

# Lady Cardinals add to their state plaque collection

## Take third place over Norwood for the second year-in-a-row

**By Tara Alumbaugh**  
*Times' sports*

The Tipton Lady Cardinals added another plaque to their trophy case after taking third place in the Class 2 MSHSAA State Tournament Friday, March 14, and Saturday, March 15 at Mizzou Arena in Columbia.

The Ladies opened the tournament playing against the St. Vincent Lady Indians on Friday.

Tipton started the game with a small lead, outscoring their opponents 14-8, but St. Vincent answered back bringing the score to 23-22 at the end of the first half.

While many lead changes took place in the second half, foul trouble for Ava Schlotzhauer and Larrah Petree was not what Tipton needed.

St. Vincent kept key stats down for Tipton, with Schlotzhauer, who usually pulls double-doubles for games, only having 6 rebounds.

The Lady Cardinals took a loss that many would say was beset by controversial calls, possibly contributed to the ending score, 56-50.

Coach Jason Culpepper said the game was a challenging one for the Lady Cardinals as St. Vincent had four really good players with most having D2 offers for basketball and a point guard who had signed a four-year scholarship to play soccer.

"Anytime you have that many athletes, you are a prob-

lem to match up with," said Culpepper. "We see a lot of teams on film that have sounded potential, but until you see them play defense, you don't know if they play hard or are willing to it for 32 minutes."

Schlotzhauer, for the first time in her career, fouled out only logging 22 minutes of play time, having four fouls already going into the half. Two fouls were charging calls, while the last foul was called while fighting for the ball on the bottom of the pile, nowhere near the girl who was supposed to have been fouled.

Petree had 23 minutes of playing time before she fouled out, with nothing but straight up arms.

These fouls and the fact that Madison Carvajal, of one of the top scoring players on the team, is still on the injured list, but that didn't stop her from getting in the game for seven minutes to help her team, made things more difficult for the game.

**Stats**

Schlotzhauer managed to put up 18 points for the game, while Charlee Bailey had three 3s, and 6 field goals, helping put up 15 points. Clara Williams followed, putting up 10 points, along with 3 from Madison Carvajal and Anna Crane and Emma Bestgen had 2 each.

Williams had 3 assists, along with Schlotzhauer with 2, and Crane and Bestgen contributing 1 each.

Williams logged 3 steals, followed by Bestgen with 2, and



### Third place at state

The Tipton Lady Cardinals took third place at the Class 2 Missouri State Tournament at the Mizzou Arena in Columbia Saturday, March 15. The two-day tournament started on Friday where the Ladies fell to St. Vincent, 56-50, and then won on Saturday against Norwood for the second year-in-a-row, with a score of 61-42. Members of the team are, from left: Audrey Gump, Alice Bestgen, Addison McQuaide, Nina Allison and Emma Bestgen;

and back, Coach Jason Culpepper, team manager Olivia Helms, Madison Carvajal, Assistant Coach Steve Carvajal, Larrah Petree, Anna Crane, Charlee Bailey, Assistant Coach Justin Schlotzhauer, Ava Schlotzhauer, Clara Williams, Myra Haas, team managers Hannah Garber and Anna Dick and Assistant Coach Kamryn Hirst.

Bailey, Petree and Schlotzhauer with 1 each.

**Third place game**

The Lady Cardinals went on to play the third place game, playing against the Norwood Lady Indians.

This was not the first time Tipton met with the Lady Indi-



### Covering the Lady Cardinals

Throughout the last few years, KS95.1 of Versailles, has covered the Tipton Lady Cardinals winning history. This year's Final Four season was no different, going live on the radio to keep fans updated on each play and reporting the third place game score which ended with the Tipton Lady Cardinals taking the third place win over Norwood, 61-41. Jason Vansell, left, joins KS95.1 reporter Colton Taylor for an on air journey.

ans in the Final Four game, playing them in the semi-finals in 2023 which sent Tipton to the championship game and claiming their first place title, as well as taking the win last season in the third place game once again, with a 62-35 win.

This year's game was a little closer, but still a win of 61-42, for third place once again.

Tipton's turnover count of 8 was better for this game compared to the the game the day before of 22.

Senior Charlee Bailey was happy for the win, even though it wasn't how they wanted the tournament to go, she still got to end her season with a win.

**Stats**

Ava Schlotzhauer put up 20 points for the game, followed by Bailey with 17, five of which were 3-pointers. Clara Williams had 14, Madison Carvajal put up 5, Crane, 3, and Larrah Petree, 2.

Schlotzhauer pulled down 9 rebounds for the game, followed by Carvajal with 7, Bailey and Petree had 4 each, Williams and Bestgen, 3 each, and Crane, 2.

Petree, Williams and Schlotzhauer collected 3 assists each, followed by Crane and Bailey with 1 each.

Schlotzhauer had 6 steals for the game, followed by Schlotzhauer with 4, Carvajal, 3, and Crane, 2.

"The Ladies defense stayed locked in for the game," said Culpepper. "We played with one sick and one battling two torn ligaments. The girls really stepped up and filled in where needed."

During the final interview, Culpepper was asked what it had been like coaching Charlee Bailey the last four years, and there was not a dry eye left.

"Coaching Charlee has been a blast," said Culpepper. "I remember her videoing when her sister was playing and watching her grow. She is very coachable and we build strong relationships when you have such a tight team. Eight years of the Bailey girls was not enough."



### A job well done

Tipton Lady Cardinal Charlee Bailey, senior, bears the last time a Bailey family member will where the #10 jersey, walking off the court for the last time in her high school career. While the Final Four tournament didn't go as she planned, she is all smiles walking towards Coach Jason Culpepper with a win, third place trophy and earning herself multiple Lady Cardinal records in her four years of playing. Bailey will at Mission University in Springfield next season, to start her college career.

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# Congrats given to winter sports state athletes



State cheerleaders

The Tipton Lady Cardinal cheerleading squad took third place at the Game Day State Competition Sunday, Feb. 23, at Drury University in Springfield. Members of the squad are, from left: Riley Laster, Bailey Bradshaw and Paityn Whisler; and back Kylan Edwards, Madison Kutenkuler, Leila Hunsburger, Ella Williams, Miley McDonald, Illisa McDonald, Madilynn Edwards and Nina Allison. Pictured in the corner is Grady Claas, who plays Booster the Cardinal at games and in competitions. (Photo courtesy of Allabaugh Photography)



Making history

Three Tipton Cardinal wrestlers went to state and all three came back with a medal. Cooper Doss, sophomore, left, took third place in the 144-pound weight class, while Paxton Pyle, sophomore, finished in fifth place for the 165-pound weight class, and Dalton Doss, senior, a four-time state qualifier, finished his career in fourth place for the 138-pound weight class. The Cardinal wrestlers competed at the Class 1 MSHSAA State Tournament at Mizzou Arena Wednesday, Feb. 26, and Thursday, Feb. 27.



Braves head to state

The Latham Braves archery team will compete at the MoNASP State archery tournament Friday, March 21, at the Branson Convention Center. Members of the team are, from left: Front row, Rylee Higgins, Tinley Meloy, Cassidy Schatzer, and Emmett Sandidge and back Noah Meloy, Clabe Messerli, Ollie Fullks; Paityn Higgins, and Addison Sandidge.



Presentation

Tipton senior cheerleaders, Ella Williams, left, and Illisa McDonald walk the third place trophy to the presenter following the game with Tipton Lady Cardinals and Norwood Lady Indians Saturday, March 15. Tipton was presented the trophy after defeating Norwood 61-42 at Mizzou Arena in Columbia.

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# Congrats given to winter sports state athletes



Tipton archery

The Tipton High School and middle school archery team competed at the MoNASP State Tournament Wednesday, March 19, at Branson Convention Center. The junior high team will compete at 3D while the high school team, bullseye. Many of the archers will be shooting for an individual score as well in both 3D and bullseye. Members of the team are, from left: Front row, Cameron Higgins, Brennen Savage, Waylon Rambo, Walker Cary, Trevor Lutz, Ryker Wolf and Konner Oldham; second row, Coach Tracy Cary, Peyton McNeal, Nina Allison, Addy Lutz, Raylyn Wilfong, Leland Potter and Coach Molly Thyre; third row, Jeorgia Reed, Jackson Birdwell, Myra Haas, Abram Pettigrew, Birkley Simon, Landon Burnett, Gavan Nolting and James Kutenkuler; fourth row, Triston Drake, Lillyannah Phipps, Brooklynn Loganbill, Mason Tucker, Wil Sarver, Max Anderson, Matthew Ziesman, Gracie Birdwell and Jacob Kutenkuler; and back Joselynn West, Caylee Higgins, Amelia Dravenstott, Grayson Marcum, Caton Wilfong and Jackson Watring.

(Photo courtesy of THS Journalism)



Pirate archers head to state

The St. Andrew Pirate archery team will be competing at the MoNASP State Bullseye Tournament Saturday, March 22, at the Branson Convention Center. The team will be competing as well as many shooting for an individual score. Members of the team are, from left: Front row, Miguel Ubaldo, Cade Gump, Eli McDonald, Harper Bestgen, Stella Schlotzhauer and Tyson Hampton; middle row, Corbin Doyle, Hannah Uptergove, Leighla Nolting, Millie Lawson, Lila Uptergrove, Adalena Kincaid, C. C. Drinkard, Elizabeth Hunsburger and Gabby Huff; and back Jorge Bedolla, Blaine Dicus, Coen Drinkard, Cole Moon, Jaxon Stoecklein Will Millan, Brycen Stoecklein, Aiden Walters and Will Martin.



Jalin Clutter



Paxton Haggard



Averi Potter



Victoria Vidal



Kilynn Doyel



Baylor Simon



Jase Morse



Jace McNeal



Paisley Johnson



Kolten Cobb



Madilynn Witt



Kaylee Burnett

## Archery club

This is the second year for the Tipton Archery Club, sending 12 individual archers to the MoNASP State Tournament on Wednesday, March 19. Those participating are Jalin Clutter, Paxton Haggard, Averi Potter, Victoria Vidal, Kilynn Doyel, Baylor Simon, Jase Morse, Jace McNeal, Paisley Johnson, Kolten Cobb, Madilynn Witt and Kaylee Burnett.



Small but loud

Tipton's student section wasn't the biggest of the tournament, but they still managed to be heard cheering on the Lady Cardinals during the two-day Final Four Tournament at Mizou Arena, Columbia, Friday, March 14, and Saturday, March 15. The Lady Cardinals ended the tournament in third place, falling first to St. Vincent, 56-50, and then winning over Norwood, 61-42.

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# Scenes from Class 2 Final Four

## Tipton takes third



### What's next

Assistant Coaches Steve Carvajal, left, Kamryn Hirst and Justin Schlotzhauer, not seen, go over a call with head coach Jason Culpepper Friday, March 14. The Lady Cardinals saw themselves in foul trouble just inside the first half. Ultimately Tipton fell to St. Vincent, 56-50 in the Class 2 semi-final game at Mizzou Arena in Columbia.



### One last time

Tipton Lady Cardinal Coach Jason Culpepper, left, listens to reports' questions during the third place post-game interview Saturday, March 15. Tipton took the win over Norwood, 61-42. The room was full of emotions as this was senior Charlee Bailey's final season with the Tipton Lady Cardinals. She was joined by teammate Ava Schlotzhauer at the media table.



### Out of the way

Tipton Lady Cardinal Larrah Petree drives through the Lady Indian opponents Friday, March 14. Petree was one of two Tipton players who saw themselves in foul trouble, exiting the game shortly into the fourth quarter. Tipton fell to St. Vincent, 56-50, in the semi-final games.



### Back at the line

Ava Schlotzhauer shoots from the line once again during the semi-final game against St. Vincent Friday, March 14. Schlotzhauer went 6-for-7 at the line for the game, but also saw foul trouble early in the game, fouling out halfway through the fourth quarter. Tipton ultimately lost 56-50 for the game.



### That's one way

Tipton Lady Cardinal Clara Williams finds anyway to get to the basket during the third place game against Norwood Saturday, March 15. Williams put up 14 points for the game and helped the Lady Cardinals take the third place win, 61-42.



### Not backing down

Charlee Bailey, #10, blocks out a Norwood Lady Indian during the Class 2 third place game Saturday, March 15. Tipton took the 61-42 win at Mizzou Arena in Columbia, ending their season record 27-5.



### Keep back

Freshman Emma Bestgen got to see major playing time off the bench to help fill in where needed during the Class 2 Final Four games. She is pictured guarding a Norwood Lady Indian during the third place game on Saturday, March 15. Tipton took the 61-42 win to take the third place plaque.



### Over the lane

Anna Crane, #3, throws to her open teammate over the Norwood opponents during the third place game against Norwood Saturday, March 15. Tipton took the win, 61-42, for the third place title.



### Straight down

Tipton Lady Cardinal Madison Carvajal blocked out the pain and made her way down the court to see some playing time against St. Vincent Friday, March 14, in the Class 2 semi-finals game at Mizzou Arena, Columbia.

**Congratulations,  
Lady Cardinals on your  
Final Four appearance!**



**The Tipton Times**

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