

## 2022 OHSAA Boys High School Basketball Tournament On the net at [www.Davey1.com](http://www.Davey1.com)

*Featuring Commentary & Predictions by ...*

# The Swami

*See Page 9 for the History of Davey1.com*

Welcome to Trail Trash and the Swami for our twenty-ninth year. This basketball season has flown by as we approach what appears will be a fairly normal tournament season. Hopefully.

It has been so good this season to return to watching basketball games in person. Last season was tough as a fan regardless of how many games were streamed live, and being able to attend a handful of tournament games was therapeutic. There have been pauses for some teams this season, but all in all things are starting to look normal. Thank you to the athletic directors, coaches, administrators, and teams for making this season what it is.

For 2022, Northwest Ohio has gone back to holding sectional tournaments at neutral sites after the higher seeds hosted during 2021. It is déjà vu all over again as the sectional sites for 2022 are the same as they were in 2020. District tournament sites are a combination of 2020 and 2022. Division II returns to the awe-inspiring ONU Sports Center (when did it stop being the King-Horn Center?) in Ada after a one-year hiatus while Division III is back at Norwalk after a year at Shelby. In Division I, Lake and Toledo Central Catholic return as district sites for a second year after the University of Toledo hosted for a number of seasons. It is the Swami's understanding that all sectional and district tournaments will be split sessions with gyms being cleared following each game, and all tickets will be digital. Who gets the fee that is added to the

cost of digital tickets purchased through Hometown Ticketing?

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Digital tickets purchased at the door (no cash) will cost an additional \$2. Not sure why. Just make sure you print your ticket if you have an iPhone that has a tendency to freeze up at the most inopportune time.

For the 2022 tournament, no teams changed divisions. Enrollment numbers and the competitive balance adjustments are the same as the numbers that were used for the 2021 tournament. For 2023, we will see new enrollment numbers and updated competitive balance adjustments which will likely result in quite a bit of movement of teams among the divisions.

The time has come for the Swami to go the RPI rankings ..... I mean go clean off the ouija board and make some predictions. But before doing that, I just want to say again how good it is to be back watching games in person this season.

### DIVISION I

As has been the practice for the past six seasons, all D1 teams in Northwest Ohio were seeded together and then assigned to

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**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.

one of the two districts based on whatever line on the bracket was chosen at the tournament draw. With just eighteen teams in D1, fourteen teams went straight to the sectional finals at the draw with only two sectional semifinal games.

Sylvania Northview and Lima Senior have been fixtures in the weekly state poll with Northview topping out at the fourth spot in the final poll and the Spartans eighth. Northview's only loss was at Lima back in December. Perrysburg also made a brief appearance in the poll while Toledo Whitmer has flown under the radar. Those four along with Findlay and Toledo St. John's are seen as top contenders for the two regional spots. It will take some significant upsets for any of the other D1 teams to advance to the district finals.

District winners from Lake and Toledo Central Catholic will meet in a regional semifinal game at the University of Toledo. The other regional semifinal will match the winners from the districts at Copley and Elyria Catholic at the always popular site to be determined. Brecksville-Broadview Heights, Cleveland St. Ignatius, Shaker Heights, and Cleveland Heights are the top contenders from those Northeast Ohio districts. The regional semifinal winners will play at the University of Toledo for the regional championship.

### **SECTIONALS**

GENOA (LAKE DISTRICT): #3 Perrysburg and #5 Findlay are the top seeds at Genoa. Perrysburg finished right behind Northview in the NLL race. The only losses for the Yellow Jackets were to Northview (twice) and at Central Catholic. St. Francis took Perrysburg down to the wire back in December and came close to upsetting Lima Senior. Findlay came on strong following a slow start. Coach Jim Rucki posted career win #500 (Rocky River and Findlay) earlier in the season and recently became the winningest coach in Findlay basketball history.

Semifinal – Anthony Wayne over Springfield

Finals – Findlay over Anthony Wayne; Perrysburg over Toledo St. Francis

FOSTORIA (LAKE DISTRICT): #1 Lima Senior and #7 Sylvania Southview are the top seeds at FHS. Lima Senior won a fourth straight TRAC championship (two outright and two shared). Lima's only losses are to Mansfield Senior while missing several key contributors and at Whitmer. Southview and Toledo Start meet in a solid sectional final matchup after Southview won the regular season meeting. Southview has underachieved but still finished in 3<sup>rd</sup> place in the NLL. Start finished on top of the City League standings and won the league championship game.

Finals – Lima Senior over Toledo Waite; Sylvania

Southview over Toledo Start

ROSSFORD (TOLEDO CENTRAL CATHOLIC DISTRICT): #2 Sylvania Northview and #8 Ashland are the top seeds at Rossford. Northview is the NLL champion with only a non-league loss at Lima Senior. Sean Craig became Northview's career scoring leader in late November and has over 1,000 career rebounds. Ashland won the OCC crown after a wild title race. Luke Denbow is the career scoring leader at Ashland and tied the single game scoring record originally set in 1970. Ashland, Mansfield Madison, and Bowling Green will battle it out for a district berth.

Semifinal – Bowling Green over Mansfield Madison

Finals – Bowling Green over Ashland; Sylvania Northview over Toledo Bowsher

TOLEDO START (TOLEDO CENTRAL CATHOLIC DISTRICT): #4 Toledo Whitmer and #6 Toledo St. John's Jesuit are the top seeds at Start. Whitmer finished in 2<sup>nd</sup> place behind Lima Senior in the TRAC handing the Spartans their lone league setback. St. John's ended the season in 5<sup>th</sup> place in the TRAC but dominated Whitmer in their recent meeting. SJJ's only loss outside the league was by 5 points to Lakewood St. Edward. Fremont Ross lost at SJJ on a buzzer-beater and led Whitmer, Findlay, and Central in the 4<sup>th</sup> quarter so things could get very interesting at Roy C.

Finals – Toledo St. John's Jesuit over Fremont Ross; Toledo Whitmer over Clay

### **DISTRICTS**

LAKE: Lima Senior won the Lake district in 2021 advancing to the regional final. This marked a third consecutive district championship for the Spartans.

Semifinals – Findlay over Perrysburg; Lima Senior over Sylvania Southview

Final – Lima Senior over Findlay

TOLEDO CENTRAL CATHOLIC: Toledo St. John's Jesuit won the Central Catholic district in 2021. The Titans were eliminated from their regional semifinal by contact tracing.

Semifinals – Sylvania Northview over Bowling Green; Toledo Whitmer over Toledo St. John's Jesuit

Final – Sylvania Northview over Toledo Whitmer

## DIVISION II

Toledo Central Catholic spent the majority of the year ranked as a top five team in the D2 state poll before finishing in the ninth spot in the final poll. Lexington was ranked top ten in the first two polls while Huron was ranked twelfth in the penultimate poll before disappearing.

Central Catholic, Sandusky, Tiffin Columbian, and Rossford all advanced to the district tournament at Lake a season ago. Central Catholic is the team to beat this season at Lake while the other three went away from the Irish on the bracket. Clyde also figures in the mix.

The ONU District is the most intriguing in D2. After being dominated by Lima Shawnee the past three seasons, there is no clear-cut favorite. Five WBL teams (Defiance, St. Marys, Van Wert, Wapakoneta, Shawnee) are seen as the top contenders with Napoleon knocking at the door.

In the district at Ashland High School, Huron is the favorite with Shelby viewed as their main challenger. Lexington is looking to return to their early season form. Can the Minutemen, Norwalk, Upper Sandusky, or Bellevue make a run at the top two seeds?

The winners of the Ohio Northern District and the Ashland District will meet in a regional semifinal at Bowling Green while the winner of the Lake District will face the winner of the North Ridgeville District in the other semifinal at the Stroh Center. Akron Buchtel and Gates Mills Gilmour Academy are the top contenders at North Ridgeville.

## SECTIONALS

GENOA (LAKE DISTRICT): #2 Sandusky, #3 Tiffin Columbian, and #4 Rossford are the top seeds at Genoa. Rather than heading over to Central Catholic's side of the bracket, Rossford with a win over Woodward will face Tiffin Columbian in a sectional final. Rossford is the runner-up to Eastwood in the NBC race, and the Bulldogs are still trying to put it all together. Tiffin Columbian was the pre-season pick to win the SBC Lake but finished in the 2<sup>nd</sup> spot behind Sandusky. The Blue Streaks under first-year head coach DeMar Moore are the SBC Lake champions with their only league loss to Clyde. The top two returning players for Rogers transferred out.

Semifinals – Rossford over Toledo Woodward; Toledo Rogers over Perkins

Finals – Rossford over Tiffin Columbian; Sandusky over Toledo Rogers

TOLEDO BOWSHER (LAKE DISTRICT): #1 Toledo Central Catholic is the top seed at Bowsher. Central had no seniors on last season's district championship team.

The Irish finished in a tie for 3<sup>rd</sup> place with Findlay in the TRAC standings. Clyde grabbed the bye with Rossford going to Genoa. Clyde recently had a seven-game winning streak snapped. The semifinals should be very competitive. Port Clinton will finish with a winning record for the first time since 2010 while Maumee is much improved. Scott was the pre-season pick to win the City League but lost to Start in the league championship game. Fostoria finishes with a winning record after ending the regular season with six games in nine days

Semifinals – Maumee over Port Clinton; Fostoria over Toledo Scott

Finals – Clyde over Maumee; Toledo Central Catholic over Fostoria

LIMA SENIOR (OHIO NORTHERN DISTRICT): #2 St. Marys and #4 Van Wert are the top seeds at Lima. St. Marys and Van Wert are part of a three-team logjam along with Lima Shawnee behind Ottawa-Glandorf and Defiance in the WBL standings. St. Marys appears to have the clearest path to the district. Austin Parks of St. Marys (a 6'10" junior) recently announced his commitment to Ohio State. Van Wert's six losses to date are by a total of nineteen points including a two-point loss at Ottawa-Glandorf. The Cougars and Wauseon will meet in a bruising sectional final matchup. The Indians finished in a tie for 4<sup>th</sup> place with Archbold in the NWOAL.

Semifinal – Celina over Kenton

Finals – St. Marys over Celina; Van Wert over Wauseon

PAULDING (OHIO NORTHERN DISTRICT): #1 Defiance and #3 Wapakoneta are the top seeds at Paulding. Defiance finished in 2<sup>nd</sup> place in the WBL behind Ottawa-Glandorf. The Bulldogs have been on a roll since early January. Wapak had a late season ten-game winning streak before back-to-back losses to Marion Local and Defiance. Shawnee returned one starter from last season's regional championship team. The Indians started the season strong but have scuffled some since mid-January. Napoleon finished with a winning record and shared 4<sup>th</sup> place with Bowling Green in the NLL standings. Both sectional final games should be tightly contested.

Semifinals – Napoleon over Elida; Lima Shawnee over Bryan

Finals – Defiance over Napoleon; Lima Shawnee over Wapakoneta

BUCYRUS (ASHLAND DISTRICT): #2 Shelby and #3



Lexington are the top seeds at Bucyrus. Shelby has reloaded after losing two 1,000-point scorers to graduation and won the MOAC championship. Lexington ended up tied for the runner-up spot in a chaotic OCC race. Lex might be the #3 seed, but the Minutemen have the easiest path to the district. Lexington will move into a new gym next season. It has been a rough season for Mansfield Senior despite an early December win over Lima Senior. The Tygers finished at the bottom of the OCC standings but showed some signs of life during the final week of the season.

Semifinal – Mansfield Senior over Galion

Finals – Shelby over Mansfield Senior; Lexington over Clear Fork

**WILLARD (ASHLAND DISTRICT):** #1 Huron and #4 Norwalk are the top seeds at Bob Haas. Huron finished tied with Margaretta for the SBC Bay title. Huron's only losses are to Western Reserve and at Margaretta by a total of 3 points. For whatever reason, Huron did not take the bye. The bottom of the bracket is interesting with Norwalk, Upper Sandusky, and Bellevue duking it out. Norwalk passed on the bye so Upper grabbed it. The Rams finish in the runner-up spot in the N10 behind Colonel Crawford. Bellevue finished the regular season at .500 for their best record since the '12-'13 season.

Semifinals – Huron over Vermilion; Bellevue over Norwalk

Finals – Huron over Ontario; Bellevue over Upper Sandusky

### **DISTRICTS**

**LAKE:** Toledo Central Catholic won the district at Lake in 2021 despite a losing record.

Semifinals – Rossford over Sandusky; Toledo Central Catholic over Clyde

Final – Toledo Central Catholic over Rossford

**OHIO NORTHERN UNIVERSITY:** The district was played at Spencerville in 2021 with Lima Shawnee winning a third straight championship.

Semifinals – St. Marys over Van Wert; Defiance over Lima Shawnee

Final – St. Marys over Defiance

**ASHLAND:** Shelby won the Ashland district in 2021.

Semifinals – Shelby over Lexington; Huron over Bellevue

Final – Huron over Shelby

### **DIVISION III**

Teams from Northwest Ohio dominate the final D3 state poll taking five of the spots in the top ten. Undefeated Colonel Crawford (coached by Dave Sheldon) is the poll champion in D3 followed by Ottawa-Glandorf. Wayne Trace finished in a tie for the fourth spot while Western Reserve (coached by Dave Sheldon's brother Chris) was sixth and Swanton ended up eighth. Colonel Crawford is one of four teams statewide (two from Northwest Ohio) among all divisions that finished the regular season undefeated.

The district at Norwalk has Colonel Crawford and Western Reserve with Willard the potential spoiler. The brothers Sheldon have only met once in their coaching careers with Crawford winning a regular season matchup last season. The two teams were on a collision course in the 2021 tournament before Willard soundly thrashed Colonel Crawford at Shelby.

Swanton might be state-ranked, but Eastwood got the top seed in the Central Catholic District. Archbold is the other top contender in that district. There are several teams capable of being the spoiler in what should be a very interesting district.

State-ranked Ottawa-Glandorf and Wayne Trace are the top teams in the Lima Senior District. Bluffton and Liberty-Benton are also having outstanding seasons while Lima Central Catholic and Allen East could also be factors. Can any team can make a run at Ottawa-Glandorf?

District winners from Toledo Central Catholic and Lima Senior will meet in a regional semifinal at Bowling Green. The winner of the Norwalk District will face the winner of one of the Columbus districts in the other regional semifinal at BGSU. Canal Winchester Harvest Prep is the top contender in that district with North Union, Centerburg, and Columbus Academy also in the mix. Columbus Africentric and Columbus Bishop Ready, the top two D3 seeds out of Columbus, chose the tournament path leading to a potential district final matchup with the winner heading to Ohio University for the regional.

### **SECTIONALS**

**MONROEVILLE (NORWALK DISTRICT):** #1 Colonel Crawford and #4 Elmwood are the top seeds at Monroeville. Colonel Crawford has not lost a regular season game since January 2020 when Upper Sandusky defeated the Eagles. The Eagles are the N10 champions and have dominated opponents with every win by double digits. Elmwood finished in 3<sup>rd</sup> place behind Eastwood and Rossford in the NBC. Bryce Reynolds became Elmwood's career scoring leader in early February



breaking Tom Barringer's record that stood for 45 years. Elmwood, Oak Harbor, and Ashland Crestview will fight it out for an opportunity to face Crawford in the district. Watch out for speeding tickets.

Semifinals – Edison over Lakota; Elmwood over Ashland Crestview; Oak Harbor over Wynford

Finals – Colonel Crawford over Edison; Elmwood over Oak Harbor

HOPEWELL-LOUDON (NORWALK DISTRICT): #2 Western Reserve and #3 Willard are the top seeds at HL. Western Reserve won five games by three points or less before losing to undefeated Tiffin Calvert to close out the regular season. That broke WR's thirty-nine game home winning streak. The Roughriders won their fifth straight Firelands Conference championship. Willard has been inconsistent this season. The Flashes dominated Colonel Crawford in the 2021 district but are going the Western Reserve route this year. Isaac Mason of Seneca East has twice set single game scoring records for the Tigers this season topping out at 47 points. Bucyrus has never won a sectional championship.

Semifinals – Seneca East over Bucyrus; Van Buren over Woodmore

Finals – Western Reserve over Seneca East; Willard over Van Buren

SPRINGFIELD (TOLEDO CENTRAL CATHOLIC DISTRICT): #1 Eastwood is the top seed at Springfield. Eastwood is the NBC champion over Rossford. The Eagles had three conference games the final week of the regular season so the bye will give them some rest. The other half of the bracket is competitive. Ottawa Hills is the TAAC champion. John Lindsey of Ottawa Hills earned career win #400 in December. Eastwood edged the Green Bears in a February matchup. Evergreen has played much better since the middle of January and finished in a tie for the runner-up spot in the NWOAL. Both Liberty Center and Maumee Valley could really shake things up.

Semifinals – Delta over Otsego; Ottawa Hills over Liberty Center; Evergreen over Maumee Valley Country Day

Finals – Eastwood over Delta; Ottawa Hills over Evergreen

WAUSEON (TOLEDO CENTRAL CATHOLIC DISTRICT): #2 Swanton, #3 Archbold, and #4 Cardinal Stritch are the top seeds at Wauseon. Swanton won their first outright NWOAL title since 1982. Swanton played without leading scorer Nic Borojevich in losses to Stryker and one-win Clay. Coach Bruce Smith earned career win #500 (Delta, Whitmer, Southview, Swanton) in early

December. Archbold has battled through a number of injuries and will definitely be a factor. Cardinal Stritch got the #4 seed (a bit of a surprise) and jumped on Swanton's bracket. The Cardinals finished in the runner-up spot in the TAAC despite losing their top two returnees to Rossford and Toledo Scott in the transfer portal. Genoa's handed Eastwood their only NBC loss.

Semifinals – Cardinal Stritch over Northwood; Genoa over Lake

Finals – Swanton over Cardinal Stritch; Archbold over Genoa

ELIDA (LIMA SENIOR DISTRICT): #1 Ottawa-Glandorf and #4 Liberty-Benton are the top seeds at the Elida Fieldhouse. Ottawa-Glandorf is the WBL champion. The Titans have played one of the toughest schedules in the state for a D3 school losing only to Lima Senior and in overtime at Findlay. Liberty-Benton finished in 2<sup>nd</sup> place behind Pandora-Gilboa in the BVC race after losing to the Rockets in the regular season finale. Allen East finishes with a winning record for the first time since the '02-'03 season highlighted by a win over D1 Middletown. The Mustangs will face Lima Central Catholic in what figures to be a very good sectional semifinal matchup.

Semifinals – Coldwater over Riverdale; Liberty-Benton over Delphos Jefferson; Lima Central Catholic over Allen East

Finals – Ottawa-Glandorf over Coldwater; Lima Central Catholic over Liberty-Benton

MILLER CITY (LIMA SENIOR DISTRICT): #2 Wayne Trace and #3 Bluffton are the top seeds at MC. Wayne Trace is the GMC champion beating out Antwerp. The only losses for the Raiders were at Van Wert by one point and at Shawnee. Wayne Trace's two leading scorers are sophomores. Bluffton is the co-champion with Convoy Crestview in the NWC.



Bluffton losses are to Liberty-Benton in early December and Columbus Grove. Lima Bath got off to a very slow start. The results have been better of late but still a disappointing season for the Wildcats. Bath is coach by Sean Powell who led Botkins to the 2021 state championship in D4.

Semifinals – Lima Bath over Paulding; Fairview over Tinora

Finals – Bluffton over Lima Bath; Wayne Trace over Fairview

## DISTRICTS

NORWALK: The district was played at Shelby in 2021 with Western Reserve winning the title.

Semifinals – Colonel Crawford over Elmwood; Western Reserve over Willard

Final – Colonel Crawford over Western Reserve

TOLEDO CENTRAL CATHOLIC: Archbold won the Central Catholic district in 2021.

Semifinals – Eastwood over Ottawa Hills; Archbold over Swanton

Final – Eastwood over Archbold

LIMA SENIOR: Ottawa-Glandorf won a second straight district championship at Lima in 2021.

Semifinals – Ottawa-Glandorf over Lima Central Catholic; Wayne Trace over Bluffton

Final – Ottawa-Glandorf over Wayne Trace

## DIVISION IV

Undefeated Tiffin Calvert finished tied with Botkins as Ohio's top-ranked D4 team according to the Associated Press poll. Antwerp dropped from the top spot to third in the final poll despite finishing the season with a win over defending Indiana 2A state champion Fort Wayne Blackhawk Christian. New Bremen finishes tied for the eighth spot while Margaretta finished tied for tenth. For whatever reason, Marion Local disappeared from the final poll.

Margaretta is at the top in the Willard District with Lucas, South Central, and Monroeville the other top contenders. This district is top-heavy, and it will take some significant upsets for a team other than those four to advance to the district. The district winner at Willard will advance to the D4 regional at the Canton Fieldhouse where it will play the winner of the Norton District in a semifinal game. Richmond Heights, Dalton, and Cornerstone Christian are the top teams at Norton so the Willard winner will definitely have their work cut out at the regional.

In most years, the winner of the Elida District would be viewed as the favorite to win the regional at Bowling Green and advance to the state tournament. That will not be the case in 2022 as there does not appear to be a dominant team in the district. This should be an extremely competitive district with Convoy Crestview, Columbus Grove, Leipsic, Pandora-Gilboa, Patrick Henry,

and Ottoville as the top contenders.

Tiffin Calvert is the team to beat in the district at Liberty-Benton with Old Fort and Mohawk the top challengers and others lurking. Nine of the fourteen teams currently have winning records so there should be some very competitive sectional games.

The Defiance District features top-ranked Antwerp. Toledo Emmanuel Christian with freshman phenom Jerry Easter II was viewed as Antwerp's top competition before Easter II suffered a season-ending injury in January. Emmanuel can still be a factor along with Ayersville, but Antwerp will be tough to beat.

As usual, the Wapakoneta District will be outstanding. New Bremen, Marion Local, Spencerville, and Lima Perry are the top competitors with Upper Scioto Valley and Fort Recovery also in the mix.

The district winners from Elida and Liberty-Benton will meet in one regional semifinal at Bowling Green State University with the district winners from Defiance and Wapakoneta facing off in the second game at the Stroh Center.

## SECTIONALS

SHELBY (WILLARD DISTRICT): #2 Lucas and #3 South Central are the top seeds at Shelby. Lucas won their fourth straight Mid-Buckeye championship. Not bad for a school that lost fifty-six consecutive games not all that long ago. South Central passed up the bye for a trip to Shelby and away from Margaretta. The Trojans finished in 3<sup>rd</sup> place behind Western Reserve and Monroeville in the Firelands. There is a drop off after that, but the semifinals other than South Central's game should be competitive. Danbury is vastly improved from last season.

Semifinals – Sandusky St. Mary over Plymouth; South Central over Mansfield St. Peter's; Danbury over Mansfield Christian

Finals – Lucas over Sandusky St. Mary; South Central over Danbury

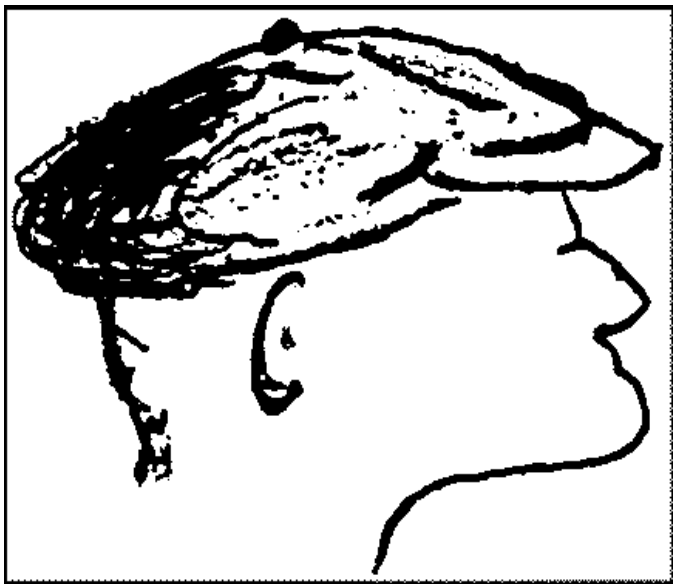
ASHLAND CRESTVIEW (WILLARD DISTRICT): #1 Margaretta and #4 Monroeville are the top seeds at Crestview. Margaretta finished in a tie with Huron for the championship in the SBC Bay. Jake Leibacher of Margaretta holds the school's single game scoring record and is on pace to become the career scoring leader. Monroeville began the season with seven straight wins and also has an eight-game winning streak. Isaac Roeder is Monroeville's career scoring leader. Crestline will finish with a winning record for a third straight year. That

was last accomplished in Crestline eighty years ago.

Semifinals – Crestline over Norwalk St. Paul; Buckeye Central over New London

Finals – Monroeville over Crestline; Margaretta over Buckeye Central

VAN WERT (ELIDA DISTRICT): #1 Convoy Crestview and #4 Pandora-Gilboa are the top seeds at VW. Crestview grabbed a share of the NWC title with Bluffton.



*“The Publisher,” an original drawing by Kent Lincoln.*

*Your comments or suggestions are welcomed.  
E-mail them to the publisher at  
webmaster@daveyl.com*

Pandora-Gilboa won the BVC title outright with a win over Liberty-Benton to finish the regular season. The Rockets also gained a share of the PCL title. A young Patrick Henry team has their first winning season since '11-'12. The Patriots shared the runner-up spot in the NWOAL with Evergreen. Ottoville was supposed to be in a rebuilding season, but the Big Green won a share of the PCL title. Miller City finished the regular season at .500 including some solid wins. This is a really good sectional.

Semifinals – Patrick Henry over Fort Jennings; Pandora-Gilboa over Miller City; Ottoville over Continental

Finals – Convoy Crestview over Patrick Henry; Ottoville over Pandora-Gilboa

BLUFFTON UNIVERSITY (ELIDA DISTRICT): #2 Columbus Grove and #3 Leipsic are the top seeds at the home of the Beavers. Columbus Grove returned one

starter from last season's D4 state runner-up team. The Bulldogs have been solid. Leipsic grabbed a share of the PCL title and finished in the middle of the pack in their first season in the NWC. Mason Brandt became Leipsic's career scoring leader in the final game of the regular season. Brandt was recently featured on ESPN's SportsCenter Top 10 as the #1 play of the day for an alley-oop dunk versus Arcadia. Kalida and Delphos St. John's will also be factors at Bluffton despite finishing the regular season with losing records.

Semifinals – Kalida over Cory-Rawson; Delphos St. John's over Lincolnview

Finals – Leipsic over Kalida; Columbus Grove over Delphos St. John's

FOSTORIA (LIBERTY-BENTON DISTRICT): #1 Tiffin Calvert and #4 Hopewell-Loudon are the top seeds at Fostoria. Tiffin Calvert is the SBC River champion. The Senecas had a couple of close calls in early December but have been dominant since. In addition to beating previously undefeated Western Reserve to close out the regular season, top non-league wins have come against Margaretta and Clyde. Hopewell-Loudon finished in 3<sup>rd</sup> place in the SBC River while Carey ended the season in 3<sup>rd</sup> place in the N10. The Blue Devils got off to a late start after winning the D6 state football championship. Carey will be a tough out.

Semifinals – Fremont St. Joseph over North Baltimore; Carey over Arcadia; Hopewell-Loudon over McComb

Finals – Tiffin Calvert over Fremont St. Joseph; Carey over Hopewell-Loudon

TIFFIN COLUMBIAN (LIBERTY-BENTON DISTRICT): #2 Old Fort and #3 Mohawk are the top seeds at Tiffin. Six of the seven teams will begin the tournament with winning records. Old Fort finishes in the runner-up spot in the SBC River after five straight championships. Mohawk finished in 4<sup>th</sup> place in the N10 while Gibsonburg and New Riegel are in the middle of the SBC River standings. Coach Brent Liskai of Gibsonburg is retiring after twenty seasons and over 230 wins. Nevin Robson became the career scoring leader for Hardin Northern breaking Bob Walden's record set in 1972. The Polar Bears had a second straight winning season. Arlington is back at full strength and can be a factor after finishing tied for 2<sup>nd</sup> place in the BVC. This is a very competitive sectional.

Semifinals – Arlington over Vanlue; New Riegel over Gibsonburg; Mohawk over Hardin Northern

Finals – Old Fort over Arlington; Mohawk over New Riegel

NAPOLEON (DEFIANCE DISTRICT): #1 Antwerp and #4 Emmanuel Christian are the top seeds at the Grand Canyon. Antwerp finishes as the GMC runner-up. Antwerp's only loss was at Wayne Trace by four points. The Archers are very stingy defensively. Jagger Landers became Antwerp's career scoring leader in early February. Nate Houston, a transfer from Rogers, has taken over as Emmanuel's top player following the injury to Jerry Easter II. Pettisville will finish in 3<sup>rd</sup> place in the BBC after winning four straight titles. Fayette started the season 10-2 before falling on hard times. Hilltop broke a forty-one game BBC losing streak with a win over Montpelier in January.

Semifinals – Montpelier over Hilltop; Pettisville over Fayette; Emmanuel Christian over Stryker

Finals – Antwerp over Montpelier; Emmanuel Christian over Pettisville

BRYAN (DEFIANCE DISTRICT): #2 Ayersville and #3 Toledo Christian are the top seeds at Bryan. Ayersville is having a great season finishing in 3<sup>rd</sup> place in the GMC behind Wayne Trace and Antwerp. Toledo Christian is young with two sophomores and a freshman as their leading scorers. TC has clinched a nineteenth straight winning season. The Eagles started off 10-3 but have scuffled some since mid-January. Hicksville has been solid finishing in the top half of the GMC. Edon and North Central are co-champs in the BBC but got the #6 and #8 seeds respectively. That does not show a lot of love for the BBC but not willing to go there.

Semifinals – Edon over Edgerton; Hicksville over North Central; Toledo Christian over Holgate

Finals – Ayersville over Edon; Hicksville over Toledo Christian

COLDWATER (WAPAKONETA DISTRICT): #1 New Bremen and #4 Marion Local are the top seeds at the Palace. New Bremen and Marion Local share the MAC title with D3 Versailles. New Bremen beat Versailles in double overtime while Marion Local knocked off New Bremen in overtime after Marion Local lost to Versailles. Ridgemont will finish with a winning record for a third straight season. That does not happen often in Golden Gopher land. Landon Newland became Ridgemont's career scoring leader in January. St. Henry had a seven-game winning streak from late December into early January. The rest of the season has not gone quite as well for the Redskins. Commanders?

Semifinals – St. Henry over Ada; Marion Local over New Knoxville; Ridgemont over Minster

Finals – New Bremen over St. Henry; Marion Local over

## Ridgemont

ST. MARYS (WAPAKONETA DISTRICT): #2 Spencerville and #3 Lima Perry are the top seeds at St. Marys. A tough sectional. Spencerville finished in 3<sup>rd</sup> place in the NWC behind Bluffton and Crestview. The Bearcats have some good wins on their resume including an overtime win over Marion Local. Lima Perry ran the table in winning a third straight NWCC championship despite a coaching controversy. Upper Scioto Valley started the season winning twelve straight before losing at St. Marys. The Rams have lost a couple more since and settled for the #5 seed. Fort Recovery will finish the season with a winning record. The Indians are part of the logjam in the middle of the MAC standings. Guardians?

Semifinals – Upper Scioto Valley over Waynesfield-Goshen; Lima Perry over Lima Temple Christian; Fort Recovery over Parkway

Finals – Spencerville over Upper Scioto Valley; Lima Perry over Fort Recovery

## DISTRICTS

WILLARD: Lucas won a third straight district title in 2021.

Semifinals – Lucas over South Central; Margaretta over Monroeville

Final – Margaretta over Lucas

ELIDA: Columbus Grove won a third consecutive district championship in 2021.

Semifinals – Convoy Crestview over Ottoville; Columbus Grove over Leipsic

Final – Columbus Grove over Convoy Crestview

LIBERTY-BENTON: Carey won the district at L-B in 2021.

Semifinals –Tiffin Calvert over Carey; Old Fort over Mohawk

Final – Tiffin Calvert over Old Fort

DEFIANCE: Antwerp won a second straight district championship in 2021.

Semifinals – Antwerp over Emmanuel Christian; Ayersville over Hicksville

Final – Antwerp over Ayersville



WAPAKONETA: New Bremen won the district at Wapak in 2021.

Semifinals – Marion Local over New Bremen;  
Spencerville over Lima Perry

Final – Marion Local over Spencerville

That is a wrap. The Swami will be back with the critically acclaimed second edition prior to the regional and state tournaments. All facts, fiction, errors, and opinions are those of the Swami. Brackets are courtesy of davey1.com and Mr. David Spengler. Stay safe and rock on.

## **THE HISTORY OF DAVEY1.COM**

**During the summer of 2004 Dave Spengler and Dave Sigler** sat down and talked about wanting to do something to promote boys high school basketball in Northwest Ohio. At first we didn't know exactly what we wanted to do, but since we were both fans of the game we knew that we wanted to do something. Then we decided to do schedules and scores, and create a website, [Davey1.com](http://davey1.com), where they could be found. But how many? Should we do just one league, or a group of leagues? We decided on an ambitious project to include all schools in the Northwest District of the Ohio High School Athletic Association. For those unfamiliar, today that's approximately 170 teams. It was quite an undertaking.

Every season Dave and Dave work closely together to keep our schedules and game scores accurate and up-to-date. During the 2018-2019 season our database included 2,075 games involving Northwest Ohio teams, and we provided a score for each of those games. More than one person is required to keep all of this information organized and complete.

In the early days there was much more work

involved to obtain the schedules we needed. Dave Spengler would contact the schools by sending a letter, sometimes through the postal service and sometimes via fax, to each school (head coach or athletic director) to get their boys varsity basketball schedule. Each year the response rate increased, and more recently we're able to find some of the schedules we need on the web. However, every year, in September we send out e-mail requests to all head coaches requesting that they submit their schedule directly to us. Many respond, yet some still do not. We still persist and somehow find every schedule we need.

When the first schedules were published (2004-2005 season), for Northwest Ohio on Davey1.com, there was a schedule of games for each school, arranged alphabetically by league, and the name of the school. That's all you got.

**During the 2006-2007 season** we added team nicknames, and we also added a notation so that you would know whether a game had overtime periods. That may sound simple, but in the early years there was no way to know whether overtime periods happened or not.

**Then in 2007-2008 we added** to each schedule the OHSAA Division that each school competed in (1 through 4). That gives the fans information about the relative size of each school. In another section of the site is the enrollment numbers for each school that the Ohio High School Athletic Association uses to determine these divisions.

Another addition to the information we provide occurred **during the 2008-2009 season** when the name of the head coach was added to each schedule. But we weren't done yet.

**The 2009-2010 season** included the addition of the Sectional Site where each team would play their first OHSAA tournament game. Because of changes made by the OHSAA to their tournament drawing procedure this was changed to the District Tournament Site during the **2014-2015 season**.

One of Dave Spengler's favorite additions, that he **developed just before the 2010-2011 season**, was the addition of hyperlinks for each team's opponents so that you could easily switch schedules just by clicking on the opponents name. You would then jump immediately to that schedule.

At the **beginning of the 2012-2013 season we enhanced our listing of League Standings** so that they are ordered in the proper way to see which team finished at the top of their respective league. Another major improvement.

As each season has come and gone we have kept all of our schedules archived so that they can be viewed all the way back to the 2004-2005 season, creating an extensive history for each school. We believe there is no other single place where our readers can find this kind of information presented for each team.

**One of the popular features found on the website is Trail Trash.** It is The Swami's commentary and predictions for the OHSAA boys basketball tournament in Northwest Ohio. The first edition includes predictions for the Sectional and District Tournament, and the second edition includes The Swami's commentary and predictions for the Regional Tournaments throughout all of Ohio and the State Basketball Tournament. It is known that the Trail Trash has been used by coaches to motivate their teams when the Swami has chosen them to lose a tournament game....

Issues of the Trail Trash on the website go back as far as 2000.

Alongside Trail Trash are the Boys Tournament Brackets. These brackets are available as far back as the 2000 tournament. They include all Sectional and District games played in Northwest Ohio, and all Regional Tournament and State Tournament games played throughout the entire state. We're proud of the archive of information that we've built over the years.

There is also the Davey1 Hall of Fame, honoring boys teams that have been undefeated during the regular season. This feature goes back as far as our schedules, to the 2004-2005 season.

We also include the OHSAA Divisional breakdowns, showing which division each team was in going back to the 2007-2008 season.

Be sure to check out some of the other features of our site that we haven't mentioned here.

Dave and Dave have also developed a network of contacts that they use to gather information to help them keep Davey1.com up-to-date and accurate. It is these people that we have met over the years including coaches, athletic directors, other media people, and fans that have kept us motivated to keep doing what we do to promote boys high school basketball in Northwest Ohio. We value these friendships tremendously.

We hope you continue to enjoy our coverage of boys high school basketball in Northwest