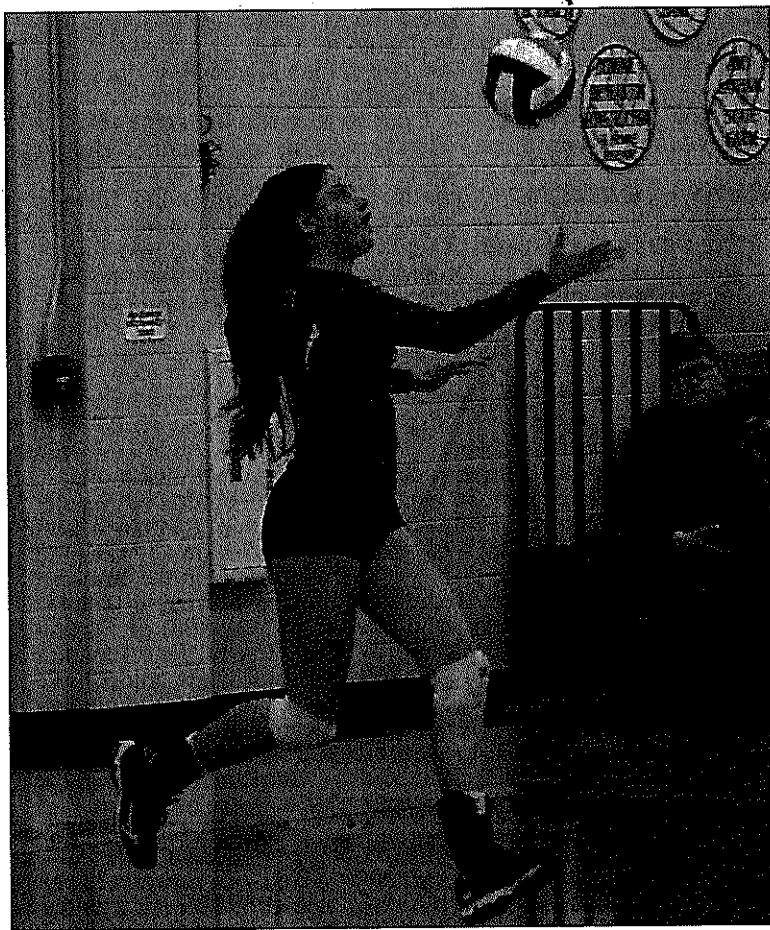


Ohio Sweeps OVAC All-Star Volleyball Match



Seniors enjoy getting to play one final time

By CODY TOMER
Staff Writer

MORRISTOWN — Ohio won its 13th Ohio Valley Athletic Conference All-Star volleyball match in the last 14 years with a four-set sweep of West Virginia on Sunday, by scores of 25-15, 25-14, 25-14 and 25-17 at Union Local High School.

The OVAC All-Star Match has been played for 16 years and West Virginia has only won the contest twice but that does not take away from the talent in the Mountain state.

"Ohio always has pretty good players," West Virginia coach Pam Chapman of Magnolia said. "It is an honor to coach a game like this because you are dealing with the best seniors throughout the OVAC, so it is nice but hard at the same time.

"It is neat to be around different players with different personalities and it is just nice to meet everybody. It was fun and I hope the girls had a good time too."

One player who enjoyed the experience and time spent with her teammates was Magnolia's Kelsi Chapman.

Photo by Cody Tomer

Wheeling Park's Andrea Fox delivers a serve for West Virginia in the 16th Annual OVAC All-Star Volleyball Match on Sunday.

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VOLLEYBALL

(Continued from Page 11)

"I knew a few of my teammates but mostly just the girls on our schedule," the Blue Eagles senior said. "Getting to meet some of the other girls was a great opportunity and they are all really nice."

Other local seniors who suited up for the final time in the OVAC All-Star Match were Haily Boyce and Adrianna Bailey of Brooke, Taylor Ludewig of Magnolia, Kallie Arnett and Madison Kelly of Paden City, Tyler Consolidated's Abbie Fletcher and Macy Long and Wheeling Park's Andrea Fox and Kat Donzella.

The OVAC handed out player of the year honors during the contest. Paden City's Aubrey Neff earned Class A honors, Steubenville Central's Samm Simmons garnered Class AA honors, Buckeye Trail's Jennifer Burga won the Class AAA award, the 4-A award went to Meadowbrook's Jessica Cottle and Dakota Heaton of Beaver Local earned 5-A honors.

In the opening set, both teams were getting adjusted to playing with their new teammates but Ohio never trailed and was able to put it all together to pull out a 25-15 victory.

Ohio kept the momentum on its side in the second set, holding a 12-7

lead when Union Local's Katie Bashline began serving and reeled off five consecutive points to give the Buckeye state a 17-7 advantage and it never looked back. Bashline delivered a perfect pass to St. Clairsville's Emma Lewis who tallied the set's final kill, putting Ohio up 2-0.

Beaver Local's Kaitlynn Pugliano garnered the first four points and recorded the final three points of the third set, including an ace to win the set. Again, Ohio never trailed throughout the set.

A fourth set was played to allow everyone to get more playing time in the final match of their careers.

West Virginia got off to a quick 3-0 start in the final set behind three points from Boyce. Moments later, Ohio cut the lead to 4-3 but Kristen Spearen of University collected three straight points for West Virginia to put the Mountain state back on top by a 7-3 mark.

That is when Ohio took control for good as the Buckeyes scored seven points in a row, behind a six-point serving streak by Meadowbrook's Jessica Cottle to give Ohio a 10-7 edge and that was all it needed to complete the 4-0 sweep.

"It is an honor to get to play in

the OVAC match," Kelsi Chapman said. "It is different getting to play with girls from other schools that you have played against or never played against."

The volleyball season may be over, but for many girls such as Chapman, the transition from volleyball to basketball season is just beginning.

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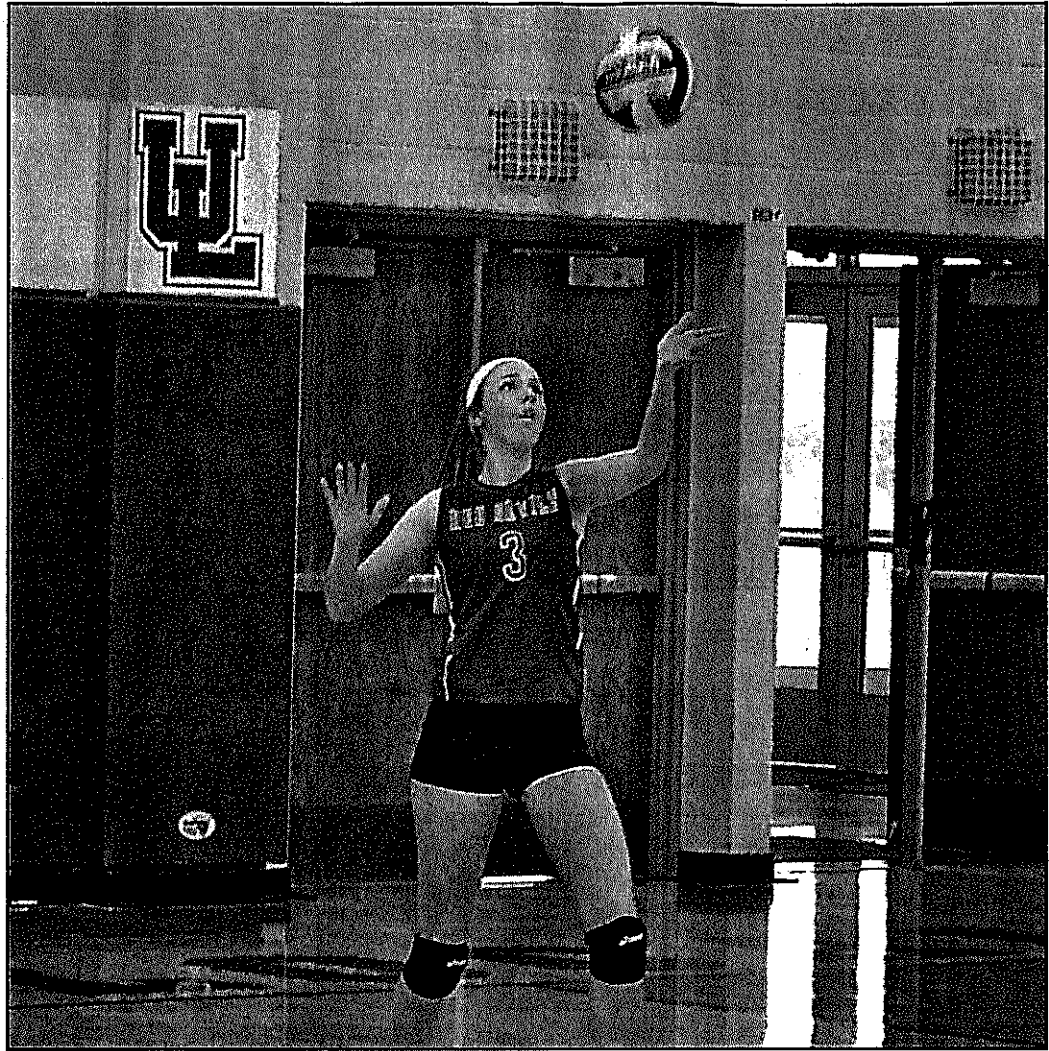
It has been a very successful career for Chapman and she took a look back at what made her time on the volleyball court so special.

"It has been a great four years," Chapman said.

"Getting to play with my sister (Mallory) in her senior year when I was a freshman, making it down to the state tournament with our team for the past three years and getting to play for my mom the past four years was a really good experience.

"I will never forget the memories and friends that I made and all of the fun things that I got to do. It was great."

OVAC ALL-STAR VOLLEYBALL



Photo/CODY TOMER

ST. CLAIRSVILLE'S Abby Miller serves during Sunday's OVAC All-Star Volleyball Match at 'The Hangar' inside Union Local High School.

Ohio sweeps West Virginia in bi-state gleam match

By CODY TOMER
For The Times Leader

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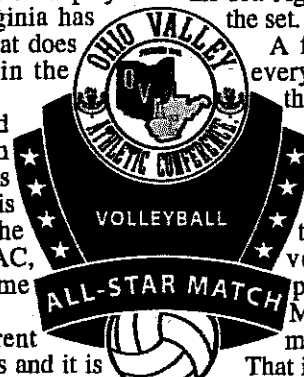
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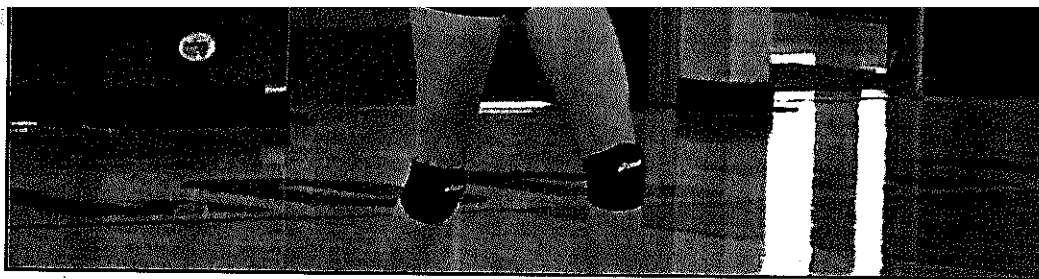
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