

Winchester CHATTER---Thurs, Jan 14, 2016---Winchester CHATTER---5th DAY--BY GWS

Let's begin with the scoring list, where I made an egregious error yesterday. I shorted Jacob Hurrelbrink of West Central 10 points. He has 34, rather than 24 points. Given that correction, here is the unofficial top ten scoring list through 2 rounds of the 94<sup>th</sup> annual Winchester Invitational Tournament.

Manning Plater	Rushville-Industry	48
Max Muller	Porta/AC	45
Cole Wellman	Liberty	39
Jonah Hopper	North Greene	38
Connor Shade	Gfid/NW	36
Luke Gillingham	Carrollton	34
Jacob Hurrelbrink	West Central	34
Hunter Chumley	Routt	31
Drew Burwinkel	Payson	30
Ryan Beckman	Routt	29

Heard nothing more about any more 1-thousand point scorers. But, we welcome any last minute additions.

Speaking of Plater, he will sign a letter of intent next month to compete in track and field at Michigan next year. Plater was among the top discus throwers and shot putters in the state last year. He finished 3<sup>rd</sup> in discus, and 4<sup>th</sup> in shot put in Class 1A competition last year.

That note got Kent Coultas to think a bit. He thinks the last player from the Winchester Invitational Tournament to play in the Big Ten was Craig Robeen of Calhoun. Robeen played football rather than basketball at Indiana. The obvious follow up is, we wonder if Andy Kaufmann was the last player from the tournament to play basketball in the Big Ten. Kaufmann played in the WIT for Routt as a freshman in the mid 1980s.

The Carrollton-North Greene match up tonight is a re-match of a second round championship bracket game a year ago. Carrollton thumped North Greene 66-46, and went on to finish 2<sup>nd</sup> in the tourney. The two teams met for 5<sup>th</sup> place in 2011, won by Carrollton 40-34. As we mentioned earlier this week, the schools haven't met on the consolation side since 1988.

Maybe the only other time Rushville and Routt have played in the WIT was in 1975, when it was just Rushville, and not Rushville/Industry. Rushville was rated 9<sup>th</sup> in the tournament, and pulled an upset over 2<sup>nd</sup> rated Routt 50-38. We don't think the two schools have played each other in any other WIT.

Liberty and West Central play for the right to reach the title game tonight in the final pairing. Liberty and West Central last met in 2014, in a game won by Liberty in overtime 59-50. The two schools last played in a championship bracket semi-final in 2011, won by West Central 60-41.

Triopia threatened last night, but was unable to pull the 2<sup>nd</sup> upset of the tournament, falling to Routt in overtime 53-47. That's been the lone OT game in the tournament this year.

Let's remind our coaches again to get their all-tournament team selections turned in. The ballots must be turned in by the end of the third place game Saturday afternoon. Ballots are available from Jeff Abell and Denny Vortman. We have a few at the radio station broadcast spot. You can also text your picks in at 217-370-9058.