

WINCHESTER CHATTER.....ISSUE #8....Wednesday January 16, 2019.....DAY 14.....ISSUE #8

Weather and the Winchester Invitational Tournament just don't mix. With 16 inches of snow falling in some locations this past weekend, play was called off Friday and Saturday. It will finish later than any other WIT in history. The last such weather delay occurred in the 2007 tournament. An ice storm halted play on Friday and Saturday of the final weekend. That caused the third place game between Griggsville Perry and Liberty to be played at Griggsville the following Tuesday. And, action Monday of that week involved 7 of the 8 games. Calhoun had to play twice to win 5th place. Play this week will wrap up 13 days after the tournament started. Can't delay much, because Old Man Winter roars back this weekend with more snow on the way, plus gusty winds.

Here is the latest list of top scorers in this year's tournament.

1	Landon Obert	Liberty	61
2	Cole Howard	W Central	54
3	Kyle Colgrove	Western	52
4	Gabe Jones	Carrollton	51
5	Garrett Snow	Triopia	48
6	Tannerr Cannady	Payson	46
	Nathan Hendricker	Brown County	46
8	Jordan Neisen	Liberty	45
	Cole Schwartz	Payson	45
10	Gabe Carlock	Porta/AC	42
	Keaton Brown	NG	42

The title game Thursday night is a repeat match up from a couple of years ago. Triopia won that match up as the 5th ranked team, stopping number 10 West Central 61-41. Triopia remains unbeaten on the season. The last time Triopia was in the title game unbeaten was in 1999, but the Trojans lost to Liberty 54-53. The last time a team slipped through the WIT with the unbeaten season intact was in 2006, when Barry West Pike improved to 19-0 in the title game. Just five teams have emerged the tournament unbeaten on the season...Winchester in 1961, Bluffs in 1962, and North Greene in 1992 and 96.

West Central is 1 and 4 in WIT title games. Triopia is 3-3. Porta/AC is 3-1 in the third place games. Payson is 1-2 in the third place games. Porta/AC or Payson have been in the third place games at the Winchester Tournament for six years running. Porta/AC is in the game for the fourth straight year.

Brown County has won three consolation titles. Carrollton has 4 consolation title crowns. Carrollton last won it in 2016. The two schools have met only once in the consolation title game. That was in 1972, when Carrollton won it 84-57. Carrollton last won the consolation title three years ago, beating Rushville Industry 57-52. Brown County was last in the consolation title in 2009, losing to Liberty 57-49. Brown County last won the consolation crown in 1977 over Brussels 62-52.

Routt last won the 5th place game two years ago, over Western 70-53. That was the only time the Rockets have played in that slot. Camp Point has won it once. Calhoun has claimed it twice.

The upset count is now up to 3. Both upsets Monday night were mild. 3rd rated West Central over number 2 Payson, and 7th ranked Routt over number 6 Western.

Latest AP poll has West Central climbing into the top 10 among 1A schools. The Cougars are rated 10th this week. Triopia is fourth again, and Payson has dropped to number 6. Porta/AC received 1 vote in the 2A pool, and is ranked outside the top ten.

Please get the all tournament ballots in BEFORE the 3rd place game Thursday night. The change in schedule means we will need time before the third place game Thursday to count the votes. The plaques will be distributed after the championship game. Again, e mail to me at gscott@wlds.com, or text them to me at 217-370-9058. The easiest way is to turn them in to tournament officials Denny Vortman, Adam Brockhouse or at the WEAL broadcast location.