

Counsel/B3
Comics/B4
Classified/B5-6

SPORTS

Tuesday,
April 13, 2021



T.L. Photo/SETH STASKEY

ST. CLAIRSVILLE junior Casadie DiBetta swims the 100 breaststroke during a meet this season. She was crowned the OVAC champion in the event Monday when the official conference results were announced. The Red Devils also claimed the team title for the fourth straight season.

St. C. teen wins state mat crown

By **KIM NORTH**
Times Leader Sports Writer

ST. CLAIRSVILLE – In his eighth year of wrestling, Brody Perzanowski is a state champion.

The 13-year-old recently stood high atop the awards podium after claiming the Ohio Athletic Committee's Junior High Division IV 110-pound title. He did so inside the Covelli Center on the campus of Youngstown State University.

"It feels good to be a state champion. It shows that all my hard work has paid off," Perzanowski, who competed for Union Local, said. "I started wrestling when I was 5."
See, **STATE**, Page B2



Photo Provided

BRODY PERZANOWSKI, of St. Clairsville, has had his hand raised plenty of times this winter. The 13-year-old competes for the Union Local and recently won the Ohio Athletic Committee state championship at 110 pounds.

St. C. girls win fourth straight OVAC

By **SETH STASKEY**
Times Leader Sports Editor

Though it took longer than originally expected, the Ohio Valley Athletic Conference swimming champions have been crowned for the 2020-21 season.

Because of the delay in the start of the West Virginia regular season due to COVID-19 implications, and Ohio remaining on its regular schedule for prep sports, the annual OVAC Bill Brubaker Swimming Championship meet was canceled and replaced by a paper format in which marks from through the regular seasons were compiled and scored to determine the

team and individual champions.

With West Virginia into its postseason, OVAC Swim Director Bill Brubaker released the 'results' Monday morning.

Dover's boys and girls swept the 5A boys and girls titles for the second straight season. The Tornado boys finished with 486 points, while the girls accumulated 392.5 points.

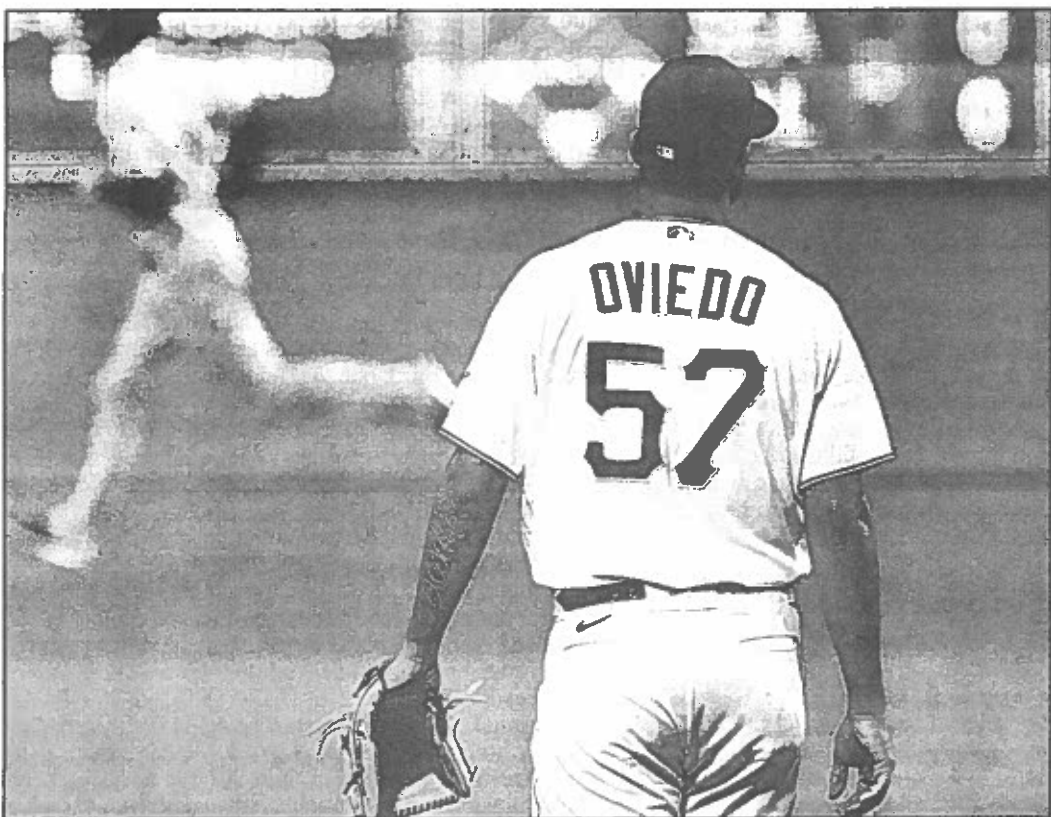
In the combined 1A-4A race, the St. Clairsville girls claimed their fourth consecutive crown with 310.5 points, while the Linsly boys captured their 61st conference title in the pool with 267 points.

GIRLS
St. Clairsville, which placed eighth in

the Division II state meet with 83 points, captured four individual titles en route to the championship.

"I am really excited for the kids that the hard work they put in all season was able to be recognized," St. C. Head coach Ernie Banks said. "Obviously, it was a different year in many ways. My hat's off to the OVAC and what it did to make sure champions were crowned. Obviously, we all missed the competition and the meet, which is the highlight of our regular-season schedule."

The Red Devils won a pair of individual events. Junior Casadie DiBetta won her
See, **OVAC**, Page B2



AP PHOTO

SAN DIEGO Padres' Wil Myers, back left, rounds the bases after hitting a home run off Pittsburgh Pirates pitcher Luis Oviedo (57) in the sixth inning of a baseball game Monday in Pittsburgh.

Darvish, Padres get past Pirates, 6-2

PITTSBURGH (AP) – The San Diego Padres have the best bullpen in the majors at the moment. The most overworked one, too.

Yu Darvish did what he could to give them most of the night off.

The 34-year-old ace allowed three hits over seven dominant innings. Wil Myers drove in five runs and the Padres extended their strong start with a 6-2 win against the Pittsburgh Pirates on Monday.

Darvish (1-0), acquired from the Chicago Cubs in December in hopes of helping San Diego chase down the World Series champion Los Angeles Dodgers, struck out six and walked one in a crisp performance as the Padres won their fourth straight. The four-time All-Star worked efficiently, throwing 63 of 95 pitches for strikes and permitting just one runner past second base.

Perhaps just as importantly, Darvish ate up 21 outs to give the bullpen a bit of a break. San Diego relievers

entered the game having worked a major league-high 43 innings, including 8 1/3 in Texas on Sunday after starter Adrian Morejon left in the first with an injury.

Darvish made sure only light work was required against the rebuilding Pirates. His lone hiccup came with two outs in the third when Adam Frazier singled and Phil Evans followed with an RBI double that tied the game. Darvish retired 14 of his final 15 batters in a start that mirrored most of the ones he made for the Cubs last season, when he went 8-3 with a 2.01 ERA to finish second in NL Cy Young Award voting behind Trevor Bauer.

"It's no secret what we had to do yesterday," Padres manager Jayce Tingler said. "We're obviously short-handed in the bullpen and for Yu to go out and give us those seven innings was huge."

The game marked the 26th time in his career Darvish allowed three hits

See, **PIRATES**, Page B2

Browns still putting rush on Clowney



New closer Clase brings the heat for Indians

CLEVELAND (AP) – Seconds after the ball leaves

• Browns

Continued from Page B1

in the wild-card round before losing to Kansas City.

Cleveland has been in the market to upgrade the defensive end spot after Olivier Vernon ruptured an Achilles tendon in the regular-season finale and wasn't re-signed. The Browns signed free agent Takk McKinley to a one-year, \$4.25 million contract last month.

General manager Andrew Berry's draft plans could be affected if the Browns sign Clowney. Cleveland has the No. 26 overall pick and will likely add another defensive piece after addressing the unit with several signings in free agency.

Prep Linescores

SOFTBALL
St. Clairsville 11, Cambridge 1
St. Clairsville 106 22 - 11 11 1
Cambridge 000 10 - 1 3 2
St. Clairsville: Jaskowiak wp (7K, 1BB) and R. Finnical
Thoburn D. S. 2br; Jaskowiak T. 2br; Namack D.; Finnical S. D.
rbr; Salisbury HR, S. 2br; Dubensky S. 2br; White 2S
C - Bardson lp (1K, 2BB); Mann (5); and Bromfield
Matthews S. rbr

Shenandoah 8, Barnesville 5
Shenandoah 210 200 3 - 8 7 1
Barnesville 300 000 2 - 5 8 5
S - Merry (0K, 2BB); Leach (1) (6K, 3BB) and Frye
Frye D. Leach HR, 2br; Farmer T. rbr; Irwin T.; Ramsey S. D.
B - Calowell lp (4K, 2BB) and Hunter, Starr 2S; Hunter
2S; Johnston HR, 2br.

BASEBALL
Monroe Central 10, Steubenville Catholic 1
Monroe Central 110 203 3 - 10 13 1
Steubenville CC 010 000 0 - 1 1 0
MC - Stoehr wp (5K, 0BB); Kroll (5) (0K, 0BB)
Vinskovich (7) (0K, 0BB) and Lydick, Hogue 2S; Demchak S
rbr; Stoehr 2D. S. 4br; Lydick 2S. 2br; Kroll 2S. rbr; Kinney
S. rbr; Winland D.
SCC - Anderson lp (2K, 4BB); Soema (6) (0K, 2BB)
and Dorsey, Kissinger rbr.

Cambridge 4, St. Clairsville 3
St. Clairsville 002 000 1 - 3 5 2
Cambridge 000 020 2 - 4 6 4
St. Clairsville: Vicker (3K, 2BB); Seltzer (4) (2K, 2BB); Balgo
lp (7) (1K, 2BB) and Starks, Blomquist 2S. 2br; Shields 2S.
C - Perkins wp (5K, 2BB) and Rocco, Bond D. S. 2br;
Whaley 2S

Correction

In Sunday's edition, the age for Union Local head baseball coach Wade Smolira was incorrectly reported. Smolira just turned 51 years old.

St. Clairsville softball rolls at Cambridge

CAMBRIDGE - The Red Devils completed the season sweep of the Bobcats Monday evening inside Cambridge City Park, posting an 11-1 victory.

Senior Jenna Jaskowiak was sharp in the circle with seven strikeouts. She also had a two-run triple.

Abby Salisbury provided the big lumber with a home run, single and two RBI. Hannah Thoburn had a double, single and two RBI. Emily Dubinsky had a single and two RBI. Rachel Finnical also had a single and RBI. Maria White had two hits.

Shenandoah 8, Barnesville 5

BARNESVILLE - The Zeps completed the season sweep of the Shamrocks inside Memorial Park Monday.

Freshman Mya Leach came on in relief to get the pitching win with six strikeouts. She also hit a two-run home run.

Barnesville was led at the plate by Tessa Johnston who had a home run and two RBI. Olivia Starr and Shayla Hunter each had two singles.

BASEBALL
Monroe Central 10,
Steubenville Catholic 1

Chang hits Grandal with throw as White Sox beat Indians 4-3

CHICAGO (AP) - First baseman Yu Chang hit Yasmani Grandal with a throw trying to force him at second base as Nick Madrigal raced home with the winning run in the ninth inning, and the Chicago White Sox beat the Cleveland Indians 4-3 on Monday night.

Adam Eaton homered in his second straight game and rookie Yermir Mercedes got the winning rally started with one out in the ninth when he singled to shortstop against Emmanuel Clase (1-

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The ball ricocheted toward the left side of the infield, and Madrigal - running for Mercedes - sped home.

Eaton hit a three-run homer in the third against Triston McKenzie. Dallas Keuchel pitched into the

STEUBENVILLE - The Seminoles broke open a tight game with three runs in each of their final two at bats Monday.

The Seminoles pitching limited the Crusaders to one single. Wade Stoehr was the winner, working into the fifth with five strikeouts. He also had two doubles, a single and four RBI.

Landen Lydick had two singles and two RBI, while Collin Kroll had two singles and a RBI. Kade Demchak had a RBI single. Xavier Kinney singled home a run and Jake Winland had a double.

Cambridge 4, St. Clairsville 3

CAMBRIDGE - The Red Devils allowed two runs in the bottom of the seventh and the host Bobcats pulled out a victory to salvage a season sweep.

Bond drove in two runs with a single in the seventh give the Bobcats the win. Senior Sean Perkins, who is committed to Akron, was the winner on the mound with five strikeouts and two walks.

St. Clairsville (6-3) received two singles and a like number of RBI from freshman Braylen Blomquist. Logan Shields also had two hits.

sixth for the White Sox after Carlos Rodon was scratched because of an upset stomach. Codi Heuer (1-0) struck out a career-high four over 2 1/3 innings, and Chicago stopped Cleveland's four-game win streak.

Keuchel gave up three runs and three hits. The two-time All-Star, working on four days' rest, retired 12 in a row following Eddie Rosario's two-run homer in the second before exiting with the bases loaded and none out in the sixth.

• Closer

Continued from Page B1

traditional statistics, he has allowed one hit in four innings with six strikeouts. After giving up a one-out single in the ninth Sunday, Clase induced a game-ending double play for his second save to complete Cleveland's three-game sweep.

Manager Terry Francona hasn't formally named Clase his closer.

It goes without saying the 23-year-old Clase has grabbed the job.

"I love the way he attacks," Francona said. "I made a comment in spring training that he may have thrown too many strikes. And if that's a problem, we can deal with that. His future and present are really bright."

It's only happened twice at Progressive Field, but when the bullpen door opens and Clase emerges and heads toward the mound, there's a buzz in the ballpark.

There's one in the dugout, too.

"It's something that kind of fires me up, like, 'Here comes the big guy,'" slugger Franmil Reyes said

There's no chance they're getting anything on this guy."

The Tigers didn't have much success against him, and Detroit manager A.J. Hinch came away impressed by Clase's velocity and location.

"When he can be around that strike zone and make the hitter defensive from the get-go, he can be really electric," Hinch said. "You never know how a guy is going to respond pitching late in games. But you know he's going to bring 100 mph in his back pocket every time with some cut action, and the hitter's probably going to be uncomfortable from the outset."

• OVAC

Continued from Page B1

her specialty the 100 breaststroke in 1:05.25, which was almost three full seconds better than her nearest competitor.

Classmate Kylie McKeegan was the champion by three hundredths of a second in the 50 freestyle.

The Red Devils also claimed the 200 medley and 400 free relays. The 200 team posted a 1:52.92, while the 400 squad touched the wall in a season-best time of 3:50.19.

Along with their championships, St. C. was second in four events. Maggie Marody (200 and 500 free) fueled that list, while DiBetta was the silver medalist in the 200 individual medley and Olivia Moyer was second in the 100 fly.

"There were some surprises in there," Banks said of the final results. "But, for the most part, it came pretty close what I would have thought. It's neat to finally see the results and all of the times. I am sure some of the kids were waiting for these on pins and needles."

Wheeling Park, which finished second in the 5A division and third overall, was led by senior Abby Turner. She claimed a pair of events. She was the 200 free champion with a 1:52.36 and also won the 100 free in 54.29.

The Patriots finished second in the 400 relay and Jenna Bopp was second in the 100 breast.

BOYS

Linsly finished with an impressive 267 accumulated points, which was second most overall and 77 more than runner-up St. Clairsville, which had just four competitors on the roster.

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All told, the Cadets swam eight meets and none were bigger than a triangular.

The only event the Cadets won the OVAC title in was the 200 free relay, which they posted a 1:33.60.

Frederico Colloca-Bianchi was the runner-up in both the 50 freestyle and 100 backstroke. The Cadets' 200 medley relay team was also second.

"It was a challenging season ... the most challenging I've had in my career," Brubaker admitted. "The kids took everything in stride and we're excited for them."

Wheeling Park, which finished fifth in the 5A division, was led by Owen Leary. He claimed the 50 and 100 freestyles in 22.14 and 49.03, respectively.

The schools will receive the team and individual awards at today's mandatory athletics directors meeting at Belmont College.

• State

Continued from Page B1

In winning his championship, he did so in impressive fashion. Of his five matches, the first three didn't last long at all as the sixth-grader recorded pins in 22, 37 and 30 seconds. He earned a 5-0 decision in the semifinals before winning his finals match over Caige Horak of Marion Pleasant, 7-0.

He was perfect this season, going 28-0 and capping it with his state championship.

"Wrestling is my favorite sport because I get to be part of a team while also competing individually," he said. "In wrestling, you rely on your own dedication to be successful."

He went 3-0 at the New Years Brawl in Zanesville on Jan. 2 and followed that up with a 4-0 showing during Ohio's Top Talent in Sandusky eight days later. He also went 4-0 the next weekend at the Martins Ferry Melee and finished up the month with a 3-0 outing at the Bobcat Brawl in Zanesville.

Perzanowski went 4-0 in Canfield on Feb. 13. During a March Matness event in Zanesville in late February, he went 5-0 at 120 pounds to claim a title.

• Pirates

Continued from Page B1

or fewer in seven innings. He admitted he tried to induce contact early to save pitches before a fastball to Bryan Reynolds in the third, one that felt so good everything else sort of came together.

"Obviously, you know that our bullpen had been taxed because of what happened last night," Darvish said. "For me the goal was to go as long and deep as possible."

CAHILL CLIMBS BACK

Trevor Cahill, signed as a free agent a month ago and given a shot to fill out a patchwork Pirates rotation, bounced back from a rocky 2021 debut by matching Darvish nearly pitch for pitch. Cahill allowed one run on five hits with two walks and eight strikeouts in five innings, relying heavily on movement to offset a fastball that tops out at 91 mph.

"I feel like you're never really satisfied, but I think I'm definitely getting to where I'm being comfortable out there," Cahill said. "It seems like a regular season game form, I guess. It's hard to explain. Just the whole environment thing, getting comfortable with runners on and all of that, the signs and everything that goes into it. I just felt a lot more comfortable today."

UP NEXT

Padres: Blake Snell (0-0, 1.86 ERA) will make his third start for San Diego after being acquired from Tampa Bay in the offseason. Snell lost his only career start against Pittsburgh, dropping a 6-2 decision on June 28, 2017. Only one player who appeared in that game remains with the Pirates: RF Gregory Polanco.

Pirates: Chad Kuhl (0-1, 6.43) will try to work past the fourth inning for the first time this season on Tuesday.

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BUCS

(Continued from Page 9)

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MYERS ROLLING

Myers hit a two-run homer to the bushes beyond center field in the sixth off 21-year-old reliever Luis Oviedo (0-1) to put San Diego in front to stay. Myers added an RBI single in the first to go with a two-run single in the seventh and is batting .370 (10 for 27) during his seven-game hitting streak. Coming to the plate with teammates on base is helping his approach.

"When you've got guys that are on base, it puts a lot more stress on the pitcher," Myers said. "You work your at-bats to look for a mistake."

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WHITE SOX 4, INDIANS 3

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The ball ricocheted toward the left side of the infield, and Madrigal — running for Mercedes — sped home.

NATIONALS 5
CARDINALS 2

ST. LOUIS (AP) — Kyle Schwarber doubled in a run in his delayed Washington debut. Andrew Stevenson had a pinch-hit homer and the Nationals beat the

St. Louis Cardinals.

BREWERS 6, CUBS 3

MILWAUKEE (AP) — Pinch-hitter Luis Urias drove in three runs with a go-ahead double, part of a six-run sixth inning for the Brewers.

RAYS 1, RANGERS 0

ST. PETERSBURG, Fla. (AP) — Tyler Glasnow struck out a career-high 14 in 7 2/3 innings and Willy Adames homered in the seventh, lifting Tampa Bay to the victory.

YANKEES 3, BLUE JAYS 1

DUNEDIN, Fla. (AP) — Kyle Higashioka homered twice to support Gerrit Cole, leading the Yankees to the win.

Cole (2-0) allowed one run and three hits in six innings. He struck out eight and walked one.

MARLINS 5, BRAVES 3
10 INNINGS

ATLANTA (AP) — Garrett Cooper hit a tiebreaking single in the 10th inning and finished with three RBIs, leading Miami to the road win.

TIGERS 6, ASTROS 2

HOUSTON (AP) — Rookie Casey Mize tossed seven scoreless innings for his first career win and fellow rookie Akil Baddoo homered again as the Detroit Tigers got a win over the Houston Astros in manager A.J. Hinch's first trip to Houston since he was fired for the team's sign-stealing scheme.

PENS

(Continued from Page 9)

Pittsburgh sits just two points back of Washington and the New York Islanders in the East and is 8-2 over its past 10 games.

Hextall felt compelled to find a way to bolster the Penguins based on the team's play in the face of significant adversity.

"Acquiring Jeff is really a credit to the job our players have done," Hextall said.

The move is the first splashy acquisition for Hextall, hired two months ago after Rutherford's abrupt resigna-

tion. Hextall and Carter have a history together. Hextall was Philadelphia's director of player personnel when the Flyers selected Carter in the first round of the 2003 draft.

Hextall was assistant general manager for the Kings when they acquired Carter at the 2012 trade deadline. Four months later, the Kings won the Stanley Cup with Carter scoring eight goals during the postseason run.

CANADIENS 4
MAPLE LEAFS 2
MONTREAL (AP)

— Tomas Tatar scored two goals — including an empty-netter — and the Montreal Canadiens defeated Toronto 4-2 on Monday night to end the Maple Leafs' six-game winning streak.

BLACKHAWKS 4
BLUE JACKETS 3, OT
COLUMBUS, Ohio (AP) — Brandon Hagel scored 1:25 into overtime, and Chicago beat Columbus for the fifth consecutive time.

RED WINGS 3
HURRICANES 1
RALEIGH, N.C. (AP) — Adam Erne and Filip Zadina scored two quick

third-period goals while Jonathan Bernier finished with 37 saves to help Detroit beat Carolina.

SENATORS 4

JETS 2

OTTAWA, Ontario (AP) — Brady Tkachuk scored twice, Connor Brown extended his franchise-record goal-scoring streak to eight games and Ottawa beat Winnipeg.

Evgenii Dadonov also scored and Thomas Chabot and Josh Norris each had two assists as Ottawa rallied from two goals down and ended a four-game losing streak.

UJCICH

(Continued from Page 9)

"Obviously it was a tragedy. Someone was taken away too early in his life. It touched all of us. He was a stand-up guy," first-year Weir coach Dave Cowden said.

The best way to honor Coach U was to play baseball.

With the sun creeping through the clouds, it began as a perfect day.

However, rain started pouring down in the top of the fourth inning. Following a few brief moments trying to play through it, the umpires called for a delay. Roughly 15 minutes later, the game was, for now, suspended with Weir leading, 3-1, with one out and a runner on second base.

WINTERS

(Continued from Page 9)

"I'm proud of myself and proud of my teammates for always being there.

"My teammates pushing me, my brother pushing me in the offseason and just working hard throughout the past four years especially after the injury and rehab. It's been a long year."

Winters grew up in an athletic family with three brothers, Mark, Mike and Mitch.

state tournament.

Mitch was on the Magnolia boys basketball team which won the state championship in 2015, where he played a significant role.

Mady Winters also grew up in the Magnolia community, which made her accomplishment even more special. And getting to do it on the Blue Eagles' home gym on Senior Night was just another memory she will live with forever.

sports at Magnolia. She was a volleyball player for the Blue Eagles and was a vital player in helping her team win the state championship in 2018. She also was named first team all-state.

In the spring of her sophomore year, she also won two state titles in track and field as she swept the throwing events taking her gold medals in the shot put and discus.

She will be taking her

gles, one double and drove in two runs as Magnolia defeated Frontier. Karissa Postlethwait and Shy White both belted a single and double for the Blue Eagles while Haidyn Bland and Maddie Delaney tallied two singles.

St. Clairsville 11, Cambridge 1
CAMBRIDGE — Abby Salisbury belted a home run along with a single while bringing in two runs as St. Clairsville defeated Cambridge.

Hannah Thoburn was also solid for the Red Devils with a single, double, and two RBI while Jenna Jaskowiak had a two-run triple.

Paige Matthews brought home the lone run for the Bobcats on a single.

OVAC Swimming
Champs CrownedBy SETH STASKEY
For The Intelligencer

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LINSLY

(Continued from Page 9)

"We were scoring Gray had a game-high which allowed us to get 17 points while Darrow up and pressure them netted 16.

"It probably helped that they had 10-12 rebounds as well that quarter. They killed us off the little bit.

"It gave us some ener-

