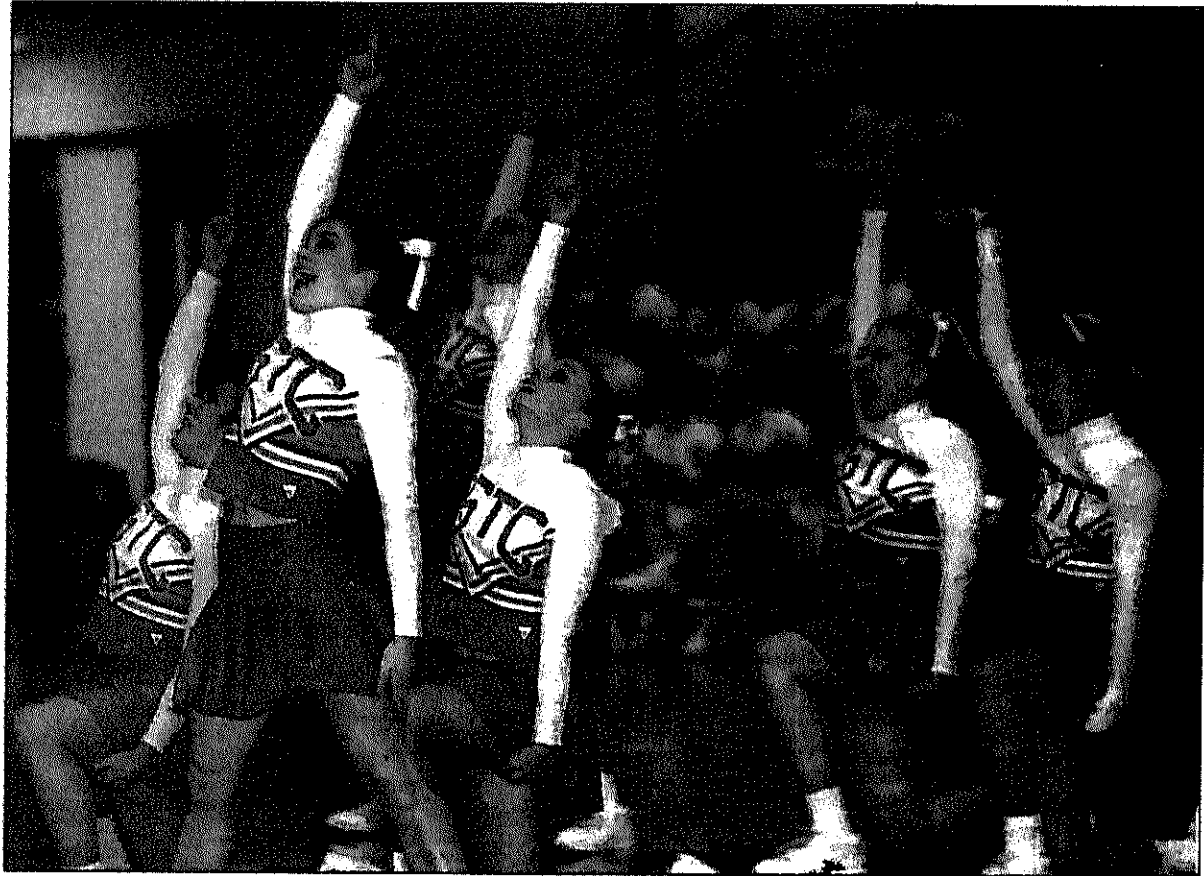


2-21-00

**SHOWING** their team spirit were members of the St. Clairsville Red Devils cheerleading squad (bottom photo) at the ninth annual Ohio Valley Athletic Conference Cheering Competition held Saturday at Wheeling Park High School. The St. Clairsville squad placed second in Class AAA. Team members include Kristen Briggs, Colleen Gereg, Becky Grayhem, Shayla Norman, Amy Petschauer, Stephanie Pifer, Lindsey Tomlan and Chandra Valput. The squad is coached by Sarah Elliott. Shadyside cheerleaders (top photo) perform their routine. They include Erica Weeks, Suzanne McAfee, Kall Bowman, Sarah Feher, Lauren Stanko, Chrissy Harris, Amanda Tierney and Lindsey Giffin.



T-L Photo/PAULA GINTHER  
T-L Photo/JOEL JOSEPH

# OVAC CHAMPIONS



The Wheeling Central Maroon Knight cheerleaders, winners in Saturday's OVAC Class AA championships. Front row (l. to r.), Caroline Palmer, Jamle Nau, Almee Kozusnik, Becky DiProsperis, Missy Weber, Regina Thalman, Nicole Schneid, Shay Stein. Back row (l. to r.), Lexi Casuccio with assistant coach Nikki Casuccio, assistant coach Paula Thomas, Megan Freese, Erica Voellinger, Jessi Spangler, Bethany Swaton, Sara Wizba, head coach Cheryl Zambito and assistant coach Rose Palmer.



The Tyler Consolidated Knights cheerleaders placed first in Class AAA Saturday at the OVAC championships. Front row (l. to r.), Krista Lovell, Sarah Mace, Amanda DeLancey, Carrie Hupp, Olivia Johnston, Virginia Bell, Julie Jones. Back row (l. to r.), Coach Sue Skinner, Brandy Headley, Tiffany Morgan, Sasha Metz, Stefanie Starcher, Lianne Tallman, Lindsay Dober, Brandi Silder, Gina Groves and Coach Dian Stender.

## OVAC Cheering Finals Set for Feb. 19

The ninth annual Ohio Valley Athletic Conference cheering competition is scheduled for Saturday, Feb. 19, at Wheeling Park High School.

This year's event was originally slated to be contested at the Wheeling Civic Center but was moved to avoid a conflict with the West Virginia-Boston College basketball game to be played on that date.

Cheering competition begins at 9:30 a.m., with the Class A teams, followed at 10:30 a.m. by the Class AA tournament.

Awards will be presented to the winners of the 1A and 2A tournaments at 11:45 a.m.

The Class AAA squads compete at 1 p.m., with the Class AAAA finals to be held at 2 p.m. Awards will be distributed following these two tournaments. All of the above times are approximate, according to OVAC co-coordinators Libby Shepherd and Mary Kay Zitzels-



berger. 2-6-00  
Tickets can be purchased in advance at any area Kroger Store. Prices are \$4 for adults and \$3 for students. The cost at the door will be \$5 for adults and \$4 for students.

Awards will be presented to the top five teams in the A/AA divisions and to the top four squads in the triple-A ranks and the top three squads in Class AAAA. This was determined by the number of schools entered in each class.

T-shirts and concessions will be

available throughout the day.

The eight-team field in Class A includes defending champion Paden City. The challengers are Beallsville, Bishop Donahue, Bridgeport, Linsly School, Weirton Madonna, Shadyside and Bellaire St. John's Central.

Joining Wheeling Central in the double-A ranks will be seven rivals, Barnesville, Caldwell, Fort Frye, Monroe Central, River, Steubenville Catholic and Toronto.

The Central girls earlier this year captured the West Virginia Class A championship.

Entered in Class AAA are Bellaire, Harrison Central, Indian Creek, Martins Ferry, St. Clairsville, Tyler Consolidated and Union Local. Tyler's girls are the defending titlists.

In Class AAAA, the six-team field is made up of Buckeye Local, Edison, Steubenville, Weir, defending champion Wheeling Park and Zanesville.



The first place winning Class A Weirton Madonna cheerleading squad in Saturday's OVAC Cheerleading Championships includes, front row, (l. to r.) Courtney Brown, Kristen Finley, Beth Skrab, Marla Parker; row two, Melissa Capito, Kelli Guda, Christina Blair, Maria DeCaria; row three, Megan Gianni, Ashley Greco, Amy Ginley, Emily Felton, Tessie Ezzo, Leah Gaudio, Jody Wilson and coach Stephanie Gaech.



Wheeling Park High School's OVAC Class AAAA cheerleading championship squad includes, front row, from left, Jennifer Hempelmann, Melissa Meigary, Kara Beihl, Mindy Crook, Kristin Sloan, Adrianna Hempelmann; back row, Michelle Ickler, Ashley Ferrell, Somer Strothers, Erin Harold, Leigh Anne Jackson, Danielle Martin, Britney Butler, Kara Jewel, Kelly Jebbia, coach Kim Miller with Kayley Miller. The competition was held at Wheeling Park High School.

*Photos by Art Limann/The Intelligencer*