

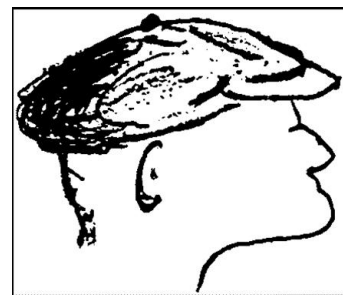
# ***Trail Trash***

## **2010 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*



**This marks year number seventeen of Trail Trash as well as our seventh year on-line at**

**[www.davey1.com](http://www.davey1.com).** There was a time when printed copies of Trail Trash were much coveted and in high demand. Copying machines throughout Northwest Ohio were kept busy making copies of the Swami's predictions and the tournament brackets. At least we hoped that somebody out there was making a copy and spreading the word. Now about the only place that a printed copy can be found is on the counter (or in the waste basket) at Hal's Barber Shop in Bowling Green.

Change is the key word for the 2010 tournament. With new enrollment numbers in effect for this season, there are new tournament sites as well as plenty of movement by teams across divisions. Looking at the divisional breakdown for Northwest Ohio and how they fit in statewide has resulted in a greater representation of Northwest Ohio teams at the regional level in both Division II and Division IV. This greater regional representation means more district tournaments for Northwest Ohio. For the 2010 tournament, there will be three district tournaments in D2 while D4 will return to 6 district tournaments after having five districts for the '08 and '09 tournament seasons. The movement also results in a number of five team sectionals in D1 and D2.

The schedule also takes on a different look for 2010.

**Issue 2010-1**

Divisions I, II, and III (what's with all the Roman numerals; next year we'll probably be using the metric system) will be on the Tuesday/Friday schedule while Division IV will be on a Wednesday/Friday schedule for the sectional semi-final and final games.

The ouija board has been dusted off and appears to be functioning at a higher level than the Swami. You know what really burns my rear end? No Ed, it is not a flame about that high. It is someone who refers to themselves in the third person. Let's go to the picks.

### **DIVISION I**

D1 has downsized for 2010. Mansfield Madison, Maumee, Toledo Scott, and Toledo Woodward have all dropped down to D2 with only Toledo Central Catholic making the leap up to D1. Tournament sites remain unchanged for 2010.

Undefeated (as of February 21) Mansfield Senior has gotten the majority of the statewide recognition for Northwest Ohio D1 teams. Marion Harding and Perrysburg have put together outstanding seasons and are starting to get a bit of statewide recognition late in the season. Toledo St. John's has also managed to find its way into the statewide AP poll while Toledo Central Catholic is also having an excellent season.

D1 in Northwest Ohio will again use a "Super Sectional" format. Sectional winners from Willard and Liberty-Benton will remain at those sites for district semi-final games on March 11 with the district final scheduled for Bowling Green's

Anderson Arena. Winners from the two Toledo sectionals will advance to the University of Toledo's Savage Arena where the two Waite sectional winners will meet in one semi-final with the two Central Catholic sectional winners meeting in the other semi-final. The two district champs from Northwest Ohio will meet in a regional semi-final at Savage Arena with the winner advancing to the regional final at the University of Akron. The regional final at Akron will also include the winner of the regional semi-final between the Canton (North Canton Hoover, Massillon Jackson, Canton McKinley) and Copley (Twinsburg, Barberton) district champs.

## SECTIONALS

**WILLARD:** Mansfield Senior and Marion Harding are the top seeds. For those that predicted a drop off for Mansfield Senior as the Gregg Collins era evolved into the Effie James era, it has not happened. The Tygers haven't played the toughest of schedules (until facing Akron SVSM and Warren Harding in the final week of the season), but you cannot argue with the results. Mansfield has won eight consecutive sectional titles. Marion Harding hasn't had a winning season since the 70's. Marion's only loss to date is Mount Vernon. Ashland has had a disappointing season, Sandusky has been hurt by injuries, and Fremont Ross has shown improvement following the removal of several players from the team.

Semifinal-Ashland over Fremont Ross

Finals-Mansfield Senior over Ashland; Marion Harding over Sandusky

**LIBERTY-BENTON:** Perrysburg and Bowling Green are the top seeds. A very good sectional at L-B with five evenly matched teams. Perrysburg and Findlay are two of the better-coached teams in Northwest Ohio. Perrysburg is undefeated in the NLL while Findlay is young and has more size than normal. Junior-dominated Bowling Green might still be a year away. The same holds true for Springfield. The Blue Devils' Chester McFadden has surpassed 1,000 career points as a junior. Lima Senior has been somewhat of a disappointment. The Spartans still have Anton Hutchins and have started to play a bit better as the tournament approaches.

Semifinals-Lima Senior over Springfield; Findlay over Anthony Wayne

Finals-Bowling Green over Lima Senior; Perrysburg over Findlay

**TOLEDO WAITE:** Toledo St. John's Jesuit and Toledo St. Francis are the top seeds. St. John's returns two starters from their 2009 state semi-final team. The Titans also have an outstanding freshman in 6'7" Marc Loving. St. Francis has 6'11" Storm Stanley. The Knights appear to be peaking (the Swami kiss of death) as the tournament approaches.

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Start has the best player in Toledo in Anthony Henderson as well as the worst-dressed coaches. A St. Francis/Start sectional final would be an excellent match up. Southview has advanced to the district each of the past three seasons, but it will be an uphill battle for the Cougars following heavy graduation losses.

Semifinal-Start over Southview

Finals-St. John's Jesuit over Clay; St. Francis over Start

**TOLEDO CENTRAL CATHOLIC:** Toledo Central Catholic and Toledo Whitmer are the top seeds. Central Catholic is very solid under Jim Welling. Whitmer is young and continues to improve. The Panthers have an outstanding freshman in Nigel Hayes. Rogers has exceeded expectations. With Big Earl on the bench and Damond Powell on the floor, the Rams are entertaining to watch. An experienced Waite team was expected to contend for the Toledo City League crown, but has not met expectations. Bowsher is much improved under Joe Guerrero. The Rebels have one of the better players in the CL in junior Robert Davis. If Central Catholic meets Waite in the sectional final, where will they play the game? It won't be at Central and it won't be at Waite.

Semifinals-Rogers over Bowsher; Waite over Northview

Finals-Rogers over Whitmer; Central Catholic over Waite

## DISTRICTS

Mansfield Senior will play Marion Harding in a district semi-final at Willard while Perrysburg will meet Bowling Green in a district semi-final at Liberty-Benton.

Semifinals-Mansfield Senior over Marion Harding; Perrysburg over Bowling Green

**BGSU:** Lima Senior won the district in 2009. Five different winners (Lima Senior, Perrysburg, Findlay, Mansfield Senior, Ashland) in the past eight seasons at the BG district.

**UNIVERSITY OF TOLEDO:** St. John's won the district in 2009. The Titans have won 12 consecutive sectional titles heading into 2010, and have won district titles in six of the past eight seasons.

Semifinals-St. John's over St. Francis; Central Catholic over Rogers

Final-St. John's over Central Catholic.

## DIVISION II

Although D2 has only increased by four teams, that was enough to result in an additional regional qualifier. Mansfield Madison, Maumee, Toledo Scott, and Toledo Woodward have dropped down from D1 while Port Clinton and Edison have moved up from D3. Toledo Central Catholic has moved up to D1 with Galion dropping to D3. Oregon Clay and Riverdale have been added as sectional sites with Ohio Northern a new district site.

Undefeated (as of February 21) Port Clinton and WBL champ Defiance have been fixtures in the top ten of the Associated Press statewide poll. Toledo Libbey, expected at the start of the season to be the dominant D2 team in Northwest Ohio, was also getting plenty of recognition until a tough non-league schedule and the Toledo City League caught up with the Cowboys.

The D2 regional tournament will again be played in Bowling Green's ancient (although not as ancient as the Swami) Anderson Arena. District winners from Bowling Green and Ashland will meet in one semi-final with the district winners from Ohio Northern and Westlake (Lorain Clearview, Bay Village Bay, Vermilion) meeting in the other semi-final.

After a one year absence, look for a D2 team from Northwest Ohio to get to the state tournament. You can mark it down.

## SECTIONALS

OREGON CLAY: Toledo Libbey and Rossford are the top seeds. Libbey advanced to the district final in 2009 with a young team. Most of that team returns this season. The Cowboys will be a tough out despite not meeting some lofty expectations during the regular season. Rossford has been competitive in the NLL while Eastwood leads the SLL. Eastwood made an interesting move at the draw in deciding to go to Libbey's side of the bracket. Once upon a time when Scott graduated players, they would end up with players from Libbey or Waite or Start or St. Francis or Woodward as their replacements. How far have the Bulldogs fallen? Now they get their transfers from Bryan. Apathy reigns.

Semifinals-Eastwood over Woodward; Scott over Oak Harbor

Finals-Libbey over Eastwood; Scott over Rossford

SWANTON: Defiance and Wauseon are the top seeds. State-ranked Defiance has clinched at least a share of the WBL title. The Bulldogs last won a WBL crown in 1983. Defiance has been bolstered by a good sophomore class and is bigger than usual. Difficult to separate the rest of the teams at Swanton. Wauseon and Bryan are still in contention for a share of the NWOAL crown (if Bryan can

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defeat Archbold on February 26). Napoleon has been surprisingly competitive after graduating basically their entire 2009 team. The Wildcats' best player is freshman Jordan Lauf. Maumee has talent but not many wins playing a schedule of primarily D1 teams.

Semifinal-Maumee over Bryan

Finals-Napoleon over Wauseon; Defiance over Maumee

SANDUSKY: Port Clinton and Bellevue are the top seeds. Very good sectional with all six teams over .500 going into the final week of the season. Port Clinton has never had an undefeated regular season. The Redskins have defeated each of the teams in the sectional. Bellevue is battling Shelby and Tiffin Columbian for the NOL crown. The Redmen are one of the better three point shooting teams in Northwest Ohio. Clyde is solid and physical as usual. Norwalk got off to a quick start but has faded in the second half of the season. Both Perkins and Edison have the talent to upset PC. Perkins starts two sophomores and a freshman.

Semifinals-Perkins over Edison; Clyde over Norwalk

Finals-Port Clinton over Perkins; Bellevue over Clyde

MANSFIELD SENIOR: Lexington and Mansfield Madison are the top seeds. This is a tough sectional to call. Lexington has encountered a couple of hiccups down the stretch. Michigan football recruit Courtney Avery is the top player for Lex. Madison was the district runner-up in D1 in 2009, but returned only one starter for 2010. Shelby has been consistently inconsistent, but has shown improvement late in the season. Willard has played much better the second half of the season once point guard Sal Sanchez regained his eligibility. Lexington better not sleep on the Flashes. Clear Fork has been competitive in most of their games, but has had a tough time getting wins after a 4-1 start.

Semifinal-Shelby over Clear Fork

Finals-Shelby over Madison; Lexington over Clear

Fork



LIMA SENIOR: Elida and Celina are the top seeds. Still an all WBL sectional but just not as many of them. Elida has struggled outside the WBL this season. The Bulldogs' Reggie McAdams is one of the top sophomores in Northwest Ohio. Celina has been a surprise this season after experiencing heavy graduation losses. Van Wert has been solid as well. The Cougars are undefeated outside the WBL. Lima Shawnee was

expected to be a WBL title contender. That has not been the case as injuries have ruined the season for the Indians. Both St. Marys and Wapakoneta are improved. St. Marys coach Dan Hegemier led New Knoxville to the 2008 D4 state championship.

Semifinals-Van Wert over St. Marys; Shawnee over Wapakoneta

Finals-Van Wert over Elida; Celina over Shawnee

RIVERDALE: Tiffin Columbian and Lima Bath are the top seeds. Columbian has a solid one-two punch in Derek Kneeskern and Cole Williams. Consistency has been a problem for the Tornados. Lima Bath got off to their best start in years at 10-3 before hitting a slump as well as a very tough schedule. Fostoria could pull an upset. The Redmen have also been inconsistent. For Kenton, life without Garrick Sherman hasn't been great. At least the Wildcats don't have to travel to Mansfield for the sectional. What can you say about Upper Sandusky and their 1-17 stretch. The 2005 state champs and 2007 runner-up in D2 have abandoned their frenetic (not sure what it means but it sounds good) pace.

Semifinal-Fostoria over Upper Sandusky

Finals-Lima Bath over Fostoria; Tiffin Columbian over Kenton

### DISTRICTS

BGSU: Just won't be the same at BG without the WBL invasion (except Defiance). Other than Libbey's win in 2008, WBL teams have won the BG district every year since 1995.

Semifinals-Libbey over Napoleon; Defiance over Scott

Final-Libbey over Defiance

ASHLAND UNIVERSITY: Galion was the surprise winner of the district in 2009. It ain't what it used to be at Ashland according to the Willard folks on their way to their MENSA meeting.

Semifinals-Shelby over Port Clinton; Lexington over Bellevue

Final-Lexington over Shelby

OHIO NORTHERN UNIVERSITY: The new kid on the block. Less travel for the WBL folks, but how do you top the atmosphere of Anderson Arena? ONU is one of the Swami's least favorite places to watch a game. The WBL remains a very good league but is not as strong as in prior years.

Semifinals-Van Wert over Lima Bath; Celina over Tiffin Columbian

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Final-Van Wert over Celina

### DIVISION III

There has been a great deal of movement in D3 for the 2010 tournament. Galion has dropped down from D2 while Patrick Henry, Delphos Jefferson, Riverdale, and Plymouth have moved up from D4. Edison and Port Clinton are now in D2 while several teams (Marion Local, Mohawk, Montpelier, New London, Ottawa Hills, South Central, Spencerville, Wynford) have dropped down to D4. Despite a decrease in the number of D3 teams, the number of sectional and district tournaments remains the same. The only change in venue has Lexington replacing Galion as a sectional site.

OSU recruit Aaron Craft and undefeated (as of February 21) Liberty-Benton have been the biggest story in D3 this season. The Eagles have been at the top of the AP statewide poll ever since the first release back in January. Another undefeated team, Plymouth, has been near the top of the poll all season. Coldwater has been a fixture in the top ten throughout the season while Ottawa-Glandorf, Evergreen, and St. Henry have also received state recognition.

The D3 regional will again be played at BGSU. The Napoleon and Mansfield district champions will meet in one semi-final with the Elida district champ taking on one of the Columbus district winners (Cardington-Lincoln, Centerburg, Bloom-Carroll) in the other semi-final. There is an excellent chance that a Northwest Ohio team will make it to the state tournament in D3.

### SECTIONALS

DEFIANCE: Archbold and Tinora are the top seeds. Archbold with a win over Bryan will win the NWOAL outright. Otherwise, the NWOAL ends in a five-way tie. The Blue Streaks have nine straight sectional titles. Tinora was the 2009 D3 state runner-up. The Rams began to gel with the return of Treg Lymanstall from a knee injury. Unfortunately, it appears that Lymanstall may have reinjured his knee. Tinora's hopes for a long tournament run will depend on his health. Paulding, Liberty Center, Fairview, and Hicksville round out the sectional. Not much to get excited about in that group.

Semifinals-Liberty Center over Hicksville; Paulding over Fairview

Finals-Archbold over Liberty Center; Tinora over Paulding



TOLEDO WHITMER: Evergreen and Delta are the top seeds. Back in mid-December, Evergreen would have been the favorite for the district title. Chad Mossing will end his career as the second leading scorer in Evergreen boys basketball history. After a strong start, Delta is limping to the finish. Ditto for an Otsego team that has been the surprise of the SLL for most of the season. The Knights start two freshmen. Genoa is the mystery team at Whitmer. The Comets have some size and good athletes although the whole isn't always greater than the sum of the parts. Evergreen cannot be excited having Genoa on their side of the bracket. Both Swanton and Lake could pull the upset with Swanton having the better chance.

Semifinals-Genoa over Lake; Otsego over Swanton

Finals-Genoa over Evergreen; Delta over Otsego

FINDLAY: Liberty-Benton and Ottawa-Glandorf are the top seeds. Liberty-Benton has not lost a BVC game since 2006 (it seems longer than that) when Arlington turned the trick. The Eagles will be going for their twentieth consecutive sectional title. This might not be a vintage Ottawa-Glandorf team, but do not count the Titans. out O-G is extremely deep as usual. Riverdale has been under the radar all season losing only to Ontario and Buckeye Central. Unfortunately, the Falcons get to meet up with L-B. Elmwood has recovered from a slow start to put together a solid season although the Royals are probably wishing they could join their SLL brethren at Whitmer or Norwalk. Patrick Henry has shown some signs of life late in the season but most likely will not be a factor.

Semifinal: Elmwood over Patrick Henry

Finals-Liberty-Benton over Riverdale; Ottawa-Glandorf over Elmwood

WAPAKONETA: Coldwater and Lima Central Catholic are the top seeds. This is another quality sectional. Coldwater returns an experienced team from their 2009 run to the regional final. The Cavaliers have hit some bumps in the road late in the season. Winners of eleven in a row, LCC is on a roll heading towards the tournament. T-Bird coach Bob Seggerson got career win #500 in January against Delphos St. John's. Congrats Coach Seg. Despite being in the lower half of the MAC, St. Henry is another solid team and will be a real test for LCC. Delphos Jefferson and Parkway are also solid. Only Bluffton appears to be out of the picture at Wapak.

Semifinals-St. Henry over Bluffton; Delphos Jefferson over Parkway

Finals-Lima Central Catholic over St. Henry; Coldwater over Delphos Jefferson

LEXINGTON: Plymouth and Ontario are the top seeds.

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Plymouth has dominated the Firelands Conference. The Big Red have not been pushed all season although their schedule is questionable. Plymouth's Brooks Turson is the four-time FC player of the year. Outside of Plymouth, this is a tough sectional to call. Ontario has clinched no worse than a tie for the NCC title although the Warriors have run into some problems outside the league. Galion won the D2 district title in 2009. The Tigers have a win over Ontario, but cannot overlook neighboring Colonel Crawford. Ashland Crestview and Bucyrus appear to be evenly matched.

Semifinals-Bucyrus over Ashland Crestview; Galion over Colonel Crawford

Finals-Plymouth over Bucyrus; Ontario over Galion

NORWALK: Western Reserve and Lakota are the top seeds. The weakest D3 sectional on paper, this is another one that is difficult to call. There is not a big difference among these six teams. Western Reserve appears to be the best of the bunch although the Riders have been unable to keep pace with Plymouth in the Firelands. Lakota is enjoying a successful season in their first year in the MAL. Huron is much improved and will finish over .500 for the first time since 2006. Margaretta and Gibsonburg have both exceeded modest expectations. Woodmore can also be a factor at Norwalk despite their record. It would not be out of the question for the Wildcats to reach the district.

Semifinals-Huron over Woodmore; Margaretta over Gibsonburg

Finals-Huron over Lakota; Western Reserve over Margaretta

### DISTRICTS

NAPOLEON: Tinora won the district in 2009 and Archbold won it in 2008. Injuries to key personnel from Tinora and Delta could be a major factor.

Semifinals-Archbold over Genoa; Tinora over Delta

Final-Archbold over Tinora

ELIDA: Coldwater was the surprise winner in 2009 eliminating both Liberty-Benton and Ottawa-Glandorf. The winner of this district becomes the favorite in the BGSU regional.

Semifinals-Lima Central Catholic over Liberty-Benton; Ottawa-Glandorf over Coldwater

Final-Lima Central Catholic over Ottawa-Glandorf



MANSFIELD SENIOR: Colonel Crawford won the district in 2009. Plymouth has won back-to-back district titles in D4. Can the Big Red make the leap?

Semifinals-Plymouth over Huron; Ontario over Western Reserve

Finals-Plymouth over Ontario

#### DIVISION IV

This is getting a bit redundant but there are numerous changes in D4 as well. Moving down from D3 are Marion Local, Mohawk, Montpelier, New London, Ottawa Hills, South Central, Spencerville, and Wynford while Delphos Jefferson, Patrick Henry, Plymouth, and Riverdale are no longer D4 schools. This net increase of four teams has resulted in two new sectionals and one new district being added for 2010. New sectional sites will be at Hicksville and Bucyrus. Galion will replace Lexington, Lake will replace Bowling Green, and Kenton will replace Lima Bath as sectional sites. The additional district tournament will be played at Gibsonburg. As mentioned earlier, the D4 teams will play their sectional semifinal games on Wednesday, March 3 with the finals scheduled for Friday, March 5.

It has been a banner year in the Putnam County League. The initial statewide Associated Press poll included five PCL teams (Continental, Kalida, Pandora-Gilboa, Miller City, Columbus Grove). Fort Recovery, McComb, and Ottawa Hills have received statewide recognition as well. Other teams having outstanding seasons are Delphos St. John's, Antwerp, and New Riegel.

The Liberty-Benton district winner will meet the Gibsonburg district winner in one regional semi-final at Anderson Arena with the Napoleon district winner playing the Elida district winner in the other regional semi-final at BG. The Wapkoneta district winner will head south to meet one of the Dayton district winners (Lockland, South Charleston Southeastern) in the Kettering Fairmont regional while the Willard district winner will travel to the Barn to meet one of the Columbus district winners (Newark Catholic) in the Columbus regional.

#### SECTIONALS

COLDWATER: Fort Recovery and New Bremen are the top seeds. Five of the MAC schools head to Coldwater for the sectional. When the MAC teams get together in the tournament, no game can be considered an upset. Fort Recovery's only losses to date are to Coldwater and Delphos St. John's. Greg Kahlig is the all-time leading scorer for Fort Recovery. New Bremen and Marion Local are both in the upper half of the MAC. New Knoxville's sixty-five game regular season winning streak was snapped by Anna in December. Minster will be a factor even though the Wildcats are near the bottom of the MAC. Only

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Waynesfield-Goshen does not figure to be in the mix at Coldwater.

Semifinals-New Knoxville over Waynesfield-Goshen; Marion Local over Minster

Finals-Fort Recovery over New Knoxville; Marion Local over New Bremen

VAN WERT: Delphos St. John's and Ottoville are the top seeds. In a bit of a surprise, Delphos St. John's leads the MAC with two games left. The Blue Jays are doing it with defense. Ottoville got off to a good start but the Big Green is zero for February. Fort Jennings also got off to a good start but has had difficulties of late. The PCL has been tough on both Ottoville and Jennings. Convoy Crestview has been playing well late in the season. Spencerville and Lincolnview round it out at Van Wert. The winners at Van Wert will advance to Wapak for the district after heading to Elida for a number of years.

Semifinals-Convoy Crestview over Spencerville; Fort Jennings over Lincolnview

Finals-Convoy Crestview over Ottoville; Delphos St. John's over Fort Jennings

KENTON: Arlington and Ada are the top seeds. Arlington will finish in a three-way tie for fourth place in the BVC but gets the top seed at Kenton. The Red Devils are the only team in the sectional with a winning record. It looked to be a promising season for Ada with two starters including their leading scorer as well as their sixth man returning from last year's state qualifier. Leading scorer Mitchell Faine tore up a knee in football. He attempted to return in late January but injured the knee again while the sixth man opted to focus on football. Allen East, Upper Scioto Valley, Hardin Northern, and Ridgemont round out the sectional.

Semifinals-Arlington over Hardin Northern; Upper Scioto Valley over Ridgemont

Finals-Arlington over Allen East; Ada over Upper Scioto Valley

BLUFFTON: Kalida and Continental are the top seeds. An excellent sectional. Kalida went undefeated in the PCL despite returning only one starter, Jordan Basinger, from the 2009 D4 state runner-up. Coach Richard Kortokrax recently picked up win #800 in his long and storied career. "As the Korto Turns", last year's soap opera about the coaching future of one Richard Kortokrax no longer appears to be an

issue. Continental got the second seed and decided against the bye. The Pirates' only losses are to Kalida and Columbus Grove although Lima Temple Christian took Continental to overtime. Lima Perry and Temple are on Continental's side of the bracket. Assuming Columbus Grove can get past Cory-Rawson, there is an outstanding sectional final looming between Kalida and Grove.

Semifinals-Continental over Lima Perry; Columbus Grove over Cory-Rawson

Finals-Continental over Lima Temple Christian; Kalida over Columbus Grove

BRYAN: Hilltop and Stryker are the top seeds. Can somebody help me with this one? I just checked my W-2 from Davey1, and there is no way that the Swami makes enough to figure this one out. Five of the teams at Bryan are from the BBC. With each BBC team having one game remaining on their league schedule, there is a four-way tie for first place. Hilltop, one of two BBC teams that cannot win the league title, is the top seed at Bryan. The five BBC teams are joined by Montpelier for the sectional. Here are the results of the coin flip.

Semifinals-North Central over Fayette; Pettisville over Montpelier

Finals-Hilltop over North Central; Pettisville over Stryker

HICKSVILLE: Antwerp and Wayne Trace are the top seeds. Four GMC teams join a lone BBC team at this new site. Antwerp went undefeated to win the GMC title. The Archers only losses on the season were to Fort Jennings and Continental back in December. Antwerp has an excellent player in T.J. Short. Both Wayne Trace and Edgerton are much improved from last season. Ayersville and Edon are currently playing well after getting off to slow starts. This is the lone five team sectional in D4.

Semifinal-Ayersville over Edon

Finals-Ayersville over Wayne Trace; Antwerp over Edgerton

OTTAWA-GLANDORF: McComb and Pandora-Gilboa are the top seeds. This is another top notch sectional. McComb returns three starters from last year's district championship team. Only losses for the Panthers to date are to Leipsic and Liberty-Benton. Despite some key injuries, Pandora-Gilboa has put together an excellent season. Big man Tyler Gratz missed several games with a stress fracture and is rounding into shape. The status of Josh Lee is a key factor in any tournament run for the Rockets. Miller City and North Baltimore are having outstanding seasons as well. Leipsic also figures in the mix at O-G. Holgate is having a difficult season averaging around twenty-eight points per game, but the Tigers have a ton of tournament tradition.

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Semifinals-Miller City over North Baltimore; Leipsic over Holgate

Finals-Miller City over McComb; Pandora-Gilboa over Leipsic

FOSTORIA: Vanlue and New Riegel are the top seeds. Vanlue will finish the season in a three-way tie for fourth place in the BVC. The Wildcats got the top seed based on their win over New Riegel. NR won the MAL title going undefeated in the league. The only other loss for the Blue Jackets was to Van Buren. The Black Knights have eliminated New Riegel at the district the past two seasons. VB is now in the Fostoria sectional after a number of years in the Bowling Green and Ottawa-Glandorf sectionals. Arcadia, Fostoria St. Wendelin, and Hopewell-Loudon are all having tough seasons.

Semifinals-Van Buren over Hopewell-Loudon; Arcadia over Fostoria St. Wendelin

Finals-Van Buren over New Riegel; Vanlue over Arcadia

PORT CLINTON: Danbury and Fremont St. Joseph are the top seeds. No outstanding teams at PC this time around. Danbury is having a solid season. The Lakers' Rodney Johnson is the leading scorer in the TAAC. Fremont St. Joseph is having success under first year coach Jon Will. Norwalk St. Paul got a late start after winning the D6 state football title. The Fliers have good athletes but have been inconsistent. Monroeville should also contend for a sectional title. Sandusky St. Mary is usually one of the top teams at PC, but the Panthers do not figure to be in the hunt this year. Old Fort rounds out the sectional.

Semifinals-Norwalk St. Paul over Old Fort; Monroeville over Sandusky St. Mary

Finals-Norwalk St. Paul over Fremont St. Joseph; Danbury over Monroeville

LAKE: Ottawa Hills and Toledo Christian are the top seeds. Ottawa Hills was the D3 district runner-up to Tinora last year at Napoleon. The Green Bears lost big Phillip Beans to graduation but have hardly missed a beat. Led by four-year starter Eliot Browarsky, Ottawa Hills' lone loss is to New Riegel in double overtime. Toledo Christian experienced heavy graduation losses from their regional runner-up team. The Eagles appear to be a year away from making another run. TC has won sectional titles the past seven seasons. Maumee Valley Country Day is much improved under the veteran Jim Robinson. Bettsville will also be a contender while Northwood and Cardinal Stritch round out the sectional.

Semifinals-Maumee Valley Country Day over Bettsville;

Northwood over Cardinal Stritch

Finals-Maumee Valley Country Day over Toledo Christian;  
Ottawa Hills over Northwood

GALION: New London and Mansfield Christian are the top seeds. Despite some injuries, New London is having a solid season in the Firelands Conference. The Wildcats are young. Mansfield Christian has a chance to finish the season over .500. Lucas has no junior varsity or freshman team this season. The Cubs' head coach was relieved of his coaching duties in January with two assistant coaches resigning shortly thereafter. Lucas has three wins since interim coach Andrew Molyet took over. South Central, Mansfield St. Peter's, and Crestline round out the sectional.

Semifinals-South Central over Crestline; Lucas over Mansfield St. Peter's

Final-New London over South Central; Lucas over Mansfield Christian

BUCYRUS: Carey and Wynford are the top seeds. This should be a very competitive sectional. Carey is currently tied with North Baltimore for second place in the MAL. MSU football recruit Michael Dennis became Carey's all-time leading scorer for boys basketball earlier this season. Wynford has won sectional titles each of the past fourteen seasons. Tiffin Calvert, Seneca East, and Buckeye Central figure to contend for sectional titles as well. Mohawk rounds things out at Bucyrus.

Semifinals-Seneca East over Mohawk; Buckeye Central over Tiffin Calvert

Finals-Wynford over Seneca East; Carey over Buckeye Central

#### DISTRICTS

WAPAKONETA: Ada won this district in 2009 as well as a regional title.

Semifinals-Fort Recovery over Convoy Crestview; Delphos St. John's over Marion Local

Final-Fort Recovery over Delphos St. John's

ELIDA: Kalida won the district in 2009 as well as a regional title.

Semifinals-Continental over Arlington; Kalida over Ada

Final-Continental over Kalida

NAPOLEON:

Semifinals-Ayersville over Hilltop; Antwerp over Pettisville

Final-Antwerp over Ayersville

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LIBERTY-BENTON: Toledo Christian won the district title in 2009 after four straight runner-up finishes.

Semifinals-Miller City over New Riegel; Pandora-Gilboa over Vanlue

Final-Pandora-Gilboa over Miller City

GIBSONBURG: The new district in D4.

Semifinals-Norwalk St. Paul over Maumee Valley Country Day; Ottawa Hills over Danbury

Final-Ottawa Hills over Norwalk St. Paul

WILLARD: Plymouth won the district in 2008 and 2009.

Semifinals-Wynford over New London; Carey over Lucas

Final-Wynford over Carey

That is it for now. We will return with a much shorter regional and state tournament edition prior to the regional tournament. All facts, fiction, and opinions are those of the Swami. Brackets are courtesy of Mr. Davey1.com himself, Dave Spengler. Stop by and visit us along the tournament trail. Rock on.