

Photo by Andrew Grimm
 Wheeling Park's Daelyn Crum competes in the 100 backstroke Saturday during the OVAC Swim Championships at Brooke High School.

JM's Kidney Sets 2 Records To Cap Her OVAC Career

By ANDREW GRIMM
For The Intelligencer
 WELLSBURG — Victoria Kidney saved her best for last, as the John Marshall High School senior not only won two individual titles at Saturday's OVAC Class 5A Swim Championships at Brooke High School, but she also set two pool records and a meet record in her events.



KIDNEY

In the 200 individual medley, Kidney, who has signed to swim next season at West Virginia University, had a time of 2:09.25 for a pool record. In the 100 backstroke, her winning time of 57.64 was both a pool and a meet record.

Her two records were among seven that fell Saturday as the region's big schools battled it out for pool supremacy. Dover High's Lucas Lane also set two pool records in the 100 back (51.75) and the 500 free (4:38.77), while other records were set by

Mason Frances of Warren High School in the 50 free (21.01), Caroline Riggs of Morgantown High School in the 500 free (5:02.79), and Dover's 400 freestyle relay team (3:19.49).

Overall, Dover's girls dominated in the team competition, more than doubling the points total of Morgantown in second and Parkersburg South, third. On the boys side, Parkersburg South edged Dover for the team title while Morgantown finished third.

Wheeling Park's boys and girls swimmers finished fourth in their respective divisions.

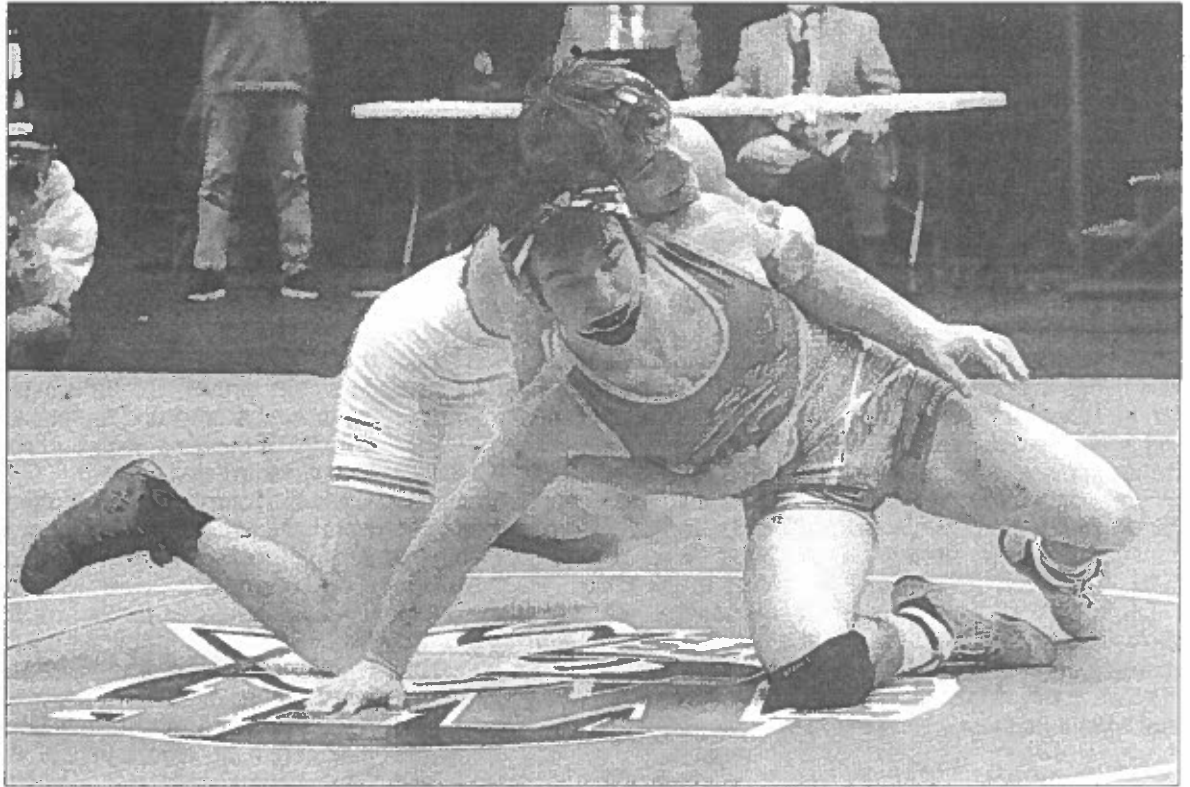
GIRLS

Dover swimmers won four of 11 events on the girls side and placed 14 individuals or relay units on the podium. It claimed the top spot by over 200 points.

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69TH-ANNUAL OVAC RON MAUCK WRESTLING TOURNAMENT

Barnesville Runs Away With OVAC 3A Title



Photos by Kim North
 Wheeling Park's Jameson Maynard has control of John Marshall's Klypsan Wallace during their 165-pound OVAC Ron Mauck Tournament championship match Saturday night inside WesBanco Arena. Maynard held on for a 4-3 win.

Cameron Takes 1A/2A; IC, Oak Glen Share 4A Title

By KIM NORTH
Staff Writer

WHEELING — The championship finals of the 69th-annual OVAC Ron Mauck Wrestling Tournament started with a Barnesville win Saturday night and ended with a Barnesville win. In between, two other Shamrocks had their hands raised as they repeated as Class 3A champions with a program-record four titlists.

Barnesville did so in runaway fashion with 200.5 points — which was good enough for fourth place overall. Martins Ferry was a distant second with 125.5 in 3A.

"It was a good weekend. I can't complain. The kids wrestled tough," said Barnesville head coach Jayson Stephen, who barely had a voice after the three-



Barnesville's Dakota King was voted the David Bierkorte Award winner after his 6-5 nod over Steubenville's Brody Saccoccia in the 132-pound finals.

day event. "They wrestled really well."

With the featured match of the tournament being at 132, the

championship finals started at 138 and junior Skyler King got things going for the Green Machine with a 6-3 nod over Parkersburg South's Ryan Martin. All the points were scored in the first period, with King using a reversal that he turned into back points to rally from a 3-2 deficit. He is now 25-4.

Two matches later, classmate Reese Stephen (150) recorded four takedowns and an escape in a 9-3 decision over Indian Creek's C.J. Spencer. Stephen, son of the Shamrocks head coach, is now 24-2.

At 106, fourth-seeded Johnathan Huntsman capped his improbable run with an 11-6 victory over University's No. 2 Pepper Martin.

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Photo by Seth Staskey
 Union Local's Torre Kildow drives to the basket as Indian Creek's Abby Starkey defends during Saturday evening's Buckeye 8 girls basketball championship game at Martins Ferry. The Jets picked up the victory for their fourth straight league title.

Union Local Captures Buckeye 8 Crown

By SETH STASKEY
For The Intelligencer

MARTINS FERRY — Indian Creek felt it had enough skill to elongate possessions and shorten the game. It also felt it had enough size and physicality on the interior to at least limit and bother Union Local senior standout Reagan Vinskovich.

The Redskins were able to do both of those. But, the one issue that remained — Torre Kildow — proved to be the difference. Kildow poured in 20 points, grabbed four rebounds, blocked three shots, collected three steals and had two assists to help lead the Jets to their fourth consecutive Buckeye 8 Athletic League championship, 50-36, Saturday evening inside the Tolbert Gymnasium at Martins Ferry High School.

"I thought the girls stuck to the game plan and executed it very well, especially early," Indian Creek head coach Steve Eft said. "I am really proud of our effort and how the girls competed their tails off, but Union Local has two of the best players in the state of Ohio, in my opinion and you have to kind of pick your poison."

The poison Kildow contributed was extremely toxic for the Redskins (13-4). Creek found itself with a 14-12 lead in the latter stages of the first half.

Junior Lauren Miller, who finished with 10 points for the Jets, buried a trey, Kildow followed with a bucket going to the basket and then just before the buzzer sounded, Kildow found Teegan Day, who buried a 3-pointer from the corner, giving the Jets a 20-14 lead at half and a lot of

momentum.

"We had to hang in there a while and give Creek and Coach Eft credit," Union Local head coach Scooter Tolzda said. "We were able to get the ball to the right place at the right time. There are a million things we need to continue to improve on, but there are also a million things that we do pretty well, too."

The momentum stayed with the Jets in the third quarter.

Kildow opened what turned out to be a 22-point onslaught with a short jumper off a set play and then Vinskovich, who battled her way to 13 points and eight rebounds, got a bucket on the interior, making it a 24-14 reading.

Please see **BUCKEYE 8**, Page 11

Bengals And
 49ers Join The



Linette Upsets
 Garcia To Reach



for 12 years. The veteran wrestler and rookie coach quickly built a Bruins' powerhouse capturing the school's only West Virginia state title in 1980, and was also named the 1980 West Virginia AAA Wrestling Coach of the year.

During his coaching career at Brooke, Tournay produced four state champions: Chuck Taylor (1980), Larry Mazzella (1981), Phil Milantoni (1982), and Sal Jafarace (1988).

Leaving Brooke, Tournay restarted the wrestling program at Montour in 1988. He was head coach at Montour for 16 years. After that, Tournay served as assistant coach for 17 seasons, helping both the varsity and junior high programs. He now assists his son, Zachary, who is the current head wrestling coach at Montour High School.

At Brooke, Tournay taught Physical Education and Driver's

as a physical education and health educator.

Tournay also loved officiating wrestling. He quickly ascended to the top of the profession. The 2002 Wrestling Official of the Year in the Ohio Valley Athletic Conference was voted the 2004 National Wrestling Official of the Year by Wrestling USA magazine and was selected as the top official at the 2005 NCAA Division II Nationals.

A nationally acclaimed mat official, Tournay worked seven NCAA Division II Nationals, two NCAA Division I Nationals and numerous NCAA Division I and NCAA Division II national qualifying tournaments.

Like most officials, Tournay didn't start off doing large high school tournaments or even the OVAC. It was a long process which started as he put on the stripes to officiate the Cameron Open.

Tournay was awarded the NCAA Official of the Year across all college wrestling divisions.

Merle Tournay is now retired from officiating, but he still stays deeply involved in the tri-state wrestling community. Most recently, Tournay serves as the liaison for the Pennsylvania Midwestern Athletic Conference (MAC) All-Star wrestling team. The OVAC vs. MAC All-Star Meet annually takes place after the completion of the Ohio, Pennsylvania, and West Virginia state wrestling tournaments.

Tournay is a member of three halls of fame: West Liberty University Hall of Fame (2007), MAC Hall of Fame (2009) and Southwestern Pennsylvania Wrestling Hall of Fame (2018).

Merle Tournay and his wife, Dee, reside in McKees Rocks, Pennsylvania. They have three children: Zachary, Danielle and Lucas — and grandson Austin.

Steubenville 34

STEUBENVILLE — River put together an impressive showing inside the Crimson Center to score the victory against Big Red Saturday night.

The win was the 350th of head coach Mark Romick's career with the Pilots.

River was led by junior Kabel Isaly, who scored 24 points. Senior Ty Long added 15.

Steubenville was led by Kyjhan Hopkins' 11. Cole Bowers added eight.

Shadyside 67, Buckeye Local 26

SHADYSIDE — The Tigers scored a repeat win over the Panthers on Saturday night inside the Tiger Den.

Senior Elijah Brock led the Tigers with 21 points, while Dylan Booth and Ben Wach went for 16 and 11, respectively.

Gavyn Romanyak paced the Panthers with eight points.

Linsly 76, Parkersburg 57

PARKERSBURG — Linsly won its third game of the week against West Virginia Class AAAA competition. This time, the Cadets took down Parkersburg.

Gavin Jackson led the way for the Cadets with 26 points. Senior Carter Anderson posted 18 points and senior Nathan Coleman added 12.

GIRLS BASKETBALL

River 57, Magnolia 24
NEWMARTINSVILLE — The Pilots picked up another convincing win Saturday afternoon, cruising past Magnolia.

River (16-1) was led by Zoey Fox's 17 and Kelsey Harlan's 16.

Cardinal's senior point guard Korte, who put together the best day of his collegiate career. He finished the night with 40 points and was just eight points away from breaking the program single-game scoring record. He shot an impressive 72% from the floor and helped will the Cardinals to what was their biggest victory of the season.

WOMEN'S COLLEGE BASKETBALL

Wheeling 74, West Liberty 68
One of the great college basketball rivalries in the Ohio Valley made its way to the Alma Grace McDonough Center on Saturday as "The Battle for Wheeling" kicked off this basketball season. The Wheeling University Women's Basketball team (11-7, 9-3) kept Wheeling's unbeaten streak in the rivalry alive at home as they took down West Liberty 74-68. The win moves the Cardinals into a tie for second in the ultra competitive Mountain East Conference (MEC) and has them riding high into the end of January.

This one would be a nail bitter as the Cardinals entered the fourth quarter with just a three-point advantage. West Liberty hit a jumper coming out of the fourth quarter that made it a one-point adsaie and the Cardinals had to fight to hold on.

The Cardinal's offensive leader was once again senior Lauren Calhoun, who was one of three double digit scorers on the night. She finished with 16 points to lead the way for the Cardinals while finishing second on the team with five rebounds.

Rahm Outlasts Rookie Thompson To Win AmEx By A Single Stroke

LA QUINTA, Calif. (AP) — Jon Rahm took advantage of mistakes by rookie Davis Thompson over the adventuresome final three holes to win The American Express by one stroke. It was his second victory in as many starts.

The Spanish star will move up one spot in the world rankings to No. 3. He pumped his right fist and flashed a look of re-

lief after tapping in for a two-putt par on No. 18 at the PGA West Stadium Course to finish at 27-under 261.

He avoided trouble down the stretch while Thompson found just enough to miss his first victory in 20 starts. Thompson led through 36 holes and shared the lead with Rahm going into the final round.

RUNS

(Continued from Page 9)

The junior is now 26-5. He had pinned top-seeded Mason Simms of Wellsville in the semis.

"Johnathan Huntsman really stepped up this weekend. He wrestled incredible." Coach Stephen said. "He is going to be a wrestler to watch from now on."

In that aforementioned feature match, Barnesville's Dakota King held off Steubenville's Brody Saccoccia, 6-5, in a battle of highly ranked Buckeye State matmen, to capture his second consecutive OVAC Ron Mauck crown. King is ranked No. 1 in D-III and Saccoccia second in D-II.

"I knew I was going to win that match," King admitted, noting that the delay didn't faze him. "I'm on a mission ... a mission to win a (Division III) state title."

For his hard-earned triumph, King received the David Bierkorte Award, which is symbolic of being the Most Outstanding Wrestler of the tournament, as voted on by tournament coaches.

"This means a lot to me," King said. "I want to thank all of my teammates and coaches. I love you all."

Parkersburg South's depth brought the Patriots back to the top of the podium after three grueling days of action inside WesBanco Arena.

The Wood County Patriots, who battled adversity before the tournament even started with the loss of nationally ranked and returning champion Gage Wright, piled up 242.5 points despite having just one individual champion - that being 190-pound Robert Shockey who outlasted East Liverpool's Eric

Williams, 2-1, in sudden-victory. However, South did have 11 of 14 wrestlers earn a spot on the podium.

Not only did the Wood County Patriots unseat Wheeling Park as the overall titleist, they also captured the Class 5A crown.

"Even though we were down a kid, the kids all pulled together and got the job done. I'm proud of them," Parkersburg South head coach Shawn Smith said. "Overall, it wasn't the best night, but it doesn't negate the fact that we wrestled well Thursday night, Friday and earlier today."

Indian Creek and Oak Glen tied for the Class 4A title with 145.5 points each, with Beaver Local third.

"A co-championship is better than no championship," Indian Creek head coach Brandon Pendleton said.

Both schools had one champ as the Redskins' Elijah Llewellyn (285) made his jump from 215 earlier in the season work to his best. He pinned top-seeded Marshall Bier, of River, in one minute.

"That was kind of a risk we took there," Pendleton said of the bump up in weight. "Either I was going to look like a genius or a moron. I'm glad it worked out."

The Golden Bears' Logan Davis (113) repeated as a champ after winning last year at 106. The junior remained unbeaten in 33 bouts with a pin of Shenandoah's Tristen Rossiter. It was his fifth fall of the tournament and earned him the Hercules Award for most pins in the championship bracket in the least amount of time.

"The kids came out and wrestled

well up and down our lineup," said first-year Oak Glen head coach Josh Cornell. "I'm happy with our effort."

In Class 1A/2A, Cameron defended its title with 83.5 points. Southern Local was next with 69.5 and Wheeling Central, in its first year back after a few years off, was third with 53.5.

"The kids kind of wanted to show that we were more than just (graduated) Ian Bush, and they did," Cameron head coach Tim Jones said. "We wrestled pretty well. We fell short in a few weight classes, but I couldn't be any more proud of them."

Half-a-dozen other schools had at least one champion, with University, which finished second to South with 214 points, having three. They were Dom Parker (150), Luca Felix (175) and Brock Kehler (215). Parker is 35-0, Felix 35-1 and Kehler 37-0. Felix was a champ at 145 last year and Kehler at 190.

Wheeling Park's Jameson Maynard (165) got a late escape in slipping past John Marshall's Klypsan Wallace, 4-3, in a battle of talented sophomores. Maynard improved to 32-3.

John Marshall's Ethan Cook (126) scored two points on a second-period reversal and made them stand in a 2-1 decision over Shenandoah's Drake Kanyuch. Cook is now 27-4.

Beaver Local's Bobby Buchheit (120) blanked Wheeling Park's Noah White, 4-0, and Dover's Edigio DiFazio (144) pinned Wheeling Park defending champ, Brady Lucas, to become the Tornadoes first-ever champion.

RECORDS

(Continued from Page 9)

The Crimson Tornadoes got event wins from the 200 medley relay unit of Reagan Durbin, Casey Connare, Holly Perkowski and Annie Wright (1:55.40), Elizabeth Lane in the 100 free (55.26), the 200 free relay unit of Jenna Leeper, Durbin, Riley Schie and Lane (1:45.61) and the 400 free relay unit of Perkowski, Wright, Schie and Lane (3:45.78)

In finishing runners up, Morgantown girls won a pair events, both coming from Caroline Riggs in the 200 free (1:53.98) and 500 free (5:02.79, a meet record).

Parkersburg South got events wins from Jordan Claypool in the 50 free (24.64) and the 100 butterfly (58.15) on its way to rounding out the podium.

Wheeling Park just missed the podium by 10 points as a team and got an event win

from Abby Heilman in the 100 breaststroke in a time of 1:11.59.

Ava Sunseri reached the podium for the Patriots with a third in the 100 breaststroke behind her teammate in 1:16.99, as did Lacie Langmyer in the 200 free (third in 2:03.71), the 200 free relay unit of Molly George, Heilman, Sunseri and Langmyer (third in 2:01.63) and the 400 free relay unit of George, Sunseri, Heilman and Langmyer (third in 4:05.08).

Brooke placed fifth swimming in its home pool, putting Ella McCullough on the podium in the 100 free with a third place in 59.33 as well as a bronze finish from the 200 free relay unit of Ella Dietrich, Faith Farrell, Lyla Horvath and McCullough, which placed third in 1:51.05.

Big Red placed ninth, its top finisher was a fifth from Janyah Withers in the 50 free (26.79).

BOYS

Dover won six events, but Parkersburg South earned enough points throughout the field to overtake the Crimson Tornadoes with two event gold medalists, taking the overall top spot by just 29 points.

South's event gold medals came from the 200 medley relay unit of Quade Harris, Andrew Kirk, Maddox Raider and Ryan Richardson in 1:45.99 and Harris individually in the 200 individual medley in a time of 2:08.06.

Dover, while it came up short of the team title sweep, got the record-setting golds from Lane in the 100 backstroke (51.75, pool and meet record) and 500 freestyle (4:38.77, pool and meet record), as well as

first place swims from Cameron Marshall in the 200 free (1:52.01), the 200 free relay unit of Thomas Perkowski, Kasey Ruegsegger, Marshall and Lucas (1:32.22), Richard Tolloti in the 100 breaststroke (1:03.15) and the 400 free relay unit of Lane, Ruesgsegger, Marshall and Perkowski (3:19.49, pool and meet record).

Lane factored into four gold medals for the Crimson Tornadoes.

Carter Redelman gave the Mohigans a gold medal as they rounded out the podium. He topped the 100 butterfly in 54.25.

Wheeling Park finished in fourth place, just missing the podium by eight points. Though the Patriots did not collect any gold medals, they did finish on the podium in

four events, two of those were Levi Parker individually and two relay teams, both of which contained Parker.

He was second in the 200 free in 1:54.59 and also in silver position in the 500 free in 5:18.17. The 200 free relay team of Brady Bowie, Malachi Smith, Nathan LaMagna and Parker was third in 1:40.72 and the 200 medley relay unit of Smith, Jackson Kiminski, LaMagna and Parker took bronze in 1:54.35.

Brooke placed sixth overall, Dameon Rea giving the Bruins' their best finish of the day with a fifth in the 50 free (24.59).

Big Red was ninth overall, the top finish of the day coming from the 200 medley relay unit of Dakota White, Gabe Ensell, Rhyann Cochrane and Luke Deptula, a ninth in 2:35.67.



Seth Staskey
Sports Editor

Toronto's Karaffa gearing up for his first pro season in the Phillies system

Nate Karaffa is about to embark on a life that most only dream about.

The Toronto High School and Ohio State University graduate can hardly believe it himself when he takes a step back and thinks that in less than a month he'll be taking part in his first professional baseball spring training camp.

"This whole process has been unreal," Karaffa said. "I've really not had a lot of time to simply slow down and really think about it, but I consider myself extremely blessed to be in this position. Each opportunity you have to keep chasing your dream is a reason to be excited."

Karaffa was drafted in the 20th round of last July's MLB Draft by the Philadelphia Phillies after a strong career with the Buckeyes.

"To be hand-picked and considered one of the very best in your sport is incredible to even think about," Karaffa said during a recent phone interview. "Now, though, it's a matter of putting in the work to make sure you're on top of it, so you don't get passed up."

Karaffa has been in Clearwater -- at the Phillies spring training home -- basically since early this month, continuing his rehab from an elbow injury that didn't require surgery.

"I've just been building up getting ready for spring training," Karaffa said. "I was injured when I got drafted, but I am finally able to really start throwing and we will be ready in a couple of weeks when spring training starts."

The Phillies drafted Karaffa as a pitcher, which was surprising because Karaffa became a pitcher at Ohio State because the Buckeyes needed arms to eat innings.

"Going to Ohio State, I had no plan to pitch," Karaffa said. "It just happened and here we are."

Karaffa finished his Buckeyes career with only 28.1 innings worked. He posted a 3-1 career record with an earned run average north of six. But, he did fan 36 hitters.

Karaffa had met with some MLB clubs in the fall of 2021 and continued conversations going into the summer, but opted not to play summer ball because of the injury. He was able to go through some workouts.

Still, though, he didn't know what was in store until that summer afternoon when he was actually driving back to Toronto from Columbus and saw an alert on his phone.

"I hadn't even gotten a call from the Phillies or anyone when I saw it on my phone that I had been (drafted)," Karaffa recalled. "I honestly didn't know how to react."

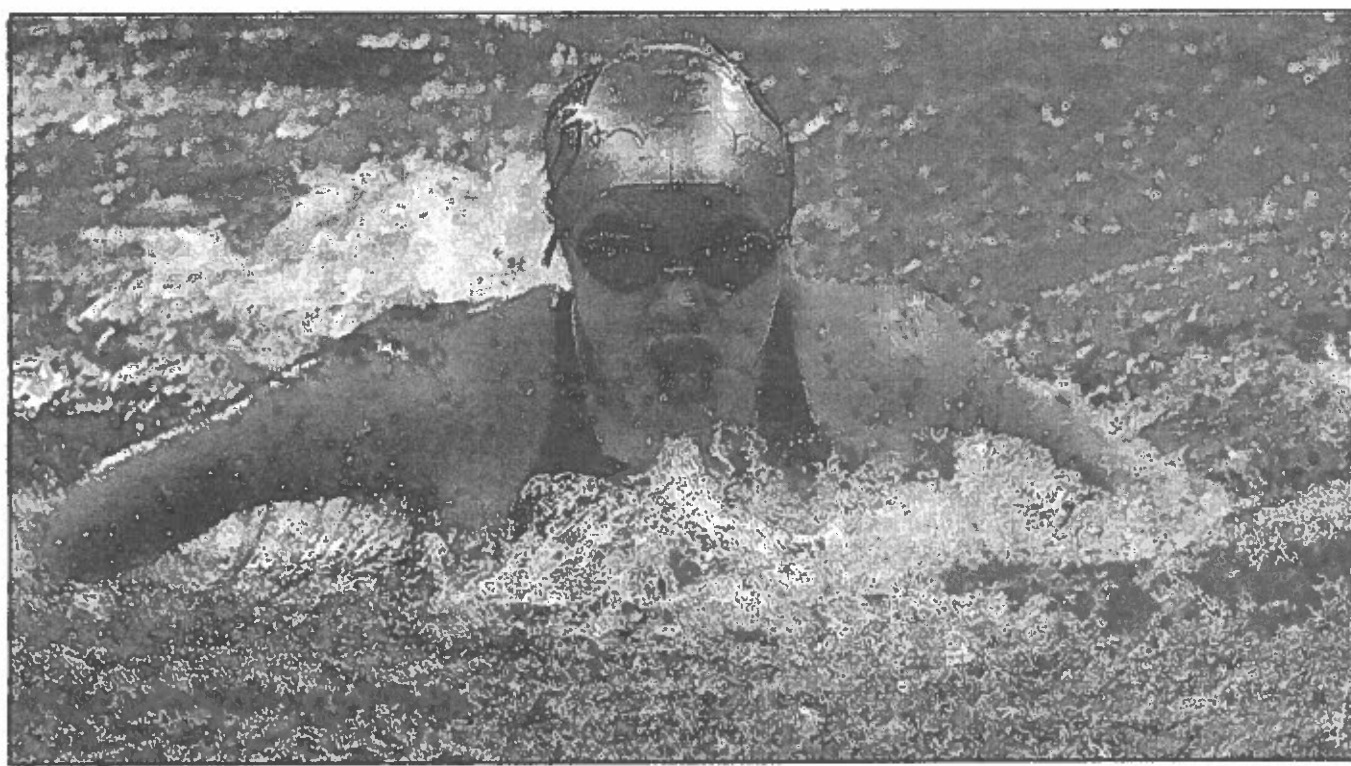
With that part out of the way, Karaffa and his family still had some major decisions to make. Picked 602nd overall, Karaffa debated going back to Ohio State for an additional season. However, in the end, the opportunity to give pro ball a try was simply too much to pass up.

"It's not that I didn't think I was ready for pro ball, but I had some doubts on signing," Karaffa said. "I spent about a week at home (in Toronto) before the deal got done. I feel really good about the decision."

Karaffa, who went to Ohio State following a brilliant prep career with the Red Knights that culminated with a state championship in 2019, thoroughly enjoyed his time with the Buckeyes.

"I've got so many memories and I'm so thankful for the opportunity to have played at Ohio State," Karaffa said. "I was able to build so many relationships and I still talk to those guys all the time. It was simply a dream come true to play there. What a fun thing."

Ultimately, Karaffa -- like every player who heard his name called in the draft -- wants to make it to the big leagues. However, obviously, Karaffa isn't putting a timetable on it. Actually, he's not even really speculating where he may play this



T-L PhotoS/SETH STASKEY

ABOVE: ST. Clairsville's Adrienne Lowe swims toward a silver medal in the 100 butterfly during Friday night's OVAC Bill Brubaker Swim Championship at the Brooke Wellness Center. Lowe won four silver medals in the meet to help fuel the Red Devils to the team title.

BELOW TOP: St. Clairsville's Evan Yost swims toward a championship in the 100 butterfly during the OVAC Swimming Championship held at Brooke.

BELOW BOTTOM: Martins Ferry's John Consort swims toward a win in the 200 IM Friday at the OVAC Swim Meet.

St. C., Linsly win OVAC swim titles

By **SETH STASKEY**
Times Leader Sports Editor

WELLSBURG — New format. Similar meet results.

Such was the case at Friday's newly added 1A/4A championship meet at the annual OVAC Bill Brubaker Swimming Championship held inside the gorgeous Brooke Wellness Center.

Though the meet was broken down differently, the titles went to familiar schools. Linsly swept the 1A/3A titles, while St. Clairsville continued its stranglehold on the 4A division.

Linsly's girls ran away from the field, accumulating 395 points, which was 233 clear of runner-up Martins Ferry.

The Cadets boys, meanwhile, finished with 249 to defeat runner-up Wheeling Central by 133 points.

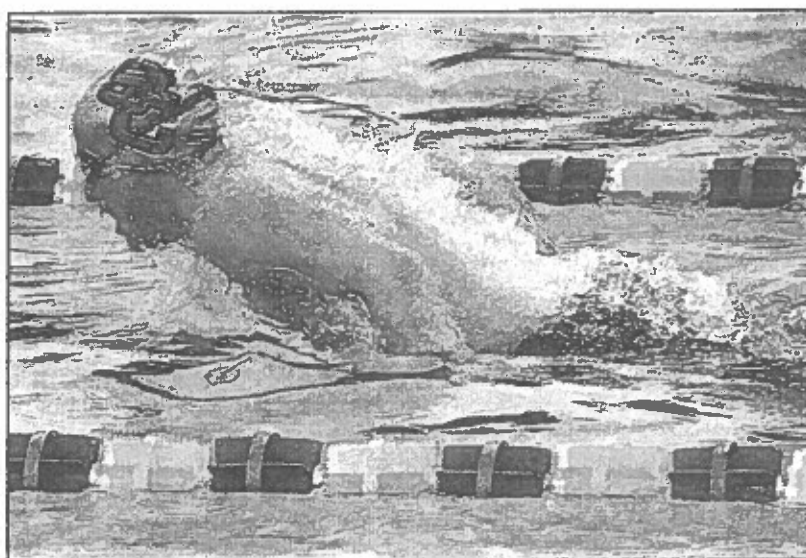
St. Clairsville, meanwhile, finished with 199 points on the girls' side and 220 on the boys' side, fending off Indian Creek for both crowns. The Redskins finished with 101 points in the girls meet and 198 on the boys side.

GIRLS

Linsly's girls came into the meet feeling pretty good about their chances, especially when they saw the psyche sheet and they were the top seed in 10 of the 11 events. And by top seed, that was overall in both classes competing not just in their own division.

Head coach Nick Levi, who is in his first season at the helm of the tradition-rich Cadets program, watched his girls deliver in a big way. Linsly won exactly 10 of the 11 events.

"It was an awesome day in the pool," Levi said. "We came into the meet with high ex-



See, **SWIM**, Page C2



Photo/KIM NORTH

HARRISON CENTRAL'S Lucas Thomas works for control of Steubenville's Spencer Ostovich during their 285-pound championship quarterfinal match held Friday night at the Ron Mauck OVAC Wrestling Tournament.

Barnesville has six in the championship semifinals

By **KIM NORTH**
For The Times Leader

WHEELING - The temperatures outside may be cooling down, but the action is heating up inside WesBanco Arena as the 69th annual OVAC Ron Mauck Wrestling Tournament has completed three sessions.

And after two days of action, Parkersburg South has stretched its lead in Class 5A, while Beaver Local and Oak Glen are waging a two-team race in Class 4A. Barnesville has all but wrapped up another Class 3A title, and Southern Local continues a slim margin over defending champion Cameron in Class 1A/2A.

The Wood County Patriots have piled up 156 points to

also lead the overall standings by 23 over University. Defending overall and Class 5A titlist Wheeling Park is third with 130, while surging John Marshall was fourth with 117, a half-point better than Class 3A frontrunner Barnesville and Steubenville.

"We are wrestling well right now, and even the guys that are losing are giving a good effort. That's what I want," Parkersburg South head coach Shawn Smith said. "If you lose a match you can't hang your head on it, you've got to go out and win the next one. That's what I'm looking for."

Parkersburg South has five semifinalists in 2021 champion Brady Roberts (126), Ryan

See, **WRESTLING**, Page C2

St. Clairsville extends Bellaire's skid



T-L Photo/SETH STASKEY

LINSLY'S LIV Torner swims in the 200 individual medley during Friday's OVAC Bill Brubaker Swimming Championship held at Brooke High School. Torner won the event and helped lead the Cadets to the 1A-3A team championship.

• Swimming

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pectations with the goal of performing. I am so proud of our team. We swam lights out from top to bottom."

They wasted no time in getting their quest started. The team of Bea Fauro, Sarah Coha, Liv Torner and Julia Sales posted a 1:58.12 to win the 200 medley relay.

From there, it was on.

Junior Berta Roca touched the wall in 2:06.46 to win the 200 freestyle for the first individual title of the evening. Her second championship came in the 500 free thanks to a time of 5:44.13.

Torner notched her first individual title in the 200 IM, posting a 2:21.46. Her second victory came a few events later in the 100 fly when she posted a 1:04.89.

Junior Anna Norman got into the gold-medal act in the 50 free thanks to a blazing 25.41 effort. She added the 100 free crown with a time of 56.23, fending off her teammate, Sales for the top prize.

Linsly added the 200 free relay title when the team of Roca, Coha, Sales and Norman joined speed forces for a 1:48.06. Second place in the event, ironically, went to the Cadets' 'B' relay team, which was comprised of Ilayna Murray, Sharon Aristizabal, Taylor Remp and Sophie Funke with a time of 1:58.86.

"To have our 'B' Relay get second to our 'A' team is something that's really special to us," Levi admitted. "There is always pressure to perform and carry on the Linsly tradition at OVAC and that's something we don't take lightly."

Coha fended off Wheeling Central's Abie Riedel by 11 hundredths of a second to claim victory in the 100 breaststroke with a time of 1:11.87.

The Cadets foursome of Torner, Roca, Fauro and Norman ended the meet with a time of 3:49.56 to win the 400 free relay.

Wheeling Central's Smilee Humpe edged out Linsly's Fauro for the 100 backstroke title with a time of 1:06.16. Humpe was second in the 200 IM earlier in the evening.

St. Clairsville captured the 4A title, but only produced a medal, which is a top three overall place, in eight events. The Red Devils received an impressive performance from sophomore Adrienne Lowe, who registered four silver medals. She was part of the runner-up medley and 400 free relay teams and was second in both the 100 fly and 500 free.

The path to the title was much different this season after the Red Devils lost a lot of top-end points to graduation.

"In November, I didn't think (winning OVAC) was going to be possible because of what we lost, but these girls competed and they proved me wrong," St. C. head coach Ernie Banks said. "I am so proud of them for how well they've competed and worked this season. We got it done a lot differently this year than we have the last several years, but we came with a lot of second places. What Adrienne did was pretty amazing,

combined nine event crowns during the course of the 11-event meet.

The Cadets, who claimed their 63rd title in the pool, ignited the title chase when the team of Parker Griffith, John Papadimitriou, Antonio Navarro and Mariano Fonseca posted a 1:46.68 to win the medley relay.

Navarro returned to the pool a few heats later and captured the 200 freestyle in 1:55.62. He made it two individual goals when he swam away from the field to win the 500 freestyle in a time of 5:13.14, which was more than 27 seconds better than his nearest competitor.

Papadimitriou got into the individual winning act when he edged out St. Clairsville's Zach May by two hundredths of a second for the 50 freestyle in what was arguably the best race of the evening. The Cadet touched in 22.80.

Linsly's final victory came in the 200 free relay when the team of Papadimitriou, Colby Gibbons, Fonseca and Navarro swam a 1:36.39 for the title.

"It's special to win both the boys and girls titles in my first season and it's something I'll always cherish," Levi said. "We went into the meet trying to get as many medals as possible. We kids swimming different events for the team to try and accomplish that goal. The boys medaling in all but two events is an awesome accomplishment. We are very proud of our team. We thought, back in September, it could be a special year. Coach Brubaker left the team in great shape and we're very thankful."

St. Clairsville — on the strength of junior Evan Yost and May individually — were simply too much for the Redskins with the top-end points.

The Devils got 80 of their points just from their four victories.

"The guys really out-performed themselves," Banks said. "We needed every point we could find in every event just to keep pace with and then pull ahead of Indian Creek, which was very tough and deserves a lot of credit. Without our guys performing the way they did and doing everything they could, we would not have been champions."

Yost, who is just a junior, was a double gold medalist, individually. He won the 100 backstroke in 55.16 and earlier had captured the 100 fly in 52.78.

"Evan is tough and he's getting stronger with every practice and meet," Banks said. "He eats, sleeps and breathes swimming. He's only going to continue to get better."

May wasn't about to allow Papadimitriou to edge him for a second time in the 100 free. May got the job done by touching the wall with an impressive 49.66 clocking.

The Red Devils put the finishing touches on their third boys title in school history when the team of Yost, Luke Stack, Brady Blacker and May swam a 3:35.63.

Martins Ferry senior John Consort — a foreign exchange student from Brazil — will go back home this spring with

• St. C.

Continued from Page C1

think we are getting better at the right time." Bellaire, meanwhile, is navigating through some tough times.

After a sparkling 10-0 start to its season, the last two weeks have proven tough sledding for Bellaire. That 10-game winning streak has now been followed by five successive losses.

"I can't fault our effort. We played hard," Bellaire boss J.R. Battista said. "But the second quarter doomed us. We let the game get away from us."

"Their defensive rebounding was a big difference. We also missed too many easy shots," he continued. "We will keep working hard to get out of this tailspin."

Battista is correct. The second quarter did prove pivotal in the game's outcome.

Bellaire enjoyed a solid first quarter, grabbing a 23-20 lead at the break. Mac Mac Pettigrew delivered seven of those markers for the hosts.

St. Clairsville, however, simply owned the second period. The Red Devils outpointed the Big Reds, 22-6, in the quarter in building a 42-29 halftime advantage.

Pastor led the way in the frame with six points while Thoburn and sophomore point guard Brady Schafer evenly divided 10 counters. Bellaire hurt itself by committing six turnovers.

Bellaire did position itself for a possible fourth-quarter comeback by outpointing the Red Devils, 29-25, in the third quarter to draw within 67-58 entering the final period. Ray Ray Pettigrew (15) and brother Mac Mac (eight) combined for 23 points in the stanza. Meanwhile, Thoburn (16) and Pastor (nine) did all of St. Clairsville's scoring in the period.

Bellaire was able to cut the deficit to eight at 82-74 on a Pook Little free throw with 2:40 remaining. The Big Reds would get no closer, however, as Pastor delivered four straight markers for a 12-point bulge with 1:25 to play.

Schafer, who exhibited nice floor play, ended with 11 counters while Jacob Parsons added eight points.

The Pettigrew brothers combined for 47 points on the night. Ray Ray meshed 25 tallies with Mac Mac adding 22. Junior ace Mayson Sochor chipped in with 18 points, 12 coming in the final quarter, while Jakob Dowling produced nine markers.

"I was really happy with how we attacked their press. We were really aggressive," Clifford said. "We turned it over at times but I can live with aggressive mistakes. We still have a shot at making the OVAC Tournament Final Four."

Along those lines, St. Clairsville has a chance to enhance its OVAC 4A standing Tuesday when it welcomes John Marshall. Bellaire visits Shadyside the same night.

The Red Devils finished with 17 turnovers, five more than Bellaire.



Photo/JOE LOVELL

ST. CLAIRSVILLE'S Tyson Pastor goes up for a shot over Bellaire's Jakob Dowling during the first half of Friday's game. The Red Devils recorded a 91-81 victory over the Big Reds.

• Wrestling

Continued from Page C1

Martin (138), Nathan Murphy (144), Kyle Wheeler (157) and Robert Shock-ev (190)

• Karaffa

Continued from Page C1

obviously, right now we're all in the same locker room with the big-league guys who are down here early and there have been a few wow moments," Karaffa said. "Guys like J.T. Realamuto and Aaron Nola are down here already. And the first time you see them, you're kind of like shell shocked, but being with them basically every day, you get used to it. They're just cool, great guys."

Karaffa hasn't been shy about talking to those guys. After all, he's a guy who is trying to make it in the business and wants to soak up as much knowledge as he possibly can.

"Learning how people prepare and handle their business at this level have been a couple of the biggest things so far," Karaffa said. "It's been really fun meeting a lot of new guys."

Karaffa got a good start on learning how to handle and take care of his business thanks to his time playing for now Ohio High School Baseball Coaches Association Hall of Famer Brian Perkins.

Though he couldn't attend his coach's induction ceremony this weekend in Columbus, Karaffa said he would reach out to Perkins.

"Coach Perkins was a huge help to me and we still talk all the time," Karaffa said. "He deserves all of the recognition he receives, especially this hall of fame. I know no matter what's going on, I am able to pick up the phone and give him a call for any type of advice and he's always a huge help."

SETH'S SCOOPS

SPEAKING OF baseball, Martins Ferry assistant coach Sean Zeakes was named the Ohio High School Baseball Coaches Association Assistant Coach of the Year.

THE RISE of Esports is continuing. This past week, the OHSAA announced a partnership with Esports Ohio, which will host a state tournament in May. There are currently 250 schools in Ohio with an Esports team. It won't be long before Esports is a full-fledged OHSAA sport.

THE DIVISIONAL round of the NFL Playoffs is the best weekend of the year for the sport. My winners are Philadelphia and San Francisco in the NFC and Cincinnati and Kansas City in the AFC.

Barnesville also has six semifinalists in Johnathan Huntsman (106), returning champion Dakota King (132).

THE SCORE

Area Sports Card

Saturday, Jan. 21 BOYS BASKETBALL John Marshall at Wheeling Park Magnolia at Wrt Co. Bridgeport at Beallsville...

Sports on TV

Saturday, January 21 COLLEGE BASKETBALL (MEN'S) 12 p.m. ESPN - Miami at Duke ESPN2 - Mississippi at Arkansas...

OVAC Swimming

OVAC Bill Brubaker Swim Championship Girls Class 1A-3A Linsly, 395; Martins Ferry, 162; Wheeling Central, 98...

Park girls cruise; Beallsville trips Bridgeport, 49-47

WHEELING - The Wheeling Park girls' basketball team served notice Friday night. After dropping from No. 1 to No. 2 in the latest W.Va. Class AAAA poll earlier this week, the Patriots (14-1) sent No. 3 Cabell Midland home with a 74-61 loss inside the 'Palace on the Hill' at Wheeling Park High School.

Prep Boxscores

BOYS BASKETBALL ST. CLAIRSVILLE (91), Bellaire 81 ST. CLAIRSVILLE (91) - Thobum 11, 10-13 35; Porter 3, 0-4 6; Scholer 3, 4-8 11; Pastor 10, 6-7 27; Gasber 2, 0-4 4; Parsons 3, 2-2 8; Wolfe 0, 0-0 0; Totals 32, 22-30; BELLAIRE (81) - Sochor 7, 2-2 16; Dowling 4, 0-0 9; R. Pettigrew 11, 3-3 25; M. Pettigrew 8, 4-6 22; D. Aquila 0, 2-4 2; Lind 1, 1-3 3; Davis 1, 0-0 2; Totals 32, 12-17.

WINTER WORLD UNIVERSITY GAMES 9:30 a.m. ESPNU - FISU World University Games: Men's Ice Hockey - Semifinal 1, Lake Placid, N.Y. - Sunday, January 22 AUTO RACING 1 a.m. (Monday) CNBC - Monster Energy AMA Supercross Championship: Round 3, San Diego (Taped) COLLEGE BASKETBALL (MEN'S) 12 p.m. CBS - Michigan St. at Indiana FOX - Butler at UConn 1 p.m. BTN - Minnesota at Michigan ESPN2 - Memphis at Cincinnati FS1 - Maryland at Purdue 3 p.m. ESPN - Temple at Houston PAC-12N - Oregon St. at California 4 p.m. ESPN2 - Furman at Wofford 6 p.m. ESPNU - Washington St. at Colorado COLLEGE BASKETBALL (WOMEN'S) 12 p.m. ACCN - Syracuse at Duke CBSN - Davidson at Duquesne ESPNU - UMass at Dayton 1 p.m. ABC - NC State at Louisville SECN - Kentucky at Mississippi St. 2 p.m. ACCN - Virginia at Notre Dame ESPNU - UCF at South Florida 3 p.m. ESPN2 - Arkansas at South Carolina FS1 - Seton Hall at Marquette SECN - Georgia at Texas A&M 4 p.m. ACCN - Georgia Tech at North Carolina 5 p.m. BTN - Wisconsin at Penn St. ESPN2 - Texas at Baylor PAC-12N - Colorado at Stanford SECN - Mississippi at Auburn 7 p.m. PAC-12N - Utah at California COLLEGE GYMNASTICS (WOMEN'S) 7 p.m. BTN - Michigan at Michigan St. 8 p.m. ESPN - Utah at Oklahoma COLLEGE WRESTLING 3 p.m. BTN - Iowa at Wisconsin 8:30 p.m. GOLF - PGA Tour: The American Express, Final Round, PGA WEST Private Clubhouse, La Quinta, Calif. HIGH SCHOOL BASKETBALL (BOYS) 8 p.m. ESPNU - NBC Series: Christ The King (N.Y.) vs. Archbishop Stepinac (N.Y.), Queens, N.Y. HORSE RACING FS2 - NYRA: America's Day at the Races NBA BASKETBALL 8:30 p.m. NBA TV - Brooklyn at Golden State NBA G-LEAGUE BASKETBALL 3 p.m. NBA TV - College Park at Fort Wayne NFL FOOTBALL 3 p.m. CBS - AFC Divisional Round Playoff: Cincinnati at Buffalo 6:30 p.m. FOX - NFC Divisional Round Playoff: Dallas at San Francisco NHL HOCKEY 2 p.m. NHLN - Pittsburgh at New Jersey 7 p.m. NHLN - Los Angeles at Chicago RODEO 8 p.m. CBSN - PBR: The Gwinnett Chute Out, Championship Round, Duluth, Ga. RUGBY 3 p.m. CNBC - HSBC: World Rugby Sevens Series, Hamilton, New Zealand (Taped) SKIING 5 p.m. NBC - FIS: Alpine Skiing World Cup, Cortina d'Ampezzo, Italy (Taped) SOCCER (MEN'S) 11:30 a.m. NBC - Premier League: Manchester United at Arsenal 12:20 p.m. FS2 - The French Cup: Pau at Lille, Round of 32 2:45 p.m. CBSN - Serie A: Atalanta at Juventus TENNIS 10 a.m. ESPN2 - ATP/WTA: The Australian Open, Round of 16, Melbourne, Australia (Taped) 7 p.m. ESPN2 - ATP/WTA: The Australian Open, Round of 16, Melbourne, Australia WINTER WORLD UNIVERSITY GAMES 5 p.m. ESPN - FISU World University Games: Men's Ice Hockey - Gold-Medal Game, Lake Placid, N.Y. -

Ohio Boys Scores

BOYS PREP BASKETBALL- Akr. East 83, Akr. Firestone 50 Akron Garfield 59, Akr. North 20 Albany Alexander 56, McArthur Vinon County 54 Andover Pymatuning Valley 63, Vienna Mathews 27 Anna 47, Sidney Fairview 42 Arsonia 56, New Paris National Trail 32 Arcanum 52, Pittsburg Franklin-Monroe 21 Arlington 46, Pandora-Gilboa 45 Ashland Mapleton 59, New London 41 Avon 49, Avon Lake 44 Barboursville Paint Valley 64, Southeastern 52 Batavia Clermont NE 61, Felicity-Franklin 49 Bay Village Bay 62, Fannwe 55 Beavercreek 59, Springfield 47 Belbrook 65, Waynesville 64 Belmont Union Local 61, Cambridge 52 Bokot W. Branch 40, Alliance Marlington 37 Berlin Center Western Reserve 50, Abwater Waterloo 43 Bluffton 76, Van Wert Lincolnview 43 Bowerston Conotton Valley 56, Newcomerstown 18 Brecksville-Broadview Hts. 53, Wadsworth 59 Bristol 64, Fairport Harbor Harding 45 Brooke, W.Va. 65, Steubenville 53 Brookfield 59, Campbell Memorial 58, OT Brooklyn 86, Wickliffe 75 Brookville 73, Germantown Valley View 65 Brunswick 52, Strongsville 47 Caldwell 64, Bamesville 55 Camden Preble Shawnee 65, Newton Local 36 Can. Glenok 64, Massillon Perry 55 Can. McKinley 53, Uniontown Lake 34 Canal Fulton Northwest 81, Massillon Tuslaw 60 Canfield 66, Youngs. Chaney High School 56 Canfield S. Range 58, Niles McKinley 45 Canfield 60, Middletown Madison Senior 54, OT Carrollton 85, Alliance 80 Cassiow Miami E. 46, Sidney Lehman 34 Celina 44, Luna Bath 40 Centerville 57, Howard E. Knox 32 Centerville 80, Miamisburg 50 Chagrin Falls 58, Ashland Edgewood 41 Chardon 66, Chagrin Falls Kenston 53 Chesapeake 56, Portsmouth 41 Chesterland W. Geauga 61, Perry 33 Chillicothe 67, Hillsboro 63, OT Chillicothe Uniono 65, Pikeston 55 Chillicothe Zane Trace 86, Chillicothe Huntington 59 Cin. Madara 64, Cin. Finneytown 48 Cin. Manomet 42, Cin. Indian Hill 37 Cin. MoNicholas 64, Bishop Fenwick 43 Cin. Mosler 50, Cin. Elder 40 Cin. Seven Hills 67, Lockland 53 Cin. St. Xavier 56, Cin. La Salle 46 Cin. Summit Country Day 36, St. Bernard Roger Bacon

Dover 65, Wheeling Central 40

DOVER - The Tornadoes continued to wreak havoc on Wheeling teams as Carter Grove scored 24 points, which included seven triples.

Weir 82, Harrison Central 77

CADIZ - G Cross had a night to remember inside the Harrison Central gymnasium Friday night when he poured in 45 points to lead Weir High to an 82-77 victory.

Union Local 61, Cambridge 52

CAMBRIDGE - Short-handed Union Local played only five players all game and still cruised to a victory over the Bobcats.

Beallsville 49, Bridgeport 47

BEALLSVILLE - The Blue Devils avenged an earlier loss by edging the Bulldogs on Friday night. Beallsville was led by Kinley Hughes' 14. Logan Taylor added 10.

Thompson cards 3 more eagles, has 2-shot AmEx lead

LA QUINTA, Calif. (AP) - Rookie Davis Thompson made three more eagles Friday for a total of five through 36 holes to tie the PGA Tour record for the most in a 72-hole tournament since 1983, and he still didn't put any more distance between himself and Jon Rahm at The American Express.

Thompson also carded his first bogeys of the tournament, which were hardly enough to slow him down. One day after making consecutive eagles in shooting 10-under 62 at La Quinta to take the first-round lead, Thompson carded an 8-under 64 on the Nicklaus Tournament Course at PGA West. He had three eagles, four birdies and two bogeys.

The 23-year-old who played college golf at Georgia was at 18-under 126, two strokes ahead of Rahm, who also shot 64 on the Nicklaus course.

"I just had some good numbers into par-5s and was able to execute my shots," Thompson said. "I had some putts drop. So it was nice to make some eagles."

Actually, it's his entire game that's going well in the Southern California desert. "I think putting the ball in the fairway, hitting a lot of greens and really seeing lines well on my putts," Thompson said. "Just everything is kind of clicking these last two days and I'm just looking forward to trying to keep it rolling tomorrow."

Thompson will play the Stadium Course on Saturday, which will host the final round on Sunday after the 54-hole cut in this pro-am event, which uses three courses.

Thompson is the second player to have five eagles through two rounds at The American Express. He matched the record set in 1995 by Scott McCarron, who missed the 72-hole cut when it was a five-round tournament.

Thompson, who began his round wearing a hoodie in the early-morning chill, eagled his second hole, the par-5 11th, when he hit a 5-iron to about 15 feet. He then had two bogeys in four holes spanning the turn to briefly lose his lead, but then ran off a string of three birdies and two eagles in a span of five holes to go from 1-under to 8-under for his round. He eagled the par-5 fourth and the par-5 seventh - hitting the green with a mid-iron and draining a putt from rough-

Temps are Falling...

YOUR BOOTS DESERVE THE PROPER CARE

SATURDAY'S BEST MEN'S COLLEGE BASKETBALL

- 1 p.m. — TCU at Kansas, CBS
- 2 p.m. — UCLA at Arizona, ABC
- 4 p.m. — Iowa at Ohio State, FOX
- 6 p.m. — Texas at West Virginia, ESPN

NFL

- 4:30 p.m. — AFC Divisional Round Playoff: Jacksonville at Kansas City, CBS
- 8 p.m. — NFC Divisional Round Playoff: N.Y. Giants at Philadelphia, FOX

TENNIS

- 8 p.m. — ATP/WTA: Australian Open Round of 16, Melbourne, ESPN2

SUNDAY'S BEST MEN'S COLLEGE BASKETBALL

- Noon — Michigan State at Indiana, CBS
- 3 p.m. — Temple at Houston, ESPN

NFL

- 3 p.m. — AFC Divisional Round Playoff: Cincinnati at Buffalo, CBS
- 6:30 p.m. — NFC Divisional Round Playoff: Dallas at San Francisco, FOX
- 8:15 p.m. — AFC Wild Card Playoff: Baltimore at Cincinnati, NBC

NHL

- 2 p.m. — Pittsburgh at New Jersey, NHLN

PRO GOLF

- 2 p.m. — LPGA Tour: The Hilton Grand Vacations Tournament of Champions, Final Round, Lake Nona Golf Course, Orlando, Florida, NBC
- 3 p.m. — PGA Tour: The American Express, Final Round, PGA WEST Private Clubhouse, La Quinta, Calif.

TENNIS

- 7 p.m. — ATP/WTA: The Australian Open, Round of 16, Melbourne, ESPN2

Huggins' Coaching Style Hasn't Changed

MORGANTOWN — Anyone who has played for Bob Huggins has stories and it doesn't take long to compile them.

DerMarr Johnson, West Virginia's newest assistant coach, having replaced Larry Harrison just this week, played only one year for Huggins but he comes in ready to offer up stories about what it's like to play for Huggins.

They are stories that offer insight into why Huggins has coached his way into the Naismith Memorial Basketball Hall of Fame and why he just may right the ship at West Virginia despite an 0-5 start in the Big 12 Conference this year.



BOB HERTZ
WV News

Johnson met with the media on Friday, a day before a 6 p.m. Big 12 battle at the Coliseum with Texas in which the Mountaineers look to win their second game in a row to begin spreading the news that they aren't packing it in just because things didn't go their way early in the year.

Johnson was asked about his favorite Huggins story and he offered up one not

many know about.

"My freshman year we had a center named B.J. Grove, about 6-11, 280 pounds, and he was really good," Johnson began.

Didn't matter.

"Coach was on him every day. He wanted B.J. to be about 255," Johnson continued, the story beginning to sound a lot like what Huggins did with his current center Jimmy Bell Jr., who came in and lost almost 100 pounds to get into his playing shape.

Only this one takes a twist.

Please see Huggins', Page C5

OVAC SWIMMING, WRESTLING CHAMPIONSHIPS

Parkersburg South Continues To Lead On Mat; Park Third

Barnesville Nears 3A Title; Beaver Local, Oak Glen Close In 4A; Cameron 2nd In 1A/2A

By KIM NORTH
Staff Writer

WHEELING — The temperatures outside may be cooling down, but the action is heating up inside WesBanco Arena as the 69th annual OVAC Ron Mauck Wrestling Tournament has completed three sessions.

And after two days of action, Parkersburg South has stretched its lead in Class 5A, while Beaver Local and Oak Glen are waging a two-team race in Class 4A. Barnesville has all but wrapped up another Class 3A title, and Southern Local continues a slim margin over defending champion Cameron in Class 1A/2A.

The Wood County Patriots have piled up 156 points to also lead the overall standings by 23 over University. Defending overall and Class 5A titlist Wheeling Park is third with 130, while surging John Marshall was fourth with 117, a half-point better than Class 3A frontrunner Barnesville and Steubenville.

Please see Mat, Page C2

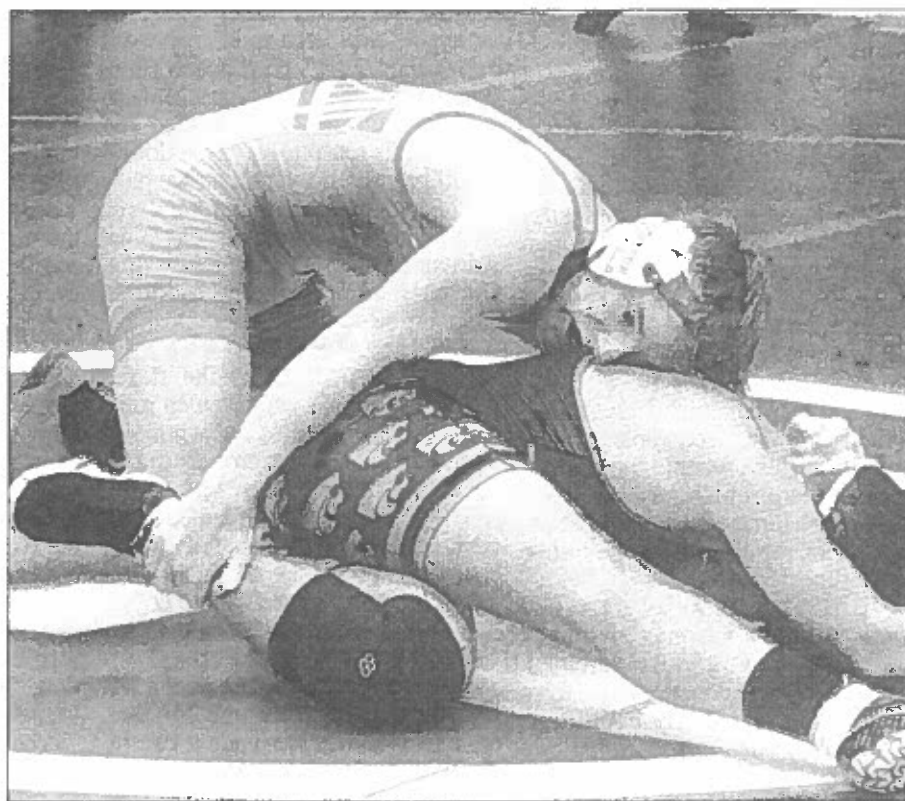


Photo by Kim North
Wheeling Park's top-seeded Jameson Maynard has control of Edison's Ethan Waggoner during their 165-pound quarterfinal round match Friday night during the 69th annual OVAC Ron Mauck Wrestling Tournament inside Wheeling's WesBanco Arena. Maynard was one of six Patriots to advance to today's semifinals.

Wheeling, WLU To Clash Saturday In 'Battle of Wheeling'

WHEELING — The Wheeling University men's basketball program was founded on the hard work and dedication of the Cardinals who came before. On Saturday, the team is set to welcome back some of those distinguished alumni when they host West Liberty in "The Battle for Wheeling" with tip-off at 4 p.m. It is the first meeting between the two teams this season as the month of January winds down.

The Cardinals are coming off a hard-fought battle last time out when they fell to Notre Dame College 85-81. After falling behind early, Wheeling showed that resolve that it has been known for to battle back and make it a one-point game with less than five minutes to play in the half. Over the last two weeks, senior John Korte has been a spark plug for the team and continued his success on Wednesday. He put up 29 points in the contest while grabbing 10 rebounds to account for his fourth double-double of the season. He has scored 27 or more points in each of his last three games and is averaging 28.7 points per game during that span. He has also propelled up the conference scoring list, raising his average to 19.3 points per game. He current-

Linsly Splashes To Class 1A/3A Sweep

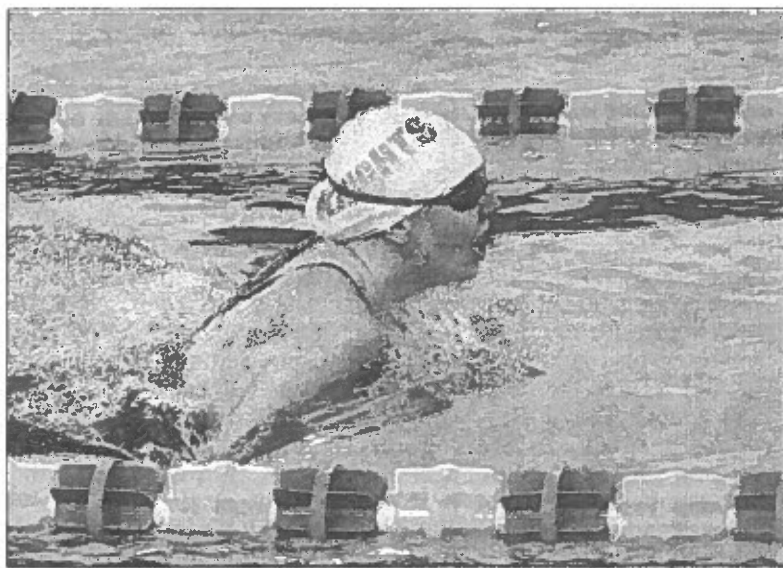


Photo by Seth Staskey
Wheeling Central's Smilee Humpe won the 100 backstroke and finished second in the 200 IM during the OVAC Bill Brubaker Swimming Championships Friday night at the Brooke Wellness Center in Wellsburg.

St. Clairsville Girls Continue Stronghold On Class 4A Field

By SETH STASKEY
For the Sunday News-Register

WELLSBURG — New format. Similar meet results.

Such was the case at Friday's newly added 1A/4A championship meet at the annual OVAC Bill Brubaker Swimming Championship held inside the gorgeous Brooke Wellness Center.

Though the meet was broken down differently, the titles went to familiar schools. Linsly swept the 1A/3A titles, while St. Clairsville continued its stronghold on the 4A division.

Linsly's girls ran away from the field, accumulating 395 points, which was 233 clear of runner-up Martins Ferry.

The Cadets boys, meanwhile, finished with 249 to defeat runner-up Wheeling Central by 133 points.

St. Clairsville, meanwhile, finished with 199

Please see Linsly, Page C2

Cowboys, 49ers Meet Again In NFC Playoffs

SANTA CLARA, Calif. (AP) — Dak Prescott shook off some late-season struggles and once again looked in top form in Dallas' playoff opener.

Brock Purdy looked just as good as he has ever since stepping in as the starter



The player picked last in April's draft has played like star since replacing an injured Jimmy Garoppolo in Week 13. Purdy has thrown at least two TD passes in sev-

LINSLY

(Continued from Page C1)

points on the girls' side and 220 on the boys' side, fending off Indian Creek for both crowns. The Redskins finished with 101 points in the girls meet and 198 on the boys side.

GIRLS

Linsly's girls came into the meet feeling pretty good about their chances, especially when they saw the psyche sheet and they were the top seed in 10 of the 11 events. And by top seed, that was overall in both classes competing not just in their own division.

Head coach Nick Levi, who is in his first season at the helm of the tradition-rich Cadets program, watched his girls deliver in a big way. Linsly won exactly 10 of the 11 events.

"It was an awesome day in the pool," Levi said. "We came into the meet with high expectations with the goal of performing. I am so proud of our team. We swam lights out from top to bottom."

They wasted no time in getting their quest started. The team of Bea Fauro, Sarah Coha, Liv Torner and Julia Sales posted a 1:58.12 to win the 200 medley relay.

From there, it was on.

Junior Berta Roca touched the wall in 2:06.46 to win the 200 freestyle for the first individual title of the evening. Her second championship came in the 500 free thanks to a time of 5:44.13.

Torner notched her first individual title in the 200 IM, posting a 2:21.46. Her second victory came a few events later in the 100 fly when she posted a 1:04.89.

Junior Anna Norman got into the gold-medal act in the 50 free thanks to a blazing 25.41 effort. She added the 100 free crown with a time of 56.23, fending off her teammate, Sales for the top prize.

Linsly added the 200 free relay title when the team of Roca, Coha, Sales and Norman joined speed forces for a 1:48.06. Second place in the event, ironically, went to the Cadets' 'B' relay team, which was comprised of Ilayna Murray, Sharon Aristizabal, Taylor Remp and Sophie Funke with a time of 1:58.86.

"To have our 'B' Relay get second to our 'A' team is something that's really special to us," Levi admitted. "There is always pressure to perform and carry on the Linsly tradition at OVAC and that's something we don't take lightly."

Coha fended off Wheeling Central's Abie Riedel by 11 hundredths of a second to claim victory in the 100 breaststroke with a time of 1:11.87.

The Cadets foursome of Torner, Roca, Fauro and Norman ended the meet with a time of 3:49.56 to win the 400 free relay.

Wheeling Central's Smilee Humpe edged out Linsly's Fauro for the 100 backstroke title with a time of 1:06.16. Humpe was second in

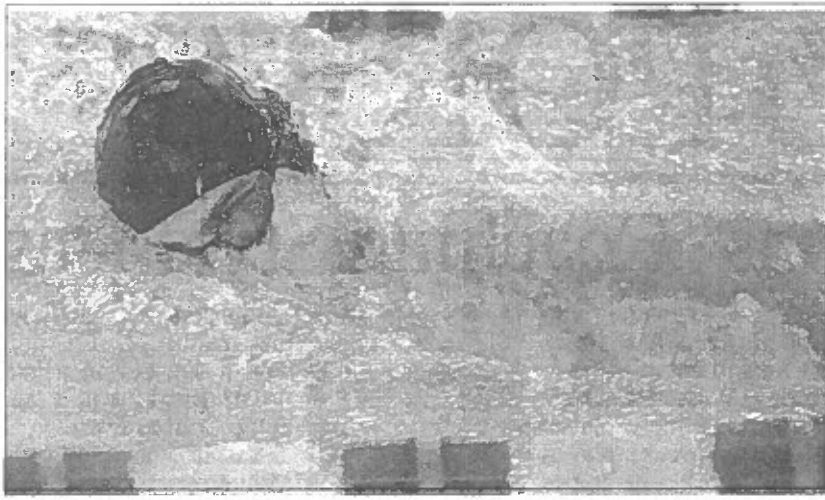


Photo By Seth Staskey

Linsly's Antonio Navarro won the 200 freestyle during Friday night's OVAC Championships.

the 200 IM earlier in the evening.

St. Clairsville captured the 4A title, but only produced a medal, which is a top three overall place, in eight events. The Red Devils received an impressive performance from sophomore Adrienne Lowe, who registered four silver medals. She was part of the runner-up medley and 400 free relay teams and was second in both the 100 fly and 500 free.

The path to the title was much different this season after the Red Devils lost a lot of top-end points to graduation.

"In November, I didn't think (winning OVAC) was going to be possible because of what we lost, but these girls competed and they proved me wrong," St. C. head coach Ernie Banks said. "I am so proud of them for how well they've competed and worked this season. We got it done a lot differently this year than we have the last several years, but we came with a lot of second places. What Adrienne did was pretty amazing. Our girls knew what they had to do and were steady."

BOYS

Linsly and St. Clairsville flexed their muscle early and often en route to claiming team titles and winning a combined nine event crowns during the course of the 11-event meet.

The Cadets, who claimed their 63rd title in the pool, ignited the title chase when the team of Parker Griffith, John Papadimitriou, Antonio Navarro and Mariano Fonseca posted a 1:46.68 to win the medley relay.

Navarro returned to the pool a few heats later and captured the 200 freestyle in 1:55.62. He made it two individual goals when he swam away from the field to win the 500 freestyle in a time of 5:13.14, which was more than 27 seconds better than his nearest competitor.

Papadimitriou got into the individual winning act when he edged out St. Clairsville's Zach May by two hundredths of a second for the 50 freestyle in what was arguably the best race of the evening. The Cadet touched in 22.80.

Linsly's final victory came in the

200 free relay when the team of Papadimitriou, Colby Gibbons, Fonseca and Navarro swam a 1:36.39 for the title.

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Yost, who is just a junior, was a double gold medalist, individually. He won the 100 backstroke in 55.16 and earlier had captured the 100 fly in 52.78.

May wasn't about to allow Papadimitriou to edge him for a second time in the 100 free. May got the job done by touching the wall with an impressive 49.66 clocking.

The Red Devils put the finishing touches on their third boys title in school history when the team of Yost, Luke Stack, Brady Blacker and May swam a 3:35.63.

Martins Ferry senior John Consort — a foreign exchange student from Brazil — will go back home this spring with two OVAC championships on his resume.

Consort claimed the 200 individual medley in 2:04.37 and later added the 100 breaststroke with a time of 1:02.78.

MAT

(Continued from Page C1)

"We are wrestling well right now, and even the guys that are losing are giving a good effort. That's what I want," Parkersburg South head coach Shawn Smith said. "If you lose a match you can't hang your head on it, you've got to go out and win the next one. That's what I'm looking for."

Parkersburg South has five semifinalists in 2021 champion Brady Roberts (126), Ryan Martin (138), Nathan Murphy (144), Kyle Wheeler (157) and Robert Shockey (190).

Smith said his team has rallied around the loss of returning champion Gage Wright to a foot injury.

"I talked to the kids earlier in the week and told them everyone has to step up and that will go a long way towards Saturday night. So far, they're showing it."

University, which lost No. 6 seed at 113. Brodie Emery, to weight issues before Friday's action began, have six in the semis. They are Pepper Martin (106), Carter Pauley (132), Dom Parker (157), Luca Felix (175), Brock Kehler (215) and Ryder Hastings (285). Felix is a defending champion.

Defending champion Bradyn Lucas (144) leads half-a-dozen Wheeling Park wrestlers into the semis. Others include Noah White (120), Adam Carman (138), Quinton Velas (150), Jameson Maynard (165) and Erick Brothers Jr. (215).

"We had a lot of guys wrestle really well and got us some bonus points, so that's going to give us some momentum heading into tomorrow (Saturday)," Wheeling Park head coach Brian Leggett said. "Hopefully, we can punch all six of those guys all the way through."

Barnesville also has six semifinalists in Johnathan Huntsman (106), returning champion Dakota King (132), Skyler King (138), Logan Tague (144), Reese Stephen (150) and Ayden King (157). That number is possible the most ever for the Shamrocks, head coach Jayson Stephen said.

"I don't really look at the team scores until the end of the tournament," Stephen noted. "All of our wins have come by pins and we've got a lot of bonus points."

The top seeded wrestler to be eliminated was third-seeded Hayley Snyder (106) who last year became the first female wrestler to make the podium when she finished seventh at 113.

Today's action resumes at 11 a.m. with championship semifinals and third- and fourth-round consolation bouts. The final session begins at 3:30 p.m. with opening ceremonies. The championship finals and matches for third-, fifth- and seventh-places will begin at 4.

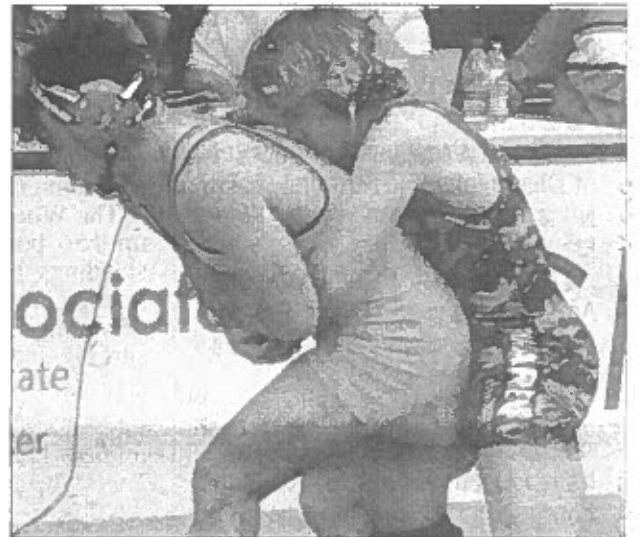


Photo By Kim North

John Marshall's Klypsan Wallace tries to escape from Warren Local's Jason Williams during their 165-pound bout. Wallace prevailed.

NFC

(Continued from Page C1)

This will be the ninth time these franchises have met in the postseason, tied for the most of any matchup in the Super Bowl era with San Francisco against Green Bay and Dallas against the Rams.

Dallas has won five of the previous eight but lost 23-17 to San Francisco in the wild-card round last year, a loss that still stings.

"We get a chance to go back and at their place, do something that we want to do," Prescott said.

OV CONNECTION

Two players with ties to

the Ohio Valley will suit up for Sunday's game. Union Local and WVU product Colton McKivitz is an offensive lineman for the 49ers, while Linsly's C.J. Goodwin is a special teams performer for the Cowboys.

KICKING QUANDARY

Dallas kicker Brett Maher was backed by owner/general manager Jerry Jones, coach Mike McCarthy and special teams coach John Fassel after missing his first four extra points against the Bucs, a first in NFL history. That didn't stop the Cowboys

from signing Tristan Vizcaino to the practice squad as insurance.

The club has until Saturday to decide whether to put Vizcaino on the 53-man roster. It was going to depend on how Maher responded in practice after his meltdown. He did make the fifth PAT against Tampa Bay, ending a streak of five consecutive misses going back to his final attempt of the regular season in Washington.

"I loved for him to step back up and get another shot, to see one go through, which hopefully

will give him some confidence this Sunday," Fassel said. "We'll need it."

KEY DALLAS DEFENDER

Cowboys safety Jayron Kearse, who figures to be an important piece for the Dallas defense against McCaffrey and Samuel, said there was a "100 percent" chance he was playing after injuring a knee against the Bucs. He was held out the rest of the game as a precaution with the Cowboys comfortably in front when the injury happened.

"I've been dealing with a lot of injuries all year,"

said Kearse, who missed three games early in the season with a knee injury. "It's nothing different, especially playoff time. I'm only guaranteed four more quarters."

RESTING UP

The Niners got a two-day head start after beating Seattle on Saturday, while Dallas didn't play its wild-card game until Monday night.

While the discrepancy seems unfair on the surface, both teams downplayed the impact of the 49ers having the extra rest.

"By this time, I don't

think it is about recovery," Shanahan said.

"It's about detail and it's about executing and it's about playing at a high level. Once you get to games, especially in the playoffs, that recovery, people forget about pretty quickly."

Jones had no complaints, saying it's no different than playing on a short week in the regular season, and his players agreed.

"It's the schedule, what else can we do," receiver T.Y. Hilton said. "When the time comes, we'll be ready."

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ing streak that threatened to put an end to their season before it started, but by surviving a late rally by TCU that turned a 17-point second-half lead into a nail biter the Mountaineers enjoyed a rebirth of hope and confidence.

The streak was over, or was a new streak — a winning streak — beginning?



like 14 of 15 left (including the Big 12 Tournament), so we enjoy this tonight. We'll be back to work tomorrow."

Coach Bob Huggins sees it as a

the TCU game to seal the win. "I got them together after the Oklahoma game and said, 'Fellas, we're going home for three of four, let's go win. Let's go win four,'" Huggins added. "All of a sudden, at 4-5, it looks a whole lot different. We'll go from there."

Please see WVU'S, Page 12



Photo Provided
WVU's Tre Mitchell tries to drive past a TCU player during a recent game.

69th Annual OVAC Ron Mauck Wrestling Tournament

Parkersburg South, University Tied For Overall Lead; Barnesville Tops 3A

Beaver Local, Edison, Oak Glen Deadlocked In Class 4A; Southern Local Atop 1A/2A Field

By KIM NORTH
Staff Writer

WHEELING — There's a logjam atop the team standings after one round of the 69th annual OVAC Ron Mauck Wrestling Tournament inside WesBanco Arena.

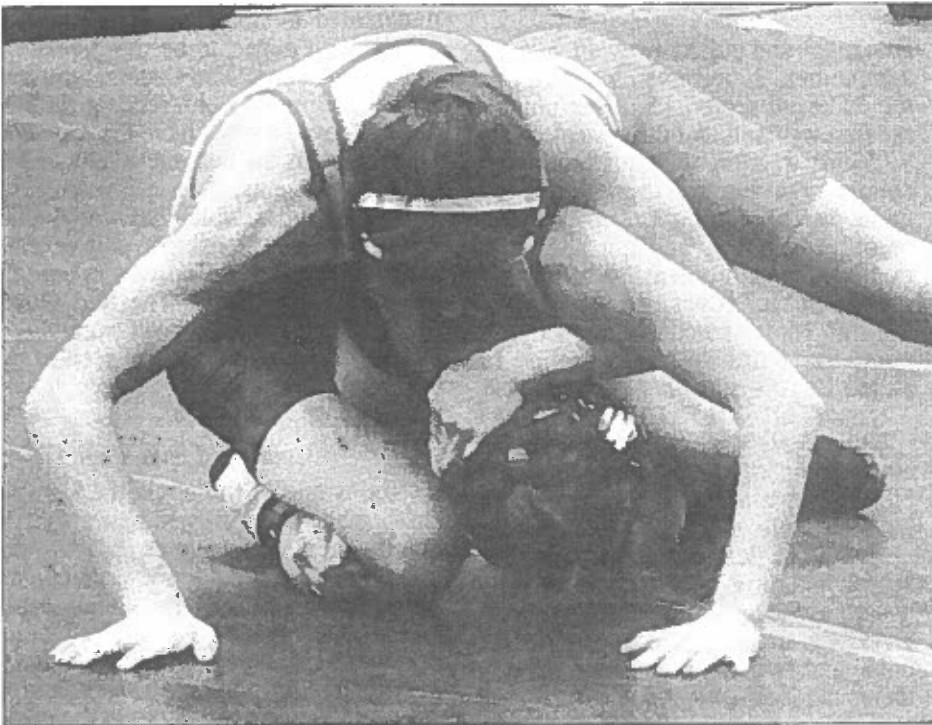
Parkersburg South and University, two of the top pre-tournament favorites, both checked in with 46 points, which is two points ahead of defending overall and Class 5A champion Wheeling Park. Steubenville is four points back of the co-leaders with 42, while Class 3A frontrunner Barnesville rounds out the top 5 with 35.5.

Beaver Local, Edison and Oak Glen all have 30 points and are deadlocked for the Class 4A lead. St. Clairsville (27) and Indian Creek (26) are close behind.

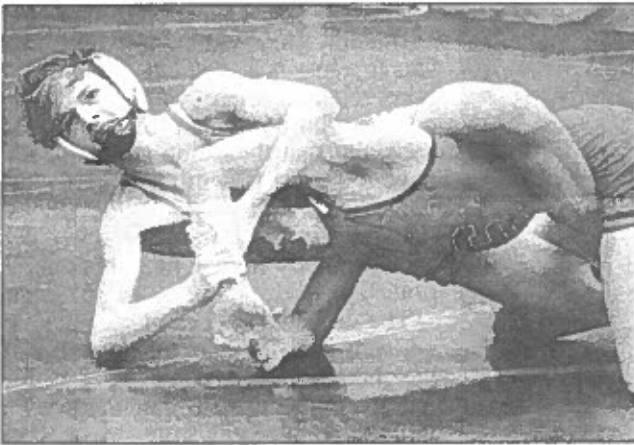
The aforementioned Shamrocks are 9.5 points in front of Martins Ferry in Class 3A, with Linsly third at 23.5 and Shenandoah fourth with 22. Caldwell has 20.

Southern Local holds a 4-point margin (27-23) over defending Class 1A/2A champion Cameron, while Bridgeport is third with 14, two-and-a-half points ahead of Wheeling Central. Wellsville has 11.5.

Please see TIED, Page 12



TOP: Cameron's Gunner Lilley has a half-nelson on Linsly's Caitlin Lewis during their 113-pound bout. Lilley won by pin.



LEFT: Buckeye Local's Aiden Dentz has ahold of the arm of Steubenville's Kasyn Berkey during the 113-pound match. Berkey earned a win by decision.

Photos by Kim North

OVAC Swimming Championships Starting Tonight At Brooke High

By SETH STASKEY
For The Intelligencer

Gold medals — OVAC style — will be handed out tonight at Brooke High School.

The first conference champions of the winter sports season will be crowned when the Class 1A through 4A swimmers hit the water at the Brooke Aquatic Center to take part in the OVAC Bill Brubaker Swimming Championship.

This marks the first time in the history of the event that it's a two-day event. The 5A schools will compete on Saturday, crowning separate champions in all 22 events. As for the team awards, there will be three classes for both boys and girls handed out this year. Obviously, 5A has its own. For the first time, in many years, the 4A class will crown its own champions and there will be team winners in the 1A/3A schools.

"It's a new era of the OVAC Swimming Championships," meet director and the man for whom the meet is named, Bill Brubaker, said.

Today's meet will begin at approximately 5:30 p.m. and the 5A schools will hit the water at 11 a.m.

The meet underwent a change after an urging of the coaches, who were hoping to see more athletes recognized with awards.

"Small-school coaches felt their kids were being overshadowed by the big schools and been asking for a trial with a split," Brubaker said. "Big-school swimmers were getting over 60% of positions in the meet and when you look at the medalists, only Linsly and St. Clairsville had medalists other than the big schools."

On top of the desire to recognize more athletes with awards, Brubaker acknowledges the separation of the meets will make the event much quicker to complete.

"Last year's meet ran long and with all of the swimmers, some would warm up and it would be two hours, or longer, until their first event," Brubaker stressed. "We're hoping (this change) will attract more athletes to swim as they will see they have a chance to compete."

Brubaker did point out this format change "is a trial to see how it goes."

"There are pros and cons," Brubaker said. "More athletes will get to compete, each meet will run half the time that last year's single meet did. We'll have a good meet and then sit back and evaluate it."

Please see OVAC, Page 12

Mauck Remembered In Variety Of Ways

By KIM NORTH
Staff Writer

WHEELING — The 69th annual OVAC Ron Mauck Wrestling Tournament kicked off its three-day stay inside downtown Wheeling's WesBanco Arena, but something — no, make that someone — wasn't in attendance.

The event's long-time director and namesake passed away over the summer.

The tournament's program was dedicated in Ron Mauck's name and his family was presented with a framed picture of the book's cover prior to the tournament.

"Ron was my friend. Ron was my mentor," Dr. Bill Welker said in his pre-tournament speech. "I knew Ron and his late wife for 50 years. I not only had the privilege of teaching their children in school, I also taught their grandchildren."

Lapel pins were also a part of remembering Mauck. There was a moment of silence

held and the Ohio Valley Wrestling Officials graciously donated a \$500 check to the Ron Mauck Memorial Scholarship fund that was recently established.

Going Hi-Tech

For the first time in its existence, the OVAC Ron Mauck Tournament has gone paperless. There are no bout sheets to be handed out, it's all done on the computer through Trackwrestling, thanks to Mike Carman.

"I guess we are hi-tech now," Tournament Director Dr. Dan Doyle said. "We've wanted to do this for a long time, but we needed a strong, reliable internet and the arena's was a little shaky, but they totally re-did all that."

There were some glitches, but like Doyle said, they can be worked out.

"There are going to be some bumps along the way, but, so far, our people have adapted pret-

Please see MAUCK, Page 12



Photo by Kim North
A picture of Ron Mauck was placed before the head table during pre-tournament ceremonies Thursday night.

Steubenville Catholic-Weir Girls Game Halted In Fourth Quarter

By ANDREW GRIMM
For The Intelligencer

WEIRTON — In the grand scheme of things, a score does not really matter all that much.

The score — or whether or not the game would even officially count — did not matter to anyone as they left the gym following the game between Weir High and Catholic Central Thursday night.

It was stopped with 4:13 to go in the fourth quarter when a Crusader appeared to fall unconscious.

Those in attendance at Ron "Fritz" Williams Court fell silent as Central senior Ellen Bohde was

Central coach Jess Looman and Red Riders' coach Rick Stead, along with the officials, decided not to resume to the game.

"This is the first time in probably 15 years experiencing something like this coaching basketball," Stead said. "We're all sending our thoughts and prayers to the young lady and hope she doesn't have any serious injuries or ailments and can make a return."

For Stead, who has been the Red Riders' coach for eight years and has two daughters of his own, it was a situation that spurred multiple emotions.



Photo by Andrew Grimm

contest would be final since both parties agreed to stop it and not continue at a later date, which would give the Red Riders their third-consecutive victory.

The National Federation of State High School Associations basketball rules, which are cited in the West Virginia Secondary Schools Athletic Commission handbook as the official rules, states, "Whenever a game is interrupted because of events beyond the control of the responsible administrative authorities, it shall be continued from the point of interruption unless the teams agree

see his team continue their trajectory of improvement.

"Our girls' goal from the beginning has been to improve," he said. "We knew we were young and going to take our licks early in the season, but starting with the overtime losses to Oak Glen and Burgettsown, then winning against Madonna, we've started to turn the corner and found the bottom of the net."

"We've changed up defenses and the defense we're playing now seems really well suited to the girls we have. We have continued to make strides



AP Photo

Ohio State guard Hevynne Bristow (3) is fouled by Northwestern guard Sydney Wood, left, during the second half of a game at Value City Arena in Columbus, Thursday.

No. 2 Ohio State Women Roll Past Northwestern

COLUMBUS, Ohio (AP) — Taylor Mikesell and Rebeka Mikulasikova each scored 18 points and No. 2 Ohio State beat Northwestern 84-54 on Thursday night to push its program-best, season-opening winning streak to 19 games.

The Buckeyes (19-0, 8-0 Big Ten) led wire to wire and closed the first quarter on a 10-1 run, with eight of the points from Mikesell. Ohio State led by 38 points in the fourth quarter and didn't allow Northwestern (6-12, 0-8) to come closer than nine points after the first two minutes of the second quarter.

"This could have been a real problem for us, had we not shown up with the focus and energy needed to play the game the right way," Ohio State coach Kevin McGuff said.

"I credit our leadership, our upper-classmen, just making sure the team was ready."

Ohio State held a 14-point halftime

advantage and pulled away after scoring a game-best 27 points in the third quarter. Mikesell scored 15 of her points in the first half and had three steals.

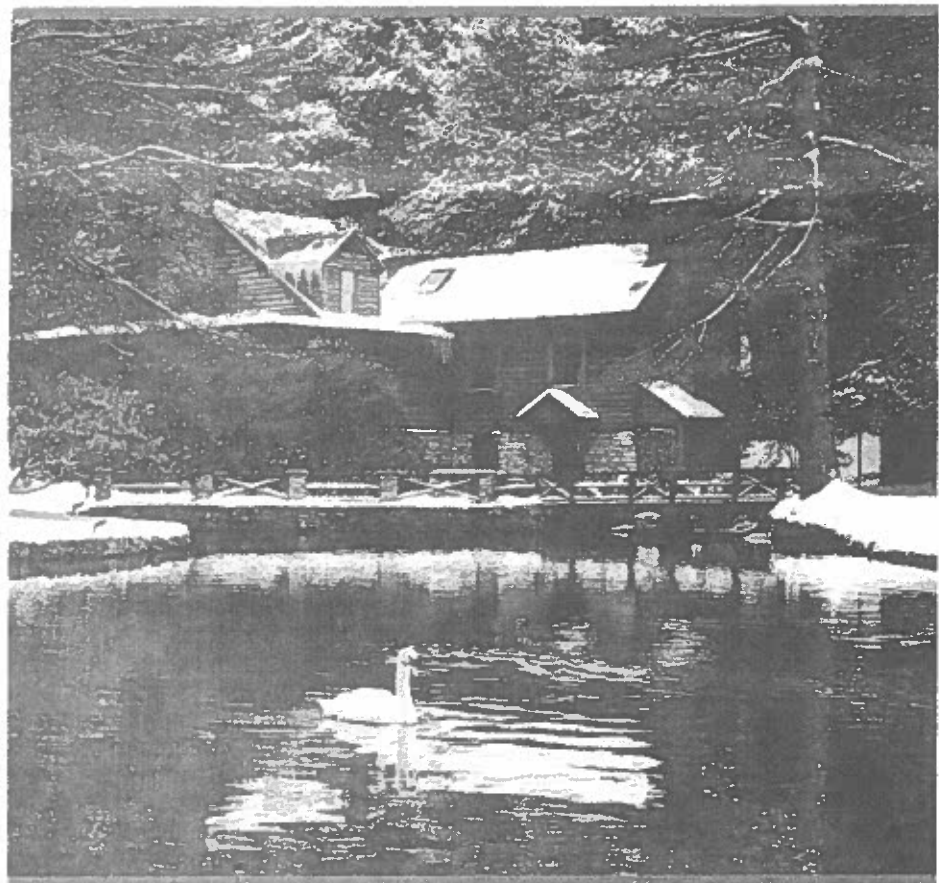
"Third quarter, they just went on a couple runs and we didn't do a very good job of getting back on defense or off a turnover, and our shot selection became a problem," Northwestern coach Joe McKeown said.

Paige Mott scored a career-high 16 points for Northwestern. Caroline Lau added 13 points.

A TOUGH ROAD AHEAD

Ohio State's next two games will come against Top 10 conference foes No. 10 Iowa at home Monday and on the road at No. 6 Indiana next Thursday.

Having beaten four ranked teams this season, starting with then-No. 5 Tennessee in the opener last November, the Buckeyes are taking each day as they come and remain one of three unbeaten teams across the NCAA.



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replaced by John Gibson, who stopped all 18 shots he faced.

"I think it was good resiliency by our group," Fowler said. "Obviously, we

Blankenburg made it 3-0 with 2:17 left in the period, seconds after a hit that buried Lundestrom into the Columbus bench.

GIRLS

(Continued from Page 11)

The Red Riders led 11-10 after one and 22-20 at halftime before taking control with a 17-0 run to start the third quarter.

Olivia Baker tallied 14

points, including a pair of 3-pointers, for the Red Riders. Janai Turner had 10 points and seven assists.

Rohde had six points

and 12 rebounds at the time of the stoppage. Theresa Kerker led Central with 13 points and three 3-pointers.

OVAC

(Continued from Page 11)

CLASS 1A/3A and CLASS 4A As for the athletes, Linsly, which is undefeated in small meets this season, appears, on paper, to be the favorite in the 1A/3A class. The Cadets, who own an astounding 16 conference girls titles and 62 boys crowns, have the top-seeded female in all but one event and in three boys events.

St. Clairsville, which has won the last five girls championships, will be right in the mix for the 4A crowns in both the boys and girls meets. The Red Devils are the top seed in six boys events.

Martins Ferry has the top seed in two

events.

CLASS 5A

Three schools have a top seed in the 5A boys action.

Dover, which has won three straight titles, has six top seeds, while Parkersburg South, which has won five conference titles, has three, and Warren has a pair.

On the girls' side, four schools boast a top seed.

Dover leads the way with the top mark in five events, while Morgantown has the top entrant in four.

Parkersburg South and John Marshall pace one event each.

WVU's

(Continued from Page 11)

"Joe is one of the guys that's made plays all year. Joe has kept us in games we otherwise would not have been in. Joe has never been the problem," Huggins said.

Huggins has preached all year that the chemistry on the team, the character of the players. He knew a loss is a loss is a loss, but other Kansas there was no one who beat them to the point that they didn't have a chance to win the game ... and they were playing one of the toughest schedules in the nation.

The schedule doesn't get any easier but the weight they've been carrying around with them the last couple of weeks from

the losing streak and from how they lost those games has now been lifted.

When things turned bad against TCU, they all decided the time had come to stand up and look what was dragging them down in the eye.

They were aware of what was happening again.

"Of course," Keddy Johnson said when asked about it. "It happened almost every game. But the guys got together and said, 'We're not losing this one.'"

And they didn't. But one game is not a winning streak.

It can become one on Saturday in what looked to be another tough one

— as if any don't in the Big 12 — with Texas coming to town for a 6 p.m. game, but this isn't the Texas they expected to see a couple of weeks back. Oh, it has a No. 6 national ranking, but its coach, Chris Beard, is now its ex-coach, having been fired for what has been termed domestic violence.

Beard was replaced by assistant Rodney Terry.

The game is important to everyone, but it carries a little bit more weight to WVU's Tre Mitchell, who transferred from Texas and knows that beating his former teammates would go a long way to helping right the Mountaineers' situation.

MAUCK

(Continued from Page 11)

ty quickly," he continued. "Some of these people have worked this tournament for 20, 30 and some, even 40, years."

Special Awards

- Junior High Coach of the Year, Seth Fluharty, Steubenville's Harding Middle School.

- Class 1A/2A Coach of the Year,

Tim Jones, Cameron.

- Class 3A Coach of the Year, Jayson Stephen, Barnesville.

- Class 4A Coach of the Year, Brandon Pendleton, Indian Creek.

- Class 5A Coach of the Year, Brian Leggett, Wheeling Park.

- Assistant Coach of the Year, T.J. Miller, Beaver Local.

TIED

(Continued from Page 11)

"We went 13 for 14 and we should've had a win in the one we lost," University head coach Ken Maisel said. "There are a couple of weight classes where we need to get better."

The Hawks lost top-seeded Dakota Hagedorn (150) who didn't suit up due to an illness.

"That hurts. We had the upper hand over (Parkersburg) South and (Wheeling) Park because they both lost quality wrestlers earlier in the week, but I told the guys we need to make up those points. He would've probably scored 25-30 points, so we have to make them up. We need to get pins and not decisions."

The Hawks' Luca Felix (175), one of six returning titlists, picked up his 100th career win with a 44-second pin.

University has 12 of 13 wrestlers still alive for a title, with 11 winning by pins.

The Wood County Patriots lost defending

like to get that momentum rolling on the first day," Wheeling Park head coach Brian Leggett said. "We had a lot of kids pick up bonus points, which are crucial in a tournament like this."

One Patriot that came through big time was Carter Duncil (126) who earned an upset over Brooke's No. 9 Xzander Eltringham.

"We had that match circled when the brackets came out. We thought we could win that one, and we did," Leggett praised.

"We did good. We like to get that momentum rolling on the first day," Wheeling Park head coach Brian Leggett said. "We had a lot of kids pick up bonus points, which are crucial in a tournament like this."

Wheeling Park has 12 matmen alive for championships, with 11 winning by falls.

Parkersburg South has 13 alive and 11 used pins to advance.

Barnesville advanced 10 in the winners bracket

phen said. "We had a couple of guys step up, but I thought we could have won one that we lost."

Two of those that stepped up were Ayden Andrews (120) and Karson Milhoan (165). Andrews knocked off Marietta's No. 8 seed Jack Roe, 6-4, while the 12th-seeded Milhoan posted a technical fall over Marietta's Aaron Vessels.

"Ayden went out and did what he had to do," Stephen said. "Karson did the same."

All of the returning champions -- Oak Glen's Logan Davis (113); Barnesville's Dakota King (132); Steubenville's Brody Saccoccia (132); Wheeling Park's Bradyn Lucas (144); Indian Creek's Dom Pattera (157); Felix; and Harrison Central's Lucas Thomas (215) all prevailed.

Action resumes today at noon with matches in the second round of the championship bracket, as well as first- and second-round consolations.

SPORTS

Friday,
January 20, 2023

New-look OVAC swim meet opens today at Brooke

By **SETH STASKEY**
Times Leader Sports Editor

Gold medals -- OVAC style -- will be handed out tonight at Brooke High School.

The first conference champions of the winter sports season will be crowned when the Class 1A through 4A swimmers hit the water at the Brooke Aquatic Center to take part in the OVAC Bill Brubaker Swimming Championship.

This marks the first time in the histo-

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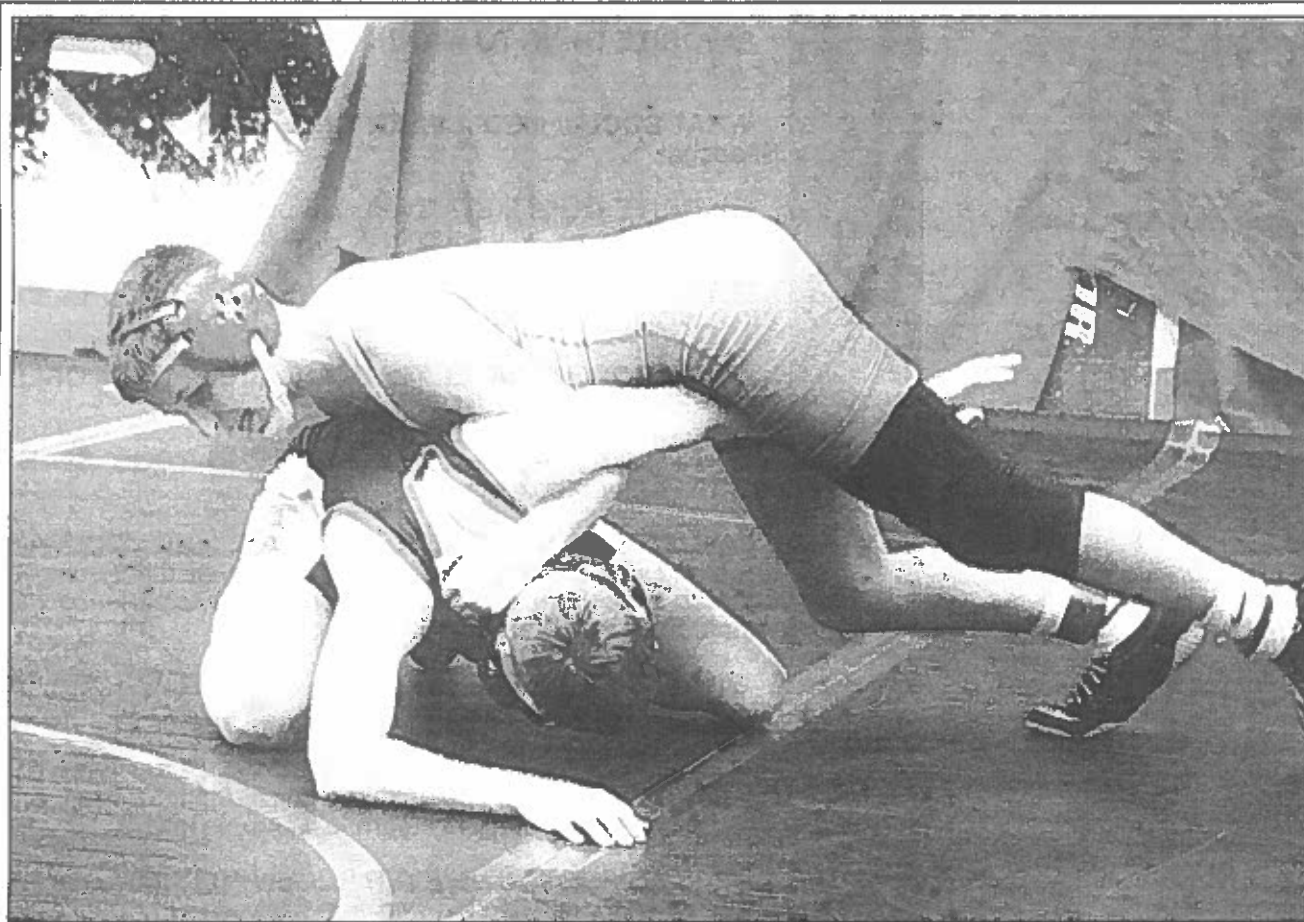
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See, **SWIM**, Page B3



Photos/KIM NORTH

ABOVE: BARNESVILLE'S Ayden Andrews works toward a victory over Marietta's Jack Roe during a 120-pound, opening-round bout at Thursday's 69th annual OVAC Ron Mauck Tournament.

BELOW: BUCKEYE Local's Seth Driscoll (left) and Martins Ferry's Domenick Tedeschi hooked up in one of the more entertaining matches of the night as Tedeschi claimed an 8-4 decision.

Matmen begin OVAC title chase

• Barnesville off to a strong start; University and South share overall lead

By **KIM NORTH**
For The Times Leader

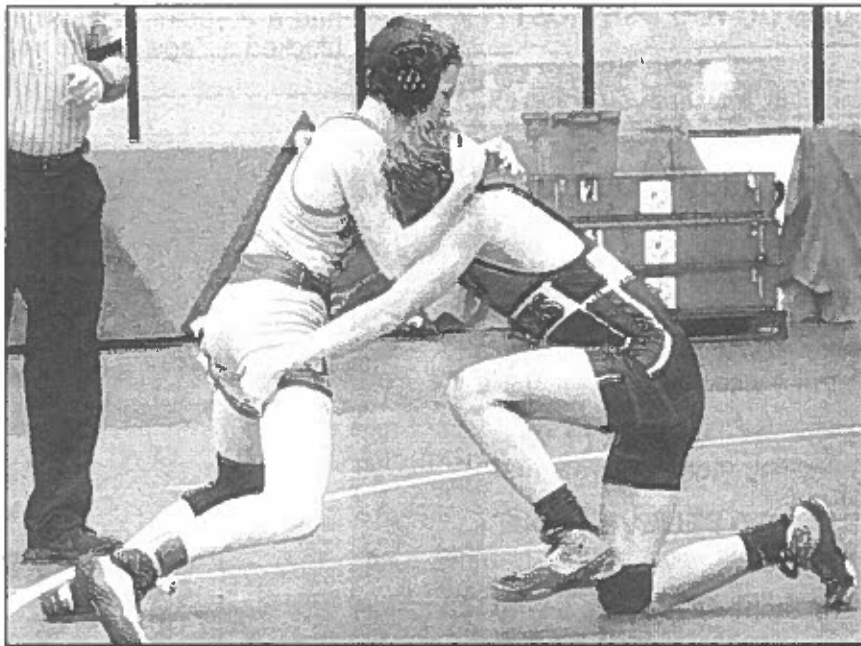
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See, **OVAC**, Page B3

OVAC Wrestling begins with tribute to Ron Mauck

By **KIM NORTH**
For The Times Leader

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No. 2 Ohio St. women roll by Northwestern

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"Third quarter, they just went on a couple runs and we didn't do a very good job of getting back on defense or off a turnover, and our shot selection became a problem," Northwestern coach Joe McKeown said.

SPREADING THE MINUTES AROUND
McGuff and Ohio State turned to its bench without star guards Madison Greene and Jacy Sheldon due to injury and with a comfortable lead throughout the second half.

Hevynne Bristow contributed seven points alongside eight rebounds and three steals during a season-high 27 minutes. Emma Shumate played 16 minutes and added four points and as many boards, while Eboni Walker played 14 minutes and notched eight points with six rebounds which were both season bests.

"I was really trying to get Hevynne, Eboni and Emma some more minutes," McGuff said. "We're still trying to develop our depth, and I thought they all did some really good things. They all made some mistakes, but that's why we're putting them out there just to get more experience."



Area Sports Card

Friday, Jan. 20
BOYS BASKETBALL

Wheeling Central at Dover
Wheeling Park at Parkersburg South
Barnesville at Caldwell
St. Clairsville at Bellare
Wer at Harrison Central
Shadysoe at River
Union Local at Cambridge
Indian Creek at East Liverpool

BOWLING

Union Local at Broome
Barnesville at Wheeling Park
Wer at St. Clairsville
Wheeling Central at Bridgeport

GIRLS BASKETBALL

Casell Midland at Wheeling Park

WRESTLING

OVAC Tournament at WesBanco Arena, noon

Prep Boxscores

GIRLS BASKETBALL

Buckeye Local 54, Bridgeport 34

BUCKEYE LOCAL (54) -- McKeever 5, 1-2 12, Short 2, 1-1 3, Aydon 1, 0-0 2, Carralt 0, 0-0 0, Koran 0, 0-0 0, Daley 1, 1-2 3, Kancrach 5, 3-3 14, Roset 2, 0-0 4, Kinyo 1, 0-0 2, Long 5, 0-0 10, Valucka 1, 0-0 2, Totals 23, 6-8 54

BRIDGEPORT (34) -- Chambers 0, 0-0 0, Clemens 0, 0-0 0, Sam 1, 0-0 2, Smith 0, 0-0 0, Stekar 3, 3-4 11, Summers 1, 0-1 2, Brewer 1, 1-0 9, Bader 0, 4-4 4, McKeloy 0, 2-2 2, Herman 0, 2-2 2, Masters 1, 0-0 2, Gonzalez 0, 0-0 0, Allen 0, 0-0 0, Totals 7, 18-23 34

3-point goals: BL -- McKeever, Kancrach 6 -- Stewar

Union Local 66, Barnesville 23

UNION LOCAL (66) -- A. Kellaway 0, 0-0 0, L. Vinskovich 0, 2-2 2, Miller 5, 0-1 15, Kikow 5, 2-2 14, E. Kellaway 2, 0-0 0, Pietanton 1, 2-2 5, Butler 0, 0-0 0, Day 2, 1-2 6, R. Vinskovich 7, 3-5 15, Totals 23, 10-14 66

BARNESVILLE (23) -- Thompson 1, 2-2 4, Yater 0, 0-2 0, Lucas 0, 0-0 0, Tyson 2, 1-3 5, Welch 0, 0-0 0, Carter 3, 0-0 9, Schaffer 1, 0-0 2, Phillips 0, 0-0 0, Lessor 1, 0-0 2, Over 0, 0-0 0, Totals 8, 4-9 23

3-point goals: UL -- Miller (3), Kildow (2), E. Kellaway (2), Pietanton, Day, R. Vinskovich, 5 -- Carter (5)

River 63, Shadyside 26

RIVER (63) -- Stewart 0, 0-0 0, T. Fulton 0, 0-0 0, R. Fulton 2, 0-0 5, Boltz 0, 0-0 0, Zduzkyk 0, 0-0 0, Sims 1, 0-0 2, Brown 5, 4-5 15, Henderson 0, 0-0 0, Weatherston 0, 0-0 0, Smith 0, 0-0 0, Tisoras 1, 0-0 3, Walker 0, 0-0 0, Totals 5, 4-5 26

SHADYSIDE (26) -- Hoopes 0, 1-2 2, Harlan 7, 0-0 15, Reed 0, 0-0 0, Wolmas 0, 0-0 0, Dosteter 0, 0-0 0, Indermuhle 0, 0-0 0, Pirm 1, 0-0 2, Raper 9, 1-1 13, Fox 3, 4-5 10, Knight 5, 2-6 14, Totals 27, 8-14 63

3-point goals: S -- R. Fulton (2), Brown, Tisoras, R -- Fox, Harlan

Indian Creek 58, St. Clairsville 46

INDIAN CREEK (58) -- Giles 0, 0-0 0, Taylor 4, 7-10 15, Sader 0, 0-0 0, Vandone 0, 0-0 0, Starzyk 2, 0-0 4, Balato 1, 0-0 2, Ketrin 0, 0-0 0, Anderson 7, 1-2 15, Robertson 8, 4-5 22, Allen 0, 0-0 0, Totals 22, 12-17 58

ST. CLAIRSVILLE (46) -- Zuzco 0, 0-0 0, Mall 7, 4-4 19, Tuttle 2, 0-0 5, Moran 1, 3-4 5, Sader 0, 2-2 2, Gray 2, 0-0 4, Powell 0, 0-0 0, Druzin 0, 0-0 0, Kain 3, 0-0 9, Heathernigan 0, 0-0 0, Svaleros 0, 0-0 0, Wallace 0, 0-0 0, Barrera 1, 0-0 2, Totals 16, 9-10 46

3-point goals: IC -- Robertson (2), MC -- Mallin, Kain (3), Tuttle

Monroe Central 50, Shenandoah 36

SHENANDOAH (36) -- Leach 7, 5-10 19, Brown 0, 2-2 2, Noll 1, 0-2 3, B. Leach 0, 3-4 3, House 0, 1-2 1, May 1, 2-2 4, Wocham 0, 4-4 4, Weidacher 0, 0-0 0, Totals 9, 17-26 36

MONROE CENTRAL (50) -- Emery 1, 2-2 4, Hencham 0, 0-0 0, Miles 0, 0-0 0, Thompson 5, 1-2 11, English 3, 0-3 6, Bishop 3, 1-2 7, Bommer 4, 0-0 8, Powell 0, 0-0 0, Betinger 5, 0-0 10, Totals 23, 4-9 50

3-point goals: S -- Noll, MC -- None

University 44, Linsly 50

UNIVERSITY (44) -- Forney-Garcia 7, 0-1 17, Barcoras 0, 0-0 0, Nemesch 4, 1-2 11, Coal 1, 0-0 3, Coleman 0, 0-0 0, Bancro 0, 2-4 2, Ford 1, 0-0 3, Thomas 1, 0-0 3, Hudson 1, 0-0 2, Jordan-Egnol 1, 0-0 3, Totals 16, 4-7 44

LINSLY (50) -- Taylor 2, 0-0 5, Jackson 5, 2-2 13, Anderson 3, 1-4 9, Goodwin 4, 0-0 12, Coleman 0, 0-0 0, Vaysbach 2, 1-1 6, Jones 1, 0-0 2, Sanchez 4, 1-1 9, Anas 2, 0-1 4, Murray 0, 0-0 0, Gill 0, 0-0 0, Far 0, 0-0 0, Szymusak 0, 0-0 0, Totals 23, 5-9 50

3-point goals: U -- Forney-Garcia (3), Nemesch (2), Coal, Ford, Thomas 1 -- Taylor, Jackson, Anderson (2), Goodwin (4), Vaysbach

Valley 48, Beallsville 41

BEALLSVILLE (41) -- Allen 4, 3-4 11, Hughes 1, 0-0 3, Hagan 2, 0-0 5, Taylor 5, 3-6 13, Perkins 3, 1-2 7, Loudon 1, 0-0 2, Totals 15, 7-12 41

VALLEY (48) -- Hogenboom 3, 0-0 7, T. Stacpole 4, 2-2 12, Derby 6, 8-11 24, Anderson 1, 1-3 3, Jencho 1, 0-0 2, Totals 15, 11-16 48

3-point goals: B -- Hughes, Hagan, V -- Derby (4), T. Stacpole (2), Hogenboom

Prep Wrestling

69th Annual OVAC
Ron Mauck Tournament
(at WesBanco Arena, Wheeling)

TEAM SCORING

Overall

1. (tie) Parkersburg South, University 46; 3. Wheeling Park 44; 4. Steubenville 42; 5. Barnesville 35; 6. John Marshall 32; 7. (tie) Beaver Local, Edson, Oak Glen 30; 10. (tie) St. Clairsville, Southern Local 27; 12. (tie) Indian Creek, Martins Ferry 26; 14. Linsly 23; 15. Cameron 23; 16. Harrison Central 22; 17. Morgantown 18; 18. East Liverpool 15; 19. (tie) Bridgeport, Cambridge 14; 21. (tie) Union Local, Wer, Wheeling Central 12; 24. Wellsville 11; 25. Bellare 10; 26. (tie) Broome, Magnolia, River, Shadyside 8; 30. Manetta 7; 31. (tie) Beallsville, Monroe Central, Paden City, Steubenville Catholic 4; 35. Madonna 36; (tie) Hundred, Toronto 0

Class 5A

1. (tie) Parkersburg South, University 46; 3. Wheeling Park 44; 4. Steubenville 42; 5. John Marshall 32; 6. Dover 32; 7. Warren Local 20; 8. Morgantown 18; 9. Brooke 8; 10. Marietta 7

Class 4A

(tie) Beaver Local, Edson, Oak Glen 30; 4. St. Clairsville 27; 5. Indian Creek 26; 6. Harrison Central 22; 7. Buckeye Local 20; 8. East Liverpool 15; 9. Cambridge 14; 10. Wer 12

Class 3A

1. Barnesville 35; 2. Martins Ferry 26; 3. Linsly 23; 4. Shenandoah 22; 5. Caldwell 20; 6. Fort Five 16; 7. Union Local 12; 8. Bellare 10; 9. Magnolia 8

Class 1A/2A

Southern Local 27; 2. Cameron 23; 3. Bridgeport 14; 4. Wheeling Central 12; 5. Wellsville 11; 5. (tie) River, Shadysoe 8; 8. Beallsville, Monroe Central, Paden City, Steubenville Catholic 4; 12. Madonna 2; 13. (tie) Hundred, Toronto 0

Prep Swimming

OVAC Bill Brubaker Swimming Championships
Top Seeded Times
(based on times submitted to the OVAC from throughout the 2022-23 season)

Class 1A/4A

Girls

200 Medley Relay -- Linsly, 2:01.07; 200 Free -- Beta Roca (Lins), 2:07.63; 200 IM -- Liv Torner (Lins), 2:23.82; 50 Free -- Anna Norman (Lins), 25.95; 100 Fly -- Liv Torner (Lins), 1:06.63; 100 Free -- Anna Norman (Lins), 56.48; 500 Free -- Beta Roca (Lins), 5:51.20; 200 Free Relay -- Linsly 1:48.22; 100 Backstroke -- Bea Faurio (Lins), 1:08.63; 100 Breaststroke -- Azei Medel (WCC), 1:14.19; 400 Free Relay -- Linsly 3:53.14

Boys

200 Medley Relay -- Linsly, 1:50.58; 200 Free -- Antonio Navarro (Lins), 1:55.23; 200 IM -- John Conson (MC), 2:01.94; 50 Free -- Zach May (StC), 23.09; 100 Fly -- Evan Yosi (StC), 54.55; 100 Free -- Zach May (StC), 50.38; 500 Free -- Antonio Navarro (Lins), 5:15.55; 200 Free Relay -- St. Clairsville, 1:40.66; 100 Backstroke -- Evan Yosi (StC), 56.52

OVAC

Continued from Page B1

ta Hagedorn (150) who didn't suit up due to an illness.

The Hawks' Luca Felix (175), one of six returning titlists, picked up his 100th career win with a 44-second pin.

University has 12 of 13 wrestlers still alive for a title, with 11 winning by pins.

The Wood County Patriots lost defending champion Gage Wright to a foot injury and the Ohio County Patriots are without Jack Lowe who was third last year.

"We did good. We like to get that momentum rolling on the first day," Wheeling Park head coach Brian Leggett said. "We had a lot of kids pick up bonus points, which are crucial in a tournament like this."

One Patriot that came through big time was Carter Duncil (126) who earned an upset over Brooke's No. 9 Xzander Eltringham.

Wheeling Park has 12 matmen alive for championships, with 11 winning by falls.

Parkersburg South has 13 alive and 11 used pins to advance.

Barnesville advanced 10 in the winners bracket. Seven of the Shamrocks had pins.

"We did pretty good. The guys went out and competed," Barnesville head coach Jayson Stephen said. "We had a couple of guys step up, but I thought we could have won one that we lost."

Two of those that stepped up were Ayden Andrews (120) and Karson Milhoan (165). Andrews knocked off Marietta's No. 8 seed Jack Roe, 6-4, while the 12th-seeded Milhoan posted a technical fall over Marietta's Aaron Vessels.

"Ayden went out and did what he had to do," Stephen said. "Karson did the same."

All of the returning champions - Oak Glen's Logan Davis (113); Barnesville's Dakota King (132); Steubenville's Brody Saccoccia (132); Indian Creek's Dom Paterra (157); Felix; and Harrison Central's Lucas Thomas (215) all prevailed.

Action resumes today at noon with matches in the second round of the championship bracket, as well as first- and second-round consolations. Following a short break, the championship quarterfinals headline the 6 p.m. session which also includes third- and fourth-round consolation bouts.

Mauck

Continued from Page B1

done on the computer through Trackwrestling, thanks to Mike Carman.

"I guess we are hi-tech now," Tournament Director Dr. Dan Doyle said. "We've wanted to do this for a long time, but we needed a strong, reliable internet and the arena's was a little shaky, but they totally redid all that."

There were some glitches, but like Doyle said, they can be worked out.

"There are going to be some bumps along the way, but, so far, our people have adapted pretty quickly," he continued.

Special Awards

- Junior High Coach of the Year, Seth Fluharty, Steubenville's Harding Middle School.
- Class 1A/2A Coach of the Year, Tim Jones, Cameron.
- Class 3A Coach of the Year, Jayson Stephen, Barnesville.
- Class 4A Coach of the Year, Brandon Pendleton, Indian Creek.
- Class 5A Coach of the Year, Brian Leggett, Wheeling Park.
- Assistant Coach of the Year, T.J. Miller, Beaver Local.

Swim

Continued from Page B1

to complete.

"Last year's meet ran long and with all of the swimmers, some would warm up and it would be two hours, or longer, until their first event," Brubaker stressed. "We're hoping (this change) will attract more athletes to swim as they will see they have a chance to compete."

Brubaker did point out this format change "is a trial to see how it goes."

"There are pros and cons," Brubaker said. "More athletes will get to compete, each meet will run half the time that last year's single meet did. We'll have a good meet and then sit back and evaluate it."

CLASS 1A/3A and CLASS 4A

As for the athletes, Linsly, which is undefeated in small meets this season, appears, on paper, to be the favorite in the 1A/3A class. The Cadets, who own an astounding 16 conference girls titles and 62 boys crowns, have the top-seeded female in all but one event and in three boys events.

St. Clairsville, which has won the last five girls championships, will be right in the mix for the 4A crowns in both the boys and girls meets. The Red Devils are the top seed in six boys events.

Martins Ferry has the top seed in two events.

Bengals

Continued from Page B1

Vinskovich sets rebound record in UL girls' win

BARNESVILLE -- Union Local won the milk trophy and Reagan Vinskovich became the school's all-time leading rebounder during Thursday's convincing 66-23 victory against rival Barnesville.

Vinskovich came into the game needing seven and surpassed the mark in the first half. She also scored 18 points in the game to lead everyone.

Her effort was complemented by junior Lauren Miller's 15. Senior Torre Kildow posted 14 points.

Barnesville received nine points from Alyssa Carter.

Buckeye Local 54, Bridgeport 34

BRIDGEPORT -- Buckeye Local raced to a 19-7 lead after one and never looked back en route to a repeat victory over Bridgeport.

The Panthers received 14 points from Pam Kandrach, 12 from Brynn McKeever and 10 from Carly Long.

Bridgeport was led by Brooke Stewart's 11.

River 63, Shadyside 26

HANNIBAL -- River scored a second lopsided victory against Shadyside in just over a week's time Thursday evening.

The Pilots used a 26-0 run in the second quarter to fuel itself to victory.

Senior Hannah Raper continued her strong season with 19 points to lead the way. Junior Kelsey Harlan added 15, while Rylee Knight had 14 and Zoey Fox added 10.

Shadyside was led by senior ace Gentry Brown, who pumped in 15 points.

Indian Creek 58, St. Clairsville 46

ST. CLAIRSVILLE -- The Redskins made the trip to Belmont County a successful one by knocking off the Red Devils Thursday evening.

The Redskins were led by Tori Robertson's 22 points. Kylie Anderson and Gabby Taylor each had 15 points.

The Red Devils were led by senior Megan Malin, who scored 19 points.

Monroe 50, Shenandoah 36

WOODSFIELD -- The Seminoles completed the season sweep of the Zeps Thursday evening.

Monroe Central was led by Abby Thompson's 11 and Riley Bettinger's 10.

Shenandoah junior Mya Leach was the leading scorer in the game with 19 points.

BOYS BASKETBALL

Linsly 60, University 44

WHEELING -- Linsly picked up another key win for its OVAC Tournament hopes Thursday evening, toppling University.

The Cadets (8-5) were led by Gavin Jackson's 13 and D'Arrae Goodwin's 12.

James Fortney-Garbart paced the Hawks with 17.

Valley 48, Beallsville 41

PINE GROVE -- Gavin Derby lit it up for 24 points and Trevor Stacpole added a dozen for the Lumberjacks.

Logan Taylor paced the Blue Devils with 13. Chance Allen had 11.

BOWLING

Buckeye Local, Linsly split

The Panthers girls, fresh off their MOVL title, knocked off Linsly by a 1546-1251 score. The Cadets boys, however, edged the Panthers, 1751-1738.

Buckeye Local's girls were led by Cassie Burkhead's 146 single game and Haylee Brown's series of 283.

Panthers Noah Jock rolled a 216 for the high game and a 385 for the high series.

John Marshall sweeps

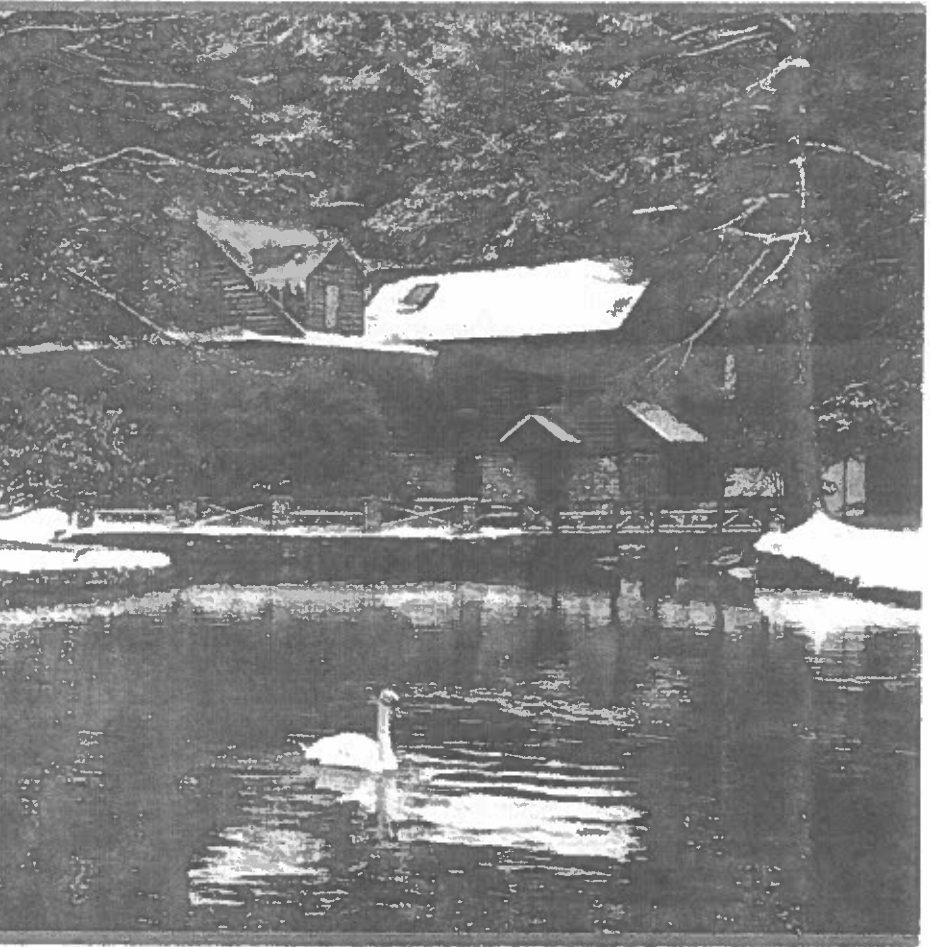
St. John Central Academy

The Monarchs posted a victory in both the boys and girls matches Thursday afternoon at St. Clair Lanes.

John Marshall's girls rolled to a 1221-845 victory, while the boys posted a 1214-1137 victory.

Reagan Gorby posted a 155 for the high game and a 260 series to lead the Monarchs.

Tayvon Yeater had a 152 game and 278 series to pace JM and the field on the boys' side.



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