



Photo by Kim North
McWreath, right, races
100-meter dash Satur-
day Relays at Nelson
II, left, finished third.

Williams Lead At Relays

The key to success?
"I was just trying to get
it so that I could get my
team as many points as
possible," she continued.
Williams said that run-
ning on the indoor circuit
is winter really helped
her prepare for the outdoor
season. She was the 800
foot state champion.
She also teamed with
Madison Oberle, Can-
cance Oberle and Lakyn
Hill to win the 4x800 re-
lay in a time of 10:16.89.
She completed her day
by anchoring the win-
ning 4x400 relay team
that consisted of Cadence
Oberle, Call and Ireland
Munette. They timed out
4:18.86.

Please see RELAYS.
Page 10

Buckeye State Sweeps OVAC All-Star Games



LEFT: Steubenville's Will Taylor (12) drives to the basket as Clay-Battelle's Preston Luzader (44) defends during Sunday's Samuel A. Mumley All-Star Basketball Classic inside the ECO Center. The Ohio squad rallied over West Virginia, 104-100, in overtime. RIGHT: Wheeling Park's Alexis Bordas (30) dribbles around Fort Frye's Emma Duskey during Sunday's OVAC Samuel A. Mumley Girls All-Star Basketball Classic inside the ECO Center. The Ohio squad rallied for a 75-71 overtime victory despite 24 points from the Duquesne University signee.



Photos by Kim North

Ohio Boys Stage Dramatic Rally, Defeat W.Va. In OT

By KIM NORTH
Staff Writer

ST. CLAIRSVILLE — Trailing by eight points, 96-88, with four minutes remaining in the OVAC Samuel A. Mumley Boys All-Star Basketball Classic Sunday afternoon inside the ECO Center, Ohio outscored West Virginia 10-2 down the stretch to pull even and force overtime.

Then, in the 2-minute extra session, the Buckeyes scored the final four points to escape with a 104-100 victory.

The come-from-behind win allowed Ohio a sweep of the two games as the girls had prevailed, 75-71, in the early game.

Please see BOYS, Page 10

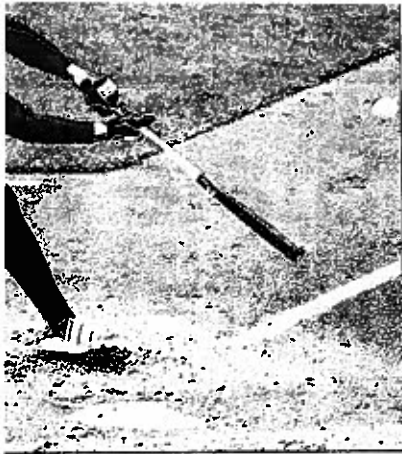
Bellaire's Harveth Leads Ohio Girls To OT Victory

By KIM NORTH
Staff Writer

ST. CLAIRSVILLE — On paper, the girls portion of the OVAC Samuel A. Mumley All-Star Basketball Classic looked like a mismatch. After all, West Virginia had the three-time Mary Ostrowski Award winner in Wheeling Park's Alexis Bordas, Wheeling Central's Kaitlyn Blake, the captain of the Class AA all-state team, plus numerous other standouts.

However, someone forgot to tell the Ohio squad. Bellaire's Zara Harveth was recently named first team all-Ohio Division VI. However, through two 20-minute halves, the Big Reds' 1,000-point scorer only had four points.

Please see GIRLS, Page 10



AP Photo

Tommy Pham drives in a run with a sacrifice bunt by pitcher Will Warren during the fourth inning.

Tommy Pham's run-scoring single in the bottom of the 11th inning lifted the Pittsburgh Pirates to a 5-4 victory over the New York Yankees on Sunday for just their second win in eight games.

The Yankees scored three times in the ninth off Ryan Borucki to tie the game at 4. Oswald Peraza doubled in a run with two outs and Trent Grisham followed with a two-run single after hitting two homers in Saturday's 10-4 win.

Borucki was trying to earn the first save of his eight-year career.

Jack Suwinski began the 11th as the automatic runner at second base and stole third with

off the left-field wall against Devin Williams (0-1) for his fifth career walk-off hit.

Pirates starter Andrew Heaney gave up only one run in seven innings while striking out 10.

Joey Wentz (1-1) pitched a scoreless 11th for the win.

The Pirates built a 4-1 lead against Yankees starter Will Warren, who allowed four runs in four innings.

New York outfielder Cody Bellinger returned to the lineup after missing two games with back stiffness and went 1 for 5.

KEY MOMENT

Suwinski struck out with the bases loaded to end the 10th

later with his stolen base.

KEY STAT

Heaney has allowed two runs over 12 innings in his first two starts this season after signing a \$5.25 million, one-year contract a week after spring training began.

UP NEXT

The Yankees open a three-game series at Detroit on Monday with left-hander Carlos Rodon (1-1, 3.97 ERA) pitching against Casey Mize (1-0, 0.00).

Carmen Mlodzinski (0-1, 9.82) will start for the Pirates against visiting St. Louis and lefty Matthew Liberatore (0-0, 4.50) on Monday night to open a three-game series.

GIRLS

(Continued from Page 9)

She doubled that with the only four points of overtime as the Buckeyes stunned the Mountaineers, 75-71.

West Virginia led 71-65 with just over two minutes remaining after Blake tickled the twine twice with a pair of free throws. Martins Ferry's Lindsey Best made it 71-67 with a basket and Barnesville's Maddy Tyson brought the Buckeyes two points closer with a pair of free throws with 1:40 showing.

Fort Frye's Emma Duskey tied things at 71 with a driving layup through traffic with 42 seconds left, but a turnover by each squad down the stretch forced overtime.

Thirty ticks into the 2-minute extra session, Harveth put Ohio ahead for good. After a missed

shot by West Virginia, she scored again and the Mountaineers couldn't score as the clock ran out.

Bordas, who will continue her academic and athletic careers at Duquesne University, led all scorers with 24 points, which included four trifectas. Blake added 11 and Linsly's Haylen Cook, who will attend Fairmont State, had 10. University's Hannah Stemple finished with nine.

Tyson led Ohio with 12 points, two more than Best. Toronto's Tatum Derrington also scored 10. Ohio led 38-35 at the half.

SPECIAL HONORS

Larry Finneman, who had coaching stops at Wheeling Central, Magnolia and Weirton Madonna was presented with the Richard Saffield Girls Coaching Award.

Longtime Martins Ferry assistant coach Bob Hill received the Bob Burton Distinguished Service Award.

Former John Marshall scorekeeper Carol Storm was presented with the Tom Rataiczky Scorekeeper/Timer Award.

Bordas won the Panhandle Cleaning & Restoration Three-Point Shootout with 21 points.

Blake and Best received \$500 Henry Lazasz Scholarships.

Weir's Rayna Hoover and Martins Ferry's Lindse Sidon received \$250 Betty Ann Ponzo Scholarships.

Cook was awarded a \$250 Pam Ammirante Scholarship.

Bellaire's Eliana Mason received the \$250 Bob Battista Memorial Scholarship.

9) boys and to win the 1600. He is an Ohio State University recruit.

GIRLS

field with mesville's third with Shadyside here with 126 points, well ahead of second-place Barnesville's 70. Wheeling Central was third with 54, while Shadyside nipped Bellaire, 51-50 for fourth.

individual e also running 4x400 e 110 high g the 400. with Jalen and Jemir 3:33.86.

in 23.09 x200 with and Ziare 29.45. o the 3200

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g captured 11-fett. He hnson, Ean ker to win 52.

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gning state an 4:24.88

an ACL before the next Auriemma subbed Buec-

Boys

(Continued from Page 9)

With the game knotted at 100 early in overtime, Martins Ferry standout Alex Reese drove down the lane for a dunk to give Ohio the lead for good. A pair of clutch free throws by Steubenville's Aiden Davis preserved the triumph.

"I felt comfortable. I've put a lot of hard work in," Davis, a West Liberty University recruit, said. "I shoot a lot of free throws every day, so I felt comfortable that I was going to make them."

The win was a little more special for Davis as he played his first three high school seasons at Wheeling Park before transferring back to Steubenville where he attended junior high.

"It was a blessing," he said. "I got to

eyes made it 74-72 at the midway point of the second 20-minute half.

Magnolia's Darin Shimp tallied six straight points as the Mountaineers once again tried to run away and hide but Ohio remained close as East Liverpool's Cohen Pease had 12 of his team high 20 after the break.

Down by eight with time winding down, Ohio used a Taylor trifecta to make it 96-95. Johnson put West Virginia ahead 98-95. Taylor's three-pointer from the left wing with 45 ticks left tied the contest and neither team could score in the waning second to force overtime.

Taylor scored the final of his 11

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captured 1-fett. He on, Ean er to win 2.

42.78 to e Andrew t 19-11. McWreath 4. ise hurled e. -Weigand

ing state 1 4:24.88

orable day as she raced to titles in the 100 (12.89) and 200 (27.17) while also anchoring the winning 4x100 and 4x200 relay teams.

She teamed with Za'Herryah Herring, Adrianna Crabtree and Laila Reed to win the 4x2 in 151.49 and also ran a leg with Reed, Herring and Terionah Bickerstaff on the 4x1 that clocked out at 52.16.

Crabtree, a sophomore, took the 100 HH (16.14) and the 300 LH (51.13).

Freshman Phynyx Fleming won the shot put with a throw of 35-9.5 and sophomore Bri Hudson heaved the discus 125-5.

Steubenville Central's Mary Rohde won the high jump with a leap of 5-feet, while also claiming the 1600 in 5:43.42.

Teammate Elizabeth Schmiesing won the 400 in 1:03.62.

Barnesville, Indian Creek, River and Shadyside each had one champion.

The Shamrocks' Aiva Leasure leaped 7-6 to win the pole vault.

The Redskins' Gracie Klinesmith won the long jump with a jump of 16-1.5.

The Pilots' foursome of Brooke Huffman, Ashley Miller, Maci Isaly and Karen Miller won the Shuttle Hurdles in 1:10.20.

The Tigers' Chloe Meholovitch ran 11:46.86 to win the 3200.

ACL before the next

ason. UConn closed the first lf up 10 points and then t the game away in the rd quarter behind Fudd, ong and Bueckers. The o combined for 23 of e team's 26 points in e quarter. UConn was 50-39 with 3:21 left the period before clos- g with a 12-3 run to put e game away.

Fudd and Strong got it rted with back-to-back , and the rout was on.

Auriemma subbed Bueckers, Fudd and Strong out with 1:32 left. Bueckers and Auriemma had a long hug on the sideline, having finally gotten that championship that he so wanted for her.

Dawn Staley's team was trying for a third title in four years and fourth overall. It would have tied her with Kim Mulkey for third most behind Auriemma and former Tennessee Hall of Fame coach Pat Summitt, who had eight.

9) ggled to Despite the short period of time under Rodriguez's offense, he said the group has learned a lot.

watching "There's more on their plate than anybody on the team," Rodriguez said. "I put more on them as far as learning goes, so I think they've handled it pretty good, but there's another whole step they need to take as a group."

The rest of the six quarterbacks, Scotty Fox, Scott Kean and Abe Finwich, were mixed in, too. The three of them made some throws and missed on some. Zac Alley's defense made it tough on

throws. Martins Ferry's Lindsey Best made it 71-67 with a basket and Barnesville's Maddy Tyson brought the Buckeyes two points closer with a pair of free throws with 1:40 showing.

Fort Frye's Emma Duskey tied things at 71 with a driving layup through traffic with 42 seconds left, but a turnover by each squad down the stretch forced overtime.

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Boys

(Continued from Page 9)

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The win was a little more special for Davis as he played his first three high school seasons at Wheeling Park before transferring back to Steubenville where he attended junior high.

"It was a blessing," he said. "I got to be back with my Ohio guys. I had a lot of fun."

West Virginia broke out to an early lead behind the play of Clay-Battelle's Preston Luzader. The Mountaineers led 21-9 at one point only to watch the Buckeyes pull even at 30. Steubenville's Will Taylor gave Ohio its first lead at 37-36. St. Clairsville's Brady Schafer bumped the margin to 39-36. The game was deadlocked at 42 and 44 before Luzader beat the first-half buzzer with his 13th and 14th points as the Mountaineers led 46-44.

The margin grew to 61-50 on the strength of a 15-6 spurt to start the second half. Morgantown's Marty Johnson scored seven points in the surge.

Ohio answered with a 12-3 run to cut the deficit to 64-62 as Davis and Cambridge's Jesiah Barnett knocked down back-to-back triples.

West Virginia built the margin back to 10, 74-64, as Cameron's Mason Scott connected from long distance on consecutive trips down the floor. However, an 8-0 counterattack by the Buck-

eyes made it 74-72 at the midway point of the second 20-minute half.

Magnolia's Darin Shimp tallied six straight points as the Mountaineers once again tried to run away and hide, but Ohio remained close as East Liverpool's Cohen Pease had 12 of his team-high 20 after the break.

Down by eight with time winding down, Ohio used a Taylor trifecta to make it 96-95. Johnson put West Virginia ahead 98-95. Taylor's three-pointer from the left wing with 45 ticks left tied the contest and neither team could score in the waning seconds to force overtime.

Taylor scored the final of his 18 points to put the Buckeyes ahead 100-98 early in overtime, but Luzader pulled the Mountaineers even with the last of his game-high 23 points. Johnson added 18 for West Virginia.

Davis and Reese finished with 10 points each.

SPECIAL HONORS

■ Former Weirton Madonna boys head coach George Vargo received the Earl Haberfield Coaches Award, while Brooke County resident Chippy Rea was presented with the Robert Dawson Officials Award.

■ St. Clairsville's Tyson Pastor won the Slam Dunk Contest at halftime.

■ Pastor also received the \$250 Susan Kay Stanko Memorial Scholarship.

■ Pease was presented with the \$250 Richard Saffield Memorial Scholarship.

■ Schafer and Morgantown's DeMarcus Bandy each earned a \$500 Richard Potts Scholarship.

■ Reese was presented with a \$250 Ray Ponzo Scholarship, as was Wheeling Central's Tyler Dean.

OVECHKIN

(Continued from Page 9)

Ovechkin waved to ac- to get more goals than goals had long seemed knowledge the crowd and that." ... unapproachable. Ovech-

magnum 000 00 - 0 4 0
Tyler Con 011 71 - 0 7 1
M-Byers lp (1K, 4BB),
Fluharty (4), (OK, 2BB) and
Coulter; Loy 3S
TC - Miller wp (4K, 3BB)
and Boggs; Neff D, 2rbi; Davis
2S, 3rbi; Boggs SF, rbi; I. Jack-
son S, rbi; Kunkle S, 2rbi

Edison 6, Buckeye Local 0
B. Local 000 000 0 - 0 1 6
Edison 001 014 x - 6 9 0
BL-Stang lp (3K, 1BB),
Kempton (6), (OK, 1BB) and
McDiffitt
E-Meadows wp (5K, 3BB),
Pittman (7), (OK, 0BB) and
Henderson; Kimmerle S, D,
rbi; Long T, rbi; Meadows S,
D, rbi; McBane S, rbi

SOFTBALL
Martins Ferry 9, Weir 7
M. Ferry 030 211 2 - 9 10 0
Weir 100 000 6 - 7 9 3
MF-Snedeker wp (1K, 5BB),
M. Lucas sv (7), (OK, 0BB) and
Goddard; Cole 2S; Chirpas HR,
rbi; Hughes D, HR, 2rbi; G. Lu-
cas S, rbi; Mamone D, HR, 3rbi
W-Utt lp (8K, 2BB) and Bar-
ton; Utt S, D, rbi; Hoover S, D,
rbi; Dean D; Lash rbi; Barton
HR, 4rbi; Artman 2S

OVAC ALL-STAR BASKETBALL

OVAC Sam Mumley
All-Star Basketball Classic
(at ECO Center, St. Clairsville)
GIRLS

Ohio 75, W.Va. 71, OT
W.Va. - Blake 3 5-6 11; Bor-
das 9 2-2 24; Maisel 2 0-0 5;
Simpson 2 0-0 4; Stemple 3
1-2 9; Faulks 0 1-2 1; Hoover 1
0-0 2; McKeever 0 0-0 0; Neely
2 0-0 2; Purpura 0 0-0 0; Yoho
0 0-0 0; Cook 5 1-5 13; Totals:
26 10-17 71. OHIO - Duskey 2
1-2 5; Harveth 3 2-4 8; Mason
0 1-2 1; James-Maguire 2 0-0
4; Scott 1 2-4 5; Best 4 0-0 10;
Derrington 4 0-0 10; Hagan 0
0-0 0; Headley 0 0-0 0; Krise 2
2-3 6; Pietranton 2 1-1 6; Pop-
pelriter 1 0-0 3; Sedgmer 1 0-0
2; Sidon 1 0-0 3; Tyson 5 2-4
12; Totals: 28 11-20 75
Three-point goals: W.Va.
9 (Bordas 4, Cook 2, Stemple
2, Maisel, Ohio 8 (Best 2, Der-
rington 2, Scott, Pietranton,
Poppelriter, Sidon)

BOYS
Ohio 104, W.Va. 100, OT
W.Va. - Anthony 2 0-1 5;
Bandy 4 0-0 8; Bartrug 2 0-1
4; Dean 0 0-0 0; Demidovich
2 0-0 4; Derby 1 0-0 2; Jeffers
1 0-0 2; Johnson 7 2-2 18; Lu-
zader 10 1-2 23; Morgan 1 0-0
3; Oates 2 0-0 5; Scott 3 0-0 8;
Shimp 3 0-0 6; Stackpole 2 0-0
4; Mowder 4 0-2 8; Totals: 44
3-8 100. OHIO - Barnett 3 0-2
8; Carpenter 3 0-0 7; Davis 3
2-2 10; Jewell 1 0-0 2; Pastor
0 1-2 1; Pease 8 0-0 20; Reese
5 0-0 10; Rook 0 2-2 2; Sau-
nders 2 1-2 5; Schafer 3 0-0 6;
Smith 2 0-0 5; Taylor 8 0-1
18; Watkins 4 0-2 8; Totals: 43
6-13 104
Three-point goals: W.Va. 9
(Scott 2, Johnson 2, Luzader 2,
Anthony, Morgan, Oates). Ohio
12 (Pease 4, Taylor 2, Carpenter
2, Davis 2, Barnett, Smith)

Baltimore (Eflin 1-1) at Arizo-
na (Gallen 1-1), 9:40 p.m.
Houston (Wesneski 0-1) at
Seattle (Gilbert 0-1), 9:40 p.m.
San Diego (King 1-0) at
Athletics (Severino 0-1), 10:05
p.m.

ECHL

Saturday's Games
Cincinnati 5, Toledo 4
Maine 4, Trois-Rivieres 3
South Carolina 5, Orlando 1
Worcester 3, Adirondack 2
Indy 4, Fort Wayne 3
Norfolk 1, Iowa 0
Savannah 3, Florida 0
Greenville 5, Atlanta 3
Kansas City 5, Rapid City 0
Reading 5, Wheeling 4
Kalamazoo 5, Bloomington 3
Idaho 7, Allen 2
Tahoe 7, Utah 0

Sunday's Games
Atlanta 3, Jacksonville 2
Adirondack 3, Worcester 2
South Carolina 3, Greenville 2
Wichita 2, Allen 0
Bloomington 4, Kalamazoo 3
Norfolk 5, Iowa 3
Idaho 5, Tulsa 2
Wheeling 3, Reading 1
Fort Wayne 7, Cincinnati 0
Savannah 5, Orlando 0
Toledo at Indy, ppd
Monday's Games
Rapid City at Kansas City, 5:05
p.m.

NBA

Saturday's Games
New York 121, Atlanta 105
Minnesota 114, Philadelphia
109
Memphis 109, Detroit 103
Milwaukee 121, Miami 115, OT
L.A. Clippers 135, Dallas 104

Sunday's Games
L.A. Lakers 126, Oklahoma City
99
Toronto 120, Brooklyn 109
Boston 124, Washington 90
Atlanta 147, Utah 134
Chicago 131, Charlotte 117
Portland 120, San Antonio 109
Sacramento 120, Cleveland 113
Phoenix at New York, 7 p.m.
Indiana at Denver, 8 p.m.
Houston at Golden State, 8:30
p.m.
Milwaukee at New Orleans, 8:30
p.m.

Monday's Games
Sacramento at Detroit, 7 p.m.
Philadelphia at Miami, 7:30 p.m.

Cincinnati (Greene 0-1) at San
Francisco (Webb 1-0), 9:45
p.m.
San Diego (King 1-0) at
Athletics (Severino 0-1), 10:05
p.m.

MARCH MADNESS

FINAL FOUR
At Alamodome,
San Antonio
National Semifinals
Saturday, April 5
Florida 79, Auburn 73
Houston 70, Duke 67
National Championship
Monday, April 7
Houston vs. Florida, 8:50
p.m.

NHL

Saturday's Games
New Jersey 4, N.Y. Rangers 0
Ottawa 3, Florida 0
Pittsburgh 5, Dallas 3
Vancouver 6, Anaheim 2
Los Angeles 3, Edmonton 0
Boston 5, Carolina 1
Toronto 5, Columbus 0
St. Louis 5, Colorado 4
Utah 4, Winnipeg 1
Montreal 3, Philadelphia 2
Buffalo 3, Tampa Bay 2, SO
Seattle 5, San Jose 1
Vegas 3, Calgary 2, OT

Sunday's Games
N.Y. Islanders 4, Washington 1
Minnesota 3, Dallas 2, OT
Ottawa 4, Columbus 0
Detroit 2, Florida 1
Chicago 3, Pittsburgh 1
Buffalo 6, Boston 3
Montreal at Nashville, late.
Vegas at Vancouver, late.
Monday's Games
Tampa Bay at N.Y. Rangers, 7
p.m.
St. Louis at Winnipeg, 7:30 p.m.
Calgary at San Jose, 10:30 p.m.
Edmonton at Anaheim, 10:30
p.m.
Seattle at Los Angeles, 10:30
p.m.

Tuesday's Games
Boston at New Jersey, 7 p.m.
Carolina at Buffalo, 7 p.m.
Chicago at Pittsburgh, 7 p.m.
Detroit at Montreal, 7 p.m.
Ottawa at Columbus, 7 p.m.
Toronto at Florida, 7 p.m.
N.Y. Islanders at Nashville, 8 p.m.
Vancouver at Dallas, 8 p.m.
Seattle at Utah, 9 p.m.
Vegas at Colorado, 9:30 p.m.

GOLF SCORES

Valero Texas Open Par Scores
Sunday at AT&T Oaks Course, San Antonio
Purse: \$9.5 million; Yardage: 7,438; Par: 72
Final Round

Brian Harman (500), \$1,710,000	66-66-72-75—279	-9
Ryan Gerard (300), \$1,035,500	73-66-74-69—282	-6
Maverick McNealy (163), \$560,500	68-72-71-72—283	-5
Andrew Novak (163), \$560,500	68-70-69-76—283	-5
Bud Cauley (87), \$304,000	70-72-72-70—284	-4
Patrick Fishburn (87), \$304,000	70-72-74-68—284	-4
Ryo Hisatsune (87), \$304,000	70-67-73-74—284	-4
Tom Hoge (87), \$304,000	72-68-68-76—284	-4
Chan Kim (87), \$304,000	69-71-73-71—284	-4
Thorbjorn Olesen (87), \$304,000	70-72-74-68—284	-4
Chad Ramey (87), \$304,000	72-68-70-74—284	-4
Nate Lashley (57), \$182,875	74-67-74-70—285	-3
Keith Mitchell (57), \$182,875	64-72-73-76—285	-3
Henrik Norlander (57), \$182,875	72-67-73-73—285	-3
Jordan Spieth (57), \$182,875	67-73-73-72—285	-3
Alejandro Tosti (57), \$182,875	70-71-71-73—285	-3
Sami Valimaki (57), \$182,875	70-70-70-75—285	-3
Corey Connors (42), \$113,050	71-71-70-74—286	-2

team history. The Nailers
continue to hold a one-
point lead over Norfolk
for home ice advantage in
the opening round of the
Kelly Cup Playoffs. Both
teams have three games
remaining.

The Nailers got the ex-
act start they were look-
ing for, as they opened
the scoring just 30 sec-
onds into the match. Pe-
ter Laviolette pounded an
initial shot on goal from
deep on the right side of
the ice. While that attempt
didn't go in, Eli Lieffers
followed up to squeeze

mark. The goalie blue-
er danced around Purp
and slipped a one-han
backhander inside of
left post. Logan Pie
collected the lead as
to extend his point str
to seven games, match
the team's season h
Mason Primeau put
Royals on the scorebo
during the final mir
of period two by tipp
in Gianfranco Cassa
power play shot.

The scoreboard dic
change in the third peri
as the Nailers finished
their 3-1 triumph.

Prolific Florida Offense Houston Defense In Me

SAN ANTONIO (AP) — Florida has
gone from being picked to finish sixth
in the rugged Southeastern Conference
to pushing all the way to the final Mon-
day night of the season.

Now the Gators face a Houston team
that just pushes teams around with its
suffocating defense.

Big 12 champion Houston and Flor-
ida will meet in the national champion-
ship game in the Alamodome to wrap
up only the second NCAA Tournament
when all the No. 1 seeds made it to the
Final Four.

Still, this title game matchup is quite
a surprise, and features two teams that
haven't been this far in a long time. Bet-
MGM Sportsbook had Florida listed as
a 1 1/2-point favorite.

The Cougars (35-4) won their semi-
final game Saturday night by overcom-
ing a 14-point deficit in the final eight
minutes for a 70-67 stunner over Duke
and freshman sensation Cooper Flagg,
the AP national player of the year.

That was after Florida (35-4), with AP
All-America guard Walter Clayton Jr.
scoring 34 points, only had to come back
from eight points down after halftime in
its 79-73 win over SEC rival Auburn.

Houston, which has an 18-game win-
ning streak, is in its first national cham-
pionship game since back-to-back ap-
pearances in 1983 and 1984 during the
Phi Slama Jama era.

This is Florida's first since winning
its back-to-back titles in 2006 and 2007
under Billy Donovan. The Gators, with
third-year coach Todd Golden, have an
11-game winning streak since a loss at
Georgia at the end of February.

"It's pretty incredible," Golden said.
"In three years, been fortunate to build
a great staff that is aligned, that works
really hard for each other. Then we've
just accumulated a great group of guys
on our roster. It took a little bit to get all

these pie-

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Sampson
best team
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Florida
ranked 1
offensive
points pe
had his s
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Ohio boys and girls defeat Mountaineers

• **Bellaire's**
Harveth lifts Ohio
to 75-71 OT win
over W.Va.

By KIM NORTH
Times Leader Staff Writer

ST. CLAIRSVILLE
— On paper, the girls portion of the OVAC Samuel A. Mumley All-Star Basketball Classic looked like a mismatch.

After all, West Virginia had the three-time Mary O Award winner in Wheeling Park's Alexis Bordas, Wheeling Central's Kaitlyn Blake, the captain of the Class AA all-state team, plus numerous other standouts.

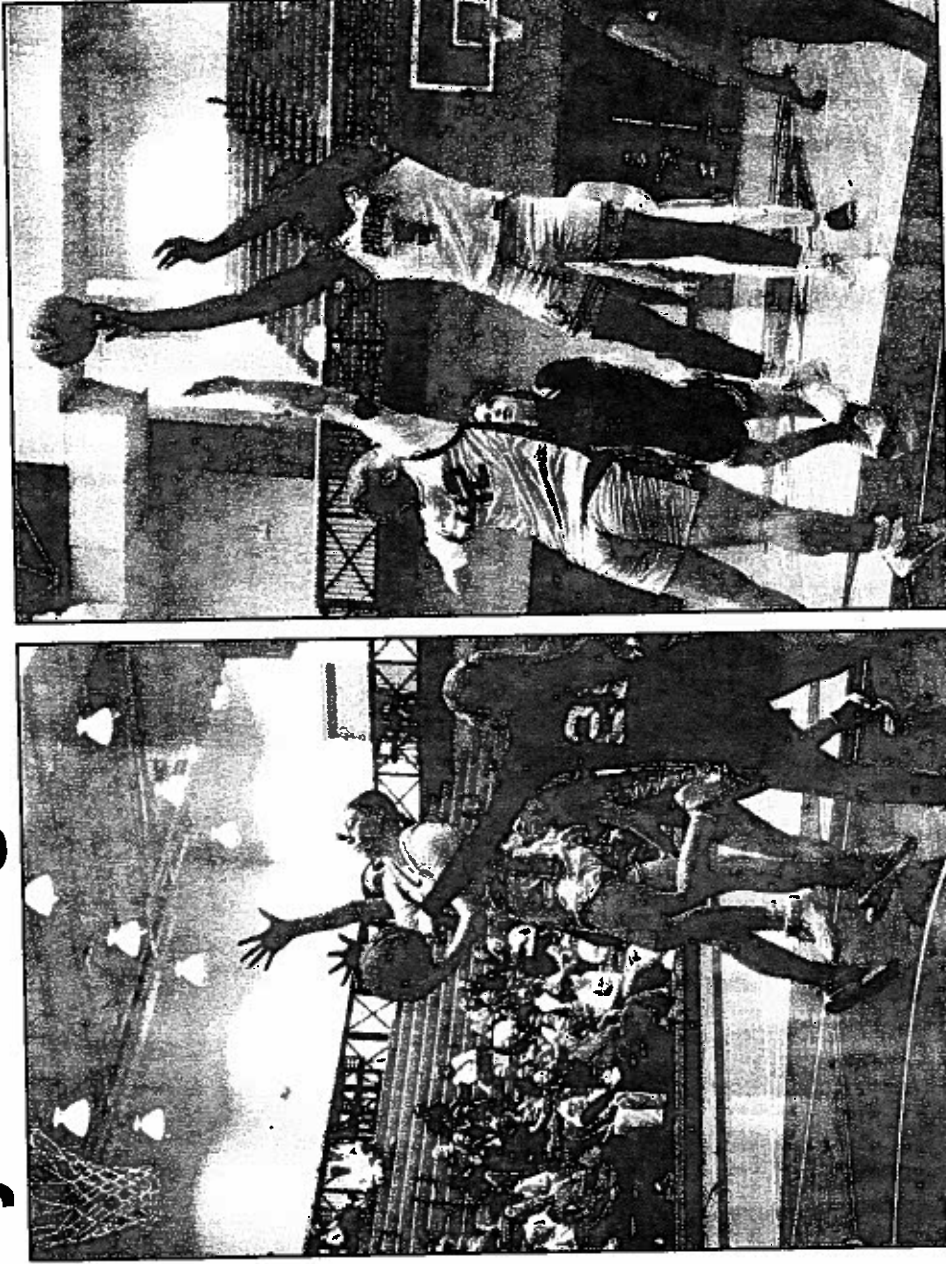
However, someone forgot to tell the Ohio squad.

Bellaire's Zara Harveth was named first team all-Ohio Division VI. But through two 20-minute halves, the Big Reds' 1,000-point scorer only had four points.

See **OHIO**, Page B2

Florida makes push all the way to NCAA title game
• Will face Houston team that pushes others around

Alex Ovechkin breaks Wayne Gretzky's NHL career goals record by scoring his 895th



BARNESVILLE'S MADDY Tyson drives down the lane for two of her 12 points during Sunday's Samuel A. Mumley Girls All-Star Basketball Classic inside the ECO Center. The Ohio squad rallied for a 75-71 overtime victory.

MARTINS FERRY'S Alex Reese shoots for two of his 10 points during Sunday's Samuel A. Mumley All-Star Basketball Classic inside the ECO Center. The Ohio squad rallied over West Virginia, 104-100, in overtime.

• **Ohio boys**
stage dramatic
comeback to
defeat West
Virginia in
overtime

By KIM NORTH
Times Leader Staff Writer

ST. CLAIRSVILLE
— Trailing by eight points, 96-88, with four minutes remaining in the OVAC Samuel A. Mumley Boys All-Star Basketball Classic Sunday afternoon inside the ECO Center, Ohio outscored W.Va. 10-2 down the stretch to pull even and force overtime.

Then, in the 2-minute extra session, the Buckeyes scored the final four points to escape with a 104-100 victory. The come-from-behind win allowed Ohio a sweep of the two games as the girls had prevailed, 75-71, in the early game.

See **BOYS**, Page B2

a torch being passed from one legend of the game to another. He thanked injured teammates Nicklas Backstrom and T.J. Oshie, with whom he won the Stanley Cup in 2018, and expressed his affection for his wife, mother and two sons standing nearby.

"We did it, boys. We did it," Ovechkin said. "And the most important thing, to my mom, my family, my

on that, I got that, like, he missed two months and he might score 50 goals. Like that's nuts. It's crazy."

The chase by the Great 8, a nickname honoring his jersey number, captured attention from North America to Ovechkin's native Russia, where billboards and goal counters cheered on and tracked his effort. It helped Ovechkin that his team is one of the best in the NHL this season, defying expectations.

friends is an option at has one season left a \$47.5 million contract took him through age chase Gretzky's record lier than just about a expected.

• Ohio

Continued from Page B1

She doubled that with the only four points of overtime as the Buckeyes stunned the Mountaineers, 75-71.

West Virginia led 71-65 with just over two minutes remaining after Blake tickled the twine twice with a pair of free throws. Martins Ferry's Lindsey Best made it 71-67 with a basket and Barnesville's Maddy Tyson brought the Buckeyes two points closer with a pair of free throws with 1:40 showing.

Fort Frye's Emma Duskey tied things at 71 with a driving layup through traffic with 42 seconds left, but a turnover by each squad down the stretch forced overtime.

Thirty ticks into the 2-minute extra session, Harveth put Ohio ahead for good. After a missed shot by West Virginia, she scored again and the Mountaineers couldn't score as the clock ran out.

Bordas, who will continue her academic and athletic careers at Duquesne University, led all scorers with 24 points, which included four trifectas. Blake added 11 and Linsly's Haylen Cook, who will attend Fairmont State, had 10. University's

Hannah Stemple finished with nine.

Tyson led Ohio with 12 points, two more than Best. Toronto's Tatum Derrington also scored 10.

Ohio led 38-35 at the half.

SPECIAL HONORS

■ Larry Finnerman, who had coaching stops at Wheeling Central, Magnolia and Weirton Madonna was presented with the Richard Saffield Girls Coaching Award.

■ Longtime Martins Ferry assistant coach Bob Hill received the Bob Burton Distinguished Service Award.

■ Former John Marshall scorekeeper Carol Storm was presented with the Tom Rataczyk Scorekeeper/Timer Award.

■ Bordas won the Panhandle Cleaning & Restoration Three-Point Shootout with 21 points.

■ Blake and Best received \$500 Henry Lazasz Scholarships.

■ Weir's Rayna Hoover and Martins Ferry's Lindse Sidon received \$250 Betty Ann Ponzo Scholarships.

■ Cook was awarded a \$250 Pam Ammirante Scholarship.

■ Bellaire's Eliana Mason received the \$250 Bob Battista Memorial Scholarship.

• Boys

Continued from Page B1

With the game knotted at 100 early in overtime, Martins Ferry standout Alex Reese drove down the lane for a dunk to give Ohio the lead for good. A pair of clutch free throws by Steubenville's Aiden Davis preserved the triumph.

"I felt comfortable. I've put a lot of hard work in," Davis, a West Liberty University recruit, said. "I shoot a lot of free throws every day, so I felt comfortable that I was going to make them."

The win was a little more special for Davis as he played his first three high school seasons at Wheeling Park before transferring back to Steubenville where he attended junior high.

"It was a blessing," he said. "I got to be back with my Ohio guys. I had a lot of fun."

West Virginia broke out to an early lead behind the play of Clay-Battelle's Preston Luzader. The Mountaineers led 21-9 at one point only to watch the Buckeyes pull even at 30. Steubenville's Will Taylor gave Ohio its first lead at 37-36.

St. Clairsville's Brady Schafer bumped the margin to 39-36. The game was deadlocked at 42 and 44 before Luzader beat the first-half buzzer with his 13th and 14th points as the Mountaineers led 46-44.

The margin grew to 61-50 on the strength of a 15-6 spurt to start the second half. Morgantown's Marty Johnson scored seven points in the surge.

Ohio answered with a 12-3 run to cut the deficit to 64-62 as Davis and Cambridge's Jesiah Barnett knocked down back-to-back triples.

West Virginia built the margin back to 10, 74-64, as Cameron's Mason Scott connected from long distance on consecutive trips down the

floor. However, an 8-0 counteratt by the Buckeyes made it 74-72 at midway point of the second 20-minute half.

Magnolia's Darin Shimp tall six straight points as the Mountaineers once again tried to run away, but Ohio remained close as I Liverpool's Cohen Pease had 12 his team-high 20 after the break.

Down by eight with time winding down, Ohio used a Taylorfecta to make it 96-95. Johnson West Virginia ahead 98-95. Taylor three-pointer from the left wing v 45 ticks left tied the contest and the other team could score in the war seconds to force overtime.

Taylor scored the final of his points to put the Buckeyes at 100-98 early in overtime, but Luzer pulled the Mountaineers even v the last of his game-high 23 points Johnson added 18 for West Virginia.

Davis and Reese finished with points each.

SPECIAL HONORS

■ Former Weirton Madonna basketball head coach George Vargo received the Earl Haberfield Coaches Award while Brooke County resident Clay Rea was presented with the Roland Dawson Officials Award.

■ St. Clairsville's Tyson Patton won the Slam Dunk Contest at halftime.

■ Pastor also received the \$2,500 Susan Kay Stanko Memorial Scholarship.

■ Pease was presented with a \$250 Richard Saffield Memorial Scholarship.

■ Schafer and Morgantown's Marcus Bandy each earned a \$2,500 Richard Potts Scholarship.

■ Reese was presented with a \$250 Ray Ponzo Scholarship, as was Wheeling Central's Tyler Dean.

Creighton scores in portal with ex-Big Ten freshman of year Freeman and high-scoring Graves

(AP) — Former Iowa forward Owen Freeman, the 2023-24 Big Ten freshman of the year, has signed with Creighton.

The 6-foot-10 Freeman averaged 16.7 points and 6.7 rebounds in 19 starts this season for the Hawkeyes before missing the final two months following finger surgery. He shot 63.8% from the field and blocked 35 shots. Freeman has two years of eligibility remaining.

"He is a proven scorer at the high major level and is only scratching the surface in terms of his potential," Creighton coach Greg McDermott said. "Our offense will allow his versatility to be on full display. We can't wait to have him in a Bluejay uniform."

The Bluejays also secured a transfer from Nik Graves, a junior guard who averaged 17.5 points a game this season with Charlotte.

Former Georgia Tech starter Nait George, one of the top points guards in NCAA transfer portal, told ESPN on Friday that he's committed to Syracuse.

George, who led the Atlantic Coast Conference in assists this season, said he chose the Orange over a list of schools that included North Carolina, Oklahoma, Oklahoma State and Stanford. He averaged 12.3 points, assists and 4.2 rebounds as a sophomore



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• Flori

Continued

The C won 30 of games sin time losse days in a Las Vegas November loss since in OT on as Tech, team. The this season Auburn i game.
Coach son and made the four year to eventu Baylor in semifinal tourney i Indianapo of the C demic. L. Houston's er, was a the Bears team.
Now th play for a after bein as team t Four helc Star Stat much talk er teams San Anto "This I've been off socii stuff like don't see things," try just to Sampson lieved we team in t so that's I listened Florida day's ser No. 2 in justed c ciency by points p sions, ar his sec game in

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Magnolia 000 00 - 0 4 0
Tyler Con 011 71 - 10 7 1
M-Byers lp (1K, 4BB),
Fluharty (4), (0K, 2BB) and
Coulter; Loy 3S
TC - Miller wp (4K, 3BB)
and Boggs; Neff D, 2rbi; Davis
2S, 3rbi; Boggs SF, rbi; I. Jack-
son S, rbi; Kunkle S, 2rbi

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BL-Stang lp (3K, 1BB),
Kempston (6), (0K, 1BB) and
McDiffitt
E-Meadows wp (5K, 3BB),
Pittman (7), (0K, 0BB) and
Henderson; Kimmerle S, D,
rbi; Long T, rbi; Meadows S,
D, rbi; McBane S, rbi

SOFTBALL
Martins Ferry 9, Weir 7
M. Ferry 030 211 2 - 9 10 0
Weir 100 000 6 - 7 9 3
MF-Snedeker wp (1K, 5BB),
M. Lucas sv (7), (0K, 0BB) and
Goddard; Cole 2S; Chirpas HR,
rbi; Hughes D, HR, 2rbi; G. Lu-
cas S, rbi; Mamone D, HR, 3rbi
W-Utt lp (8K, 2BB) and Bar-
ton; Utt S, D, rbi; Hoover S, D,
rbi; Dean D; Lash rbi; Barton
HR, 4rbi; Artman 2S

OVAC ALL-STAR BASKETBALL

OVAC Sam Mumley
All-Star Basketball Classic
(at ECO Center, St. Clairsville)
GIRLS

Ohio 75, W.Va. 71, OT
W.Va. - Blake 3-5-11; Bor-
das 9 2-2 24; Maisel 2 0-0 5;
Simpson 2 0-0 4; Stemple 3
1-2 9; Faulks 0 1-2 1; Hoover 1
0-0 2; McKeever 0 0-0 0; Neely
2 0-0 2; Purpura 0 0-0 0; Yoho
0 0-0 0; Cook 5 1-5 13; Totals:
26 10-17 71. OHIO - Duskey 2
1-2 5; Harveth 3 2-4 8; Mason
0 1-2 1; James-Maguire 2 0-0 4;
Scott 1 2-4 5; Best 4 0-0 10;
Derrington 4 0-0 10; Hagan 0
0-0 0; Headley 0 0-0 0; Krise 2
2-3 6; Pietranton 2 1-1 6; Pop-
pelriter 1 0-0 3; Sedgmer 1 0-0
2; Sidon 1 0-0 3; Tyson 5 2-4
12; Totals: 28 11-20 75

Three-point goals: W.Va.
9 (Bordas 4, Cook 2, Stemple
2, Maisel, Ohio 8 (Best 2, Der-
rington 2, Scott, Pietranton,
Poppelriter, Sidon))

BOYS

Ohio 104, W.Va. 100, OT
W.Va. - Anthony 2 0-1 5;
Bandy 4 0-0 8; Bartrug 2 0-1
4; Dean 0 0-0 0; Demidovich
2 0-0 4; Derby 1 0-0 2; Jeffers
1 0-0 2; Johnson 7 2-2 18; Lu-
zader 10 1-2 23; Morgan 1 0-0
3; Oates 2 0-0 5; Scott 3 0-0 8;
Shimp 3 0-0 6; Stackpole 2 0-0
4; Mowder 4 0-2 8; Totals: 44
3-8 100. OHIO - Barnett 3 0-2
8; Carpenter 3 0-0 7; Davis 3
2-2 10; Jewell 1 0-0 2; Pastor
0 1-2 1; Pease 8 0-0 20; Reese
5 0-0 10; Rook 0 2-2 2; Sau-
nders 2 1-2 5; Schafer 3 0-0 6;
Smith 2 0-0 5; Taylor 8 0-1
18; Watkins 4 0-2 8; Totals: 43
6-13 104

Three-point goals: W.Va. 9
(Scott 2, Johnson 2, Luzader 2,
Anthony, Morgan, Oates). Ohio
12 (Pease 4, Taylor 2, Carpenter
2, Davis 2, Barnett, Smith)

**Baltimore (Eflin 1-1) at Arizo-
na (Gallen 1-1), 9:40 p.m.**
**Houston (Wesneski 0-1) at
Seattle (Gilbert 0-1), 9:40 p.m.**
**San Diego (King 1-0) at
Athletics (Severino 0-1), 10:05
p.m.**

ECHL

Saturday's Games
Cincinnati 5, Toledo 4
Maine 4, Trois-Rivières 3
South Carolina 5, Orlando 1
Worcester 3, Adirondack 2
Indy 4, Fort Wayne 3
Norfolk 1, Iowa 0
Savannah 3, Florida 0
Greenville 5, Atlanta 3
Kansas City 5, Rapid City 0
Reading 5, Wheeling 4
Kalamazoo 5, Bloomington 3
Idaho 7, Allen 2
Tahoe 7, Utah 0

Sunday's Games
Atlanta 3, Jacksonville 2
Adirondack 3, Worcester 2
South Carolina 3, Greenville 2
Wichita 2, Allen 0
Bloomington 4, Kalamazoo 3
Norfolk 5, Iowa 3
Idaho 5, Tulsa 2
Wheeling 3, Reading 1
Fort Wayne 7, Cincinnati 0
Savannah 5, Orlando 0
Toledo at Indy, ppd

Monday's Games
Rapid City at Kansas City, 5:05
p.m.

NBA

Saturday's Games
New York 121, Atlanta 105
Minnesota 114, Philadelphia
109
Memphis 109, Detroit 103
Milwaukee 121, Miami 115, OT
L.A. Clippers 135, Dallas 104

Sunday's Games
L.A. Lakers 126, Oklahoma City
99
Toronto 120, Brooklyn 109
Boston 124, Washington 90
Atlanta 147, Utah 134
Chicago 131, Charlotte 117
Portland 120, San Antonio 109
Sacramento 120, Cleveland 113
Phoenix at New York, 7 p.m.
Indiana at Denver, 8 p.m.
Houston at Golden State, 8:30
p.m.
Milwaukee at New Orleans, 8:30
p.m.

Monday's Games
Sacramento at Detroit, 7 p.m.
Philadelphia at Miami, 7:30 p.m.

GOLF SCORES

Valero Texas Open Par Scores
Sunday at AT&T Oaks Course, San Antonio
Purse: \$9.5 million; Yardage: 7,438; Par: 72
Final Round

Brian Harman (500), \$1,710,000
Ryan Gerard (300), \$1,035,500
Maverick McNeely (163), \$560,500
Andrew Novak (163), \$560,500
Bud Cauley (87), \$304,000
Patrick Fishburn (87), \$304,000
Ryo Hisatsune (87), \$304,000
Tom Hoge (87), \$304,000
Chan Kim (87), \$304,000
Thorbjorn Olesen (87), \$304,000
Chad Ramey (87), \$304,000
Nate Lashley (57), \$182,875
Keith Mitchell (57), \$182,875
Henrik Norlander (57), \$182,875
Jordan Spieth (57), \$182,875
Alejandro Tosti (57), \$182,875
Sami Valimaki (57), \$182,875
Corey Connors (42), \$113,050

**Cincinnati (Greene 0-1) at San
Francisco (Webb 1-0), 9:45
p.m.**
**San Diego (King 1-0) at
Athletics (Severino 0-1), 10:05
p.m.**

MARCH MADNESS

FINAL FOUR
**At Alamodome,
San Antonio**
National Semifinals
Saturday, April 5
Florida 79, Auburn 73
Houston 70, Duke 67
National Championship
Monday, April 7
Houston vs. Florida, 8:50
p.m.

NHL

Saturday's Games
New Jersey 4, N.Y. Rangers 0
Ottawa 3, Florida 0
Pittsburgh 5, Dallas 3
Vancouver 6, Anaheim 2
Los Angeles 3, Edmonton 0
Boston 5, Carolina 1
Toronto 5, Columbus 0
St. Louis 5, Colorado 4
Utah 4, Winnipeg 1
Montreal 3, Philadelphia 2
Buffalo 3, Tampa Bay 2, SO
Seattle 5, San Jose 1
Vegas 3, Calgary 2, OT

Sunday's Games
N.Y. Islanders 4, Washington 1
Minnesota 3, Dallas 2, OT
Ottawa 4, Columbus 0
Detroit 2, Florida 1
Chicago 3, Pittsburgh 1
Buffalo 6, Boston 3
Montreal at Nashville, late.
Vegas at Vancouver, late.

Monday's Games
Tampa Bay at N.Y. Rangers, 7
p.m.
St. Louis at Winnipeg, 7:30 p.m.
Calgary at San Jose, 10:30 p.m.
Edmonton at Anaheim, 10:30
p.m.
Seattle at Los Angeles, 10:30
p.m.

Tuesday's Games
Boston at New Jersey, 7 p.m.
Carolina at Buffalo, 7 p.m.
Chicago at Pittsburgh, 7 p.m.
Detroit at Montreal, 7 p.m.
Ottawa at Columbus, 7 p.m.
Toronto at Florida, 7 p.m.
N.Y. Islanders at Nashville, 8 p.m.
Vancouver at Dallas, 8 p.m.
Seattle at Utah, 9 p.m.
Vegas at Colorado, 9:30 p.m.

Gauthier shut things down on the other end with 3
ing's 24th at home this season, which ties the four
The victory was also the 41st overall, which ran
Nailers continue to hold a one-point lead over Nc
in the opening round of the Kelly Cup Playoffs.
remaining.

The Nailers got the exact start they were looking
just 30 seconds into the match. Peter Laviolette p
from deep on the right side of the ice. While that
followed up to squeeze the rebound through Vinnie

Wheeling continued its strong play in the middle
Nailers got their second power play of the contest
od, and needed only five seconds of the two-minu
Jackson delivered the puck into the slot, where Kl
under the crossbar. Lindgren made jaws drop to th
tally at the 16:50 mark. The rookie blueliner danc
a one-handed backhand inside of the left post. L
assist to extend his point streak to seven games, ma
Mason Primeau put the Royals on the scoreboard du
two by tipping in Gianfranco Cassaro's power play

The scoreboard didn't change in the third per
their 3-1 triumph.

Gauthier was magnificent again in goal for Whee
shots he faced to move into sole possession of sec
49 career wins. Purpura made 32 saves on 35 shot

The Nailers will play their final three regular sea
the Trois-Rivières Lions on Friday, Saturday, an
3:00 respectively. Wheeling will then open the Kel
ing round series against the Norfolk Admirals. The
announced, as the two clubs are still battling to d
ice advantage.

Reds snap 35-inning sco with 8th-inning sac fly ag

(AP) — The Cincinnati Reds end-
ed a 35-inning scoreless streak on
Friday night when Christian En-
carnacion-Strand hit a sacrifice fly
in the eighth inning to drive in TJ
Friedl in a 3-2 loss to the Milwaukee
Brewers.

Jeimer Candelario followed with
an RBI double.

The 35-inning scoreless streak is
tied for the fourth most in team his-
tory, according to the Cincinnati En-
quirer. The record is 45 innings in
1941.

The last time the Reds had at least
35 consecutive scoreless innings
was from Sept. 8 to Sept. 12, 1946
when they went 37 innings without a
run, according to Sportradar.

The major league record for con-
secutive scoreless innings is 48, by
the Chicago Cubs from June 15 to
June 21, 1968 and the Philadelphia
Athletics from Sept. 22 to Sept. 26,
1906.

The Reds had lost three consecu-
tive 1-0 games, something that had
not happened since May 1960 when
the Philadelphia Phillies did it.

Cincinnati appeared to be in dan-
ger of a fourth consecutive shutout,
especially after being held without
a hit through six innings against the
Brewers before Gavin Lux hit a sev-
enth-inning single.

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