

Wisconsin Interscholastic Athletic Association

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: Monday, March 9, 2009

STATE GIRLS BASKETBALL TOURNEY TIPS-OFF AT COLISEUM FOR FINAL TIME

**Wisconsin Interscholastic Athletic Association
State Girls Basketball Championships
Thursday-Saturday, March 12-14, 2009
Alliant Energy Center, Madison, Wis.**

THE CHAMPIONSHIPS: The 34th Annual Wisconsin Interscholastic Athletic Association Girls Basketball State Championships will take place Thursday-Saturday, March 12-14, at the Veterans Memorial Coliseum at the Alliant Energy Center in Madison, Wis. Ticket prices for the tourney are \$8 per session. The tournament moves to the Kohl Center in 2010.

ON THE AIR: The State tournament will be televised live on WKOW-TV channel 27 in Madison, WAOW-TV channel 9 in Wausau, WXOW-TV channel 19 in La Crosse, WQOW-TV channel 18 in Eau Claire, WYOW-TV channel 34 in Eagle River, WMLW-TV channel 41 in Milwaukee and WACY-TV channel 32 in Green Bay and the Fox Valley. The Wisconsin Division of Quincy Newspapers, Inc. will produce the coverage. The championships will also be streamed on the statewide network Web sites.

POST-GAME MEDIA CONFERENCES ON WIAA.TV: The post-game media conferences will be shown live on WIAA.tv immediately following each game.

TEAM TOURNAMENT HISTORY: The first WIAA State Girls Basketball Championship Tournament was held in 1976. The tournament has been held at the UW Field House every year except in 1998, 2001, 2003, 2004 and 2005. The championships were held in the Kohl Center in 1998, 2001, 2003 and 2005, and at the Alliant Energy Center in 2004 and the last three years. The tournament featured a three-class format until 1991, when the current four-division format was adopted. Cuba City has won the most State titles over the years with eight. Milwaukee Washington has won five, and Barneveld, Fall Creek and Kimberly have won four. There have been 69 different schools that have won championships. Janesville Parker, and now Cuba City, have the distinction of playing in the most State Tournaments with 12. Milwaukee Washington, and now Durand and Fall Creek, have qualified 10 times.

CHAMPIONSHIPS SCHEDULE AND PAIRINGS: The single elimination tournament features eight teams in Division 1 and four each in Divisions 2, 3 and 4.

Thursday, March 12

Time	Div.	Pairings
9:05 a.m.	3	Cuba City (25-0) vs. Oostburg (22-3)
10:45 a.m.	3	Fall Creek (20-5) vs. Amherst (25-0)*
1:35 p.m.	1	Middleton (21-3) vs. Verona (19-4)
3:15 p.m.	1	Neenah (20-3) vs. Milwaukee Vincent (22-1)*
6:35 p.m.	1	De Pere (22-1) vs. Brookfield Central (22-1)
8:15 p.m.	1	Marshfield (22-1) vs. Milwaukee King (20-3)*

Friday, March 13

9:05 a.m.	4	Potosi (24-1) vs. Black Hawk (23-2)
10:45 a.m.	4	Siren (25-0) vs. St. Mary Central (22-3)*
1:35 p.m.	2	Monroe (23-2) vs. Grafton (22-2)
3:15 a.m.	2	Durand (22-2) vs. Notre Dame (17-8)*
6:35 p.m.	1	Division 1 semifinal (Thursday afternoon winners)
8:15 p.m.	1	Division 1 semifinal (Thursday evening winners)*

Saturday, March 14

12:05 p.m.	4	Division 4 Championship Game
1:45 p.m.	2	Division 2 Championship Game*
6:35 p.m.	3	Division 3 Championship Game
8:15 p.m.	1	Division 1 Championship Game*

* The second game of each session is scheduled to begin approximately 20 minutes following the conclusion of the first game .

ABOUT THE DIVISION 1 FIELD: Six of the eight qualifiers in Division 1 return from the 2008 field. Two-time defending champion **Milwaukee Vincent** has won titles in the only two State Tournaments it has appeared in. The Lady Vikings were co-champions with State qualifier Milwaukee King in the Milwaukee City Conference this season. Vincent qualified for the tournament Saturday with 51-45 win over Mukwonago in the Waukesha North Sectional final. **Neenah** will be making its seventh appearance in the tournament and its first since a streak of six straight ended in 1981. That run of appearances produced a championship in 1978 and runner-up finishes in 1976 and 1980. The Rockets placed second in the Fox Valley Association this season, and they won the Neenah Sectional by virtue of their 64-43 win over Oshkosh West in the sectional final. **Middleton** returns to State for the fifth time overall and for the second consecutive year. The

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Cardinals have finished second in the State twice, once in 1993 and again in 2003. Middleton was co-champion of the Big Eight conference this season with State qualifier Verona. The Cardinals are the representative from the Middleton Sectional after defeating Sauk Prairie 46-39 in the final. **De Pere** is making its second straight trip to State and fifth overall. The Redbirds captured the State title in 2005 and the Class A championship in the second of back-to-back appearances in 1983. They are the champions of the Fox River Classic Conference this season and won the sectional they hosted with a 44-33 win over Appleton West in the final. Another five-time returner to State is **Marshfield**. The Tigers are appearing in the State Tournament for the second year in a row and for the fourth time in the last six years. Their furthest advance in the tournament came in 1977 and 2006 when they advanced to the semifinals. The Tigers defeated Eau Claire North 50-37 in the final of the Wausau West Sectional to qualify for the field after earning the Wisconsin Valley Conference title this season. **Brookfield Central** returns to the tournament field for the second consecutive year as well and for the third time overall. The Lancers' first-ever trip to State back in 1985 resulted in a Class A title. They earned their berth this season by edging Muskego 33-32 in the Greenfield Sectional final. They are the champions of the Greater Metro Conference this season. **Milwaukee King** is also playing in the State Tournament for the third time. They fell in the quarterfinals in its only other two appearances in 2004 and 2007. The Lady Generals beat Divine Savior Holy Angels 33-31 in the final of the Whitefish Bay Sectional to earn a return trip to Madison. They were co-champions of the Milwaukee City Conference with Milwaukee Vincent. **Verona** qualifies for the State Tournament for the second straight season after making its first appearance last year. The Wildcats topped Janesville Parker 50-34 in the final of the Badger Sectional. They were co-champions with Middleton in the Badger Conference this season.

ABOUT THE DIVISION 2 FIELD: Defending champion **Monroe** is making its seventh appearance at State. The Cheesemakers' last two experiences in the State Tournament have resulted in titles, also winning the title in 2006. Their back-to-back appearances in 1988 and 1989 produced a title in 1989 and runner-up finish the year before. Monroe was co-champion of the Badger Conference with Edgewood, the same team it defeated 40-34 in the final of the Janesville Craig Sectional to earn the shot at defending the title. 2007 champion **Grafton** embarks on its fifth State Tournament appearance and its third in a row. The Black Hawks' only two other appearances came in 1991 and 1994. They are the co-champions of the North Shore Conference with Nicolet, advancing through the Waukesha South Sectional with a 45-36 win over Ripon in the final. **Durand** makes its 10th appearance at State and its first since 1997. The Panthers have won two State Championships, winning them back-to-back in 1986-87. They also finished runner-up in 1996. The champions of the Middle Border Conference defeated Amery 45-35 in the final of the Chippewa Falls Sectional to punch their ticket to Madison. **Notre Dame** is back in the tournament for the first time since 2005 when the Tritons fell in the championship game. They won the State title in their only other appearance in 2001. Notre Dame finished third in the Fox River Classic Conference this season

and advanced to the tournament through the Seymour Sectional. The Tritons ousted New London 35-26 in the final.

ABOUT THE DIVISION 3 FIELD: Defending champion **Oostburg** is back at State for the third straight year and for the seventh time overall. The Flying Dutchmen also won State championships in 1990 and 1994. This season, they placed second in the Central Lakeshore Conference and qualified for State by beating The Hope School 46-35 in the West Bend Sectional final. Perennial power **Cuba City** is making its 12th appearance at State. The Cubans have won more State titles than any other program with eight, winning championships in 1977, 1980, 1990, 1991, 1993, 2005, 2006 and 2007. They won the Southwest Wisconsin Activities League title this season and won the Reedsburg Sectional with a 54-43 win over Aquinas in the final. **Amherst** is making its fourth consecutive appearance and its sixth overall. The Falcons won the State championship in 1999 and were runners-up in 2007. They are the champions of the Central Wisconsin Conference, and they earned another berth in the tournament by topping Roncalli 55-42 in the Ashwaubenon Sectional final. **Fall Creek** makes its 10th appearance in the State Tournament and its first since 1998. The Crickets had a terrific run of success in the 1980s and 90s, winning championships in 1985, 1987, 1988 and 1996 to go with runner-up finishes in 1986, 1990, 1994 and 1998. They placed fourth in the Cloverbelt Conference this season and proceeded to win the Altoona Sectional by defeating Prescott 43-38 in the final.

ABOUT THE DIVISION 4 FIELD: Last year's runner-up **St. Mary Central** is back for another shot at the title. Last year's experience was the first time in the State Tournament for the Zephyrs. As a former member of WISAA, St. Mary Central won the Division 2 title in 1998. They finished third in the Olympian Conference this season and advanced through the Waupaca Sectional with a 71-38 win over Almond-Bancroft in the final. **Potosi** will live the State Tournament experience for the second time. The only other time the Lady Chieftains qualified was in 1999, which resulted in a runner-up finish. They defeated Assumption in the La Crosse Central Sectional final 37-34 to earn the opportunity to play conference rival Black Hawk in the State semifinals. Potosi was champion of Six Rivers Conference West Division this year. **Black Hawk** is making its first appearance in the State Tournament. The Warriors earned a berth in the field after a 44-30 win over Randolph in the Fort Atkinson Sectional final. They were the champions of the Six Rivers Conference East Division this season. **Siren** is also making its initial appearance in the tournament following a 40-34 win over Greenwood in the Spooner Sectional final. The Dragons were the champions of the Lakeland Conference West Division this winter.

NEED RESULTS?: The quickest way to get results will be to access the 2009 girls basketball results option on the WIAA Web site at: <http://www.wiaawi.org/index.php?id=387> and choose the appropriate link on the girls basketball results home page.