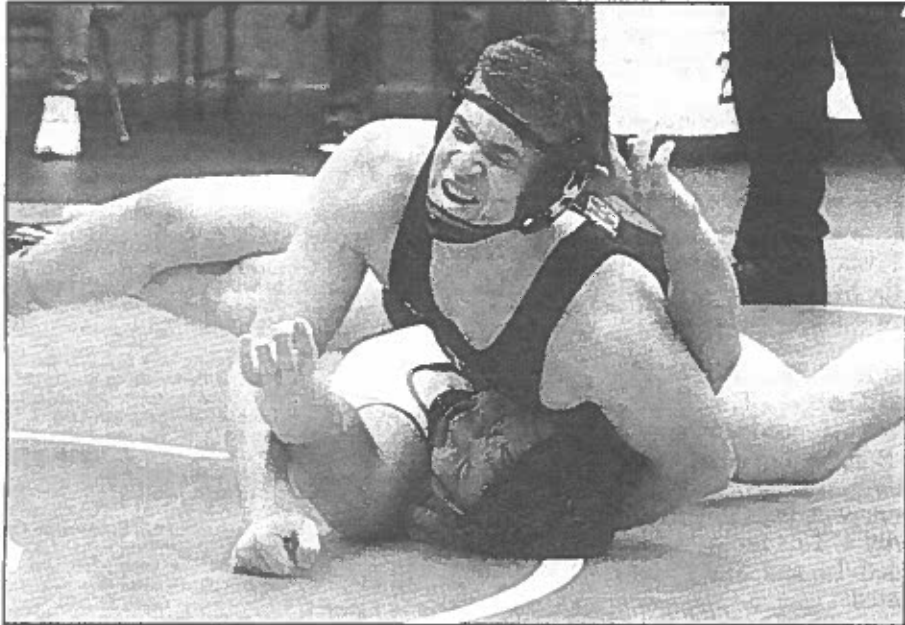


Counsel/B3
Comics/B4
Classified/B5-6

SPORTS

Monday,
January 17, 2022

OVAC SWIMMING AND WRESTLING CHAMPIONSHIPS



T-L Photo/KIM NORTH

HARRISON CENTRAL'S Lucas Thomas grimaces as he works for a pin against Wheeling Park's Erick Brothers Jr. in the 220-pound championship bout Saturday night inside WesBanco Arena.

Barnesville captures Class 3A championship

• Wheeling Park wins first overall title since 2005

By **KIM NORTH**
Times Leader Sports Writer

WHEELING -- Depth is a vital part of any athletic team. It was a key element Saturday in Wheeling Park ending nearly two decades of frustration at the Ohio Valley Athletic Conference Ron Mauck Wrestling Championships.

With only two individual titlists, the Patriots piled up enough points in the first three sessions to overcome a terrible semifinal showing and then rolled to a convincing, 278-228.5, wire-to-wire victory over runnerup University to win not only the coveted overall team title for

the first time since 2005, but also the Class 5A crown as the 68th edition capped its three-day stay inside WesBanco Arena.

"This is a great team to coach. They love wrestling and want to win," Wheeling Park head coach Brian Leggett said of his squad which also captured the Wheeling Park Duals several weeks ago inside the same building. "We put in a solid two days, but things didn't go to well early on today. However the kids bounced back and won some big consolation matches for us."

Winning their weight classes were senior Nate Shelek (132) and junior

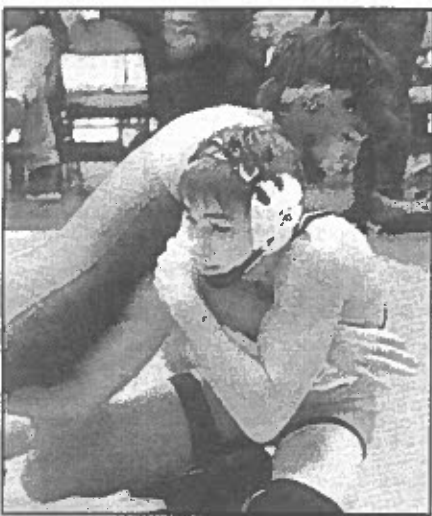
Bradyn Lucas (138). Shelek, a runnerup last season, held off Parkersburg South's Ryan Martin 13-9 while Lucas decisioned Barnesville's Skyler King, 12-7.

"It doesn't surprise me because they are practice partners and they get after it in the (wrestling) room," Leggett said about Shelek and Lucas.

The Patriots depth included a runnerup, four third-placers, two fourths, a fifth, two sixths and one seventh.

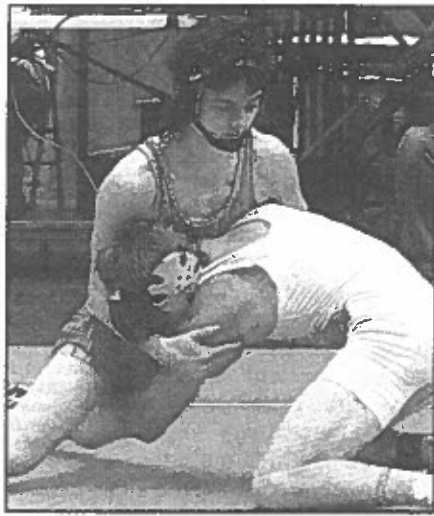
"Our team is still young," Leggett added. "We've got a lot of freshmen in the lineup that wrestled really well here."

See, 3A, Page B2



LEFT: BARNESVILLE'S Dakota King has control of Steubenville's Cal Beadling during their 126-pound title bout Saturday night. King won by technical fall.

RIGHT: ST. Clairville's Gannon Kazmirski, left, battles with John Marshall's Ethan Cook in the 113-pound championship match. Kazmirski won, 1-0.



T-L Photos/KIM NORTH

Linsly boys, St. C. girls splash to Gold medals

By **CODY TOMER**
For The Times Leader

WELLSBURG -- It was a year of repeats at the 2022 OVAC Bill Brubaker Swim Championships Saturday at Brooke.

For the third straight year and 62nd time overall, the Linsly boys won the Class 1-4A title, while the St. Clairsville girls captured the small school crown for the fifth consecutive year.

In Class 5A, Dover's boys and girls swept the event for the third straight year with scores of 444 and 575, respectively.

The Linsly boys recorded 242 points to defeat runner-up St. Clairsville, which finished with 203.50 points. Cambridge was third (91.50) and Wheeling Central was fourth (64).

Lorenzo Serotini paced the Cadets by winning the 100 butterfly with a time of 52.24.

The senior was also a member of the 200 medley relay team, along with Asier Doval, John Papadimitriou and Parker Griffith, which won in a time of 1:44.93.

"A lot of hard work has gone into this over the last two-and-a-half months," Linsly coach and OVAC swim director Bill Brubaker said. "Those kids sacrificed their Christmas breaks to work hard and practice so they would get better. There is just a lot of determination on the part of a lot of swimmers."

"They all had to step up. St. Clairsville has eight quality boys and it was really tight going down to the end and our last two freestyle relays scored where they needed to in order to keep the lead heading into our last event."

The Red Devils' girls' team continued to dominate with 364 points, followed by Linsly with 238, Wheeling Central with 103 and Martins Ferry with 88.

The St. Clairsville girls' 200 relay team set a new meet record with a time of 1:43.26. That squad consists of four standout seniors in Kylie McKeegan, Olivia Moyer, Brenna Planey and Casadie DiBetta.

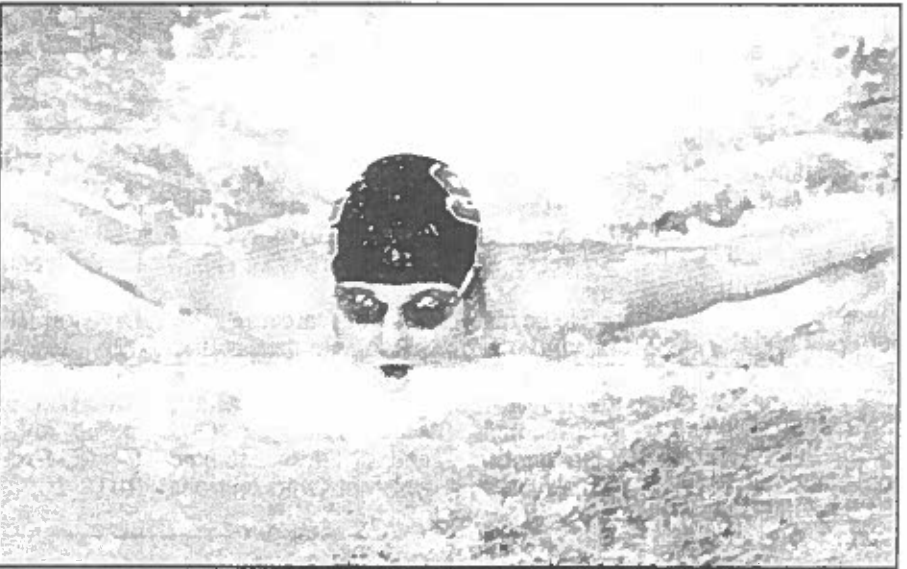
The same foursome prevailed in the 200 medley relay to win with a time of 1:51.53, while DiBetta captured gold in the breaststroke (1:05.26).

"The girls did great," St. Clairsville coach Ernie Banks said. "Every single girl on the team performed admirably. It shows a lot about our leadership. Our senior and junior girls have brought up the ones that are freshmen and sophomores. These girls are the perfect storm and I've enjoyed it but the core team -- I am very proud of them."

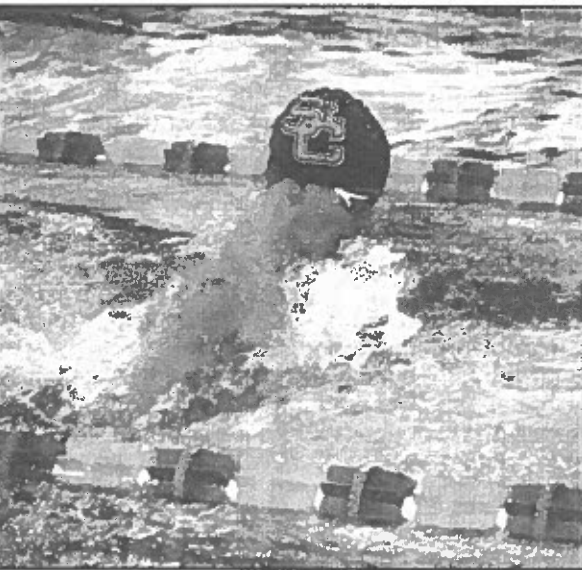
The Wheeling Park boys' and girls' teams each finished third.

Leading the Park boys was defending state champion Owen Leary, who set a new meet record in the 100 at a pace of 48.45.

See, GOLD, Page B2



TOP: ST. Clairville's Kylie McKeegan swims in the butterfly leg of the 200 medley relay Saturday at Brooke High School.



LEFT: ST. Clairville's Jack Gasber competes in the breaststroke.

Photos/CODY TOMER

Cuffaro, Crosier honored with prestigious Mr. Mat awards

WHEELING - The most prestigious special award presented at the annual Ohio Valley Athletic Conference Ron Mauck is Mr. Mat.

Prior to championship finals of the 68th edition Saturday inside WesBanco

canceled last winter due to the global COVID-19 pandemic, the 2021 and 2022 were awarded.

Wheeling's Pete Cuffaro was presented with the 2021 Blue jacket, while Barnesville's Jeff Crosier received the

scorekeeper as the OVAC Ron Mauck Championships, as well as other tournaments around the valley.

He didn't let a spinal cord injury from a freak diving accident in 1983 keep him down. Despite being confined to a

ed the Daniel M. Burke Memorial Wrestling Scholarship in honor of former Wheeling Park wrestler Daniel M. Burke, who was tragically killed in an automobile accident.

He lives by the following motto: "No



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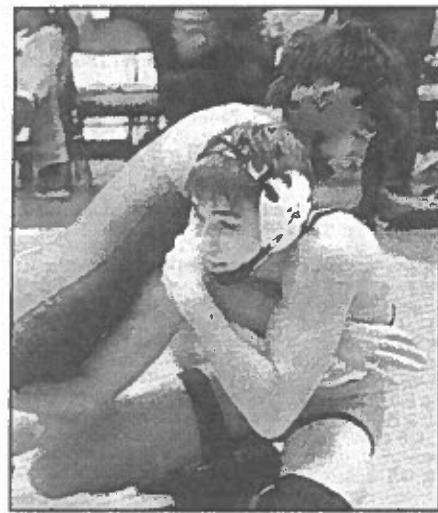
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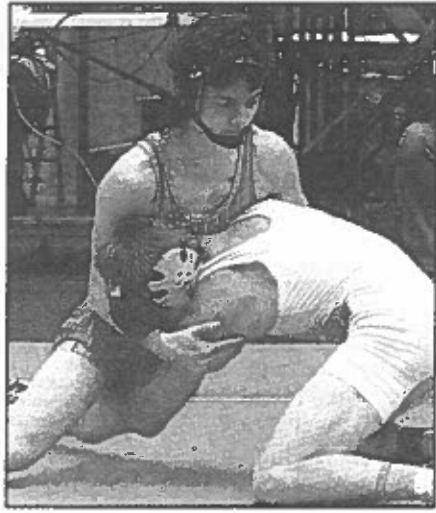
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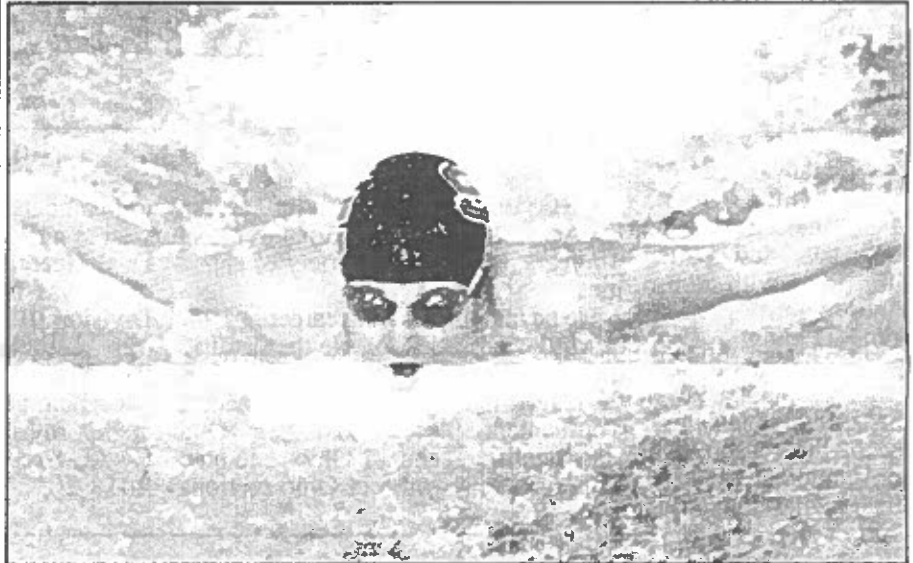
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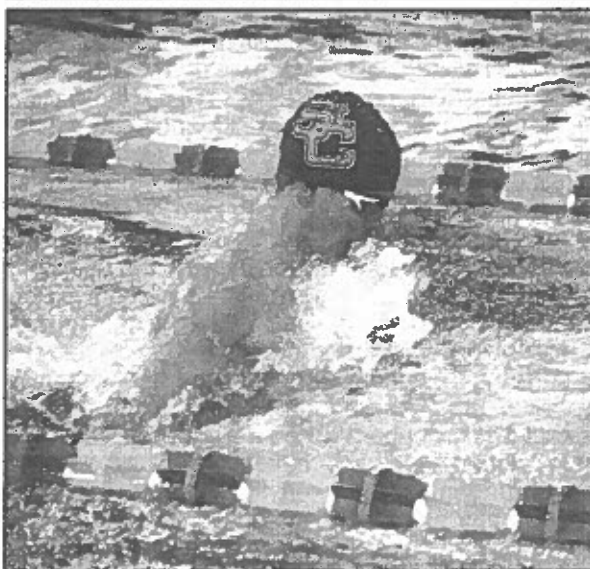
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Photos/CODY TOMER

Cuffaro, Crosier honored with prestigious Mr. Mat awards

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Prior to championship finals of the 68th edition Saturday inside WesBanco Arena, two individuals were honored for their service and commitment to high school wrestling in the Ohio Valley.

Due to the three-day event being

canceled last winter due to the global COVID-19 pandemic, the 2021 and 2022 were awarded.

Wheeling's Pete Cuffaro was presented with the 2021 Blue jacket, while Barnesville's Jeff Crosier received the 2022.

CUFFARO has been instrumental in supporting and promoting the sport. Over a quarter century, he served as a volunteer clock operator and official

scorekeeper as the OVAC Ron Mauck Championships, as well as other tournaments around the valley.

He didn't let a spinal cord injury from a freak diving accident in 1983 keep him down. Despite being confined to a wheelchair, he continued to be involved in athletic events for decades, as well as numerous civic organizations in the Wheeling area.

Just prior to his injury, Cuffaro start-

ed the Daniel M. Burke Memorial Wrestling Scholarship in honor of former Wheeling Park wrestler Daniel M. Burke, who was tragically killed in an automobile accident.

He lives by the following motto: "No matter how bad you think you have it, look around. You can always find someone else who has it worse than you do. Count your blessings."

See, **MR. MAT**, Page B2

Tampa Bay opens defense of Super Bowl title with rout

TAMPA, Fla. (AP) — Tom Brady threw for 271 yards and two touchdowns Sunday, helping the Tampa Bay Buccaneers launch their bid for a return to the Super Bowl with a dominating 31-15 NFC wild-card playoff victory over the Philadelphia Eagles.

The defending champions set the tempo from the start, with Brady leading a pair of long TD drives in the opening quarter and building the lead to 17-0 by halftime.

The seven-time Super Bowl winner finished off the Eagles with TD passes of 2 yards to Rob Gronkowski and 36 yards to Mike Evans, improving his dazzling playoff record to 35-11 in a record 46 postseason starts.

The Bucs defense did its part, too, intercepting Jalen Hurts twice in the Philadelphia quarterback's playoff debut.

"We did some good things," Brady said. "I think we're just going to have to keep doing what we did today. Everyone's got to touch

it, make some explosive plays. Did a good job possessing it, the defense played great, so it was a great team win. Special teams played awesome -- one of the best days we had on special teams all year."

Brady completed 29 of 37 passes without an interception while extending his postseason record for TD passes to 85.

But the Bucs (14-4) had matters well in hand before the reigning Super Bowl MVP found Gronkowski wide open in the middle of the end zone to make it 24-0 midway through the third quarter. The 6-foot-5 Evans punctuated his TD catch for a 31-0 lead with a front flip over the goal line.

The Eagles (9-9) scored on Boston Scott's 34-yard run and Hurts' 16-yard TD pass to Kenneth Gainwell in the fourth quarter. A 2-point conversion trimmed Philadelphia's deficit to 16 with 4:45 remaining, but that was as close as it would get.

Giovani Bernard scored on a 2-yard run and Ke'Shawn Vaughn, a second-year pro filling in for injured running backs Leonard Fournette and Ronald Jones, covered the final yard of a 70-yard drive that put the Bucs up 14-0.

Brady led the NFL in passing yards, touchdowns, attempts and completions this season, but Tampa Bay gained the upper hand in this one by running the ball and keeping it away from Hurts and the league's leading rushing attack.

The Bucs ran 25 plays to Philadelphia's eight in the first quarter, outgaining the Eagles 137 yards to 17 and compiling an 11-1 edge in first downs.

It didn't get much better after that, with a Tampa Bay defense fortified by the return of injured linebackers Lavonte David, Shaquil Barrett and Jason Pierre-Paul turning away Hurts' most promising drive of the opening half with Mike Edwards' end zone interception.

Steelers-Chiefs AFC playoff result on web

Due to the predicted winter weather conditions Sunday evening, The Times Leader had to be printed early. Full details of the Pittsburgh Steelers AFC playoff game against the Kansas City Chiefs can be found on our website, timesleaderonline.com

St. C. boys show no rust in topping Ferry; Monroe Central, Shadyside girls victorious

MARTINS FERRY — Playing for the first time in a week, St. Clairsville showed no signs of any rust as it posted a decisive 70-42 victory against homestanding Martins Ferry.

The Red Devils received a career-high from sophomore Cole Thoburn. He went for 23, including five bonus goals. Senior post Avery Henry added 16 and classmate Ryan McCort posted nine.

The Purple Riders, who were playing their second game in as many nights, were led by senior Jaizen Miles, who went for 15.

Shadyside 72, Bridgeport 35
SHADYSIDE — The Tigers got off to a strong start and never looked back en route to a convincing win over the Bulldogs Saturday.

Shadyside was led by senior sharpshooter Korey Beckett. He poured in 24 points. Junior Elijah Brock added 12.

Bridgeport was led by A.J. Gear's 10.

River 36, Magnolia 21
HANNIBAL — Homestanding River picked up another win by virtue of another impressive defensive performance.

The Pilots pitched a shutout in

the third quarter and allowed just one bonus goal in the fourth in the win.

Offensively, River was led by junior Ty Long, who scored 10. Brody Lollathin added eight and sophomore Kabel Isaly netted seven.

Linsly 81, Brooke 57
WHEELING — The Cadets continued their fine play by posting an impressive win over invading Brooke Saturday afternoon.

Linsly was led by Gavin Jackson, who scored 19. Senior Raef Wykes added 18.

Monroe Central 51, Frontier 50
WOODSFIELD — Monroe Central held on for a dramatic victory over invading Frontier Saturday evening.

The Seminoles were led by senior Malachi Rose-Burton's 20 points. Jake Swisher added 12.

Frontier received 20 points from Tanner Bills and 13 from Lucas Cox.

Indian Creek 53, Buckeye Local 29
WINTERSVILLE — Indian Creek head coach Joe Dunlevy didn't have to wait long for victory number 401 after picking up his 400th on Friday. He guided his Redskins to another win Saturday afternoon against Buckeye Local,

which was also playing a back-to-back.

Buckeye Local was led by Brayon Walker's nine.

GIRLS BASKETBALL
Monroe Central 46, Frontier 33
NEW MATAMORAS — Seminole senior Kalista Friday etched her name into Monroe Central history Saturday afternoon when she scored 21 points and became the all-time leading female scorer in school history.

Friday now has 1,356 points in her illustrious career, which is 14 points more than Hillary Lekrone scored during her time with the Seminoles.

Senior Trista Morris added 14 points for the Seminoles.

Frontier was led by Ramsey's 14 points.

Shadyside 64, Barnesville 47
SHADYSIDE — The Tigers picked up a much-needed win over struggling Barnesville Saturday afternoon.

The Tigers were paced by senior Paige Gorby's 17. Junior Rylee Fulton added 14 and Macy Hendershot posted 11.

The Shamrocks were led by Lilly Welch and Anna Yater. Each scored 12.

THE SCORE

Prep Schedule

Monday, Jan. 17
GIRLS BASKETBALL
Shadyside at M. Ferry, 5:30 p.m.
Stuebenville at Bellaire
Bridgeport at Monroe Central
Harrison Central at Toronto
St. Clairsville at John Marshall
SWIMMING
Martins Ferry at John Marshall
Tuesday, Jan. 18
BOYS BASKETBALL
Barnesville at Monroe Central
Martins Ferry at Bellaire
Cameron at Bridgeport
Toronto at Buckeye Local
Harrison Central at East Liverpool
Shadyside at Union Local
St. Clairsville at Cambridge
BOWLING
Brooke at Harrison Central
Wheeling Central at Linsly
Monroe Central at St. Clairsville
Barnesville at Bridgeport
GIRLS BASKETBALL
Union Local at Wheeling Park
SWIMMING
Beaver Local, Edison and St. Clairsville at Wheeling University
WRESTLING
Shadyside and Shenandoah at Martins Ferry

Prep Boxscores

GIRLS BASKETBALL
Monroe Central 46, Frontier 33
FRONTIER (33) — Ramsey 5, 2-2 14; Shapley 3, 0-0 7; Knowlton 1, 4-4 6; Schmidt 0, 0-0 0; Cislis 1, 0-0 2; Haught 1, 1-2 4; Totals: 11, 7-8 33. **MONROE CENTRAL (46)** — Friday 7, 3-4 21; Thompson 0, 1-2 1; Morris 2, 8-13 14; Bishop 2, 2-4 6; Haslam 0, 0-0 0; Swisher 0, 2-2 2; Bettinger 1, 0-0 2; Totals: 12, 16-25 46.
3-point goals: F — Ramsey (2), Shapley (1), Haught (1). MC — Friday (4), Morris (2).

Shadyside 64, Barnesville 47
BARNESVILLE (47) — Thompson 1, 3-4 6; Schaffer 0, 0-0 0; Lucas 3, 2-4 8; Tyson 1, 1-5 3; Welch 5, 2-2 12; Carter 1, 0-0 3; Fritter 1, 0-1 2; Powell 0, 0-0 0; Johnson 0, 1-2 1; Yater 6, 0-2 12; Totals: 18, 9-20 47.
SHADYSIDE (64) — Stewart 3, 0-4 6; Zduunczyk 0, 0-0 0; T. Fulton 2, 0-0 4; R. Fulton 5, 0-0 14; Boltz 0, 0-0 0; Sims 2, 0-0 5; Brown 3, 0-0 7; Hendershot 4, 0-0 11; Gorby 6, 4-5 17; Totals: 25, 4-9 64.
3-point goals: B — Thompson, Carter. S — R. Fulton (4), Sims, Brown, Hendershot (3), Gorby.

BOYS BASKETBALL
Shadyside 72, Bridgeport 35
BRIDGEPORT (35) — Jackson 2, 2-2 8; Moore 3, 4-4 10; Tarr 1, 0-0 2; Flanagan 1, 1-2 3; A. Jackson 1, 0-0 2; Gear 3, 4-5 10; Totals: 11, 11-13 35. **SHADYSIDE (72)** — Stottlemyer 0, 0-0 0; VanNest 0, 0-0 0; Bell 1, 0-0 3; Booth 1, 0-0 2; Wach 2, 0-0 6; Salgat 3, 0-0 8; Beckett 8, 4-4 24; Tsoras 1, 1-2 3; D. Booth 1, 0-0 2; Brock 6, 0-0 12; Gorby 1, 0-0 2; Crozier 0, 0-0 0; Amos 3, 3-4 9; Totals: 27, 8-10 72.
3-point goals: B — Jackson (2), S — Bell, Wach (2), Salgat (2), Beckett (4).

St. Clairsville 70, Martins Ferry 42
ST. CLAIRSVILLE (70) — Oberdick 2, 5-6 9; Thoburn 9, 0-1 23; Burk 0, 0-2 0; Pastor 4, 0-2 8; McCort 3, 2-2 9; Woodford 0, 1-2 1; Wolfe 0, 0-0 0; Schafer 0, 0-0 0; Crist 1, 0-0 2; Gasber 0, 0-0 0; Henry 6, 4-7 16; Totals: 26, 12-22 70. **MARTINS FERRY (42)** — Miles 6, 3-9 15; Ray 2, 4-5 8; L. Hores 2, 0-0 4; Shriver 0, 0-0 0; Williams 3, 0-0 8; O'Connell 0, 0-1 0; Flesch 0, 0-0 0; Reese 1, 2-2 5; P. Hores 1, 0-0 2; Totals: 15, 9-19 42.
3-point goals: StC — Thoburn (5), McCort. MF — Williams (2), Reese.

River 36, Magnolia 21
MAGNOLIA (21) — Gilbert 0, 0-0 0; Vargo 0, 0-0 0; Johnson 2, 2-2 8; Williamson 2, 0-0 6; Shimp 0, 0-0 0; Pyles 2, 0-0 5; Kocher 1, 0-0 2; Totals: 7, 2-2 21. **RIVER (36)** — Isaly 1, 4-4 7; Creamer 1, 0-0 3; Lollathin 3, 2-2 8; Longwell 2, 0-0 4; Thompson 1, 0-0 2; Long 4, 2-3 10; Potts 1, 0-0 2; Totals: 13, 8-9 36.
3-point goals: M — Johnson (2), Williamson (2), Pyles. R — Creamer.

Linsly 81, Brooke 57
BROOKE (57) — Taylor 1, 0-0 3; Marks 0, 0-0 0; Knox 2, 0-0 5; Isinghood 16, 2-5 35; Sperlizza 1, 5-6 7; Orban 0, 0-0 0; Varner 3, 0-0 7; Cipoletti 0, 0-0 0; Sperringer 0, 0-0 0; Totals: 23, 7-11 57. **LINSLY (81)** — Wykes 6, 4-5 18; Murray 3, 1-2 9; Donovic 1, 0-0 2; Anderson 2, 0-0 5; G. Jackson 7, 0-0 19; Coleman 4, 1-1 9; Villenius 1, 0-0 2; D. Jackson 0, 0-0 0; Jones 0, 0-0 0; A. Taylor 3, 0-0 6; Kovalesky 0, 0-0 0; W. Taylor 4, 2-3 11; Rabinovich 0, 0-0 0; Sun 0, 0-0 0; Zhu 0, 0-0 0; Totals: 31, 8-11 81.
3-point goals: B — Taylor, Knox, Isinghood, Varner. L — Wykes (2), Murray (2), Anderson, G. Jackson (5), Taylor.

Monroe Central 51, Frontier 50
MONROE CENTRAL (51) — Rose-Burton 7, 5-5 20; Kroll 3, 0-1 8; Bunning 1, 1-2 3; Lincoln 1, 0-0 2; Yonak 0, 0-0 0; Kinney 1, 0-0 2; Howell 2, 0-0 4; Swisher 4, 1-1 12; Totals: 19, 7-9 51. **FRONTIER (50)** — Bills 9, 1-1 20; Buck 1, 0-0 2; Cox 5, 2-2 13; Curtis 3, 0-0 7; Reynolds 1, 0-0 2; Hendershot 3, 0-0 6; Bowersock 0, 0-0 0; Totals: 22, 3-3 50.
3-point goals: MC — Kroll (2), Swisher (3), Rose-Burton. F — Bills, Cox, Curtis.
Indian Creek 53, Buckeye Local 29
BUCKEYE LOCAL (29) — Palmer 0, 0-0 0; McHugh 1, 0-0 2; Romanyak 2, 2-2 6; Walker 4, 0-4 9; Best 1, 0-0 2; Colabelli-Kindberg 0, 0-0 0; L. Darrah 1, 5-11 7; A. Deitch 0, 0-0 0; Berry 0, 0-0 0; H. Darrah 1, 1-2 3; Chandler 0, 0-0 0; Totals: 10, 8-19

Prep Wrestling

68th Annual OVAC Ron Mauck Wrestling Championships
(at WesBanco Arena, Wheeling)
TEAM SCORES: 1. Wheeling Park 278; 2. University 228.5; 3. Parkersburg South 198; 4. Steubenville 197; 5. Beaver Local 161. 6. John Marshall 155.5; 7. Indian Creek 148.5; 8. St. Clairsville 119.5; 9. Barnesville 118.5; 10. Cameron 117; 11. Martins Ferry 97; 12. Oak Glen 94.5; 13. Dover 22; 14. Harrison Central 74; 15. Morgantown 66.5; 16. Shenandoah 63; 17. Warren Local 56; 18. Brooke 55; 19. River 46; 20. Southern Local 43.5; 21. Wellsville 43; 22. Cambridge 41; 23. Union Local 34; 24. Edison 32; 25. Caldwell 30; 26. East Liverpool 29; 27. Bridgeport 22.5; 28. Shadyside 22; 29. Linsly 21; 30. Buckeye Local 18.5; 31. Toronto 18; 32. Fort Frye 17; 33. Marietta 14; 34. Bellaire 13; 35. (tie) Paden City, Weir 8; 37. Steubenville Catholic 5; 38. Beallsville 2; 39. (tie) Hundred, Madonna, Monroe Central 0

Class 5A
1. Wheeling Park 278; 2. University 228.5; 3. Parkersburg South 198; 4. Steubenville 197; 5. John Marshall 155.5; 6. Morgantown 66.5; 7. Dover 63.5; 8. Warren Local 56; 9. Brooke 55; 10. Marietta 14

Class 4A
1. Beaver Local 161.5; 2. Indian Creek 148.5; 3. St. Clairsville 119.5; 4. Oak Glen 94.5; 5. Harrison Central 74; 6. Cambridge 41; 7. Union Local 34; 8. Edison 32; 9. East Liverpool 29; 10. Weir 8

Class 3A
1. Barnesville 118.5; 2. Martins Ferry 97; 3. Shenandoah 63; 4. River 46; 5. Linsly 21; 6. Buckeye Local 18.5; 7. Fort Frye 17; 8. Bellaire 13

Class 1A/2A
1. Cameron 117; 2. Southern Local 45.5; 3. Wellsville 43; 4. Caldwell 30; 5. Bridgeport 22.5; 6. Shadyside 22; 7. Toronto 18; 8. Paden City 8; 9. Steubenville Catholic 5; 10. Beallsville 2; 11. (tie) Hundred, Madonna, Monroe Central 0

Championship Finals
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Ohio State (11-4, 5-2 Big Ten) won despite shooting just 38.6% overall and going the final 5:07 without a basket.

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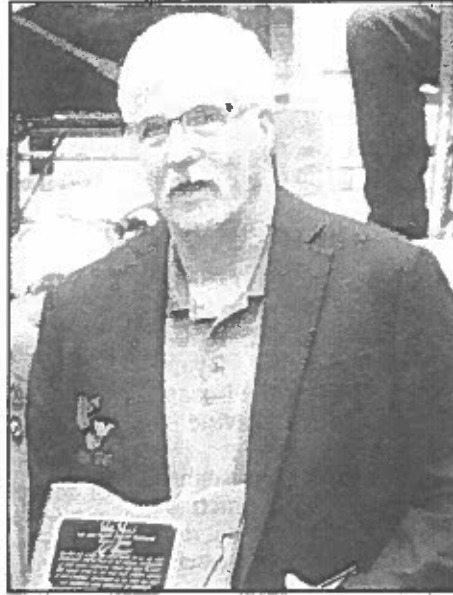
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• Mr. Mat

Continued from Page B1

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• Gold

Continued from Page B1

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"It's great to see all of our hard work pay off. We go through some really brutal practices and this was a great opportunity to see that hard work come to fruition."

Also capturing a pair of gold medals was John

Marshall's Victoria Kidney in the 200 IM (2:14.32) and the backstroke (59.60).

"This is really exciting," Kidney said. "It's nice to kind of see where I am. With state and regionals coming up, this is kind of where I need to be so this was reassuring for me."

"It's another stepping stone in the path to state and it's really special. We have a lot of newcomers on the team so it's nice to see them excited and enjoying the experience

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St. Clairsville's Jack Gasber was also impressive with a win in the breaststroke (1:03.34).

The Dover boys won five events, which included a meet record in the 400 relay. The Tornados were led by Ohio State commit Lucas Lane, who beat his own meet record in the 500 (4:41.99). He also set a new pool record in the 200 (1:41.85).

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River 36, Magnolia 21

HANNIBAL — Homestanding River picked up another win by virtue of another impressive defensive performance.

The Pilots pitched a shutout in

WINTEKSVILLE — Indian Creek head coach Joe Dunlevy didn't have to wait long for victory number 401 after picking up his 400th on Friday. He guided his Redskins to another win Saturday afternoon against Buckeye Local,

The Tigers were paced by senior Paige Gorby's 17. Junior Rylee Fulton added 14 and Macy Hendershot posted 11. The Shamrocks were led by Lily Welch and Anna Yater. Each scored 12.

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Big Red finished a point behind Parkersburg South (108-107) and finished fourth overall, but Huffman was pleased.

"I'm extremely proud of our team top to bottom," he noted. "We just asked the kids to go out and compete, and they did. I'm extremely happy."

Barnesville captured the Class 3A title behind the championship performance of Dakota King (126) who posted a 19-4 technical fall over Steubenville's Cal Beadling. The Shamrocks also had a runnerup, a third and a fourth.

"We've got a good core of kids and battled through some adversity. I'm proud of them," Barnesville's Jayson Stephen said. "We came in here thinking we could be a top 5 team and we lost some matches in the 'blood round' that we should never lose. That can't happen."

The Shamrocks tallied 118.5 points to 97 for runnerup Martins Ferry.

Oak Glen's Logan Davis (106) got the finals started with a 4-0 blanking of Cameron's Slaton Pettit.

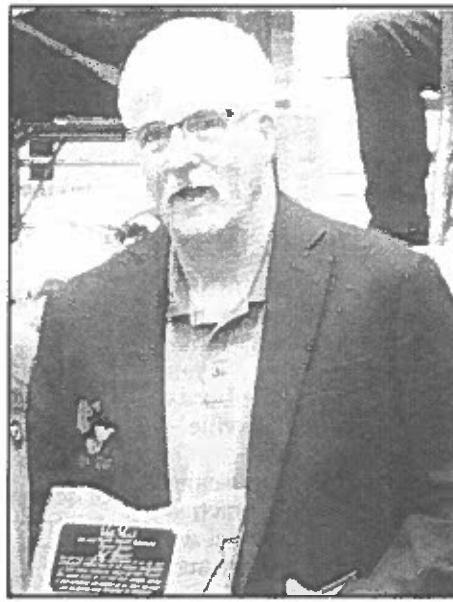
The Dragons did get a champion in senior Ian Bush (182). The two-time OVAC and two-time defending W.Va. state champion is a WVU recruit. He pinned Cambridge's Caden Kenworthy in 3:03.

Capturing titles for Indian Creek, which finished second to Beaver Local in the Class 4A race, set a school milestone Saturday.

"This was a special weekend for us because we've never had two individual champions in school histo-



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Also winning titles were St. Clairsville's Gannon Kazmirski (113); University's Luca Felix (145); Beaver Local's Logan Ours (160); Parkersburg South's Gage Wright (170) and Harrison Central's Lucas Thomas (220).

Kazmirski, the fourth seed, made a second-period escape hold up in a 1-0 win over John Marshall's Ethan Cook. Felix topped Beaver Local's unseeded Dorian Jackson, 10-3. Ours, who was voted the Bierkorte Award winner by tournament coaches, pinned University's Dakota Hagedorn in 2:53, and Wright scored a fall in 5:34 over University's Elijah Wellings-Osha. Thomas shocked a lot of people when he pinned Wheeling Park's Erick Brothers Jr. in 5:22 trailing 5-2.

"Gannon winning isn't really a surprise to me," St. Clairsville's Joel Sansone said. "When we lost to Cook last week in the finals at Cameron by a 2-1 score in overtime on a fleeing the mat call, I told him he would see him (Cook) next week at OVACs when it matters."

"Lucas earns every bit of what he got tonight," Harrison Central's Bill Bryant said of his third seed. "He works a lot harder and puts more time in in the (wrestling) room than anybody on the team. He puts in a ton of mat time. He traveled this summer to make himself better."

Thomas is the Huskies' first champion since Doug Eddy in 2012.

14; Shapley 3, 0-0 7; Knowlton 1, 4-4 6; Schmidt 0, 0-0 0; Cislis 1, 0-0 2; Haught 1, 1-2 4; Totals: 11, 7-8 33. **MONROE CENTRAL (46)** — Friday 7, 3-4 21; Thompson 0, 1-2 1; Morris 2, 8-13 14; Bishop 2, 2-4 6; Haslam 0, 0-0 0; Swisher 0, 2-2 2; Bettinger 1, 0-0 2; Totals: 12, 16-25 46. 3-point goals: F — Ramsey (2), Shapley (1), Haught (1). MC — Friday (4), Morris (2).

Shadyside 64, Barnesville 47 **BARNESVILLE (47)** — Thompson 1, 3-4 6; Schaffer 0, 0-0 0; Lucas 3, 2-4 8; Tyson 1, 1-5 3; Welch 5, 2-2 12; Carter 1, 0-0 3; Fritter 1, 0-1 2; Powell 0, 0-0 0; Johnson 0, 1-2 1; Yater 6, 0-2 12; Totals: 18, 9-20 47. **SHADYSIDE (64)** — Stewart 3, 0-4 6; Zdunczyk 0, 0-0 0; T. Fulton 2, 0-0 4; R. Fulton 5, 0-0 14; Boltz 0, 0-0 0; Sims 2, 0-0 5; Brown 3, 0-0 7; Hendershot 4, 0-0 11; Gorby 6, 4-5 17; Totals: 25, 4-9 64. 3-point goals: B — Thompson, Carter, S — R. Fulton (4), Sims, Brown, Hendershot (3), Gorby.

BOYS BASKETBALL **Shadyside 72, Bridgeport 35** **BRIDGEPORT (35)** — Jackson 2, 2-2 8; Moore 3, 4-4 10; Tarr 1, 0-0 2; Flanagan 1, 1-2 3; A. Jackson 1, 0-0 2; Gear 3, 4-5 10; Totals: 11, 11-13 35. **SHADYSIDE (72)** — Stottlemeyer 0, 0-0 0; VanNest 0, 0-0 0; Bell 1, 0-0 3; Booth 1, 0-0 2; Wach 2, 0-0 6; Salgat 3, 0-0 8; Beckett 8, 4-4 24; Tsoras 1, 1-2 3; D. Booth 1, 0-0 2; Brock 6, 0-0 12; Gorby 1, 0-0 2; Crozier 0, 0-0 0; Amos 3, 3-4 9; Totals: 27, 8-10 72. 3-point goals: B — Jackson (2), S — Bell, Wach (2), Salgat (2), Beckett (4).

St. Clairsville 70, Martins Ferry 42 **ST. CLAIRSVILLE (70)** — Oberdick 2, 5-6 9; Thoburn 9, 0-1 23; Burk 0, 0-2 0; Pastor 4, 0-2 8; McCort 3, 2-2 9; Woodford 0, 1-2 1; Wolfe 0, 0-0 0; Schafer 0, 0-0 0; Crist 1, 0-0 2; Gasber 0, 0-0 0; Henry 6, 4-7 16; Totals: 26, 12-22 70. **MARTINS FERRY (42)** — Miles 6, 3-9 15; Ray 2, 4-5 8; L. Hores 2, 0-0 4; Shriver 0, 0-2 0; Williams 3, 0-0 8; O'Connell 0, 0-1 0; Flesch 0, 0-0 0; Reese 1, 2-2 5; P. Hores 1, 0-0 2; Totals: 15, 9-19 42. 3-point goals: StC — Thoburn (5), McCort, MF — Williams (2), Reese.

River 36, Magnolia 21 **MAGNOLIA (21)** — Gilbert 0, 0-0 0; Vargo 0, 0-0 0; Johnson 2, 2-2 8; Williamson 2, 0-0 6; Shimp 0, 0-0 0; Pyles 2, 0-0 5; Kocher 1, 0-0 2; Totals: 7, 2-2 21. **RIVER (36)** — Isaly 1, 4-4 7; Creamer 1, 0-0 3; Lollathin 3, 2-2 8; Longwell 2, 0-0 4; Thompson 1, 0-0 2; Long 4, 2-3 10; Potts 1, 0-0 2; Totals: 13, 8-9 36. 3-point goals: M — Johnson (2), Williamson (2), Pyles, R — Creamer.

Linsly 81, Brooke 57 **BROOKE (57)** — Taylor 1, 0-0 3; Marks 0, 0-0 0; Knox 2, 0-0 5; Isinghood 16, 2-5 35; Sperlazza 1, 5-6 7; Orban 0, 0-0 0; Varner 3, 0-0 7; Cipoletti 0, 0-0 0; Sperringer 0, 0-0 0; Totals: 23, 7-11 57. **LINSLY (81)** — Wykes 6, 4-5 18; Murray 3, 1-2 9; Donovic 1, 0-0 2; Anderson 2, 0-0 5; G. Jackson 7, 0-0 19; Coleman 4, 1-1 9; Vilenius 1, 0-0 2; D. Jackson 0, 0-0 0; Jones 0, 0-0 0; A. Taylor 3, 0-0 6; Kovalesky 0, 0-0 0; W. Taylor 4, 2-3 11; Rabinovich 0, 0-0 0; Sun 0, 0-0 0; Zhu 0, 0-0 0; Totals: 31, 8-11 81. 3-point goals: B — Taylor, Knox, Isinghood, Varner, L — Wykes (2), Murray (2), Anderson, G. Jackson (5), Taylor.

Monroe Central 51, Frontier 50 **MONROE CENTRAL (51)** — Rose-Burton 7, 5-5 20; Kroll 3, 0-1 8; Bunning 1, 1-2 3; Lincoln 1, 0-0 2; Yonak 0, 0-0 0; Kinney 1, 0-0 2; Howell 2, 0-0 4; Swisher 4, 1-1 12; Totals: 19, 7-9 51. **FRONTIER (50)** — Bills 9, 1-1 20; Buck 1, 0-0 2; Cox 5, 2-2 13; Curtis 3, 0-0 7; Reynolds 1, 0-0 2; Hendershot 3, 0-0 6; Bowersock 0, 0-0 0; Totals: 22, 3-3 50. 3-point goals: MC — Kroll (2), Swisher (3), Rose-Burton, F — Bills, Cox, Curtis.

Indian Creek 53, Buckeye Local 29 **BUCKEYE LOCAL (39)** — Palmer 0, 0-0 0; McHugh 1, 0-0 2; Romanyak 2, 2-2 6; Walker 4, 0-4 9; Best 1, 0-0 2; Colabelli-Kindberg 0, 0-0 0; L. Darrah 1, 5-11 7; A. Deitch 0, 0-0 0; Berry 0, 0-0 0; H. Darrah 1, 1-2 3; Chandler 0, 0-0 0; Totals: 10, 8-19 29. **INDIAN CREEK (53)** — Francis 0, 1-2 1; Kuczykowski 4, 1-2 10; Williams 3, 2-2 8; Morelli 1, 3-4 6; Vandeborne 0, 0-0 0; Tweedy 0, 0-0 0; Pownall 1, 0-0 3; Irizarry 1, 0-1 2; McGee 1, 0-0 2; Bodo 1, 0-2 2; Freshwater 1, 0-0 3; Smith 3, 2-4 8; Schaffer 2, 4-8 8; Bodo 0, 0-0 0; Totals: 15, 13-25 53. 3-point goals: BL — Walker, IC — Kuczykowski, Morelli, Pownall, Freshwater.

NFL Playoffs

Wild-card Playoffs **Saturday, Jan. 15** Cincinnati 26, Las Vegas 19 Buffalo 47, New England 17 **Sunday, Jan. 16** Tampa Bay 31, Philadelphia 15 San Francisco at Dallas, late Pittsburgh at Kansas City, late **Monday, Jan. 17** Arizona at L.A. Rams, 8:15 p.m. (ESPN/ABC)

Divisional Playoffs **Saturday, Jan. 22 and Sunday, Jan. 23** NFC lowest remaining seed at Green Bay, TBD Cincinnati or Pittsburgh at Tennessee, TBD Cincinnati at Buffalo or Buffalo at Kansas City, TBD NFC highest remaining seed at Tampa Bay, TBD Conference Championships **Sunday, Jan. 30** AFC

lowest remaining seed at highest remaining seed, 3:05 p.m. (CBS) **NFC** lowest remaining seed at highest remaining seed, 6:40 p.m. (FOX)

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Fifth-Sixth Place 106--Zander Ward (JM) p. Pase Mahoney (MF), 2:15; 113--Dylan Ward (MF) md. Brody Bowersock (BvL), 12-1; 120--Garret Spohn (Morg) p. Carter Lucas (WP), 2:23; 126--Ashton Hoge (Cam) p. Zach McKeever (STC), 2:02; 132--Carl Cochran (JM) d. Pedro Garcia (D), 4-3; 138--Egidio DiFazio (D) d. Mark Emmerling (BvL), 5-1; 145--Cody Taggart (WP) d. Nathaniel Gibson (UL), 6-2; 152--Savvier Faulks (Steub) d. Chance Woolley (SL), 5-4; 160--Reese Spencer (IC) d. Brodie Tait (WV), 6-0; 170--Ben McCordie (JM) md. Jameson Maynard (WP), 10-2; 182--Ayden Edwards (PS) d. gabe Morgan (BvL), 8-7; 195--Tyler Wise (Brk) md. Wes Molish (OG), 12-2; 220--Colin Mc-Bee (U) d. Brycen Arthur (PS), 7-2; 285--Tyler Stanley (Well) d. Zane McCoy (BvL), 4-3

Seventh-Eighth Place 106--Mason Samms (Well) p. Justin Sampson (HC), 1:31; 113--Hayley Snyder (WL) d. Ethan Stimpert (Steub), 8-7; 120--Xzander Eltringham (Brk) d. Damon Stansbury (EL), 5-3; 126--Carter Adkins (JM) won by forfeit over Aiden Spahlinger (SL); 132--Drake Kanyuch (Shen) d. Mason Aberts (Bpt), 3-1; 138--Cole Antill (Steub) d. Ryan Ward (JM), 2-0; 145--Peyton Pyle (Bpt) d. Kyle Wheeler (PS), 7-1; 152--Braxton Dlugopolski (OG) d. Mason Orndorff (JM), 9-4; 160--Camden O'Connor (OG) d. Mason McCort (STC), 7-4; 170--Marshall Sayre (Cald) p. Johnny Bailey (EL), 0:34; 182--Hezekiah Taylor (U) d. Ethan Llewellyn (IC), 6-4; 195--Brody Cottrill (WP) d. Jacob Walker (STC), 6-3; 220--Gavin Dondzila (IC) d. Jameson Stiles (ED), 10-5; 285--Josh Fancher (Tor) p. Dylan Haseleu (Morg), 1:37

Sports on TV **COLLEGE BASKETBALL (MEN'S)** 12 p.m. FOX — Purdue at Illinois 2:30 p.m. FOX — Notre Dame at Howard **HIGH SCHOOL BASKETBALL (BOY'S)** 1 p.m. ESPN — Hoophall Classic: Milton (Ga.) vs. Camden (N.J.), Springfield, Mass. 3 p.m. ESPN — Hoophall Classic: Montverde (Fla.) vs. IMG Academy (Fla.), Springfield, Mass. 5 p.m. ESPN — Hoophall Classic: Prolific Prep (Calif.) vs. Link Prep (Mo.), Springfield, Mass. **ICE HOCKEY (MEN'S)** 7:30 p.m. NHLN — ECHL All-Star Game: ECHL All-Stars vs. Jacksonville Icemen, Jacksonville, Fla. **NBA BASKETBALL** 1 p.m. NBATV — Charlotte at New York 3:30 p.m. TNT — Chicago at Memphis 6 p.m. TNT — Milwaukee at Atlanta 10:30 p.m. NBATV — Utah at LA Lakers **NFL FOOTBALL** 8:15 p.m. ABC — NFC Wild Card Playoff: Arizona at St. Louis ESPN — NFC Wild Card Playoff: Arizona at St. Louis ESPN2 — NFC Wild Card Playoff: Arizona at St. Louis (MNF with Peyton and Eli)



Photo by Cody Tomer

Wheeling Park's Owen Leary, left, and Linsly's Lorenzo Serotini proudly display their OVAC gold medals.

Linsly Boys, St. C. Girls Capture Swimming Gold

By CODY TOMER Sports Writer
WELLSBURG — It was a year of repeats at the 2022 OVAC Bill Brubaker Swim Championships Saturday at Brooke.

For the third straight year and 62nd time overall, the Linsly boys won the Class 1-4A title, while the St. Clairsville girls captured the small school crown for the fifth consecutive year.

In Class 5A, Dovers' boys and girls swept the event for the third straight season.

The Linsly boys recorded 242 points to defeat runner-up St. Clairsville, which finished with 203.50 points. Cambridge was third (91.50) and Wheeling Central was fourth (64).

Lorenzo Serotini paced the Cadets by winning the 100 butterfly with a time of 52.24.

The senior was also a member of the 200 medley relay team, along with Asier Doval, John Papadimitriou and Parker Griffith, which won in a time of 1:44.93.

"A lot of hard work has gone into this over the last two-and-a-half months," Linsly coach

and OVAC swim director Bill Brubaker said. "Those kids sacrificed their Christmas breaks to work hard and practice so they would get better. There is just a lot of determination on the part of a lot of swimmers.

"They all had to step up. St. Clairsville has eight quality boys and it was really tight going down to the end and our last two freestyle relays scored where they needed to in order to keep the lead heading into our last event."

The Red Devils' girls' team continued to dominate with 364 points, followed by Linsly with 238, Wheeling Central with 103 and Martins Ferry with 88.

The St. Clairsville girls' 200 freestyle relay team set a new meet record with a time of 1:43.26. That squad consists of four standout seniors in Kylie McKeegan, Olivia Moyer, Brenna Planey and Casadie DiBetta.

The same squad won 200 medley relay with a time of 1:51.53, while DiBetta captured gold in the breaststroke (1:05.26).

Please see SWIMMING, Page 8

Patriots Win OVAC Team Title

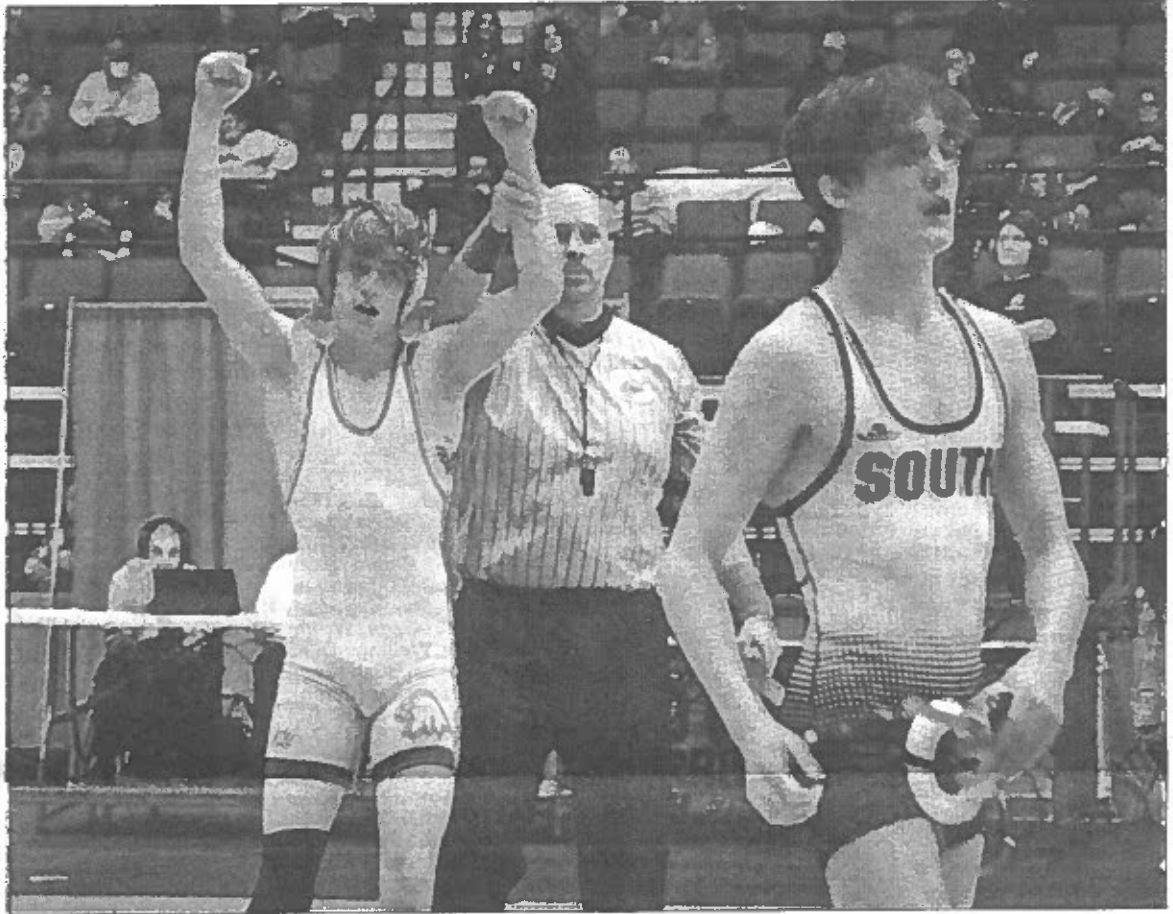


Photo by Kim North

Wheeling Park's Nate Shelek, left, held off Parkersburg South's Ryan Martin, right, to win the individual title in the 132 pound weight class Saturday inside WesBanco Arena.

Shelek, Lucas win individual titles at OVAC Wrestling Championships

By KIM NORTH For The Intelligencer
WHEELING — Depth is a vital part of any athletic team. It was a key element Saturday in Wheeling Park ending nearly two decades of frustration at the Ohio Valley Athletic Conference Ron Mauck Wrestling Championships.

With only two individual titlists, the Patriots piled up enough points in the first three sessions to overcome a rough semifinal showing and then rolled to a convincing, 278-228.5, wire-to-wire victory over runner-up University to win not only the coveted overall team title for the first time since 2005, but also

the Class 5A crown as the 68th edition capped its three-day stay inside WesBanco Arena.

"This is a great team to coach. They love wrestling and want to win," Wheeling Park head coach Brian Leggett said of his squad which also captured the Wheeling Park Duals several weeks ago inside the same building. "We put in a solid two days, but things didn't go too well early on today. However the kids bounced back and won some big consolation matches for us."

Winning their weight classes were senior Nate Shelek (132) and junior Bradyn Lucas (138). Shelek, a runnerup last season, held off Parkersburg South's

Ryan Martin 13-9 while Lucas won a decision over Barnesville's Skyler King, 12-7.

The Patriots depth included a runner-up, four third-placers, two fourths, a fifth, two sixths and one seventh.

"Our team is still young," Leggett added. "We've got a lot of freshmen in the lineup that wrestled really well here."

Steubenville had a pair of titlists in Brody Saccoccia (120) and Peyton Tuttle (285). Saccoccia earned a 7-3 nod over Parkersburg South's Brent Bosley and Tuttle pinned University's Corbin Turney in 3:58.

Please see PATRIOTS, Page 8

Pete Cuffaro, Jeff Crosier Win Mr. Mat Awards

By KIM NORTH For The Intelligencer
WHEELING — The most prestigious special award presented at the annual Ohio Valley Athletic Conference Ron Mauck Wrestling Championships is Mr. Mat.

Prior to championship finals of the 68th edition Saturday inside WesBanco Arena, two individuals were honored for their service and commitment to high school wrestling in the Ohio Valley.

Due to the three-day event being canceled last winter due to the global COVID-19 pandemic, the 2021 and 2022 were awarded.

Wheeling's Pete Cuffaro was presented with the 2021 Blue jacket, while Barnesville's Jeff Crosier received the 2022.

Cuffaro has been instrumental in supporting and promoting the sport. Over a quarter century, he served as a volunteer clock operator and official scorekeeper as the OVAC Ron Mauck Championships, as well as other tournaments around the valley.



Photo by Kim North

Jeff Crosier, right, is presented the 2022 Mr. Mat award, given Saturday at the OVAC Wrestling Championships.

He didn't let a spinal cord injury from a freak diving accident in 1983 keep him down. Despite being confined to a wheelchair, he continued to be involved in athletic events for decades, as well as numerous civic organizations in the Wheeling area.

Just prior to his injury, Cuffaro started the Daniel M. Burke Memorial

Please see MR. MAT, Page 8

Almeida's OT Heroics Clinch Series

ORLANDO, FL — It took a crazy ending and some extra work, but the Wheeling Nailers got the win they deserved on Sunday afternoon against the Orlando Solar Bears at Amway Center. Orlando scored twice in the final five minutes to force overtime, but in the extra session, Justin Almeida connected for his second of the day, as the Nailers defeated the Solar Bears, 4-3, to take two of three on the weekend.

The first period was filled with opportunities for both sides, but the lone goal came during the closing seconds, courtesy of the Nailers. Justin Almeida sent Felix Pare on a breakaway, just as Pare's minor penalty expired. Despite fanning on his initial try, Pare was able to quickly gather the puck and spin around with a forehand shot in from the right side of the crease.

Early in the middle frame, Orlando drew even, just as a power play came to its conclusion. Alexey Lipanov's left circle shot got stopped, but the rebound bounced out to Dylan Fitze, who chipped in the loose change. Midway through the period, Wheeling got its lead back. Chris Ortiz touched the puck up on the right side of the ice to Justin Almeida, who immediately let a wrist shot fly into the top-left corner of the net.

At the 2:44 mark of the third period, the Nailers extended their advantage with what turned out to be a big marker. Ortiz dangled around a defender and got enough power on his right circle wrist to send the puck off of Brad Barone's glove and in over the goal line. The rest of the stanza proved to be a challenge for Wheeling, as it was forced to kill four penalties, and that would have been five, if not for a goal during a delayed call. The Solar Bears capitalized on the circumstances to tie the tilt. Tristan Langan's first marker came from a wrist shot just above the right side of the goal line on the power play, then he potted the equalizer with a one-timer from the center point, sending the contest to overtime deadlocked, 3-3.

In the extra session, Wheeling got the lone power play and made sure to cash in. Justin Almeida walked the puck into the left circle, then rifled the game winner up and under the crossbar, giving the Nailers the 4-3 triumph and the win in the weekend series.

Stefanos Lekkas turned in another brilliant performance for Wheeling, as he earned the victory by stopping 37 of the 40 shots he faced. Brad Barone took the overtime loss for Orlando, as he made 22 saves on 26 shots.

LOCAL CARD

Monday, January 17
Boys Basketball
 Wheeling Park vs Brooke (at Linsly)
 Morgantown at Linsly
Girls Basketball
 Shenandoah at Barnesville
 Beallsville at Cameron
 Steubenville at Bellaire
 Buckeye Local at St. John Academy
 Preston at Brooke
 Harrison Central at Toronto
 St. Clairsville at John Marshall
 Morgantown at Linsly
 Shadyside at Martins Ferry
 Bridgeport at Monroe Central
 Paden City at Madonna

SPORTS ON TV

Monday, January 17
NFL FOOTBALL
 8:15 p.m.
 ABC — NFC Wild Card Playoff: Arizona at St. Louis
 ESPN — NFC Wild Card Playoff: Arizona at St. Louis
 ESPN2 — NFC Wild Card Playoff: Arizona at St. Louis (MNF with Peyton and Eli)
NHL HOCKEY
 10:00 p.m.
 ATT — Pittsburgh at Las Vegas
NBA BASKETBALL
 6 p.m.
 TNT — Milwaukee at Atlanta

NFL PLAYOFFS

Wild-card Playoffs
Saturday, Jan. 15
 Cincinnati 26, Las Vegas 19
 Buffalo 47, New England 17
Sunday, Jan. 16
 Tampa Bay 31, Philadelphia 15
 San Francisco 23, Dallas 17
 Pittsburgh at Kansas City, 8:15 p.m. (NBC)
Monday, Jan. 17
 Arizona at L.A. Rams, 8:15 p.m. (ESPN/ABC)
Divisional Playoffs
Saturday, Jan. 22 and Sunday, Jan. 23
 San Francisco at Green Bay, TBD
 Cincinnati or Pittsburgh at Tennessee, TBD
 Cincinnati at Buffalo or Buffalo at Kansas City, TBD
 Arizona or L.A. Rams at Tampa Bay, TBD
Conference Championships
Sunday, Jan. 30
AFC
 lowest remaining seed at highest remaining seed, 3:05 p.m. (CBS)
NFC
 lowest remaining seed at highest remaining seed, 6:40 p.m. (FOX)
Super Bowl
Sunday, Feb. 13
At Inglewood, Calif.
 conference championship winners, 6:30 p.m. (NBC)

WRESTLING

68th Annual OVAC Ron Mauck Wrestling Championships (at WesBanco Arena, Wheeling)

TEAM SCORES: 1. Wheeling Park 278; 2. University 228.5; 3. Parkersburg South 198; 4. Steubenville 197; 5. Beaver Local 161; 6. John Marshall 155.5; 7. Indian Creek 148.5; 8. St. Clairsville 119.5; 9. Barnesville 118.5; 10. Cameron 117; 11. Martins Ferry 97; 12. Oak Glen 94.5; 13. Dover 22; 14. Harrison Central 74; 15. Morgantown 66.5; 16. Shenandoah 63; 17. Warren Local 56; 18. Brooke 55; 19. River 46; 20. Southern Local 43.5; 21. Wellsville 43; 22. Cambridge 41; 23. Union Local 34; 24. Edison 32; 25. Caldwell 30; 26. East Liverpool 29; 27. Bridgeport 22.5; 28. Shadyside 22; 29. Linsly 21; 30. Buckeye Local 18.5; 31. Toronto 18; 32. Fort Frye 17; 33. Marietta 14; 34. Bellaire 13; 35. (tie) Paden City, Weir 8; 37. Steubenville Catholic 5; 38. Beallsville 2; 39. (tie) Hundred, Madonna, Monroe Central 0

Scores by Class

Class 5A
 1. Wheeling Park 278; 2. University 228.5; 3. Parkersburg South 198; 4. Steubenville 197; 5. John Marshall 155.5; 6. Morgantown 66.5; 7. Dover 63.5; 8. Warren Local 56; 9. Brooke 55; 10. Marietta 14
Class 4A
 1. Beaver Local 161.5; 2. Indian Creek 148.5; 3. St. Clairsville 119.5; 4. Oak Glen 94.5; 5. Harrison Central 74; 6. Cambridge 41; 7. Union Local 34; 8. Edison 32; 9. East Liverpool 29; 10. Weir 8
Class 3A
 1. Barnesville 118.5; 2. Martins Ferry 97; 3. Shenandoah 63; 4. River 46; 5. Linsly 21; 6. Buckeye Local 18.5; 7. Fort Frye 17; 8. Bellaire 13
Class 1A/2A
 1. Cameron 117; 2. Southern Local 45.5; 3. Wellsville 43; 4. Caldwell 30; 5. Bridgeport 22.5; 6. Shadyside 22; 7. Toronto 18; 8. Paden City 8; 9. Steubenville Catholic 5; 10. Beallsville 2; 11. (tie) Hundred, Madonna, Monroe Central 0

Championship Finals

106--Logan Davis (OG) d. Slaton Pettit (Cam), 4-0; 113--Gannon Kazmirski (STC) d. Ethan Cook (JM), 1-0; 120--Brody Saccoccia (Steub) d. Brent Bosley (PS), 7-3; 126--Dakota King (Barn) d. Cal Beadling (Steub), 19-4; 132--Nate Shelek (WP) d. Ryan Martin (PS), 13-9; 138--Bradyn Lucas (138) d. Skyler King (Barn), 12-7; 145--Luca Felix (U) d. Dorian Jackson (BvL), 10-3; 152--Dom Paterra (IC) d. Caden Stout (STC), 3-2; 160--Logan Ours (BvL) p. Dakota Hagedorn (U), 2:53; 170--Gage Wright (PS) p. Elijah Wellings-Osha (U), 5:34; 182--Ian Bush (Cam) p. Caden Kenworthy (Camb), 3:03; 195--Austin Starr (IC) d. Brock Kehler (BvL), 7-0; 220--Lucas Thomas (HC) p. Erick Brothers Jr., (WP), 5:22; 285--Peyton Tuttle (Steub) p. Corbin Turney (U), 3:58

Consolation Finals

106--Noah White (WP) d. Tristen Rossiter (Shen), 3-2; 113--Adam Carman (WP) d. Hayden Lamb (OG), 120--Carter Pauley (U) p. Tyler Sipes (IC), 2:12; 126--Jack Lowe (WP) md. Nathan Perez (D), 10-0; 132--Jaymin Salsberry (BvL) d. Griffen Stephen (Barn), 10-5; 138--Trent Jones (PS) d. Mason Pauley (N), 1-0; 145--Ayden King (Barn) d. C.J. Spencer (IC), 3-1; 152--Jude Childers (PS) d. Quinton Velas (WP), 9-5; 160--Robert Shockey (PS) d. Gabe Carman (WP), 9-7; 170--Brandon Kiser (D) d. Adam Angel (Cam), 8-6 ot; 182--Hunter Nixon (WP) d. Klypsan Wallace (JM), 1-0; 195--Preston Harmon (Morg) d. Brandon Kinney (Steub), 3-2; 220--Zak Dobson (MF) d. Nate King (Steub), 11-6; 285--Marshall Bier (Riv) p. Landen Thomas (HC), 4:44

Fifth-Sixth Place

106--Zander Ward (JM) . Pase Mahoney (MF), 2:15; 113--Dylan Ward (MF) md. Brodi Bowersock (BvL), 12-1; 120--Garret Spohn (Morg) p. Carter Lucas (WP), 2:23; 126--Ashton Hoge (Cam) p. Zach McKeever (STC), 2:02; 132--Carl Cochran (JM) d. Pedro Garcia (D), 4-3; 138--Egidio DiFazio (D) d. Mark Emmerling (BvL), 5-1; 145--Cody Taggart (WP) d. Nathaniel Gibson (UL), 6-2; 152--Savier Faulks (Steub) d. Chance Wooley (SL), 5-4; 160--Reese Spencer (IC) d. Brodie Tait (WL), 6-0; 170--Rep. McCordle (JM) md.

BUCS

(Continued from Page 7)

The Eagles (9-9) scored on Boston Scott's 34-yard run and Hurts' 16-yard TD pass to Kenneth Gainwell in the fourth quarter. A 2-point conversion trimmed Philadelphia's deficit to 16 with 4:45 remaining, but that was as close as it would get.

Giovani Bernard scored on a 2-yard run and Ke'Shawn Vaughn, a second-year pro filling in for injured running backs Leonard Fournette and Ronald Jones, covered the final yard of a 70-yard drive that put the Bucs up 14-0.

Brady led the NFL in passing yards, touchdowns, attempts and completions this season, but Tampa Bay gained the upper hand in this one by running the ball and keeping it away from Hurts and the league's leading rushing attack.

The Bucs ran 25 plays to Philadelphia's eight in the first quarter, outgaining the Eagles 137 yards to 17 and compiling an 11-1 edge in first downs.

It didn't get much better after that, with a Tampa Bay defense fortified by the return of injured linebackers Lavonte David, Shaquil Barrett and Jason Pierre-Paul turning away Hurts' most promising drive of the opening half with Mike Edwards' end zone interception.

The Eagles won four of their last five games to earn the No. 7 playoff seeding in the NFC, however the turning point in their season came when running the ball became a focal point of the offense during the second half of a 28-22 home loss to the Bucs.

The Eagles ran for at least 130 yards

in their next nine games, including seven in a row with more than 175. Hurts led the team with 784 yards and 10 yards rushing, becoming the eighth quarterback in NFL history to throw for more than 3,000 yards and run for over 750.

Hurts finished his playoff debut 23 of 43 passing for 258 yards. He ran for a team-high 39 yards on eight attempts, with the Eagles finishing with 95 yards rushing overall — well below their season average of 159.7 per game.

49ERS 23, COWBOYS 17

ARLINGTON, Texas (AP) — Versatile receiver Deebo Samuel ran 26 yards for a touchdown the play after an interception by Dak Prescott, and the San Francisco 49ers held on for a 23-17 wild-card victory over the Dallas Cowboys on Sunday.

SATURDAY

BENGALS 26, RAIDERS 19

CINCINNATI (AP) — Joe Burrow led an efficient offense that scored on six drives, including two of his touchdown passes, and rookie Evan McPherson made four field goals as the Cincinnati Bengals finally advanced in the playoffs with a 26-19 win over Las Vegas in Saturday's wild-card game.

BILLS 47, PATRIOTS 17

ORCHARD PARK, N.Y. (AP) — Josh Allen set a Buffalo Bills playoff record with five touchdown passes, including two to Dawson Knox, and Devin Singletary ran for two scores in the first half of a throttling of division rival New England.

HIGH SCHOOL BASKETBALL

GIRLS BASKETBALL

MONROE CENTRAL 46, Frontier 33
 FRONTIER (33) — Ramsey 5, 2-2 14; Shapley 3, 0-0 7; Knowlton 1, 4-4 6; Schmidt 0, 0-0 0; Cislis 1, 0-0 2; Haight 1, 1-2 4; Totals: 11, 7-8 33.
MONROE CENTRAL (46) — Friday 7, 3-4 21; Thompson 0, 1-2 1; Morris 2, 8-13 14; Bishop 2, 2-4 6; Haslam 0, 0-0 0; Swisher 0, 2-2 2; Bettinger 1, 0-0 2; Totals: 12, 16-25 46.
 3-point goals: F — Ramsey (2), Shapley (1), Haight (1).
 MC — Friday (4), Morris (2).
Shadyside 64, Barnesville 47

BARNESVILLE (47) — Thompson 1, 3-4 6; Schaffer 0, 0-0 0; Lucas 3, 2-4 8; Tyson 1, 1-5 3; Welch 5, 2-2 12; Carter 1, 0-0 3; Fritter 1, 0-1 2; Powell 0, 0-0 0; Johnson 0, 1-2 1; Yater 6, 0-2 12; Totals: 18, 9-20 47.
SHADYSIDE (64) — Stewart 3, 0-4 6; Zduunczyk 0, 0-0 0; T. Fulton 2, 0-0 4; R. Fulton 5, 0-0 14; Boltz 0, 0-0 0; Sims 2, 0-0 5; Brown 3, 0-0 7; Hendershot 4, 0-0 11; Gorby 6, 4-5 17; Totals: 25, 4-9 64.
 3-point goals: B — Thompson, Carter. S — R. Fulton (4), Sims, Brown, Hendershot (3), Gorby.

BOYS BASKETBALL

WHEELING PARK 62, East Liverpool 54
WHEELING PARK — Francis 4 1-2 10; Davis 5 7-10 19; Richter 2 4-5 8; Wilkinson 2 1-2 6; Phillips 8 2-4 19.
EAST LIVERPOOL — Trvine 1 3-4 6; Dailey 6 5-8 17; Armstrong 3 1-2 9; Toothman 2 2-4 7; Green 4 7-8 15.
 3 Pt. Goals — Wheling Park 4 (Davis 2, Francis 1, Wilkinson 1). East Liverpool 5 (Armstrong 2, Irvine 1, Dailey 1, Toothman 1).
Shadyside 72, Bridgeport 35
BRIDGEPORT (35) — Jackson 2, 2-2 8; Moore 3, 4-4 10; Tarr 1, 0-0 2; Flanagan 1, 1-2 3; A. Jackson 1, 0-0 2; Gear 3, 4-5 10; Totals: 11, 11-13 35.
SHADYSIDE (72) — Stottlemeyer 0, 0-0 0; VanNest 0, 0-0 0; Bell 1, 0-0 3; Booth 1, 0-0 2; Wach 2, 0-0 6; Salgat 3, 0-0 8; Beckett 8, 4-4 24; Tsoaras 1, 1-2 3; D. Booth 1, 0-0 2; Brock 6, 0-0 12; Gorby 1, 0-0 2; Crozier 0, 0-0 0; Amos 3, 3-4 9; Totals: 27, 8-10 72.
 3-point goals: B — Jackson (2). S — Bell, Wach (2), Salgat (2), Beckett (4).
St. Clairsville 70, Martins Ferry 42
ST. CLAIRSVILLE (70) — Oberdick 2, 5-6 9; Thoburn 9, 0-1 23; Burk 0, 0-2 0; Pastor 4, 0-2 8; McCort 3, 2-2 9; Woodford 0, 1-2 1; Wolfe 0, 0-0 0; Schafer 0, 0-0 0; Crist 1, 0-0 2; Gasber 0, 0-0 0; Henry 6, 4-7 16; Totals: 26, 12-22 70.
MARTINS FERRY (42) — Miles 6, 3-9 15; Ray 2, 4-5 8; L. Hores 2, 0-0 4; Shriver 0, 0-2 0; Williams 3, 0-0 8;

O'Connell 0, 0-1 0; Flesch 0, 0-0 0; Reese 1, 2-2 5; Hores 1, 0-0 2; Totals: 15, 9-19 42.
 3-point goals: StC — Thoburn (5), McCort. MF — Williams (2), Reese.
River 36, Magnolia 21
MAGNOLIA (21) — Gilbert 0, 0-0 0; Vargo 0, 0-0 0; Johnson 2, 2-2 8; Williamson 2, 0-0 6; Shimp 0, 0-0 0; Pyles 2, 0-0 5; Kocher 1, 0-0 2; Totals: 7, 2-2 21.
RIVER (36) — Isaly 1, 4-4 7; Creamer 1, 0-0 3; Lollathin 3, 2-2 8; Longwell 2, 0-0 4; Thompson 1, 0-0 2; Long 4, 2-3 10; Potts 1, 0-0 2; Totals: 13, 8-9 36.
 3-point goals: M — Johnson (2), Williamson (2), Pyles. R — Creamer.

Linsly 81, Brooke 57
BROOKE (57) — Taylor 1, 0-0 3; Marks 0, 0-0 0; Knox 2, 0-0 5; Isinghood 16, 2-5 35; Sperlazza 1, 5-6 7; Orban 0, 0-0 0; Varner 3, 0-0 7; Cipolletti 0, 0-0 0; Sperringer 0, 0-0 0; Totals: 23, 7-11 57.
LINSLY (81) — Wykes 6, 4-5 18; Murray 3, 1-2 9; Donovic 1, 0-0 2; Anderson 2, 0-0 5; G. Jackson 7, 0-0 19; Coleman 4, 1-1 9; Vilenius 1, 0-0 2; D. Jackson 0, 0-0 0; Jones 0, 0-0 0; A. Taylor 3, 0-0 6; Kovalesky 0, 0-0 0; W. Taylor 4, 2-3 11; Rabinovich 0, 0-0 0; Sun 0, 0-0 0; Zhu 0, 0-0 0; Totals: 31, 8-11 81.
 3-point goals: B — Taylor, Knox, Isinghood, Varner. L — Wykes (2), Murray (2), Anderson, G. Jackson (5), Taylor.

Monroe Central 51, Frontier 50
MONROE CENTRAL (51) — Rose-Burton 7, 5-5 20; Kroll 3, 0-1 8; Bunning 1, 1-2 3; Lincoln 1, 0-0 2; Yonak 0, 0-0 0; Kinney 1, 0-0 2; Howell 2, 0-0 4; Swisher 4, 1-1 12; Totals: 19, 7-9 51.
FRONTIER (50) — Bills 9, 1-1 20; Buck 1, 0-0 2; Cox 5, 2-2 13; Curtis 3, 0-0 7; Reynolds 1, 0-0 2; Hendershot 3, 0-0 6; Bowersock 0, 0-0 0; Totals: 22, 3-3 50.

3-point goals: MC — Kroll (2), Swisher (3), Rose-Burton. F — Bills, Cox, Curtis.
Indian Creek 53, Buckeye Local 29
BUCKEYE LOCAL (39) — Palmer 0, 0-0 0; McHugh 1, 0-0 2; Romanyak 2, 2-2 6; Walker 4, 0-4 9; Best 1, 0-0 2; Colabelli-Kindberg 0, 0-0 0; L. Darrah 1, 5-11 7; A. Deitch 0, 0-0 0; Berry 0, 0-0 0; H. Darrah 1, 1-2 3; Chandler 0, 0-0 0; Totals: 10, 8-19 29.
INDIAN CREEK (53) — Francis 0, 1-2 1; Kuczykowski 4, 1-2 10; Williams 3, 2-2 8; Morelli 1, 3-4 6; Vandeborne 0, 0-0 0; Tweedy 0, 0-0 0; Pownall 1, 0-0 3; Irizarry 1, 0-1 2; McGee 1, 0-0 2; Bodo 1, 0-2 2; Freshwater 1, 0-0 3; Smith 3, 2-4 8; Schaffer 2, 4-8 8; Bodo 0, 0-0 0; Totals: 15, 13-25 53.

3-point goals: BL — Walker. IC — Kuczykowski, Morelli, Pownall, Freshwater.

PATRIOTS

(Continued from Page 7)

"We knew that one was going to be a battle," first-year Steubenville head coach Lucas Huffman said of Tuttle's match. "Peyton wrestled a good, smart match."

Big Red finished a point behind Parkersburg South (108-107) and finished fourth overall, but Huffman was pleased. "I'm extremely proud of our team top to bottom," he noted. "We just asked the kids to go out and compete, and they did. I'm extremely happy."

Barnesville captured the Class 3A title behind the championship performance of Dakota King (126) who posted a 19-4 technical fall over Steubenville's Cal Beadling. The Shamrocks also had a runner-up, a third and a fourth.

"We've got a good core of kids and battled through some adversity. I'm proud of them," Barnesville's Jayson Stephen said. "We came in here thinking we could be a top 5 team and we lost some matches in the 'blood round' that we should never lose. That can't happen."

The Shamrocks tallied 118.5 points to 97 for runner-up Martins Ferry.

Oak Glen's Logan Davis (106) got the finals started with a 4-0 blanking of Cameron's Slaton Pettit.

"Logan wrestled well. He was the No. 1 seed coming in and did what he had to," Oak Glen head coach Patrick McGillian said of Davis. "He was pretty flawless in the finals. I'm proud of him."

The Dragons did get a champion in senior Ian Bush (182). The two-time OVAC and two-time defending W.Va. state champion is a WVU recruit. He pinned Cambridge's Caden Kenworthy in 3:03.

"We knew coming in that we had a pretty good chance at winning our class," Cameron head coach Tim Jones said. "We challenged the kids to show up, and they did. Even the guys that didn't place fought hard. Definitely a team effort."

"It's going to be hard when he wrestles

his last match for us," Jones said of Bush, who pinned his way through the tournament to win the Hercules Award. "He is something special."

Indian Creek, which finished second to Beaver Local in the Class 4A race, set a school milestone Saturday.

"This was a special weekend for us because we've never had two individual champions in school history," Indian Creek's Brandon Pendleton said. "This is a good group of guys that we've been focusing on doing things for the first time with. I couldn't be any more proud of them."

Standing atop the podium were Dom Paterra (152) and Austin Starr (195). Paterra knocked off top-seeded Caden Stout of St. Clairsville, 3-2, while Starr blanked University's Brock Kehler, 7-0.

Also winning titles were St. Clairsville's Gannon Kazmirski (113); University's Luca Felix (145); Beaver Local's Logan Ours (160); Parkersburg South's Gage Wright (170) and Harrison Central's Lucas Thomas (220).

Kazmirski, the fourth seed, made a second-period escape hold up in a 1-0 win over John Marshall's Ethan Cook. Felix topped Beaver Local's unseeded Dorian Jackson, 10-3. Ours, who was voted the Bierkorte Award winner by tournament coaches, pinned University's Dakota Hagedorn in 2:53, and Wright scored a fall in 5:34 over University's Elijah Wellings-Osha. Thomas shocked a lot of people when he pinned Wheeling Park's Erick Brothers Jr. while trailing 5-2.

"Lucas earns every bit of what he got tonight," Harrison Central's Bill Bryant said of his third seed. "He works a lot harder and puts more time in in the (wrestling) room than anybody on the team. He puts in a ton of mat time. He traveled this summer to make himself better."

Thomas is the Huskies' first champion since Doug Eddy in 2012.

SWIMMING

(Continued from Page 7)

"The girls did great," St. Clairsville coach Ernie Banks said. "Every single girl on the team performed admirably. It shows a lot about our leadership. Our senior and junior girls have brought up the ones that are freshmen and sophomores. These girls are the perfect storm and I've enjoyed it but the core team — I am very proud of them."

The Wheeling Park boys' and girls' teams each finished third.

Leading the Park boys was defending

Also capturing a pair of gold medals was John Marshall's Victoria Kidney in the 200 IM (2:14.32) and the backstroke (59.60).

"This is really exciting," Kidney said. "It's nice to kind of see where I am. With state and regionals coming up, this is kind of where I need to be so this was reassuring for me."

"It's another stepping stone in the path to state and it's really special. We have a lot of newcomers on the team so it's nice to see them excited and enjoying the experience."



Counsel/B3

Comics/B4

Classified/B5-6

SPORTS

Tuesday,
January 18, 2022

Kings of the mat at the OVAC Tournament



T-L Photo/KIM NORTH

By KIM NORTH
Times Leader Sports Writer

BARNESVILLE -- Like father, like son.

During Saturday night's championship finals of the 68th annual Ohio Valley Athletic Conference Ron Mauck Wrestling Championships, Barnesville's top-seeded Dakota King grappled his way to the 126-pound title with four pins and a technical fall. Flash back to 1995, his father, T.J., captured the championship at 160 pounds.

"I'm super proud. That was a special moment," T.J. King said of Dakota's dominating performance in the tournament. "I was kind of hoping that he could be a four-time champ, but that was kind of taken away from him last year by COVID. This was a great accomplishment, but we have bigger goals in March."

The elder King was referring to the Division III state tournament on the campus of Ohio State University in Columbus.

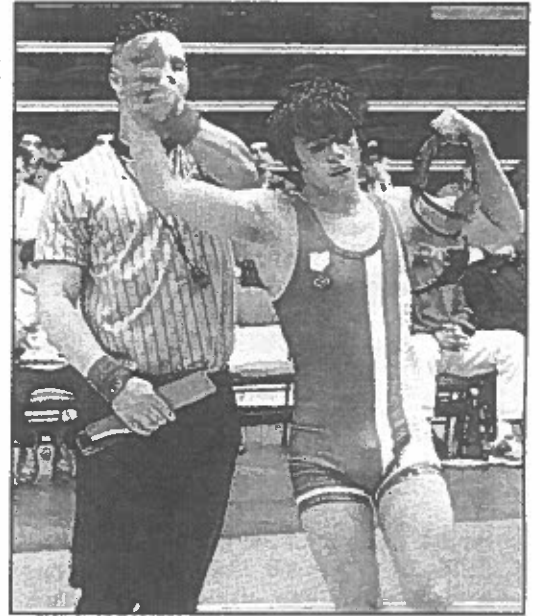
"This has been a goal of mine since I started wrestling," Dakota King revealed. "I've known for a long time that my dad was an OVAC champion, and I've always wanted to be like him. Now I want to be better than him and go for three."

The younger King knows he wouldn't be where he is with his father's help.

"He's awesome. He's all I've got," Dakota said. "He's taught me everything I know about wrestling. He knows what I can do and he stresses that to me. Obviously, it's working."

Dakota King said not being able to wrestle at the OVACs as a freshman was disheartening.

"It was very disappointing not being able to wrestle here last year," Dakota admitted of the tournament being canceled in 2021 due to the global COVID-19 pandemic. "I can't worry about that now, however. All I can do is take care of business and move forward."

See, **KINGS**, Page B2

T-L Photo/KIM NORTH

BARNESVILLE'S DAKOTA King has his hand raised after winning the 126-pound title during the 68th annual OVAC Ron Mauck Wrestling Championships Saturday night inside WesBanco Arena in downtown Wheeling. His father, T.J., won an OVAC title in 1995 while competing for Cambridge High School.

Steelers face long-overdue reboot as Big Ben departs

PITTSBURGH (AP) -- Ben Roethlisberger came back for one more run, wanting a chance for his final performance to not be a lopsided first-round playoff loss.

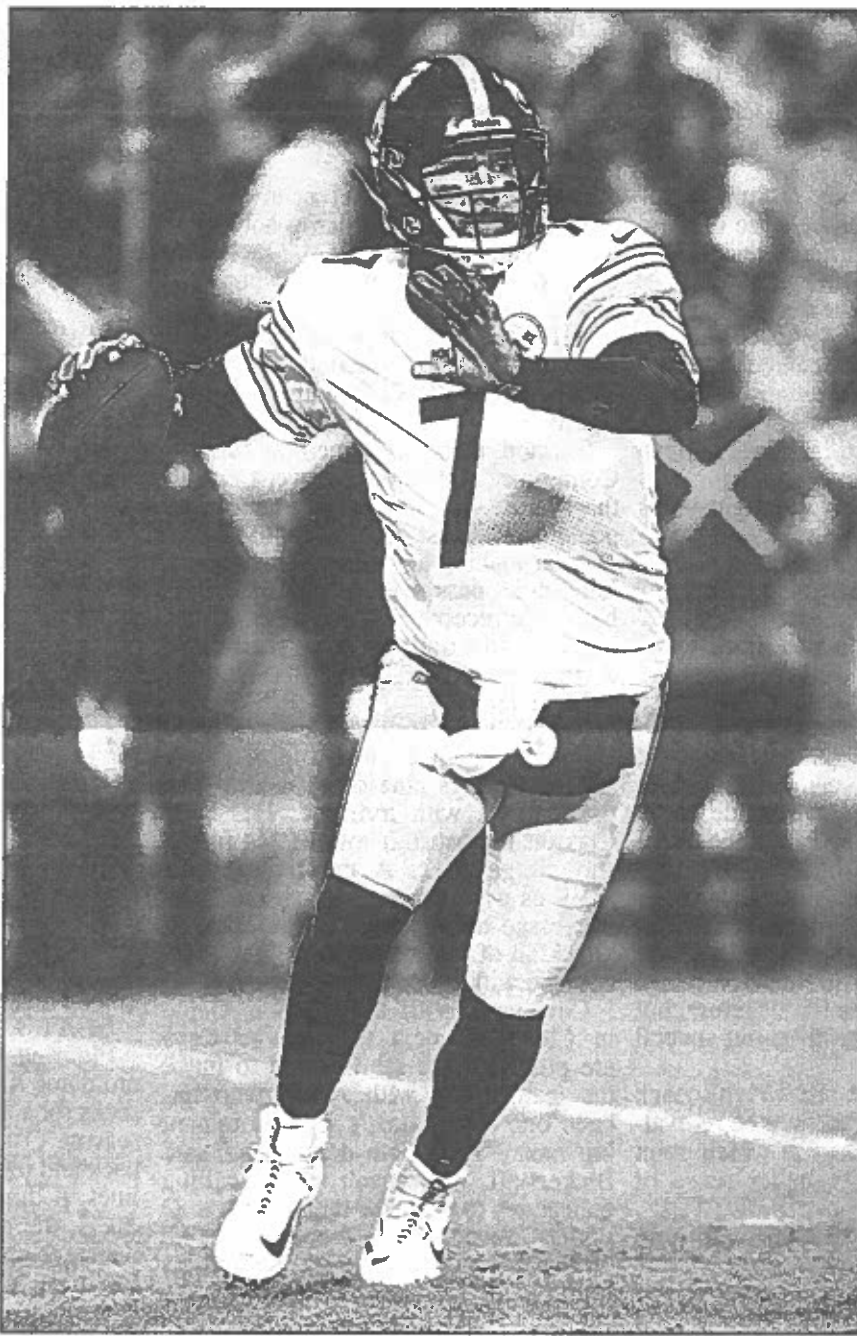
Even with his closest friends gone. Even with a first-year offensive coordinator. Even knowing he'd have an almost completely rebuilt offensive line. Even with rookies likely to take over in the backfield and at tight end.

The longtime Pittsburgh Steelers quarterback and future Hall of Famer's reward? An unlikely postseason berth and ... a lopsided first-round playoff loss.

Pittsburgh's unwieldy season came to the crashing halt that was practically inevitable in a 42-21 whipping at the hands of Kansas City on Sunday night. The Steelers (9-8-1) arrived at Arrowhead Stadium as the longest shot in the 14-team field and played like it.

The issues that plagued them all year -- from offensive coordinator Matt Canada's ineffectual play calling to a defense that was consistently drilled on the road -- manifested themselves over the final three quarters. Patrick Mahomes did whatever he wanted whenever he wanted. It looked an awful lot like a handful of games from earlier in the season, including a 36-10 whipping in the same stadium the day after Christmas.

Roethlisberger's career likely ended with an 11-yard pass to Zach Gentry as the clock ran out. The 39-year-old mar-

See, **STEELERS**, Page B2

AP PHOTO

PITTSBURGH STEELERS quarterback Ben Roethlisberger throws against the Kansas City Chiefs during the first half of an NFL wild-card playoff football game, Sunday in Kansas City, Mo.

Rams take out Cardinals in final wild card

INGLEWOOD, Calif. (AP) -- Matthew Stafford passed for 202 yards and two touchdowns and ran for another score in his first playoff victory, and the Los Angeles Rams roared out of the wild-card round with a 34-11 win over the Arizona Cardinals on Monday night.

Odell Beckham Jr. and Cooper Kupp made touchdown catches for the NFC West champion Rams (13-5), who will visit the defending Super Bowl champion Tampa Bay Buccaneers on Sunday for a spot in the NFC championship game. Los Angeles advanced in the postseason for the third time in the last four years under coach Sean McVay.

David Long also scored on a 3-yard interception return while the Rams' defense harassed Kyler Murray into a calamitous playoff debut. Los Angeles jumped to a 28-0 lead and cruised in the first playoff game at SoFi Stadium, which will host Super Bowl 56 next month.

After an inconsistent finish to the regular season, the Rams' constellation of big stars came together brilliantly on the postseason stage.

Stafford was outstanding in his first playoff game with the Rams, going 13 of 17 without an interception and coolly directing LA's offense while seizing his first playoff win in 13 NFL seasons -- the first 12 spent in Detroit.

Beckham had four catches for 54 yards, including his first career playoff touchdown catch for the Rams' first points. He also threw a 40-yard pass during his own first postseason victory. Linebacker Von Miller added six tackles and a key early sack in his first postseason appearance since winning the MVP award in Super Bowl 50.

Murray went 19 of 34 for 137 yards and two interceptions for the Cardinals (11-7).

Bengals DL thinned by injuries

CINCINNATI (AP) -- After the



Nets drop first game without Durant, fall to Cavaliers, 114-107

CLEVELAND (AP) -- Kevin Durant wasn't there to make the big shot, snatch the key rebound or take over like he's done countless times.

nents.
Baylor's tenure at the top ended with losses to No. 18 Texas Tech and Oklahoma State. It was the

ARIZONA'S RISE
Arizona wasn't expected to be among the Pac-12's elite in its first season under coach Tommy Lloyd,

No. 19 Ohio State.
No. 16 USC had the biggest drop, losing 11 places and UCLA was next at six.

they would almost certainly win. Let us say one of a few high-profile holdovers for a team in transition.

WHO'S NEXT?

The Steelers have money to spend in free agency (over \$40 million), but with so many holes to fill along the offensive and defensive lines, it's highly unlikely they would splurge on the open market on a quarterback, even a mid-level prospect like Marcus Mariota or Jameis Winston.

The more likely scenario is letting Mason Rudolph and Dwayne Haskins spend the next seven months competing for the right to replace a player who is practically irreplaceable. A draft pick, maybe someone like Liberty quarterback Malik Willis, could wait in the wings for an opportunity.

WOE CANADA?

Canada was given a difficult task when he was promoted from quarterbacks coach to offensive coordinator last January. He needed to devise a game plan knowing he had an unproven offensive line and a quarterback — while still effective under certain circumstances — who is no longer an elite difference maker.

The results were predictable. The Steelers finished 20th or worse in, yards, points and rushing yards. Roethlisberger's 6.2 yards per pass attempt tied a career low and a wide receiver group outside of Diontae Johnson was largely underwhelming, and even Johnson struggled with drops late in the year.

Pittsburgh needs to figure out whether the issue was the groceries or the chef. Did the offense sputter for long stretches because of the scheme or because it lacked talent, particularly up front? If the front office determines it's the latter, Canada will come back. If it's the former, the team will have a third coordinator in as many seasons.

BACKING BUSH?

The Steelers have a decision to make with linebacker Devin Bush, who returned from a torn ACL that cut short his 2020 season but had little impact. While he was hardly the only inside linebacker that struggled, Bush carries the highest profile, a player the team traded up in the draft to take 10th overall in 2019.

The Steelers need to decide whether to pick up Bush's fifth-year option. Not doing so would be a tacit admission of failure, which seems unlikely. Regardless, help is needed after Pittsburgh finished dead last in the NFL against the run.

NEXT STEPS

Figuring out if Canada stays. Ditto defensive coordinator Keith Butler, whose unit led the league in sacks for a fifth straight year but collapsed in the post-season. Come up with a succession plan at quarterback and invest heavily in the offensive and defensive lines. If those two units take a major step forward in 2022, the quarterback might not have to be Roethlisberger-esque for the Steelers to stay in the playoff mix.

Kings

Continued from Page B1

ward." While Dakota King accomplished a goal by posting a 19-4 technical fall over Steubenville's second-seeded Cal Beadling in the finals, there wasn't the celebration that one would have thought.

"We're saving that one for March," T.J. King said. "That's the one that really counts. Winning this is nice, but the state title is the main goal."

Dakota King's championship helped the Shamrocks win the Class 3A team title. Three other individuals placed during the three-day event, including Skyler King (138--2nd; Ayden King (145--3rd) -- although they are brothers they are not related to Dakota -- and Griffen Stephen (132--4th).

Dakota King finished sixth in Division III at 113 pounds during last winter's state tournament held at Marion Harding High School after claiming sectional and district crowns. He fashioned a superb 46-5 record, with three of the losses coming at the state tournament and two being to Gavin Caprella of Lima C.C. whom he also lost to in the Barnesville Doan Ford finals earlier in the season.

Barnesville head coach Jayson Stephen was pleased for Dakota.

"He's a go-getter. Takedowns are a big key for him. He wrestled a great tournament and had a bright future ahead of him," Coach Stephen said.

Being able to do what his father did is quite an accomplishment.

"That's always good. I'm happy for both of them," the coach continued. "That's a great thing."

Notre Dame tops Howard in MLK Classic

WASHINGTON (AP) — Dane Goodwin scored 17 points, Nate Laszewski had 17 points and 13 rebounds, and Notre Dame beat Howard 71-68 on Monday in the MLK Classic.

Notre Dame led 67-56 before turning it over four times in five possessions, while Howard scored 10 straight. Cormac Ryan ended the Irish's drought with two free throws with 41.5 seconds left for a three-point lead.

Elijah Hawkins converted a layup in traffic to pull Howard within 69-68, but Prentiss Hubb answered at the other end on a driving layup with 12.7 left.

Cavs

Continued from Page B1

James Harden added 22 points for Brooklyn, playing for the first time since Durant, the NBA's leading scorer, sprained a ligament in his left knee — an injury that's expected to keep him out for several weeks and again deprives the Nets from getting their "Big 3" running at full speed.

Durant's injury is a setback, but it hasn't changed Irving's stance on the COVID-19 vaccine.

He's the league's most prominent unvaccinated player, and because of New York's mandate in public arenas, he's not eligible to play home games.

And despite Durant's situation, Irving won't change his status or belief.

"I'm not bringing science into it," said Irving, who was defensive about his position.

"I'm staying rooted in what I believe in."

The Nets missed five straight shots down the stretch but were still within 110-107 when a costly turnover by Harden led to a breakaway dunk for Okoro.

Harden attempted a pass back to Irving, who slipped near mid-court and laid helplessly on the floor as Okoro streaked by and scored.

Irving missed a 3-pointer that went halfway down and came out before Cleveland's Kevin Love made three free throws to close out one of the Cavs' biggest wins this season.

Durant, averaging 29.3 points per game, sprained his left medial collateral ligament (MCL) on Saturday in a win over New Orleans. The Nets don't have a definitive timeframe for his return, but it's safe to assume he'll be out several weeks.

Before the game, Brooklyn coach Steve Nash said Durant will be re-evaluated in "a few weeks," at which point the team will have a better sense of when he'll be back.

In the meantime, the Nets, who were hoping to finally have a long stretch with Durant, Harden and Irving on the

floor together, are again being forced to cope, adjust and figure out how to win.

"It's an opportunity for our team to grow," Nash said. "We have to find solutions."

Irving's one of them.

He moved like the Irving of old, using his hesitation dribble to freeze defenders before blowing by them.

"I'm still getting my bearings," he said.

The Nets got another scare in the third quarter when Harden grabbed his left leg and hobbled off.

He stayed in for another minute before being replaced by Irving, who then scored seven straight points, dropping a 3-pointer with 11.7 seconds left to put Brooklyn up 88-87 heading into the fourth.

Garland, who was named the Eastern Conference's player of the week during the game, was in the middle of the game's splashiest play in the first half.

After making an overhead catch on a long outlet pass from Love like a football wide receiver, Garland flipped the ball back to a trailing Okoro for a thundering dunk.

TIP-INS

Nets: It's hard to find a positive with Durant's situation, but one plus is that Brooklyn plays nine of its next 11 on the road — with Irving. ... F/C Nick Claxton (hamstring) missed his fourth straight game. ... A two-time league MVP as a point guard, Nash has been impressed with Garland's development. "He kind of has all the tools you want, coupled with speed and quickness."

Cavaliers: With the All-Star Game in Cleveland next month, the Cavs are pushing hard for Garland to make the team along with Allen, who has been one of the East's most dominant big men. "They both deserve it," said Bickerstaff, who hasn't started calling colleagues to push for their votes. ... G Lamar Stevens (sore knee) sat out. ... G Rajon Rondo (hamstring) missed his fourth game in a row.

Bengals

Continued from Page B1

viously, we need to execute better."

WHAT'S WORKING

A little luck. The Bengals were on the right end of a controversial call by officials that tilted the game. Late in the first half with Cincinnati leading 13-6, Burrow rolled right to avoid pressure and threw from close to the sideline. Play continued despite an erroneous whistle by an official, who thought Burrow stepped out of bounds. Tyler Boyd caught the 10-yard pass in the back of the end zone for a 20-6 lead. The Raiders protested, citing the rule that the ball should be returned to the previous spot, but the play counted. The NFL stood by the call.

WHAT NEEDS HELP
Finishing drives. The

Bengals made five trips to the red zone and got just two touchdowns out of it, one on the questionable call by officials. Fortunately, McPherson, doesn't miss much. He was perfect on field goals of 31, 30, 43 and 28 yards.

STOCK UP

Pratt has been known all season as the guy most focused on getting turnovers in practice. So it was fitting he would get the interception that sealed the game. The third-year linebacker read Carr's eyes and picked off his pass at the Bengals 2 as the Raiders were driving for a tying score in the final seconds.

STOCK DOWN

Pro-Bowl running back Joe Mixon had one of his best games of the sea-

son against the Raiders in Week 11, rushing for 123 yards and two touchdowns in a 32-13 Bengals win. He wasn't as big a factor Saturday, averaging only 2.8 yards on 17 attempts for 48 yards.

KEY INJURIES

The Bengals put Ogunjobi (right foot) on IR. Hendrickson, the team's sack leader, is day to day.

Also on Monday, Cincinnati returned G Xavier Su'a-Filo to the active roster from injured reserve. He started the first two games but has been out with a knee injury since Oct. 9.

KEY NUMBER

385 — yards allowed by the Bengals. The defense bent but didn't break, as the Raiders scored just one touchdown on five trips to the red zone.

NEXT STEPS

The defensive line depth will be tested as the Titans are expected to get back RB Derrick Henry. He hasn't played since breaking his right foot in Week 8. Burrow and Chase have to keep up the spectacular connection. Burrow has completed nearly 80% of passes thrown Chase's way in the past three weeks.

Prep Schedule

Tuesday, Jan. 18
BOYS BASKETBALL
Barnesville at Monroe Central
Martins Ferry at Bellaire
Cameron at Brnoport
Toronto at Bucyrus Local
Shadyside at Union Local
St. Clairsville at Cambridge
BOWLING
Brooke at Harrison Central
Wheeling Central at Linsly
Monroe Central at St. Clairsville
Barnesville at Bridgeport
SWIMMING
Beaver Local, Edison and St. Clairsville at Wheeling University
WRESTLING
Shadyside and Shenandoah at Martins Ferry
Wednesday, Jan. 19
BOWLING
Union Local at Monroe Central
GIRLS BASKETBALL
Monroe Central at Caldwell
Union Local at Wheeling Park
WRESTLING
U Local at Barnesville, 12:45 p.m.
Buckeye Local and Garaway at Newcomerstown

Sports on TV

Tuesday, January 18
COLLEGE BASKETBALL (MEN'S)
5 p.m.
ESPN2 — Baylor at West Virginia
7 p.m.
ACCN — North Carolina at Miami
BTN — IU/PUI at Ohio St.
CBSN — Davidson at VCU
ESPN — Kansas at Oklahoma
ESPN2 — Maryland at Michigan
ESPN3 — Missouri at Mississippi
FS1 — Butler at UConn
SECN — South Carolina at Arkansas
9 p.m.
ACCN — Clemson at Syracuse
BTN — Wisconsin at Northwestern
CBSN — Air Force at Boise St.
ESPN — Duke at Florida St.
ESPN3 — Iowa St. at Texas Tech
SECN — Tennessee at Vanderbilt
11 p.m.
CBSN — Utah St. at Fresno St.
COLLEGE BASKETBALL (WOMEN'S)
2 p.m.
ACCN — Duke at Miami
5 p.m.
ACCN — Virginia at Virginia Tech
NBA BASKETBALL
7:30 p.m.
NBATV — Minnesota at New York
10 p.m.
NBATV — Detroit at Golden State
SOCCER (MEN'S)
2:15 p.m.
CBSN — SPFL: Glasgow at FC Aberdeen
3 p.m.
USA — Premier League: Chelsea at Brighton & Hove
Alton
TENNIS
2 p.m.
ESPN2 — ATP/ITA: The Australian Open, First Round.
Melbourne, Australia (Tapod)

NFL Playoffs

Wild-card Playoffs
Saturday, Jan. 15
Cincinnati 26, Las Vegas 19
Buffalo 47, New England 17
Sunday, Jan. 16
Tampa Bay 31, Philadelphia 15
San Francisco 23, Dallas 17
Kansas City 42, Pittsburgh 21
Monday, Jan. 17
Arizona at L.A. Rams, 8:15 p.m. (ESPN/ABC)
Divisional Playoffs
Saturday, Jan. 22
Cincinnati at Tennessee, 4:30 p.m. (CBS)
San Francisco at Green Bay, 8:15 p.m. (FOX)
Sunday, Jan. 23
Arizona at L.A. Rams at Tampa Bay, 3 p.m. (NBC)
Buffalo at Kansas City, 6:30 p.m. (CBS)
Conference Championships
Sunday, Jan. 30
AFC
lowest remaining seed at highest remaining seed, 3:05 p.m. (CBS)
NFC
lowest remaining seed at highest remaining seed, 6:40 p.m. (FOX)
Super Bowl
Sunday, Feb. 13
At Inglewood, Calif.
conference championship winners, 6:30 p.m. (NBC)

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SPORTS

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 Seth Staskey Column/C4
 Pro Picks/C5

C
 Sunday News-Register
 JANUARY 16, 2021

SATURDAY'S BEST COLLEGE BASKETBALL

- Noon — Texas Tech at Kansas State, ESPN2
- Noon — Creighton at Xavier, FOX
- 1 p.m. — Tennessee at Kentucky, ESPN
- 2 p.m. — NC State at Duke, ABC
- 2 p.m. — West Virginia at Kansas, CBS
- 2 p.m. — Arkansas at LSU, ESPN2
- 3 p.m. — Florida State at Syracuse, ESPN
- 4 p.m. — Oklahoma at TCU, ESPN2
- 5 p.m. — Oklahoma State at Baylor, ESPN
- 6 p.m. — Vanderbilt at Georgia, ESPN2
- 8 p.m. — Houston at Tulsa, ESPN2

NBA

- 9 p.m. — LA Lakers at Denver, NBATV

NFL PLAYOFFS

- 4:30 p.m. — Las Vegas at Cincinnati, NBC
- 8 p.m. — New England at Buffalo, CBS

SUNDAY'S BEST COLLEGE BASKETBALL

- Noon — Penn State at Ohio State, Big Ten Network
- 1 p.m. — Cincinnati at Wichita State, ESPN
- 4:30 p.m. — Georgetown at St. John's, FOX

NFL PLAYOFFS

- 1 p.m. — Philadelphia at Tampa Bay, FOX
- 4:30 p.m. — San Francisco at Dallas, CBS
- 8:15 p.m. — Pittsburgh at Kansas City, NBC

Park in Prime Position at OVACs

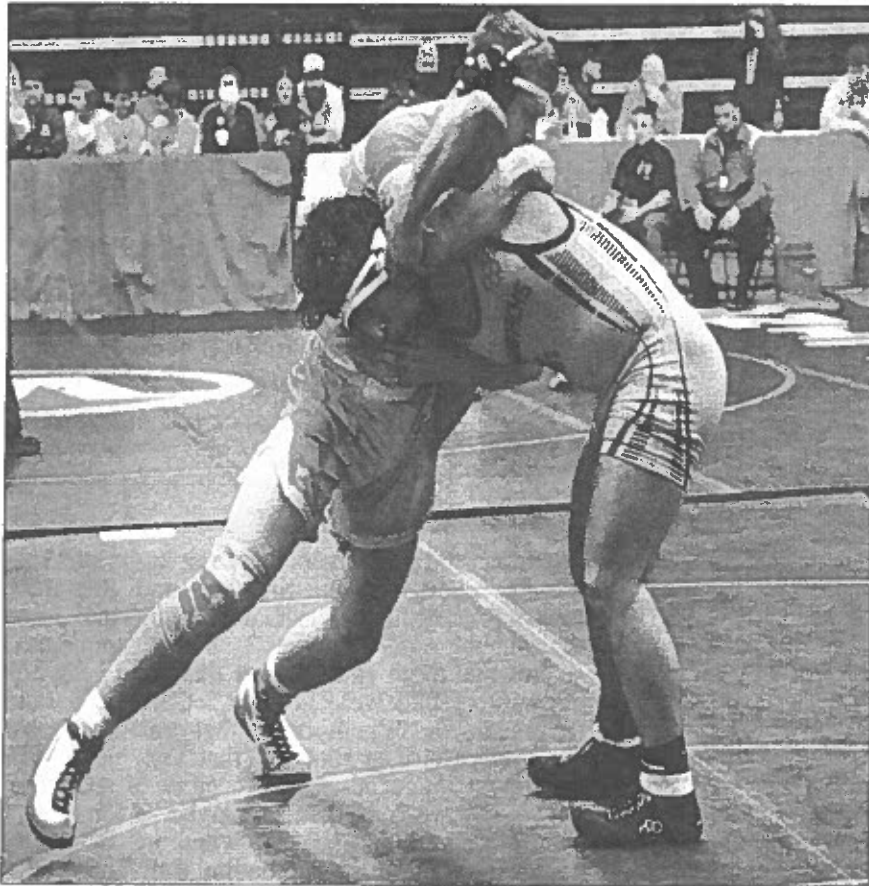


Photo by Kim North

Wheeling Park's Hunter Nixon, left, grapples with John Marshall's Klypsan Wallace during the 182-pound bout. Wallace won the match 5-3 at the final buzzer.

Park Scores 173 Points to Extend Lead for Final Day

By KIM NORTH
For the News-Register
WHEELING — It's been a while since Wheeling Park has claimed the Ohio Valley Athletic Conference Ron Mauck Wrestling Championships team title, but the Patriots put themselves in a position to do it with an outstanding performance during both sessions on Friday.

Piling up 13 victories (11 pins) during the afternoon rounds and adding 10 more wins at night, Brian Leggett's matmen tallied 173 points to easily out-distance University High by 33.5 entering Saturday's action as the 68th

edition winds down its three-day stay inside WesBanco Arena. "We came out in the first session and wrestled really well," Leggett said. "We knocked off some guys that were seeded higher than us. I was also happy with our performance in tonight's quarters."

The Patriots have nine semifinalists in Noah White (106), Adam Carman (113), Jack Lowe (126), Nate Shelek (132), Bradyn Lucas (138), Cody Taggart (145), Quinton Velas (152), Gabe Carman (160) and Erick Brothers Jr. (220).

They also have 13

placers as Carter Lucas (120), Jameson Maynard (170), Hunter Nixon (182) and Brody Cottrill (195) all came through with triumphs in the "blood round."

Leggett said he was surprised with the efforts of Lucas and Lowe.

"Bradyn just beat a kid that he lost to at the Park Duals and we all know what Jack can do, so now everyone else is seeing how good he is."

Brothers Jr. is a man on a mission. The two-time West Virginia state champion junior

Please see PARK, Page C2

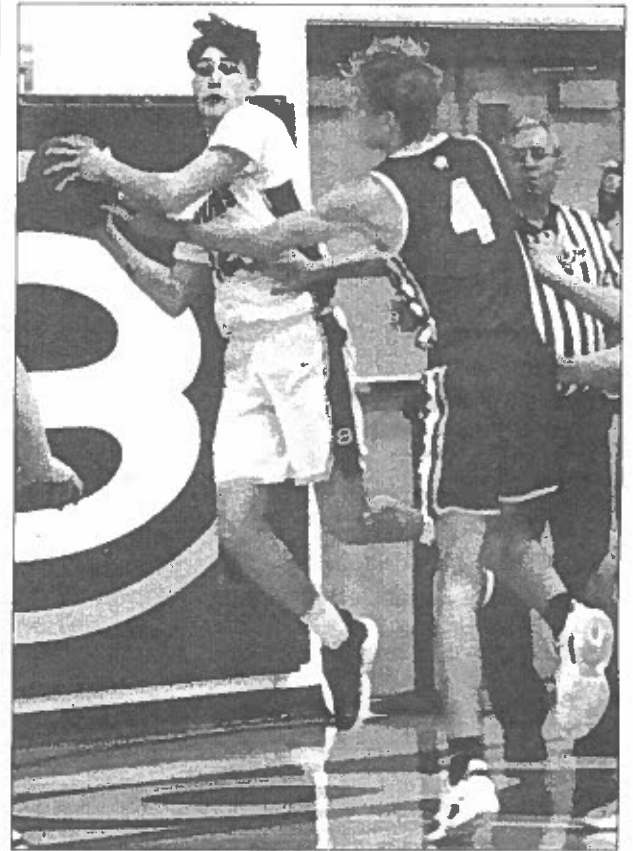


Photo by Cody Nespor

Brooke's Cole Sperlazza, left, looks to find a teammate while being guarded by John Marshall's Braden Sobotka during Friday night's game.

Final Fury Lifts Brooke Past JM

By CODY NESPOR
Sports Writer

WELLSBURG — The Brooke boys scored 22 points in the final three minutes of play Friday to pull away from visiting John Marshall and win 60-49 in a highly-competitive game on their home court home.

The Monarchs pulled off the win just before Christmas the last time these two teams met and Brooke coach Adam Shinsky said that game had been on his players' minds ever since.

"We played them and we gave our worst effort of the season," Shinsky said. "That game's been in the back of their minds since December 23... They're long and they give us problems but we just said we're not going to lose on our home floor."

The Bruins (6-3) trailed 42-38 with three minutes left in the game Friday and went on to score the next 16 points to pull ahead 54-44. They ended the game on a 21-5 run over the final three minutes.

"They got the last shift in momentum at the end of the game and that's what won it," said JM coach Chad Clutter.

While the fourth quarter belonged to the Bruins, the Monarchs (4-6) all but dominated play in the third to grab the lead in the first place.

After scoring just 14 points in the first half, John Marshall poured in 22 in the third quarter, led by 10 from Roman Gray.

Please see BROOKE, Page C2

Linsly Girls Clipped at the Buzzer

By CODY TOMER
Sports Writer

WHEELING — A defensive dogfight came down to one spectacular offensive shot on Friday night inside Linsly's Stifel Field House.

With Linsly (12-2) clinging to a two-point lead with under 10 seconds to go, Fort Frye freshman Emmie Duskey stole the ball with 4 seconds to play and following a timeout, she also hit the game-winning buzzer-beater from nearly 30 feet out to give Fort Frye a narrow 34-33 victory.

"She is just very competitive and she's a winner," Fort Frye coach Dan Liedtke said of the freshman. "We were setting that

shot up for her and I think it blew her mind. She was like, 'Why me?' Our other two best shooters that we normally set up for that, I knew they would have them covered up so I felt confident that she would do it. She is a winner and she did it."

Linsly has a young squad, which hasn't seen much time in nail-biting contests and that inexperience showed in the final seconds.

"We had two seniors who obviously played a lot of minutes but other than that, we are super inexperienced," Linsly coach Rebecca Upton said. "That's what we talked about. Every game we play like this is a learning situation. This one, though, is on the coaching

staff and not the team. We need to do a better job of prepping them in the end of game situations. We're still so young and we're trying to catch up. We just don't have that end of game experience yet."

Fort Frye's lockdown defense held Linsly's offense scoreless over two 6-minute spans during the game.

"That's us," Liedtke said. "We focus and work so much on defense and defensive positioning. I have a system and I've been running it for a long time."

"These girls are really doing a nice job with it. Everybody is playing their part."

Please see LINSLY, Page C2



Linsly's Zaniah Zellous goes to the bucket during Friday's thrilling defensive battle against Fort Frye inside Linsly's Stifel Field House. Fort Frye won the game 34-33 on a last-second-shot at the buzzer.

Photo by Cody Tomer

Steelers Playing With Nothing



Big Third Period Springs

LINSLY

Continued from Page C1

"It's a team defense and if there is one broken spoke, it doesn't work."

Despite its offense going scoreless over a 6-minute span in each half, Linsly's defense also did a remarkable job of keeping the score close.

"We made a couple of early mistakes in how we were defending them," Upton said. "We adjusted and got back to what we were supposed to do and we played phenomenal from that point on."

"They knew what their roles were and what they had to try to take away. I'm super proud of them defensively to hold a team like Fort Frye in the 30s."

"They are just as

tough defensively but we know we'll see them again."

The low-scoring affair was back-and-forth early as Fort Frye held a 9-8 edge after one but after Upton's Cadets went scoreless for 6-and-a-half minutes, they rallied and closed out the first half on a 7-0 run to grab a 15-14 upper hand.

However, Linsly started the second half on another scoring drought of 6:16 but Fort Frye only managed four points during that span, which kept the game up in the air.

Linsly's Ally Hicks provided some fireworks at the end of the third as she buried a 3-pointer at the buzzer to even the score at 23-23 heading

to the final frame.

Then, the two teams traded buckets for the final 3 minutes of action until Fort Frye's McKenzie Dalton made a shot with 18 seconds to play that cut the deficit to two points and set the stage for Duskey's last-second heroics.

Haylen Cook paced Linsly with eight points, while Carleigh Grimm bucketed seven points, Hicks turned in six points and Haley Heitz added five.

Zaniah Zellous paced Upton's Cadets with 11 rebounds.

For Fort Frye (11-3), Dalton finished with 13 points, Kianna O'Brien and Hannah Archer each tallied six points and Duskey added five points.

BROOKE

Continued from Page C1

Clutter said his players were not aggressive enough in the first half and looked to pass the ball instead of taking easy shots.

"We had three or four guys that are our scorers that were hesitant," Clutter explained. "When you do that, you don't make the easy shots and that's exactly what happened."

"We say we want them to maybe be a little more selfish because when we pass too much, we end up having turnovers. We've got to find that fine line."

JM closed the third quarter on a 16-4 run that allowed them to hold a 36-33 lead heading into the final frame.

Gray, Braden Sobotka and Cody Hatman all sunk 3-pointers for John Marshall in the third quarter, which prompted Brooke to make a defensive shift.

"We made a decision to stay with the zone (in the second half) because (John Marshall) went real cold in the second quarter," Shinsky explained. "But then they started getting offensive rebounds and hitting 3s. We had to switch to man or they were just going to keep hitting 3s on us."

Shinsky said switching from a zone defense into man was the key to their success late in the game.

"When we went to man we got something that we lacked all night, we were able to get into transition and get some easy buckets," Shinsky said.

Most of the focus on Brooke's team goes to the dynamic offensive duo of

Cole Sperlazza and Alex Isinghood, but Shinsky said fellow starters Ryan Knox and Jason Varner were the main components of Friday's victory.

"Everybody always talked about Cole and Alex but Ryan Knox and Jason Varner, they won us the game late," Shinsky said. "When I got here and there wasn't a lot of winning going on, they said they wanted to change the culture and I saw a quote that fits Varner perfectly. 'All it takes to change the culture is one guy willing to do whatever it takes and everybody else will follow.' Varner's been that guy."

Varner finished with 14 points and 8 rebounds while Knox scored 6. Sperlazza had 10 points and 7 assists and Isinghood led the team with 20 points.

It was an atypical scoring night for Isinghood, who had trouble getting past JM's Grant Neiswonger in the low post. That led Isinghood to handle the ball more on the perimeter and drive to the basket himself.

"We told Alex to start taking what they give him," Shinsky said. "Neiswonger's a big, strong kid so when we got him outside, Alex is a little bit quicker and was able to use the outside to get inside."

Sobotka led John Marshall with 17 points and Gray finished with 12. Neiswonger had 8 points.

John Marshall next hosts Steubenville on Tuesday and Brooke will play at Linsly today.

PARK

Continued from Page C1

has only spent 48 seconds on the mat in three bouts.

The second-place Hawks have six in the semis, while defending champion Parkersburg South, which sits in fourth with 123, has seven, including Gage Wright (170) who tied the national record with a three-second pin in the second round.

Staubenville is fourth with 128 points and has five semifinalists. Cameron, which has already sewed up the Class 1A/2A title with 78 points, has four semifinalists, as does Beaver Local which made its move to the top of the Class 4A charts.

"We had a really good day," first-year Staubenville head coach Lucas Huffman allowed. "We've got five in the semis, so we'll see what happens."

All 14 top seeds advanced to the semis, as did the numbers 2 and 3. However, there were several closes calls, especially at 285 where the top two eeked by.

River's top-seeded Marshall Bier trailed No. 9 Landen Thomas, of Harrison Central, before putting Thomas on his back at 5:35. No. 2 seed Peyton Tuttle, of Staubenville, slipped by Toronto's seventh-seeded Jason Fancher, 2-1, in

the ultimate tiebreaker.

At 145, No. 2 Cody Taggart, a defending champion from Wheeling Park, needed overtime to best Union Local's seventh-seeded Nathaniel Gibson, while unseeded Dorian Jackson, of Beaver Local, advanced to the semis after upsetting the No. 2 seed in the second round.

John Marshall's Klypsan Wallace was one of a handful of No. 5 seeds that posted upsets. He scored a takedown in the waning second to nip Wheeling Park's Hunter Nixon, 5-3, at 195.

"That was a great win by Klypsan," John Marshall's Ryan Asbury said. "He had lost to him earlier in the season. In fact, that is his third revenge win."

On the strength of four semifinalists, Beaver Local leads the Class 4A race with 114 points, which is 23.5 better than Indian Creek. St. Clairsville is third with 87. The Redskins have three remaining alive for titles, while the Red Devils have a pair.

"We've done pretty well," Indian Creek's Brandon Pendleton said. "This is a tough tournament."

Indian Creek has four left in the consolation bracket.

St. Clairsville's Joel Sansone was a little dis-

appointed with his team's performance.

"Those two guys are wrestling well," he said of semifinalists Gannon Kazmirski (113) and Caden Stout (152). The Red Devils have three left in the consolations.

Martins Ferry leads the Class 3A race over Barnesville, 82-77.

"It's a pretty close race," Martins Ferry's Chad Ware said. "It's going to come down to whoever wins the close matches."

The Purple Riders have two semifinalists in Dylan Ward (113) and Zak Dobson (220), while Jase Mahoney (106) also reached the awards podium.

The Shamrocks have four semifinalists, but no other wrestler still alive.

"We've got our four 'studs' left," Barnesville's Jayson Stephen said. "We had a match where we were ahead in the third period, but couldn't hold on. We've got to win those matches."

Wrestling resumes at 11 a.m. today with championship semifinals and fifth- and semifinal consolation bouts. The introduction of the finalists and special awards ceremony begin at 3:30, with the championship finals and matches for third- fifth- and seventh-places starting at 4.

NAILERS

Continued from Page C1

Bears, as Fitze connected for his second of the night by punching in a shot from the slot. Just seconds after the final media timeout, Orlando upped its lead, when Odeen Tufto took a feed from Tristan Langan, and wired a shot into the left side of the goal. Wheeling thought it got one back moments lat-

er, thanks to Josh Maniscalco, but the marker was wiped off the board due to goaltender interference. The Solar Bears took advantage with two goals in the closing minute, as Michael Brodzinski got an empty netter and Fitze completed his hat trick for the 6-2 result.

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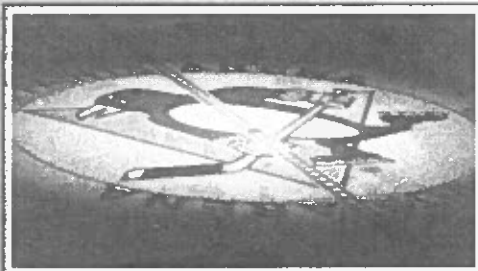
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LOCAL CARD

Saturday, January 15
Wrestling
OVAC Wrestling Championships
Swimming
OVAC Swimming Championships
Boys Basketball
Bridgeport at Shadyside
Brooke at Linsly
Buckeye Local at Indian Creek
Frontier at Monroe Central
Wheeling Park at East Liverpool
Girls Basketball
Barnesville at Shadyside
Bellaire at River
Brooke at Braxton County
Monroe Central at Frontier
College Basketball Men's
Fairmont State at West Liberty
Frostburg State at Wheeling
Bethany at Westminster
Women's
Fairmont State at West Liberty
Bethany at Westminster
ECHL
Wheeling at Orlando
Sunday, January 16
ECHL
Wheeling at Orlando

NFL PLAYOFFS

Wild-card Playoffs
Saturday, Jan. 15
Las Vegas at Cincinnati, 4:30 p.m. (NBC)
New England at Buffalo, 8:15 p.m. (CBS)
Sunday, Jan. 16
Philadelphia at Tampa Bay, 1:00 p.m. (FOX)
San Francisco at Dallas, 4:30 p.m. (CBS)
Pittsburgh at Kansas City, 8:15 p.m. (NBC)
Monday, Jan. 17
Arizona at L.A. Rams, 8:15 p.m. (ESPN/ABC)
Divisional Playoffs
Saturday, Jan. 22 and Sunday Jan. 23
NFC lowest remaining seed at Green Bay, TBD
AFC lowest remaining seed at Tennessee, TBD
TBD, TBD
TBD, TBD
Conference Championships
Sunday, Jan. 30
AFC
lowest remaining seed at highest remaining seed, 3:05 p.m. (CBS)
NFC
lowest remaining seed at highest remaining seed, 6:40 p.m. (FOX)
Super Bowl
Sunday, Feb. 13
At Inglewood, Calif.
conference championship winners, 6:30 p.m. (NBC)

OVAC MAT

68th Annual OVAC Ron Mauck Wrestling Championships (at WesBanco Arena, Wheeling)
TEAM SCORES: 1. Wheeling Park 173; 2. University 139.5; 3. Steubenville 128; 4. Parkersburg South 123; 5. Beaver Local 114; 6. John Marshall 113.5; 7. Indian Creek 90.5; 8. St. Clairsville 87; 9. Martins Ferry 82; 10. Cameron 78; 11. Barnesville 77; 12. (tie) Dover, Oak Glen 63.5; 14. Shenandoah 55; 15. Morgantown 52; 16. Warren Local 50; 17. Brooke 48; 18. Harrison Central 45; 19. Southern Local 43.5; 20. Wellsville 38; 21. River 35; 22. Edison 32; 23. Cambridge 30; 24. (tie) East Liverpool, Union Local 29; 26. Caldwell 27; 27. Shadyside 22; 28. Bridgeport 21.5; 29. Linsly 21; 30. Buckeye Local 18.5; 31. Fort Frye 17; 32. Toronto 15; 33. Marietta 14; 34. Bellaire 13; 35. (tie) Paden City, Weir 8; 37. Steubenville Catholic 5; 38. Beallsville 2; 39. (tie) Hundred, Madonna, Monroe Central 0
Scores by Classes
Class 5A
1. Wheeling Park 173; 2. University 139.5; 3. Steubenville 128; 4. Parkersburg South 123; 5. John Marshall 113.5; 6. Dover 63.5; 7. Morgantown 52; 8. Warren Local 50; 9. Brooke 48; 10. Marietta 14
Class 4A
1. Beaver Local 114; 2. Indian Creek 90.5; 3. St. Clairsville 87; 4. Oak Glen 63.5; 5. Harrison Central 45; 6. Edison 32; 7. Union Local 29; 8. Cambridge 30; 9. East Liverpool 29; 10. Weir 8
Class 3A
1. Martins Ferry 82; 2. Barnesville 77; 3. Shenandoah 55; 4. River 35; 5. Linsly 21; 6. Buckeye Local 18.5; 7. Fort Frye 17; 8. Bellaire 13
Class 1A/2A
1. Cameron 78; 2. Caldwell 27; 3. Shadyside 22; 4. Bridgeport 21.5; 5. (tie) Southern Local, Toronto 15; 7. Wellsville 12; 8. Paden City 8; 9. Steubenville Catholic 5; 10. Beallsville 2; (tie) 11. Hundred, Madonna, Monroe Central 0

NBA

Table with columns for Eastern Conference (Atlantic, Southeast, Central, Pacific) and Western Conference (Southwest, Northwest) divisions, listing teams, wins, losses, and percentages.

Central Holds On

CLARKSBURG — The Maroon Knights pulled off another dramatic victory on the road Friday night, defeating Notre Dame 44-42. Ryan Reasbeck had a game to remember, scoring the majority of Central's points as he finished with a game-high 28. That included a half dozen treys. Weir 67, Madonna 59 OT WEIRTON — G. Cross scored a game-high 22 points to lead Weir over Madonna in overtime. Damar Turner tallied 14 and Anthony Cross and Tyler Kelly each collected nine points. Matt Amaismeier scored a team-high 20 points, Santino Arlia delivered 13 points and Evan Bone netted 12 points for Madonna. Tyler Consolidated 94 Parkersburg Catholic 39 SISTERSVILLE — Caleb Strode made 12 field goals for 26 points and Tyler Consolidated pummeled Parkersburg Catholic. Brody Seckman and Haygen Baker amassed

11 points for the victorious Silver Knights. Oak Glen 61 Steubenville Central 48 NEW CUMBERLAND — Jontae Howard scored 20 points and the Golden Bears prevailed at home over Steubenville CC. He was supported by 14 from Jared Hissam and 10 by Chaise Clark. Monroe Central 59 Bridgeport 35 WOLFURST — Tucker Howell's 19 points led Monroe Central over Bridgeport. Jake Swisher was strong support with 14 points. Colin Jackson netted 14 points while Alex Moore added 13 for the one-win Bulldogs. Bellaire 62 Buckeye Local 59 CONNORVILLE — Bellaire lost two leads of 10 points or more in the first half but were still able to salvage a 3-point triumph against the Panthers. Owen Ward scored a team-high 20 points for the Big Reds, followed by Jake Dowliong's 12.

SPORTS ON TV

Saturday, January 15
COLLEGE BASKETBALL (MEN'S) 12 p.m.
BTN — Northwestern at Michigan St.
ESPN2 — Texas Tech at Kansas St.
FOX — Creighton at Xavier
FS1 — Seton Hall at Marquette
12:30 p.m.
USA — Dayton at Duquesne
1 p.m.
ESPN — Tennessee at Kentucky
SECN — Florida at South Carolina
2 p.m.
ABC — NC State at Duke
BTN — Rutgers at Maryland
CBS — West Virginia at Kansas
ESPN2 — Arkansas at LSU
2:30 p.m.
USA — Fordham at St. Louis
3 p.m.
CBSSN — Furman at Chattanooga
ESPN — Florida St. at Syracuse
4 p.m.
ACCN — Louisville at Pittsburgh
ESPN2 — Oklahoma at TCU
5 p.m.
CBSSN — Nevada at Air Force
ESPN — Oklahoma St. at Baylor
6 p.m.
ACCN — Notre Dame at Virginia Tech
ESPN2 — Vanderbilt at Georgia
7 p.m.
ESPNU — UCF at South Florida
8 p.m.
ACCN — Georgia Tech at North Carolina
ESPN2 — Houston at Tulsa
9 p.m.
ESPNU — Tarleton St. at Grand Canyon
10 p.m.
ESPN2 — Colorado at Arizona St.
11 p.m.
CBSSN — BYU at San Francisco
FS1 — Oregon at Southern Cal
NFL FOOTBALL
4:30 p.m.
NBC — AFC Wild Card Play-off: Las Vegas at Cincinnati
8 p.m.
CBS — AFC Wild Card Play-off: New England at Buffalo
Sunday, January 16
COLLEGE BASKETBALL (MEN'S) 12 p.m.
BTN — Penn St. at Ohio St.
FS1 — Butler at Villanova
1 p.m.
ESPN — Cincinnati at Wichita St.
2 p.m.
BTN — Iowa at Minnesota
4:30 p.m.
FOX — Georgetown at St. John's
6 p.m.
CBSSN — Holy Cross at Colgate
NFL FOOTBALL
1 p.m.
FOX — NFC Wild Card Play-off: Philadelphia at Tampa Bay
4:30 p.m.
CBS — NFC Wild Card Play-off: San Francisco at Dallas
8:15 p.m.
NBC — AFC Wild Card Play-off: Pittsburgh at Kansas City

NCAAB

Saturday
No. 1 Baylor vs. Oklahoma St., 5 p.m.
No. 2 Gonzaga at Santa Clara, 4 p.m.
No. 3 UCLA vs. Oregon St., 10:30 p.m.
No. 4 Auburn at Mississippi, 8:30 p.m.
No. 5 Southern Cal vs. Oregon, 11 p.m.
No. 6 Arizona vs. Utah, 8 p.m.
No. 8 Duke vs. NC State, 2 p.m.
No. 9 Kansas vs. West Virginia, 2 p.m.
No. 10 Michigan St. vs. Northwestern, Noon
No. 11 Houston at Tulsa, 8 p.m.
No. 12 LSU vs. Arkansas, 2 p.m.
No. 15 Iowa St. vs. No. 21 Texas, 2 p.m.
No. 17 Xavier vs. Creighton, Noon
No. 18 Kentucky vs. No. 22 Tennessee, 1 p.m.
No. 19 Texas Tech at Kansas St., Noon
No. 20 Seton Hall at Marquette, Noon
No. 24 Alabama at Mississippi St., 6 p.m.
Sunday
No. 14 Villanova vs. Butler, Noon
No. 16 Ohio St. vs. Penn St., Noon

TRANSACTIONS

BASEBALL
Major League Baseball
OAKLAND ATHLETICS — Named Brad Ausmus bench coach, Tommy Everidge hitting coach, Chris Cron assistant hitting coach, Darren Bush third base/run prevention coach, Eric Martins first base/infield coach, Mike Aldrete quality control coach, Scott Emerson pitching coach and Marcus Jensen bullpen coach.

PREP BASKETBALL BOX SCORES

BOYS
Wheeling Central 44
Notre Dame 42
CENTRAL — Reasbeck 9 4-4 28
M. Toepfer 2 0-0 5; L. Toepfer 2 0-0 5; Ratcliffe 1 2-4 4; Burslenski 1 0-0 2
3 Pt. Goals — Wheeling Central 10 (Reasbeck 6, M. Toepfer 1, L. Toepfer 1).
WC 12 10 15 7
Tyler Consolidated 94
Parkersburg Catholic 39
P — Lewis 10-0 3; McMahon 2 0-0 4; Sumney 6 3-3 17; Dawson 3 1-2 8; Hunter 2 2-2 7; Totals 14 6-7 39.
T — B. Strode 2 0-0 5; Bailey 2 0-0 4; Seckman 5 1-1 11; Billings 2 2-4 7; Baker 4 2-3 11; Broughman 3 1-2 7; Gorby 2 0-0 4; C. Strode 12 1-2 26; Morris 3 0-0 6; Tallman 3 1-2 7; Landis 2 0-0 4; Westbrook 1 0-0 2; Totals 41 8-16 94.
3-Point Goals: Sumney 2, Lewis, Dawson, Hunter; B. Strode, Billings, C. Strode, Baker.
PC 10 7 13 9 — 39
TC 18 28 23 25 — 94
Brooke 60, John Marshall 49
JM — Bra. Sobotka 6 3-3 17; Gray 5 1-2 12; Grant Neiswonger 4 0-0 8; Bre. Sobotka 2 1-2 5; Fitzpatrick 1 1-2 4; Hartman 1 0-0 3; Stauffer 0 0-0 0.
BROOKE — Isinghood 7 4-6 20; Varner 5 4-6 14; Sperlazza 3 2-3 10; Taylor 3 0-0 6; Sperringer 0 2-2 2; Knox 2 1-2 6; Morris 0 2-2 2; Marks 0 0-0 0; Orban 0 0-0 0; Cipoletti 0 0-0 0; Petrella 0 0-0 0.
3 Pt. Goals — John Marshall 5 (Bra. Sobotka 2, Hartman 1, Gray 1, Fitzpatrick 1). Brooke 2 (Isinghood 2, Sperlazza 2, Knox 1).
JM 4 10 22 13 — 49

NHL

Table with columns for Eastern Conference (Atlantic, Metropolitan) and Western Conference (Central, Pacific) divisions, listing teams, games played, wins, losses, OT, points, goals for, goals against.

ECHL

Table with columns for Eastern Conference North and South Divisions, listing teams, games played, wins, losses, OT, points, goals for, goals against.



NFL Preview/D4

Classified/D5-6

SPORTS

Sunday,
January 16, 2022Seth Staskey
Sports Editor

Having OVAC championship events back is great to see

After a year's hiatus, the Ohio Valley Athletic Conference's winter sports championships are under way.

And conference officials couldn't be more excited.

Despite COVID-19 and its multitude of variants still rearing their ugly heads around the Ohio Valley and nation, the student-athletes of the OVAC are competing on the same schedule and closing in on crowning their first head-to-head champions for the sports of wrestling, swimming, bowling, cheering and basketball for the first time since 2020.

As the 68th annual OVAC Ron Mauck Wrestling Tournament got under way on Thursday, it begins a six-week stretch of conference championships.

Obviously, as we've all come to realize, things can happen and change quickly in the midst of a pandemic, especially when COVID-19 numbers continue to climb at an incredible rate, but getting to the starting line was big for the OVAC.

"We've been holding our breath a lot and living week-to-week like everyone else," OVAC Executive Director Dirk DeCoy said. "We're a lot smarter now than we were (dealing with these issues), but it's still nerve-racking. We just continue to hope that things remain as calm as possible COVID wise for the next six weeks."

Indeed.

The nerves settled down — for the sport of wrestling — somewhat on Thursday when more than 400 wrestlers began their quest to win the coveted OVAC championship. Though the event is close to wrapping up, it endured a few hiccups before the first pin was ever recorded.

Because of more than 70 scratches, on Thursday, many of the brackets had undergone a significant revision, which caused opening ceremonies to be delayed for a few minutes.

A few minutes was worth it when you consider it had been 714 days since the wrestlers last paraded into WesBanco Arena.

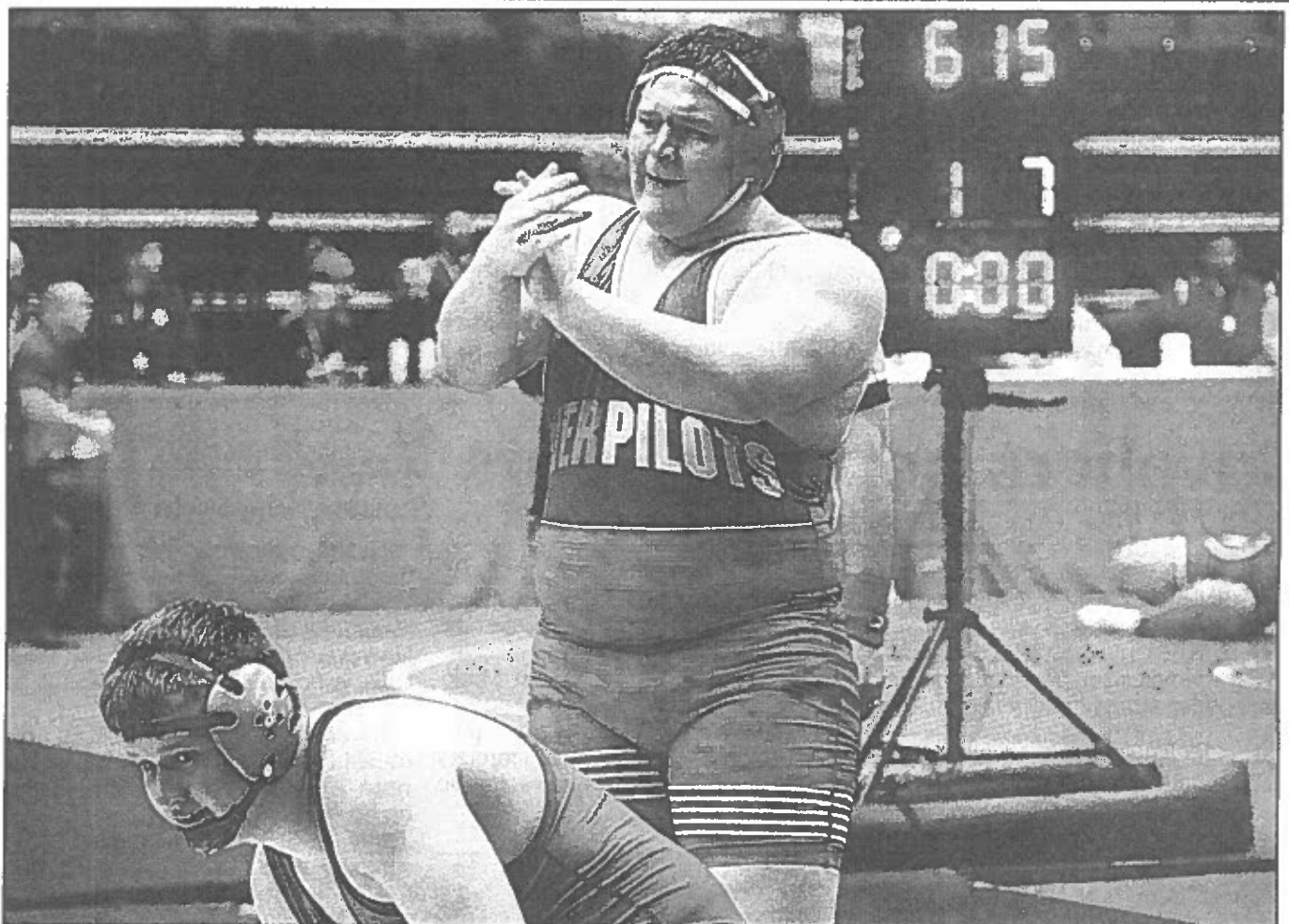
"We're just excited for the kids to have the opportunity," OVAC Wrestling Commissioner and tournament director Dr. Dan Doyle said. "We knew there would be issues, and I hope and prayed we were able to keep them as minimal as possible. The key was keeping an open mind."

Doyle and his stable of meet workers and volunteers have to just get through Saturday and then the sport can shift its focus to the Bill Hinegardner Dual Meet Championships, which will be held early next month at Brooke and John Marshall.

Bill Brubaker — the director and for whom the OVAC Swimming Championship is named — felt the nerves calm down Saturday morning when upwards of 400 swimmers arrived at Brooke High School.

"I am really looking forward to getting back to an in-person OVAC Swimming Championship," Brubaker, who is the head coach at Linsly, said. "It will be a really good meet with the best swimmers from the conference in both Ohio and West Virginia able to compete head-to-head."

Don't think that Brubaker was able to



ABOVE: River senior Marshall Bier celebrates after he won his quarterfinal match against Harrison Central's Landen Thomas during Friday's session of the OVAC Ron Mauck Wrestling Tournament at WesBanco Arena in downtown Wheeling. **BELOW:** Martins Ferry's Dylan Ward (right) circles with Beaver Local's Brodi Bowersock during their 113-pound quarterfinal Friday night.

Park still leading OVAC Tournament

• Beaver Local, Martins Ferry, Cameron pacing respective class races

By KIM NORTH
Times Leader Sports Writer

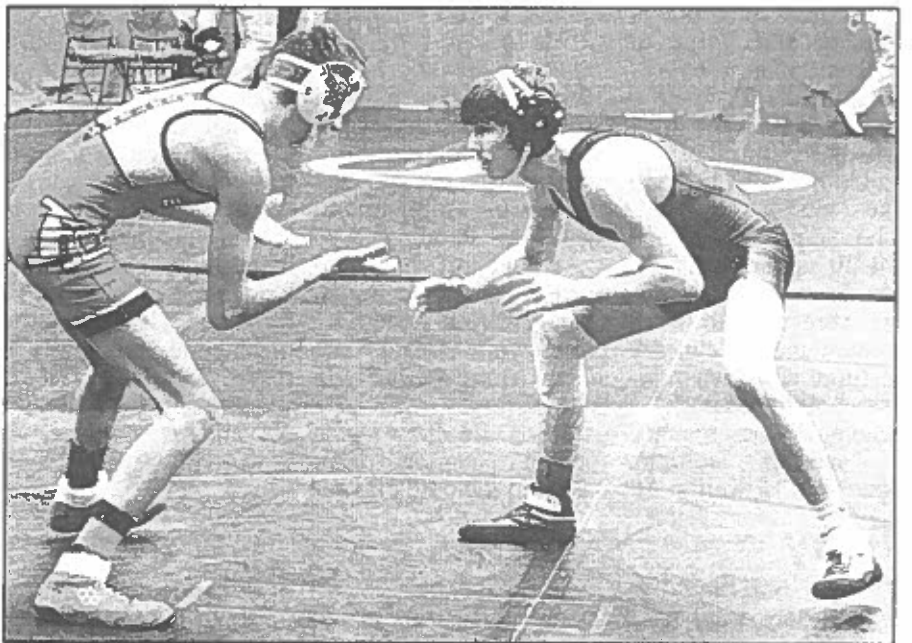
WHEELING -- It's been a while since Wheeling Park has claimed the Ohio Valley Athletic Conference Ron Mauck Wrestling Championships team title, but the Patriots put themselves in a position to do with an outstanding performance during both sessions on Friday.

Piling up 13 victories (11 pins) during the afternoon rounds and adding 10 more wins at night, Brian Leggett's matmen tallied 173 points to easily out-distance University High by 33.5 entering Saturday's action as the 68th edition winds down its three-day stay inside WesBanco Arena.

"We came out in the first session and wrestled really well," Leggett said. "We knocked off some guys that were seeded higher than us. I was also happy with our performance in tonight's quarters."

The Patriots have nine semifinalists in Noah White (106), Adam Carman (113), Jack Lowe (126), Nate Shelek (132), Bradyn Lucas (138), Cody Taggart (145), Quinton Velas (152), Gabe Carman (160) and Erick Brothers Jr. (220).

They also have 13 placers as Carter Lucas (120), Jameson Maynard (170), Hunter Nixon (182) and Brody Cottrill (195) all came through with triumphs in the "blood round."



Leggett said he was surprised with the efforts of Lucas and Lowe.

"Bradyn just beat a kid that he lost to at the Park Duals and we all know what Jack can do, so now everyone else is seeing how good he is."

Brothers Jr. is a man on a mission. The two-time West Virginia state champion junior has only spent 48 seconds on the mat in three bouts.

The second-place Hawks have six in the semis, while defending champion Parkersburg South, which sits in fourth with 123, has seven, including

Gage Wright (170) who tied the national record with a three-second pin in the second round.

Steubenville is fourth with 128 points and has five semifinalists. Cameron, which has already sewed up the Class 1A/2A title with 78 points, has four semifinalists, as does Beaver Local which made its move to the top of the Class 4A charts.

"We had a really good day," first-year Steubenville head coach Lucas

See, **PARK**, Page D2



Miles lifts Martins Ferry by Cambridge

By SETH STASKEY
Times Leader Sports Editor

MARTINS FERRY — Good players sense when they need to step it up a notch.

things, on both ends, that don't always show up on the stat sheet. It was just a tremendous effort from Jaizen."

Though the Riders picked up just their third win in 10 outings, Miles has been fill-

oogs in the playoffs.

You almost wonder whether the Steelers will even show up Sunday night.

But they need only look at their own

expectations.

Not only have they won the past two AFC titles, they've been to the past three championship games, and they're fresh off a record sixth West division

Cavaliers get past Spurs

SAN ANTONIO (AP) — Darious Garland scored 28 points and the Cleveland Cavaliers beat San Antonio 114-109 on Friday night, extending the Spurs' losing streak to five.

Jarrett Allen finished with 17 points and 16 rebounds for Cleveland, which won its third straight and fourth in five games.

Dejounte Murray had 30 points, 14 rebounds and eight assists for San Antonio, which is 1-7 in the new year. Kel-

don Johnson added 18 points and Bryn Forbes had 15.

The Spurs struggled against Cleveland's frontcourt of 7-footers Evan Mobley and Lauri Markkanen, and the 6-11 Allen.

Mobley added 15 points and Markkanen had eight.

The trio also helped stymie Spurs center Jakob Poeltl, who was scoreless on just four field goal attempts and no free throws.

• Monroe

Continued from Page D1

had ended as the Seminoles tallied the game's first 22 points. Impressive freshman Tucker Howell played a big part in that Seminole surge, delivering eight points while talented senior Jake Swisher added six more lightings.

Monroe Central used six more Swisher points in the second frame to stretch the margin to 39-14 at halftime. The mercy rule kicked in at the 2:55 mark of the third period on a Collin Kroll hoop to make it a 51-16 lighting.

The Seminoles owned a 54-20 upperhand after three frames. The Bulldogs were able to work the count under the mercy rule limit with two minutes remaining to play.

Seven 'Noles reached the scoring column, topped by Howell's 19

counters. Swisher was strong support with 14 points while senior ace Malachi Rose-Burton chipped in with eight tallies as Perkins used his reserves extensively.

The win was the eighth in 12 starts for Monroe Central. The Seminoles are right back in action tonight, hosting Frontier.

"We got a big game tomorrow night (Saturday). Frontier is a good ball club," Perkins said. "They will come in hungry against us and the game is big in regards to the OVAC standings."

Bridgeport had two players reach twin digits. Colin Jackson netted 14 points while Alex Moore added 13 for the one-win Bulldogs.

"We didn't compete for four quarters. That has been the case all year

long," veteran Bridgeport coach Don Cash noted. "We were also dealing with discipline issues again.

"Monroe Central really hurt us on the boards. We gave up way too many second shots," he added. "I did think we played better in the second half. But we needed to play like that in the first half."

Bridgeport also has a quick turnaround as it visits Shadyside tonight.

The Monroe Central full-court press caused problems for the hosts in the first quarter, resulting in 10 turnovers. All told, Bridgeport ended with 17 turnovers. The Seminoles, meanwhile, were guilty of just seven miscues.

Monroe Central also prevailed in a two-quarter jayvee contest.

• Park

Continued from Page D1

Huffman allowed. "We've got five in the semis, so we'll see what happens."

All 14 top seeds advanced to the semis, as did the numbers 2 and 3. However, there were several closes calls, especially at 285 where the top two eeked by.

River's top-seeded Marshall Bier trailed No. 9 Landen Thomas, of Harrison Central, before putting Thomas on his back at 5:35. No. 2 seed Peyton Tuttle, of Steubenville, slipped by Toronto's seventh-seeded Jason Fancher, 2-1, in the ultimate tiebreaker.

At 145, No. 2 Cody Taggart, a defending champion from Wheeling Park, needed overtime to best Union Local's seventh-seeded Nathaniel Gibson, while unseeded Dorian Jackson, of Beaver Local, advanced to the semis after upsetting the No. 2 seed in the second round.

John Marshall's Klypsan Wallace was one of a handful of No. 5 seeds that posted upsets. He scored a takedown in the waning second to nip Wheeling Park's Hunter Nixon, 5-3, at 195.

"That was a great win by Klypsan," John Marshall's Ryan Asbury said. "He had lost to him earlier in the season. In fact, that is his third revenge win."

On the strength of four semifinalists, Beaver Local leads the Class 4A race with 114 points, which is 23.5 better than Indian Creek. St. Clairsville is third with 87. The Redskins have three remaining alive for titles, while the Red Devils have a pair.

• OVAC

Continued from Page D1

erated. "Any chance we can get to have the kids get out and compete is a good day," DeCoy said. "The conference is all about setting the stage for kids to compete at the highest level within the OVAC."

Having said that, it's a safe bet that all of the above parties — athletes included — are excited to have head-to-head competition back.

Let's be honest! Deciding a swimming champion based on times rather than head-to-head competition or a bowling champion based on what a player and team rolled on his or its own lanes simply isn't the same.

Team champions in wrestling and basketball were crowned via the old-school standings format, creating a paper champion.

"It's all in how you look at things," DeCoy said. "We tried, as a conference, to give our schools and athletes a chance to score, earn personal bests in their pool or alley and compete at as high of a level as possible. We didn't invent anything, but we tried to be as creative as possible to crown champions."

Despite multiple attempts and revised plans, wrestling was unable to crown individual champions for the first time in 67 years because the states of Ohio and West Virginia operated on difference calendars.

Ohio put its head down and pushed forward throughout the entire school year, whereas West Virginia delayed its winter sports season and finished basically in the spring and had two seasons worth of sports going on concurrently.

The Buckeye State schools were basically beginning their postseason in wrestling when West Virginia was just cranking things up

"Similar to the OVAC All-Star Football Game (in 2020), I would have never thought our wrestling tournament would have been canceled for any reason," DeCoy said. "But, obviously, we had to play the cards we're dealt. And we tried our best to give our schools a chance to succeed, as best as possible, in the COVID environment."

Unfortunately, the COVID environment isn't going away anytime soon, but let's hope it's at least calming down.

While Brubaker's nerves can relax and he can enjoy the remainder of the swimming season, Doyle has a few more weeks to navigate before he can fully calm the nerves.

For DeCoy, however, the road to a

ny, but they have great football players over there," Mahomes said. "He's special the way he can bend and get to the quarterback, but also the effort he plays with."

"We've done pretty well," Indian Creek's Brandon Pendleton said. "This is a tough tournament."

Indian Creek has four left in the consolation bracket.

St. Clairsville's Joel Sansone was a little disappointed with his team's performance.

"Those two guys are wrestling well," he said of semifinalists Gannon Kazmirski (113) and Caden Stout (152). The Red Devils have three left in the consolations.

Martins Ferry leads the Class 3A race over Barnesville, 82-77.

"It's a pretty close race," Martins Ferry's Chad Ware said. "It's going to come down to whoever wins the close matches."

The Purple Riders have two semifinalists in Dylan Ward (113) and Zak Dobson (220), while Jase Mahoney (106) also reached the awards podium.

The Shamrocks have four semifinalists, but no other wrestler still alive.

"We've got our four 'studs' left," Barnesville's Jayson Stephen said. "We had a match where we were ahead in the third period, but couldn't hold on. We've got to win those matches."

Wrestling resumes at 11 a.m. today with championship semifinals and fifth- and semifinal consolation bouts. The introduction of the finalists and special awards ceremony begin at 3:30, with the championship finals and matches for third-fifth- and seventh-places starting at 4.

• Ferry

Continued from Page D1

The Riders went as many as nine deep, whereas the Bobcats, who were coming off a win against Bellaire on Tuesday, were down a couple of starters due to health and safety protocols.

Martins Ferry took advantage, too. Miles set the tone with eight points in the first quarter and the Riders never trailed in the game. They led 14-9 after one.

Miles added eight more in the second and the Purple extended its lead to 26-15 at the half.

"For three-and-a-half quarters, I thought we executed very well," Edwards said. "Down the stretch, we did some things that we need to continue to work on. We have to be able to hold the ball a little bit better and delay the game a little bit more."

Ferry used a 7-0 run early in the third to fully take command of the game and eventually owned a 38-24 upperhand at the final break. Miles added eight more points to his total.

Martins Ferry appeared to be on the

brink of a blowout when it stretched the lead to as many as 20, but the Bobcats never quit. Taking advantage of some turnovers and they finally got a few shots to fall, Cambridge was able to get as close as 11.

However, Ferry, which came in shooting just 54% as a team at the foul line, meshed 9-of-10 from the stripe down the stretch. Miles, who has had his individual struggles at the line this season, was a sharp 10-of-12 himself.

Miles' scoring production was backed by senior Peyton Hores. He had seven points and eight rebounds, while Colby Shriver donated six and a steady floor game.

Cambridge was led by seniors Caleb Bond and Caden Moore. They went for 11 and 10, respectively.

The Riders don't have much time to celebrate. They're back in action this evening against St. Clairsville in the first meeting of the season between the two clubs.

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St. Clairsville and Pike Street Lanes in Parkersburg.

"After each event there will be a big sigh of relief that we were able to pull it off for the student-athletes," DeCoy said.

And the student-athlete, experiences and memories are what it's all about!

MLK CLASSIC AT LINSLEY

The inaugural MLK Classic at The Linsly School will be held Monday, showcasing two boys and a girls basketball game, starting at 1:30 p.m.

The event was the brainchild of Cadets boys basketball coach Dave Wojcik, who indicated he hopes to make the event an annual.

Linsly and Morgantown will have both their boys and girls teams on hand for the event, while the Wheeling Park and Brooke boys will round out the field.

The schedule for the day is as follows:

1:30 p.m. — Wheeling Park vs. Brooke (boys)

3:30 p.m. — Morgantown vs. Linsly (girls)

5:30 p.m. — Morgantown vs. Linsly (boys)

SETH'S SCOOPS

WHEELING CENTRAL senior basketball player Ryan Reasbeck was listed among the Southeast nominees for the annual McDonald's All-American Basketball Team.

WHEELING PARK grad Abby Turner was named Mountain West Conference Freshman of the Week in women's swimming after she claimed first place in the 50-yard freestyle in 24.11. She also swam a leg on the 200-freestyle relay team in 1:40.46. She was third in the 100 free in 53.34 in a triangular.

EAST LIVERPOOL joins Bellaire as schools in the market for a new football coach. Josh Ludwig stepped down from the position last week after eight seasons.

RIVER grad Lauren Flannery is enjoying a solid junior season at Lake Erie College. She's currently averaging 9.9 points, 3.4 rebounds and 2.5 assists per game. She's also shooting 92.6% from the foul line.

FORMER WHEELING Park all-state basketball player Keondre King is enjoying a fine season for WVU Tech. The 6-4 junior guard is averaging 5.1 points, five rebounds and three assists per game. Tech is 15-2 and riding a 12-game winning streak.

Staskey can be reached via email at

Bellaire fends off Buckeye Local

By RICK DELUCA
For The Times Leader

CONNORVILLE — It certainly wasn't a mirror image of their first meeting a couple weeks ago in Bellaire, but a win is a win and the Big Reds were happy to leave Friday night with a narrow 62-59 win over a determined Buckeye Local five.

Bellaire had two leads of 10 points or more in the first half leads that were quickly erased by the Panthers and the two teams battled back and forth on the Buckeye boards before the Big Reds were able to salvage that three-point win.

With the win coach JR Battista's Bellaire cagers improved their record to 9-5 on the season they return to action on Tuesday when they play host to Martins Ferry.

Coach Chris Heaton's Panthers, coming into the game having lost four of their last five games, saw their record dip to 4-7 on the season. Buckeye returned to action this afternoon and a 1 p.m. tip off in Wintersville as they faced Indian creek.

Just a couple weeks ago, the Big Reds exploded with a 30-point win over the Panthers in Bellaire. Friday saw Buckeye open with leads of 6-2 and 8-5 at the outset and had a lead of 12-10 before the Big Reds erupted for 10 straight points to close the first session. Buckeye sharpshooter Cameron Best had the hot hand for the Panthers scoring eight of the hosts points. Bellaire led 20-12 at the first break.

"They handled our pressure really well and deserve the credit for the way things went tonight," Battista said after the win. "They a good job scoring in spurt. We were able to do like we did down home. They played really well and they made us earn everything we got. We're fortunate to win."

"Chris has done a good job with that team," the Big Red coach added. "They moved around well and stop a lot of our shots. It's like on a certain night if you're making some shots everything's great and on other nights."

"It's we told our kids, they practice just like we practice and they were going to press so they practiced for that."

In the second quarter the Panthers were able to close to within 22-17 before Bellaire scored nine straight and pushed its lead out to 31-17. Ray Ray Pettigrew sparked the Big Red surge with six points, before the hosts started to chip away the Big Red lead. The visitors led by 36-28 at the intermission.

With Bellaire leading 39-28 early in the first quarter, Buckeye local scored 11 straight to knot the score at 39 with 3:40 on the clock. The Panthers add another bucket by Hunter Darrah to take the lead at 41-39 before the two teams exchanged scores in the final minute with the Big Reds taking a 44-43 lead into the fourth quarter. Buckeye got a big boost from Ethan McHugh, Darrah, Best and Gavyn Romanyak to narrow the score in that third quarter.

In the fourth period, it was the scoring Romanyak who tossed in 10 points and the foul shooting of the Big Reds who netted 10 of 15 at the line that kept the frame close throughout. Bellaire led by 51-45 at one point, but the Panthers knotted the score 51. From there, it was a timely foul shooting og

Owen Ward and Jaiden Kesterson in a trey from Jake Dowling that proved a difference in that final minute.

"We were down at the half, but we really didn't make any adjustments, we just quit turning the ball over so much," Heaton said after the tough loss. "Our goal was to cut down on the turnovers and handle their pressure. It wasn't like it was at their place the other night."

"Overall, I'm pretty proud of our kids and their effort. A play here and a play there and it's a different game. But we have to get back on the bus tomorrow and play at Creek, so there's no rest for the weary."

hit a pair of bonus goals in the extra session to help spark his team.

He led the way with 27 points. Harrison Central received 25 points from Jace Madzia and 21 from Hayden Cassidy, while Joenus Jones added nine.

The Huskies rallied to force the extra session, but Beaver Local's Sky Pappas

hit a pair of bonus goals in the extra session to help spark his team.

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The Huskies rallied to force the extra session, but Beaver Local's Sky Pappas

THE SCORE

Prep Schedule

Monday, Jan. 17
GIRLS BASKETBALL
Shadyside at M. Ferry, 5:30 p.m.
Stuebenville at Bellaire
Bridgeport at Monroe Central
Harrison Central at Toronto
St. Clairsville at John Marshall

SWIMMING
Martins Ferry at John Marshall
Tuesday, Jan. 18
BOYS BASKETBALL
Barnesville at Monroe Central
Martins Ferry at Bellaire
Cameron at Bridgeport
Toronto at Buckeye Local
Harrison Central at East Liverpool
Shadyside at Union Local
St. Clairsville at Cambridge

BOWLING
Brooke at Harrison Central
Wheeling Central at Linsly
Monroe Central at St. Clairsville
Barnesville at Bridgeport

GIRLS BASKETBALL
Union Local at Wheeling Park
SWIMMING
Beaver Local, Edison and St. Clairsville at Wheeling University
WRESTLING
Shadyside and Shenandoah at Martins Ferry

Wednesday, Jan. 19
BOWLING
Union Local at Monroe Central
GIRLS BASKETBALL
Monroe Central at Caldwell
WRESTLING
U. Local at Barnesville, 12:45 p.m.
Buckeye Local and Garaway at Newcomerstown

Thursday, Jan. 20
BOWLING
Harrison Central at Weir
Union Local at Linsly
Brooke at Martins Ferry
GIRLS BASKETBALL
Barnesville at Union Local
Bridgeport at Buckeye Local
Monroe Central at Shenandoah
River at Shadyside
St. Clairsville at Indian Creek
Beaver Local at Harrison Central

Friday, Jan. 21
BOYS BASKETBALL
Caldwell at Barnesville
Bellaire at St. Clairsville
Beallsville at Bridgeport
Martins Ferry at Buckeye Local
Monroe Central at Frontier
River at Shadyside
Union Local at Cambridge

BOWLING
Buckeye Local at St. Clairsville
St. John at River
Saturday, Jan. 22
BOYS BASKETBALL
Harrison Central at John Glenn
Brooke at Martins Ferry
Buckeye Local at Shadyside
Union Local at John Marshall

BOWLING
OVAC Tournament at St. Clair Lanes
GIRLS BASKETBALL
Buckeye 8 Placements at East Liverpool
River at Magnolia, 11 a.m.
Beallsville at Frontier, 4 p.m.

SWIMMING
Red Devil Invitational at Wheeling University (St. Clairsville)
Martins Ferry and Beaver Local at East Liverpool
WRESTLING
West Holmes Invitational, 10 a.m.
Uniontown Green Bulldog Invite
Garaway Invitational
Brooke Classic

Sports on TV

Saturday, January 15
AUTO RACING
10 p.m.
USA — AMA Supercross: Round 2, Oakland, Calif.

BOXING
10 p.m.
ESPN — Top Rank Main Card: Joe Smith Jr. vs. Steve Goffard (Light-Heavyweights), Verona, N.Y.

COLLEGE BASKETBALL (MEN'S)
12 p.m.
BTN — Northwestern at Michigan St.
ESPN2 — Texas Tech at Kansas St.
FOX — Creighton at Xavier
FS1 — Seton Hall at Marquette

12:30 p.m.
USA — Dayton at Duquesne
1 p.m.
ESPN — Tennessee at Kentucky
SECN — Florida at South Carolina

2 p.m.
ABC — NC State at Duke
BTN — Rutgers at Maryland
CBS — West Virginia at Kansas
ESPN2 — Arkansas at LSU

2:30 p.m.
USA — Fordham at St. Louis
3 p.m.
CBSSN — Furman at Chattanooga
ESPN — Florida St. at Syracuse

3:30 p.m.
SECN — Texas A&M at Missouri
4 p.m.
ACCN — Louisville at Pittsburgh
ESPN2 — Oklahoma at TCU
PAC-12N — California at Washington St.

4:30 p.m.
USA — Rhode Island at UMass
5 p.m.
CBSSN — Nevada at Air Force
ESPN — Oklahoma St. at Baylor
ESPNU — Missouri St. at Valparaiso

5:30 p.m.
FS1 — Boise St. at New Mexico
6 p.m.
ACCN — Notre Dame at Virginia Tech
ESPN2 — Vanderbilt at Georgia
PAC-12N — Stanford at Washington
SECN — Alabama at Mississippi St.

Prep Wrestling

68th Annual OVAC Ron Mauck Wrestling Championships
(at WesBanco Arena, Wheeling)
TEAM SCORES: 1. Wheeling Park 173; 2. University 139.5; 3. Steubenville 128; 4. Parkersburg South 123; 5. Beaver Local 114; 6. John Marshall 113.5; 7. Indian Creek 90.5; 8. St. Clairsville 87; 9. Martins Ferry 82; 10. Cameron 78; 11. Barnesville 77; 12. (tie) Dover, Oak Glen 63.5; 14. Shenandoah 55; 15. Morgantown 52; 16. Warren Local 50; 17. Brooke 48; 18. Harrison Central 45; 19. Southern Local 43.5; 20. Wellsville 38; 21. River 35; 22. Edison 32; 23. Cambridge 30; 24. (tie) East Liverpool, Union Local 29; 26. Caldwell 27; 27. Shadyside 22; 28. Bridgeport 21.5; 29. Linsly 21; 30. Buckeye Local 18.5; 31. Fort Frye 17; 32. Toronto 15; 33. Marietta 14; 34. Bellaire 13; 35. (tie) Paden City, Weir 8; 37. Steubenville Catholic 5; 38. Beallsville 2; 39. (tie) Hundred, Madonna, Monroe Central 0

Scores by Classes
Class 5A
1. Wheeling Park 173; 2. University 139.5; 3. Steubenville 128; 4. Parkersburg South 123; 5. John Marshall 113.5; 6. Dover 63.5; 7. Morgantown 52; 8. Warren Local 50; 9. Brooke 48; 10. Marietta 14

Class 4A
1. Beaver Local 114; 2. Indian Creek 90.5; 3. St. Clairsville 87; 4. Oak Glen 63.5; 5. Harrison Central 45; 6. Edison 32; 7. Union Local 29; 8. Cambridge 30; 9. East Liverpool 25; 10. Weir 8

Class 3A
1. Martins Ferry 82; 2. Barnesville 77; 3. Shenandoah 55; 4. River 35; 5. Linsly 21; 6. Buckeye Local 18.5; 7. Fort Frye 17; 8. Bellaire 13

Class 1A/2A
1. Cameron 78; 2. Caldwell 27; 3. Shadyside 22; 4. Bridgeport 21.5; 5. (tie) Southern Local, Toronto 15; 7. Wellsville 12; 8. Paden City 8; 9. Steubenville Catholic 5; 10. Beallsville 2; (tie) 11. Hundred, Madonna, Monroe Central 0

Boys Boxscores

Martins Ferry 53, Cambridge 40
CAMBRIDGE (40) — Bond 3, 4-5 11; Moore 1, 0-0 2; Campbell 3, 2-2 10; Parsons 1, 0-1 3; Stanberry 2, 1-1 5; Polasky 3, 0-0 6; Barnett 1, 0-0 3; Totals: 14, 7-9 40. MARTINS FERRY (53) — Miles 11, 10-12 32; Ray 1, 0-1 3; Shriver 2, 2-3 6; Flesch 1, 0-0 2; Reese 0, 0-0 0; P. Hores 2, 3-6 7; L. Hores 0, 0-0 0; Williams 0, 0-0 0; O'Connell 1, 1-2 3; Totals: 19, 16-24 53.

3-point goals: C — Bond, Campbell (2), Parsons; Barnett, MF — Ray.
Beaver Local 73, Harrison Central 71
EAVER LOCAL (73) — Pappas 10, 1-4 27; Bowyer 2, 0-0 6; Agnew 4, 0-0 10; Smith 3, 2-5 8; Blissenbach 1, 6-8 8; Stephenson 2, 0-4 4; Cline 2, 0-0 5; Bzina 2, 1-2 5; Totals: 26, 10-23 73. HARRISON CENTRAL (71) — Jones 3, 0-0 9; Madzia 7, 10-17 25; J. Vermillion 4, 1-3 9; Cassidy 8, 1-1 21; Quito 3, 1-3 7; N. Fluharty 0, 0-2 0; Rex 0 0-0 0; Totals: 25, 13-26 71.

3-point goals: BL — Pappas (6), Bowyer (2), Agnew (2), Cline, HC — Cassidy (5), Jones (3), Madzia.
Monroe Central 59, Bridgeport 35
MONROE CENTRAL (59) — Rose-Butto 4, 0-0 8; Howell 9, 1-2 19; Kroll 1, 0-0 2; Bunning 0, 0-0 0; Brown 1, 0-0 2; Yonak 2, 0-0 4; Kinney 3, 1-2 7; Swisher 5, 2-2 14; Landefeld 0, 0-0 0; Demchak 0, 0-0 0; Potts 1, 0-0 3. Totals 26, 4-6. BRIDGEPORT (35) — C. Jackson 6, 0-1 14; Moore 5, 2-2 13; Terr 0, 0-0 0; Flanagan 0, 0-0 0; Gear 1, 0-0 2; Corra 0, 0-0 0; Kerne 0, 0-0 0; A. Jackson 2, 2-4 6; Goff 0, 0-0 0; Brown 0, 0-0 0. Totals 14, 4-7.

3-point goals: Monroe Central (3) — Swisher (2), Potts (1), Bridgeport (3) — C. Jackson (2), Moore (1)
Bellaire 62, Buckeye Local 59
BELLAIRE (62) — R. Pettigrew 4, 0-1 8; Ward 5, 7-8 20; M. Pettigrew 3, 1-3 8; Kesterson 1, 5-8 7; Dowling 4, 2-6 12; Sochor 1, 2-2 4; Cash 0, 0-0 0; Nauman 1, 1-2 3. Totals, 19-46, 18-30. BUCKEYE LOCAL (59) — McHugh 3, 2-2 8; Romanyak 9, 3-3 21; Walker 1, 0-0 2; Best 7, 1-4 15; R. Deitch 0, 0-0 0; L. Darrah 3, 1-2 7; H. Darrah 3, 0-0 6. Totals, 26-51, 7-11.

Three-point goals: Bellaire (6) — Ward, 3; M. Pettigrew, 1; Dowling, 2.

Prep Basketball Scores

GIRLS
Beverly Ft. Frye 34, Linsly, W.Va. 33
Bowling Green 44, Maumee 40
Can. Glenoak 64, Regis Jesuit, Colo. 54
Delaware Hayes 54, Colo. Franklin Hts. 8
Dublin Coffman 50, Hilliard Bradley 31
Granville 52, Newark Cath. 32
Greenwich S. Cent. 39, New London 26
Grove City 73, Galloway Westland 52
Lancaster Fairfield Union 43, Circleville 19
Marysville 44, Lewis Center Olentangy 13
New Albany 59, Westerville Cent. 39
Norwalk St. Paul 53, Monroeville 47
Powell Olentangy Liberty 53, Lewis Center Olentangy Orange 27
Shaker Hts. Laurel 57, Hudson WRA 43
Sun. Big Walnut 64, Canal Winchester 50
Sylvania Northview 45, Perrysburg 43
Thomas Worthington 54, Delaware Olentangy Berlin 40
Westerville S. 55, Worth, Kilbourne 16
Zanesville Rosecrans 48, Fisher Cath. 37

BOYS
Akr. Buchtel 81, Akr. Ellet 44
Akr. Coventry 69, Akr. Springfield 55
Akr. East 85, Akr. Firestone 54
Alliance 57, Beloit W. Branch 46
Arnhart Steele 88, Avon 67
Archbold 69, Bryan 26
Arlington 83, N. Baltimore 56
Ashtabula Edgewood 65, Beachwood 60
Brooklyn 69, Burton Berkshire 58
Bellaire 62, Rayland Buckeye 59
Bellevue 50, Sandusky Perkins 37
Berlin Hilland 60, Garaway 54, OT
Bishop Ready 44, Bishop Hartley 39
Bishop Watterson 46, Cols. DeSales 41
Bloomdale Elmwood 74, Millbury Lake 50
Bluffton 61, Leipsic 49
Bokings 52, Anna 38
Brecksv. Broad. Hts. 63, N. Royalton 44
Brooklyn 69, Burton Berkshire 58
Carey 65, Attica Seneca E. 45
Castalia Margareta 69, Willard 60
Cedarville 62, Millford Center Fairbanks 55
Celina 44, Elida 41
Centerville 79, Springfield 40
Chagrin Falls 51, Painesville Harvey 36
Chillicothe Unioto 66, Chil. Huntington 40
Cin. Sycamore 58, Cin. Oak Hills 34
Clyde 53, Norwalk 50
Cols. Beechcroft 71, Cols. Centennial 53
Cols. Briggs 69, West 33
Cols. Linden-McKinley 61, Cols. Mifflin 41
Cols. U. Arlington 51, Hilliard Davidson 44
Cols. Walnut Ridge 77, Cols. Africentric 60
Cols. Whetstone 56, East 50
Columbia Station Columbia 69, Lorain Cleveview 42
Columbus Grove 63, Van Wert Lincolnview 45
Continental 52, Ft. Jennings 43
Convoy Crestview 67, Harrod Allen E. 58
Copley 59, Medina Highland 41
Crown City S. Gallia 59, Belpre 48
Danville 64, Cardington-Lincoln 43
Defiance 63, Kenton 38
Defiance Aversly 51, Defiance Tinora 50
Delaware Olentangy Berlin 52, Thomas Worthington 42
Delphos Jefferson 54, Ada 33
Dover 70, Marietta 51
Doylstown Chippewa 77, West Salem Northwestern 42
Dublin Jerome 61, Hilliard Darby 47
Eaton 54, Carlisle 43
Edon 42, Stryker 31
Elyria Cath. 61, Bay Village Bay 56
Fairfield 44, W. Chester Lakota W. 42, OT
Fayetteville-Perry 66, Mowrystown Whiteoak 65
Findlay Liberty-Benton 65, Arcadia 27
Franklin 79, Monroe 33
Fredericktown 53, Cols. KIPP 39
Ft. Loramie 45, Jackson Center 21
Gahanna Lincoln 53, Pickerington N. 42
Garfield Hts. Trinity 60, Kirtland 58
Garrettsville Garfield 57, Brookfield 38
Genoa Mills Gilmour 62, Cie. Cent. Cath. 49
Genoa Christian 48, Shekinah Christian 37
Georgetown 72, Blanchester 50
Girard 53, Struthers 50
Gnadenhuetten Indian Valley 55, W. Lafayette Ridgewood 44
Gorham Fayette 58, W. Unity Hilltop 45
Grafton Midview 51, Elyria 46
Green 82, Hunting Valley University 45
Greenfield McClain 61, Washington C.H. 53
Groveport-Madison 42, Grove City Cent. Crossing 40
Hartsville Lake Center Christian 67, Warren JHK 65
Haviland Wayne Trace 54, Antwerp 50

Hilliard Bradley 51, Dublin Coffman 38
Holgate 47, Montpelier 32
Howard E. Knox 40, Galion Northmor 33
Huber Hts. Wayne 51, Miamisburg 44
Independence 58, Mantua Crestwood 35
Ironton St. Joseph 63, Portsmouth Sciotoville 23
Jackson 59, Washington C.H. Miami Trace 46
Johnstown 54, Utica 51
Kent Roosevelt 51, Cuyahoga Falls 43
Kettering Altar 80, Hamilton Badin 40
LaGrange Keystone 62, Wellington 41
Lakewood St. Edward 71, Philadelphia MC&S, Pa. 42
Leavittsburg LaBrae 85, Columbiana Crestview 68
Leesburg Fairfield 62, Manchester 27
Lewis Center Olentangy 62, Marysville 45
Lewistown Indian Lake 54, St. Paris Graham 49
Lima Sr. 51, Findlay 48
Lisbon Beaver 73, Cadiz Harrison Cent. 71, OT
Louisville Aquinas 48, Mogadore 44
Lucasville Valley 59, McDermott Scioto NW 57
Maria Stein Marion Local 43, Ft. Recovery 35

Martins Ferry 53, Cambridge 40
Massillon Tuslaw 61, Wooster Triway 57
McComb 55, Cory-Rawson 51
McConnelsville Morgan 51, New Concord John Glenn 47
Medina Buckeye 71, Parma 37
Melamora Evergreen 63, Delta 28
Milton-Union 55, Sidney Lehman 41
Minford 78, Oak Hill 56
Mt. Crab Western Brown 65, Clarksville Clinton Massie 55
Mt. Vernon 56, Millersburg W. Holmes 54
Mt. Victory Ridgemont 72, Waynesfield-Goshen 56
N. Lewisburg Triad 57, London Madison Plains 55
N. Ridgeville 61, Avon Lake 51
N. Robinson Col. Crawford 64, New Washington Buckeye Cent. 49
New Albany 45, Westerville Cent. 42
New Bremen 71, Coldwater 45
New Hope Christian 58, Beaver Eastern 57, OT
New Madison Tri-Village 55, Pitsburg Franklin-Monroe 28
Newark 51, Lancaster 29
Oak Harbor 58, Port Clinton 45
Olmsted Falls 58, Berea-Midpark 52
Orange 60, Ashtabula Lakeside 34
Orwell Grand Valley 52, Cuy. Hts. 31
Ottawa-Glandorf 69, Lima Bath 44
Ottoville 65, Miller City 44
Pandora-Gilboa 58, Vanue 45
Parma Hts. Valley Forge 80, Parma Hts. Holy Name 56
Perry 49, Gates Mills Hawken 35
Piketon 63, Williamsport Westfall 55
Plain City Jonathan Alder 60, Spring. Kenton Ridge 32
Poland Seminary 66, Jefferson Area 58
Portersville Christian, Pa. 56, Lima Temple Christian 41
Powell Olentangy Liberty 53, Lewis Center Olentangy Orange 48
Proctorville Fairland 85, Coal Grove Dawson-Bryant 59
RULH 60, Peebles 49
Ravenna SE 70, Rootstown 51
Richmond Hts. 90, Geneva 53
Rocky River Luth. W. 74, Wickliffe 27
Rossford 73, Genoa Area 45
Russia 74, Houston 34
S. Charleston SE 19, Mechanicsburg 15
Salem 52, Minerva 49
Sandusky 68, Vermilion 52
Sardinia E. Brown 79, W. Union 27
Sheffield Brookside 67, Firelands 53
Sherwood Fairview 47, Edgerton 32
Smithville 62, A. Creek Waynedale 53
S. Chalker 70, Kinsman Badger 56
Spencerville 56, Lima Cent. Cath. 49
Spring, Shawnee 69, Bellefontaine 28
Steubenville 62, E. Liverpool 59
Swanton 46, Hamler Patrick Henry 43
Sycamore Mohawk 50, Bucyrus 35
Tallmadge 76, Barberton 51
Tiffin Calvert 67, Lakeside Danbury 36
Tot. Cent. Cath. 61, Oregon Clay 38
Trenton Edgewood 60, Harrison 49
Twinsburg 70, Wadsworth 66
Warsaw River View 72, Crooksville 23
Waverly 54, Wheelersburg 46

POSTPONEMENTS AND CANCELLATIONS
St. Clairsville vs. Union Local, ppd.

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SPORTS

Friday,
January 14, 2022

68TH ANNUAL OVAC RON MAUCK WRESTLING CHAMPIONSHIPS

Opening night delivers excitement and drama

• Whg. Park leads; Barnesville top seed out

By KIM NORTH
Times Leader Sports Writer

WHEELING -- The opening night of the 68th annual Ohio Valley Athletic Conference Ron Mauck Wrestling Championships provided a little bit of everything inside WesBanco Arena, including a lightning-quick pin that nearly tied a national record; a top-seeded wrestler not competing; and all but seven of the 168 seeds having their hands raised. However, one thing remained the same as familiar schools rose to the top of the team scores.

Getting a late start because of nearly 70 scratches that shook a few brackets up, the first session lasted a little over 75 minutes as wrestlers recorded 126 pins -- half coming in less than a minute -- a dozen decisions and six technical falls in the 144 bouts contested.

Eight of fast falls came in less than 10 seconds, but none quicker than the 4-second flattening recorded by Wheeling Park junior Erick Brothers Jr., a two-time West Virginia state champion. The top seed at 220 pounds got an ankle pick and slap of the mat against Shadyside's Nick Norris. That came with a tick of tying the national record set by Vorhees High School's Lewis Fernandez in 2019. It tied Jacob Munger of Alma, Mich.

The pin was one of seven recorded by the Patriots, combined with a technical fall, who led the team race by 1.5 points over University High, 47-45.5.

The tightly-contested team race has defending champion Parkersburg South and Steubenville tied for third at 36, with Indian Creek, John Marshall, Martins Ferry and St. Clairsville all checking in with 28.

The biggest shakeup of the tournament came when top-seeded Reese Stephen of Barnesville didn't weight in at 120 and was scratched from the bracket, which had to be re-drawn.

"It's a weight issue. We knew he was going to have trouble coming into the season and it finally caught up with us," Barnesville head coach and Reese's father Jayson Stephen explained. "We went through it last year when he wrestled at 106. His (growth) clock has hit him and he is still growing.

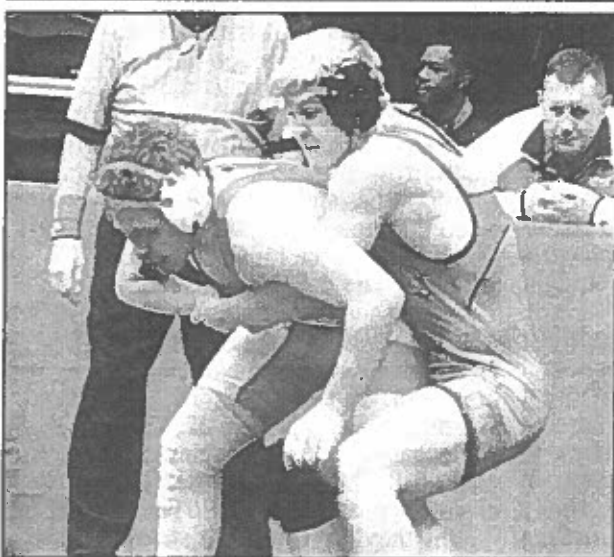
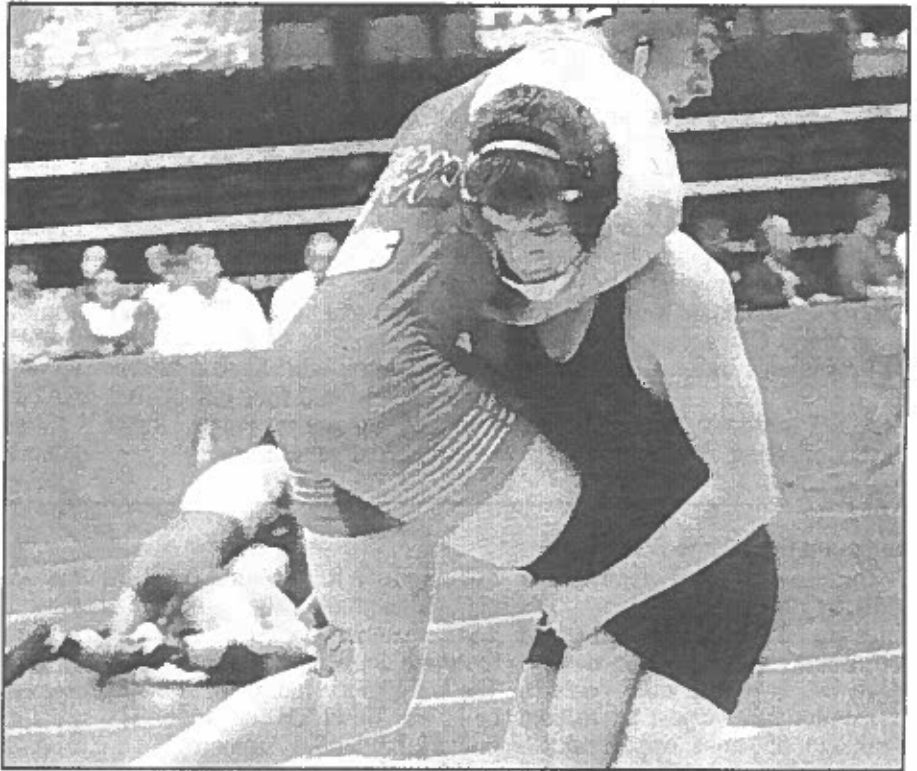
"He can't live on a bottle of water and an egg every day," Coach Stephen said. "It stinks no matter who it is, but it hits a little closer to home with it being him."

The coach said his other 'top dogs' are now going to have to go for bonus points with technical falls or pins.

"We need those bonus points if we're going to have a chance at anything."

Reese Stephen, a sophomore returning state placer, thus becomes the second No. 1 seed in tournament history to not make weight and be able to compete. The same thing happened to former Buckeye Local state champion and current Toronto head coach Willie Saxton back in 2005.

See, **OPENING**, Page B2



TOP: MARTINS Ferry's Johnny McFarland lifts River's Maddox Mozena into the air during their 170-pound bout. The Purple Rider won by fall.

LEFT: ST. CLAIRSVILLE'S Gavin Schoolcraft, right, has a grip on Union Local's Josef White during their 170-pound match. Schoolcraft won by pin.

T-L Photos/KIM NORTH

Defense lifts UL girls past St. C.

By SETH STASKEY
Times Leader Sports Editor

ST. CLAIRSVILLE -- Union Local's recipe for success has yielded positive results for the bulk of this season.

The chief ingredient has been its defensive prowess.

It was fully on display again Thursday evening on John Jenkins Court inside St. Clairsville High School.

The Jets used a half-court trap and an effective half-court zone to force 19 Red Devil turnovers, many of which, especially in the second half, led to easy scoring chances and eventually a 68-38 victory.

"We got comfortable, stuck with it (defensively) and it led to some offense for us," Union Local head coach Scooter Tolzda said. "We're really working on our defense and we're able to mix up our defenses. It's really difficult to score on us. We have good length and a good combination of players that allows us to mix things up."

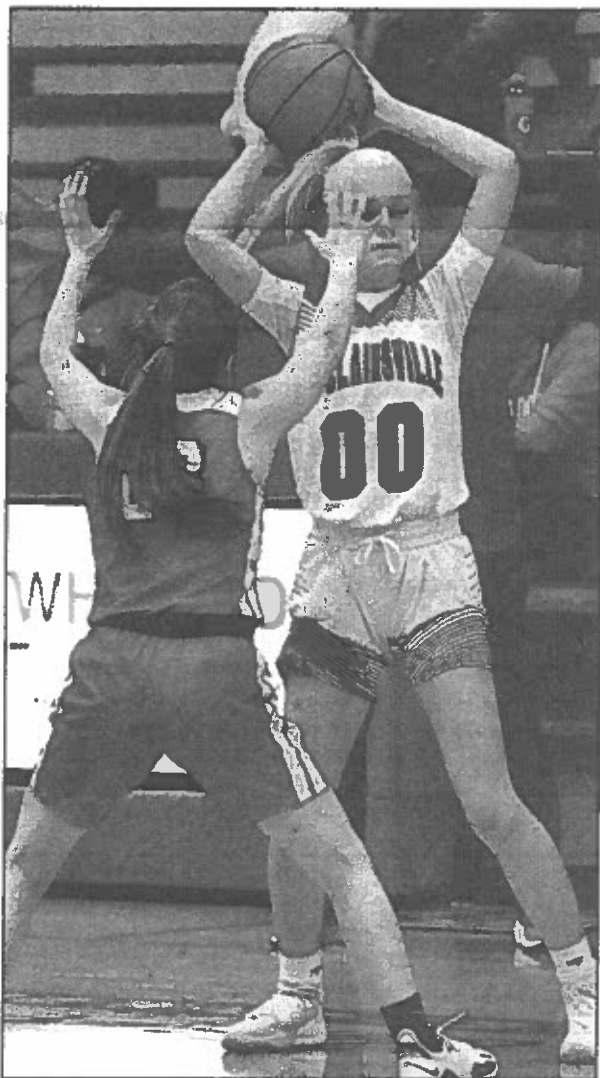
The Jets defense was sticky and its offense was effective and efficient. In the first quarter, junior stand-out Torre Kildow -- fresh off scoring her 1,000th career point last time out against Bellaire -- poured in 16 of her 24.

Kildow's production helped the Jets built a 27-12 lead.

"We made shots," Tolzda said. "I came down at halftime and was thinking about the St. Clairsville boys team I'd scouted a few times and how well they shot the ball in this gym and I thought, 'man, there must be something about this court that the ball really goes in the bucket here.' Give St. Clairsville (girls) credit because they were making shots, too."

Actually, the Red Devils remained relatively close because of the four bonus goals they hit in the opening period.

See, **UL**, Page B2



T-L Photo/SETH STASKEY

ST. CLAIRSVILLE senior Alexis Thoburn looks for somewhere to go with the ball as she's closely guarded by Union Local's Emily Kellaway during the first half of Thursday's game on John Jenkins Court.

No. 13 Wisconsin beats Ohio State

MADISON, Wis. (AP) -- Brad Davison scored 25 points and No. 13 Wisconsin beat No. 16 Ohio State 78-68 on Thursday night for its sixth straight victory.

Tyler Wahl added 20 points, one point shy of his career high, for the Badgers (14-2, 5-1 Big Ten). Johnny Davis had 14 points and nine rebounds.

Not only did Wahl spend time guarding Buckeyes standout E.J. Liddell, he had a career-high six assists and made his first 3-pointers of the season. Wahl only scored three points in an 18-point Ohio State victory over Wisconsin in December.

"I think what it shows you is that this team is more than Johnny," coach Greg Gard said about Davis, who averages 23.8 points per game. "I thought all along, we had some really good pieces. They weren't household names but as this team has come together, we've seen some of those guys emerge."

Wisconsin was 10 of 23 from 3-point range. Davison made 4 of 6 baskets from 3-point range. Liddell scored 18 points for Ohio State (10-4, 4-2). Jamari Wheeler added 11 points, and Malaki Branham, Zed Key and Kyle Young each had 10.

Davison and Wahl hit 3s in an 8-0 run to help Wisconsin take an 18-7 lead. Jahcobi Neath, a Wake Forest transfer, made a 3-pointer with 55 seconds left in the first half and the Badgers led 40-27 at halftime.

The Buckeyes strung together an 8-0 run early in the second half to cut it to 43-35. Liddell's jumper with 8:51 to go cut Wisconsin's lead to 56-49.

Ohio State coach Chris Holtmann said the differences in the game were the Badgers' physicality and poise in the first half.

See, **OHIO**, Page B2

Continued from Page B1

"There's a lot of teams that won't be out there this week. It's a blessing, a blessing to be here in Kansas City and have the success we've had over my nine years in the league, and we just try to take advantage of those opportunities, because not everybody gets them." - Kelce.

3. BUFFALO BILLS (13-3). AP Pro32 Ranking: No. 8. No Lombardis in four Super Bowl appearances. Last year: No. 2 seed, beat Colts 27-24 in wild-card game, beat Ravens 17-3 in divisional round, lost to Chiefs 38-24 in AFC championship. Fourth trip to the playoffs in five seasons. Second straight AFC East title.

Why they'll prevail: It's not just the Josh Allen Aerial Show anymore. While Allen became Buffalo's first player to top 4,000 yards passing and throw at least 30 TDs twice in his career, the Bills' late-season run to clinch the AFC East was partially fueled by a re-emphasis on running the ball. After managing 495 yards rushing and two scores in Buffalo's first 12 games, Devin Singletary combined for 375 yards rushing and five touchdowns (including one receiving) over the past five. The Bills are 10-1 when running for a touchdown and 11-2 when topping 100 yards rushing. Add in a Bills defense which allowed the fewest total yards, fewest passing yards and fewest points in the NFL and combined for 19 sacks over a season-ending four-game winning streak.

4. CINCINNATI BENGALS (10-7). AP Pro32 Ranking: No. 7. No Lombardis in two Super Bowl appearances. Last year: 4-11-1, missed playoffs. First playoff appearance and first AFC North title since 2015 season.

Why they'll prevail: Dynamic young stars aren't aware and don't care about the team's playoff futility in the past three decades (zero wins in the past seven postseason appearances). Second-year QB Joe Burrow is unflappable and does whatever it takes to move the chains, even if it means taking big hits. He

and rookie WR Ja'Marr Chase, his national championship teammate at LSU, shattered a host of franchise records. Chase and second-year WR Tee Higgins are masterful at 50-50 balls. Pro Bowl RB Joe Mixon is a powerful, relentless runner.

Why they'll derail: Protecting Burrow has been an issue all season. Injuries have bitten into the offensive line depth, and the loss of veteran tackle Riley Reiff to an ankle injury last month was a big hit. Burrow was sacked a league-high 51 times and chances are he'll be on the run again in the playoffs, which could force him into critical mistakes. The defense was 26th in the league against the pass.

5. LAS VEGAS RAIDERS (10-7). AP Pro32 Ranking: No. 12. Last Lombardi: Super Bowl 18, beat Washington 38-9 on Jan. 22, 1984, while based in Los Angeles. Last year: 8-8, missed playoffs. First playoff appearance since 2016.

Why they'll prevail: The strength of the Raiders all season has been a defensive line that has put relentless pressure on quarterbacks led by edge rushers Maxx Crosby and Yannick Ngakoue. Crosby led the NFL in pressures with 101, according to Pro Football Focus, and Ngakoue had a team-high 10 sacks. If they can maintain that level of play, it should take pressure off the secondary and keep the game close enough for Derek Carr and the offense, as well as clutch kicker Daniel Carlson, to pull games out at the end.

6. NEW ENGLAND PATRIOTS (10-7). AP Pro32 Ranking: No. 11. Last Lombardi: Super Bowl 53, beat the Rams 13-3 for sixth title on Feb. 3, 2019. Last year: 7-9, missed playoffs for first time since 2008.

Why they'll prevail: The Patriots spent exactly one season out of the playoffs following Tom Brady's departure to Tampa Bay. Bill Belichick made the bold move to name rookie first-round pick Mac Jones the starting QB after he beat out 2020 starter Cam Newton in training camp. Jones took his lumps with

the Patriots starting 2-4. But he grew up a lot during a subsequent seven-game winning streak. He also is playing alongside a defense that allowed just 17.8 points per game, ranking second in the NFL. The Patriots are tied for third in the NFL with 30 takeaways. They also have one of the league's top ballhawks in CB J.C. Jackson with an AFC-best eight interceptions. LB Matt Judon has also been a stellar addition in his first season in New England, leading the team with 12 1/2 sacks.

7. PITTSBURGH STEELERS (9-7-1). AP Pro32 Ranking: No. 14. Last Lombardi: Super Bowl 43, 27-23 win over the Cardinals on Feb. 1, 2009, at Tampa, Florida. Last year: 12-4, No. 3 seed. Lost to Browns 48-37 in wild-card game. Tenth playoff appearance in coach Mike Tomlin's 15 seasons.

Why they'll prevail: The Steelers may be the longest shot in the playoff field but in Roethlisberger they have a veteran leader that — while hardly in his prime at 39 and in his 18th and likely final season — has two Super Bowl rings. The Steelers also have perhaps the most disruptive defensive player in the league in OLB T.J. Watt, whose 22 1/2 sacks tied Hall of Famer Michael Strahan's single-season record. If Roethlisberger can summon one last bit of magic and Watt's play can cover up some serious warts on a defense that ranks last against the run, maybe the Steelers can carve out a path to the Super Bowl much as they did 16 years ago when they won the franchise's fifth Lombardi Trophy as a sixth seed.

Why they'll derail: The 2005 group happened to have the NFL's third-ranked defense to turn to when things got tight. Not so much this time around. Only eight teams gave up more yards than the Steelers in 2021, the franchise's worst performance in more than 30 years. Combine that with an offense that can be painful to watch at times as it tries to dink-and-dunk opponents to death and there's a reason Pittsburgh is the longest shot in the 14-team playoff field.

7 p.m.
GOLF — PGA Tour: The Sony Open, Second Round, Waialae Country Club, Honolulu
HORSE RACING
2:30 p.m.
FS2 — NYRA: America's Day at the Races
NBA BASKETBALL
7:45 p.m.
ESPN — Golden State at Chicago
10:05 p.m.
ESPN — Dallas at Memphis
NHL HOCKEY
7 p.m.
NHLN — Dallas at Florida

Girls Boxscores

Union Local 68, St. Clairsville 38
UNION LOCAL (68) — Vinskovich 9, 0-1 18; Kildow 7, 7-8 24; Merritt 3, 0-0 8; Gregor 3, 0-0 6; Kellaway 1, 0-0 3; Miller 4, 0-0 9; Cheatham 0, 0-0 0; Pietranton 0, 0-0 0; King 0, 0-0 0; Scott 0, 0-0 0; 27, 7-9 68.
ST. CLAIRSVILLE (38) — Thoburn 4, 1-3 10; Brookover 2, 0-0 5; Malin 3, 0-2 7; Miller 2, 0-0 6; Tuttle 1, 0-0 2; Sadler 1, 2-2 4; Moran 1, 0-0 2; Gray 0, 0-0 0; Florence 1, 0-0 2; Totals: 15, 3-7 38.
3-point goals: UL — Kildow (3), Merritt (2), Kellaway, Miller, St. C. — Miller (2), Brookover, Malin, Thoburn.

Maritins Ferry 64, Barnesville 34
MARTINS FERRY (64) — Clark 5, 0-2 13; Sidon 4, 0-0 9; Best 2, 5-6 9; Jones 2, 2-2 6; E. McFarland 3, 0-0 7; Agnew 1, 0-0 2; Marchbank 3, 0-0 7; L. McFarland 1, 0-0 2; Pollock 1, 0-0 2; Hughes 2, 0-0 4; Guthrie 1, 0-0 2; Shreve 0, 0-0 0; Totals: 25, 7-10 64.
BARNESVILLE (34) — Thompson 3, 3-4 11; Schaffer 2, 0-2 4; Lucas 1, 1-2 3; Tyson 0, 0-0 0; Welch 2, 0-0 5; Carter 2, 0-0 6; Fritter 1, 0-0 2; Powell 0, 0-0 0; Johnson 0, 0-0 0; Yater 1, 1-2 3; Phillips 0, 0-0 0; Totals: 12, 5-10 34.
3-point goals: MF — Clark (3), Sidon, E. McFarland, Marchbank. B — Thompson (2), Welch, Carter (2).

Bellaire 42, Cambridge 39
CAMBRIDGE (39) — Gabhardt 1, 1-4 3; Murray 2, 0-0 5; Krise 1, 0-2 2; Gibson 2, 0-0 4; King 6, 1-1 15; Murphy 5, 0-0 10; Kenworthy 0, 0-0 0; Lamphear 0, 0-0 0; Totals: 17, 2-7 39.
Bellaire (42) — Ault 3, 0-0 7; Porter 0, 1-2 1; Harveth 4, 1-3 10; Hamilton 0, 0-0 0; McAninch 1, 2-2 5; Rowson 1, 0-0 2; O'Grady 4, 4-6 12; Bonar 1, 2-4 5; Craig 0, 0-0 0; Totals: 14, 10-17 42.
3-point goals: C — King (2), Murray. B — Ault, Harveth, McAninch, Bonar.

Frontier 55, Bridgeport 5
BRIDGEPORT (5) — McCormick 0, 0-0 0; Clemens 1, 0-0 3; Bain 1, 0-2 2; Stewart 0, 0-2 0; Dyson 0, 0-0 0; Aubrey 0, 0-0 0; Conaway 0, 0-0 0; Lewis 0, 0-0 0; Totals: 2, 0-4 5.
FRONTIER (55) — Remsey 3, 0-0 6; Shepley 4, 2-3 11; Knowlton 6, 0-1 16; Schmidt 2, 0-0 4; Cislser 5, 0-0 10; Allen 0, 0-0 0; Haight 4, 0-0 8; Totals: 24, 2-4 55.
3-point goals: B — Clemens. F — Shepley, Knowlton (4).

Buckeye Local 50, Shadyside 38
SHADYSIDE (38) — Stewart 0, 0-0 0; T. Fulton 1, 0-0 2; R. Fulton 1, 1-2 3; Sims 0, 0-0 0; Brown 1, 1-5 2; Hendershot 1, 0-0 2; Gorby 8, 10-23 26; Totals: 13, 12-31 38.
BUCKEYE LOCAL (50) — McKeever 5, 8-13 18; George 1, 0-1 2; Blazeski 2, 0-0 5; Glover 5, 2-3 13; Kinyo 0, 0-0 0; Long 0, 2-4 2; Valuska 3, 3-6 10; Pelkey 0, 0-0 0; Totals: 16, 15-27 50.
3-point goals: S — None. BL — Blazeski, Glover, Valuska.

Beallsville 54, Madonna 28
BEALLSVILLE (54) — Hagan 8, 5-6 24; Wells 2, 1-2 5; Hughes 2, 1-2 6; Bommer 2, 0-0 5; Phillips 0, 0-2 0; Huffman 5, 1-2 14; Totals: 19, 8-12 54.
MADONNA (28) — Alatis 5, 3-6 16; Harbin 0, 0-0 0; Pietranton 1, 0-0 2; Costa 0, 0-0 0; Wingett 0, 0-0 0; Sole 0, 0-0 0; Laughlin 0, 0-0 0; Littleton 0, 0-0 0; Bachel 4, 0-2 8; Totals: 10, 3-8 28.
3-point goals: B — Hagan (3), Hughes, Bommer, Huffman (3). M — Alatis (3).

River 52, Toronto 34
RIVER (52) — Hobbs 2, 1-4 5; Harlan 7, 0-0 17; Grimes 0, 0-0 0; E. Reed 1, 0-0 3; J. Reed 3, 1-1 9; Primm 0, 1-2 1; Raper 4, 4-8 13; Huffman 1, 1-2 4; Pfalzgraf 1, 0-0 2; Totals: 18, 8-17 52.
TORONTO (34) — Perrington 0, 0-1 0; Liddick 1, 2-4 4; Donnelly 3, 4-6 10; Reeves 1, 0-2 2; M. Anderson 0, 0-0 0; C. Anderson 1, 0-0 2; Allen 0, 0-0 0; J. Anderson 3, 2-3 8; Thomas 3, 2-8 8; Kerton 0, 0-0 0; Totals: 12, 10-24 34.
3-point goals: R — Harlan (3), E. Reed, J. Reed (2), Raper, Huffman. Harrison Central 63, Indian Creek 37

Harrison Central 63, Indian Creek 37
HARRISON CENTRAL (63): Hercules 0 0-0 0, Rensi 0 0-0 0, Dunkle 13 3-9 29, Fischer 1 0-0 2, Banal 0 0-0 0, Butler 12 0-1 27, Ferri 2 0-0 5, Lewis 0 0-0 0, Harbold 0 0-0 0, Sedger 0 0-0 0, Ledger 0 0-0 0. TOTALS: 28 3-10 63.
INDIAN CREEK (37): Crites 0 0-0 0, Scott 0 2-2 Ratkovec 1 0-0 2, Starkey 0 3-4 3, Balato 1 5-6 7, Smith 1 0-0 2, Ketrton 0 1-2 1, Anderson 4 2-2 10, Robertson 3 0-0 6, Allen 2 0-0 4. TOTALS: 10 13-16 37.
3-point goals: Harrison Central 4 (Butler 3, Ferri); Indian Creek none.

NFL Playoffs

Wild-card Playoffs
Saturday, Jan. 15
Las Vegas at Cincinnati, 4:30 p.m. (NBC)
New England at Buffalo, 8:15 p.m. (CBS)
Sunday, Jan. 16
Philadelphia at Tampa Bay, 1:00 p.m. (FOX)
San Francisco at Dallas, 4:30 p.m. (CBS)
Pittsburgh at Kansas City, 8:15 p.m. (NBC)
Monday, Jan. 17
Arizona at L.A. Rams, 8:15 p.m. (ESPN/ABC)

(tie) Beallsville, Hundred, Madonna, Monroe Central, Steubenville Catholic 0

Ohio Basketball

BOYS
Ashtabula St. John 58, N. Bloomfield 43
Bryan 50, Archbold 19
Chesterton W. Geauga 68, Cle. St. Martin De Porres 39
Cin. Hughes 78, Cin. Purcell Marian 72
Cin. Riverview East 66, Cin. SCPA 22
Cin. Seven Hills 51, Miami Valley Christian Academy 37
Collins Western Reserve 50, Ashland Mapleton 49
Cols. Northland 74, Cols. Whetstone 49
Cols. St. Charles 52, Pataskala Licking Hts. 50
Fairfield Christian 60, Philo 54
Greenwich S. Cent. 63, New London 24
Middlefield Cardinal 56, Mantua Crestwood 42
Monroeville 60, Norwalk St. Paul 47
N. Ridgeville Lake Ridge 58, Elyria First Baptist Christian 28
Napoleon 33, Sylvania Southview 29
Northside Christian 66, Granville Christian 56
Orange 37, Beachwood 32
Sugar Grove Berne Union 46, Lancaster Fisher Cath. 44
Tree of Life 62, Delaware Christian 40

GIRLS
Akr. Buchtel 64, Akr. East 39
Akr. Ellet 71, Akr. North 4
Akr. Springfield 43, Akr. Coventry 39
Albany Alexander 60, Bidwell River Valley 26
Andover Pymatuning Valley 60, Southington Chalker 21
Antwerp 40, Haviland Wayne Trace 22
Apple Creek Waynedale 56, Dalton 25
Arcanum 69, W. Alexandria Twin Valley 5
Athos Seneca E. 55, Milan Edison 28
Atwater Waterloo 45, Lowellville 29
Barberton 35, Medina Buckeye 34
Bascom Hopewell-Loudon 54, Sandusky St. Mary 22
Bellville Clear Fork 58, Caledonia River Valley 53
Belmont Union Local 68, St. Clairsville 38
Berlin Center Western Reserve 59, Sebring McKinley 24
Bishop Watterson 48, Bishop Hartley 37
Blanchester 33, Felicity-Franklin 31
Blanchfield 59, Campbell Memorial 26
Bryan 50, Archbold 19
Cadiz Harrison Cent. 63, Indian Creek 37
Caldwell 54, Sarahsville Shenandoah 51
Casstown Miami E. 49, Sidney Lehman 11
Cincinnati 67, Springfield 38
Chillicothe Union 52, Pikeston 38
Cin. Co. Day 58, Cin. Mercy-McAuley 39
Cin. Riverview East 34, Cin. SCPA 23
Cle. St. Martin De Porres 59, Elyria Open Door 16
Cols. Northland 68, Cols. Whetstone 15
Columbiana 36, Wellsview 23
Columbus Grove 53, Lincolnview 37
Convoy Crestview 64, Harrod Allen E. 37
Cory-Rawson 28, McComb 26
Covington 46, Tipp City Bethel 25
Crest, Norwayne 49, W. Salem Nwstern 24
Day, Oakwood 44, Monroe 36
Defiance 45, Kenton 41
Defiance Tinora 55, Defiance Aversville 51
Delphos Jefferson 57, Ada 27
Deiostown John's 43, Rock, Parkway 41
Doyistown Chippewa 76, Hillsdale 34
Eida 46, Celina 27
Elmore Woodmore 44, Eastwood 40
Fairport Harbor Harding 52, Windham 27
Findlay 48, Tol. Whitmer 47
Garrettsville Garfield 58, LaBrea 41
Genoa Area 62, Tontogany Otsego 12
Gran. Christian 55, Northside Christian 48
Hanoverton United 57, Southern 32
Huron 49, Clyde 39
Ironton 26, Chesapeake 16
Ironton St. Joseph 57, Portsmouth Clay 16
Kent Roosevelt 54, Twinsburg 22
Kinsman Badger 44, Vienna Mathews 40
Lees Creek E. Clinton 54, Clermont NE 43
Leesburg Fairfield 62, N. Adams 54
Leota 41, E. Palestine 39
Leipsic 41, Bluffton 39
Lexington 38, Mansfield Madison 26
Lima Perry 47, McGuffey Upper Scioto Valley 37
Lima Shawnee 64, Wapakoneta 50
Lis. David Anderson 48, Valley Christian 33
Lodi Cloverleaf 67, Mogadore Field 51
Madison 62, Cle. VASJ 15
Marion Local 47, Ft. Recovery 28
Marion Elgin 41, Dola Hardin Northern 30
Marion Harding 52, Galion 40
Martins Ferry 64, Barnesville 34
Metamora Evergreen 71, Delta 51
Montpelier 35, Holgate 31
Morrill Ridgedale 42, Calvary Christian 19
Mt. Notre Dame 44, Ursuline Academy 38
Mt. Orab W. Brown 58, Williamsburg 37
N. Baltimore 35, Arlington 26
N. Jackson J. Milton 46, Mineral Ridge 39
N. Ridgeville 47, Parma Padua 32
Napoleon 33, Sylvania Southview 20
Nelsonville-York 57, Athens 39
New Bremen 52, Coldwater 47
New Knoxville 36, Minster 23
New Lebanon Dixie 41, National Trail 38
New Madi. Tri-Village 88, Frank-Mon. 21
New Middletown Spring, 70, McDonald 58
New Richmond 49, Batavia 41
Newton Local 45, Tri-County N. 35
Norton 53, Peninsula Woodridge 24
Oak Glen, W. Va. 74, Steubenville 38
Oak Hill 69, Beaver Eastern 33
Old Fort 49, New Riegel 38
Oregon Stritch 51, Emmanuel Baptist 48
Ottawa-Glandorf 53, Lima Bath 36
Pandora-Gilboa 58, Vanlue 29
Paulding 49, Hicksville 43
Peoples 55, W. Union 34
Pioneer N. Central 44, Pettisville 25
Poland Seminary 55, Niles McKinley 31
Proctorville Fairland 64, Portsmouth 33
Ravenna SE 40, Cortland Maplewood 37
Rayland Buckeye 48, Shadyside 38
Reedsville Eastern 44, Beipre 37
Reynoldsburg 56, Pickington Cent. 53
S. Webster 72, Lucasville Valley 43
Sandusky Perkins 62, Oak Harbor 27
Sardinia E. Brown 70, Fayetteville-Perry 51
Sherwood Fairview 63, Edgerton 15
Sparta Highland 51, Ontario 46
St. Henry 42, Versailles 37
St. Marys Memorial 78, Van Wert 43
Staub. Cath. Cent. 40, E. Liverpool 23
Streetsboro 42, Ravenna 37
Struthers 42, Hubbard 34
Stryker 54, Edon 41
Tiffin Calvert 35, Lakeside Danbury 34
Tot. Cent. Cath. 70, Lima Sr. 31
Tree of Life 65, Delaware Christian 20
Troy Christian 41, Milton-Union 35
U. City Mississinawa Valley 75, Bradford 55
Warren Howland 57, Youngs. Mooney 23

Area Sports Briefs

Bellaire Hosting Youth Tourney
The Bellaire Athletic Department will hold 56 (combined) Grade Boys Basketball Tournament on Friday February 25, Saturday February 26, and Sunday February 27, 2022. The entry fee will be \$100 with a guarantee of three (3) games. 1st, 2nd and 3rd place teams will be awarded.
Contact Bruce Young at 304-280-2154 or byoung@bellairesd.org. Send your entry to Bellaire High School 349 35th Street Bellaire 43806. Make checks payable to Bellaire Athletic Department.
Bellaire Seeking Football Coach
Bellaire High School is looking for a Head Football Coach. Interested candidates should send a resume to Athletic Director Mike Sherwood (msherwood@bellairesd.org).

Ohio

Continued from Page B1

Add Wisconsin's 3-point performance, and the Buckeyes couldn't climb out of their hole.

"Davison made some tough shots," Holtmann said. "In scouting report situations, there were some guys we were playing off who had not shown they had made a ton of 3-point shots."

In a game when his shot wasn't falling, Davis said the Ohio State victory was a perfect example of Wisconsin's strength across the board. Davis added that he has confidence in competing with Davison and Wahl.

"It shows you that one player is not an entire team,"

UL

Continued from Page B1

"With Union Local, it's pick your poison," St. Clairsville head coach Stacey Agnew said. "They either hurt you inside or hurt you outside. They did it both ways (Thursday). We weren't boxing out and stood there watching. I thought we played well in the middle quarters, but it got away from us again at the end of the third quarter."

In that third quarter, the Jets

Opening

Continued from Page B1

"I feel for the kid. I was miserable," Saxton said. "This doesn't define his legacy. This is just a tournament ... March is when it counts."

The seeding committee should pat themselves on the back for the job they did this season. Of the 12 seeded wrestlers in each weight, only seven failed to move on, with one being a No. 8 and four being 10s. There were also

limited the Red Devils to a mere four points and only one field goal. Union Local put forth a 14-0 run in the process.

While Kildow was the offensive weapon in the first half, classmate Reagan Vinskovich was the focal point in the second half. She scored 10 of her 18 in the third and fourth quarters.

The Jets dynamic duo also even-

Davis said. "If either one of these guys (Davison and Wahl) would have an off night, the other two would pick him up. That's just how it goes with this team."

BIG PICTURE

Ohio State: The Buckeyes struggled to get into a rhythm on offense early, particularly Liddell. He shot 1 for 7 from the field in the first half, and sat for more than three minutes with two first-half fouls. ... Announced a couple hours before the game that Meechie Johnson Jr. was sidelined with a facial injury.

UP NEXT

Ohio State: Hosts Penn State on Sunday.

ly divided 14 rebounds, which led the squad.

In the scoring column, Kildow and Vinskovich were complemented by junior Lauren Miller, who came off the bench to score nine. Senior Hannah Merritt added eight.

The Red Devils received 10 points from senior Alexis Thoburn, while junior Megan Malin added seven.

Action resumes on

eight mats today at noon with second round matches in the championship bracket and first- and second-round bouts in the consolation bracket. Quarterfinal championship bouts are set for 6 p.m., as are third- and fourth-round consolations. The championship semifinals will be contested at 11 a.m. on Saturday, with the finals scheduled

for approximately 4 p.m.

PIN FALLS

Coach of the Year awards were presented to Shawn Smith, Parkersburg South (5A); Joel Sansone, St. Clairsville (4A); Jayson Stephen, Barnesville (3A) and Jessie Wells, Shenandoah (1A/2A).

Wellsville's Tim Sarge, Sr. was named the OVAC Assistant Coach of the Year.

Harrison girls win Buckeye 8 North; Martins Ferry rolls past Barnesville

WINTERSVILLE — Harrison Central made the most of its first season in the Buckeye 8 North by claiming the division's title Thursday when it completed the season sweep of Indian Creek, which had won the last four.

The Huskies received a huge game from senior standout McKayla Dunkle. She posted 29 points, while guard Maddy Butler went for a season-high 27.

Martins Ferry 64, Barnesville 34

BARNESVILLE — Martins Ferry broke out of its offensive struggle by erupting for 64 points in a 30-point win against the Shamrocks Thursday evening, 64-34.

The Purple Riders were led by senior Maria Clark, who poured in 13. Freshman Lindsey Best added nine.

The Shamrocks received 11 points from Ellie Thompson.

• AFC

Continued from Page B1

"There's a lot of teams that won't be out there this week. It's a blessing, a blessing to be here in Kansas City and have the success we've had over my nine years in the league, and we just try to take advantage of those opportunities, because not everybody gets them."

3. BUFFALO BILLS (13-3). AP Pro32 Ranking: No. 8. No Lombardis in four Super Bowl appearances. Last year: No. 2 seed, beat Colts 27-24 in wild-card game, beat Ravens 17-3 in divisional round, lost to Chiefs 38-24 in AFC championship. Fourth trip to the playoffs in five seasons. Second straight AFC East title.

Why they'll prevail: It's not just the Josh Allen Aerial Show anymore. While Allen became Buffalo's first player to top 4,000 yards passing and throw at least 30 TDs twice in his career, the Bills' late-season run to clinch the AFC East was partially fueled by a re-emphasis on running the ball. After managing 495 yards rushing and five touchdowns (including one receiving) over the past five. The Bills are 10-1 when running for a touchdown and 11-2 when topping 100 yards rushing. Add in a Bills defense which allowed the fewest total yards, fewest passing yards and fewest points in the NFL and combined for 19 sacks over a season-ending four-game winning streak.

4. CINCINNATI BENGALS (10-7). AP Pro32 Ranking: No. 7. No Lombardis in two Super Bowl appearances. Last year: 4-11-1, missed playoffs. First playoff appearance and first AFC North title since 2015 season.

Why they'll prevail: Dynamic young stars aren't aware and don't care about the team's playoff futility in the past three decades (zero wins in the past seven postseason appearances). Second-year QB Joe Burrow is unflappable and does whatever it takes to move the chains, even if it means taking big hits. He

• Ohio

Continued from Page B1

Add Wisconsin's 3-point performance, and the Buckeyes couldn't climb out of their hole.

"Davison made some tough shots," Holtmann said. "In scouting report situations, there were some guys we were playing off who had not shown they had made a ton of 3-point shots."

In a game when his shot wasn't falling, Davis said the Ohio State victory was a perfect example of Wisconsin's strength across the board. Davis added that he has confidence in competing with Davison and Wahl.

"It shows you that one player is not an entire team,"

Bellaire 42, Cambridge 39
BELLAIRES — The Big Reds improved to 10-5 on the season by avenging an earlier loss to the Bobcats and wrapping up second place in the Buckeye 8 South.

Bellaire was led by freshmen Rhyen O'Grady and Zara Harveth who went for 12 and 10, respectively.

Buckeye Local 50, Shadyside 38

CONNORVILLE — The home-standing Panthers picked up another win as they avenged a loss from earlier in the season to reeling Shadyside.

The Panthers were led by Brynn McKeever's 18. Rylee Glover and Emily Valuska added 13 and 10, respectively.

The Tigers, who have now lost three straight and four out of five, were led by senior Paige Gorby, who posted a game-high 26.

Beallsville 54, Madonna 28
WEIRTON — Beallsville got off to a strong start and never looked back en route to claiming a repeat triumph over the Blue Dons. Freshman dandy Kaylee Hagan continued her brilliant season, posting 24 points. She was backed by Jaycee Huffman's 14.

River 52, Toronto 34

TORONTO — The invading Pilots posted a hard-earned repeat victory over the Red Knights.

River was paced by sophomore Kelsey Harlan's 17 and junior Hannah Raper's 13. Josie Reed finished with nine.

Frontier 55, Bridgeport 5

NEW MATAMORAS — The home-standing Cougars held the Bulldogs scoreless in the first half, while building a 36-point lead and never looked back.

The Bulldogs had only two field goals and didn't make a foul shot.

and rookie WR Ja'Marr Chase, his national championship teammate at LSU, shattered a host of franchise records. Chase and second-year WR Tee Higgins are masterful at 50-50 balls. Pro Bowl RB Joe Mixon is a powerful, relentless runner.

Why they'll prevail: Protecting Burrow has been an issue all season. Injuries have bitten into the offensive line depth, and the loss of veteran tackle Riley Reiff to an ankle injury last month was a big hit. Burrow was sacked a league-high 51 times and chances are he'll be on the run again in the playoffs, which could force him into critical mistakes. The defense was 26th in the league against the pass.

5. LAS VEGAS RAIDERS (10-7). AP Pro32 Ranking: No. 12. Last Lombardi: Super Bowl 18, beat Washington 38-9 on Jan. 22, 1984, while based in Los Angeles. Last year: 8-8, missed playoffs. First playoff appearance since 2016.

Why they'll prevail: The strength of the Raiders all season has been a defensive line that has put relentless pressure on quarterbacks led by edge rushers Maxx Crosby and Yannick Ngakoue. Crosby led the NFL in pressures with 101, according to Pro Football Focus, and Ngakoue had a team-high 10 sacks. If they can maintain that level of play, it should take pressure off the secondary and keep the game close enough for Derek Carr and the offense, as well as clutch kicker Daniel Carlson, to pull games out at the end.

6. NEW ENGLAND PATRIOTS (10-7). AP Pro32 Ranking: No. 11. Last Lombardi: Super Bowl 53, beat the Rams 13-3 for sixth title on Feb. 3, 2019. Last year: 7-9, missed playoffs for first time since 2008.

Why they'll prevail: The Patriots spent exactly one season out of the playoffs following Tom Brady's departure to Tampa Bay. Bill Belichick made the bold move to name rookie first-round pick Mac Jones the starting QB after he beat out 2020 starter Cam Newton in training camp. Jones took his lumps with

the Patriots starting 2-4. But he grew up a lot during a subsequent seven-game winning streak. He also is playing alongside a defense that allowed just 17.8 points per game, ranking second in the NFL. The Patriots are tied for third in the NFL with 30 takeaways. They also have one of the league's top ballhaws in CB J.C. Jackson with an AFC-best eight interceptions. LB Matt Judon has also been a stellar addition in his first season in New England, leading the team with 12 1/2 sacks.

7. PITTSBURGH STEELERS (9-7-1). AP Pro32 Ranking: No. 14. Last Lombardi: Super Bowl 43, 27-23 win over the Cardinals on Feb. 1, 2009, at Tampa, Florida. Last year: 12-4, No. 3 seed. Lost to Browns 48-37 in wild-card game. Tenth playoff appearance in coach Mike Tomlin's 15 seasons.

Why they'll prevail: The Steelers may be the longest shot in the playoff field but in Roethlisberger they have a veteran leader that — while hardly in his prime at 39 and in his 18th and likely final season — has two Super Bowl rings. The Steelers also have perhaps the most disruptive defensive player in the league in OLB T.J. Watt, whose 22 1/2 sacks tied Hall of Famer Michael Strahan's single-season record. If Roethlisberger can summon one last bit of magic and Watt's play can cover up some serious warts on a defense that ranks last against the run, maybe the Steelers can carve out a path to the Super Bowl much as they did 16 years ago when they won the franchise's fifth Lombardi Trophy as a sixth seed.

Why they'll prevail: The 2005 group happened to have the NFL's third-ranked defense to turn to when things got tight. Not so much this time around. Only eight teams gave up more yards than the Steelers in 2021, the franchise's worst performance in more than 30 years. Combine that with an offense that can be painful to watch at times as it tries to dink-and-dunk opponents to death and there's a reason Pittsburgh is the longest shot in the 14-team playoff field.

• Ohio

Davis said. "If either one of these guys (Davison and Wahl) would have an off night, the other two would pick him up. That's just how it goes with this team."

BIG PICTURE

Ohio State: The Buckeyes struggled to get into a rhythm on offense early, particularly Liddell. He shot 1 for 7 from the field in the first half, and sat for more than three minutes with two first-half fouls. ... Announced a couple hours before the game that Meechie Johnson Jr. was sidelined with a facial injury.

UP NEXT

Ohio State: Hosts Penn State on Sunday.

Prep Sports

Friday, Jan. 14
BOYS BASKETBALL
Bellaire at Buckeye Local, 5:30 p.m.
Monroe Central at Bridgeport
Beaver Local at Harrison Central
Cambridge at Martins Ferry
BOWLING
Barnesville at River
St. Clairsville at Brooke
Weir at Union Local
WRESTLING
OVAC Tournament at WesBanco Arena

Sports on TV

Friday, January 14
COLLEGE BASKETBALL (MEN'S)
6 p.m.
CBSSS — Buffalo at Ball St.
6:30 p.m.
FS1 — Nebraska at Purdue
7 p.m.
ESPN — Manhattan at Iona
7:30 p.m.
ESPN2 — VCU at St. Bonaventure
8 p.m.
CBSSS — Akron at Kent St.
9 p.m.
ESPN — Davidson at Richmond
FS1 — Michigan at Illinois
11 p.m.
FS1 — Fresno St. at UNLV
COLLEGE BASKETBALL (WOMEN'S)
6:30 p.m.
FS2 — Villanova at DePaul
9 p.m.
PAC-12N — Stanford at Colorado
COLLEGE WRESTLING
7 p.m.
BTN — Michigan at Ohio St.
9 p.m.
BTN — Nebraska at Michigan
GOLF
7 p.m.
PGA Tour: The Sony Open, Second Round, Waialae Country Club, Honolulu
HORSE RACING
2:30 p.m.
FS2 — NYRA: America's Day at the Races
NBA BASKETBALL
7:45 p.m.
ESPN — Golden State at Chicago
10:05 p.m.
ESPN — Dallas at Memphis
NHL HOCKEY
7 p.m.
NHLN — Dallas at Florida

Girls Boxscores

Union Local 68, St. Clairsville 38
UNION LOCAL (68) — Vinskovich 9, 0-1 18; Kildow 7, 7-8 24; Merritt 3, 0-0 8; Gregor 3, 0-0 6; Kellaway 1, 0-0 3; Miller 4, 0-0 9; Cheatham 0, 0-0 0; Pietranon 0, 0-0 0; King 0, 0-0 0; Scott 0, 0-0 0; 27, 7-9 68.
ST. CLAIRSVILLE (38) — Thoburn 4, 1-3 10; Brookover 2, 0-0 5; Malin 3, 0-2 7; Miller 2, 0-0 6; Tuttle 1, 0-0 2; Sadler 1, 2-2 4; Moran 1, 0-0 2; Gray 0, 0-0 0; Florence 1, 0-0 2; Totals: 15, 3-7 38.
3-point goals: UL — Kildow (3), Merritt (2), Kellaway, Miller, St. C. — Miller (2), Brookover, Malin, Thoburn.
Martins Ferry 64, Barnesville 34
MARTINS FERRY (64) — Clark 5, 0-2 13; Sidon 4, 0-0 9; Best 2, 5-6 9; Jones 2, 2-2 6; E. McFarland 3, 0-0 7; Agnew 1, 0-0 2; Marchbank 3, 0-0 7; L. McFarland 1, 0-0 2; Pollock 1, 0-0 2; Hughes 2, 0-0 4; Guthrie 1, 0-0 2; Shreve 0, 0-0 0; Totals: 25, 7-10 64.
BARNESVILLE (34) — Thompson 3, 3-4 11; Schaffer 2, 0-2 4; Lucas 1, 1-2 3; Tyson 0, 0-0 0; Welch 2, 0-0 5; Carter 2, 0-0 6; Fritter 1, 0-0 2; Powell 0, 0-0 0; Johnson 0, 0-0 0; Yater 1, 1-2 3; Phillips 0, 0-0 0; Totals: 12, 5-10 34.
3-point goals: MF — Clark (3), Sidon, E. McFarland, Marchbank, B. — Thompson (2), Welch, Carter (2).

Bellaire 42, Cambridge 39
CAMBRIDGE (39) — Gabhardt 1, 1-4 3; Murrey 2, 0-0 5; Krise 1, 0-2 2; Gibson 2, 0-0 4; King 6, 1-1 15; Murphy 5, 0-0 10; Kenworthy 0, 0-0 0; Lamphear 0, 0-0 0; Totals: 17, 2-7 39.
Bellaire (42) — Ault 3, 0-0 7; Porter 0, 1-2 1; Harveth 4, 1-3 10; Hamilton 0, 0-0 0; McAninch 1, 2-2 5; Rowson 1, 0-0 2; O'Grady 4, 4-6 12; Bonar 1, 2-4 5; Craig 0, 0-0 0; Totals: 14, 10-17 42.
3-point goals: C — King (2), Murrey, B. — Ault, Harveth, McAninch, Bonar.

Frontier 55, Bridgeport 5
BRIDGEPORT (5) — McCormick 0, 0-0 0; Clemens 1, 0-0 3; Bain 1, 0-2 2; Stewart 0, 0-2 0; Dyson 0, 0-0 0; Aubrey 0, 0-0 0; Conaway 0, 0-0 0; Lewis 0, 0-0 0; Totals: 2, 0-4 5.
FRONTIER (55) — Remsey 3, 0-0 6; Shepley 4, 2-3 11; Knowlton 6, 0-1 16; Schmidt 2, 0-0 4; Cislser 5, 0-0 10; Allen 0, 0-0 0; Haight 4, 0-0 8; Totals: 24, 2-4 55.
3-point goals: B — Clemens, F — Shepley, Knowlton (4).

Buckeye Local 50, Shadyside 38
SHADYSIDE (38) — Stewart 0, 0-0 0; T. Fulton 1, 0-0 2; R. Fulton 1, 1-2 3; Sims 0, 0-0 0; Brown 1, 1-5 2; Hendershot 1, 0-0 2; Gorby 8, 10-23 26; Totals: 13, 12-31 38.
BUCKEYE LOCAL (50) — McKeever 5, 8-13 18; George 1, 0-1 2; Blazski 2, 0-0 5; Glover 5, 2-3 13; Kinyo 0, 0-0 0; Long 0, 2-4 2; Valuska 3, 3-6 10; Pelkey 0, 0-0 0; Totals: 16, 15-27 50.
3-point goals: S — None. BL — Blazski, Glover, Valuska.
Beallsville 54, Madonna 28
BEALLSVILLE (54) — Hagan 8, 5-6 24; Wells 2, 1-2 5; Hughes 2, 1-2 6; Bommer 2, 0-0 5; Phillips 0, 0-2 0; Huffman 5, 1-2 14; Totals: 19, 8-12 54.
MADONNA (28) — Alatis 5, 3-6 16; Harbin 0, 0-0 0; Pietranon 1, 0-0 2; Costa 0, 0-0 0; Wingett 0, 0-0 0; Soie 0, 0-0 0; Laughlin 0, 0-0 0; Littleton 0, 0-0 0; Bachel 4, 0-2 8; Totals: 10, 3-8 28.
3-point goals: B — Hagan (3), Hughes, Bommer, Huffman (3). M — Alatis (3).

River 52, Toronto 34
RIVER (52) — Hobbs 2, 1-4 5; Harlan 7, 0-0 17; Grimes 0, 0-0 0; E. Reed 1, 0-0 2; L. Reed 2, 1-1 8.

Prep Wrestling

68th Annual OVAC Ron Mauck Wrestling Championships (at WesBanco Arena, Wheeling)
TEAM SCORES: 1. Wheeling Park 47; 2. University 45.5; 3. (tie) Parkersburg South, Steubenville 36; 5. (tie) John Marshall, Indian Creek, Martins Ferry, St. Clairsville; 9. Oak Glen 23; 10. Barnesville 22; 11. Beaver Local 21; 12. (tie) Cameron, Dover, Warren Local; 15. Shenandoah; 16. Southern Local 15; 17. (tie) Caldwell, Harrison Central, Wellsville 12; 20. Morgantown 11.5; 21. (tie) Bridgeport, Brooke 9; 23. River 7; 24. (tie) Buckeye Local, Union Local 6; 26. Shadyside 5; 27. (tie) Cambridge, East Liverpool, Fort Frye, Marietta, Paden City, Edison; Toronto 4; 34. (tie) Beallsville, Bellaire, Madonna, Monroe Central, Steubenville Catholic, Linsly, Weir, Hundred 0

Scores by Classes
Class 5A
1. Wheeling Park 47; 2. University 45.5; 3. (tie) Parkersburg South, Steubenville 36; 5. John Marshall 28; 6. (tie) Dover, Warren Local 20; 8. Morgantown 11.5; 9. Brooke 8; 10. Marietta 4

Class 4A
1. (tie) Indian Creek, St. Clairsville 28; 3. Oak Glen 23; 4. Beaver Local 21; 5. Harrison Central 12; 6. Union Local 6; 7. (tie) Cambridge, East Liverpool, Edison 4; 10. Weir 0

Class 3A
1. Martins Ferry 28; 2. Barnesville 22; 3. Shenandoah 16; 4. River 7; 5. Buckeye Local 6; 6. Fort Frye 4; 7. (tie) Bellaire, Linsly 0

Class 1A/2A
1. Cameron 20; 2. Southern Local 15; 3. (tie) Caldwell, Wellsville 12; 5. Bridgeport 8; 6. Shadyside 5; 7. (tie) Paden City, Toronto 4; 9. (tie) Beallsville, Hundred, Madonna, Monroe Central, Steubenville Catholic 0

Ohio Basketball

BOYS
Ashtabula St. John 58, N. Bloomfield 43
Bryan 50, Archbold 19
Chesterland W. Geauga 68, Cle. St. Martin De Porres 39
Cin. Hughes 78, Cin. Purcell Marian 72
Cin. Riverview East 66, Cin. SCPA 23
Cin. Seven Hills 51, Miami Valley Christian Academy 37
Collins Western Reserve 50, Ashland Mapleton 49
Columbus 74, Cols. Whetstone 49
Columbus 52, Pataskala Licking Hts. 50

Fairfield Christian 60, Philo 54
Greenwich S. Cent. 63, New London 24
Middlefield Cardinal 56, Mantua Crestwood 42
Monroeville 60, Norwalk St. Paul 47
N. Ridgeville Lake Ridge 58, Elyria First Baptist Christian 28
Napoleon 33, Sylvania Southview 20
Northside Christian 66, Granville Christian 56
Orange 37, Beachwood 32
Sugar Grove Berne Union 46, Lancaster Fisher Cath. 44
Tree of Life 62, Delaware Christian 40

GIRLS
Akr. Buchtel 64, Akr. East 39
Akr. Ellet 71, Akr. North 4
Akr. Springfield 43, Akr. Coventry 39
Albany Alexander 60, Bidwell River Valley 26
Anderson Pymatuning Valley 60, Southington Chalker 21
Antwerp 40, Haviland Wayne Trace 22
Apple Creek Waynedale 56, Dalton 25
Arcanum 69, W. Alexandria Twin Valley S. 23
Attica Seneca E. 55, Milan Edison 28
Atwater Waterloo 45, Lowellville 29
Barberton 35, Medina Buckeye 34
Bascom Hopewell-Loudon 54, Sandusky St. Mary 22
Bellville Clear Fork 58, Caledonia River Valley 53
Belmont Union Local 68, St. Clairsville 38
Berlin Central Western Reserve 59, Sebring McKinley 24
Bishop Watterson 48, Bishop Hartley 37
Blanchester 33, Felicity-Franklin 31
Blanchester 59, Campbell Memorial 26
Bryan 50, Archbold 19
Cadiz Harrison Cent. 63, Indian Creek 37
Caldwell 54, Sarahsville Shenandoah 51
Castown Miami E. 49, Sidney Lehman 11
Centerville 67, Springfield 38
Chillicothe Unionio 52, Pikeston 38
Cin. Co. Day 58, Cin. Mercy-McAuley 39
Cin. Riverview East 34, Cin. SCPA 23
Cle. St. Martin De Porres 59, Elyria Open Door 16
Columbus 68, Cols. Whetstone 15
Columbiana 36, Wellsville 23
Columbus Grove 53, Lincolnview 37
Convoy Crestview 64, Harrod Allen E. 37
Cory-Rawson 28, McComb 26
Covington 46, Tipp City Bethel 25
Crest. Norway 49, W. Salem Nwstern 24
Day, Oakwood 44, Monroe 36
Defiance 45, Kenton 41
Defiance Tinora 55, Defiance Aversville 51
Delphos Jefferson 57, Ada 27
Delphos St. John's 43, Rock. Parkway 41
Doyelstown Chippewa 76, Hillsdale 34
Elda 46, Celina 27
Elmore Woodmore 44, Eastwood 40
Fairport Harbor Harding 52, Windham 27
Findlay 48, Tol. Whitmer 47
Garrettsville Garfield 58, LaBrea 41
Genoa Area 62, Tontogany Otsego 12
Gran. Christian 55, Northside Christian 48
Hanoverton United 57, Southern 32
Huron 49, Clyde 39
Ironton 26, Chesapeake 16
Ironton St. Joseph 57, Portsmouth Clay 16
Kent Roosevelt 54, Twinsburg 22
Kinsman Badger 44, Vienna Matthews 40
Lees Creek E. Clinton 54, Clermont NE 43
Leesburg Fairfield 62, N. Adams 54
Leontonia 49, Palestine 39
Leipsic 41, Bluffton 39
Lexington 38, Mansfield Madison 26
Lima Perry 47, McGuffey Upper Scioto Valley 37
Lima Shawnee 64, Wapakoneta 50
Lis. David Anderson 48, Valley Christian 33
Lodi Cloverleaf 57, Mogadore Field 51
Madison 62, Cle. VASJ 15
Marion Local 47, Ft. Recovery 28
Marion Elgin 41, Dola Hardin Northern 30
Marion Harding 62, Galion 40
Martins Ferry 64, Barnesville 34
Metamora Evergreen 71, Delta 58
Montpelier 35, Holgate 31
Morrill Ridgedale 42, Calvary Christian 19
Mt. Notre Dame 44, Ursuline Academy 38
Mt. Orab W. Brown 58, Williamsburg 37
N. Baltimore 35, Arlington 26
N. Jackson J-Milton 46, Mineral Ridge 39
N. Ridgeville 47, Parma Padua 32
Napoleon 33, Sylvania Southview 20
Nelsonville-York 57, Athens 39
New Bremen 52, Coldwater 47
New Knoxville 36, Minster 23
New Lebanon Dixie 41, National Trail 38
New Mad. Tri-Village 68, Frank-Mon. 21
New Middletown Spring, 70, McDonald 58
New Richmond 49, Batavia 41
Newton Local 45, Tru County N. 35
Norton 53, Peninsula Woodridge 24
Oak Glen, W.Va. 74, Steubenville 38
Oak Hill 69, Beaver Eastern 33
Old Fort 49, New Riegel 38
Oregon Stritch 51, Emmanuel Baptist 48
Oregon Stritch 51, Emmanuel Baptist 48

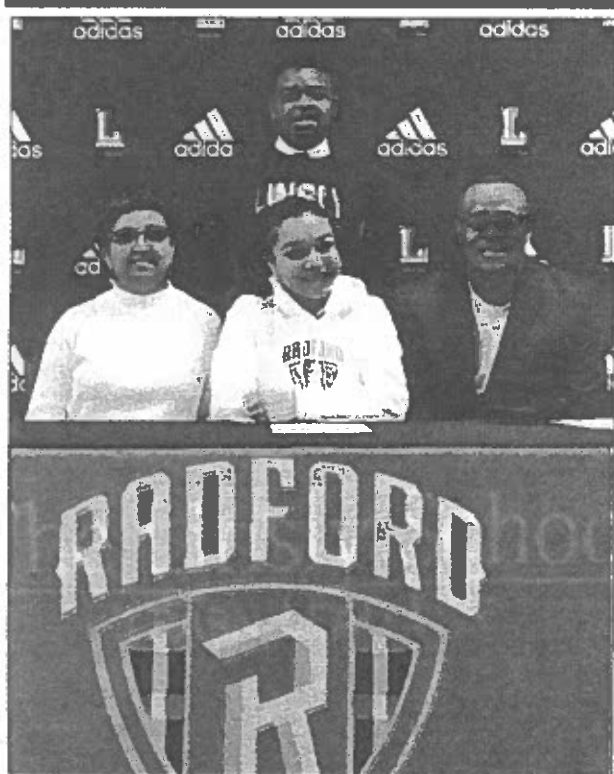


Photo by Cody Nespor

Linsly's Rachel Ekanem, center, signed to play tennis at Radford University Thursday. She was accompanied by her mother Andrea, left, father Ibanga, right, and younger brother Levi, back.

Linsly Duo Inks College Plans

Ekanem heading to Radford for tennis, Hicks to run at WLU

By CODY NESPOR
Sports Writer

WHEELING — A pair of Linsly student-athletes set their plans for the future in motion Thursday afternoon, signing letters of intent to continue their academic and athletic careers at the college level.

Rachel Ekanem signed with Division I Radford University to play tennis while Ally Hicks will join the cross country and track teams at nearby West Liberty University.

"I feel blessed and grateful," Ekanem said after signing. "I'm thankful for all the people who have support-

ed me throughout the years, especially my dad, mom and coaches."

Ekanem is believed to be the first female tennis player from Linsly to sign a scholarship with a Division I school.

"It's a great opportunity and I can't thank everyone enough," she said. "It's a surreal experience for that to happen."

Ekanem has enjoyed a stellar career with the Cadets with her senior season upcoming. She has played No. 1 singles and No. 1 doubles since her freshman year in 2019.

Please see LINSLY,
Page 12

OVAC Wrestling Championships Begin

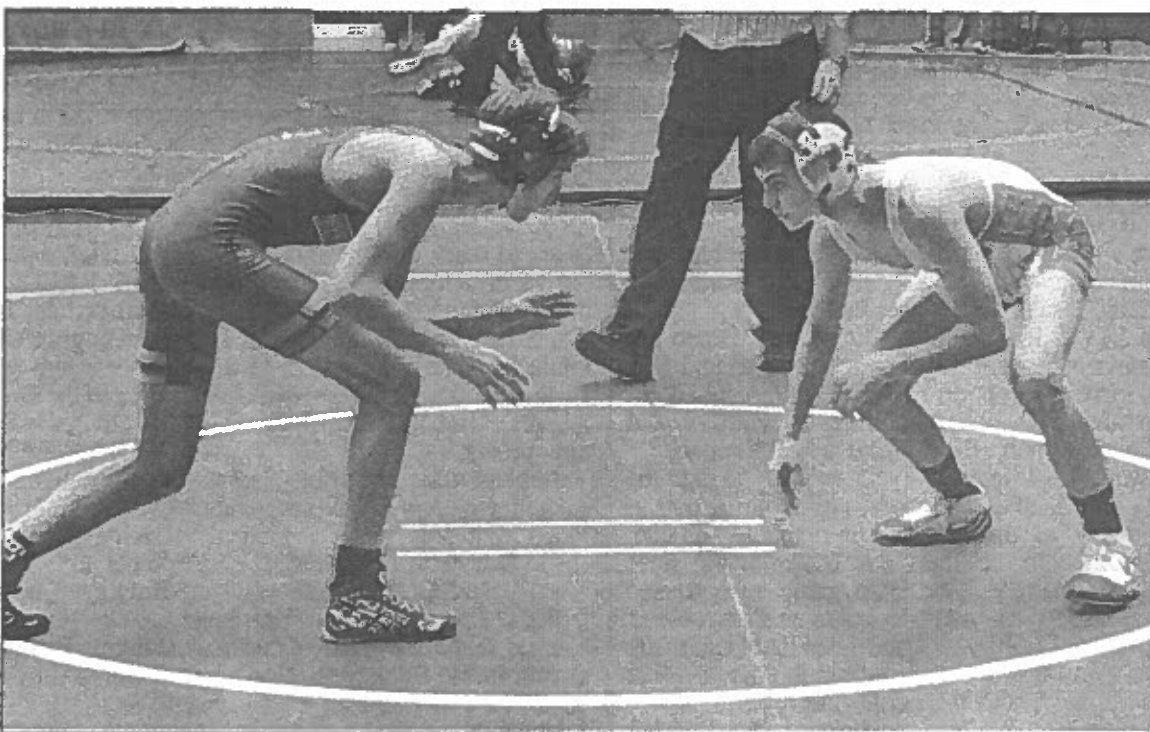


Photo by Kim North

Wheeling Park's Adam Carman, right, and Brooke's Sam Mockbee look to do battle at 113 pounds. Carman, the top seed, won by pin.

Wheeling Park leads team standings by 1.5 points

By KIM NORTH
For The Intelligencer

WHEELING — The opening night of the 68th annual Ohio Valley Athletic Conference Ron Mauck Wrestling Championships provided a little bit of everything inside WesBanco Arena, including a lightning-quick pin that nearly tied a national record; a top-seeded wrestler not competing; and all but seven of the 168 seeds having their hands raised. However, one thing remained the same as familiar schools rose to the top of the team scores.

Getting a late start because of nearly 70 scratches that shook a few brackets up, the first session lasted a little over 75 minutes as wrestlers recorded 126 pins — half coming in less than a minute — a dozen decisions and six technical falls in the 144 bouts

contested.

Eight of fast falls came in less than 10 seconds, but none quicker than the 4-second flattening recorded by Wheeling Park junior Erick Brothers Jr., a two-time West Virginia state champion. The top seed at 220 pounds got an ankle pick and slap of the mat against Shadyside's Nick Norris. That came with a tick of tying the national record set by Vorhees High School's Lewis Fernandez in 2019. It tied Jacob Munger of Alma, Mich.

The pin was one of seven recorded by the Patriots, combined with a technical fall, who led the team race by 1.5 points over University High, 47-45.5.

The tightly-contested team race has defending champion Parkersburg South and Steubenville tied for third at 36, with Indian Creek, John Marshall, Mar-

tins Ferry and St. Clairsville all checking in with 28.

The biggest shakeup of the tournament came when top-seeded Reese Stephen of Barnesville didn't weight in at 120 and was scratched from the bracket, which had to be re-drawn.

"It's a weight issue. We knew he was going to have trouble coming into the season and it finally caught up with us," Barnesville head coach and Reese's father Jayson Stephen explained. "We went through it last year when he wrestled at 106. His (growth) clock has hit him and he is still growing."

"He can't live on a bottle of water and an egg every day," Coach Stephen said. "It stinks no matter who it is, but it hits a little closer to home with it being him."

Please see OVAC, Page 13

Veteran Joe Haden Eyes Last Stand in Pittsburgh

By WILL GRAVES
AP Sports Writer

PITTSBURGH (AP) — Joe Haden felt terrible in the middle of last week as symptoms of COVID-19 took their toll.

A day later, the veteran Pittsburgh Steelers defensive back left better. Physically, anyway. Mentally, Haden feared his second time in the league's protocols would end the same way the first did: with Haden watching on TV as Pittsburgh's season came to a swift end.

A year ago, Haden was a well-compensated bystander as the Steelers were run off Heinz Field by Cleveland in the first round of the playoffs. He couldn't shake a familiar feeling as Pittsburgh prepared to face Baltimore last weekend with a

shot at the postseason on the line.

"I was pissed," Haden said with a laugh Thursday. "I was so upset. The only thing I wanted to know was, 'Is there any way I can get back playing?'"

Haden did exit the protocols in time to make four tackles in a 16-13 overtime victory over the Ravens that helped push the Steelers (9-7-1) into an improbable trip to Kansas City (12-5) on Sunday to face Patrick Mahomes and the Chiefs. While Haden played less than half of Pittsburgh's defensive snaps, his presence helped a unit that's been uneven at best find a way to limit the Ravens to just one touchdown.

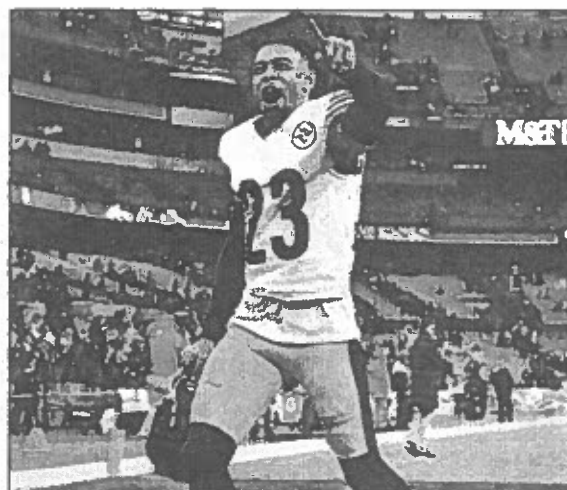
His reward? At least one more week in black and gold and just the second playoff game of his 12-year

career. That's not a great ratio, and Haden knows it. It's why he's telling his teammates — particularly players like first-year defensive back Tre Norwood — not to take the opportunity for granted. Haden spent the first seven seasons of his career playing for bad Cleveland teams. He knows how rare the opportunities to play deep into January are — and how easily they can be taken away.

So he is attempting to savor every moment, as fleeting as it may be for a player in the final year of his contract who will likely be elsewhere next fall.

"Once you get in, everybody is on an equal playing field," Haden said.

Please see HADEN, Page 12



AP Photo

Pittsburgh Steelers cornerback Joe Haden (23) walks off the field after his team's overtime victory against the Baltimore Ravens last Sunday.

Union Local Uses Defense to Best



Reigning Australian Open Champ Naomi Osaka Back in Action

LOCAL CARD

Friday, January 14
Boys Basketball
Barnesville at Shenandoah
Bellaire at Buckeye Local
Monroe Central at Bridgeport
John Marshall at Brooke
Cameron at Tygarts Valley
Beaver Local at Harrison Central
Jefferson County Christian at Hundred
Magnolia at River
Cambridge at Martins Ferry
Union Local at St. Clairsville
Parkersburg Catholic at Tyler Consolidated
Valley at Tyler Consolidated
Wheeling Central at Clarksburg Notre Dame
Girls Basketball
Brooke at Washington
Fort Frye at Linsly
ECHL
Wheeling at Orlando

WRESTLING

68th Annual OVAC Ron Mauck Wrestling Championships (at WesBanco Arena)
TEAM SCORES: 1. Wheeling Park 47; 2. University 45.5; 3. (tie) Parkersburg South, Steubenville 36; 5. (tie) John Marshall, Indian Creek, Martins Ferry, St. Clairsville; 9. Oak Glen 23; 10. Barnesville 22; 11. Beaver Local 21; 12. (tie), Cameron, Dover, Warren Local; 15. Shenandoah; 16. Southern Local 15; 17. (tie) Caldwell, Harrison Central, Wellsville 12; 20. Morgantown 11.5; 21. (tie) Bridgeport, Brooke 9; 23. River 7; 24. (tie) Buckeye Local, Union Local 6; 26. Shadyside 5; 27. (tie) Cambridge, East Liverpool, Fort Frye, Marietta, Paden City, Edison; Toronto 4; 34. (tie) Beallsville, Bellaire, Madonna, Monroe Central, Steubenville Catholic, Linsly, Weir, Hundred 0

PREP HOOPS

GIRLS BASKETBALL
Tyler Consolidated 44, Valley 20
VALLEY — W. Higgins 2 1-3 5; Soles 1 1-2 3; Barnette 0 0-2 0; Bassett 0 0-1 0; Rush 0 1-2 1; C. Higgins 0 3-4 3; Quinn 0 2-2 2; Bates 1 0-1 2; Thomas 0 2-4 2; Booher 0 2-2 2.
TYLER — Lattea 4 5-11 13; Lemasters 4 3-5 11; Wall 3 1-2 8; Buchanan 1 0-0 2; Laudin 1 0-0 2; Phillips 1 0-0 2; L. Templeton 1 0-2 2; Westbrook 0 0-3 0; Livingston 0 0-1 0.
3 Pt. Goals — Tyler Consolidated 1 (Wall).
Valley 4 5 2 9 — 20
TC 11 12 15 6 — 44
Oak Glen 74, Steubenville 38
Steubenville (1-10): Jones 0 0-0 0; Warner 4 0-0 9; Cucarese 2 0-2 5; Fleming 2 1-1 5; Ostovich 0 0-0 0; Matteson 4 0-0 9; Scurry 0 0-0 0; Smith 0 0-0 0; Cooper 0 0-0 0; Perdue 2 0-0 4; Criss 2 0-0 5; Matyas 0 1-2 1. TOTALS: 16, 2-5; 38.
OAK GLEN (7-3): Sy. Brown 1 0-0 2; Kell 6 2-2 14; Greenlief 4 1-2 9; Ward 5 1-1 11; McKay 2 2-5 6; Barr 6 4-8 16; Six 3 0-0 6; Sa. Brown 5 0-0 10. TOTALS: 32, 10-18; 74.
3-POINT GOALS: Big Red 4 (Warner, Cucarese, Matteson, Criss); Oak Glen none.
Steubenville 12-8-12-6 — 38
Oak Glen 27-17-19-11 — 74
Harrison Central 63, Indian Creek 37
HARRISON CENTRAL (8-6): Hercules 0 0-0 0, Rensi 0 0-0 0, Dunkle 13 3-9 29, Fischer 1 0-0 2, Banal 0 0-0 0, Butler 12 0-1 2, Ferri 2 0-0 5, Lewis 0 0-0 0, Harbold 0 0-0 0, Sedger 0 0-0 0, Ledger 0 0-0 0. TOTALS: 28 3-10 63.
INDIAN CREEK (6-6): Crites 0 0-0 0, Scott 0 2-2 Ratkovec 1 0-0 2, Starkey 0 3-4 3, Ballato 1 5-6 7, Smith 1 0-0 2, Ketron 0 1-2 1, Anderson 4 2-2 10, Robertson 3 0-0 6, Allen 2 0-0 4. TOTALS: 10 13-16 37.
3-POINTERS: Harrison Central 4 (Butler 3, Ferri); Indian Creek none.
Union Local 68, St. Clairsville 38
UNION LOCAL (68) — Vinskovich 9, 0-1 18; Kildow 7, 7-8 24; Merritt 3, 0-0 8; Gregor 3, 0-0 6; Kellaway 1, 0-0 3; Miller 4, 0-0 9; Cheatham 0, 0-0 0; Pietranton 0, 0-0 0; King 0, 0-0 0; Scott 0, 0-0 0; 27, 7-9 68. ST. CLAIRSVILLE (38) — Thoburn 4, 1-3 10; Brookover 2, 0 0 5; Malin 3, 0-2 7; Miller 2, 0-0 6; Tuttle 1, 0-0 2; Sadler 1, 2-2 4; Moran 1, 0-0 2; Gray 0, 0-0 0; Florence 1, 0-0 2; Totals: 15, 3-7 38.
2-point goals: UL — Kildow (3), Merritt (2), Kellaway, Miller, St. C. — Miller (2), Brookover, Malin, Thoburn.
Maritins Ferry 64, Barnesville 34
MARTINS FERRY (64) — Clark 5, 0-2 13; Sidon 4, 0-0 9; Best 2, 5-6 9; Jones 2, 2-2 6; E. McFarland 3, 0-0 7; Agnew 1, 0-0 2; Marchbank 3, 0-0 7; L. McFarland 1, 0-0 2; Pollock 1, 0-0 2; Hughes 2, 0-0 4; Guthrie 1, 0-0 2; Shreve 0, 0-0 0; Totals: 25, 7-10 64.
BARNESVILLE (34) — Thompson 3, 3-4 11; Schaffer 2, 0-2 4; Lucas 1, 1-2 3; Tyson 0, 0-0 0; Welch 2, 0-0 5; Carter 2, 0-0 6; Fritter 1, 0-0 2; Powell 0, 0-0 0; Johnson 0, 0-0 0; Yater 1, 1-2 3; Phillips 0, 0-0 0; Totals: 12, 5-10 34.
3-point goals: MF — Clark (3), Sidon, E. McFarland, Marchbank, B — Thompson (2), Welch, Carter (2).
Bellaire 42, Cambridge 39
CAMBRIDGE (39) — Gabhardt 1, 1-4 3; Murrey 2, 0-0 5; Krise 1, 0-2 2; Gibson 2, 0-0 4; King 6, 1-1 15; Murphy 5, 0-0 10; Kenworthy 0, 0-0 0; Lamphar 0, 0-0 0; Totals: 17, 2-7 39.
BELLAIRE (42) — Ault 3, 0-0 7; Porter 0, 1-2 1; Harveth 4, 1-3 10; Hamilton 0, 0-0 0; McAninch 1, 2-2 5; Rowson 1, 0-0 2; O'Grady 4, 4-6 12; Bonar 1, 2-4 5; Craig 0, 0-0 0; Totals: 14, 10-17 42.
3-point goals: C — King (2), Murrey, B — Ault, Harveth, McAninch, Bonar.
Frontier 55, Bridgeport 5
BRIDGEPORT (5) — McCormick 0, 0-0 0; Clemens 1, 0-0 3; Bain 1, 0-2 2; Stewart 0, 0-2 0; Dyson 0, 0-0 0; Aubrey 0, 0-0 0; Conaway 0, 0-0 0; Lewis 0, 0-0 0; Totals: 2, 0-4 5.
FRONTIER (55) — Remsey 3, 0-0 6; Shepley 4, 2-3 11; Knowlton 6, 0-1 16; Schmidt 2, 0-0 4; Cislser 5, 0-0 10; Allen 0, 0-0 0; Haught 4, 0-0 8; Totals: 24, 2-4 55.
3-point goals: B — Clemens, F — Shepley, Knowlton (4).
Buckeye Local 50, Shadyside 38
SHADYSIDE (38) — Stewart 0, 0-0 0; T. Fulton 1, 0-0 2; R. Fulton 1, 1-2 3; Sims 0, 0-0 0; Brown 1, 1-5 2; Hendershot 1, 0-0 2; Gorby 8, 10-23 26; Totals: 13, 12-31 38.
BUCKEYE LOCAL (50) — McKeever 5, 8-13 18; George 1, 0-1 2; Blaz-

Rask Wins in Return As Bruins Top Flyers

BOSTON (AP) — David Pastrnak scored a hat trick, Tuukka Rask made 24 saves in his return from hip surgery and the Boston Bruins beat the Philadelphia Flyers 3-2 on Thursday night.

Rask, the winningest goalie in franchise history, made his season debut after recovering from surgery last summer to repair a torn labrum. Rask was solid in net and got plenty of help from his teammates, who held Philadelphia to 27 shots as the Bruins won their fourth straight and seventh in eight games.

Cam Atkinson and Joel Farabee scored for Philadelphia, which lost its sixth in a row. Carter Hart finished with 33 saves, keeping the Flyers close despite a listless start.

Pastrnak completed his 11th career hat trick with a power-play goal late in the second period after Philadelphia had scored twice to tie it.

LIGHTNING 4, CANUCKS 2
TAMPA, Fla. (AP) — Steven Stamkos scored his team-leading 18th goal, Andrei Vasilevskiy made 24 saves and Tampa Bay defeated Vancouver.

Anthony Cirelli, Boris Katchouk and Brayden Point also scored for the Lightning. Katchouk made it 3-1 at 11:24 of the third period during a 2-on-0, and Vasilevskiy stopped Elias Pettersson's breakaway after the ensuing faceoff.

Matthew Highmore and Tyler Motte each had a goal and an assist, and Thatcher Demko stopped 17 shots for the Canucks, who are 8-2-1 since Bruce Boudreau replaced Travis Green as coach last month.

BLUE JACKETS 6, HURRICANES 0
RALEIGH, N.C. (AP) — Yegor Chinakhov scored two goals and Elvis Merzlikins posted a 31-save shutout as Columbus blanked Carolina.

Emil Bemstrom, Patrik Laine, Cole

Sillinger and Jack Roslovic also scored for the Blue Jackets, who squandered a 4-0 lead against Carolina earlier this month. Ex-Hurricane Jake Bean and Eric Robinson each had two assists.

The Hurricanes were shut out for the first time this season.

Carolina goalie Frederik Andersen gave up four goals on 32 shots before being pulled after Laine and Chinakhov scored 32 seconds apart early in the third period.

ISLANDERS 3, DEVILS 2
NEW YORK (AP) — Mathew Barzal scored with less than five minutes left to push New York past New Jersey.

Josh Bailey and Adam Pelech also scored, and Zach Parise added two assists for the Islanders. New York extended its point streak to five games (4-0-1). Ilya Sorokin made 30 saves in his ninth win of the season.

Yegor Sharangovich and Nathan Bastian scored as the Devils lost for the third time in four games. Jon Gillies made 22 saves in his first start since Dec. 19.

Lane Lambert led the Islanders behind the bench with coach Barry Trotz in COVID-19 protocol.

JETS 3, RED WINGS 0
DETROIT (AP) — Connor Hellebuyck made 33 saves for his second shutout of the season and Andrew Copp scored twice in Winnipeg's victory over Detroit.

Kyle Connor added an empty-net goal to cap Winnipeg's first game since a 7-1 loss in Colorado a week ago and just its fourth since Dec. 19. The Jets, who dressed six players on emergency recall, had seven postponements during that stretch.

Alex Nedeljkovic stopped 29 shots for the Red Wings, shut out for the fifth time this season.

Bucks Blow Out Warriors

MILWAUKEE (AP) — Giannis Antetokounmpo scored 30 points and had his third triple-double of the season to help Milwaukee rout the Golden State Warriors 118-99 on Thursday night in Bucks coach Mike Budenholzer's return from the NBA's COVID-19 protocols.

Antetokounmpo had 12 rebounds and 11 assists for his 28th career triple-double.

Budenholzer missed four games while in the health and safety protocols, with assistant Darvin Ham taking over as acting head coach. The Bucks went 1-3.

Khrist Middleton added 23 points, Bobby Portis 20 and Grayson Allen 15.

Milwaukee never trailed and raced to a 77-38 halftime advantage. Antetokounmpo had 23 points, seven rebounds and seven assists in the first half.

The Bucks were just two points shy of their largest halftime lead in franchise history, a record they set this season. Milwaukee led 77-36 at the half in a 123-92 victory over Orlando on Nov.

OVAC

(Continued from Page 11)

The coach said his other 'top dogs' are now going to have to go for bonus points with technical falls or pins.

"We need those bonus points if we're going to have a chance at anything."

Reese Stephen, a sophomore returning state placer, thus becomes the second No. 1 seed in tournament history to not make weight and be able to compete. The same thing happened to former Buckeye Local state champion and current Toronto head coach Willie Saxton back in 2005.

"I feel for the kid. I was miserable," Saxton said. "This doesn't define his legacy. This is just a tournament ... March is when it counts."

The seeding committee should pat themselves on the back for the job they did this season. Of the 12 seeded wrestlers in each weight, only seven failed

22. Andrew Wiggins led the Warriors with 16 points.

GRIZZLIES 116, TIMBERWOLVES 108

MEMPHIS, Tenn. (AP) — Desmond Bane scored 21 points. Jaren Jackson Jr. added 20 and Memphis pulled away from Minnesota in the final minutes for its 11th straight victory.

THUNDER 130, NETS 109
NEW YORK (AP) — Shai Gilgeous-Alexander had 33 points, 10 rebounds and nine assists, Lu Dort scored 27 points and Oklahoma City beat Brooklyn.

PELICANS 113, CLIPPERS 89
NEW ORLEANS (AP) — Brandon Ingram scored 24 points to help New Orleans beat Los Angeles.

Jonas Valanciunas added 18 points and 16 rebounds for the Pelicans. They led throughout and by as many as 28 points en route to their third victory in four games.

Terance Mann scored 15 points, and Marcus Morris had 12 for the Clippers.

NFL PLAYOFFS

Wild-card Playoffs
Saturday, Jan. 15
Las Vegas at Cincinnati, 4:30 p.m. (NBC)
New England at Buffalo, 8:15 p.m. (CBS)
Sunday, Jan. 16
Philadelphia at Tampa Bay, 1:00 p.m. (FOX)
San Francisco at Dallas, 4:30 p.m. (CBS)
Pittsburgh at Kansas City, 8:15 p.m. (NBC)
Monday, Jan. 17
Arizona at L.A. Rams, 8:15 p.m. (ESPN/ABC)
Divisional Playoffs
Saturday, Jan. 22 and Sunday, Jan. 23
NFC lowest remaining seed at Green Bay, TBD
AFC lowest remaining seed at Tennessee, TBD
TBD, TBD
Conference Championships
Sunday, Jan. 30
AFC
lowest remaining seed at highest remaining seed, 3:05 p.m. (CBS)
NFC
lowest remaining seed at highest remaining seed, 6:40 p.m. (FOX)
Super Bowl
Sunday, Feb. 13
At Inglewood, Calif.
conference championship winners, 6:30 p.m. (NBC)

Scores by Class

Class 5A
1. Wheeling Park 47; 2. University 45.5; 3. (tie) Parkersburg South, Steubenville 36; 5. John Marshall 28; 6. (tie) Dover, Warren Local 20; 8. Morgantown 11.5; 9. Brooke 8; 10. Marietta 4
Class 4A
1. (tie) Indian Creek, St. Clairsville 28; 3. Oak Glen 23; 4. Beaver Local 21; 5. Harrison Central 12; 6. Union Local 6; 7. (tie) Cambridge, East Liverpool, Edison 4; 10. Weir 0
Class 3A
1. Martins Ferry 28; 2. Barnesville 22; 3. Shenandoah 16; 4. River 7; 5. Buckeye Local 6; 6. Fort Frye 4; 7. (tie) Bellaire, Linsly 0
Class 1A/2A
1. Cameron 20; 2. Southern Local 15; 3. (tie) Caldwell, Wellsville 12; 5. Bridgeport 8; 6. Shadyside 5; 7. (tie) Paden City, Toronto 4; 9. (tie) Beallsville, Hundred, Madonna, Monroe Central, Steubenville Catholic 0

NHL

Table with columns for Eastern Conference (Atlantic, Metropolitan, Western) and Western Conference (Central, Pacific) divisions, listing teams, games played, wins, losses, overtime losses, points, goals for, and goals against.

Thursday's Games

Columbus 6, Carolina 0
Tampa Bay 4, Vancouver 2
Boston 3, Philadelphia 2
Winnipeg 3, Detroit 0
N.Y. Islanders 3, New Jersey 2
St. Louis 2, Seattle 1
Buffalo 4, Nashville 1
Montreal at Chicago, 8:30 p.m.
Ottawa at Calgary, 9 p.m.
N.Y. Rangers at San Jose, 10:30 p.m.
Pittsburgh at Los Angeles, 11:00 p.m.
Friday's Games
Dallas at Florida, 7 p.m.
Anaheim at Minnesota, 8 p.m.
Arizona at Colorado, 9 p.m.
Vegas at Edmonton, p.p.d.
Saturday's Games
Nashville at Boston, 1 p.m.
New Jersey at Montreal, p.p.d.
Vancouver at Carolina, 1 p.m.
Washington at N.Y. Islanders, 2 p.m.
Columbus at Florida, 6 p.m.
Buffalo at Detroit, 7 p.m.
Dallas at Tampa Bay, 7 p.m.
N.Y. Rangers at Philadelphia, 7 p.m.

NBA

SPORTS ON TV

Friday, January 14
COLLEGE BASKETBALL (MEN'S)
6 p.m.
CBSSN — Buffalo at Ball St.
6:30 p.m.
FS1 — Nebraska at Purdue
7 p.m.
ESPNU — Manhattan at Iona
7:30 p.m.
ESPN2 — VCU at St. Bonaventure
8 p.m.
CBSSN — Akron at Kent St.
9 p.m.
ESPNU — Davidson at Richmond
FS1 — Michigan at Illinois
11 p.m.
FS1 — Fresno St. at UNLV
COLLEGE BASKETBALL (WOMEN'S)
6:30 p.m.
FS2 — Villanova at DePaul
9 p.m.
PAC-12N — Stanford at Colorado
NBA BASKETBALL
7:45 p.m.
ESPN — Golden State at Chicago
10:05 p.m.
ESPN — Dallas at Memphis
NHL HOCKEY
7 p.m.
NHLN — Dallas at Florida

ECHL

Table with columns for Eastern Conference (North, South) and Western Conference (Central) divisions, listing teams, games played, wins, losses, overtime losses, points, goals for, and goals against.

Divisional Playoffs
Saturday, Jan. 22 and
Sunday, Jan. 23
 NFC lowest remaining seed at
 Green Bay, TBD
 AFC lowest remaining seed at
 Tennessee, TBD
 TBD, TBD
 TBD, TBD
Conference Championships
Sunday, Jan. 30
AFC
 lowest remaining seed at
 highest remaining seed, 3:05
 p.m. (CBS)

NFC
 lowest remaining seed at
 highest remaining seed, 6:40
 p.m. (FOX)

Super Bowl
Sunday, Feb. 13
At Inglewood, Calif.
 conference championship
 winners, 6:30 p.m. (NBC)

SPORTS ON TV

Friday, January 14
COLLEGE BASKETBALL
(MEN'S)
6 p.m.
 CBSSN — Buffalo at Ball St.
6:30 p.m.
 FS1 — Nebraska at Purdue
7 p.m.
 ESPN — Manhattan at Iona
7:30 p.m.
 ESPN2 — VCU at St.
 Bonaventure
8 p.m.
 CBSSN — Akron at Kent St.
9 p.m.
 ESPN — Davidson at Rich-
 mond
FS1 — Michigan at Illinois
11 p.m.
FS1 — Fresno St. at UNLV
COLLEGE BASKETBALL
(WOMEN'S)
6:30 p.m.
 FS2 — Villanova at DePaul
9 p.m.
 PAC-12N — Stanford at
 Colorado
NBA BASKETBALL
7:45 p.m.
 ESPN — Golden State at
 Chicago
10:05 p.m.
 ESPN — Dallas at Memphis
NHL HOCKEY
7 p.m.
 NHLN — Dallas at Florida

ECHL

EASTERN CONFERENCE										
North Division										
GP	W	L	OL	SOL	Pts	GF	GA			
Newfoundland	22	15	5	2	0	32	81	57		
Reading	25	13	7	4	1	31	77	77		
Maine	30	13	13	3	1	30	97	107		
Trois-Rivieres	24	14	9	0	1	29	90	78		
Adirondack	27	13	12	2	0	28	80	88		
Worcester	26	10	14	1	1	22	80	97		
South Division										
GP	W	L	OL	SOL	Pts	GF	GA			
Jacksonville	31	20	9	1	1	42	97	73		
Florida	32	18	8	3	3	42	113	60		
Orlando	30	17	12	1	0	35	89	55		
Atlanta	33	16	14	2	1	35	86	93		
Norfolk	30	12	16	1	1	26	76	79		
Greenville	29	9	14	3	3	24	77	94		
South Carolina	31	10	18	3	0	23	79	103		
WESTERN CONFERENCE										
Central Division										
GP	W	L	OL	SOL	Pts	GF	GA			
Toledo	29	20	7	0	2	42	111	75		
Cincinnati	32	20	11	1	0	41	117	77		
Fort Wayne	31	17	10	4	0	38	100	89		
Kalamazoo	29	17	12	0	0	34	107	100		
Wheeling	29	15	13	1	0	31	105	100		
Indy	30	12	14	2	1	27	135	105		
Iowa	32	11	17	3	1	26	87	121		
Mountain Division										
GP	W	L	OL	SOL	Pts	GF	GA			
Utah	33	20	11	1	1	42	114	97		
Idaho	31	18	12	0	1	37	92	70		
Tulsa	30	16	13	0	1	33	93	91		
Rapid City	33	14	14	3	2	33	99	108		
Kansas City	32	15	16	1	0	31	96	103		
Allen	27	13	11	3	0	29	91	106		
Wichita	32	12	16	4	0	28	90	103		
Friday's Games										
Maine at Newfoundland, 5:30 p.m.										
Adirondack at Trois-Rivieres, 7 p.m.										
Toledo at Kalamazoo, 7 p.m.										
Wheeling at Orlando, 7 p.m.										
Florida at Greenville, 7:05 p.m.										
Norfolk at South Carolina, 7:05 p.m.										
Reading at Worcester, 7:05 p.m.										
Jacksonville at Atlanta, 7:30 p.m.										
Indy at Fort Wayne, 8 p.m.										
Kansas City at Iowa, 8 p.m.										
Allen at Tulsa, 8:05 p.m.										
Rapid City at Wichita, 8:05 p.m.										
Idaho at Utah, 9:10 p.m.										
Saturday's Games										
Adirondack at Trois-Rivieres, 4 p.m.										
Maine at Newfoundland, 5:30 p.m.										
Norfolk at South Carolina, 6:05 p.m.										
Cincinnati at Kalamazoo, 7 p.m.										
Iowa at Indy, 7 p.m.										

1. Martins Ferry 28; 2. Barnesville 22; 3. Shenandoah 16; 4. River 7; 5. Buckeye Local 6; 6. Fort Frye 4; 7. (tie) Bellaire, Linsly 0

Class 1A/2A
 1. Cameron 20; 2. Southern Local 15; 3. (tie) Caldwell, Wellsville 12; 5. Bridgeport 8; 6. Shadyside 5; 7. (tie) Paden City, Toronto 4; 9. (tie) Beallsville, Hundred, Madonna, Monroe Central, Steubenville Catholic 0

NHL

EASTERN CONFERENCE										
Atlantic Division										
GP	W	L	OT	Pts	GF	GA				
Tampa Bay	39	25	9	5	55	132	112			
Florida	36	24	7	5	53	142	108			
Toronto	35	23	9	3	49	117	88			
Boston	34	21	11	2	44	107	87			
Detroit	38	16	17	5	37	101	128			
Buffalo	36	11	19	6	28	96	126			
Ottawa	29	9	18	2	20	79	107			
Montreal	35	7	24	4	18	74	128			
Metropolitan Division										
GP	W	L	OT	Pts	GF	GA				
Carolina	34	24	8	2	50	115	79			
N.Y. Rangers	37	23	10	4	50	107	94			
Washington	37	20	8	9	49	125	104			
Pittsburgh	35	21	9	5	47	116	90			
Columbus	35	17	17	1	35	114	122			
Philadelphia	36	13	16	7	33	92	122			
New Jersey	37	14	18	5	33	107	129			
N.Y. Islanders	29	11	12	6	28	67	82			
WESTERN CONFERENCE										
Central Division										
GP	W	L	OT	Pts	GF	GA				
Nashville	38	24	12	2	50	118	103			
St. Louis	37	22	10	5	49	128	99			
Colorado	33	22	8	3	47	143	109			
Minnesota	33	21	10	2	44	122	102			
Winnipeg	34	17	12	5	39	102	99			
Dallas	33	18	13	2	38	97	96			
Chicago	36	13	18	5	31	87	121			
Arizona	34	8	23	3	19	74	129			
Pacific Division										
GP	W	L	OT	Pts	GF	GA				
Vegas	39	23	14	2	48	138	117			
Anaheim	39	19	13	7	45	117	110			
Los Angeles	36	18	13	5	41	100	94			
San Jose	37	20	16	1	41	105	114			
Calgary	33	17	10	6	40	104	83			
Edmonton	34	18	14	2	38	113	111			
Vancouver	36	16	17	3	35	93	104			
Seattle	36	10	22	4	24	98	133			
Thursday's Games										
Columbus 6, Carolina 0										
Tampa Bay 4, Vancouver 2										
Boston 3, Philadelphia 2										
Winnipeg 3, Detroit 0										
N.Y. Islanders 3, New Jersey 2										
St. Louis 2, Seattle 1										
Buffalo 4, Nashville 1										
Montreal at Chicago, 8:30 p.m.										
Ottawa at Calgary, 9 p.m.										
N.Y. Rangers at San Jose, 10:30 p.m.										
Pittsburgh at Los Angeles, 10:30 p.m.										
Friday's Games										
Dallas at Florida, 7 p.m.										
Anaheim at Minnesota, 8 p.m.										
Arizona at Colorado, 9 p.m.										
Vegas at Edmonton, ppd										
Saturday's Games										
Nashville at Boston, 1 p.m.										
New Jersey at Montreal, ppd										
Vancouver at Carolina, 1 p.m.										
Washington at N.Y. Islanders, 2 p.m.										
Columbus at Florida, 6 p.m.										
Buffalo at Detroit, 7 p.m.										
Dallas at Tampa Bay, 7 p.m.										
N.Y. Rangers at Philadelphia, 7 p.m.										

NBA

Thursday's Games										
Milwaukee 118, Golden State 99										
New Orleans 113, L.A. Clippers 89										
Memphis 116, Minnesota 108										
Oklahoma City at Brooklyn, 8:30 p.m.										
Portland at Denver, 10 p.m.										
Friday's Games										
Boston at Philadelphia, 7 p.m.										
Orlando at Charlotte, 7 p.m.										
Phoenix at Indiana, 7 p.m.										
Toronto at Detroit, 7 p.m.										
Golden State at Chicago, 7:30 p.m.										
Atlanta at Miami, 8 p.m.										
Cleveland at San Antonio, 8:30 p.m.										
Dallas at Memphis, 10 p.m.										
Houston at Sacramento, 10 p.m.										
Saturday's Games										
Toronto at Milwaukee, 6:30 p.m.										
Portland at Washington, 7 p.m.										
New Orleans at Brooklyn, 7:30 p.m.										
New York at Atlanta, 7:30 p.m.										
Cleveland at Oklahoma City, 8 p.m.										
Philadelphia at Miami, 8 p.m.										
Chicago at Boston, 8:30 p.m.										
L.A. Clippers at San Antonio, 8:30 p.m.										
L.A. Lakers at Denver, 9 p.m.										
Orlando at Dallas, 9:30 p.m.										

27, Ferri 2 0-0 5; Lewis 0 0-0 0; Harbold 0 0-0 0; Sedger 0 0-0 0; Ledger 0 0-0 0. TOTALS: 28 3-10 63.

INDIAN CREEK (6-6): Crites 0 0-0 0, Scott 0 2-2 Ratkovec 1 0-0 2, Starkey 0 3-4 3, Ballato 1 5-6 7, Smith 1 0-0 2, Ketrone 1 1-2 1, Anderson 4 2-2 10, Robertson 3 0-0 6, Allen 2 0-0 4. TOTALS: 10 13-16 37.

3-POINTERS: Harrison Central 4 (Butler 3, Ferri); Indian Creek none.

Union Local 68, St. Clairsville 38
UNION LOCAL (68) — Vinskovich 9, 0-1 18; Kildow 7, 7-8 24; Merritt 3, 0-0 8; Gregor 3, 0-0 6; Kellaway 1, 0-0 3; Miller 4, 0-0 9; Cheatham 0, 0-0 0; Pietrantonio 0, 0-0 0; King 0, 0-0 0; Scott 0, 0-0 0; 27, 7-9 68. **ST. CLAIRSVILLE (38)** — Thoburn 4, 1-3 10; Brookover 2, 0-0 5; Malin 3, 0-2 7; Miller 2, 0-0 6; Tuttle 1, 0-0 2; Sadler 1, 2-2 4; Moran 1, 0-0 2; Gray 0, 0-0 0; Florence 1, 0-0 2; Totals: 15, 3-7 38.

3-point goals: UL — Kildow (3), Merritt (2), Kellaway, Miller. St. C. — Miller (2), Brookover, Malin, Thoburn.

Maritins Ferry 64, Barnesville 34
MARTINS FERRY (64) — Clark 5, 0-2 13; Sidon 4, 0-0 9; Best 2, 5-6 9; Jones 2, 2-2 6; E. McFarland 3, 0-0 7; Agnew 1, 0-0 2; Marchbank 3, 0-0 7; L. McFarland 1, 0-0 2; Pollock 1, 0-0 2; Hughes 2, 0-0 4; Guthrie 1, 0-0 2; Shreve 0, 0-0 0; Totals: 25, 7-10 64. **BARNESVILLE (34)** — Thompson 3, 3-4 11; Schaffer 2, 0-2 4; Lucas 1, 1-2 3; Tyson 0, 0-0 0; Welch 2, 0-0 5; Carter 2, 0-0 6; Fritter 1, 0-0 2; Powell 0, 0-0 0; Johnson 0, 0-0 0; Yater 1, 1-2 3; Phillips 0, 0-0 0; Totals: 12, 5-10 34.

3-point goals: MF — Clark (3), Sidon, E. McFarland, Marchbank, B — Thompson (2), Welch, Carter (2).

Bellaire 42, Cambridge 39
CAMBRIDGE (39) — Gabhardt 1, 1-4 3; Murrey 2, 0-0 5; Krise 1, 0-2 2; Gibson 2, 0-0 4; King 6, 1-1 15; Murphy 5, 0-0 10; Kenworthy 0, 0-0 0; Lamphear 0, 0-0 0; Totals: 17, 2-7 39. **BELLAIRE (42)** — Ault 3, 0-0 7; Porter 0, 1-2 1; Harveth 4, 1-3 10; Hamilton 0, 0-0 0; McAninch 1, 2-2 5; Rowson 1, 0-0 2; O'Grady 4, 4-6 12; Bonar 1, 2-4 5; Craig 0, 0-0 0; Totals: 14, 10-17 42.

3-point goals: C — King (2), Murrey, B — Ault, Harveth, McAninch, Bonar.

Frontier 55, Bridgeport 5
BRIDGEPORT (5) — McCormick 0, 0-0 0; Clemens 1, 0-0 3; Bain 1, 0-2 2; Stewart 0, 0-2 0; Dyson 0, 0-0 0; Aubrey 0, 0-0 0; Conaway 0, 0-0 0; Lewis 0, 0-0 0; Totals: 2, 0-4 5. **FRONTIER (55)** — Remsey 3, 0-0 6; Shepley 4, 2-3 11; Knowlton 6, 0-1 16; Schmidt 2, 0-0 4; Cisler 5, 0-0 10; Allen 0, 0-0 0; Haight 4, 0-0 8; Totals: 24, 2-4 55.

3-point goals: B — Clemens, F — Shepley, Knowlton (4).

Buckeye Local 50, Shadyside 38
SHADYSIDE (38) — Stewart 0, 0-0 0; T. Fulton 1, 0-0 2; R. Fulton 1, 1-2 3; Sims 0, 0-0 0; Brown 1, 1-5 2; Hendershot 1, 0-0 2; Gorby 8, 10-23 26; Totals: 13, 12-31 38. **BUCKEYE LOCAL (50)** — McKeever 5, 8-13 18; George 1, 0-1 2; Blazeski 2, 0-0 5; Glover 5, 2-3 13; Kinyo 0, 0-0 0; Long 0, 2-4 2; Valuska 3, 3-6 10; Peiley 0, 0-0 0; Totals: 16, 15-27 50.

3-point goals: S — None. BL — Blazeski, Glover, Valuska.

Beallsville 54, Madonna 28
BEALLSVILLE (54) — Hagan 8, 5-6 24; Wells 2, 1-2 5; Hughes 2, 1-2 6; Bommer 2, 0-0 5; Phillips 0, 0-2 0; Huffman 5, 1-2 14; Totals: 19, 8-12 54. **MADONNA (28)** — Alatis 5, 3-6 16; Harbin 0, 0-0 0; Pietrantonio 1, 0-0 2; Costa 0, 0-0 0; Wingett 0, 0-0 0; Sole 0, 0-0 0; Laughlin 0, 0-0 0; Littleton 0, 0-0 0; Bachel 4, 0-2 8; Totals: 10, 3-8 28.

3-point goals: B — Hagan (3), Hughes, Bommer, Huffman (3). M — Alatis (3).

River 52, Toronto 34
RIVER (52) — Hobbs 2, 1-4 5; Harlan 7, 0-0 17; Grimes 0, 0-0 0; E. Reed 1, 0-0 3; J. Reed 3, 1-1 9; Primm 0, 1-2 1; Raper 4, 4-8 13; Huffman 1, 1-2 4; Pfalzgraf 1, 0-0 2; Totals: 18, 8-17 52. **TORONTO (34)** — Perrington 0, 0-1 0; Liddick 1, 2-4 4; Donnelly 3, 4-6 10; Reeves 1, 0-2 2; M. Anderson 0, 0-0 0; C. Anderson 1, 0-0 2; Allen 0, 0-0 0; J. Anderson 3, 2-3 8; Thomas 3, 2-8 8; Kerton 0, 0-0 0; Totals: 12, 10-24 34.

3-point goals: R — Harlan (3), E. Reed, J. Reed (2), Raper, Huffman.

Bradren Point also scored for the Lightning. Katchouk made it 3-1 at 11:24 of the third period during a 2-0-0, and Vasilevskiy stopped Elias Pettersson's breakaway after the ensuing faceoff.

Matthew Highmore and Tyler Motte each had a goal and an assist, and Thatcher Demko stopped 17 shots for the Canucks, who are 8-2-1 since Bruce Boudreau replaced Travis Green as coach last month.

BLUE JACKETS 6, HURRICANES 0
RALEIGH, N.C. (AP) — Yegor Chinakhov scored two goals and Elvis Merzlikins posted a 31-save shutout as Columbus blanked Carolina. Emil Bemstrom, Patrik Laine, Cole

Bucks Blow Out Warriors

MILWAUKEE (AP) — Giannis Antetokounmpo scored 30 points and had his third triple-double of the season to help Milwaukee rout the Golden State Warriors 118-99 on Thursday night in Bucks coach Mike Budenholzer's return from the NBA's COVID-19 protocols.

Antetokounmpo had 12 rebounds and 11 assists for his 28th career triple-double. Budenholzer missed four games while in the health and safety protocols, with assistant Darvin Ham taking over as acting head coach. The Bucks went 1-3.

Khris Middleton added 23 points, Bobby Portis 20 and Grayson Allen 15. Milwaukee never trailed and raced to a 77-38 halftime advantage. Antetokounmpo had 23 points, seven rebounds and seven assists in the first half.

The Bucks were just two points shy of their largest halftime lead in franchise history, a record they set this season. Milwaukee led 77-36 at the half in a 123-92 victory over Orlando on Nov.

OVAC