Amand Bradshaw, Katie Bradshaw.
 Sophomores: Kalle Canal.
 Freshmen: Molly Grimes, Courtney Dinges.

FRONTIER LADY COUGARS
 Head coach: Pat Galbreath (18th year).
 Assistant coach: Donna Murphy.
 2001 record: 14-3.
 2000 record: 12-7.
 Graduation losses: Kristin Decker, Nicole Wise, Kendra West.
ROSTER
 Seniors: Alisha Heddelson, Trista Murphy, Tabi Taylor.
 Juniors: Kristie Cochran, Kristen Haynes, Samantha Garrett.
 Sophomores: Ashley Dishong, Tiffany Fringie, Lauren Rinnard, Jennifer King.
 Freshmen: Jayla Walker, Kayla Higgins.
STUEBENVILLE CENTRAL LADY CRUSADERS
 Head coach: Keith Aeschbach (3rd year).
 Assistant coach: Dawn Suriano.
 2001 record: 13-6.
 2000 record: 13-6.
 Graduation losses: Michelle Skipper, Alicia Corab.
ROSTER
 Seniors: Christian Biggio, Shayla Lucas, Kellie McCriston, Megan Neaper, Angela Petrozzi, Jamie Sweeney.
 Juniors: Bridget Allison, Emily Ariotta, Lori Hamann.
 Sophomores: Megan Gould.
WELLSVILLE LADY TIGERS
 Head coach: Dan McKinsley (25th year).
 Assistant coach: Stephanie Crawford, Darlene Allison, Lori Householder.
 2001 record: 18-0.
 2000 record: 19-8.
 Graduation losses: Trisha Williams, Ashley Corbin, Jennifer McCombe, Casey Carter.
ROSTER
 Seniors: Lynsey Lyle, Jennifer Morgan, Dana Flint.
 Juniors: Dena Barber, Angela Dallas.
 Sophomores: Ashley Pierson, Emily Olmstead, Ashley Lombardozzi, Katie Stanley, Shelby Kerr, Gabrielle Burns, Melody Allison, Brittany Relling.
 Freshmen: Tara Morgan, Aubrey Gangloff, Ashley Allison, Karolyn Drysdale, Ashley Meadows, Marla Deam.
CLASS 3-A
INDIAN CREEK LADY REDSKINS
 Head coach: Erin DeSantis (17th year).
 Assistant coach: Brant Starky, Angie Penner, Kurt Vandeborne, Crystal Pyriash, Natalie Siburt.
 2001 record: 14-5.
 2000 record: 24-2.
 Graduation losses: Brandie Beebe, Natalie Siburt, Brenda DeFilippo.
ROSTER
 Seniors: Alicia Bane, Mindy Batton, Liz Bottori, Lindsey Cowser, Denise McNamara, HaNa Taylor.
 Juniors: Christina Lewis, Mindi Littleton, Kelly Mucke, Jereasa Pearce, Kristin Siburt.
 Sophomores: Michelle Banfield, Bernie Edgerly, Kerri Ferguson, Kristin Ferguson, Amber Nicholas, Jessica Schoolcraft, Rachel Rheinhardt.
MARTINS FERRY LADY PURPLE RIDERS
 Head coach: Tom Suriano (2nd year).
 Assistant coach: Kim Ogilbee, Kim Traversa, Erin Lude, Paula Pfennimiller, Debbie Carpenter, Susan Suriano.
 2001 record: 17-3.
 2000 record: 18-4.
 Graduation losses: Susan Suriano, Kerl Padgelek.
ROSTER
 Seniors: Holly Gavarickovich, Jessica Jones.
 Juniors: Lindsay Coyne, Stephanie Suriano, Natalie Regel, Bianca Piergallini, Jenny Secrist, Jennifer Rice, Hilary Smith.
 Sophomores: Shae Marchbank, Holly Apostolec, Kristen Harrison, Lychee Jozwiak, Leah Newland, Julie Hildebrand.
OAK GLEN LADY GOLDEN BEARS
 Head coach: Ethel Riser (21st year).

Assistant coach: Bill Pittinger.
 2001 record: 15-3 (35-5).
 2000 record: 35-11
 Graduation losses: Kara Amos, Lacey Cashdollar, Lindsey Neptone.
ROSTER
 Seniors: Emily Kincaide, Jade Eckleberry, Kelly Williams, Peggy Emmerling.
 Juniors: Annie Chaney, Jenna Eckleberry, Lisa Rowland, Susan Cashdollar.
 Sophomores: Emily Marek.
 Freshmen: Ashley DeLong.
ST. CLAIRSVILLE LADY RED DEVILS
 Head coach: Greg Bizzarri and Jay Tezar (10th year).
 Assistant coach: Joyce Piccolini, Joyce Drake.
 2001 record: 14-6.
 2000 record: 21-4.
 Graduation losses: Bethany Piccolini, Katie Kubica, Jessica Garczyk, Jennifer Moore.
ROSTER
 Seniors: Lindsay Piccolini, Erin Rose, Tawni Fuller, Abbie Wojchowski.
 Juniors: Jill McNamara, Bethany Stranges.
 Sophomores: Juliette McNamara, Amy Drake, Stacy Synowko.
 Freshmen: Jamie Henry.
CLASS 4-A
EAST LIVERPOOL LADY POTTERS
 Head coach: Bob Shansky (26th year).
 Assistant coach: Becky Jordan, Elizabeth Power.
 2001 record: 11-7.
 2000 record: 11-11.
 Graduation losses: Randi Arnold, Tiffany White.
ROSTER
 Seniors: Rachael Shansky, Ashley Shaw, Lyndsey Shannon, Ashley Smith, Sara Sheppard, Jamie Herring.
 Juniors: Stephanie Arthur, Britney Jordan, Rachel Thayer.
 Sophomores: Krystal Adkins, Molly Klink.
EDISON LADY WILDCATS
 Head coach: Lynn Meyer (6th year).
 Assistant coach: Tony Kovalesky, Traci Sanders.
 2001 record: 8-9.
 2000 record: 8-10.
 Graduation losses: Hannah Brehm, Jen Dobbins, Jaimie Greger.
ROSTER
 Seniors: Holly Cline, Amber Cronin, Erin Mikesell, Dani Mahoney, Trista Plunkett, Sam Skoela, Stephanie Tice.
 Juniors: Shana Keenan, Molly Schaefer.
 Sophomores: Jenny Kovalesky, Leah Snyder.
STUEBENVILLE LADY BAG RED
 Head coach: Suzanne Govey-Allen (2nd year).
 Assistant coach: Angelita Forte.
 2001 record: 7-10.
 2000 record: 10-9.
 Graduation losses: Lakisha Jeter, Michelle Collins.
ROSTER
 Seniors: Jenna Bryan, Megan Rambold.
 Juniors: Jamie Gullen, Ashley Brandt, Kristen Mori, Nicole Hedmond, Iris Wilson.
 Sophomores: Erika Leas, Brittany Venci, Ali Mylinski.
WEIR LADY RED RIDERS
 Head coach: Willie Paul (4th year).
 Assistant coach: Mike Elliott.
 2001 record: 6-7.
 2000 record: 9-13.
 Graduation losses: Christine Dover, Sonya Lettler, Jacqueline Mastramichale.
ROSTER
 Seniors: Michelle Duffy, Jamie Russell.
 Juniors: Tiffany Board, Nikki Flora, Lora Montero, Jamie Parnell, Kenisha Smith, Lizzy Turner.
 Sophomores: Brittany Snyder.

Recent OVAC Champions

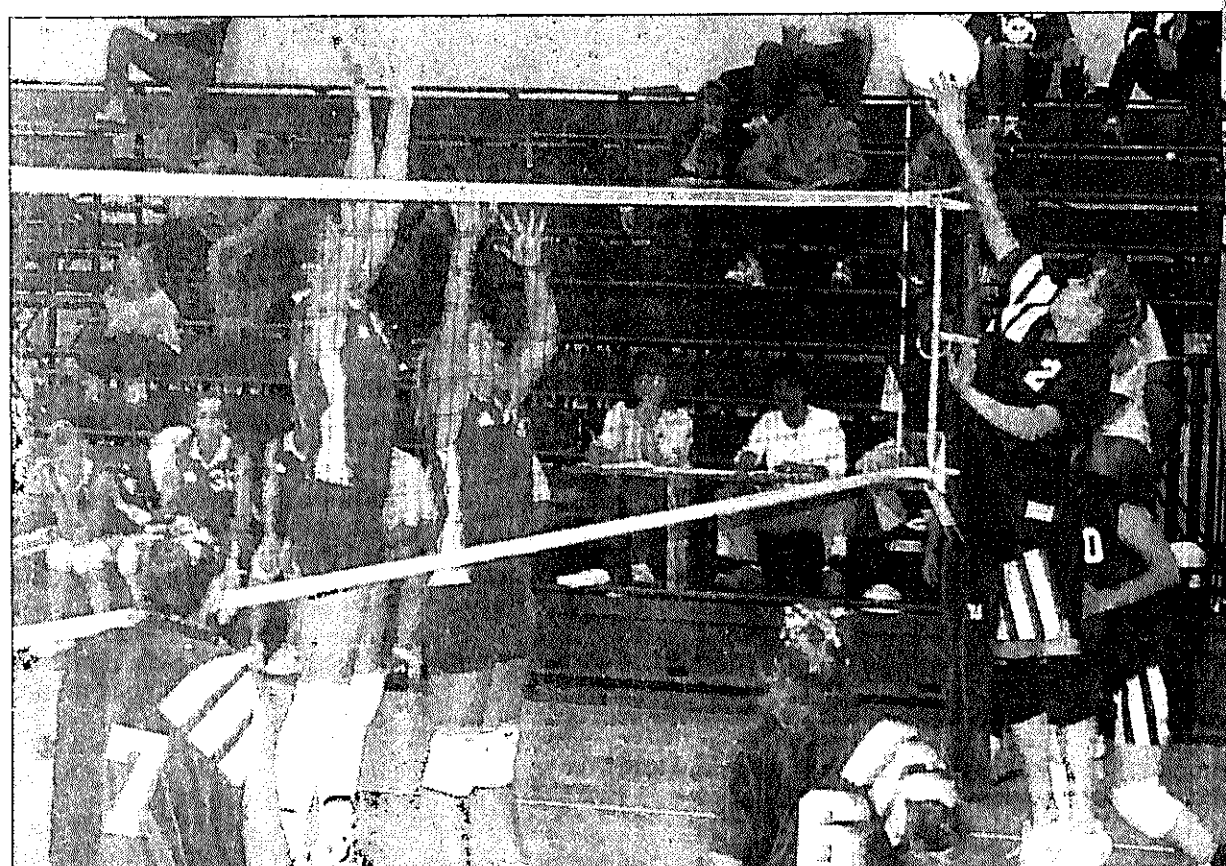
2000 Champions:
 GIRLS Class 1-A Cameron
 GIRLS Class 2-A Wellsville
 GIRLS Class 3-A Indian Creek
 GIRLS Class 4-A Cambridge
1999 Champions:
 GIRLS Class 1-A Cameron
 GIRLS Class 2-A Shenandoah
 GIRLS Class 3-A Indian Creek
 GIRLS Class 4-A East Liverpool
1998 Champions:
 GIRLS Class 1-A Conotton Valley
 GIRLS Class 2-A Buckeye Trail

GIRLS Class 3-A Indian Creek
 GIRLS Class 4-A East Liverpool
1997 Champions:
 GIRLS Class 1-A St. John Central
 GIRLS Class 2-A Shenandoah
 GIRLS Class 3-A Indian Creek
 GIRLS Class 4-A Oak Glen
1996 Champions
 GIRLS Class 1-A Conotton Valley
 GIRLS Class 2-A Buckeye Trail
 GIRLS Class 3-A Oak Glen
 GIRLS Class 4-A Edison

OVAC Schedule

2001 PLAYOFF SCHEDULE
 9:30 a.m. - Class 3-A (1) Oak Glen vs. (4) Indian Creek on court #1; (2) Martins Ferry vs. (3) St. Clairsville on court #2. Finals to follow immediately.
 12 noon - Class 4-A (1) East Liverpool vs. (4) Steubenville on court #1; (2) Edison vs. (3) Weir on court #2. Finals to follow immediately.
 2:30 p.m. - Class 1-A (1) Cameron vs. (4) Bridgeport on court #1; (2) Weirton Madonna vs. (3) St. John Central on court #2. Finals to follow immediately.
 5 p.m. - Class 2-A (1) Wellsville vs. (4) Frontier on court #1; (2) Buckeye Trail vs. (3) Steubenville Central on court #2. Finals to follow immediately.

SPORTS



T-L Photo/PAULA GINTHE'
RETURNING a serve is Martins Ferry's Shae Marchbank (2). Waiting to attempt to block for the Lad Devils is Lindsay Piccolini (left) and Jill McNamara (right). St. Clairsville went on to defeat Martins Ferr in the semifinal match of the OVAC volleyball championships Saturday at Union Local. The Lady Devi, fell in the finals to Indian Creek.