

## 32 TEAMS AIM FOR STATE FINALS BERTH

Thirty-two regional champions ♦ including 13 schools that have never traveled this far before ♦ will take the floor Saturday (Feb. 24) for semi-state competition at eight sites across the state in the 26<sup>th</sup> Annual IHSAA Girls Basketball Tournament.

Each site will have two semifinal games beginning at 10 a.m., followed by the championship game at 8:15 p.m.

The eight semi-state champions ♦ two in each of the four classes ♦ will earn the right to play for a state title March 3 at Conseco Fieldhouse in Indianapolis.

The four defending state champions ♦ Triton (Class A), Fort Wayne Luers (2A), Indianapolis Cathedral (3A) and Ben Davis (4A) are still alive as the tournament reaches its third stage. Two-time defending Class 2A state champion Fort Wayne Luers is making its fourth straight semi-state appearance, a feat matched by Fort Wayne Snider (4A) and New Washington (A).

Five of the seven teams that finished the regular season undefeated are still alive, including top-ranked Kokomo (4A), Indianapolis Cathedral (3A) and Fort Wayne Luers (2A).

In Saturday ♦s Class 4A semifinals, the top four teams are paired head to head. Kokomo meets No. 2-ranked Highland in the opener at Warsaw, while No. 3-ranked Ben Davis takes on No. 4-rated Terre Haute South at Southport. Ben Davis gave host Terre Haute South its only loss 67-66 Feb. 3 in a Metropolitan Scholastic Conference showdown.

The only other rematch of a 2000-01 regular-season game comes at the Class A Triton Semi-State where Union City gets another shot at Adams Central. The Jets posted a 61-47 victory Dec. 9 at Union City. The second semi-final at Triton pairs the last two Class A state champions. The host Trojans captured the 2000 state championship, while Clinton Prairie was the state titleist in 1999. Triton dethroned Clinton Prairie 59-53 in the opening game of the 2000 Triton Semi-State on its way to the state title.

### SEMI-STATE PAIRINGS

**Saturday, February 24**

**Game times: 10 a.m., 11:45 a.m. (approximate), 8:15 p.m.**

**Tickets: \$7 (one session); \$9 (both sessions)**

**Media Credentials: Contact host school athletic director**

#### Class 4A

##### Warsaw

Game 1 -- Kokomo (23-0) vs. Highland (26-0).

Game 2 ♦ Fort Wayne Snider (23-2) vs. LaPorte (11-11).

Championship -- Winner of Game 1 vs. Winner of Game 2.

### **Southport**

Game 1 ♦ Terre Haute South (22-1) vs. Ben Davis (24-2).

Game 2 ♦ Castle (22-3) vs. Connersville (19-4).

Championship -- Winner of Game 1 vs. Winner of Game 2.

### **Class 3A**

#### **Peru**

Game 1 ♦ Hammond Gavit (20-3) vs. Plymouth (20-5).

Game 2 ♦ Fort Wayne Concordia (19-5) vs. Yorktown (14-9).

Championship -- Winner of Game 1 vs. Winner of Game 2.

#### **Jasper**

Game 1 ♦ Franklin County (23-0) vs. Lebanon (15-9).

Game 2 ♦ Indianapolis Cathedral (26-1) vs. Jasper (19-5).

Championship -- Winner of Game 1 vs. Winner of Game 2.

### **Class 2A**

#### **Maconaquah**

Game 1 ♦ Glenn (19-5) vs. Fort Wayne Luers (25-0).

Game 2 ♦ Tipton (16-8) vs. Hebron (22-4).

Championship -- Winner of Game 1 vs. Winner of Game 2.

#### **Seymour**

Game 1 ♦ Fountain Central (21-3) vs. Shenandoah (23-0).

Game 2 ♦ North Knox (21-4) vs. South Ripley (19-5).

Championship -- Winner of Game 1 vs. Winner of Game 2.

## Class A

### Triton

Game 1 ♦ Adams Central (14-10) vs. Union City (12-8).

Game 2 ♦ Clinton Prairie (17-7) vs. Triton (20-3).

Championship -- Winner of Game 1 vs. Winner of Game 2.

### Loogootee

Game 1 ♦ White River Valley (18-5) vs. Morristown (14-10).

Game 2 ♦ Washington Catholic (18-5) vs. New Washington (20-4).

Championship -- Winner of Game 1 vs. Winner of Game 2.

## REGIONAL highlights

- Thirteen schools won their first IHSAA girls basketball regional titles. In the four years of the multiple-class format, 56 schools have won girls basketball regional titles for the first time.
- Hammond Gavit, which had not won a sectional title since 1984, added its first regional crown with a 79-69 victory over Andrean. The Gladiators were led by junior Leslie Tyburski ♦s career-best 41 points.
- Lauren Bechtold banked in a floater from the middle of the lane with 4 seconds showing to give Hebron its first regional title in a 77-75 overtime thriller against visiting North Judson. Bechtold, a 5-foot-3 junior guard, scored a game-high 35 points.
- Plymouth ♦s 60-43 victory over Twin Lakes ended a 24-year regional drought for the Pilgrims.
- Kokomo extended its homecourt winning streak to 45 games as it defeated Brownsburg 59-40. The streak began during the 1996-97 season.
- Fort Wayne Concordia seized its first regional crown by ousting previously undefeated Wawasee 75-69 despite a 35-point effort from Shanna Zolman. The junior guard finished the season with a 34.3 average in 24 games. She will enter her senior year in fifth place on the state ♦s all-time scoring list with 2,239 points and needing 631 points to pass Stephanie White of Seeger for the No. 1 spot.

## **FIRST-TIME REGIONAL CHAMPIONS (13)**

Class 4A ♦ Castle, LaPorte.

Class 3A ♦ Fort Wayne Concordia, Franklin County, Hammond Gavit, Yorktown.

Class 2A ♦ Fountain Central, Hebron, South Ripley, Tipton.

Class A ♦ Adams Central, Morristown, Union City.

## **DROUGHT BREAKERS (5 years or longer)**

Plymouth (1977).

## **REPEAT REGIONAL CHAMPIONS (11)**

4A: Ben Davis, Fort Wayne Snider.

3A: Indianapolis Cathedral, Lebanon.

2A: Fort Wayne Luers, Glenn, Shenandoah.

A: Clinton Prairie, New Washington, Triton, White River Valley.

## **ACTIVE REGIONAL TITLE STREAKS**

4A: Fort Wayne Snider (4), Ben Davis (2).

3A: Indianapolis Cathedral (3), Lebanon (2).

2A: Fort Wayne Luers (4), Glenn (2), Shenandoah (2).

A: Clinton Prairie (3), New Washington (4), Triton (2), White River Valley (2).

## **AGGREGATE SEMI-STATE FIELD RECORDS**

4A: Warsaw 83-13 (.864), Southport 87-10 (.896).

3A: Peru 73-22 (.768), Jasper 83-15 (.846).

2A: Maconaquah 82-17 (.828), Seymour 84-12 (.875).

A: Triton 63-28 (.692), Loogootee 70-24 (.744).

## **BEST RECORDS IN THE FIELD**

Highland 26-0

Fort Wayne Luers 25-0

Franklin County 23-0

Kokomo 23-0

Shenandoah 23-0.

### **UNRANKED TEAMS ALIVE (15)**

4A: Castle, LaPorte.

3A: Fort Wayne Concordia, Hammond Gavit, Lebanon, Yorktown.

2A: Fountain Central, Glenn, Hebron, South Ripley, Tipton.

A: Adams Central, Clinton Prairie, Morristown, Union City.

### **SEMI-STATE REMATCHES**

#### **Class 2A**

<b>Teams</b>	<b>2000 Semi-State Result</b>
Glenn (19-5) vs. Fort Wayne Luers (25-0)	Fort Wayne Luers 62, Glenn 46 (semifinals)

#### **Class A**

<b>Teams</b>	<b>2000 Semi-State Result</b>
Clinton Prairie (17-7) vs. Triton (20-3)	Triton 59, Clinton Prairie 53 (semifinals)

### **FORMER STATE CHAMPIONS ALIVE**

Ben Davis (2000, Class 4A)

Clinton Prairie (1999, Class A)

Fort Wayne Luers (1999, Class 2A, 2000, Class 2A)

Fort Wayne Snider (1988)

Indianapolis Cathedral (2000, Class 3A)

Kokomo (1992, 1993)

Triton (2000, Class A)

## **SMALLEST SCHOOL IN THE FIELD**

Washington Catholic (109 students)

## **LARGEST SCHOOL IN THE FIELD**

Ben Davis (3,569 students)

## **TOP CONFERENCES**

### **3 Regional Champions**

Summit -- Fort Wayne Concordia, Fort Wayne Luers, Fort Wayne Snider.

### **2 Regional Champions**

Blue Chip ♦ North Knox, Washington Catholic.

Lake Athletic ♦ Hammond Gavit, Highland.

Metropolitan -- Ben Davis, Terre Haute South.

Northern State -- Glenn, Triton).

## **REGIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP LEADERS**

(Year of last title)

10 -- Scottsburg (1995), Valparaiso (2000).

9 -- Bedford North Lawrence (1992), Ben Davis (2001), Kokomo (2001), NorthWood (1999).

8 -- Anderson (1994), Columbia City (2000), Huntington North (2000), Rushville (1995).

7 -- Benton Central (1992), Crown Point (1997), Fort Wayne Northrop (1994), Mooresville (1985).

6 -- Columbus East (1999), Evansville Bosse (1997), Fort Wayne Snider (2001), McCutcheon (1998), Noblesville (1996), Pike Central (1995).

5 -- Anderson Highland (1989), Fort Wayne Luers (2001), Lafayette Jefferson (1995), Mt. Vernon (Fortville) (1991), New Albany (2000), Seeger (2000), Seymour (1991), Terre Haute South (2001), Warsaw (1991), Washington (1997).