

Winchester Invitational Tournament Chatter-Day 6-Issue #5-Thursday, January 16, 2020

Wait! Do my eyes deceive me? West Central in the latest Class 1A poll was given a loss, and fell from number 1 to number 6. AP listed West Central's record as 14-1. The problem was the assignment of a loss by Biggsville West Central to West Central of Bluffs and Winchester. Wrong move AP! We miss the days of the Joe Muchnik's (?) work to make sure the polls were accurate. West Central was listed at 6, just behind Payson at 5. Our West Central is one of five unbeaten teams in the top ten of the Class 1A poll.

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Nice collection of records in the final four. First time ever that two unbeaten teams are in the group. Calhoun has just one loss, and Porta/AC 5, three of those at that highly competitive Champion of Champions tournament in Washington early in the year. The six combined losses of the final four are the fewest since Barry, Triopia, North Greene and West Central each had just one loss each heading into the final four in 2005.

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Griggsville Perry's win last night was the school's first here since 2015. The Tornadoes had lost 11 in a row before last night's upset win over Greenfield-Northwestern. Griggsville Perry's last win here was a 73-65 quarterfinal win over Calhoun in 2015.

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West Central's Gabe Cox is now at 169 points in the tournament's top scoring list. He has had back to back 20 point games, giving him the 38<sup>th</sup> spot on the all time list. If he were to continue to score at this year's pace, he would push past 200 and be in the top 20 scoring.

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A couple of coaches have moved up the longevity list for coaches in the WIT. Todd Bradshaw is in his 17<sup>th</sup> tournament, tying him with Bob Hembrough of Beardstown for 5<sup>th</sup> place all time. Last night's win was his 33<sup>rd</sup> in tournament history, good for 7<sup>th</sup> place. Ryan Graner of Calhoun is in his 15<sup>th</sup> tournament as a coach, keeping pace with Marty Rhoades of North Greene for the 7<sup>th</sup> spot.

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Tate Kunzeman of Griggsville Perry etched his name in the Winchester Invitational Tournament record book last night. His 35 points matched fellow Tornado Nathan Emerick of Griggsville Perry's 35 in 2002. Justin Volk of Brown County scored 36 in 2012.

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Here are the top scorers, after two full rounds.

Keaton Brown	North Greene	44
Gabe Cox	West Central	40
Corey Nelson	Calhoun	39
Tate Kunzeman	Griggsville Perry	37
Blake Eyler	Camp Point	35
Brayden Pettit	Porta/AC	35
Hayden Hildebrand	Payson	32
Cole Schwartz	Payson	32
Mason Muller	Porta/AC	32
Broc Moore	Triopia	31
Clayton Woods	GNW	29
Preston Wellman	Western	28

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For all coaches this this year's tournament, PLEASE make sure you have an all-tournament ballot. They are available from Grant Dewitt, Denny Vortman and from the WEAL broadcast position upstairs. Return to any of those folks before the third place game next Saturday. And, take the time to vote.