

Trail Trash

Issue #2

“Our 20th Anniversary”

**2013 OHSAA Boys High School
Basketball Tournament**

**Published exclusively by Dave Spengler
and on the net at www.Davey1.com**

*Featuring Commentary &
Predictions by ...*

The Swami

Welcome to our second edition of Trail Trash for 2013 as we have hit the halfway point of the tournament season.

Looking around Northwest Ohio over the past two weeks, there were some surprises but nothing that would fall under the major upset category. Nine of the district champions were the top seeds at their sectional sites while the other three district champs were second seeded. Toledo St. John's was thought to be the class of the D1 Toledo district, but the Titans suffered a major blow when point guard Austin Gardner went down with an injury the day before their district semifinal against Rogers. The Rams' dominance of that district was more surprising than actually winning the championship. Norwalk was the lone undefeated team in Northwest Ohio before losing to Mansfield Senior in the D1 district semifinal at Galion. The

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.

Truckers will head into the 2013-2014 season on a forty-three game regular season winning streak. For their undefeated regular season, Norwalk is our latest inductee to the Davey1.com Hall of Fame. That will bring membership to sixteen teams covering the past nine seasons.

As we look ahead, there will be plenty of regional tournament action in Northwest Ohio. Bowling Green State University will host regional tournaments in D2, D3, and D4 at the Stroh Center. The University of Toledo will host a D1 semifinal game and the D1 regional championship game at Savage Arena. Time to move on to our preview of regional and state tournament play.

DIVISION I

Just four of the fourteen teams ranked in the final Associated Press D1 poll have advanced to the regional level. Top-ranked Columbus Northland is the lone undefeated team in D1. Three teams (defending state champion Pickerington Central, Mentor, and Shaker Heights) also advanced to regional play in 2012. Mentor is in the regional for the sixth consecutive season.

REGIONALS

CLEVELAND STATE UNIVERSITY: #8 Mentor and #12 Shaker Heights are ranked teams at the Wolstein Center. Mentor is averaging 101 points per game over their first four tournament games. Shaker Heights defeated #7 Cleveland St. Ignatius in a district final while North Royalton eliminated #12 Lakewood St. Edward's in their district final. That snapped St. Edward's run of eight straight district championships. Harrison Blackledge is the top player for North Canton Hoover. Shakers Heights (Esa Ahmad) and North Royalton (Omari Spellman) have great young talent.

Semifinals – Mentor over North Canton Hoover;
Shaker Heights over North Royalton

Final – Shaker
Heights over
Mentor

**COLUMBUS
FAIRGROUNDS:**
#1 Columbus
Northland is the
only ranked team at
the Barn.



Northland defeated #12 Olentangy Liberty in a district final. This is the Viking's fifth trip to the regionals in the past seven seasons. Pickerington Central returns two starters from their 2012 state championship team including an Ohio State commit in junior Jae'Sean Tate. Gahanna Lincoln has an Akron commit in Aaron Jackson. The Lions' Javon Bess is a transfer from Pick Central where he was a key contributor in the Tigers' run to the 2012 state title. Pickerington Central and Gahanna split in their two regular season games.

Semifinals – Pickerington Central over Gahanna Lincoln;
Columbus Northland over Canton Timken

Final – Columbus Northland over Pickerington Central

XAVIER UNIVERSITY: #3 Cincinnati Walnut Hills is the lone ranked team at the Cintas Center. Walnut Hills' only loss is to Huntington (WV) Prep. The Eagles have an Akron commit in 6'9" Isaiah Johnson and an Ohio commit in D.J. Wingfield. Springboro advanced with a win over #6 Cincinnati Moeller in a district final. Springboro has a University of Illinois commit in 6'11" Maverick Morgan. 2011 D1 state champion Cincinnati LaSalle eliminated #11 Huber Heights Wayne in their district final. Colerain entered tournament play with a losing record.

Semifinals – Cincinnati LaSalle over Cincinnati Colerain;
Cincinnati Walnut Hills over Springboro

Final – Cincinnati Walnut Hills over Cincinnati LaSalle

UNIVERSITY OF TOLEDO: There are no ranked teams in this split regional. Toledo Rogers and Anthony Wayne will play their semifinal game at Toledo while Nordonia and Brecksville-Broadview Heights will play at the University of Akron in the other semifinal. The championship game will be played at Savage Arena in Toledo. Rogers defeated #5 Toledo St. John's in a district semifinal and #9 Toledo Central Catholic in the district final. Anthony Wayne's win over Mansfield Senior gave the Generals their first district title. AW has a Michigan commit in 6'9" Mark Donnal.

Semifinals – Nordonia over Brecksville-Broadview Heights; Toledo Rogers over Anthony Wayne

Final – Toledo Rogers over Nordonia

STATE

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

Semifinals – Columbus Northland over Shaker Heights;
Cincinnati Walnut Hills over Toledo Rogers

Final – Cincinnati Walnut Hills over Columbus Northland

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DIVISION II

Six of the eleven teams ranked in the final Associated Press D2 poll have reached the regionals. Top ranked Dayton Thurgood Marshall was eliminated by Kettering Alter in a district semifinal. Six teams (defending D2 state champion Dayton Dunbar, Akron St. Vincent-St. Mary, St. Clairsville, New Philadelphia, Sandusky Perkins, Cleveland Benedictine) also advanced to the regionals in 2012. Akron SVSM has five consecutive district titles while Dayton Dunbar has four straight.

REGIONALS

CANTON CIVIC CENTER: #11 Akron SVSM is the only ranked team at Canton. The SVSM enters the regional with nine losses for the third consecutive year including 2011 when the Irish won the D2 state championship. This is Cuyahoga Valley Christian Academy's first trip to the regional in D2 following several regional appearances as a D3 school. Cardinal Mooney coach Brian Danilov won the 1993 D3 state title at Campbell Memorial. Warrensville Heights coach Brian Swift won a D3 state title in 1999 as a player at Bedford St. Peter Chanel and played on the 2001 D2 state runner-up Warrensville Heights team.

Semifinals – Akron St. Vincent-St. Mary over Cuyahoga Valley Christian Academy; Warrensville Heights over Youngstown Cardinal Mooney

Final – Akron St. Vincent-St. Mary over Warrensville Heights

OHIO UNIVERSITY: #5 St. Clairsville and #9 Vincent Warren are ranked teams at the Convo. The Red Devils return their entire 2012 state final four team. Dan Monteroso of St. Clairsville, a Purdue football recruit, has scored over 2,000 career points. New Philadelphia reached the regional final in 2012. Vincent Warren's district championship was the first in school history. The Warriors' only loss is to Upper Arlington. A young Athens team makes the short trip to the "Roundhouse on Richland" after winning the school's first district title since 1965.

Semifinals – Vincent Warren over Athens; St. Clairsville over New Philadelphia

Final – St. Clairsville over Vincent Warren

KETTERING FAIRMONT: #7 Kettering Alter and #10 Dayton Dunbar are ranked teams at Trent Arena. In addition to Kettering Alter's win over #1 Dayton Thurgood Marshall, Cincinnati Hughes defeated #6 Trotwood-Madison in a district final and Dayton Dunbar eliminated #8 Franklin in a district

semifinal. Kettering Alter coach Joe Petrocelli will retire at season's end after forty-nine years and over eight hundred wins. He is the only basketball coach in Alter history. Dunbar returns two starters from their 2012 D2 state championship team. Columbus Marion Franklin entered tournament play under .500.

Semifinals – Kettering Alter over Columbus Marion-Franklin; Cincinnati Hughes over Dayton Dunbar

Final – Kettering Alter over Cincinnati Hughes

BOWLING GREEN STATE UNIVERSITY: #2 Columbus Bishop Watterson is the only ranked team at the Stroh Center. Watterson eliminated #3 Columbus Brookhaven in overtime in their district final. That avenged Bishop Watterson's only loss on the season. Lima Bath won their first Western Buckeye League title since 1970 and the first district championship in school history. Sandusky Perkins has two 1,000-point career scorers in senior Brandon Smith and junior Nic Williams. Cleveland Benedictine's sixteen losses are the most by any team still playing in the tournament.

Semifinals – Columbus Bishop Watterson over Sandusky Perkins; Lima Bath over Cleveland Benedictine

Final – Lima Bath over Columbus Bishop Watterson

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 St. Clairsville; Kettering Alter over Lima Bath

Final – Kettering Alter over Akron St. Vincent-St. Mary

DIVISION III

Nine of the thirteen teams ranked in the final Associated Press D3 state poll have advanced to regional tournaments. Seven teams (defending D3 state champion Cincinnati Summit Country Day, Ironton, Ottawa-Glandorf, Lima Central Catholic, St. Bernard Roger Bacon, Worthington Christian, Versailles) also advanced to the regional in 2012.

Roger Bacon has four consecutive district championships including D2 titles in 2010 and 2011. Summit Country Day and Ottawa-Glandorf have three straight district titles.

REGIONALS

OHIO UNIVERSITY: #3 Ironton, #9 Picketon, and #10 Oak Hill are ranked teams at the Convo. Oak Hill eliminated #12 Sardinia Eastern Brown in a district final. Ironton's two losses were to teams from Florida. The Tigers have played teams from five states plus the District of Columbia. Ironton's Zac Carter is the D3 player of the year in

The Swami

Southeastern Ohio. Picketon coach Jeff Lisath will retire at the end of the season to focus on his job as Warden of the Dayton Correctional Institute. Oak Hill won the D4 state championship in 2009. Coach Norm Persin of the Oaks has over 600 career wins.

Semifinals – Ironton over Martins Ferry; Picketon over Oak Hill

Final – Ironton over Picketon

BOWLING GREEN STATE UNIVERSITY: #4 Lima Central Catholic, #5 Bloom-Carroll, and #6 Ottawa-Glandorf are ranked teams at the Stroh. Ottawa-Glandorf advanced to the 2012 state final four after defeating Lima Central Catholic in the regional final at BG. O-G and LCC met this past December with the T-Birds winning on the road at Ottawa. Bloom-Carroll's only loss is to Columbus Bishop Hartley. The Bulldogs were the top seed in the Central district, and chose the Bowling Green regional route rather than the road to Kettering. We will see if that was a good move. Isaac McGlone of Bloom-Carroll is an Eastern Kentucky commit.

Semifinals – Ottawa-Glandorf over Lima Central Catholic; Bloom-Carroll over Huron

Final – Ottawa-Glandorf over Bloom-Carroll

KETTERING FAIRMONT: #1 Cincinnati Summit Country Day and #7 St. Bernard Roger Bacon are ranked teams at Kettering. Summit Country Day returned four starters from their 2012 D3 state championship team and added transfer Macio Teague. Kevin Johnson of Summit is a Cincinnati commit. The regional semifinal between Summit Country Day and Greater Catholic League member Roger Bacon will go a long way in determining the 2013 state champ in D3. Versailles finished in a tie for fourth in the Midwest Athletic Conference. Worthington Christian advanced to the BG regional in 2012.

Semifinals – St. Bernard Roger Bacon over Cincinnati Summit Country Day; Versailles over Worthington Christian

Final – St. Bernard Roger Bacon over Versailles

CANTON FIELDHOUSE: #8 Beachwood is the only ranked team at Canton. On paper, this is the weakest of the four regions in D3. Beachwood won their first district title in school history. LaBrae was undefeated in 2012 before losing in a district semifinal. A pair of juniors, John Davis III of Beachwood and 6'7" Peyton Aldridge of LaBrae, are the players of the year in D3 for Northeast Ohio. Oberlin



eliminated three-time defending district champion Orrville while Louisville St. Thomas Aquinas beat the top two seeds in their district to advance.

Semifinals – Beachwood over Louisville St. Thomas Aquinas; Leavittsburg LaBrae over Oberlin

Final – Beachwood over Leavittsburg LaBrae

STATE

D3 will kick off the ninety-first consecutive Boys State Basketball Tournament, on Thursday, March 21. The championship game will be played Saturday morning.

Semifinals – Ironton over Ottawa-Glandorf; St. Bernard Roger Bacon over Beachwood

Final- St. Bernard Roger Bacon over Ironton

DIVISION IV

Four of the thirteen teams ranked in the final Associated Press D4 state poll have advanced to the regional level. Four teams (Jackson Center, Windham, Edgerton, Colonel Crawford) also advanced to the regional tournament in 2012. For Windham and Edgerton, it marks a third straight trip to the regional. Top ranked New Madison Tri-Village is the lone undefeated team in D4.

REGIONALS

KETTERING FAIRMONT: #1 New Madison Tri-Village, #12 Delphos St. John's, and #12 Jackson Center are ranked teams at Kettering Fairmont. Delphos St. John's defeated #4 St. Henry in a district final. Only two of Tri-Village's win have been by less than ten points. Tri-Village has a regular season win over Troy Christian. Jackson Center was the D4 state runner-up in 2012. Delphos St. John's last won a district title in 2002 when the Blue Jays also won a D4 state championship. Troy Christian won their first district title in school history.

Semifinals – Delphos St. John's over Jackson Center; New Madison Tri-Village over Troy Christian

Final – Delphos St. John's over New Madison Tri-Village

CANTON FIELDHOUSE: #2 Cleveland Villa Angela-St. Joseph is the lone ranked team at Canton. VASJ defeated #7 Richmond Heights in a district final. The Vikings are the heavy favorite in this regional. VASJ has D1 commitments in DeMonte Flannigan (Cleveland State) and Duane Gibson (Evansville). Hannibal River defeated two-time defending D4 state champion Berlin Hiland in overtime to advance to the regional.

Semifinals – Youngstown Christian over Hannibal River; Cleveland Villa Angela-St. Joseph over Windham

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Final – Cleveland Villa Angela-St. Joseph over Youngstown Christian

BOWLING GREEN STATE UNIVERSITY: There are no ranked teams at BG. Ottawa Hills defeated #8 Old Fort in a district semifinal and #9 Toledo Christian in the district final. On paper, this regional looks like a battle between Ottawa Hills and Leipsic. OH is back at full strength, and their size will create problems. Leipsic likes to get the ball up and down the floor. Edgerton was the regional runner-up to Arlington in 2012 and returns experience from that team. Colonel Crawford also brings back experience from their 2012 trip to the regional at BGSU.

Semifinals – Leipsic over Edgerton; Ottawa Hills over Colonel Crawford

Finals – Leipsic over Ottawa Hills

OHIO DOMINICAN UNIVERSITY: There are no ranked teams in this split regional. Portsmouth Notre Dame and South Webster will meet in a semifinal at Ohio University with Danville and Lancaster Fairfield Christian meeting in a semifinal at ODU in Columbus. The championship game will be played at Ohio Dominican. Danville defeated #5 Columbus Africentric and Fairfield Christian eliminated #6 Newark Catholic in district finals. The win over Africentric gave Fairfield Christian their first district title. Danville had not won a district title since 1937 while Portsmouth Notre Dame is advancing to their first regional since 1973. South Webster won the D4 state championship in 2006.

Semifinals – South Webster over Portsmouth Notre Dame; Lancaster Fairfield Christian over Danville

Final – Lancaster Fairfield Christian over South Webster

STATE

The D4 semifinals will be the early games on Friday, with the final being the late Saturday afternoon game.

Semifinals – Cleveland Villa Angela-St. Joseph over Delphos St. John's; Leipsic over Lancaster Fairfield Christian

Final – Cleveland Villa Angela-St. Joseph over Leipsic

That finishes up our twentieth year of Trail Trash. All facts, fiction, and opinions are those of the Swami. You can contact us webmaster@davey1.com. See you in Columbus if not sooner.