

# OVAC GOLF TOURNAMENT

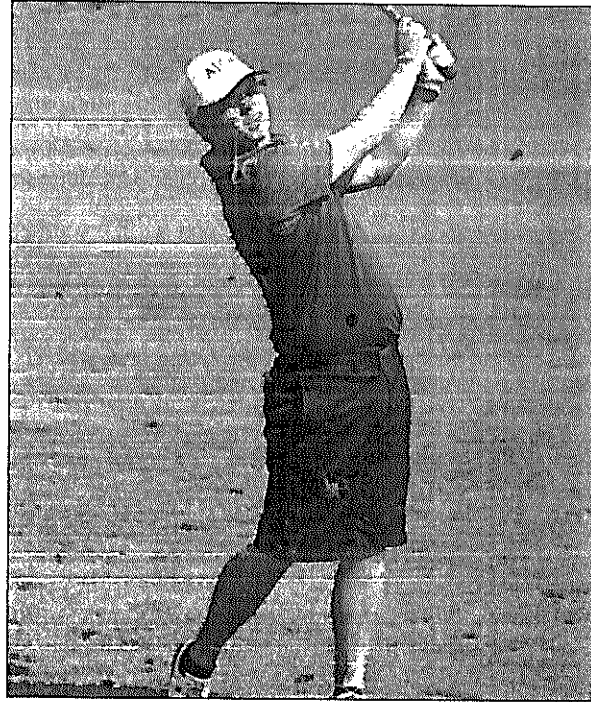


Photo by Cody Tomer  
Brooke's Ryan Bilby launches a shot on the 12th hole of the OVAC 5A Golf Tournament at the Jones Course of Oglebay Park on Thursday.

## **Bilby Catches Fire to Win OVAC Medalist Dover takes team title to earn first conference trophy**

By CODY TOMER  
Staff Writer

WHEELING — Any time Brooke's Ryan Bilby and Wheeling Park's Noah Seivertson step on the course together, it's guaranteed to be must-see golf.

The two delivered the most exciting showing on Thursday at the Jones Course of Oglebay in the OVAC Class 5A Golf Tournament.

Heading into the 12th hole, Seivertson held a two-shot lead over his friendly rival before Bilby came storming back with three straight birdies on 14, 15 and 16 to claim his second consecutive OVAC 5A championship.

The Brooke junior shot a 1-over-par 72 to earn medalist honors with Seivertson carding a 74 for runner-up.

There was a new team champion this year as Dover — in its first year as a member of the OVAC — finished with a 321 for its first conference title.

Two-time defending champion Wheeling Park was next with a 336.

Bilby's comeback victory started on the 13th hole when he recorded a near 20-foot bogey putt — a shot he had to make to stay in contention.

"I knew on 13 that it was a must-make," Bilby said. "If I had missed that shot it would have went downhill from there. When I made that it was probably the turning point."

It certainly was as Bilby sunk a 25-foot birdie putt on 14 to get to within one stroke before coming to within 3 feet on his tee-shot on the Par-3 15, where he birdied to tie the match.

Please see **BILBY**, Page 8

**BILBY**

(Continued from Page 7)

He took control on 16 where he drained his third straight birdie putt for a two-stroke lead after a Seivertson bogey.

"Noah had me by two and I knew I had to do something," Bilby said. "He was playing a good round and I was kind of struggling. I had been making good putts all day but made nothing until then.

"I was kind of due and they really started falling. I was just reading the greens well and hitting good putts."

His performance impressed his coach, but didn't surprise him.

"This kid is amazing," Brooke coach Ron Ujcich Jr. said. "That bogey putt on 13 was a savior for him. It kept him in the match and then he turns around and goes birdie, birdie, birdie and made a 35-40-footer on 16 to birdie that one.

"For me, I'm not surprised because I've seen him do it so many times, now. He never loses his composure, he never loses his focus and he never lets things get him down. It's unique for a high school kid to be able to do that."

He finished with back-to-back pars to wrap up the victory. His adrenaline showed as he crushed his tee-shot on 18 as the fans looked on from the clubhouse.

"I felt like that was a really good drive," Bilby said. "It landed about 50 yards in. I thought, I might as well finish with some flair."

Seivertson did all he could to keep pace with Bilby - making par on 13 holes and adding a birdie on No. 9. It just wasn't meant to be.

"Early on I was just trying to put some shots together," Seivertson said. "I kept making a lot of pars and kept hitting some good putts. It wasn't even that I did anything wrong but hats off to Bilby. He just came out and starting firing putts. When he's making everything like that it's fun to watch.

"Every match with Bilby is a new chance to compete against him and we are buddies outside of golf, too. It's just fun to play and compete with someone you know really well."

The respect is mutual.

"I love big events and good competition."

**GIBSON**

(Continued from Page 7)

He insists there are no hard feelings and doesn't want this game to turn into a referendum on West Virginia's decision.

"Obviously, they made a great choice with Neal and he's a great football coach, and he has experience - he turned Troy around and won a lot of games," he said. "So he's a heck of a coach and I know we'll get their best shot."

The question is whether the rebuilding Mountaineers' best shot will be good enough against the Wolfpack.

West Virginia has been completely unable to run the ball through two games, ranking 129th of 130 schools in the FBS with an average of 32 yards rushing. The Mountaineers were at minus-7 yards rushing at one point in the second half of the loss to Missouri and have yet to break

Bilby said. "We had a good battle (Thursday). Noah played really well, too. I just kind of came alive at the end."

As for Dover, it made sure to make a grand entrance into the OVAC.

The team's No. 3 Carter Begue and No. 4 Cameron Spraggins each shot a 78 to earn All-OVAC accolades, while No. 2 Reese Klar tallied an 82 and No. 1 Gabe Miller finished with an 83.

"It's a great feeling," Dover coach Jim O'Donnell said of winning the tournament. "Three of our guys came down here and played this course within the last two weeks and two guys have never seen it. I hadn't seen it until this summer. To come down here and have them shoot this score is impressive.

"They've had a nice season but this is one of the more impressive wins just because of the lack of familiarity with the course. It's a testament to their hard work."

Along with Seivertson's effort, Park received an 84 from freshman Gavin Goodrich, an 85 from James Salvatori and a 93 from Owen Leary to place second.

"We knew Dover and New Philadelphia were two new tough teams coming in here," Park coach and tournament director Don Headley said. "All five of their guys played well. That's what it takes to win in this game. You have to be consistent from top to bottom. We didn't quite get that but hats off to Dover. They came into our territory and won. We wish them luck the rest of the season.

"I'm really happy for Bilby and for Noah. They had a heckuva battle going out there. The last six holes was an absolute war and was awesome to watch. It was a great experience for both of them."

Warren Local's Seth Davis rounded out the All-OVAC team after firing a 79 on a sun-filled afternoon.

"I want to thank the park commission and Oglebay Park for taking care of the kids," Headley said. "Mr. (Danny) Ackerman and the crew up here did a fantastic job. The golf course is absolutely perfect up here."

tionally, allowing 24.5 yards per game on the ground, and joins No. 14 Wisconsin as the only teams not to allow a touchdown this season.

Yes, those impressive stats have come against subpar competition - East Carolina and FCS school Western Carolina - but it is an indication that the Wolfpack seem to be adjusting well to their switch to Gibson's 3-3-5 alignment after years of using four defensive linemen.

"What we have to do is, we have to play sound football and make sure that we keep doing what we need to do, and that's stopping the run first and then being able to limit bit plays in the passing game and explosive plays," Gibson said. "I've been a part of some rebuilds. It takes a while. And those guys, they're good football

**HILLTOPPERS**

(Continued from Page 7)

After West Liberty kicked a field goal its opening drive, Notre Dame score unanswered points thanks to three ru touchdowns.

D.J. Greene found the end zone thanks to a short field (27. 12 yards) on scoring drives followed by a Jaleel McLin 70-yard scamper, the Falcons (2-0) 22-3 lead with 7:47 left in the first half.

McLaughlin finished with a game 258 yards and three scores on 31 carries.

However, the West Liberty (1-1) drive gave the Hilltoppers a spark late in the second quarter with a strip sack fumble that recovered on the Notre Dame 19.

Quarterback Zach Phillips connected Isaiah Robinson for a 15-yard gain to the 4-yard-line. Two plays later, P found Thomas Cole for a 2-yard touch

The Hilltoppers cut the lead even in the third. A 14-play, 62-yard drive capped by a Quincy Wimbish score 4 yards out that put the score at 22-14:23 remaining in the quarter.

"We do have a good football team," lae said. "I got to get my players to believe in each other and believe in each other. That's my job as a head coach because we do have players that can We didn't back down and gave them a Their coach (Mike Jacobs) probably best to me. He goes, 'If you make a of plays down the field, it's a differer game.' When you have opportunities a team like that, you can't blow them.

Unfortunately for the Hilltopper Falcons had a solid drive of their own nine-play, 47 yard drive took the remaining minutes off the clock in the third as Laughlin scored on the first play of the quarter to give Notre Dame some breathing room, 29-17.

Notre Dame was right back at it on the drive as McLaughlin found the end zone the third time to put the score at 36-17.

**BOUNCE**

(Continued from Page 7)

More O-line transition is likely North Carolina State.

"We didn't play well up front. We've got some other guys an opportunity. But they to show in practice they are ready to Brown said during the Big 12 coach conference Monday. "We knew we have a challenge in Year 1. But we develop the guys we have here and do job of recruiting.

"We know it's not going to be a road going forward. I am not disc about the direction we are going. I am pointed on how we played against Mi

There was much to be disappointed "Our offense was non-existent. Definitely, we had no takeaways, missed field and missed 22 tackles," Brown said. positive side, we did limit big plays defense played hard in the second half

14 to get to within one stroke before coming to within 3 feet on his tee-shot on the Par-3 15, where he birdied to tie the match.

Please see BILBY, Page 8

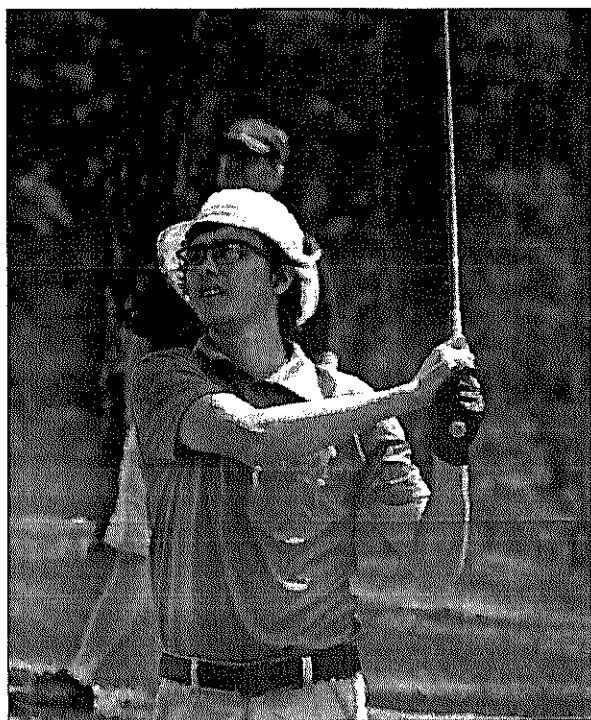


Photo by Seth Staskey

Barnesville's Payne Johnson was the medalist in leading the Shamrocks to an OVAC 3A title.

## Barnesville Goes Back-To-Back

Johnson outduels Magnolia's Blain for medalist nod

**By SETH STASKEY**  
For The Intelligencer  
WHEELING — As any veteran coach would do, Jerry Robinson did his best this week to shield his Barnesville golf team from any pressure that came along with the quest to repeat as OVAC Class 3A champions.

The plan worked to a "tee."

The Shamrocks posted an impressive 301 at Oglebay Park's warm and sunny Crispin Course on Thursday afternoon to bring their second consecutive conference championship back to western Belmont County.

"I tried to absorb the

pressure, but the kids knew we were the favorite or the ones being hunted," Robinson said. "We knew Linsly was hungry and plays well here, but I did all I could to try to deflect the pressure and play it low-key. The kids knew what was at stake."

The Shamrocks did receive quite a battle from the Cadets. Linsly finished with an impressive 303 to take the runner-up plaque. Third place went to Fort Frye, which hung a 333 on the board. Buckeye Trail was fourth with a 335 and Magnolia was fifth with a 345.

Barnesville, which won its third OVAC title in golf, set the tone early thanks to the fine play of senior standout Payne Johnson.

See BARNESVILLE,  
Page 8

## Gibson Returns Home

Ex-WVU assistant runs Wolfpack 'D'

By JOEDY McCREARY  
AP Sports Writer

RALEIGH, N.C. — Tony Gibson's West Virginia homecoming comes with a twist.

The North Carolina State defensive co-coordinator who spent 13 seasons on the Mountaineers' staff now is trying to beat many of the same players who lobbied for him to be their new head coach.

Their reunion comes Saturday when the Wolfpack (2-0) visit West Virginia (1-1).

"Unfortunately, (getting the West Virginia job) didn't happen, but there are a lot of kids there that I care about, that I recruited, that I coached, and so that's the emotional side of that," Gibson said. "But the football and competitive side, I want to win no matter who we're playing, where we're playing, no

matter what time we're playing."

Gibson insisted he "can't get caught up in the emotion of going home" and is instead treating it like "just another game at this point," and his ex-players are taking a similar approach.

"I just appreciate him giving me that opportunity to come play D-I football," West Virginia linebacker Zach Sandwisch said. "Obviously I still I him as a man, as a coach, even thing like that. He's a good guy. But I'm here. He's there. He's opponent this week and so that's how we're attacking it."

But there's no question this reunion trip carries special significance for Gibson.

The native of Van (pop. 2 who played at Glenville State in the 1990s served two stints on West Virginia's staff, leaving



## Hilltoppers Can't Get

McLaughlin runs for 258 yards for NDC

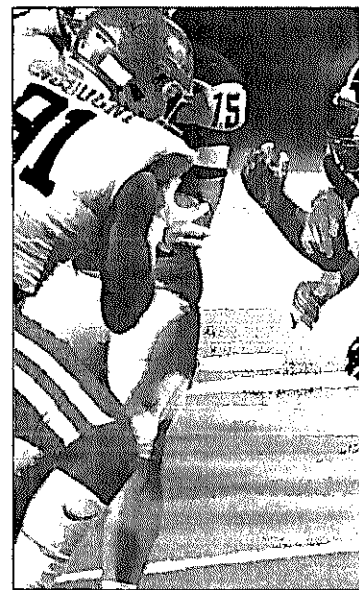
By KYLE LUTZ  
Staff Writer

WEST LIBERTY — After a thrilling victory in its opener, West Liberty had no time to rest as reigning Mountain East Conference champion and No. 4-ranked Notre Dame College paid a visit to West Family Stadium.

The Hilltoppers were holding their own against their nationally ranked foe, but inconsistencies on both sides of the ball were a factor as the Falcons ran away with a 43-24 victory Thursday night.

"It was kind of a tale of two halves and unfortunately, we never played well together as a team," West Liberty coach Roger Waiatae said. "I thought our defense, we put their backs to the wall the first half. Offensively, we didn't get much going and I thought in the second half, we started to play a little better offensively and defensively we had some letdowns."

"We had opportunities early in the game to make some plays and whether it was a ball overthrown or a missed block when we had somebody wide open, it's a combination of



West Liberty's Quincy Wimble and Notre Dame's Davionn Johnson (4) c things offensively. Again, defensively, in the first half, we played well. "We were getting to the foot they were somewhat frustrated. proud of my team. A couple of go our way, and I'm not going to

DD  
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Y



three series. I thought that there were times when he threw the ball really well. I thought he showed courage by staying in the pocket and continued to deliver the ball.

"His decision-making has got to be better. He's got to do a better job with his eyes. So, I think there is plenty of room for improvement by him, but we've got to play better around him."

Brown has much praise for this Saturday's foe.

## BARNESVILLE

(Continued from Page 7)

Johnson and his playing group, which included runner-up medalist Trey Blain of Magnolia, Linsly's Ryan Dembiczak and Crestview's Ethan McCloskey, needed just over three hours to complete their rounds.

"There was some impressive golf being played in that group," Robinson said.

Indeed. Johnson — by virtue of a par on the 18th — won his second straight OVAC medalist crown with a solid round of 2-under, 69.

He knocked home a par putt after Blain, who was battling stroke for stroke all day, watched a par just go by the hole. He tapped in

for par, setting the stage for Johnson to repeat.

"It feels good (to win individually), but getting the team championship again makes it even better," Johnson said. "I shot 72 here last year, which was good, but I am very happy with how I played (Thursday)."

Johnson made the turn at 38 and caught fire on the backside of the course, which is extremely gettable. Actually, he began to turn it on when he got a lengthy putt to drop on the ninth for a birdie. It seemed to ignite Johnson, who proceeded to knock down four birdies without bogey on the backside.

"I came into the round

wanting to shoot around even par on the front, but that didn't happen because I had a couple of bad holes," Johnson said. "When I made (the putt) on 9, I knew I was just about to tear it up."

Though Johnson won his group and defeated Blain, there were some anxious moments for him. He had to wait several minutes until any other groups came back. One of the next groups back included Barnesville's No. 2 player senior Jim Byler.

Byler signed for a round of 1-under 70 and earned a spot in a runner-up medalist play-off with Blain.

"I honestly thought Jim was going to come in with a 68 or something like that, which would have been great to see," Johnson said. "We all knew coming into the tournament that we had a target on our back and we'd have to play well."

With Johnson and Byler's scores on the board, the Shamrocks' waited for other scores. Sophomore Carter Wells posted a 79 and Dryden Bauman was the fourth score at 83. The Shamrocks' fifth score was an 88 by Jude Hannahs.

"I felt pretty confident about our two seniors," Robinson said. "I told them they'd have to carry us. You win something like this with your seniors and the one-two punch of Johnson and Byler are something else. I am most pleased with our three, four and five guys because they really played well and came through."

Blain and Byler played off for the runner-up plaque. Blain posted a birdie on the first hole to take the award.

The Cadets — like the Shamrocks — had two players on the All-OVAC squad, which includes top five and ties. Dembiczak and Aiden Grubler, who shot a 75, were recognized.


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# OVAC GOLF

**OVAC Golf Championship**  
5A  
**(at Oglebay Park's Jones Course, Par 71)**  
Dover 321, Wheeling Park 336, Warren Local 341, Parkersburg South 343, New Philadelphia 352, John Marshall 361, Morgantown 384, Weir 388, University 389, Steubenville 425, Indian Creek 437, Brooke NS.

D — Begue 78, Spraggins 78, Klar 82, Miller 83.  
WP — Seivertson 74, Goodrich 84, Salvatori 85, Leary 83.  
WL — S. Davis 79, Smeeks 80, C. Davis 89, Weihl 93.  
PS — Busch 81, Redmon 86, Corley 88, Snyder 88.  
NP — Wherley 83, Hootman 88, Keniff 89, Ortiz 92.  
JM — Orndorff 82, Douglas 94, Miller 97, Cody Sprowls 99.  
M — Rolto 91, Wise 93, Patrick 95, Kline 105.  
W — Jas. Tustin 88, Simich 98, Jes. Tustin 93, Smith 109.  
U — Giobbia 86, Watson 97, Solomon 101, Zeni 105.  
S — Krause 85, Gibas 103, Davis 111, Vostatek 126.  
IC — Miller 103, Merriman 105, Porter 110, Garbade 119.  
B — Bilby 72 (medalist), Jezierski 102, Spensky 122.

**All-OVAC Team**  
Bilby, Brooke; Seivertson, Wheeling Park; Begue, Dover; Spraggins, Dover; S. Davis, Warren Local.

**Class 3A**  
**(at Oglebay Park's Crispin Course, Par 71)**  
Barnesville 301, Linsly 303, Fort Frye 333, Buckeye Trail 335, Magnolia 345, Union Local 355, Crestview 370, Monroe Central 373, River 430.

B — Johnson 69, Byler 70, Wells 79, Bauman 83.  
L — Dembiczak 71, Grubler 75, Dunlevy 76, Bisbocci 81.  
FF — Brooker 77, Shilling 77, Layton 83, Carpenter 79, McCurdy 79.  
BT — Smith 81, Castello 82, Millhon 83, Douglass 89.  
Mag — Blain 70, Parker 77, Milliken 94, Heil 104.  
UL — Shugert 76, Porter 81, Butts 96, Crum 102.  
C — McCloskey 90, Robb 92, Hill 93, Bandy 95.  
MC — Sloan 83, Bettinger 90, Perkins 98, Price 104.  
R — Siburt 100, Swegard 109, Palmer 110, Knight 111.

**All OVAC Team**  
Johnson, Barnesville; Blain, Magnolia; Byler, Barnesville; Dembiczak, Linsly; Grubler, Linsly.

**NBCSN — Vuelta A Espana:**  
Stage 19, 101 miles, Avila to Toledo, Spain (taped)

## GOLF

**3 a.m.**  
GOLF — LPGA Tour Golf: The Solheim Cup, Day 1, Perthshire, Scotland

**8 a.m.**  
GOLF — LPGA Tour Golf: The Solheim Cup, Day 1, Perthshire, Scotland

**2 p.m.**  
GOLF — PGA Tour Golf: Military Tribute at The Greenbrier, second round, White Sulphur Springs, W.V.

**3 a.m. (Saturday)**  
GOLF — LPGA Tour Golf: The Solheim Cup, Day 2, Perthshire, Scotland

## HORSE RACING

**4:30 p.m.**  
FS2 — Belmont Live: From Elmont, N.Y.

**HIGH SCHOOL FOOTBALL**  
7 p.m.  
ESPN2 — IMG Academy (Fla.) at St. Joseph's Prep (Pa.)

## MLB BASEBALL

**4 p.m.**  
ATT — Pittsburgh at Chicago Cubs

**7 p.m.**  
MLB — Minnesota at Cleveland OR Milwaukee at St. Louis (8 p.m.)

**SOCCER (MEN'S)**  
2:30 p.m.  
FS2 — Bundesliga: Wolfsburg at Fortuna Dusseldorf

**10 p.m.**  
FS2 — Liga MX: Tigres UANL at Club Tijuana

## TENNIS

**6 a.m.**  
TENNIS — WTA: The Hana-cupid, Zhengzhou & Jiangxi Opens, Quarterfinals

**1 p.m.**  
TENNIS — USTA: Pro Circuit Cary, Quarterfinals, Cary, N.C.

**10:30 p.m.**  
TENNIS — WTA: The Hana-Cupid Open, Semifinals, Hiroshima, Japan

**2 a.m. (Saturday)**  
TENNIS — WTA: The Zhengzhou & Jiangxi Opens, Semifinals

**6 a.m. (Saturday)**  
TENNIS — WTA: The Zhengzhou & Jiangxi Opens, Semifinals

**WORLD CUP BASKETBALL (MEN'S)**  
4 a.m.  
ESPN — FIBA World Cup China 2019: Spain vs. Australia, Semifinal I, Beijing

**8 a.m.**  
ESPNEWS — FIBA World Cup China 2019: Argentina vs. France, Semifinal II, Beijing

3. Georgia	2-0	1415	3
4. Oklahoma	2-0	1362	4
5. LSU	2-0	1314	6
6. Ohio State	2-0	1309	5
7. Notre Dame	1-0	1118	8
8. Florida	2-0	1064	10
9. Auburn	2-0	993	13
10. Michigan	2-0	945	7
11. Penn State	2-0	868	14
12. Utah	2-0	839	15
13. Texas	1-1	823	9
14. Wisconsin	2-0	739	16
15. Texas A&M	1-1	668	11
16. Central Florida	2-0	584	17
17. Oregon	1-1	568	18
18. Iowa	2-0	496	19
19. Michigan State	2-0	446	20
20. Washington State	2-0	418	21
21. Washington	1-1	314	12
22. Boise State	2-0	214	24
23. Mississippi State	2-0	134	NR
24. Southern Cal	2-0	120	NR
25. Maryland	2-0	109	NR

Others Receiving Votes: Virginia 64; Kentucky 62; California 51; Iowa State 48; Memphis 46; Oklahoma State 45; North Carolina 42; Boston College 31; Army 31; TCU 28; North Carolina State 28; Colorado 16; Stanford 6; Hawaii 7; Appalachian State 6; Minnesota 5; Wyoming 3; Wake Forest 2; Troy 2; Arizona State 2; Tulane 1; Nebraska 1; Navy 1.

# WEST LIBERTY

**No. 4 Notre Dame College 43**  
**West Liberty 24**

Notre Dame 9 13 0 21 — 43  
West Liberty 3 7 7 7 — 24  
W — Rozanc 46 FG, 12:50  
N — Harding 28 FG — 7:22  
N — Greene 1 run (kick failed), 5:07

N — Greene 1 run (kick failed), 12:10  
N — McLaughlin 70 run (Harding kick), 7:47  
W — Cola 2 pass from Phillips, (Rozanc kick), 4:26  
W — Wimbish 3 run (Rozanc kick), 4:23  
N — McLaughlin 7 run (Harding kick), 14:57  
N — McLaughlin 8 run (Harding kick), 9:13

W — Robinson 10 pass from Phillips (Rozanc kick), 8:55  
N — Mitchell 24 pass from Brimm (Harding kick), 5:07  
**Rushing:** Notre Dame 57-318 5td (McLaughlin 31-258-3td, Greene 12-46-2td, Boyd 4-15, Davis 4-10), West Liberty 28-58-td (Phillips 12-35, Taylor 2-10, Frisby 3-9, Wimbish 9-5 td).

**Passing:** Notre Dame 13-21-126-td-x (all by Brimm), West Liberty 20-41-210-2td-2x (Phillips 16-33-182-2td-x, Taylor 4-9-28-x).

**Receiving:** Notre Dame 13-126-td (Mitchell 5-67-td, Ross 5-37, Hood 2-17, Turski 1-5), West Liberty 20-210 (Robinson 6-82-td, Rita 3-44, Cole 3-13-td, Billeter 2-19).

**First Downs:** Notre Dame 21, West Liberty 13.  
**Penalties:** Notre Dame 5-40, West Liberty 8-79.

**Fumbles:** Notre Dame 1-1, West Liberty 1-1.

# VOLLEYBALL

**St. Clairsville d. Martins Ferry**  
25-13, 25-22, 25-18  
S — Sefschik 16 kills; Schoolcraft 4 aces, 11 digs; Biancarelli 18 assists; Brookover 14 assists.  
M — Thomas 5 pts, 5 assists, 10 blks. 7 digs; Doyle 3 pts, 1 ace, 25 blocks, 20 digs, 3 kills; Bruney 3 pts, 1 ace, 8 digs; Goff 3 pts, 1 ace, 2 kills, 3 blks, 16 digs; Buska 3 pts, 9 digs; Hughes 20 digs; Masters 3 kills, 5 blks

**Tyler Consolidated d. St. Marys**  
25-5, 25-1, 25-3  
T — Smith 42 pts, 8 aces, 2 kills, 12 assists; Hood 8 kills, 2 blks, 1 dig, 4 pts, 1 ace; Phillips 7 kills, 2 blks, 2 digs, 1 pt; S. Miller 2 kills, 2 assists, 12 pts; A. Miller 3 kills, 1 assist, 8 digs; DeVaughn 5 digs, 2 assists; Spencer 6 pts, 1 ace, 1 dig.

**Wheeling Park d. University**  
30-28, 25-12, 18-25, 36-34  
W — Ritz 41 assists; Franko 18 kills; Guadino 14 kills; Simon 5 blks

**Shadyside d. Bridgeport**  
25-11, 25-12, 25-17  
S — Davis 18 assists, 2 aces; R. Brown 3 kills; Baker 8 kills; Gorby 2 kills; G. Brown 3 kills, 2 digs; Mercer 8 digs.

B — Roberts 4 pts, 2 kills, 2 digs.  
**Paden City d. South Harrison**  
25-8, 25-16  
P — Yeater 4 pts, 1 ace, 2 kills, 12 assists, 9 digs; Weber 3 pts, 2 aces, 15 kills, 3 digs; Kline 3 pts, 1 ace, 1 kill, 1 block, 1 assist; Dalrymple 3 kills, 1 blk; Anderson 5 pts, 3 aces, 1 kill, 1 blk, 7 digs; McDonald 5 pts, 1 blk, 2 assists, 7 digs; Still 7 digs, McElDowney 9 pts, 1 ace, 10 digs.

**Paden City d. Clay-Battelle**  
25-9, 25-7  
P — Yeater 5 pts, 4 kills, 9 assists, 1 blk, 4 digs; Weber 2 pts, 10 kills, 2 assists, 6 digs; Kline 4 pts, 1 kill, 1 blk, 1 assist; Kline 4 pts, 1 kill, 1 blk, 1 assist; Dalrymple 2 kills; Anderson 5 pts, 1 ace, 1 kill, 2 digs; McDonald 8 pts, 3 kills, 4 digs; Still 4 assists, 2 digs; McElDowney 4 pts, 2 aces, 1 kill, 18 digs; Thomas 3 pts; Lewis 1 dig.

**Oak Glen d. Madonna**  
25-12, 25-12, 25-15  
O — Goodlin 9 kills; Stokes 9 kills; Smith 8 aces; Hissam 25 assists; Rogers 7 kills

**Staub Catholic d. Southern**  
25-19, 16-25, 25-14, 25-17  
S — Bahen 20 pts, 9 kills, 15 digs, 3 aces; Symington 19 pts, 10 kills, 2 aces, 1 blk, 13 digs; LeFever 16 pts, 13 assists, 5 kills, 1 blk, 3 digs; Harold 5 kills, 1 blk, 12 digs.

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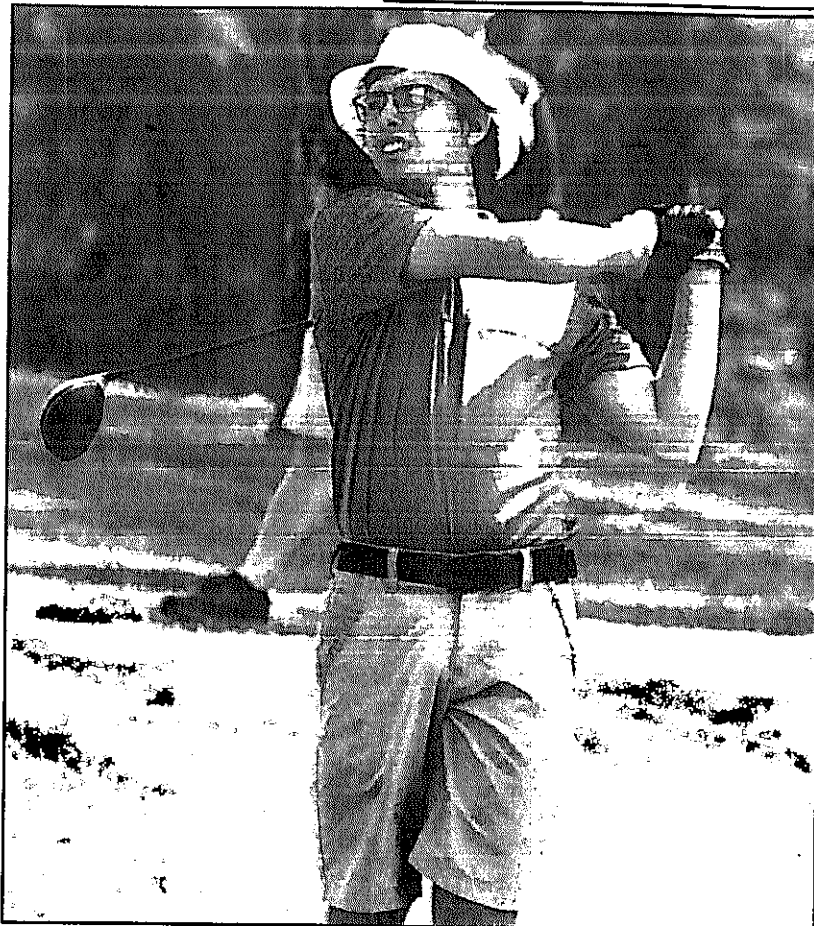
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OVAC CLASS GOLF CHAMPIONSHIPS



# Barnesville wins Class 3A crown

• Shamrocks' Johnson defends medalist crown; Linsly finishes runnerup

By **SETH STASKEY**  
Times Leader Sports Editor

**WHEELING** — As any veteran coach would do, Jerry Robinson did his best this week to shield his Barnesville golf team from any pressure that came along with the quest to repeat as OVAC Class 3A champions.

The plan worked to a tee.

The Shamrocks posted an impressive 301 at Oglebay Park's warm and sunny Crispin Course Thursday afternoon to bring their second consecutive conference championship back to western Belmont County.

"I tried to absorb the pressure, but the kids knew we were the favorite or the ones being hunted," Robinson said. "We knew Linsly was hungry and plays well here, but I did all I could to try to deflect the pressure and play it low key. The kids knew what was at stake."

See, **BARNESVILLE**, Page B2

T-L Photo/SETH STASKEY

**BARNESVILLE'S PAYNE** Johnson follows through on his tee shot on the 18th hole of Thursday's OVAC Class 3A Championship at Oglebay Park's Crispin Course. Johnson shot a round of 2-under, 69 to win the medalist title.

# Dover captures first conference title in Class 5A

By **CODY TOMER**  
For The Times Leader

**WHEELING** — Any time Brooke's Ryan Bilby and Wheeling Park's Noah Seivertson step on the course together, its guaranteed to be must-see golf.

The two may have delivered the most exciting showing on Thursday at the Jones

Course of Oglebay in the OVAC Class 5A Golf Tournament.

Heading into the 12th hole, Seivertson held a two-shot lead over his friendly rival before Bilby came storming back with three straight birdies on 14, 15 and 16 to claim his second consecutive OVAC 5A championship.

The Brooke junior shot a

one-over-par 72 to earn medalist honors with Seivertson carding a 74 for runner-up.

There was a new team champion this year as Dover — in its first year as a member of the OVAC — finished with a 321 for its first conference title.

Two-time defending champion Wheeling Park was next with a 336.

Bilby's comeback victory started on the 13th hole when he recorded a near 20-foot bogey putt — a shot he had to make to stay in contention.

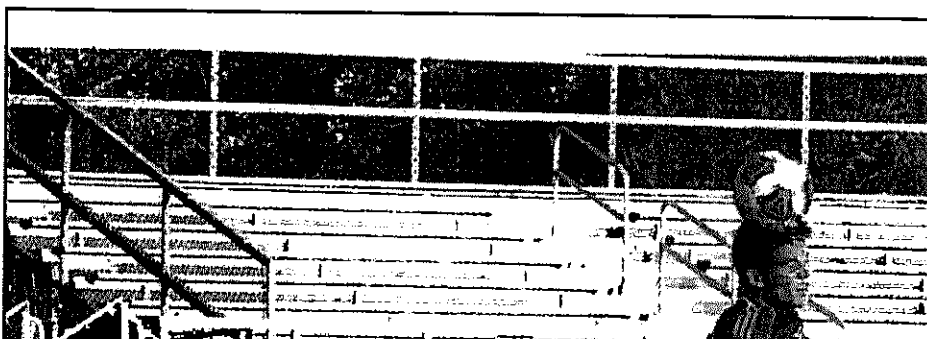
"I knew on 13 that it was a must-make. If I had missed that shot it would have went downhill from there. When I made that it was probably the turning point."

See, **DOVER**, Page B2

# Red Devils whitewash Huskies

By **KIM NORTH**  
Times Leader Sports Writer

**ST. CLAIRSVILLE** — Despite



## atures flavor

Valley to Marietta well. football season with id so with a roster ne former OVAC hat a step farther, p and three were ame chosen by the

— a pre-season ve from his run- 121 yards, hauled l scored twice. go had a strong i three tackles and grad Troy Pontius

s were among the eers. e start for a Mari- al this week, were e receiver, Toron-

Jones — a true nd a sack. Edison : Catholic product

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-BURKE, Kent ened the season na State from his owed that up with rry against Ken-

rolina A&T — d up a 9-catch, on-opening win

Thornberg absolutely drilled the ball into the back of the net on St. Clairsville's 14th shot as other, nobody can score goals. I think we can at-tribute that to a great group of boys we have that 10 minutes ... they (St. Clairsville) are they scored three goals at the end."

## • Barnesville

Continued from Page B1

The Shamrocks did receive quite a battle from the Cadets. Linsly finished with an impressive 303 to take the runner-up plaque. Third place went to Fort Frye, which hung a 333 on the board. Buckeye Trail was fourth with a 335 and Magnolia was fifth with a 345.

Barnesville, which now owns three OVAC titles in golf, set the tone early thanks to the fine play of senior standout Payne Johnson.

Johnson and his playing group, which included runner-up medalist Trey Blain of Magnolia, Linsly's Ryan Dembiczak and Crestview's Ethan McCloskey, needed just over three hours to complete their rounds.

"There was some impressive golf being played in that group," Robinson said.

Indeed.

Johnson — by virtue of a par on the 18th — won his second straight OVAC medalist crown with a solid round of 2-under, 69.

He knocked home a par putt after Blain, who was battling stroke for stroke all day, watched a par just go by the hole. He tapped in for par, setting the stage for Johnson to repeat.

"It feels good (to win in-

dividually), but getting the team championship again makes it even better," Johnson said. "I shot 72 here last year, which was good, but I am very happy with how I played today."

Johnson made the turn at 38 and caught fire on the backside of the course, which is extremely gettable. Actually, he began to turn it on when he got a lengthy putt to drop on the ninth for a birdie. It seemed to ignite Johnson, who proceeded to knock down four birdies and nary a bogey on the backside.

"I came into the round wanting to shoot around even par on the front, but that didn't happen because I had a couple of bad holes," Johnson said. "When I made (the putt) on nine, I knew I was just about to tear it up."

Though Johnson won his group and defeated Blain, there were some anxious moments for him. He had to wait several minutes until any other groups came back. One of the next groups back included Barnesville's number two player senior Jim Byler.

Byler signed for a round of 1-under 70 and earned a spot in a runner-up medalist playoff with Blain.

"I honestly thought Jim was going to come in with a 68 or something like that, which would have been great to see," Johnson said. "We all knew coming into the tournament that we had a target on our back and we'd have to play well."

With Johnson and Byler's scores on the board, the Shamrocks' waited for other scores. Sophomore Carter Wells posted a 79 and Dryden Bauman was the fourth score at 83. The Rocks' fifth score was an 88 by Jude Hannahs.

"I felt pretty confident about our two seniors," Robinson said. "I told them they'd have to carry us. You win something like this with your seniors and the one-two punch of Johnson and Byler are something else. I am most pleased with our three, four and five guys because they really played well and came through."

Blain and Byler played off for the runner-up plaque. Blain posted a birdie on the first hole to take the award.

The Cadets — like the Shamrocks — had two players on the all-OVAC squad, which includes top five and ties. Dembiczak and Aiden Grubler, who shot a 75, were recognized.

## • Marietta

Continued from Page B1

**MATT GREENWOOD**, Wheeling — St. Clairsville graduate made a 28-yard field goal in the loss to Varsity.

**ZACH EKEY**, Wheeling — Steubenville started at right guard for the Cardinals.

**BRADY KOLB**, Wheeling — True freshman Clairsville made his collegiate debut for the Cardinals.

**JOHNNY AGRESTA**, Walsh — Steubenville recorded two tackles in last week's game against D

**ALIJAH DEMITRAS**, Walsh — Steubenville started along the Cavaliers' offensive line.

**JACOB STOLL**, Walsh — Steubenville Cent appeared in last week's Walsh loss.

### DIVISION III

**CHRISTIAN WITCHEY**, St. Vincent's — Sville graduate punted twice for 83 yards in last week to Ithaca College.

**VON CAWING**, Oberlin — Linsly School had four tackles and picked off a pass in the 3-Kalamazoo.

**JERMAIN SNODGRASS**, Bethany — Wheeling product appeared in the Bison loss last week.

**DEVAUGHN MCWHORTER**, Bethany — V Park graduate played in last week's loss.

**JORDAN ALDRIDGE**, Bethany — Wheeling alumnus played in last week's game.

**KIRKLAND DAVIS**, Muskingum — Buckeye product caught a 12-yard touchdown pass.

**LUKE MENGES**, Waynesburg — Union Local had five tackles and caught a pass for 17 yards.

**LUCAS DONLEY**, Waynesburg — Union Local nos logged two tackles in the loss to Muskingum.

### CROSS COUNTRY

**JACOB BISHOP**, Alabama-Huntsville — Mary native finished fifth in the opening meet of the running the course in 25:05 in a meet in Montavel

**SHAYE BECKETT**, California, Pa. — Bellair placed 22nd overall at the Bethany Invitation: 24:50.

**MEGAN BATEMAN**, California, Pa. — Union graduate finished 44th at Bethany in a time of 25:

**HANNAH KEMP**, West Liberty — Union Local was the first Hilltopper to cross the line at Bethany ninth place in 24:08.

**JAMIE FOGLE**, West Liberty — Martins Ferry was one of the Hilltoppers at the line during the Invitational.

### WOMEN'S SOCCER

**ALYSSA OTTO**, Mercyrhurst — Freshman Clairsville started at forward for the Lakers. She had three shots on goal in a scoreless tie.

### GOLF

**EMILY HOLZOPFEL**, Wheeling University — Freshman from Buckeye Local opened her collegiate career with a tie for 68th place finish. She shot round and 88.

**HOWIE PETERSON**, West Liberty — Former Fom donna standout earned Mountain East Golfer of the Year after the Hilltoppers' victory at Mount Union.

He shot a 71 and 73 en route to sharing the runner-up honors.

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• Dover

Continued from Page B1

It certainly was as Bilby sunk a 25-foot birdie putt on 14 to get to within one stroke before coming to within 3-feet on his tee-shot on the Par-3 15, where he birdied to tie the match.

He took control on 16 where he drained his third straight birdie putt for a two-stroke lead after a Seivertson bogey.

"Noah had me by two and I knew I had to do something," Bilby said. "He was playing a good round and I was kind of struggling. I had been making good putts all day but made nothing until then.

"I was kind of due and they really started falling. I was just reading the greens well and hitting good putts."

His performance impressed his coach but didn't surprise him.

"This kid is amazing," Brooke coach Ron Ujcich Jr. said. "That bogey putt on 13 was a savior for him. It kept him in the match and then he turns around and goes birdie, birdie, birdie and made a 35-40-footer on 16 to birdie that one.

"For me, I'm not surprised because I've seen him do it so many times, now. He never loses his composure, he never loses his focus and he never lets things get him down. It's unique for a high school kid to be able to do that."

He finished with back-to-back pars to wrap up the victory. His adrenaline showed as he crushed his tee-shot on 18 as the fans looked on from the clubhouse.

"I felt like that was a really good drive," Bilby said. "It landed about 50 yards in. I thought, I might as well finish with some flair."

Seivertson did all he could to keep pace with Bilby — making par on 13 holes and adding a birdie on No. 9.

• NDC

Continued from Page B1

players that can play. We didn't back down and gave them a fight. Their coach (Mike Jacobs) probably said it best to me. He goes 'If

margin grew to 5-0 in the 28th minute. Stout picked up his second helper of the match.

Freshman Jesse Brannan banged home a rebound after Waggoner had denied a blast by Andy Schmidt to make it 6-0 in the 74th minute.

Thornberg re-direct a cross from Brannan into the net in the 77th minute and Stout lofted the ball from 35 yards out that sailed over Waggoner's outstretched arms and just under the crossbar as time expired. Thornberg assisted on the final tally.

"He's been a great addition. He's a good player," Ayari said of Thornberg, who joined the Red Devils after transferring from Union Local. Due to the Ohio High School Athletic Association transfer rule, Thornberg was allowed to play the first half of the season, but must sit out the second half and postseason, as well.

"No player is above the team, however," Ayari stressed. "So, without the rest of the players delivering the balls in or playing passes to each other, nobody can score goals. I think we can attribute that to a great group of boys we have that

who have played well all season. Hopefully, we can keep improving."

Senior goalkeeper Ethan Banks was only called upon to make a trio of saves as most of the action was in the Harrison Central end of the pitch.

"We still defended with high pressure and got the ball early. I think that's what helped us a lot," Ayari noted. "We have some nagging injuries. Some players are hurt. Some are tired, but we continue to get good results. So we're pretty happy. I can't complain."

That wasn't the case for second-year Harrison Central head coach Derek Gramlich.

"The first 10 minutes of the match we were in it. It was 50-50. We had a couple of chances. They had a couple of chances," he assessed. "Then it was one defensive mistake after another and it was 5-0 at the half. I started putting my second string guys in in the second half and we held them and we held them, but then the last 10 minutes ... they (St. Clairsville) are good and they scored three goals at the end."

• Marietta

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