



ALL-COUNTY VOLLEYBALL

Player of the Year JORDAN PRYOR

MIDDLETOWN SENIOR OUTSIDE HITTER

■ She was the top player for a Middletown team that reached the Class 2A state championship match, where the Knights lost 3-1 to undefeated Liberty. With her leading the way, the Knights shook off a losing regular season to go on a postseason tear and reach the MPSSAA final four for the first time in program history.

■ Pryor ranked among Frederick County's top five in kills (3.77 per set) and digs (3.99 per set). She also had a knack for getting aces, finishing with a team-high 85 and hitting double figures in that category in some matches. She had 11 double-doubles this season. Even more impressive, she had three career triple-doubles, including one against Queen Anne's in the state quarterfinals. That was just one of her big nights in the postseason. Another one came in the regional semifinals, when she pounded 30 kills to lead the Knights to a win over defending state champ Glenelg.

■ She holds school records for digs in a season (347), digs per game in a season (4.89), aces in a season (85), kills in a season (298, which broke a mark previously held by Erika Pritchard, who played at Maryland and Penn State), kills in a match (30, which she reached twice), digs in a match (42) and aces in a match (13).

■ She earned an American Volleyball Coaches Association High School All-America honorable mention and will continue her volleyball career at Shepherd University.



FIRST TEAM

ANNA BELLUOMO SENIOR OUTSIDE HITTER CATOCTIN

■ A four-year varsity player and team captain who ranked high on Frederick County's kills leaders list with 3.26 per set. She led Catoctin in kills (186), digs (159 for 2.79 per set) and aces (32).



LOGAN BURGE SENIOR MIDDLE BLOCKER-HITTER URBANA

■ Standout hitter and blocker who helped Urbana win its first state title. Even when post-season opponents game-planned to contain her, she continued to produce. Averaged 1.51 kills per set with a .304 hitting percentage. Also had an effective standing topspin serve.



CARLEE DARDEN SENIOR MIDDLE BLOCKER-HITTER MIDDLETOWN

■ Darden's ability to switch from opposite hitter to middle blocker, where the Knights needed help, was crucial for the team's unprecedented success. Averaged 1.87 kills per set, which was second-best behind Jordan Pryor, and had a team-high 31 blocks.



KALIA ESPENLAUB SENIOR OUTSIDE HITTER ST. JOHN'S CATHOLIC PREP

■ Top player for the Vikings who earned IAAM All-Conference A Conference honors. Ranked high on Frederick County's kills leaders list with 3.85 per set and had a .295 hitting percentage. Averaged 1.88 digs per set. Will continue her career at Division II Millersville.



SADIE GLADHILL SOPHOMORE LIBERO LINGANORE

■ Defensive ace whose ability to keep balls off the floor made one opposing coach compare her to a vacuum cleaner. Ranked high on Frederick County's digs leaders list with 4.44 per set. Also had a team-high 43 aces.



JULIA GUSTAFSON SENIOR LIBERO URBANA

■ Rock-solid libero for an Urbana team that went 19-1 and won its first state crown. Led the Hawks in digs with 3.29 per set. In the 4A state final, she had team-highs of 15 digs and 5 aces to help the Hawks topple unbeaten Arundel.



RYAN O'NEAL SENIOR SETTER OAKDALE

■ Standout for the Bears who ranked among the county's assist leaders with 5.51 per set. And when Oakdale needed late-season help at the net because of injuries, she filled the void admirably. Had 18 kills to help get a triple-double against Catoctin.



KINSLEY TAYLOR SENIOR OUTSIDE HITTER TUSCARORA

■ An all-around player for the Titans who concluded her stellar career by ranking among Frederick County's leaders in kills (2.59 per set) and digs (3.03). Had a .217 hitting percentage and a team-high 57 aces.



CLAIRE THOMPSON SENIOR OUTSIDE HITTER URBANA

■ Another invaluable standout for the Class 4A state champion Hawks. She led the team in kills with 2.55 per set, was a full-time six rotation player and provided leadership as a team captain.



SECOND TEAM

NAME	SCHOOL	POSITION	GRADE
CHARIS BURGE	URBANA	SETTER	FRESHMAN
JILLIAN FEDOR	SICP	LIBERO	SENIOR
ANNA FEUER	THOMAS JOHNSON	OUTSIDE HITTER	SENIOR
LILY GODBOLD	MIDDLETOWN	SETTER	JUNIOR
MEG HUMMEL	LINGANORE	MIDDLE BLOCKER	JUNIOR
JESSI PRESCOTT	MIDDLETOWN	LIBERO	SENIOR
SOFIA RODRIGUEZ	URBANA	SETTER	SENIOR
LEXI STANDFORD	NEW LIFE	OUTSIDE HITTER	SENIOR
MOLLY STEVENSON	OAKDALE	OUTSIDE HITTER	JUNIOR
ZOE VANCE	OAKDALE	LIBERO	SENIOR

HONORABLE MENTION

Brunswick—Victoria Bell, Lindsay Borawski, Alexis Amoranto, Eden Smallwood
Catoctin—Abby May, Abby Moreland, Abby Bowley
Frederick—Ever McLaughlin, Josie Eliot
Force—Karley Badorf, Hannah Hitchner, Ashley D'Andrea
Linganore—Kelsie Duda
Middletown—Caroline Ranneberger, Megan Gilbert
MSD—Jade Macedo, Olivia Clinger
New Life—Minnie Ricketts, Jazmine De la Barra
Oakdale—Kay Angeh, Kelly Banks
St. John's Catholic Prep—Sydney Terrell, Sydney Nail, Katie Russell
Thomas Johnson—Jordan Gugliuzza, Ellen Vu, Brynn Cochran, Reagan Warsing
Tuscarora—Christina Lockett, Regan Byrd, Emma Taylor
Urbana—Simone Assasie, Kaelynn Burge, Lilly Eichelberger, Sophia Grech
Walkersville—Adyn Isemann, Victoria Bessacque, Lily Ward

Wizards slowly getting healthier, and they need the help fast

By KAREEM COPELAND
The Washington Post

SALT LAKE CITY — The lone tone in Rui Hachimura's voice gave a hint of what the last month has been like for the 2019 No. 9 overall pick. He had just played his first game in 34 days after a bone bruise in his ankle took much longer to heal than originally anticipated, and during that span all Hachimura could do was watch helplessly as the team lost 10 straight and other teammates went in and out of the lineup with a variety of ailments.

The Wizards (12-21) won just three of 16 games with Hachimura out.

"I was just on the sideline watching my teammates losing the game," Hachimura said before hustling to the bus after a 120-112 loss to the Jazz. "So, you know, it was tough for me."

Hachimura was no savior Thursday night and certainly isn't expected to be, but his return

brought some optimism the team is getting healthier. That optimism was tempered by the fact that Kristaps Porzingis (non-COVID illness) missed his second straight game and Deni Avdija was held out after tweaking his back during the morning's shoot-around. But help seems to be on the way.

Porzingis' illness is not a long-term issue, and Avdija is listed as day-to-day. Wizards coach Wes Unseld Jr. said Delon Wright (hamstring) has been playing three-on-three and could return soon.

Every team in the league deals with injuries, but the Wizards have been hit particularly hard. As of Monday, Washington ranked fourth in the NBA in lost value over replacement player due to injury, according to ManGamesLost.com. Bradley Beal, Wright and Hachimura have missed a combined 57 games. Add 17 more between Porzingis, Corey Kispert and Monte Morris, and that's a lot of absences for core members of the ro-

tation. The Wizards have used 10 starting lineups in 33 games entering Friday's contest at Sacramento. Building chemistry and continuity has been difficult for a team that began the season with playoff aspirations.

Utah Jazz Coach Will Hardy said it was tough to scout Washington because of all the moving parts.

"In a situation like Washington, you have to try to go back and find games where everybody's healthy," Hardy said, "because you just want to see how the balance of power is when everybody is healthy. We have to go back and find the games where we feel like it's a good representation of what a team looks like when they're whole."

Kyle Kuzma, who has started all but one game this season, leaned back in his chair inside the visitor's locker room of Vivint Arena after the 14th loss in 16 games and was tired of the excuses. He wasn't happy with the team's record before the injuries really began to pile up,

but the Wizards started 3-1 before Wright went down.

"Obviously, you want to be healthy," Kuzma said, "and a lot of our losses, and maybe not knowing how to play with each other, comes from [not] being healthy. But at the end of the day, we've all got to be better."

That lack of time together has compounded the chemistry issues. Morris, Wright and Will Barton are all in their first year with the team. Porzingis was acquired after Beal was lost for the remainder of last season after having wrist surgery, so that playing relationship is still fairly fresh. Jordan Goodwin is in the rotation for the first time after playing just two games as a rookie last season. That's a lot of people who have limited court time together.

"It's tough sometimes because as guys get hurt, it's always the next-man-up mentality," Kuzma said. "Guys come in, and it's exciting because you have an opportu-

nity to do a little bit more, usually, when you don't have a healthy roster. But at the same time, it causes a lot of friction. Missing Deni tonight was tough. Probably would have helped a little bit with four perimeter players [on the Jazz] scoring [almost] 20."

Unseld often notes no one is going to feel sorry for his team, but it's easy to assume more time together as a whole unit could have positively impacted these Wizards.

"It was a big obstacle we had to get over when we had the 10-game losing streak," Daniel Gafford said. "But we stuck together and we kept fighting. That's the main thing. We stayed locked in. We came in every day with the mind-set just to be better than the day before. Main mind-set throughout that little stretch — we're getting guys back and we're going to keep it moving."

Unseld added, "Unfortunate in the moment, but I think at some point we'll get all our bodies back. And we'll be whole."