

**LEFT:** Martins Ferry's Alyssa Kalinski competes in the 500 Freestyle on Saturday at the Bill Brubaker OVAC Swimming Championships. Kalinski won the event for the second straight year with a time of 5:26.09.

**BELOW:** D.J. Beck makes his way toward the finish Saturday in the 100 Butterfly at the Bill Brubaker OVAC Swimming Championships. Beck helped the Red Devils to a runner-up finish in the Small School division. *View additional images at [cu.timesleader-online.com](http://cu.timesleader-online.com)*

T-L Photos/RICK THORP

## OVAC BILL BRUBAKER SWIM CHAMPIONSHIP

# Martins Ferry girls claim title

By RICK THORP  
Times Leader Sports Writer

STEUBENVILLE — A "gut feeling."

That's what Martins Ferry head coach Nick Levi had in the moments leading up to the start of Saturday's Bill Brubaker OVAC Swimming Championships.

"I think it's going to come down to the last event," Levi said, while standing poolside during warmups inside the Steubenville High School Natatorium.

He was right.

The Purple Riders finished second in the 400 Freestyle Relay with a school-record time of 3:55.26 and rallied to top Linsly for the Small School championship.

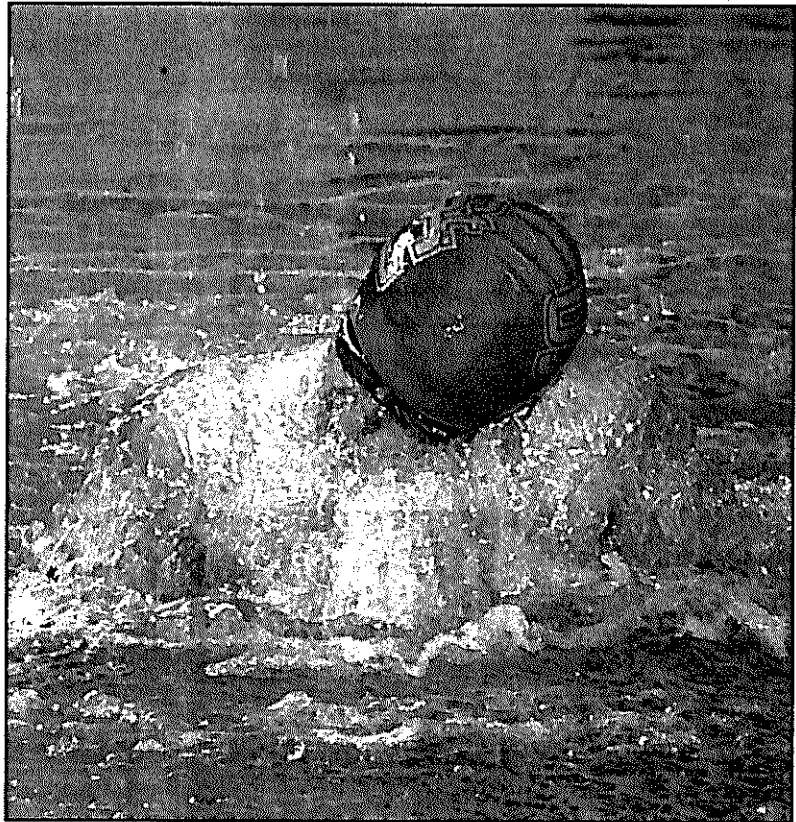
"We swam up and they swam up and it was a dogfight all the way through the meet," a smiling Levi said moments before his team accepted the championship hardware.

The title was the Purple Riders' second in school history and first since 2010, both under Levi. Linsly had won the last four crowns and five of the last six.

"I have the utmost respect for them," Levi said of Linsly. "The meet is named after their coach and Bill's a great coach and they have a great program.

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See, **FERRY**, Page C2



● OVAC

Continued from Page B1

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Levi felt good about his team's prospects at that point, though, as the foursome of Jamie Fogle, Rylee Reis, Abbey Ecker and Alyssa Kalinski was seeded second in the event.

They didn't disappoint.

"We beat the school record by two seconds," Levi noted.

And, in the process, secured the crown.

"To see that hard work pay off is very exciting," Levi said.

Martins Ferry finished with 236.5 points and was third overall. Linsly compiled 215, while St. Clairsville had 130. Wheeling Central was next in the Small School standings with 113, followed by Barnesville (53), Beaver Local (50), Steubenville Catholic (21), East Liverpool (18), East Richland (14) and Bellaire (13).

Morgantown rolled to the Big School championship with 376 points. Wheeling Park was second with 333.5, followed by Parkersburg South (173), University (132), Cambridge (113), Brooke (113), Weir (35), Steubenville (21) and John Marshall (10).

"Our team did great," Kalinski said. "We all came out and swam well. I was very proud.

"It was definitely one of our goals. It's a really great feeling."

Kalinski was the only Purple Rider to claim a championship. She repeated in the 500 freestyle with a time of 5:26.09. She also was second in the 100 breaststroke in 1:12.55.

"I was pretty happy with it," the sophomore said of her 500 performance. "I improved from the times I'd been swimming, so I was really happy. And, it was my best time.

"Carleigh (West of Linsly) helped with that, She definitely helped with that. We pushed each other."

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In addition to the previously mentioned efforts, Fogle also finished second in the 200 freestyle (2:07.27).

A third-place finish by Reis in the 50 freestyle (26.7), along with two fourth-place showings and two fifth-place finishes also boosted Martins Ferry's point total.

Linsly's girls picked up five wins, including the 200 Medley Relay (1:57.36) group of Carleigh West, Sydney West,

Samantha Schaal and Eve Scarpone in school-record time.

Scarpone also won the 200 Freestyle (2:04.52), while Carleigh West prevailed in the 200 IM 2:19.01) and Sydney West won the 100 Backstroke (1:01.9).

Wheeling Central senior Joice Humpe was third in the 200 Freestyle (2:10.32).

St. Clairsville's boys were second in the Small School standings with 144 points. Linsly again won its record 57th team title, and seventh straight, with 350 points. Beaver Local was third with 92 points, followed by Steubenville Catholic (86), Martins Ferry (80), East Liverpool (78), Wheeling Central (70), St. John (39), Toronto (25) and Barnesville (18).

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St. Clairsville freshman Michael DiBetta was second in the 200 Freestyle (1:52.47) and third in the 500 Freestyle (5:06.33).

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The Red Devils' 200 Freestyle Relay team of DiBetta, DJ Beck, Chris Blackwell and Quentin Clark was third in 1:38.8. The same foursome was fourth in the 200 Medley Relay (1:54.15).

St. John's Austin Schramm was second in the 50 Freestyle (24.17).

Thorp can be reached at rthorp@timesleaderonline.com

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*- Alyssa Kalinski  
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# Ferry Best Small School in the Pool

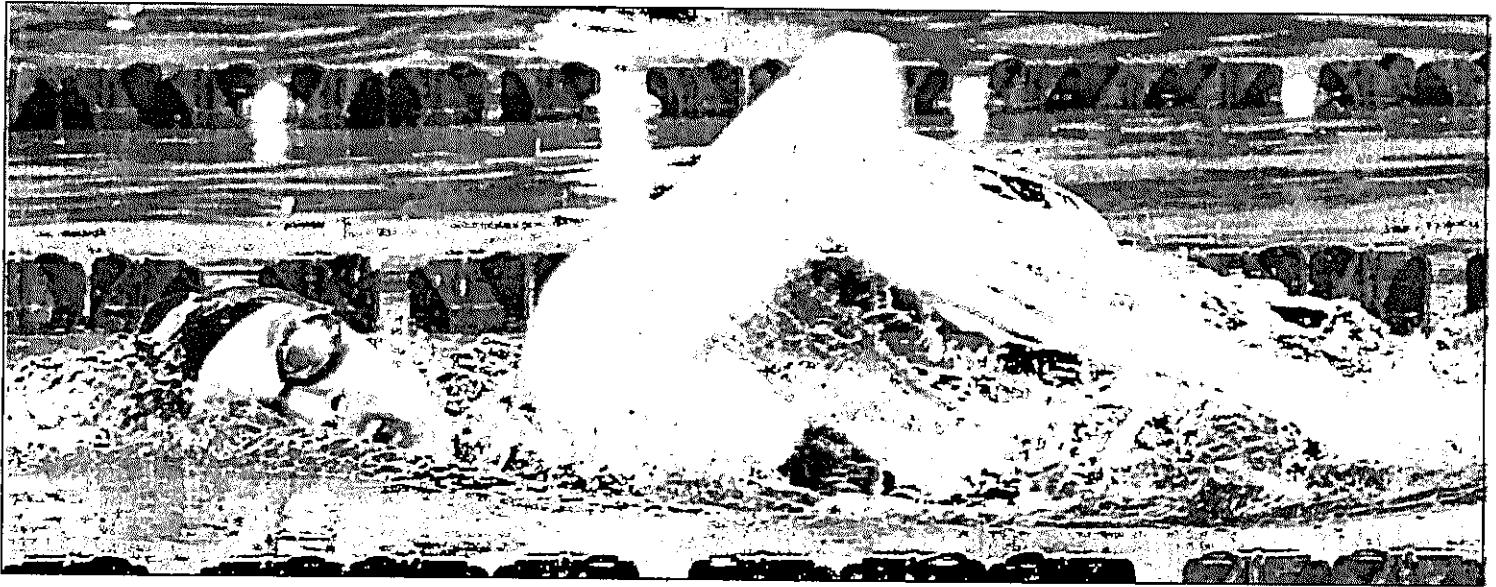


Photo by Rick Thorp

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## Purple Riders rally to snap Linsly's title streak

By RICK THORP  
For The Intelligencer

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See, **FERRY**,  
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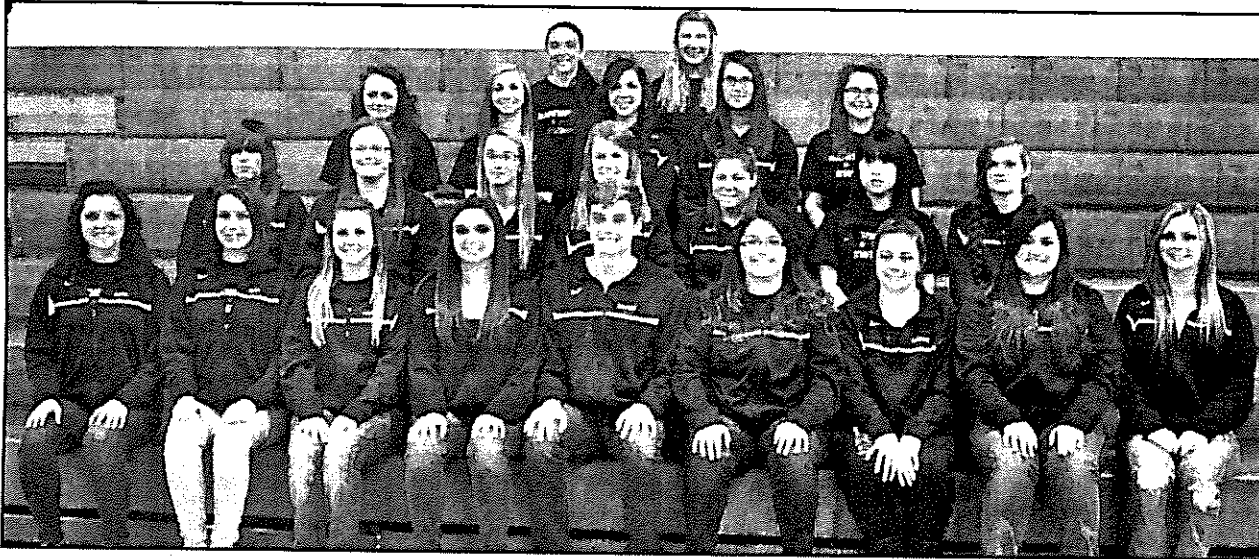


Photo Provided

**PICTURED IS** the 2014-15 Barnesville swim team. Front row, from left, are Olivia Jones, Emily Gallaway, Lauren Lemunyon, Alexis Moore, Brandon Davidson, Michaela Stephen, Kiersten Cummings, Lexi Froehlich and Myka Gordon. Second row, from left, are Rachel Stewart, Mallory Christman, Karleigh Clouse, Alexis Starr, Dana Rienerth, Haun Lee and Samantha Burkhart. Third row, from left, are Krissanna Hanes, Brittany Butler, Sara Reynard, Alexis Marovich, Joanna Gallagher



Photo Courtesy/RAT & CHEESE PHOTOGRAPHY

**PICTURED IS** the 2014-15 Bellaire swim team. Front row, from left, are Mitch Parker, Monica Van Clevon, Caroline Schaffer, Luc Messenger, Savanna Sims and Keysee Tarrillo. Back row, from left, are Linda Latta

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## ● OVAC

Continued from Page C1

the sport. Here's a capsule look at area teams:  
**BARNESVILLE** – The Shamrocks are hoping to be healthy for the conference meet this coming weekend. They've battled more than their fair share of injuries, according to head coach Bobbi Jo Johnson.

The Shamrocks, who had only three entrants in last season's meet because of the weather conditions, are led by senior Brandon Davidson (50 and 100 free) and senior Olivia Jones (50 free and 100 backstroke).

Johnson also pointed out Myka Gordon (50 and 100 free), Alexis Starr (500 free and 100 backstroke), Abbey McMillen (100 fly) and Alexis Moore (100 free) as Shamrocks to watch.

**BELLAIRE** – The Big Reds won't have many representatives at the OVAC, but head coach Kaye Sechrest is excited about the group going.

Junior Monica Van Clevon – a foreign exchange student – will take part in the 50 and 100 freestyles. Others to watch are sophomore Riley Hoepfner, senior Caroline Shaffer, junior Olivia Tranovich and junior Linda Laiho.

The lone boy set to compete is senior Luc Messenger in the 100 breaststroke.

**LINSLEY** – The Cadets have etched themselves into the premier small-school program, but because of the format change, there will be just two classes – Class 5A and Class 1A-4A.

The Cadets' girls team is 13-2 in dual meets thus far. It will be led by Eve Scarpone, Carleigh West, Sydney West, Samantha Schaal, Yutong Gao and America Nuckles-Polan.

The boys squad is deep and talented. Drew Bastain leads the way for the Cadets. He's joined



Photo Courtesy/RAT & CHEESE PHOTOGRAPHY

**PICTURED IS** the 2014-15 Bellaire swim team. Front row, from left, are Mitch Parker, Monica Van Clevon, Caroline Schaffer, Luc Messenger, Savanna Sims and Kaycee Tantillo. Back row, from left, are Linda Laiho, Olivia Tranovich, Riley Hoepfner, Sydney Watson, Cadence Yocum and Savannah Allen.

**PICTURED IS** the 2014-15 Martins Ferry swim team. Sitting, from left, are Fylee Reis, Tara Fogle and Megan Ritts. Kneeling, from left, are Long Phan, Mackenzie Fulst and Thomas Singhaus. Standing, from left, are Coach Nick Levi, Macy Shriver, Abbey Ecker, Jamie Fogle and Alyssa Kalinski. Back row, from left, are Jackson Lybarger, Brandon Bliss and Terrell Tuttle. Not pictured are Chris Brown and Paige Phillips.

Photo/BRIGGS PHOTOGRAPHY



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Drew Bastain leads the way for the Cadets. He's joined by Tre Taylor, Liam McNeil, Collin Kelly, Cameron Thompson, Reese Boyd and Kevin Pietz.

Brubaker also pointed out Michael Schwarz and Kaleb Nuckles-Polan are two others who can make an impact.

**MARTINS FERRY** - The Purple Riders have been one of the top stories of the season thus far.

Head coach Nick Levi hopes to continue to build on what they've done and carry it as far as possible, both this weekend and beyond.

"The team's entry times for the OVAC meet reflect the hard work the kids have put in," Levi said. "We have several girls and boys who are currently seeded in the top 16 in both of their individual events."

Leading the way for the Purple Riders is talented sophomore Alyssa Kalinski, who has been impressive.

Freshmen Jamie Fogle and Rylee Reis are also enjoying impressive campaigns. Junior Tara Fogle has started to break through the last few meets, according to her coach, and is expected to make a push toward the podium.

Levi also thinks Paige Phillips, Abbey Ecker, Megan Ritts, Mackenzie Fulst and Macy Shriver could crack the individual scoring column this coming weekend.

The Riders' boys are led by Brandon Bliss in the breaststroke. Long Phan is another to keep an eye on.

On top of those two, Levi believes Terrell Tuttle, J.J. Snider and Thomas Singhaus could score as well.

**ST. CLAIRSVILLE** - A strong performance at the conference meet has been a staple since the Red Devils' swimming inception.

First-year head coach Ernie Banks hopes the trend continues this weekend.

The Red Devils boys have dealt with some injuries this season, but it's helped develop depth and confidence.

Leading the way for the Red Devils this weekend will be talented freshman Michael DiBetta in the 200 and 500 freestyle. Senior Quentin Clark and senior D.J. Beck will be in the 200 free and 100 fly, respectively. Chris Blackwell is another to keep an eye on.

"Our boys team should place well overall and give some teams a real run at it," Banks continued.

The St. C. girls' squad is a youthful group, but Banks has liked the progress they've made.

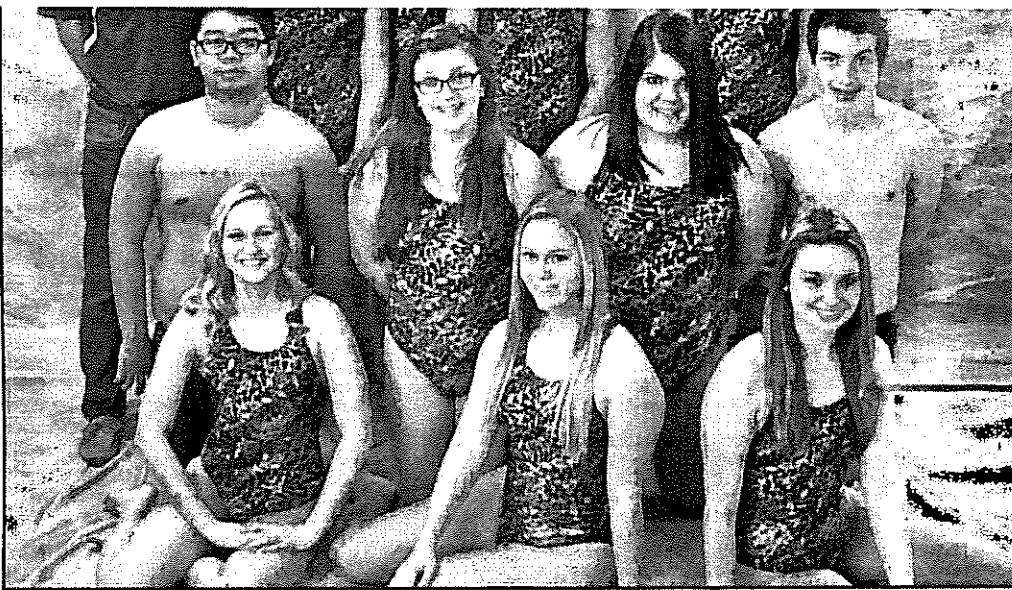
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Junior Delainey Banks will be worth keeping an eye on in the 200 IM and 500 freestyle. Freshman Natalie Planey will enter the 200 free and 100 back. Freshman Hannah Swisk and junior Hannah Vera are also more than capable of scoring this weekend.

**ST. JOHN CENTRAL** - There are just two Irish swimmers, but both have had their bright spots this season.

Austin Schramm is a standout in the 100 backstroke and 200 freestyle. He has re-wrote the Irish record book in both events. However, this weekend, he'll swim the 50

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Photo/BRIGGS PHOTOGRAPHY



Photo Provided

**PICTURED IS** the 2014-15 St. Clairsville swim teams. Front row, from left, are Austin Passmore, Hannah Swisk, Julia Skrabak, Molly Marody, Kyle Graham and Noah Hinkle. Second row, from left, are assistant coach Melanie Eaton, Chase Wiethe, Hanna Vera, Quentin Clark, D.J. Beck, Delainey Banks, Zina Bohach and head coach Ernie Banks. Third row, from left, are Mitchell Hoover, Emily Thomas, Michael DiBetta and Chris Blackwell. Top row, from left, are Natalie Planey, Marissa Cupp and Zachary Banks.

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Luke Osborn will take part in the 100 fly and breaststroke.

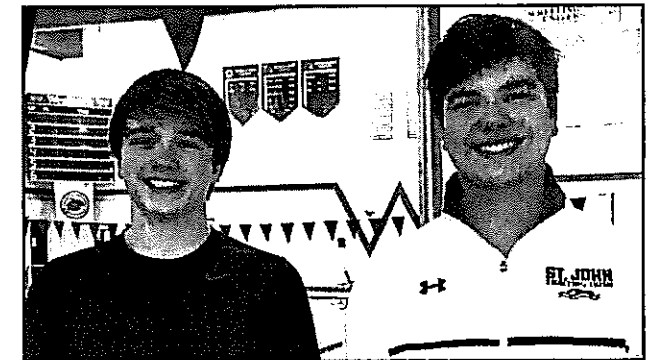


Photo Provided

**PICTURED IS** the 2014-15 St. John Central swim team. From left are Austin Schramm and Luke Osborn.



# OVAC swimming set to dive in on Saturday

By RICK THORP  
Times Leader Sports Writer

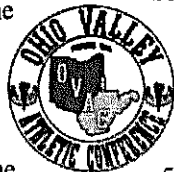
STEUBENVILLE - Gold medals could be in the cards for a handful of local swimmers when they hit the pool Saturday for the Bill Brubaker OVAC Swimming Championships.

Action gets under way inside the Steubenville High School Natatorium at 11:10 a.m., with more than 30 schools participating.

Martins Ferry's Alyssa Kalinski is seeded first in two events - the 500 freestyle and the 100 breaststroke.

Kalinski, a sophomore, made a splash in her first OVAC event last season by winning the 500 free in 5:31.08. Linsly's Carleigh West finished second.

The duo is seeded 1-2 again this year, but Kalinski has about a nine-second advantage on Saturday's psych sheet (5:31.34 to 5:40.81).



In the 100 Breaststroke, Kalinski is seeded first with a time of 1:13.55, while Wheeling Park's Victoria White is second at 1:13.70 and Parkersburg South's Emily Gerspser is third at 1:13.9.

The Purple Riders have another solid freshman entrant this year in Jamie Fogle.

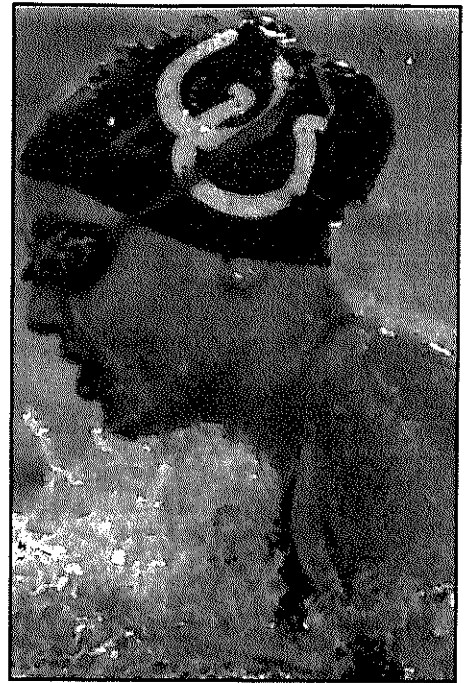
She is seeded second in the 200 freestyle (2:12.53) and fourth in the 100 backstroke (1:08.76).

All told, Morgantown's girls have the most top seeds with four. Courtney Deem is tops in the 50 and 100 freestyles (24.79 and 55.02), while the Mohigans' 200 and 400 freestyle relay teams are also seeded first (1:49.25 and 3:57.49).

Linsly has three top seeds - Eve Scarpone in the 200 freestyle (2:06.9), and West in the 200 IM and 100 backstroke (2:24.81 and 1:04.57).

In addition to Martins Ferry, Wheeling

See, OVAC, Page B2



T-L File Photo/MIKE PALMER

**MARTINS FERRY'S** Alyssa Kalinski swims in a meet earlier this season. She's the top seed in the 100 breaststroke and 500 freestyle.

## ● OVAC

Continued from Page B1

Park also has two No. 1 seeds. White is at the top of the 100 butterfly times (1:07.49), as is the Patriots' 200 medley relay (2:03.48).

Linsly's boys have won a whopping 56 conference crowns, including the last six Small School titles, and the Cadets have six top seeds Saturday.

Two of those are in relays - the 200 medley and 200 freestyle (1:43.93 and 1:34.33). The rest are comprised by four individuals - Drew Bastian (200 IM, 2:06), Liam McNeil (50 freestyle, 23.1), Kevin Pietz (100 butterfly, 53.82) and Tre Taylor (100 breaststroke, 1:02.62).

St. Clairsville has just one top seed, but it's a pretty strong one in Michael DiBetta. The freshman has already etched his name in the Red Devils' recordbook and has the potential to pick up where current Ohio State swimmer Michael Eaton left off in OVAC competition.

DiBetta is seeded first in the 200 freestyle with a time of 1:53.62. He is also seeded

third in the 500 freestyle in a closely-packed trio that includes No. 1 seeded Jonathan Lederman, of Morgantown, and Reese Boyd, the defending champ, from Linsly. Their seed times are 5:09.82, 5:10.8 and 5:10.53, respectively.

Lederman is also the top seed in the 100 backstroke (57.87).

Parkersburg South, the defending Big School boys' winner, is the favorite in the 400 freestyle relay (3:36.83). South's Garrett Fink is top seeded in the 100 freestyle (49.49).

### NOTES

No preliminary meets took place this year, therefore, the top 32 swimmers will compete in each event in four heats. Also, the Big School winner will go to the top team in Class 5A, with the Small School trophy going to the top point-getter in the other classes. In previous years, Big School was comprised of 4A and 5A.

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# OVAC Swimming Set For Saturday

By DORSEY KINDLER  
Staff Writer

STEUBENVILLE - The boys' 500 Freestyle will be the "event to watch" at this year's OVAC Swimming Championship according to Meet Director Bill Brubaker.

"Because you've got three boys seeded within a second and a half of each other in a distance event," he said.

Those boys are No. 1 seed Jonathan Lederman of Morgantown (5:09.82), No. 2 seed and last year's champion Reese Boyd of Linsly (5:10.18) and No. 3 seed Michael DiBetta of St. Clairsville (5:10.53).

The championship meet will be held Saturday at the Steubenville High School Natatorium with the first event - the girls' 200 medley relay - going off at 11:10 am.

This year's meet will feature swimmers from 23 different OVAC schools.

Other swimmers to watch on the girls' side include Morgantown's Courtney Deem, seeded first in the 100 Freestyle (55.02) and 50 Freestyle (24.79); Martins Ferry's Alyssa Kalinski, seeded No. 1 in the 500 freestyle (5:31.34) and the 100 Breaststroke (1:13.55); and Victoria White of Wheeling Park, seeded first in the 100 Butterfly (1:07.49).

Boys' swimmers to watch according to Brubaker, in addition to Lederman, Boyd and DiBetta, include Linsly's Drew Bastian, No. 1 seed in the 200 individual medley (2:06.00). He's the returning 200 IM champion.

"Anybody who's returning champion from last year is seeded either one or two this year," Brubaker said.

This year's championship meet will include a new format with participating high schools separated into

Please See SWIM, Page 17

## SPORTS

THE INTELLIGENCER - Wheeling, W.Va. - 17

## SWIM

(Continued from Page 15)

two divisions. One division will include schools from 1A to 4A and the

other will include schools.

Last year the split was

5A 1A to 3A and 4A to 5A.

"If you look at the entries, there are almost an

identical number of boys and girls in each division," Brubaker said.

"The discrepancy at last year's meet was much bigger."

# Linsly Boys Capture 7th Straight OVAC Swim Title

## Park Girls Come In Second Place

By JOHN McCABE  
Managing Editor

WHEELING — For more than 30 years, William Brubaker has been shaping championship-level swimming talent at The Linsly School in Wheeling. That mission continued Saturday when his boys' team captured its seventh-consecutive OVAC championship.

Led by seniors Drew Bastian, Liam McNeil and Tre Taylor, the team won the small school crown, and finished second overall to big-school swimming powerhouse Parkersburg South — a school more than five times Linsly's size.

For Brubaker, Saturday's performance highlights the hard work his swimmers give each day in the pool.

"We've just been blessed over the years with good athletes who like to swim and work hard, and they swim their fastest" on the

biggest stage, he said. "This was a great team effort."

The boy's team captured medals in 11 events, with sophomore Kevin Pietz setting an OVAC, school, pool and meet record in the 100 yard butterfly with a time of 52.92. The relay team of Pietz, McNeil, Taylor and Bastian also set OVAC, pool, school and meet records in the 200 freestyle relay with a time of 1:31.43.

Other medalists for Linsly:

**200 medley relay** - The team of Bastian, Taylor, Pietz and Reese

Boyd finished first overall in a time of 1:42.28.

**200 freestyle** - Boyd finished first in 1:52.29.

**200 individual medley** - Bastian, first, 2:04.54.

**50 freestyle** - McNeil, first, 23.02; Taylor, fourth.

**100 freestyle** - McNeil, second, 51.39.

**500 freestyle** - Boyd, second, 5:04.30.

**100 backstroke** - Pietz, first, 54.47.

**100 breaststroke** - Bastian,

first, 1:02.03; Taylor, second, 1:02.49.

**400 freestyle relay** - The team of Boyd, McNeil, Michael Schwarz and Kaleb Nuckles-Polen finished third in 3:42.43.

## Park Girls Finish Second in Big School Competition

Coming into the OVACs, Wheeling Park coach Pat Durkin figured his girls' team would be about 45 points behind Morgantown.

*Please See LINSLY, Page 13*

## ON THE LINE



### Today's Results:

Q. : Would you pay \$9,000 to see your team in the Super Bowl?

Yes: 1%

No: 99%

Tomorrow's Poll:  
Q. Will the New England Patriots repeat as Super Bowl champions?

### Tell us what you think.

Register your answer at  
[www.theintelligencer.net](http://www.theintelligencer.net)

(The results of this poll are not scientific and represent only the opinions of Internet users who have chosen to participate.)



## LINSLEY

(Continued from Page 11)

And that's just about how things played out.

Park did not capture any championships, but medaled in seven events, finishing 42.5 points behind the Mohigans.

Junior Emilee Heilman led the way with two individual medals, capturing second in the 100 backstroke (1:04.53) and third in the 100 freestyle (58.21). She also swam in two of Park's three relay teams (200 IM and 400 freestyle). Both medaled.

Junior Katherine Stamper also turned in a solid performance in the 50 free, finishing second with a time of 26.52.

Durkin praised his swimmers for their hard work.

"I think we swam very well, a majority of our swimmers dropped time, and some of them had their best times of the year. Unfortunately, so did the Morgantown girls," he said. "Our

girls really fought hard to the end."

He pointed to the effort of freshman Allison Holmstrand, who cut 20 seconds in the 500 freestyle.

"All our girls moved up. The only event we didn't do as well as we thought was the butterfly," he said. "Our B relays also finished ahead of 12 to 14 teams. That's very important."

Other medalists for Park:

**200 medley relay** — Heilman, Madison Jebbia, Victoria White and Stamper finished second at 2:01.38.

**100 butterfly** — White, third, 1:08.09.

**200 freestyle relay** — third, Stamper, Alexa Hickman, Courtney Amend and Cristin Dolan 1:48.99

**400 freestyle relay** — third, Stamper, Dolan, White and Heilman, 4:01.56.

For Wheeling Park's boys, the only medalist was Trent Connors, who swam a 2:17.82 in the 200 IM for a third-place finish.

Ohio Valley Unsung Hero

# Garbash's swim passion still burns just as bright

By RICK THORP  
Times Leader Sports Writer

ST. CLAIRSVILLE – The names roll off Ed Garbash's tongue with lightning precision.

It's like he's reciting the alphabet, it's so easy. Instead, it's a list of some of the swimmers who've come under his auspices through the years. Many of whom have reached amazing heights in prep annals.

Ryan Rico, Meghan Ebbert, Andy Klotz, Michael Eaton, Zoe Scarpone are some of the past names that Garbash mentions. Oh, and it's not to forget his own daughters, Allison and Jamie.

Many of today's standouts are close to his heart, too. Swimmers like Martins Ferry's Alyssa Kalinski and St. Clairsville's Michael DiBetta

All of the previously mentioned tankers have been part of Garbash's nearly two-decade career as a swimming coach, official and administrator.

While he's worn many hats and spent countless hours near the pool – both indoors and out – Garbash wouldn't trade his experiences for anything.

"It's a time commitment, but it's been something I've been doing for 18 years," Garbash said, prior to a J.B. Chambers YMCA practice session at Wheeling Jesuit

See, GARBASH, Page C2



T-L Photo/RICK THORP

ST. CLAIRSVILLE resident Ed Garbash has been actively involved in swimming for many years, whether it's been as a coach, official, meet management or just a fan. Garbash is currently the assistant meet director for the Bill Brubaker OVAC Swim Championship.

# Area swimmers begin gearing up for OVAC

By SETH STASKEY  
Times Leader Sports Editor

The Ohio Valley Athletic Conference's crowning of winter sports champions resumes this coming weekend with the annual Bill Brubaker Swimming Championship.

The meet, which will once again be held at Steubenville High School's Natatorium, will bring together the top 32 swimmers and relay teams in each event.

The OVAC decided to change its format slightly for the meet. The last few years, there were qualifying swims held in the area with the top swimmers earning a trip to Steubenville.

"The decision to try this format was made by the coaches in regard to time and the Ohio schools then have sectionals and districts before state and West Virginia moved its state qualifier up week," Brubaker said.

After studying some of the marks and length of the meet, the swim committee settled on the top 32 in each event. That'll allow for four heats of eight, with the top times swimming in a hot heat.

Another change comes in the classifications. The Class 4A will be combined with Class 1A-Class 3A, meaning Class 5A will be the only class by itself. That's determined by the number of schools in each class that sponsor

See, OVAC, Page C8

# ● Garbash

Continued from Page C1

University's McDonough Center pool.

"I've been doing winter stuff for 16 years, so it's become routine. I thought I'd retire after my kids were done with swimming, but here I am still on the deck."

And still teaching. And still changing lives.

"I'm either coaching, officiating, or working with the YMCA or the OVAC. I'm still involved in a lot of it."

Swimming, in order to be successful, takes a big time commitment, from athletes and parents, alike. Those who are willing to put in the work are what, in many ways, keeps Garbash involved.

"It's a really good feeling," he said. "If anyone asks you why you do it. That's why."

"When those kids come to practice, they want to be there. You walk away with a great feeling at the end of practice because those kids accomplished a lot."

"That's what motivates me. If those kids didn't want to come to practice and if it was like pulling teeth to get them to do things, I wouldn't be here. But they want to be here and they're willing to listen and they want to get better."

Garbash began coaching in the late 1990s with the Belmont County Summer League. Soon, he helped urged St. Clairsville school officials to start a high school program. He was its first coach.

"We met with the board and they thought it would be a good idea," he recalled. "We got their approval and we did a lot of fundraising, etc. so we could have a team."

"I did that for three years, and we had some really talented swimmers."

In the interim, Garbash started coaching with the Y

team, where his two daughters were competing. Then, after a short time away from the prep ranks, he began coaching at St. John in Bellaire. There, he was leading many of the swimmers whom he was coaching for the Y squad.

"We had swimmers like Ryan Rico, Mike Totterdale and Jake Palmer," Garbash remembered. "We were runner up to Linsly twice at OVACs."

After stepping down from his Irish post, Garbash started focusing mainly on his Y duties. Currently, he's coaching about 22 youngsters ages 10-14.

"I have a very talented group," he said. "You'll hear about some of these kids in a few years when they get into the high school level."

The Y level is where many of today's area prep standouts honed their skills. When Saturday's Bill Brubaker OVAC Championships take place at Steubenville High School a handful of those swimmers will take center stage.

And Garbash will be there, too, helping the tournament's namesake, the famed Linsly coach, run the event.

While he's away from high school coaching, Garbash said being involved with the OVAC allows him to keep his feet wet, so to speak, with preps and maintain the friendships he developed as coach at St. Clairsville and St. John.

"St. Clairsville swimming is still close and dear to my heart" he said. "I still officiate for them and still keep track of their records."

"I'm still active with all the coaches."

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