Lions No. 2 in final girls poll

Defending state champion Linn-Mar is ranked second in the final Class 4A poll released Wednesday by the Iowa Girls High School Athletic Union.

Linn-Mar (19-1) closes out its regular season Thursday night at home against No. 6 Cedar Rapids Washington (16-3). The Warriors moved up one spot in the rankings.

Xavier (13-7), which snapped a four-game losing streak Tuesday in a 48-24 win over Dubuque Hempstead, is No. 15. All four Saints losses were to ranked teams.

The Mississippi Valley Conference continued its dominance in the poll. Iowa City West (18-1) is ranked third and Waterloo West (18-2) fourth. The Wahawks handed Linn-Mar its only loss. Iowa City High (15-5) is No. 12.

Des Moines East (20-0) is ranked No. 1 in 4A. The other top ranked teams are Ballard (19-1), OA-BCIG (19-0) and Martensdale-St. Marys (19-2) are ranked No. 1 in Class 3A, 2A and 1A, respectively.

The Class 1A and 2A district tournaments start Saturday (Feb. 12). The Class 3A and 4A tournaments start Feb. 16. The state tournament is Feb. 28-March 5 at the Wells Fargo Arena in Des Moines.

CLASS 4A

1. Des Moines East (20-0), 2. Linn-Mar (19-1), 3. Iowa City West (18-1), 4. Waterloo West (18-2), 5. Southeast Polk (20-1), 6. CR Washington (16-3), 7. Pleasant Valley (17-2), 8. West Des Moines Dowling (16-4), 9. Waukee (15-4), 10. Ankeny (17-3), 11. Sioux City North (14-5), 12. Iowa City High (15-5), 13. Mason City (17-4), 14. Lewis Central (17-2), 15. Xavier (13-7).