

# Trail Trash

Issue #2

2016 OHSAA Boys High School  
Basketball Tournament

Published exclusively by Dave Spengler  
and on the net at [www.Davey1.com](http://www.Davey1.com)

*Featuring Commentary &  
Predictions by ...*

## The Swami

Welcome to our abbreviated second edition of Trail Trash for 2016. District tournaments around Northwest Ohio have wrapped up with few upsets. Eight number one seeds won district titles along with four number two seeds. Ottawa-Glandorf in D2 was the only three seed to win a district title taking down top seeded Defiance and number two seed Upper Sandusky at Ohio Northern. Eight of the thirteen district championship games were between the top two seeds. Every top seed advanced to a district final except a Swanton team that was upset by fifth-seeded Genoa in the district semifinal at Toledo Central Catholic. Nine number two seeds made it to their respective district final. Coaches from around NW Ohio got it right when they did their seeding. The Swami did not.

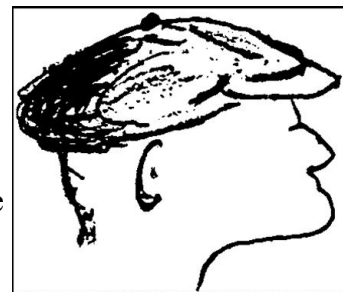
*Since 1994, Trail Trash has been published twice annually in conjunction with the state boys basketball tournament. In addition to tournament brackets, Trail Trash has included the expert predictions of the Swami. For those of you familiar with the Swami, we say no more. For the small number of you not familiar with the Swami, he is the self-proclaimed guru on Northwest Ohio high school hoops.*

*Since the fall of 2004 Davey1.com has featured the most complete collection of Ohio Boys High School Basketball Schedules and results that can be found in one place anywhere on the internet. We have gathered all of the schedules from the schools in the OHSAA Northwest District. We wrote our own special software using a Microsoft Access database to compile and display our schedules. Nowhere else will you find the amount of information that we present on Davey1.com.*

The tournament started with two undefeated teams in Lima Senior and Upper Sandusky. Lima survived a rugged University of Toledo district tournament with a close win over Toledo Whitmer and a one-point victory over Toledo St. John's. Did the Spartans peak too early or is this just the product of having to play two quality conference opponents for a third time? Survive and advance. Upper was knocked out by O-G in a district semi-final that was closer than the final score indicated. The Rams played arguably the weakest schedule of any D2 team in NW Ohio but represented themselves well in their tournament run that included a sectional final win over Wapakoneta.

The other "big news" heading into the tournament was the OHSAA imposed ban of legendary Toledo St. John's Jesuit coach Ed Heintschel for violating OHSAA by-laws related to recruitment. SJJ was able to get to the media before the OHSAA (the folks in Columbus must have taken that Sunday off), and it was very interesting to compare the St. John's spin to that of the OHSAA. Coach Heintschel was able to conduct practices and attend games, but was banned from traveling with the team or coaching the Titans during their tournament games. You wonder if a couple of well-timed foot stomps might have made a difference for SJJ against Lima Senior.

The D4 district final at Napoleon between a pair of state-ranked teams in Ayersville and Fayette ended in somewhat of a controversy. With 0.9 seconds remaining in the game and trailing by one, Ayersville inbounded and threw the ball the length of the floor. The ball was tipped to an Ayersville player who proceeded to hit a shot before the buzzer. The



basket was immediately waived off by at least one official. There was video that shows that the backboard lights came on after the shot was released. However, it appears that the clock did not start when the ball was tipped and the officials indeed made the correct call. What a devastating end to a great season for Ayersville. Coach Jaymes Zachrich and the Ayersville team showed extreme class in their response to the media following the game.

Looking forward to the regional tournament, Northwest Ohio will be represented by eleven conferences and one independent. The Blanchard Valley Conference is the only conference having more than one regional tournament team with league co-champion Liberty-Benton in D3 and McComb (7<sup>th</sup> place in the BVC) in D4.

There will be plenty of regional action in Northwest Ohio. The University of Toledo is scheduled to host the D1 regional semifinal game between Lima Senior and Lorain on March 9. Bowling Green will again host regional tournaments in D2, D3, and D4 at the Stroh Center. With the Ottawa-Glandorf girls' team scheduled to play a state semi-final game Thursday evening, do not be surprised if the OHSAA flips the D2 and D3 schedules at BGSU. Stay tuned.

As far as the Swami is concerned, his district tournament picks were a disaster. Enough said. Time to go to the regional picks. The Swami would like to classify these as educated guesses, but that would be stretching the truth.

#### DIVISION I

#### REGIONALS

Defending D1 state champion and top-ranked Huber Heights Wayne was upset by Lakota East in a district final at Wright State.

#### XAVIER UNIVERSITY:

Semifinals – Lakota East over Centerville; Cincinnati Moeller over Wilmington

Final: Cincinnati Moeller over Lakota East

## The Swami

UNIVERSITY OF AKRON: The semifinal game between Lorain and Lima Senior will be played at the University of Toledo while Canton McKinley and Brunswick will meet in a semifinal at the University of Akron. The regional final will be played at Akron. Lima Senior has won back-to-back district titles.

Semifinals – Lima Senior over Lorain; Canton McKinley over Brunswick

Final – Lima Senior over Canton McKinley

#### OHIO DOMINICAN UNIVERSITY:

Semifinals – Westerville South over Pickerington Central; Gahanna Lincoln over Upper Arlington

Final – Westerville South over Gahanna Lincoln

#### CLEVELAND STATE UNIVERSITY:

Semifinals – Garfield Heights over Warren Harding; Cleveland St. Ignatius over Solon

Final – Garfield Heights over Cleveland St. Ignatius

#### STATE

For the nineteenth consecutive season, the D1 final will close out the State Tournament. The semifinal games will be played Friday night.

Semifinals – Lima Senior over Cincinnati Moeller; Westerville South over Garfield Heights

Final – Westerville South over Lima Senior

#### DIVISION II

Defending D2 state champion Defiance lost to Ottawa-Glandorf in the district final at Ohio Northern. Top-ranked New Concord John Glenn is headed to the regional at Athens.

#### REGIONALS

CANTON MEMORIAL CIVIC CENTER:

Semifinals – Akron St. Vincent-St. Mary over Youngstown Ursuline; Cleveland Benedictine over Perry

Final – Akron St. Vincent-St. Mary over Cleveland Benedictine

KETTERING FAIRMONT:

Semifinals – Cincinnati Taft over Johnstown-Monroe; Cincinnati Aiken over Kettering Archbishop Alter

Final – Cincinnati Taft over Cincinnati Aiken

OHIO UNIVERSITY:

Semifinals – Columbus St. Francis DeSales over Steubenville; New Concord John Glenn over McArthur Vinton County

Final – New Concord John Glenn over Columbus St. Francis DeSales

BOWLING GREEN STATE UNIVERSITY: On paper, this looks like a very evenly matched regional tournament. Ottawa-Glandorf has won six straight district titles. It looks like it was a good year for O-G to move up from D3. Napoleon last won a district championship in 1981. The Wildcats were the Class AA state champions that season (there were three classes from 1971 through 1987 for the young whippersnappers in our audience). Bay’s last regional appearance came in 1993. The last three D2 state champions (Defiance, Norwalk, Columbus Watterson) came out of this regional.

Semifinals – Ottawa-Glandorf over Lexington; Napoleon over Bay Village Bay

Final – Napoleon over Ottawa-Glandorf

STATE

The D2 semifinals will be the late games on Thursday with the championship game being the early Saturday afternoon game.

Semifinals – Akron St. Vincent-St. Mary over Cincinnati Taft; New Concord John Glenn over Napoleon

Final – Akron St. Vincent-St. Mary over New



Concord John Glenn

DIVISION III

Defending D3 state champion Cleveland Villa Angela-St. Joseph and top-ranked Lima Central Catholic are still alive.

REGIONALS

OHIO UNIVERSITY:

Semifinals – Lynchburg-Clay over Chesapeake; Sugarcreek Garaway over Marion Pleasant

Final – Lynchburg-Clay over Sugarcreek Garaway

CANTON FIELDHOUSE:

Semifinals - Cleveland Villa Angela-St. Joseph over Newton Falls; Louisville St. Thomas Aquinas over Oberlin

Final – Cleveland Villa Angela-St. Joseph over Louisville St. Thomas Aquinas

BOWLING GREEN STATE UNIVERSITY: Lima Central Catholic is the prohibitive favorite at the Stroh Center. The T-Birds were the 2015 state runner-up and the 2014 state champions. LCC has won five consecutive district titles. Edison’s district championship is the first in school history. Liberty-Benton had not won a district title since 2007 when Aaron Craft was a freshman. Ottawa Hills moved up to D3 this year after spending the past six seasons in D4.



Semifinals – Lima Central Catholic over Milan Edison; Liberty-Benton over Ottawa Hills

Final – Lima Central Catholic over Liberty-Benton

KETTERING FAIRMONT:

Semifinals – St. Bernard Roger Bacon over Grandview Heights; Cincinnati Purcell Marian over Cincinnati Summit Country Day

Final – Cincinnati Purcell Marian over St. Bernard  
Roger Bacon

#### STATE

D3 kicks off the ninety-fourth consecutive Boys State Basketball Tournament on Thursday, March 17. The championship game will be played Saturday morning.

Semifinals – Cleveland Villa Angela-St. Joseph over Lynchburg-Clay; Lima Central Catholic over Cincinnati Purcell Marian

Final – Lima Central Catholic over Cleveland Villa Angela-St. Joseph

#### DIVISION IV

Defending state champion New Madison Tri-Village lost in a district semifinal game to Yellow Springs. Top-ranked Lincolnview edged Convoy Crestview in a district final to advance to the regional at Bowling Green.

#### REGIONALS

##### CANTON FIELDHOUSE:

Semifinals – Cleveland Heights Lutheran East over McDonald; Willoughby Cornerstone Christian over Malvern

Final – Cleveland Heights Lutheran East over Willoughby Cornerstone Christian

##### OHIO UNIVERSITY:

Semifinals – Columbus Africentric over Glouster Trimble; Columbus Wellington School over Latham Western

Final – Columbus Africentric over Columbus Wellington School

**BOWLING GREEN STATE UNIVERSITY:** Top-ranked Lincolnview last won a district title in 1997. The Lancers (Brandon Pardon, Frank Kill, Wes Dudgeon, Chad Pollock, etc.) went undefeated winning the D4 state championship. Fayette last won a district title in 1995. This will be the first regional appearance for Mansfield St. Peter's since 2004.

Semifinals – Van Wert Lincolnview over Fayette; Mansfield St. Peter's over McComb

## The Swami

Final – Van Wert Lincolnview over Mansfield St. Peter's

**KETTERING FAIRMONT:** Lima Perry won their first district championship in school history. This marks the first year since 2009 that the Kettering regional did not include a team from the MAC.

Semifinals – Lima Perry over Yellow Springs; Jackson Center over South Charleston Southeastern

Final – Jackson Center over Lima Perry

#### STATE

The D4 semifinal games will be the early games on Friday with the championship game being the late Saturday afternoon game.

Semifinals – Columbus Africentric over Cleveland Heights Lutheran East; Van Wert Lincolnview over Jackson Center

Final – Van Wert Lincolnview over Columbus Africentric

Based on these picks, there will be a lot of empty seats in Columbus. Hopefully, a few more teams make it to Columbus that will actually bring some fans.

This completes the twenty-third season for Trail Trash. All facts, fiction, and opinions are those of the Swami. After this year's district picks, nobody else would want to take responsibility. You can contact us at [Webmaster@davey1.com](mailto:Webmaster@davey1.com). As usual, the Davey1 boys will be at the Stroh Center and in Columbus. The tournament is a week early this season. Maybe we can get some good weather for a change.