

B

Sunday News-Register

SEPTEMBER 30, 2012

## SPORTS

INSIDE:

College Football/Page 2

Local Roundup/Page 3

Saturday's Scoreboard/Page 6

Major League Baseball/Page 8

## Park Advances To Title Tilt

Patriots aim for fifth straight

By JOSH STROPE  
Staff Writer

WHEELING — Wheeling Park is starting to find its groove and that is bad news for the rest of West Virginia.

University found out just how far Wheeling Park has come Saturday as the Patriots topped the Hawks, 3-0, in the semifinals of the OVAC Cup Tournament at Wheeling Island Stadium.

Wheeling Park will go for its fifth straight OVAC

## OVAC BOYS

Cup championship at 5:30 p.m. Monday at Wheeling Island Stadium against Morgantown.

University beat the Patriots a few weeks ago, but Coach Mario Julian insists this is a much different team than the one that lost, 2-1, in that match.

"They got the best of us and we knew we were better than what we played," Julian said. "(Saturday), I think we demonstrated that the team is coming along

See, Park, Page B7

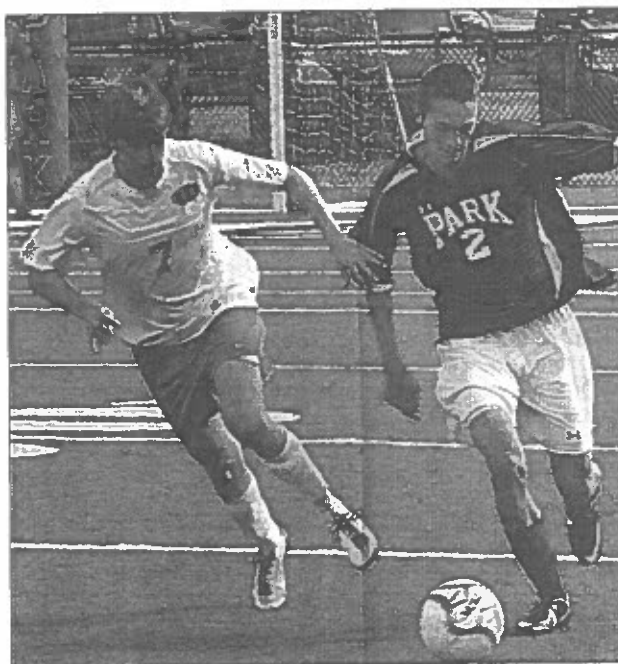


Photo by Josh Strobe  
Wheeling Park's Braden Carroll (2) controls the ball against University's Sven Wermuth on Saturday.

## Bruins Return To Cup Title Match

Brooke tops St. C 5-2 in semifinal

By JOSH STROPE  
Staff Writer

WHEELING — Brooke has had a flare for the dramatics during this season's OVAC Cup Tournament, but Coach Lee Weppler and the Bruins will take it any way they can get it.

Brooke is returning to the OVAC Cup final for the fourth time in five seasons after a 5-2 victory against St. Clairsville in the semifinals Saturday at Wheeling Island Stadium.

Brooke led 2-0 heading into halftime after goals

## OVAC GIRLS

from Dynah Sayre and Michaela Hinerman. But despite the two-goal lead, the Bruins couldn't put the Red Devils away.

St. Clairsville's Eberle Ferrell put St. Clairsville on the board with a goal off a direct kick in the 44th minute and Taryn Barr's turnaround shot knotted the score in the 64th.

For the second straight match, it was the play of a freshman that might have saved the day for the Bruins.

See, Bruins, Page B7

## PARK

Continued from page B1

and growing together. We played a complete 80 minutes.

"Before, we were trying to find ourselves and I really had to challenge them. Now they all seem to be coming together, forming our own identity. We don't give up very many goals."

Wheeling Park improved to 7-5-3 and recorded its ninth shutout.

Goalkeeper Ryan Seidewitz was rarely challenged, but did manage to make a few nice saves to keep University at bay.

Most of that was done playing with the lead as the Patriots struck early with a goal in the eighth minute.

Stanley Czahoroski sent a perfect corner kick into the middle that Eric Bonar headed past University goalkeeper Shane Thompson for a 1-0 lead.

"It was a beautiful corner kick and we work on that stuff all the time," Julian said. "That is what we try to work for during a game. Eric Bonar went up higher than everyone else and put it in the back of the net."

From there, the Patriots seized control and used crisp passing to keep the ball away from University. Playing with the lead is

another thing Julian's club has gotten used to during this current run.

"We have played pretty good with the lead and earlier in the season we didn't," he said. "We couldn't get some goals on some teams. We have focused so much on staying with our man on defense until the whistle blows and I think that has allowed us to play with the lead a little better."

Wheeling Park went up 2-0 in the 67th minute as Jacob Klatt was in the right place at the right time. A shot by the Patriots' Zach Vanhorn was cleared by a Hawks defender right to the sophomore midfielder, who fired it back at the net for a two-goal advantage.

Ronnell Davis added an insurance goal three minutes later, scoring on a breakaway off a pass from Bonar.

Wheeling Park defeated Morgantown, 2-0, for its first victory. The Patriots have gone 7-2-1 since.

"I am sure they are wanting to beat us," Julian said. "We beat them in the regular season but they beat us in a scrimmage. It's kind of like a rubber match for the OVAC championship. They have some nice players"

## BRUINS

Continued from page B1

Cheyenne Hudson's corner kick in the 69th minute found the head of Hinerman, as the junior buried the ball past St. Clairsville goalie Brianna Sowers to regain a lead at 3-2.

"Another great ball by Cheyenne," Weppler said. "You know where she is going to place them and she is consistent. It's just a matter of the girls getting to where they need to be."

"That was a credit to Michaela for being where she needed to be and a credit to Cheyenne for putting it where it needed to be."

Brooke put the nail in the coffin in the 75th minute. Hinerman's blast from outside the box was pushed aside by a diving Sowers, but Sayre was there to clean up the rebound and put the Bruins in front 4-2.

Less than a minute later, Sayre beat Sowers to the pass on a through ball, dribbled around the goalie and scored into an empty net to complete a hat trick.

Sowers, who plays up far away from her net, was beaten twice in similar fashion in the first half, having to backtrack to get back in position.

"We have played St. Clairsville and we know their system," Weppler said. "They play a flat-

"We have played them and they are the big dogs in the state."

Lee Weppler  
on Morgantown

back four and they trap to try and force the offsides. We worked hard really hard in practice to get the balls to the outside to get them off track and to commit by coming off their line. They did a great job of executing the game plan."

"Brooke is a tough team and you'll have that," St. Clairsville coach Scott Dutton said. "Things happen. The goals gave us a lot of momentum. It's hard to come back from a 2-0 deficit but we just couldn't keep the momentum going. Brooke did a nice job."

Brooke advances to face Morgantown at 7:30 p.m. Monday at Wheeling Island Stadium. The Mohigans won their previous match, 4-0.

"We have played them and they are the big dogs in the state," Weppler said. "We are going to come out and be ready to give them a game on Monday."

# Brooke Upsets Park

## Bruins to take on Red Devils

By **JOSH STROPE**  
Staff Writer

**ST. CLAIRSVILLE** — Brooke and Wheeling Park are two evenly matched teams and their quarterfinal match of the OVAC Cup Tournament looked like one that could go all night.

It almost did. Instead, Haley Dalton scored off a perfect corner kick from freshman Cheyenne Hudson in the 76th minute and No. 6 Brooke upset No. 3 Wheeling Park, 1-0, on Thursday at Red Devil Stadium.

Brooke moves on to play St. Clairsville, a 4-0 winner against Wheeling Central, in the semifinals Saturday at Wheeling Island Stadium.

"What an exciting game and the girls played their hearts out the entire game," Brooke coach Lee Wepler said. "We played a technical game, played it simple and followed our game plan. We had a great first touch and I can't say enough about their effort."

"We wanted to make sure — Wheeling Park is an extremely strong team possessing the ball — and we wanted to apply pressure and make it difficult for them. We wanted to make them think about their first touch."

The match was back and forth for nearly the entire game and both teams thought they had broke the scoreless tie in the second half.

Wheeling Park's Rebecca Sellers had a goal called back after the officials called a foul in the box. Less than a minute later, Brooke's Michaela Hinnerman came charging in on a corner kick, only to have her hard shot stopped by a Patriots defender before it crossed the goal line, allowing Park goalkeeper Devyn Nickerson to jump on it.

See **BROOKE**, Page 20



Photo by Josh Strope

St. Clairsville's Eberle Ferrell (2) works between Wheeling Central defenders Beth Stayduhar, left, and Aspen Matlock, right, as the Red Devils' Haylee Skukan looks on.

# Unbeaten No More: St. C. Blanks Central

## Two-seed Knights find the going tough

By **JOSH STROPE**  
Staff Writer

**ST. CLAIRSVILLE** — Labeled with a 7 seed and facing an undefeated Wheeling Central squad, St. Clairsville looked like anything but an underdog.

Instead, it was the Red Devils that dominated from the opening whistle, scoring four first-half goals and keeping the Maroon Knights' potent offense off the board en route to a 4-0 victory in the quarterfinals of the OVAC Cup Tournament at Red Devil Stadium.

St. Clairsville plays Brooke, a 1-0 winner against Wheeling Park, on Saturday in the semifinals at Wheeling Island Stadium.

"When you are going up against someone that is 12-0, you have to bring your 'A' game and the girls knew it," St. Clairsville coach Scott Dutton said. "We knew we would have to have a big offensive game, take some chances on defense and we did, and it worked out for us."

Coming into Thursday's contest, Wheel-

**"We knew we would have to have a big offensive game, take some chances on defense and we did, and it worked out for us."**

Scott Dutton

ing Central was scoring 7.2 goals per game and had given up seven all season.

St. Clairsville jumped out front quickly with a goal in the third minute as a direct kick from deep in Red Devils territory by Haylee Skukan got behind the Wheeling Central defense and onto the foot of teammate Carlee Gillespie, who buried it past Maroon Knights keeper Regan Blaha for a 1-0 lead.

Four minutes later, the Red Devils (9-5) doubled the lead as Taryn Barr took advantage of the wet weather as her shot slipped out of the hands of Blaha and into the goal.

Please See **ST.C.**, Page 20

## BROOKE

(Continued from Page 19)

But while the Bruins (7-5-1) didn't score on that chance, they made good on their next opportunity 10 minutes later.

Hudson's corner kick sailed over the heads of many players in the box and the hands of Nickerson, only to come to Dotson, whose shot somehow got through a group of Wheeling Park defenders and into the net with 4:24 showing on the clock.

"We have a freshman, Cheyenne, that plays brilliant balls in, just phenomenal," Wepler said. "I told the girls that its a 50-50 ball in the box and you just have to have that effort and want it more than they do. We finished that one."

Wheeling Park (8-4-2) managed just two shots on goal in the match and none in the second half.

"We had a lot more possession than Brooke but we didn't get the goals that we needed," Wheeling Park coach Aubrey Taylor said. "I thought too many of the calls went against us and that slowed down our play. Some of it was our own mistakes with our trapping and passing."

"They had more players in the back on defense and we weren't connecting our passes as well. Our midfield wasn't coming up and connecting with our forwards. They had a lot more numbers and always had the pressure on our forwards. We had some shots but they went over the goal."

Brooke defeated St. Clairsville, 1-0, earlier in the season.

"St. Clairsville, another tough game," Wepler said. "They are an extremely talented team. They give 110 percent effort every game and I'm sure they are

looking forward to playing us. We are up for the challenge."

### VOLLEYBALL Shenandoah d. River 25-19, 25-17, 25-9

**HANNIBAL** — Morgan Diehl had 16 points, 11 kills, eight aces and six digs as Shenandoah beat River in straight sets. Kasey King added eight points, 10 assists and seven digs for the Zeps.

Pacing the Pilots was Annie Turner with nine points, 14 assists and eight digs. Monica Curtis checked in with 11 points, five aces and 11 digs.

### Paden City d. Notre Dame 25-9, 25-10

**HUNDRED** — Logan Cosper had six points, 48 sets and 24 assists while Lynnsie Parsons contributed five points, 11 kills and five digs as Paden City (20-3) won. Josie Fox added seven points, three aces and six digss, and Myah Charkawki had five points and four digs.

### Paden City d. Hundred 25-5, 25-6

**HUNDRED** — Logan Cosper had seven points, 38 sets and 18 assists while Taylor Cosper netter 14 points as Paden City rolled.

### Magnolia d. St. Marys 25-22, 25-17

**NEW MARTINSVILLE** — Emily Clegg had 11 points and four digs and Mallory Chapman had six points, five kills and seven digs as Magnolia swept. Lauren Cline (eight) and Erin Clegg (six) combined for 14 points.

### Frontier d. Magnolia 25-22, 24-26, 25-19

Kelsie Rinard had 13 points and three aces while Laken Camino (10) and Christen Douglas (seven) combined for 17 points as Frontier topped Magnolia.

the first-place and eighth-place matchup meeting the winner of the fourth-place and fifth-place game while the winner of the second-place and seventh-place game will face the winner of the third-place and sixth-

## ST.C.

(Continued from Page 19)

"Those were huge," Dutton said. "If you are going into a game 12-0, you have to have a lot of confidence. If you get scored on within the first couple minutes, it has to be an eye-opener for you."

Added Wheeling Central coach David Cross: "We've been behind two or three times this season and every time we've been able to bounce back. I don't think it really made that much of a difference."

"We didn't think being behind by four goals made a difference because we knew we had the ability to score four, five, six goals in the second half. We just didn't."

Also hindering Wheeling Central's chances was an injury to one of its top scorers in Bailey Clark.

She went out midway through the first half, shortly after St. Clairsville made it 3-0 on a goal by Madison Keenan.

Gillespie added the Red Devils' final goal in the 32nd minute.

Wheeling Central managed 10 shots, but each time Red Devils keeper Brianna Sowers was there to swat it away, including two breakaways in the second half.

Often times she stood at the 25-yard line, beating Maroon Knights players to the ball and not allowing

on its active roster at any time. The 21-day Injured Reserve list remains. There is no limit to the number of players a team may have on the 21-day Injured Reserve.

chances.

"Their goalie did a great job and our passes weren't soft enough to get the touches to get by her," Cross said. "We suggested (kicking it over her) but it just didn't happen."

Added Dutton: "Brianna made a big difference. She comes out and has a lot of saves but she is more of a defender than a goalkeeper. Outstanding job by her."

## OVAC CUP

- Boys**  
Quarterfinals  
(at Brooke)  
Monday  
No. 8 Morgantown 4, No. 1 Weir 3  
No. 4 Steub. Catholic 2, No. 5 Steubenville 1
- Wednesday**  
No. 2 Wheeling Park 6, No. 7 Pkg. South 1  
No. 6 Brooke 1, No. 3 St. Clairsville 0
- Semifinals**  
(at Wheeling Island)  
Saturday  
Morgantown vs. Steub. Catholic  
Wheeling Park vs. University
- Final**  
(at Wheeling Island)  
Monday, Oct. 1  
Saturday's winners, 5:30 p.m.
- Girls**  
Quarterfinals  
(at St. Clairsville)  
Tuesday  
No. 1 Morgantown 8, No. 8 East Liverpool 0  
No. 4 Linsly 3, No. 5 Steub. Catholic 1
- Thursday**  
No. 7 St. Clairsville 4, No. 2 Wheeling Central 0  
No. 6 Brooke 1, No. 3 Wheeling Park 0
- Semifinals**  
(at Wheeling Island)  
Saturday  
Morgantown vs. Linsly  
Brooke vs. St. Clairsville
- Final**  
(at Wheeling Island)  
Monday, Oct. 1  
Saturday's winners, 7:30 p.m.

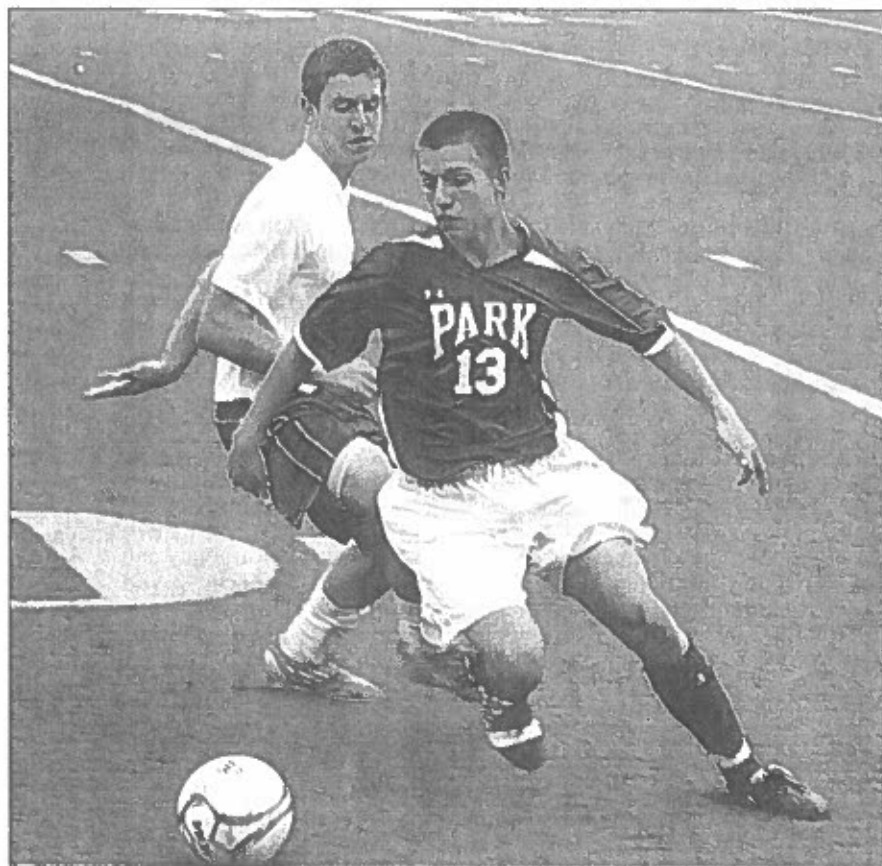


Photo by Josh Strope

Wheeling Park's Anthony Champman (13) and Morgantown's David Minehart battle for the ball during Monday's match.

## Patriots Fall Short In OVAC Cup Final

### Mohigans blank Park for first boys' title

By JOSH STROPE  
Staff Writer

WHEELING — All good things come to an end and Monday was the end of Wheeling Park's OVAC championship run.

The Patriots were defeated by Morgantown, 2-0, in the OVAC Cup Tournament final at Wheeling Island Stadium, halting their championship streak at four.

"It just didn't go our way," Wheeling Park coach Mario Julian said. "We tried some different things to get our offense going and we had some chances but just didn't get many shots on frame. We didn't pressure them as much as I'd have liked."

"After the game, we talked about there being 25 OVAC champions and

if we would have won them all, we'd be 25-0. We still have a lot of them and that is something to be proud of. We will be back in this game in the future, I am sure of it."

For Morgantown, it's the first in school history in just the first try for the Mohigans. They are also the first No. 8 seed to be crowned champions.

"They had a lot of heart and it showed," Morgantown coach Joe Melia said. "When we play with the heart we showed (Monday), we know we can play with anybody."

"We played Park in a scrimmage game and we beat them. In the regular season, we were too easy on them. We knew that and we didn't play well. We knew we had to come out and be very aggressive."

That aggressiveness showed from the opening whistle as the Mohigans applied pressure on Wheeling Park and

Please See SNAPS Page 14

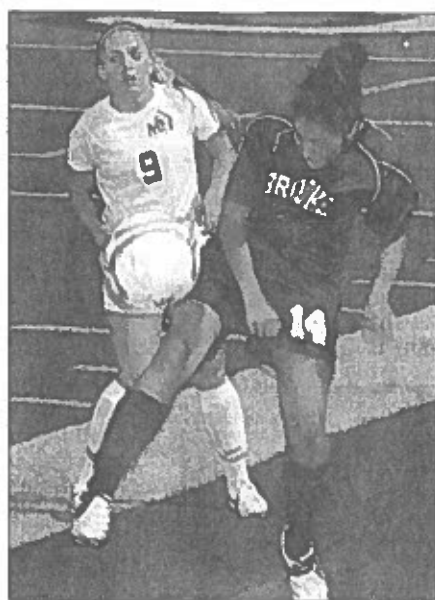


Photo by Josh Strope

Brooke's Lauren Altobell (14) controls the ball as Morgantown's Maggie Snively looks on Monday.

## Bruins Give Mohigans A Battle

### Morgantown repeats as Cup champion

By JOSH STROPE  
Staff Writer

WHEELING — As a No. 6 seed, Brooke made an impressive run to the OVAC Cup Tournament final and a date with defending West Virginia Class AAA and OVAC champion Morgantown.

Unfortunately for the Bruins, the Mohigans were just too much.

Morgantown will bring the OVAC Cup back on the bus with it after a convincing 3-0 victory Monday at Wheeling Island Stadium.

"The coaching staff and myself are really proud of the way the girls played," Brooke coach Lee Weppler said. "In the first half, they showed a lot of poise but we just didn't put any passes together and Morgantown had us on our heels backing up. A good team like Morgantown, you can't be constantly backing up and giving them space to play."

"The first half, the chips fell where they may. We lost a couple marks on some set pieces and they made us pay for it."

Please See BRUINS Page 14

## SNAPS

(Continued from Page 13)

forced some excellent scoring opportunities.

Each time, though, Patriots goalie Ryan Seidewitz was there to turn the Mohigans away and keep his team in it.

But a foul in the penalty box in the 20th minute gave Morgantown a penalty shot and Chris Atallah converted, beating Seidewitz low and to the left.

That score held up through halftime and Wheeling Park entered the second half with a renewed aggression.

Wheeling Park looked like it would tie it up as Ronnell Davis sent a perfect through ball to Jerry Lucas in the opening minutes

of the second half, leaving the senior one-on-one with Morgantown goalie Daniel Berrebi.

But Lucas' shot went wide and Morgantown maintained its one-goal lead.

The Mohigans added an insurance goal in the 50th minute as David Minehart sent a perfect volley on a direct kick that Grant Jones headed past Seidewitz for a 2-0 lead.

"It was perfect," Melia said. "I actually yelled at Minehart because he was being such an aerial threat that I didn't want him to take it. But he placed it perfectly and Grant headed it in. I couldn't have been more pleased."

## BRUINS

(Continued from Page 13)

Brooke had just one shot on a goal off a direct kick from Cheyenne Hudson late in the second half. The Bruins spent most of the match chasing a Morgantown team that often looked like it was just playing keep-away.

Morgantown went on top in the 20th minute when defender Kelsie Hibbs headed Payton Southall's corner kick past Brooke netminder Marena Cline.

Natasha Trott made it 2-0 five minutes later with a shot that Cline got a piece of but was unable from keeping the ball across the goal line.

"You can't get behind a team like that because you have to press up and that leaves holes in other parts of the field where they can take advantage of," Weppler said.

That score held up until the 77th minute when the Mohigans, who return 10 starters from last season's team, completed the

scoring as Sydney Lavengood found the back of the net for a 3-0 advantage.

"It's a great way to lead us into the state tournament," Morgantown coach Ashley Neal said. "There are a lot of good teams and any given night, it's who wants it more. We really came out to play. We were pretty focused. It's win or go home and you have to have that mentality. You have to bring it and they brought it."

"Even when I played in high school, Brooke was tough. They always had skill players and I knew they had two girls up top that could make some plays, midfielders that could win the ball and a good goalkeeper. I knew we had to just play our game and we'd do well."

"There is a lot of pressure on us. It was nervewracking for me until 10 minutes left in the game and I think they felt it, too. But we played with a sense of urgency and that's what you need to do because you can't sit back on your heels at states."

# St. C. girls fall in OVAC semifinals

By **SETH STASKEY**  
Times Leader Sports Editor

WHEELING — The St. Clairsville Lady Red Devils' quest for the OVAC Soccer Cup came to a screeching halt Saturday afternoon.

The Lady Red Devils found their way out of a 2-0 half-time deficit, but watched Brooke score the final three goals of the game in a 7:53 span to pull out a 5-2 victory on Wheeling Island Stadium in the OVAC semifinals.

"We came out a little flat, but we made a comeback and then Brooke made some plays," said Lady Devils' head coach Scott Dutton. "That's the way soccer goes sometimes."

The win places Brooke into

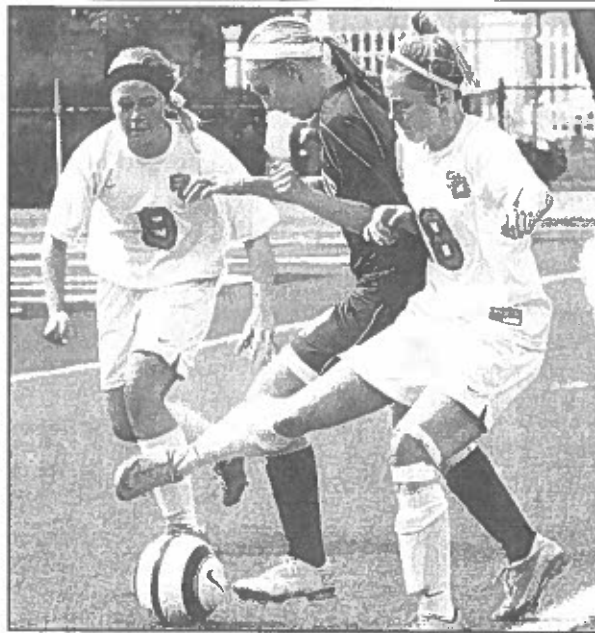


Monday evening's OVAC Cup Final against Morgantown, which was a 1-0 winner against Linsly in the opening game Saturday morning. St. Clairsville's regular season is complete at 9-6. It'll next see action in Ohio sectional play.

"At times we played really well, but at other times we had a couple of mental breakdowns and didn't do the right things tactically," said Brooke head coach Lee Wepler. "Give St. Clairsville a lot of credit because they really battled and never quit."

Staring up at the 2-0 deficit, St. Clairsville found its back against the wall with just 40 minutes remaining in the game.

See, ST. C., Page C2



T-L Photo/SETH STASKEY

**ST. CLAIRSVILLE'S** Carlee Gillespie (8) and Haley Skukan (9) battle with a Brooke player for possession of the ball during the OVAC Soccer semifinals Saturday. Additional images may be found at [cu.timesleaderonline.com](http://cu.timesleaderonline.com)

## THE PICKS ARE?

AP college football writer  
Ralph D. Russo makes his weekly  
college football selections/24

# The Intelligencer SPORTS

THURSDAY  
SEPTEMBER 27, 2012

COMICS .....25  
FINANCIAL .....26-27

21

## Park Boys Will Play University in Semifinals

### Patriots dominate against Red Devils

By **KIM NORTH**  
For The Intelligencer

WELLSBURG — Playing a tough early season schedule has its benefits, and its downfalls.

Wheeling Park learned the latter in the first five games of the boys' soccer season as the Patriots started 0-3-2. However, lessons learned in those outings them reaping the benefits.

Wednesday night on the Brooke Memorial Stadium turf, Wheeling Park (6-5-3) won its sixth game and, in doing so, advanced to the semifinals of the OVAC Cup with a dominating 4-0 victory against St. Clairsville.

The No. 6-seed Patriots will meet second-seeded University at 3 on Saturday on the Wheeling Island Stadium rug. The Hawks rolled past No. 7 Parkersburg South, 7-1, in Wednesday's opener.

"We play a very challenging schedule early on and we lost a lot of talent from last year," Wheeling Park coach mario Julian said. "But we've picked up the pace in our last few games."

Patriots goalkeeper Ryan Seidewitz was rarely tested, especially in the first half when the designated visitors took a 2-0 lead and never looked back. The junior was only called upon to make one save in the first 40 minutes.

"Defensively, we've played

pretty well. That's our eighth shutout," Julian said.

The game started in a driving rain storm, but that didn't stop

Park. Junior Nate Mauck got the Patriots on the board when he sent a laser zipping past St. Clairsville goalkeeper Izaak Wiley and into the net from the top of the box just 5:54 into the quarterfinal contest.

Nearly 12 minutes later, Mauck was at it again as the Red Devils were whistled for an infraction in the box which drew a penalty kick. Mauck sent the ball to the exact same spot for a 2-0 lead.

St. Clairsville's only legitimate threat in the first half came moments later when Brock Ferrell's left-footed drive sailed just wide of the cage.

The Patriots nearly scored right before the half when Eric Bonar's point-blank shot from 20 yards was a tad over the crossbar.

Jerry Lucas pounded home a rebound at the 6:27 mark of the second half. The Patriots sent a corner kick into the box, and after the ball was pin-balled around, Wiley swatted away a shot, but Lucas was all alone by the right post to tickle the twine.

Zach Witzberger completed

the scoring when his left-footed shot was just out of the reach of a leaping Wiley.

"They were aggressive," St. Clairsville (7-3) coach Gary Watt said of the Patriots. "They were winning the 50/50s. We were just a step behind. They are a good team. You can't take anything away from them."

Seidewitz finished with six saves, many of them of the routine variety. Meanwhile, Wheeling Park got off 31 shots, with Wiley recording 14 saves, including 11 in the second half.

**Semifinal**  
**University 6, Pkbg. South 1**  
WELLSBURG — Andrew Cranston scored three goals as University topped Parkersburg South and advanced to Saturday's

Please See **PARK** Page 22

## ● St. C.

Continued from Page C1

The Lady Red Devils got into the scoring act with 36:40 showing on the clock when Eberle Ferrell lofted a beautifully placed kicked just over the keeper's head into the back of the net from about 35 yards out.

Seizing more and more momentum as the game remained played in their end of the field, the Lady Devils struck again some 20 minutes later when Taryn Barr beat the keeper to the short side for the deadlock.

"It's a soccer game, you never know what's going to happen," Dutton said. "We felt really good after tied it because it is tough to come back in a soccer game, but we just couldn't keep it going."

He was exactly right, too.

Less than five minutes later, Brooke executed a textbook corner kick by freshman Cheyenne Hudson and junior Michaela Hinerman beat St. C. keeper Brianna Sowers to the wide side with a header. It was her second goal of the contest.

"I am proud of how our goals responded after St. Clairsville tied the game," Wepler said. "They battled and finished strong."

Wepler wasn't at all surprised by the execution of the Hudson's corner kick.

"Cheyenne plays those balls in there and she's consistent, so we know where she's going to play them," Wepler said. "At that point, it's just a matter of making the play and fortunately, for us, Michaela made the play."

Brooke pushed the lead back to 4-2 about seven later when Dynah Sayre scored on a rebound goal. Sayre then scored as she caught St. C. slightly out of position and made it pay with the hat trick tally.

"Our goal scoring has been pretty spread out, but Dynah and Michaela are our leaders," Wepler said. "We know St. Clairsville's system with the flat 4 and trapping. We worked hard in practice on getting balls out wide to make their goalie commit and make a decision."

**RYDER CUP PROBLEMS**

Tiger Woods, Phil Mickleson, and Jim Furyk have won a lot of tournaments. They haven't fared well at the Ryder Cup, though/24

*The Intelligencer.*  
**SPORTS**

WEDNESDAY  
SEPTEMBER 26, 2012  
COMICS .....21  
FINANCIAL .....22-23

**Linsly Moves on to Semis**

**Defending champ Morgantown awaits**

By **MIKE MATHISON**  
For The Intelligencer

**ST. CLAIRSVILLE** — The Linsly girls' soccer team will take on Morgantown at 9 a.m. Saturday at Wheeling Island Stadium in the Ohio Valley Athletic Conference Cup semifinals thanks to a strong first half and a timely answer in Tuesday's 3-1 quarterfinal victory against Steubenville Catholic Central at Red Devil Stadium.

"I thought we played really well in the first half," Linsly coach Erica

Hall said. "We played with a lot of energy and with a lot of momentum in the first half. We talked about putting it away early so that we didn't have to get down to the nitty-gritty."

"In the game of soccer, nothing is safe and, no matter how much you dominate, you have to put the ball in the back of the net. If you don't do that, you could be in trouble."

"Steubenville Central definitely wasn't going to let us go easy. They fought to the end just like we expected them to do."

Linsly had its chances to put this game away by halftime, but Central's defense and goalkeeper Mori-

ah Vosteen stayed strong.

"We do have a really strong defense," Crusaders first-year coach David LaRue said. "We have three seniors back there who lead our defense and we have Moriah in goal. They are going to keep us in games."

"They did have the wind at their back and we knew that was going to make a difference. We definitely did have to batten down the hatches in the first half on defense."

Linsly made it 1-0 14 minutes before halftime on a Taylor Cunningham goal.

Please See **LINSLY**, Page 18

Linsly goalie Morgan Brunner looks to clear the ball Tuesday against Steubenville Catholic. The Cadets won, 3-1.

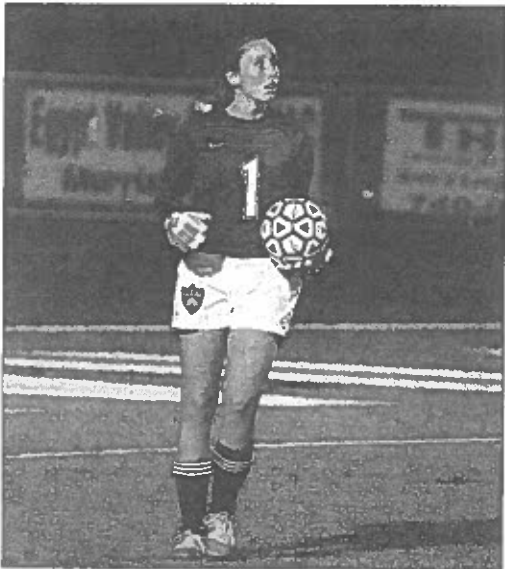


Photo by Mike Mathison

**LINSLY**

(Continued from Page 17)

It stayed that way until Maria Boston did her thing for the Crusaders.

After a defensive error by the Cadets, Boston outraced Linsly goalie Morgan Brunner for the ball, stepped around Brunner and found the open net for a 1-1 count.

Linsly answered in fine fashion and did so 65 seconds later when Gift Chima rattled one home for a 2-1 lead with 27:05 left in the

game.

"I think when they scored that goal, it was a wake-up call for us," Hall said. "We came out so aggressively in the first half and I think our energy died down a little bit in the second half."

Added LaRue: "That goal really put them back in the position of superiority. That goal took a little bit of wind out of our sails. But, our kids kept up and fought hard. They kept battling the

whole way.

"Games like this just help us prepare for sectionals."

Vosteen finished with 15 saves.

The Cadets' Maleha Kureishy finished the scoring with a beautiful ball in the upper right 90 with 50 seconds left in the game. Brunner finished with three saves.

The No. 1 seeded Mohigans defeated East Liverpool in the opener 8-0.

**Streak busters**

• Lady Red Devils knock off Knights

By **KIM NORTH**  
Times Leader Sports Writer

When the OVAC Cup girls' soccer pairings were announced, St. Clairsville head coach Scott Dutton liked his team's chances.

The Red Devils were seeded seventh out of eight teams and drew unbeaten, and unchallenged, Wheeling Central in a quarterfinal matchup.

Dutton also knew that his squad would have to play a near-perfect game against the No. 2 seeded Maroon Knights, and they did just that.

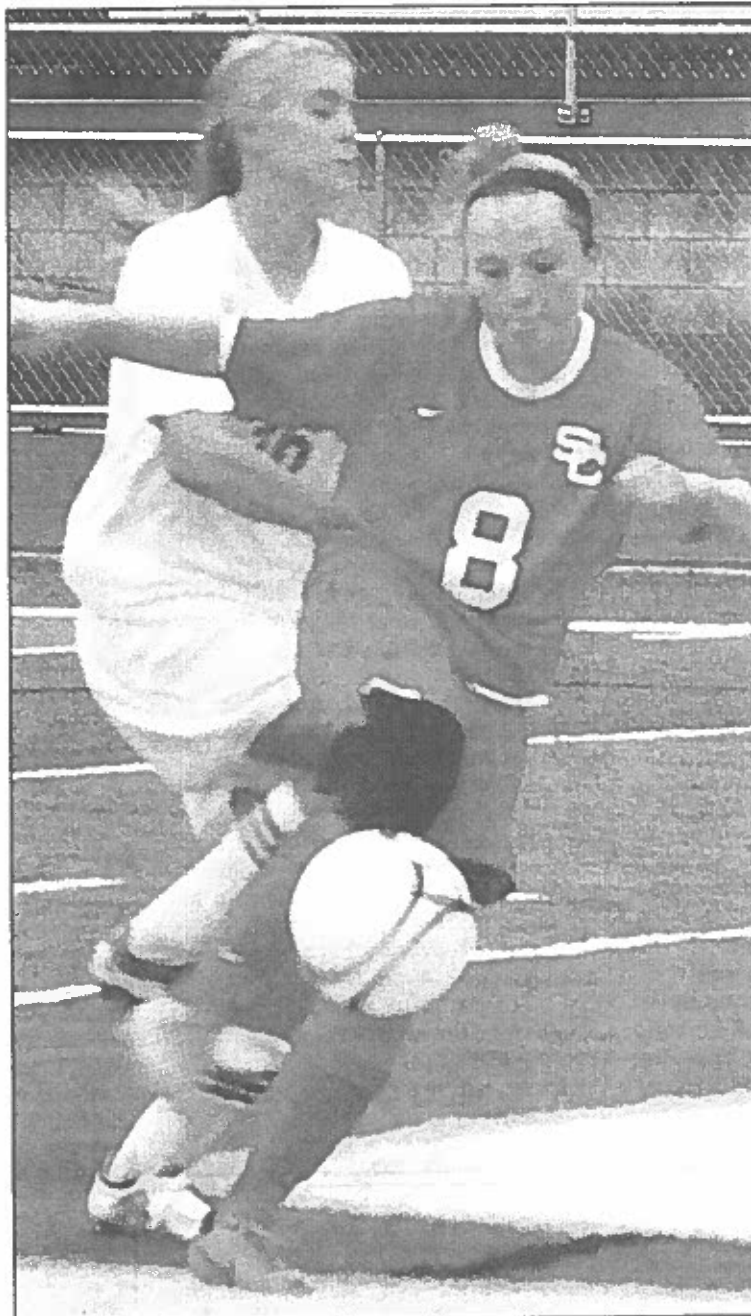
Scoring three goals in the first 11:06 of the contest, the underdog Red Devils (9-5) cruised to a 4-0 whitewashing of the designated home team Thursday night on the soggy Red Devil Stadium turf.

"When you are going up against a team that is 12-0, you have to bring your 'A' game and the girls knew it," Dutton professed. "We knew we would have to have a big offensive game, take some chances on defense and we did, and it worked out for us."

With the much-cherished triumph, St. Clairsville advances to semifinal action Saturday at 9 a.m. against No. 6 Brooke, which upended No. 3 Wheeling Park, 1-0, in Thursday's nightcap. That contest will be played at Wheeling Island Stadium.

The Red Devils never let the Maroon Knights get settled in as Carlee Gillespie ran down a perfect direct kick from Haylee Skukan. The sure-footed junior sprinted past a pair of Wheeling Central defenders and controlled the ball as she broke to her right. She sent a laser to the left side of the net that goalkeeper Regan Blaha had no chance on, and it was 1-0 just 3:13 in.

See, **STREAK**, Page B2



T-L Photo/KIM NORTH

**ST. CLAIRSVILLE'S** Carlee Gillespie (8) eyes the ball as she gets ready to score a goal during Thursday night's OVAC Cup quarterfinal contest with Wheeling Central. The Red Devils upset the Maroon Knights, 4-0. Additional images can be found at [cu.timesleaderonline.com](http://cu.timesleaderonline.com)



Photo by Josh Strope

Linsly's Miriam Nwachukwu (22) controls the ball as Morgantown's Tyler Jordan closes in Saturday.

## Linsly Misses Upset

By JOSH STROPE  
Staff Writer

WHEELING — If anyone knows what the OVAC Cup Tournament means to Linsly, its Morgantown coach Ashley Neal.

The former Cadets standout has lived and played the annual event and was sure to remind her team that as not a member of the WVSSAC, Linsly can't participate in the state tournament.

Linsly played as well as anyone has played against the top-ranked team in the tournament and in West Virginia, but in the end it was Morgantown that earned a 1-0 victory in the semifinals of the OVAC Cup Tournament on Saturday at Wheeling Island Stadium.

"It was a great game and I love the OVAC Tournament," Neal said. "It gives us a chance to play at a competitive level. Linsly brought it and our girls responded well."

"We are just trying to take this one game at a time. It's the OVAC Tournament and I've seen some crazy stuff happen."

Morgantown, the defending state and OVAC Cup champions, will play Brooke at 7:30 p.m. Monday at Wheeling Island Stadium for the trophy.

Tyler Jordan scored the

lone goal, coming in the ninth minute.

A bouncing ball in the box couldn't be controlled by either team until Jordan was able to get a foot on it and bury it into the far corner behind Linsly goalkeeper Morgan Brunner.

"The goal was great and we worked all day (Friday) on finishing opportunities," Neal said. "It was a pretty goal, she'll be happy to hear I said that. We were kicking it around and Tyler finished it. We should have had a couple others like that."

Maybe so, but the one was more than enough for the Mohigans (15-0-1).

Morgantown controlled the midfield and Linsly couldn't muster any offense.

The Cadets had one shot, by Gift Chima, in the first half. In the second half, Linsly (11-4-1) barely made it across midfield.

"Morgantown is really strong and we knew that coming in," Linsly coach Erica Hall said. "I think we gave them a tough game and I'm really proud of my girls."

"They are solid from top to bottom and you can pick any section of their team from forwards to midfield to defense. They are good soccer players but our girls gave them a game and I knew they would."

## Mohigans Best Crusaders

By JOSH STROPE  
Staff Writer

WHEELING — After knocking out top-seeded Weir in the quarterfinals, Morgantown left Wheeling Island Stadium on Saturday with a little more history in the OVAC Cup Tournament.

The Mohigans defeated Steubenville Catholic, 4-1, in the semifinals, earning the first finals appearance in school history while also becoming the first No. 8 seed — boys or girls — to make it to the title game.

Morgantown takes on Wheeling Park, the four-time defending champion, at 5:30 p.m. Monday at Wheeling Island Stadium.

"The team played very well," Morgantown coach Joe Melia said. "We came out a little flat and couldn't put the balls away. In the second half we turned it around."

"Seeds mean nothing. This is the first time we've been in the tournament. But there is no way we are an 8 seed and we wanted to show them. We expected to get to the finals."

Leo Herrman scored on a breakaway in the 48th minute for Steubenville Catholic to knot the game at 1-1, and it looked like the Crusaders could be off and running.

Coach Steve Kopcha's

group did a good job on the Mohigans, only allowing a Morgantown goal in the 35th minute on a penalty kick by David Minehart.

Instead, the momentum went the other way.

The Mohigans buckled down and limited Steubenville Central to two shots the rest of the way. And those came after Morgantown had already put two more on the board.

Moses Lawer-Yohart took a through ball and lifted it over a hard-charging Crusaders goalie John Bolster in the 62nd minute.

Less than four minutes later, Chris Atallah put the Mohigans up two with a turnaround shot that beat a surprised Bolster.

"Both teams played a tremendous game and I thought we had a chance with them," Kopcha said. "Seeing them for the first time, they are a very nice team. They controlled the ball, have a little bit more speed than we did and a little bit more height."

"Their possession they were able to maintain really caused problems for us. They applied a lot of pressure on us after we scored the goal."

Minehart completed the scoring with a goal in the 75th minute, following up his own shot.

# Park ousts St. C. in OVAC Cup

By KIM NORTH  
Times Leader Sports Writer

WELLSBURG — On a rainy, foggy Wednesday night at Brooke Memorial Stadium, St. Clairsville's boys' soccer team played like it had the blahs.

As a result, the third-seeded Red Devils (7-3) were bounced from the OVAC Cup, 4-0, by No. 6 seed Wheeling Park (6-5-3) in quarterfinal action.

"They possessed the whole game," St. Clairsville head coach Gary Watt noted. "They were aggressive. They were winning the 50/50s. We were just a step behind. They are a good team. You can't take anything away from them."

The Patriots will meet second-seeded University on Saturday at 3 p.m. on the Wheeling Island Stadium rug. The Hawks rolled past No. 7 seed Parkersburg South, 7-1, in Wednesday's opener.

*'We were just a step behind.'*

*— Gary Watt*

"We play a very challenging schedule early on and we lost a lot of talent from last year," Wheeling Park head coach Mario Julian said. "But we've picked up the pace in our last few games."

Patriots' goalkeeper Ryan Seidewitz was rarely tested, especially in the first half when the designated visitors took a 2-0 lead and never looked back. The junior was only called upon to make one save in the first 40 minutes.

"Defensively, we've played pretty well. That's our eighth shutout," Julian said, with Seidewitz in net for all of them.

The game started in a driving rain storm, but that didn't stop The Park. Junior Nate Mauck got the Patriots on the board when he sent a laser zipping past St. Clairsville goalkeeper Isaac Wiley and into the net from the top of the box just 5:54 into the quarterfinal contest.

Nearly 12 minutes later, Mauck was at it again as the Red Devils were

See, ST. C., Page B2



T-L Photo/KIM NORTH

ST. CLAIRSVILLE'S Austin Holmes (21) plays in a game earlier this season. The Red Devils were shutout by Wheeling Park, 4-0, Wednesday night in OVAC Cup quarterfinal action.

## ● St. C.

Continued from Page B1

whistled for an infraction in the box which drew a penalty kick. Mauck sent the ball to the exact same spot for a 2-0 reading.

St. Clairsville's only legitimate threat in the first half came moments later when Brock Ferrell's left-footed drive sailed just wide of the cage.

The Patriots nearly scored right before the half when Eric Bonar's point-blank shot from 20 yards was a tad over the crossbar.

Jerry Lucas pounded home a rebound at the 6:27 mark of the second half. The Patriots sent a corner kick into the box, and after the ball was pin-balled around, Wiley swatted away a shot, but Lucas was all alone by the right post to tickle the twine.

Zach Witzberger completed the scoring when his left-footed shot was just out of the reach of a leaping Wiley.

Seidewitz finished with six saves, many of them of the routine variety. Meanwhile, Wheeling Park got off 31 shots, with Wiley recording 14 saves, including 11 in the second half.

St. Clairsville is back in action Tuesday when it hosts Steubenville Central at Red Devil Stadium.

# OVAC's Hidden Gem

Football is king in the Ohio Valley and there is no disputing it.

For that, the OVAC Cup Tournament seemingly goes unnoticed. But make no mistake about it, the annual tournament is the hidden gem of the Ohio Valley Athletic Conference.



**JOSH STROPE**

Staff  
Writer

Coming from someone that knows what it's like to advance all the way to Monday night at Wheeling Island Stadium, it's one of the biggest thrills and most competitive tournaments the

OVAC puts on.

This year is no different. But unlike previous years, there is no one favorite in either the boys' or girls' race. This one is easily the most wide-open tournament we've had in a long time.

## Boys

- (1) Weir vs. (8) Morgantown
- (2) University vs. Parkersburg South (7)
- (3) St. Clairsville vs. Wheeling Park (6)
- (4) Steubenville Catholic vs. Steubenville (5)

For the past four seasons, OVAC Soccer Director Chuck Robinson could have easily renamed this the Wheeling Park Invitational.

Despite playing some tough games, Wheeling Park was never really threatened. This year is a little bit different.

Please See **STROPE**, Page 20

## STROPE

(Continued from Page 19)

The Patriots got off to a rough start but have stormed back to earn the 5 seed and a date with an up-and-coming St. Clairsville squad. Coach Gary Watt is making soccer relevant again at St. Clairsville and knocking off the old guard could be just the shot in the arm that this program needs.

Outside of Wheeling Park, the only team in the field to hoist the trophy previously is Weir.

Joe Pepe's squad captured the title in 1996, but since then, it's been a lot of heartbreak for the Red Riders. Weir enters as the No. 1 seed and faces a dangerous task in Morgantown in the first round. That may not be a good thing. The Red Riders have twice entered as the No. 1 seed and been sent home early.

The most intriguing matchup of the first round features two teams from Steubenville, in Big Red and Steubenville Catholic.

Coach Greg Bowers' Big Red squad has lost in the finals the last three years. Could this finally be the year? Not if the Crusaders have anything to do with it.

University and Parkersburg South are making their initial forays into the tournament.

**Finals Prediction: Wheeling Park d. University.**

If there is ever a season to get Wheeling Park, this may be it. Am I sure in this prediction? Not really. But a wise man once said, "To be the man, you've got to beat the man." So I am going with Coach Mario Julian and the Patriots to make it five in a row.

## Girls

- (1) Morgantown vs. East Liverpool (8)
- (2) Wheeling Central vs. St. Clairsville (7)

(3) Wheeling Park vs. Brooke (6)

(4) Linsly vs. Steubenville Catholic (5)

Morgantown, the defending Class AAA state champion and OVAC Cup champion, looks strong again. Former Linsly standout Ashley Neal leads her undefeated team into action against East Liverpool.

The Mohigans won't be the only team entering the tournament without a blemish. Wheeling Central has lit the scoreboard up this season and, more importantly, kept teams off of it. The Maroon Knights, who have outscored their opponents 82-6, face St. Clairsville.

There's no love lost when Wheeling Park and Brooke get together in any sport, but this will be as entertaining as any game in the tournament. The Patriots defeated the Bruins, 3-2, earlier in the year. There is always that game in the tournament that features two evenly matched teams and reaches a shootout. This could be it.

Linsly won the title two seasons ago and has a lot of offensive power behind Maleha Kureishy, Taylor Cunningham, and Gift Chima. The Crusaders are familiar with them, having just played the Cadets last week, a 4-1 victory for Linsly.

**Finals Prediction: Morgantown d. Wheeling Park**

I am going with the champ again. The two played earlier in the season with Morgantown earning a 2-0 victory. Wheeling Park may have a tougher road and that can play a major factor in a long tournament like this. Wheeling Park keeps it close but the Mohigans pull away in the second half.

Josh Strope can be reached at [strope@theintelligencer.net](mailto:strope@theintelligencer.net)

# OVAC Soccer Cup playoffs open Monday

By **KIM NORTH**  
Times Leader Sports Writer

The annual OVAC Cup soccer tournaments — boys and girls — get under way this week.

The boys' portion of the event begins play at Brooke High School Monday, while the girls' event will be held on the turf at Red Devil Stadium in St. Clairsville, starting Tuesday.

Weir captured the top seed in the boys' event, with Morgantown seeded first in the girls' tournament.

IN BOYS' action, the Red Riders will meet No. 8 Morgantown in the first game Monday (5 p.m.), while battle of Steubenville completes the first night when the No. 4 Crusaders and No. 5 Big Red square off.

On Wednesday, No. 2 University and No. 7 Parkersburg South meet at 5 p.m., with third-seeded St. Clairsville meeting No. 6 Wheeling Park in the nightcap.

"We're proud to make the OVAC Tournament again, especially after the season that we've had," St. Clairsville boys' head coach Gary Watt said. "We lost a quality senior class, but these guys have stepped up. However, the injury bug has really taken its toll on us of late."

Leading scorer Jimmy Cash has missed the last five games

See, **OVAC**, Page C2



## OVAC

Continued from Page C1

with a hip injury, and his status is uncertain.

"Jimmy hasn't been cleared to play yet," Watt said on Friday morning. "We're hoping to get him back."

Sophomore Zach Oliver has been playing with a nagging hip injury, while midfielder Ty Boone is nursing a back problem.

"We're really hoping that all three of those kids play because we know we have a mountain to climb in Wheeling Park," Watt noted. "They are the reigning champions and still are the program that sets the standard that every other team tries to measure up to."

"We're preparing hard for them and we're going to give them our best shot."

Watt has been real impressed with the work of his goalkeeper, senior Izaak Wiley.

"Izaak has been a wall for us. He has absolutely been the heart and soul of our defense."

Watt also praised the performances of freshmen Merrick Malin, Baden Powell and Jacob Hawthorne, as well as senior Austin Holmes.

IN GIRLS' action, the top-seeded Mohigans get No. 8 East Liverpool Tuesday in the 5 p.m. lid-lifter. No. 4 Linsly and fifth-seeded Steubenville Central meet in the nightcap.

On Thursday, seventh-seeded St. Clairsville meets No. 2 Wheeling Central at 5 p.m., with No. 3 Wheeling Park and No. 6 Brooke meeting at 7.

"I know that they have a lot of wins and have had some high scoring games," St. Clairsville head coach Scott Dutton said of the Maroon Knights. "They've got some pretty fast girls and several good shooters. Their offense is powerful."

The Red Devils strength has been in its defense.

"We've got a pretty strong defense and they (Wheeling Central) will have to deal with our offense, which isn't too bad."

Charlie Gillespie leads St. Clairsville with 17 goals, one more than Taryn Barr.

The Red Devils are coming off back-to-back losses to Brooke and Wheeling Park.

"We knew last week would be a tough one for us," Dutton noted. "We held our own against Brooke, but Wheeling Park pretty much manhandled us."

Playing at home should give St. Clairsville an added boost.

"It can't hurt," Dutton said. "We play and practice on it (the turf) all the time, and Wheeling Central doesn't get many chances at playing on turf, so it should give us an advantage."

Semifinal action in both divisions will take place Saturday at Wheeling Island Stadium. The girls' semis are set for 9 and 11 a.m., with the boys playing at 1 and 3 p.m. The championship finals are scheduled for Monday, Oct. 1, with the boys getting under way at 5:30 p.m. The girls' game is slated for 7:30.

All OVAC BOYS Division 5

University — Tommy Alappat, Shane Thompson, Andrew Cranston, Brandon Wayda  
 Wheeling Park — Eric Bonar, Nate Mauck, Grant Robertson  
 Parkersburg South — Brad Emerick, Dillon Dowler  
 Morgantown — David Minehart, Jon Bolles  
 Edison — Tyler Kirk  
 Brooke — Zac Ciccolella  
 Indian Creek — Ian Gambill  
 John Marshall — Austin Litman  
 Player of the Year: Eric Bonar, Wheeling Park  
 Coach of the Year: Michael Johnson, University

Division 4 All OVAC

Weir — Chad Hensley, Kenny Muhart, Shane Davis, Alex Hannah  
 St. Clairsville — Taylor Wissmann, Brock Ferrell, Austin Holmes  
 Steubenville — John Paul Duff, Brandon Llewellyn  
 Oak Glen — Cullen Bennett, Chris Bailey  
 East Liverpool — Klayton Kasek  
 Honorable Mention  
 Weir — Josh Groves, Ryan Duke; St. Clairsville — Isaac Wiley, James Cash; Steubenville — Joseph DuBois, Dominic DiCarlo; Oak Glen — Devin Pofen, Justin Bailey; East Liverpool — Kevin Bankes, Andrew Connor  
 Player of the Year: Chad Hensley, Weir  
 Coach of the Year: Gary Watt, St. Clairsville

Division 1-A/3-A All OVAC

Steubenville Central — Leo Herrmann, Cuyler Ledyard, Isaac Sanford, John-Paul McNamara  
 Linsly — Jamaal Ebanks, Robert Felton, Tim Chung  
 Tyler Consolidated — Dylan Romine, Mert Coskun  
 Magnolia — Alex Pancake, Oscar Celedon  
 Honorable Mention  
 Steubenville Central — Carlo Fabran, Pat Hennon, Linsly — Lucas Lorentz, Colin Riley  
 Tyler Consolidated — Brandon Frey, Scott Sole  
 Magnolia — Mike Winters, Trevor Long  
 Player of the Year: Leo Herrmann, Steubenville Central  
 Coach of the Year: Eric Fries, Linsly

GIRLS Division 5-A All OVAC

Morgantown — Makyla Schmidt, Tyler Jordan, Maggie Snively, Mazie Cheesebrough  
 Wheeling Park — Ashley Grove, Meghan Horan, Carly Collins  
 Wheeling Park  
 Brooke — Kirsten Minger, Enn Conaway  
 Brooke  
 University — Lexy Stimmell, Elizabeth Custer  
 Parkersburg South — Allyson Brezler  
 John Marshall — Enca Haught  
 Edison — Kylie Long  
 Indian Creek — Andrea Trice  
 Honorable Mention  
 Morgantown — Kelsie Hibbs, Payton Southall  
 Wheeling Park — Cece Jebbia, Rebecca Sellers, Brooke — Michaela Hinerman, Cheyenne Hudson; University — Maddy Kukura, Allison Barlow; Parkersburg South — Emily Brezler, Taylor Life, John Marshall — Ashley Haught, Marissa Tordella; Edison — Ashley Borsch, Hannah Miller; Indian Creek — Kathrien Miller, Kristen Shimko  
 Player of the Year: Ashley Grove, Wheeling Park  
 Coach of the Year: Ashley Neal, Morgantown

Division 4-A All OVAC

St. Clairsville — Taryn Barr, Carlee Gillespie, Falon Weidman, Eberle Ferrell  
 East Liverpool — Chelsea Passage, Sarah Guidoo, Kelsey Diddle  
 Weir — Jessica Derby, Alyssa Shingle  
 Oak Glen — Megan Collins, Shania Helmick  
 Oak Glen  
 Steubenville — Mallory Giannamore  
 Honorable Mention  
 St. Clairsville — Alyssa Lodi, Brianna Sowers; East Liverpool — Nicole Linkous, Nicole Talbot; Weir — Morgan Cassels, Dominique Gilbert; Oak Glen — Jennifer Mangano, Alex Burch; Steubenville — Loren Gray, Brittany Gates  
 Player of the Year: Jessica Derby, Weir  
 Coach of the Year: Scott Dutton, St. Clairsville

Division 1-A/3-A All OVAC

Wheeling Central — Bailey Clark, Ashton Cross, Beth Stayduhar, Cate Calissie  
 Linsly — Gift Chima, Taylor Cunningham, Maleha Kureishy  
 Steubenville Central — Sarah Padgett, Kristen Looman  
 Madonna — Rachel Grubbs, Amy Davis  
 Tyler Consolidated — Sophie Kinnard  
 Magnolia — Stephanie Mullett  
 Honorable Mention  
 Wheeling Central — Mary Stahl, Aspen Matlock; Linsly — Kaitlin Snyder, Leah Memmo; Steubenville Central — Rachel Irvin, Moriah Vosteen; Madonna — Hannah Bargar, Leanne Grubbs, Tyler Consolidated — Katelyn Smith, Taylor Vossen; Magnolia — Destiny Yoho, Brianna Young  
 Player of the Year: Maleha Kureishy, Linsly  
 Coach of the Year: David Cross, Wheeling Central

# Top-Seeded Weir Boys Fall in Opener

## Mohigans to face Crusaders next

By FRED YOUNCE  
 For The Intelligencer

WELLSBURG — The Weir Red Riders fell 4-3 to the Morgantown Mohigans on Monday at Brooke Memorial Stadium in the quarterfinals of the OVAC Cup.

They did not do so without a fight.

"We tried," Weir coach Joe Pepe said. "We didn't give up. They (Morgantown) played extremely well, but we had three or four mistakes and that's how they scored their goals."

"We had couple of mental

breakdowns, but it's nothing we can't fix. We're still a good ball club on its way to becoming a great one."

"We did play very well against one of the top West Virginia AAA teams out there. We played extremely well and didn't quit."

Morgantown plays Steubenville Catholic, a 2-1 winner against Steubenville, in the semifinals at 1 p.m. Saturday at Wheeling Island Stadium.

With 2:18 second left in the match, Morgantown's Chris Atallah sent a crossing pass that found its way through to Akshay Chandra who put the ball into the left side of the net for the 4-3 Mohigans lead.

The Red Riders refused to quit, going on the attack in attempts to do what they had done after each of Morgantown's previous goals — beat Mohigans' goaltender Daniel Berrebi for a game-tying score.

With under a minute they had a chance to do that as Ryan Kirk got off a great shot, but Berrebi forced it off the post to maintain the lead.

Kirk almost had another shot in the waning seconds of the game, but a Morgantown slide tackle kept him from getting off the shot. The play set up what

was to be a corner kick for Weir, but the final five seconds ticked off before they could set up, and Morgantown advanced.

"I thought we had it tied up, but that's the way it goes," said Pepe. "That's the way the game goes. There's no sour grapes. My kids didn't quit and I'll always be proud of these kids."

Morgantown started scoring off at the 6th minute when Atallah put the ball in off an Amine Feliachi assist for a 1-0



Please See WEIR Page 25

## WEIR

(Cont. from Page 23)

lead. Weir answered back on a Ryan Duke goal on an assist from Kenny Muhart, tying the game at 1-1.

The Mohigans' Zach Kilwein found the net off a pass from Moses Lawer-Yolas to put the Mohigans up again at the 24th minute.

The Red Riders were once again tied the game up when Chad Hensley sent a corner kick that cleared to the opposite side of the field where Duke put in his second goal of the game.

Morgantown took the lead with 10:55 left in the game at 3-2, but Weir answered to tie the match.

Kirk put a pass through to Shane Davis, who beat the Berrebi to lock the score at 3-31 with just over three minutes of action remaining.

A minute later Chandra gave the Mohigans the lead and they survived Weir's last ditched efforts to force overtime.

"It feels great," Morgantown coach Joe Melia of the victory. "Of course we were the underdogs in this game so it feels real good. We didn't have that

good of a game. It was kind of ugly there for a while."

"It was very frustrating at times because I felt like we could have scored a lot more goals than we did, and on defense we made some horrible mistakes that allowed them to score some, but I'm happy that we won."

Berrebi had 12 saves for the Mohigans with Matt Tenaglio turning away 13 shots in the loss.

**Steub. Catholic 2, Steubenville 1**  
**WELLSBURG** — Steubenville and Steubenville Catholic Central went at each other as only city rivals can.

In the end, the Crusaders survived a relentless attack by Big Red, what looked to be a game-tying goal, and playing the final seven minutes a man down due to a red card to bring home the victory.

The Crusaders' game-winning goal was scored in the 35th minute of the second half when Pat Hennon set up Leo Herrmann, who made a terrific move past two defenders, and lasered a shot just past diving goalkeeper John Paul Duff's hands for the 2-1 Central advantage.