

Trail Trash

2020 OHSAA Boys High School Basketball Tournament

On the net at www.Davey1.com

Featuring Commentary & Predictions by ...

The Swami

We return with our second edition of Trail Trash for 2020 with the start of regional tournaments around Ohio. Welcome aboard.

Following a regular season where inclement weather was seldom a factor, Mother Nature was a bit less cooperative with several sectional games postponed for the bad stuff. That made for some interesting scenarios. Miller City held a sectional final and two sectional semifinal games on the same day while Fostoria hosted five games (D1 and D4 sectional finals and a D4 girls district final) on a Saturday. Kudos to the people at Miller City and Fostoria for pulling that off.

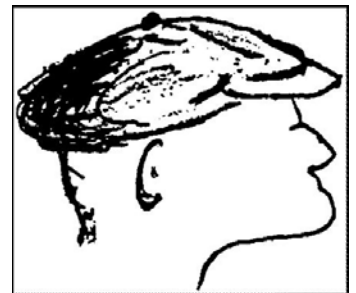
There were the usual upsets in the sectional tournaments. In the nineteen-team Toledo D1 district, #11 seed Sylvania Northview knocked off #3 seed Perrysburg in a sectional final. In D2, top seed Upper Sandusky needed two overtimes to knock off #7 seed Mansfield Senior on a buzzer beater. Or was it? The video went viral as it appeared that the shot came after the final buzzer. Just to confuse matters, it also appeared that the buzzer went off before the clock read all zeroes. Regardless, it was a bang-bang play and Upper won. Two of the #2 seeds in D2 were eliminated in sectional final games with St. Marys losing to #5 seed Bryan and Huron losing to #4 seed Norwalk. For Bryan, it was their first sectional title since 2002. In D3, #5 seed Lima Central Catholic eliminated #2 seed Bluffton in a sectional final. Fort Recovery was the top seed in the D4 Wapakoneta

Davey1.com

district but lost to #9 seed Marion Local. Defending D4 state champion Convoy Crestview (a #8 seed) eliminated #3 seed Delphos St. John's in another sectional final. Also in D4, #10 seed Ayersville eliminated #3 seed Hicksville in four overtimes in a first round game. Ayersville and D1 Ashland were the only teams with losing records winning sectional championships. Twenty of the twenty-two conferences representing Northwest Ohio had at least one team win a sectional championship. Issue 2020-2

In the D1 district tournaments at Toledo, top seeds Lima Senior and Toledo Start took home championships. Start needed overtime to oust Sylvania Northview while #1 seed Lima Senior held off #8 seed Toledo St. John's in the district finals. #11 seed Northview followed up their sectional final win over #3 seed Perrysburg with a district semifinal victory over #4 seed Toledo Central Catholic before losing to #2 seed Start.

The #1 seeds in D2 all won



Since 1994, Trail Trash has been published twice annually in conjunction with the boys state basketball tournament. Trail Trash is published to share 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.

district titles. Top ranked Lima Shawnee rolled through the district at Ohio Northern while Toledo Rogers avenged a late season loss to eliminate #2 seed Sandusky in the district final at Lake. At Mansfield Madison, Upper Sandusky scored with less than two seconds to go for their only lead of the day to defeat #4 seed Norwalk. Norwalk, having already eliminated #2 seed Huron in the sectional and #3 seed Shelby in a district semi, was unable to take down top seeded Upper.

In D3, #1 seed Ottawa-Glandorf breezed to a district title at Lima Senior while top seed Evergreen edged #3 seed Cardinal Stritch and #2 seed Archbold in the district at Toledo Central Catholic. #1 seed Willard lost to #3 seed Colonel Crawford in a district semi at Norwalk. Colonel Crawford defeated #4 seed Eastwood in their district championship game. Eastwood had advanced to the final with an overtime win over #2 seed Western Reserve.

In the D4 district at Willard, top seeded Lucas won the title with overtime wins over #4 seed Sandusky St. Mary and #2 seed South Central. At Defiance, undefeated Antwerp came from behind to defeat #2 seed Toledo Christian. The top seeded Archers had narrowly defeated #4 seed Edgerton in a district semifinal. Top ranked Columbus Grove defeated #4 seed Kalida in the district final at Elida. Grove had eliminated defending D4 state champion Crestview in a semifinal while Kalida broke #2 seed Ottoville's fifteen game winning streak in the other semifinal. At Wapakoneta, #2 seed Parkway advanced to the district final for the first time in school history and defeated #9 seed Marion Local. In the district at Findlay, #4 seed Tiffin Calvert defeated both #1 seed Old Fort and #2 seed Arlington by double digits for the title.

Ten of the thirteen top seeded teams from around Northwest Ohio won district championships. Tiffin Calvert, the #4 seed in the D4 Findlay district, was the lowest seed to win a district title.

At the start of the tournament, three of the six undefeated teams in Ohio were from Northwest Ohio. Lima Shawnee, Columbus Grove, and Antwerp are the only remaining undefeated teams in Ohio as we begin regional play.

Regional tournaments in D2, D3, and D4 will again be held at the Stroh Center on the campus of Bowling Green State University. The D4 semifinals will be played Tuesday night followed by the D3 semifinals on Wednesday and the D2 semifinals on Thursday. The D4 regional final will be played Friday night with the D2 final on Saturday afternoon and the D3 final on Saturday night. The D1 regional semifinal between Toledo Start and Lima Senior will be played Wednesday night at the University of Toledo. That winner will meet the winner of the regional semifinal at the University of Akron in the regional final on Saturday afternoon at the University of Toledo. Lucas, the D4 district

champion at Willard, will play in the regional at Canton.

Since the printing of our first edition, several players became the career-scoring leader for their school. Congratulations to Josh Crall (Wynford), Kaden Ronk, (Crestline), Levi Gazarek (North Baltimore), Joey Holifield (Cardinal Stritch), Jordyn Jury (Hopewell-Loudon), and Logan Niswander (Lucas) for this achievement.

The Swami finished with an overall record of 107-39 with seven district winners from our first edition. Both numbers represent a decline from the past two seasons. Time to go to the picks.

DIVISION I

REGIONALS

CLEVELAND STATE UNIVERSITY: Semifinal games at the Wolstein Center will be Wednesday with the championship game Saturday afternoon. Lakewood St. Edward won the regional at CSU in 2019. Mentor and Medina shared the Greater Cleveland Conference title with Shaker Heights finishing in 3rd place. Canton McKinley defeated top seeded and defending district champion Uniontown Green to win the Canton district where ten of the thirteen teams had winning records. Mentor won a second straight district championship. There is not much that separates the teams at CSU.

Semifinals – Canton McKinley over Shaker Heights; Mentor over Medina

Final – Canton McKinley over Mentor

UNIVERSITY OF TOLEDO: Semifinal games will be played Wednesday at the University of Toledo and the University of Akron with the championship game slated for Saturday afternoon at Toledo. It will be the battle of the Spartans at UT. Lima Senior won their second consecutive district championship and fourth in the past six years. Lima's losses are to teams that won district championships (Canton McKinley, Lima Shawnee, Ottawa-Glandorf). Toledo Start's back-to-back district championships are the first two in school history. Three of Start's four losses came against Toledo Rogers with the other loss to a team from Long Beach, California. Lakewood St. Edward won their fourth consecutive district title and fourteenth in the past sixteen seasons. St. Ed's only loss this season was to Hilliard Bradley in December. Lorain won the regional

Trail Trash

championship in 2018.

Semifinals – Lima Senior over Toledo Start (at Toledo); Lakewood St. Edward over Lorain (at Akron)

Final – Lakewood St. Edward over Lima Senior

OHIO DOMINICAN UNIVERSITY: Semifinal games will be played Wednesday and Thursday with the championship game scheduled for Saturday afternoon. Columbus Walnut Ridge eliminated top seed Gahanna Lincoln in a district final. Westerville Central won the first district title in school history while Thomas Worthington is in the regional for the first time since 2001. Hilliard Bradley’s losses are to Walnut Ridge and Trotwood-Madison.

Semifinals – Hilliard Bradley over Columbus Walnut Ridge; Thomas Worthington over Westerville Central

Final – Hilliard Bradley over Thomas Worthington

XAVIER UNIVERSITY: Semifinal games will be Wednesday with the championship game Saturday night at the Cintas Center. Defending two-time state champion Cincinnati Moeller won their seventh straight district title. Moeller’s only loss was at Akron SVSM in December. Lakota East’s losses are to Cincinnati Oak Hills and to a team from Wisconsin. Lakota East and Centerville have won back-to-back district championships. Two of Cincinnati LaSalle’s losses came at the hands of Moeller.

Semifinals – Cincinnati Archbishop Moeller over Centerville; Lakota East over Cincinnati LaSalle

Final – Cincinnati Archbishop Moeller over Lakota East

STATE

D1 will close out the Schottenstein Center era with the Saturday night championship game. The semifinal games will be the Friday night doubleheader.

Semifinals – Lakewood St. Edward over Canton McKinley; Cincinnati Archbishop Moeller over Hilliard Bradley

State Championship – Lakewood St. Edward over Cincinnati Archbishop Moeller

DIVISION II

REGIONALS

CANTON CIVIC CENTER: Semifinal games will be Thursday with the championship game on Saturday at noon.

Akron St. Vincent-St. Mary is back in D2 after finishing as the D1 state runner-up in 2019. SVSM has won twelve consecutive district titles. Cleveland Heights Lutheran East moves up to D2. Lutheran East has won five straight district championships in D2, D3, and D4. Lutheran East defeated Akron SVSM in overtime in February. Youngstown Chaney won their first district title since 2001.

Semifinals – Akron St. Vincent-St. Mary over Youngstown Chaney; Cleveland Heights Lutheran East over Wooster Triway

Final – Akron St. Vincent-St. Mary over Cleveland Heights Lutheran East

OHIO UNIVERSITY: Semifinal games will be Thursday with the championship game Saturday afternoon at the Convo. This is clearly the weakest of the four regions in D2. Columbus St. Francis DeSales knocked off previously undefeated Heath in a district semifinal and top seed Jonathan Alder in the district final. Meadowbrook and New Philadelphia were the top seeds in the Eastern district while Logan Elm was the #7 seed in the Southeastern district. New Philadelphia won a second straight district title.

Semifinals – Columbus St. Francis DeSales over New Philadelphia; Byesville Meadowbrook over Circleville Logan Elm

Final – Columbus St. Francis DeSales over Byesville Meadowbrook

BOWLING GREEN STATE UNIVERSITY: Undefeated and top ranked Lima Shawnee won a second straight district championship. The Indians lost to Columbus South in the 2019 regional final at BG. Upper Sandusky won their first district championship since 2007. Upper has won twenty-four straight since losing to Willard in their season opener. The Rams have faced plenty of adversity with the dismissal of their leading scorer for disciplinary reasons at the end of the regular season and the loss of another starter to a late season injury. Toledo Rogers lost starting point guard Ketaan Wyatt to a late season injury. Rogers is tall and talented. Losses for the Rams are to Lima Senior, Cincinnati St. Xavier, and Sandusky. Parma Heights Holy Name won a third district title in the last six years by knocking off top seed Cleveland Central Catholic in their district final.

Semifinals – Lima Shawnee over Upper Sandusky; Toledo



Rogers over Parma Heights Holy Name

Final – Lima Shawnee over Toledo Rogers

UNIVERSITY OF DAYTON: Semifinal games will be Thursday with the championship game Saturday afternoon. Defending D2 state-champion Trotwood-Madison won a fourth straight district title. The Rams are down offensively from a year ago averaging only ninety-two points a game. That did not stop Trotwood from hanging 153 points (4th highest in OHSAA history) on Northmont in January. Trotwood lost at Akron SVSM and to a team from Louisville, Kentucky. Kettering Alter topped previously undefeated Cincinnati Wyoming in their district championship game. Beechcroft was the #6 seed in the Central district as the top three seeds took the road to Athens.

Semifinals – Kettering Archbishop Alter over Columbus Beechcroft; Trotwood-Madison over Dayton Thurgood Marshall

Final – Trotwood-Madison over Kettering Archbishop Alter

STATE

D2 will kick off the ninety-eighth annual Boys State Basketball Tournament at noon on Thursday, March 19 with a doubleheader. The D2 state championship game will be played Saturday morning.

Semifinals – Akron St. Vincent-St. Mary over Columbus St. Francis DeSales; Lima Shawnee over Trotwood-Madison

State Championship – Akron St. Vincent-St. Mary over Lima Shawnee

DIVISION III

REGIONALS

UNIVERSITY OF DAYTON: Semifinal games will be Wednesday with the championship game late Saturday afternoon at the UD Arena. 2018 D3 state champion Cincinnati Deer Park’s only loss was to Cincinnati Wyoming in overtime. Cincinnati Hills Christian Academy won their first district championship defeating Versailles. CHCA has lost to Proctorville Fairland and North College Hill. Anna won the Shelby County Athletic League championship. Three of Anna’s four losses are to D4 teams from Northwest Ohio. Anna and Dayton Stivers both won a second straight district title.

Semifinals – Cincinnati Deer Park over Cincinnati Hills Christian Academy; Anna over Dayton Stivers

Final – Cincinnati Deer Park over Anna

CANTON FIELDHOUSE: Semifinal games will be Wednesday with the championship game Saturday night. Warrensville Heights entered the tournament with a losing record playing D1 and D2 schools. The Tigers beat the top two seeds in the Bedford district including a 100-96 overtime win over #1 seed Fairview Park in a district semifinal. Atwater Waterloo won their first district title since 1989. Waterloo’s losses are to Mogadore and New Middletown Springfield. Norwayne was the top seed in the Wooster district after a 3rd place finish in the Wayne County Athletic League.

Semifinals – Warrensville Heights over Creston Norwayne; Atwater Waterloo over Leavittsburg LaBrae

Final – Warrensville Heights over Atwater Waterloo

OHIO UNIVERSITY: Semifinal games will be Wednesday with the championship game Saturday night. Defending D3 state champion Canal Winchester Harvest Prep won a third straight district championship. Harvest Prep’s lone loss to a team from Ohio came against Olentangy Liberty. Zane Trace moved down to D3 after winning a D2 district championship in 2019. West Lafayette Ridgewood won the first district title in school history. Ridgewood lost to Massillon Washington and Berlin Hiland. Proctorville Fairland has lost to Columbus Bishop Ready and Gallipolis Gallia Academy.

Semifinals – Canal Winchester Harvest Prep over Chillicothe Zane Trace; Proctorville Fairland over West Lafayette Ridgewood

Final – Canal Winchester Harvest Prep over Proctorville Fairland

BOWLING GREEN STATE UNIVERSITY: Ottawa-Glandorf won their eighth district championship in the past ten seasons. O-G’s only loss came at the hands of Lima Shawnee breaking a thirty-five game WBL winning streak. Evergreen won their first district title since 2006. The Vikings eliminated 2019 regional champion Cardinal Stritch in a district semifinal. Evergreen’s only loss was at Swanton in early December. Colonel Crawford’s district championship was the fourth in school history. The Eagles moved up to D3 this season after three straight district runner-up finishes in D4. Johnstown-Monroe knocked off previously undefeated North Union in their district final. J-M was the #7 seed in the twenty-two team Columbus district.



Johnstown-Monroe handed Rossford their first loss back in December.

Semifinals – Evergreen over Johnstown-Monroe; Ottawa-Glandorf over Colonel Crawford

Final – Ottawa-Glandorf over Evergreen

STATE

D3 semifinal games will be the Friday afternoon doubleheader with the championship the late Saturday afternoon game.

Semifinals – Cincinnati Deer Park over Warrensville Heights; Ottawa-Glandorf over Canal Winchester Harvest Prep

Championship Game – Ottawa-Glandorf over Cincinnati Deer Park

DIVISION IV

REGIONALS

All D4 regional semifinal games will be played Tuesday night with regional championship games scheduled for Friday night.

UNIVERSITY OF DAYTON: Fort Loramie won a fourth straight district championship while Jackson Center won a second consecutive district title. Jackson Center was the runner-up to Anna in the Shelby County Athletic League followed by Fort Loramie. Jackson Center became the poster child for the radical shot clock advocates after their 24-12 sectional win over Russia. Columbus Wellington School finished in 4th place in the Mid-State League Ohio.

Semifinals – Jackson Center over Cincinnati Christian; Columbus Wellington School over Fort Loramie

Final – Columbus Wellington School over Jackson Center

OHIO UNIVERSITY: Hiland won their fourth consecutive district championship. The Hawks defeated #1 seed Zanesville Rosecrans in a sectional final played at Rosecrans. Hiland was the D4 state runner-up in 2019. Grandview Heights won a D3 district championship in 2019. Grandview finished in 3rd place in the Mid-State League Ohio. The only losses for Peebles were back-to-to back in mid-December to Seaman North Adams (they still love Jim Marquette down there) and Sardinia Eastern Brown. Does Hiland drive through West Virginia to get to the Convo?

Semifinals – Grandview Heights over Glouster Trimble;

Berlin Hiland over Peebles

Final – Grandview Heights over Berlin Hiland

BOWLING GREEN STATE UNIVERSITY: Undefeated Columbus Grove meets undefeated Antwerp in a regional semifinal at the Stroh Center. When was the last time two undefeated teams from Northwest Ohio met in a regional game? Willard versus Napoleon in 1981? Grove won both the PCL and the NWC while Antwerp won the GMC. Grove won a second consecutive district championship. Antwerp won their first district title since 1991. Parkway won the first district championship in school history. The Panthers finished as the runner-up to Versailles in the MAC. Tiffin Calvert won their first district title since going back-to-back in 2004 and 2005. The Senecas finished behind Old Fort and Hopewell-Loudon in the SBC River.

Semifinals – Columbus Grove over Antwerp; Parkway over Tiffin Calvert

Final – Columbus Grove over Parkway

CANTON FIELDHOUSE: Richmond Heights won a second straight district championship. The Spartans won the regional at Canton in 2019 before losing to Convoy Crestview in Columbus. Lucas won their first district championship since going back-to-back in 1999 and 2000. The lone loss on the season for the Cubs came against D3 Waynedale. McDonald's Zach Rasile scored 50 points in the district final against Salineville Southern. Rasile will finish with over 3,000 points and second only to Jon Diebler of Upper Sandusky in career scoring. Warren JFK is the only team winning a district championship with a losing record.

Semifinals – Richmond Heights over Warren John F. Kennedy; Lucas over McDonald

Final – Richmond Heights over Lucas



rwtech.com

STATE

D4 semifinal games will be the Thursday night doubleheader with the championship game the early Saturday afternoon game.

Semifinals – Grandview Heights over Columbus Wellington School; Richmond Heights over Columbus Grove

Championship Game – Richmond Heights over Grandview

Trail Trash

Heights

That wraps up our twenty-seventh season of Trail Trash. All facts, fiction, errors, and opinions are those of the Swami. The Davey1 staff will be spending plenty of time the next two weeks in Bowling Green and Columbus. Thanks again for reading. See you next year.

Trail Trash