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DaDaDa DaDaDa

February 14, 2021



21 Sports ... 1 Team ... WE ARE HOBART!

Well ... today is **Valentine's Day** ... a holiday recognized every February 14th to celebrate *love*. It seems only appropriate to acknowledge how much we *love* sports on a day like this ... particularly when talking about the Brickies! Don't you think?

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Mike Black

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emotions worn on our proverbial sleeves as we sit on the edge of our seats trying to soak up every moment. Yep ... sports can do that to us ... that's why we *love* them so!

We could go on and on ... but the bottom line is this - we *love* sports ... and each time we cheer on the Brickies, all of those emotions come to the surface ... particularly this time of year! Swimming & Diving and Wrestling are DANCING in the IHSAA post-season with everything on the line ... Basketball and Gymnastics are making a late-season push to fine tune performances before their BIG DANCE begins!!

Happy Valentine's Day Brickie sports ... we love you!



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Swimming & Diving

The last 7 days have been special for our Lady Brickies in the water. The week began with a diving regional at Valparaiso and ended exactly where we hope every season ends ... the IUPUI Natatorium for the IHSAA State Finals!

Tuesday @ Valpo High School, senior **Alivia Ahner** was a competitor in the IHSAA Diving Regional for the 2nd consecutive year. Alivia was one of 20 student athletes to qualify coming from 5 different sectionals around the northern part of the state. Each competitor was guaranteed 8 dives ... the top 12 scores advancing to the finals for 3 more dives. In the finals, the top 8 scores advance to the STATE FINALS in Indianapolis. Alivia was FANTASTIC on Tuesday night ... just as she was ALL SEASON ... in advancing to the REGIONAL FINALS and finished 11th overall with a score of 318.80! Even though she did not qualify for state, Alivia improved upon where she finished a year ago (17th @ Regional) and completed her career as one of the most accomplished female divers in school history, which includes a school record for 6-dives!!



On Friday, senior **Emma "Doin It" Wright** got back into the water at the IUPUI Natatorium where she won the 2019 IHSAA State Championship in the 100-yd Freestyle. Emma has been simply AMAZING throughout her entire career and was back representing H-town for the 4th consecutive year looking to finish her career in style.

In Friday night's preliminary heats, Emma was RIDICULOUS and qualified for the FINALS in BOTH the 50 and 100-yd Freestyle events!! As decorated as her time for the Lady Brickies has been, this is the 1st time she has qualified for the CHAMPIONSHIP race in both events!!

Emma's 1st race on Saturday was the 50-yd freestyle finals. In one of the fastest races in IHSAA history (3 girls finished under 23 seconds), Emma improved on both her time and place from a year ago and touched the pad in 23.32, good enough for 6th place in the STATE! In the 100 ... her last race as a Lady Brickie ... Emma gave it EVERYTHING she had, improved her time from the night before by 0.2 seconds, and placed 2nd overall in a new school record time of 49.93!! UNBELIEVABLE!!! Talk about finishing her career in style ... ALL-STATE in 2 events and a new school record! WOW!!

8-time NCC Champion ... 8-time IHSAA Sectional Champion ... 4-time ALL-STATE performer covering 2 events ... school record holder in 6 different events ... INCREDIBLE! CONGRATULATIONS EMMA - WE ARE VERY PROUD OF YOU!!

#DOINITWRIGHT

Boys

With the girls' season now complete, it's the boys turn. Hobart will host the IHSAA SECTIONAL swimming prelims on Thursday! LET'S GOOOOOOO BRICKIES!!

#JUSTKEEPSWIMMING

Alivia Ahner @ IHSAA Diving Regional





Check out the video below to see Alivia dive at the IHSAA REGIONAL!

Alivia regional



Emma "Doin It" Wright @ IHSAA STATE SWIM FINALS



Check out what the local papers had to say about Emma @ STATE!



Houston recruit Em... www.chicagotribune.com

For Hobart's Emma Wright, a decorated senior making her third straight appearance as an individual at state, pride is important to her.



Hobart's Emma Wrig... www.nwitimes.com

"It definitely does feel a little bit special especially knowing I have such great support at home, and I've kind of been a one-man team my entire high school (career),"

Fieldhouse in Indianapolis for the STATE FINALS!

Each weight class had 16 competitors. The top 4 individuals in each class advance to STATE. In order to secure a spot in the top 4, competitors need to win their 1st 2 matches. Here we go!

The first round was a meat grinder for all in attendance ... the wrestling was OUTSTANDING and 5 of our 9 Brickies advanced! The "ticket round" was crazy. It had everything ... glory, drama, heartbreak ... all within 6 minutes for each match. Our boys FOUGHT HARD and represented Hobart EXTREMELY WELL with how they competed. Of the 5 Brickies wrestling in the "ticket round", TWWWOOOOOOOO found victory and advanced to next weekend's STATE FINALS!! Here are their stories ...

At 126 lbs, sophomore **Devin Wible** ... after winning a 7-0 decision in the 1st round ... WON by PIN in overtime! Wible was trailing by 4 points with roughly 30 seconds left in the match ... a nearly insurmountable deficit in that time frame. Devin scored 3 INCREDIBLE points to get within 1 and with less than 5 seconds remaining, was awarded another to TIE IT UP due to his opponent running away to celebrate - UNBELIEVABLE! Wible ... as he has done so well over the last month ... took advantage of his opportunity, scored a takedown and even got a PIN 13 seconds into the overtime period to secure his spot in the STATE FINALS!! Devin would eventually finish 3rd in the 126-lb weight class to add another ribbon to an already STELLAR last month of competition. NCC Champion ... Sectional Champion ... Regional Runner-Up ... and now STATE QUALIFIER!! GREAT JOB DEVIN!!

At 170 lbs, junior **Jacob Simpson** ... after winning by technical fall (15-0) in the 1st round ... WON an EXCITING 4-3 decision to punch his ticket to Indianapolis! Jake got down early, then fought back to a 2-2 tie going into the final period. He scored a TWWWOOOOOOOO point takedown to go ahead 4-2 ... gave up an escape with 13 seconds remaining and held on to earn the THRILLING 1-point win! After losing a heartbreaker (3-2) in the semifinals ... his 1st loss of the entire season, Jake went on to WIN a 7-2 decision in the consolation final to finish 3rd!! What an AMAZING junior campaign it has been for Simpson ... NCC Champion ... Sectional Champion ... Regional Champion ... and now STATE QUALIFIER!! GREAT JOB JAKE!!

Hobart finished 5th overall as a team ... 1 spot better than a year ago ... with 37.5 points. Chesterton edged DAC rival Crown Point for the team title.

Next weekend, the Brickies will bring TWWWOOOOOOOO competitors ... **Devin Wible & Jacob Simpson** ... to INDIANAPOLIS for the STATE FINALS!! Each of these underclassmen are making their 1st appearances at Bankers Life Fieldhouse! 1st round action begins Friday with the quarterfinals starting Saturday morning at 9:30 AM EST.

DON'T STOP NOW BOYS!!

#BRICKRODE

Devin Wible @ 126 lbs





Jacob Simpson @ 170 lbs





Basketball

Boys

The IHSAA "BIG DANCE" is coming ... only 2 more weeks remain in the regular season and our boys are WORK WORK WORKing hard to finish strong!

Tuesday night, Hobart traveled to take on defending Class 3A Sectional champion Hanover Central. The Brickies started slow and trailed 11-2 after 8 minutes. In the 2nd period, our boys found their rhythm on offense and outscored the Wildcats 16-10 to close the gap to only 3 heading into the locker rooms for the halftime break. Hobart came out firing again in the 3rd frame and actually led by 1 going into the final quarter!! In a BATTLE to the FINISH, Hanover was able to capitalize when it needed to and hung on to defeat the Brickies in a close one, 46-42. Senior **Max Jancich** connected on 4 of 5 3-pointers to lead Hobart in scoring with 16 points. Classmate **Quinten White** scored 9 and juniors **Miki Djankovich** and **Anthony Williams** each added 7 in the loss.

On Friday night, our boys welcomed NCC rival and area top 10 ranked Andean to the Friendly City. In a competitive 1st quarter, Andean held a slim 13-9 lead as the Brickie D-D-D-DEFENSE locked them down and our boys were able to clean the glass on every miss! Hobart continued to challenge the bigger 59ers and took the lead, 17-15, midway through the 2nd period! Andean was able to finish the half on a 10-4 run and held a 25-21 advantage at halftime. Coming out of the locker room, the visitors asserted themselves on both ends and the Brickies fell off the pace, eventually losing 61-38 in a game that was much more competitive than the final score.

On Saturday afternoon, the Brickies were again ROAD WARRIORS as they visited Hammond Gavit for the last time. The "Gladiator Arena" will be closing at the end of the school year as Hammond consolidates 4 high schools down to two. Fortunately, the snow didn't hinder anything and the Glads provided the perfect medicine to cure Hobart's 10-game skid. Our boys SHINED on both ends of the floor and left town with the nets still burning after TORCHING Gavit 80-37!!! WOW - lock down D-D-D-DEFENSE combined with an offensive explosion added up to the lopsided afternoon and a relaxing bus ride back to H-town! The Brickies were again led by **Jancich** with 17 points ... **Djankovich** and **White** also hit double-figures as Hobart defeated Gavit for the 9th time in 10 years!!

The Brickies are scheduled to play 7 games over the next two weeks before MARCH MADNESS begins. GOOD LUCK BOYS! FINISH STRONG!!

#MAKETHEM BELIEVE





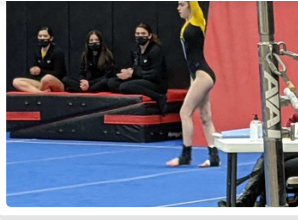
and the Portage Lady Indians. Hobart has eclipsed the century mark in team points in all 3 meets thus far ... could the streak extend to 4?

YES!!!! Our girls were PHENOMENAL on all 4 events and tallied a team total of 104.00!! Portage edged the Lady Brickies by a mere 0.150 and Lowell finished 3rd with 86.5000. Junior **Aisha Arias** SHINED as she scored a 9+ on 3 of 4 events on her way to finishing 1st in the all-around with a season-best 36.150!! Sophomore **Haylie Skripac** brought home 1st on vault, 2nd on bars, and 5th on the beam on her way to 3rd in the all-around with a 34.800! Sophomore **Sarah Romeo** placed 3rd on vault and 7th in the all-around while classmate **Daeges Morgan** finished 6th on beam ... senior **Nataly Ponce** was 4th on vault to round out Hobart's podium placers.

The Lady Brickies have two meets remaining ... both in the friendly confines of the Frank Kurth Fieldhouse ... over the next two weeks before IHSAA Sectional competition begins over at Portage High School. Our girls continue to show improvement every time out and appear to be peaking at just the right time! YOU CAN DO IT LADIES!!!

#STICKIT





Athlete of the Month

Congratulations to our January Brickie Athletes of the Month!

Alivia Ahner - Diving

Emma Wright - Swimming

Ethan Ferba - Diving

Trevor Schammert - Wrestling

Keep up the amazing WORK WORK WORK!

#BRICKIEPRIDE



Brickie Athletes of the Month JANUARY 2021

Bowling

Brickie senior **Cayleb Carey** recently signed his letter of intent to continue his academic and athletic career at Lourdes University beginning in the fall of 2021! The Gray Wolves are members of the Wolverine-Hoosier Athletic Conference (WHAC) and compete at the NAIA level. Lourdes is located in Sylvania, Ohio.

Cayleb was a 2020 State Qualifier for the Brickies!

#STRIKEAPOSE



 Cayleb Carey Signs to Bowl at Lourdes University - Lourdes University Athletics

Cayleb Carey Signs t...

lourdesathletics.com

Lourdes University head bowling coach Alvin Franklin Jr. has announced that Cayleb Carey has signed a letter of intent to bowl for the Gray Wolves beginning in the

Tuesday

Boys Basketball vs. Lowell *

Wednesday

Gymnastics vs. Crown Point/Lowell

Thursday

Boys Swimming @ IHSAA Sectional Prelims (Hosted by HHS)

Friday

Wrestling @ IHSAA STATE FINALS (Devin Wible & Jacob Simpson)

Boys Diving @ IHSAA Sectional (Hosted by HHS)

Boys Basketball @ Highland *

Saturday

Wrestling @ IHSAA STATE FINALS (*If advance on Friday)


Boys Swimming @ IHSAA Sectional Finals (Hosted by HHS)

Boys Basketball @ Merrillville

* - NCC Opponent

Why have we been able to still have so many high school games and meets this winter? It's because of coaches who are great leaders, parents who care, and student-athletes who have followed virus protocols. Let's keep it up.



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