The Times Leader



SECTION

Thursday, January 31, 2019

PREP WRESTLING



ST. CLAIRSVILLE'S Koen Kish looks for back points during a match earlier this season. He and the Red Devils face a busy schedule this weekend.

T-L File PHOTO/KIM NORTH

Mother Nature 'freezes' • Bill Hinegardner championships moved to Friday at Brooke, JM **By KIM NORTH**

Times Leader Sports Writer

The polar vortex Mother Nature delivered to the Ohio Valley early Wednesday has forced postponement of the sixth annual Ohio Valley Athletic Conference Bill Hinegardner Dual Meet Wrestling Championships.

Instead of competitions being held Wednesday night and tonight at Brooke High School in Wellsburg and the John Marshall Fieldhouse in Moundsville, all four classes will crown champions on Friday at the same sites.

"Due to the wind chill advisory for Wednesday and Thursday, we are re- tled 20-30 minutes following the com- in Moundsville.



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Championship matches will be wres-

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ships for all "We did that, basically, to give the divisions until Ohio schools involved in our duals and Friday," Meet the OHSAA team duals on Saturday Director Jim some extra time on Friday," he explained Rocchi said in of the time change. "Our policy states that if the OVAC Duals aren't completed According by Saturday, then the top seeds in each to Rocchi, the division would be declared the champi-

"We wanted to give each school a weigh-ins chance at winning the championship on the mats, so we made the changes."

The brackets are the same with Class 1A/2A and Class 4A vying for crowns at Brooke High School.

Class 3A and Class 5A will compete

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Scoreboard/B3 NASCAR/B4

I line **Times** Leader

SPORTS

SECTION

Saturday, February 2, 2019

Mother Nature wipes out OVAC Duals for first time

By KIM NORTH Times Leader Sports Writer

For the first time in its six-year history, the Ohio Valley Athletic Conference Bill Hinegardner Dual Meet Championships will be decided on paper, and not the mat.

Due to the blanket of snow Mother Nature deposited across the Ohio Valley late Thursday night, the event, which was slated for Brooke High School in Wellsburg (Classes 1A/2A and 4A) and stressed. "We tried everything we (Class 3A) and Bridgethe John Marshall Field House in could, but safety for everyone in- port (Class 1A/2A).

Friday night was canceled.

ties under a Level 2 (emergency), Wellsburg and Thursday and five of our teams involved are in Moundsville. Howin those counties," Meet Director ever, the polar vortex Jim Rocchi said by telephone Fri- wiped out those days. day morning.

"We've had (school district) the championships go to administrators tell us they weren't the top seed in each clasgoing to put buses on the roads, so sification. Those were we were forced to cancel the Dual Wheeling Park (Class Meet Championships.

"It was a tough decision," he (Class 4A), Shenandoah Moundsville (Classes 3A and 5A), volved was our main priority."

. The championships were origi- lists as they won the 1A/2A crown triots 11, which ties them for fifth "We currently have two coun- nally scheduled for Wednesday in in 2018 and now have two all- all-time with Barnesville. Cadiz

With the cancellation, 5A), St. Clairsville

time.

Bridgeport is the only benville (15). one that also claimed Shenandoah were each Buckeye State. second, while Wheel-

OVAC Dual Meet title. The Red campus of Ohio State University The Zeps are the lone repeat tit- Devils now have three and the Pa- on Sunday, Feb. 10.

and Cameron (19) lead the way, Of those four schools, followed by Oak Glen and Steu-

Bridgeport, St. Clairsville, its division at the re-. Shenandoah are all involved in the cent 66th annual OVAC Ohio High School Athletic Asso-Ron Mauck Champion- ciation Team regional tournaments ships. St. Clairsville and today at various sites across the

The winners of each regional ing Park was third. It is advance to the team state tournaalso Bridgeport's first ment inside St. John Arena on the



Weather Halts **OVAC Dual Championships**

Park, St. C., Shenandoah, Bridgeport crowned champs

By KIM NORTH

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and 4A) and the John the championships go Marshall Field House to the top seed in each in Moundsville (Class- classification. Those are es 3A and 5A), Friday Wheeling Park (Class 5A), St. Clairsville "We currently have (Class 4A), Shenandoah two counties under a (Class 3A) and Bridge-

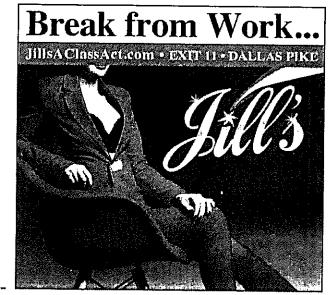
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Please see DUAL Page 8

(Continued from Page 7)

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ils now have three and the Patriots 11, which ties them for fifth alltime with Barnesville. Cadiz and Cameron (19) lead the way, followed by Oak Glen and Steubenville (15).

Bridgeport, St. Clairsville, Shenandoah are all involved in the Ohio High School Athletic Association Team regional tournaments today at various sites across the Buckeye State. The winners of each regional advance to the team state tournament inside St. John Arena on the campus of Ohio State University on Sunday, Feb. 10.

• OVAC

Continued from Page B1

Class 1A/2A

Bridgeport is the top seed and will meet No. 4 Caldwell in the semifinals, ironically, the same two teams will vie Saturday at Nelsonville-York High School in the Ohio Division III team duals.

The other semi has second-seeded Toronto meeting No. 3 Weirton Madonna.

Class 3A

Shenandoah is the top seed and faces fourth-seeded Linsly, while No. 2 Barnesville matches up with third-seeded Magnolia.

Class 4A

St. Clairsville is the No. 1 seed and will tangle with Buckeye 8 rival Martins Ferry, which was a last-minute replacement for Cambridge. Northern conference rivals Oak Glen (No. 2) and East Liverpool (No. 3) battle in the other half of the bracket.

Class 5A

Wheeling Park finds itself atop the 'big school' draw and meets No. 4 Indian Creek in a semi. Second-seeded Steubenville and No. 3 John Marshall do battle in the other semifinal.

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Monday, January 28, 2019

OVAC Duals set to take center stage this week

By KIM NORTH Times Leader Sports Writer

The sixth annual Ohio Valley Athletic Conference Bill Hinegardner Dual Meet Wrestling Championships will be held Wednesday and Thursday at the John Marshall Field House in Moundsville and Brooke High School in Wellsburg, respectively.

The Class 5A and Class 3A squads

will compete on Wednesday. Weigh-ins will be held at 5 p.m. Semifinal action will begin at 6, with the championships immediately following.

The Class 4A and Class 1A/2A divisions will do battle on Thursday with the same time schedule.



Class 5A

A new champion is assured as Parkersburg South is ineligible for not wrestling enough OVAC opponents.

Wheeling Park (10-1), under first-year head coach Brian Leggett is the top seed and will take on fourth-seeded Indian Creek (6-1). Steubenville (12-1) is second and will face No. 3 John Marshall (16-4).

"We're really excited to be competing in the dual championships," Leggett said. "The kids are ready to go out and compete and try to win a championship.

"We wrestled a few of Indian Creek's guys at the OVACs and we've seen them around at other tournaments, but it will be nice to wrestle someone that we haven't seen in a dual setting."

The Patriots have lost to Steubenville twice this season, but have defeated the

OVAC Continued from Page B1

Class 3A

There are two defending champions in this division as Shenandoah, the No. 1 seed, has bumped up from Class 1A/2A where it won last year as the third seed.

"Being the top seed means we've been doing something to be successful," Shenandoah head coach Jesse Wells said. "We are happy being 7-0 and the top seed, but we also know it won't be easy (to repeat) as Barnesville has a really talented team."

The Zeps meet No. 4⁺ Linsly (4-1) in the semifinals.

The second-seeded Shamrocks (4-0) won the OVAC Ron Mauck Tournament 3A championship over Shenandoah. They will take on third-seeded Magnolia (9-4).

Class 1A/2A

Bridgeport, fresh off its first OVAC Ron Mauck Tournament title in nearly 30 years, is the No. 1 with a 5-2 mark. The Bulldogs will meet fourth-seeded Caldwell (2-2) in the semifinals.

"All the guys have wrestled hard this year. It has been a total team effort on everyone's part," Bridgeport head coach David Nelson said. "We wrestled Caldwell in a dual earlier this year and beat them by criteria, so it will be tough. Everyone must go out and wrestle their best."

In the other semi, No. ¹ 2 Toronto (2-1) faces ^C third-seeded Weirton Madonna (6-13). ^r Conference Bill Hinegardner Dual Meet Wrestling Championships will be held Wednesday and Thursday at the John Marshall Field House in Moundsville and Brooke High School in Wellsburg, respectively.

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seen in a dual setting." The Patriots have lost to Steubenville twice this season, but have defeated the Monarchs two times.

"We know Steubenville has a great team and we've lost to them twice, but the kids will be excited to get another shot at them," Leggett added. "On the other hand, we've beaten John Marshall twice."

Class 4A

Another new titlist will be crowned as Big Red moved up to 5A.

St. Clairsville is the top seed for the first time as Joel Sansone's youthful squad is 9-1 in dual-meet action, losing only to Parkersburg South.

"Obviously when you're talking about seeds you always want to get as high as you can because the first-round matches will be a little easier," Sansone said. "Being the top seed, however, brings some added pressure from the outside."

The Red Devils meet No. 4 Martins Ferry (2-2) in the semifinals. The Purple Riders were a late replacement for Cambridge.

St. Clairsville was runnerup in the OVAC Ron Mauck Tournament to overall champion Beaver Local, which is ineligible for the duals.

Second-seeded Oak Glen (9-4) meets No. 3 East Liverpool (2-3) in the other semifinal.

"I think Oak Glen will take care of its end," Sansone said. "They field a full lineup."

OVAC Dual Championships Now Friday By KIM NORTH

For The Intelligencer

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"Due to the wind chill advisory for Wednesday and Thursday, we are rescheduling the Dual Meet championships for all divisions until Friday," meet director Jim Rocchi said in an email.

According to Rocchi, the lone change will have weighins bumped up to 3 p.m., with wrestling to start an hour later. Championship matches will be wrestled 20-30 minutes following the completion of the semifinals.



"We did that, basically, to give the Ohio schools involved in our duals and the OHSAA team duals on Saturday some extra time on Friday," he explained of the time change. "Our policy states that if the OVAC Duals aren't completed by Saturday, then the top seeds

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CRUNY SIGNS WITH JACKETS

Brooke standout soccer player Nick Cruny will continue his academic and athletic career at Waynesburg University/12



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OVAC Dual Meet Championships Set for This Week

5A, 3A squads primed for Wednesday: 4A, 1A/2A

square off Thursday

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