

Steubenville's Gary Stubbs slides into home plate as Cambridge catcher Cody Bond waits for the throw during their OVAC tournament game Friday at Bridgeport. Big Red dropped a 4-3 decision in nine innings. Photo by Scott McCloskey

Big Red Tumbles

Cambridge sends OVAC semifinal into extra innings, keeps Steubenville out of title game

By TRACY WATSON
For The Intelligencer

Friday afternoon's Ohio Valley Athletic Conference Class AAAA baseball game between Cambridge and Steubenville may have been listed as a semifinal contest, however, coach Paul Arick's Bobcats knew going in that it was much more than that for them.

Having already played 27 regular season games, Cambridge took the field Friday for their 28th contest, the maximum allowed by the state of Ohio. With that in mind, the 'Cats were treating this game as their championship.

And thanks to some timely hitting, and superb middle-infield defense late in the game, the Guernsey County squad left Bridgeport feeling like champions.

Trailing by two, Cambridge received three consecutive two-out hits in the top of the seventh to tie the game and eventually got a one-out Cody Bond RBI single

in the ninth as the Bobcats stunned defending champion Steubenville with a come-from-behind 4-3 victory at Perkins Field.

OVAC Executive Secretary Tom Rataiczak announced following the game that the winner of the other semifinal game between Edison and Wheeling Park on Friday night would be crowned big-school champion.

"This is very unfortunate for Cambridge High School," Arick said following the victory. "Because of a quirk in our schedule we will not be allowed to play in tomorrow's scheduled championship game."

"I feel extremely bad for the kids, but it is out of my control. We knew coming in that we would have to use this as our championship game."

Cambridge, which improved to 16-12, managed to win 13 of its last 17 after beginning the season with a 3-8 record.

With two out and no one on in the top of the seventh, it appeared as if the Bobcats' scheduling problems would not come into play.

Luke Seckel then gave the designated visitors life with a pinch-hit single to left before Evan McCartney re-entered the game to pinch-run. Catcher Cody Bond then unleashed a triple deep over the center fielder's head, sending McCartney home to make it a 3-2 game.

Doug Edwards, who singled three times on the afternoon, tied the game at 3-3, sending a 1-2 pitch back through the box with Bond crossing the dish.

Cambridge closed the stunning comeback in the ninth after Ben Fowler led off with a single, went to second on a McCartney sacrifice bunt and scored on a Bond single in between third and short. The hit was Bond's third of the game and

Please See **BIG RED**, Page 21

Edison Tames Park, Claims Title

By JIM ELLIOTT
Staff Writer

Two teams won OVAC Class AAAA semifinals Friday, but only one went home feeling like a winner.

Just as Cambridge was squeaking past Big Red in nine innings in Bridgeport, Edison left-hander David Ujcich was busy silencing Wheeling Park's bats in an 8-3 victory at Toronto's Red Knight complex.

It was then that everyone realized the Park-Edison game was actually the OVAC Final — because Cambridge had played its allotment of games — and Edison had claimed a league crown.

"I'm excited for our kids," Edison coach Bill Beattie said. "But we still have a lot of work to do and we're not going to be satisfied stopping here."

That was actually pretty much the same sentiment felt by Wheeling Park coach Doug Tush, who admitted he was looking more at the big picture — next week's W.Va. Class AAA sectionals — even though a win Friday would have been a feather in his team's cap.

Ujcich, a crafty left-hander, helped make that a non-issue.

He limited the Patriot batters to just seven hits and induced a pair of double plays to avoid damage in the fourth and fifth



Today's Title Games

■ Steubenville Cental vs. River, 1:30 p.m.
■ Indian Creek vs. Bellaire, 11 a.m.
*at Vaccaro Field

innings on his way to another victory.

"There were a couple of occasions when we were way ahead in the count and they had turned what two or three double plays on us?" Tush asked.

Beattie said Ujcich is a silent killer.

"A lot of people don't know about David Ujcich because of

Caleb Meyer and Justin Richards, but David Ujcich is 7-0 and he's got an ERA that's probably right around 2," explained Beattie. "He could be a No. 1 on a lot of teams. And the good thing about him is that he throws a lot of strikes and when he throws his changeup over the plate, he's really, really, tough to beat.

"Tonight, he did that."

Park (15-10) didn't get its first baserunner to second until the sixth, when Aaron Dille, Todd Krasevec, singled ahead of RBI basehits by Josh Tysk and Adam Saseen.

Bud Hercules, the Patriot starting pitcher, then walked to

load the bases with Edison leading 5-2.

Jason West flew out to right and Brian Main bounced harmlessly to second to end the threat, though.

"We had a chance," Tush said. "We had a real good chance of tying this ballgame up or taking the lead. But it didn't happen.

"They outhit us. (Seven) hits, that's hard to beat a team."

The Wildcats (24-4), who had three runners reach base in the first, were able to scratch out only a single run when Meyer singled in Ryan Tingler.

Please See EDISON, Page 2

Big Red

(Continued from Page 19)
second RBI. Bond also cut down a pair of runners on the basepaths.

Senior pitcher Brandon Durben did the rest for the winners. Durben, who held Big Red (20-6) to four hits in the contest and retired 12 in a row at one point, set down 19 of the final 21 hitters he faced.

"Brandon is a senior leader and I told him at our team meeting last night that he had already been talking the talk and now it was time to walk the walk and that it was his game to win or lose," Arick mentioned. "He then went out and won it."

Coach Fred Heatherington's Steubenville squad opened up a 3-0 lead in the third thanks in large part to three Bobcat errors. Sean Liggett and Gary Stubbs, the eight and nine hitters for Big Red, led off with singles before Joe Pease reached on an error to load the bases with no outs.

Following a strikeout, losing pitcher Justin Gerber hit a

grounder to short that was not fielded allowing two runs to score.

Mike Giannamore walked just ahead of a Ryan Straker sacrifice fly that plated Pease with the third Steubenville run of the frame.

Cambridge, which had two base runners in both the first and second innings without scoring, answered with a run in the fourth. Edwards singled leading off the frame, went to second on a passed ball and scored on Tyler Sigman's one-out basehit.

The Bobcats, who outhit Steubenville by a 13-4 count, had runners at the corners with one out in the second and were looking to produce a run via the suicide squeeze. However, Ryan Kafury's bunt was popped back to Gerber, who threw to third to complete the double-play.

Cambridge also loaded the bases with one out in the fifth before Gerber slammed the door and did not allow them to cross the dish.

"They played to win tonight and we did not," Heatherington said. "We were not ready and you are not going to win around here no matter who you play if you are not ready.

"Their pitcher (Durben) did a very good job keeping us off-balance. He had two pitches he was getting over for strikes and when you can do that in high school baseball you are going to be successful. And he definitely was."

Arick, meanwhile, was thrilled to defeat a team the caliber of Steubenville.

"This is a very big win for our program. Coach Heatherington runs a great program over there and we wish him all the luck in his tournament games.

"This was just a great nine-inning high school baseball game. We had some very big plays up the middle late in the game and Cody Bond throwing two of their players out trying to steal early in the game really kept us going."

Edison

(Continued from Page 19)

In the second, they loaded the bases with two outs, but Hercules got Richards to pop up to first base.

"We knew we could only hold them off for so long," Tush said.

That wasn't much longer, as R.P. King and Jared Peckens each drove in third-inning runs, lifting Edison's lead to 3-0.

"We need to just concentrate and put the ball in play," said Beattie. "We were getting concerned there in the middle

innings because we were swinging at a lot of changeups on 0-0 there and I told the kids we have to lay off that and wait back and try to hit the other way. We scored a handful of runs there. After that, we kinda settled in for a little bit."

The 'Cats added two more in the fifth, highlighted by another RBI single by Peckens, before pushing three runs across after Richards, Meyer, Vince Kuntz, and Ujcich all connected for base hits in succession.

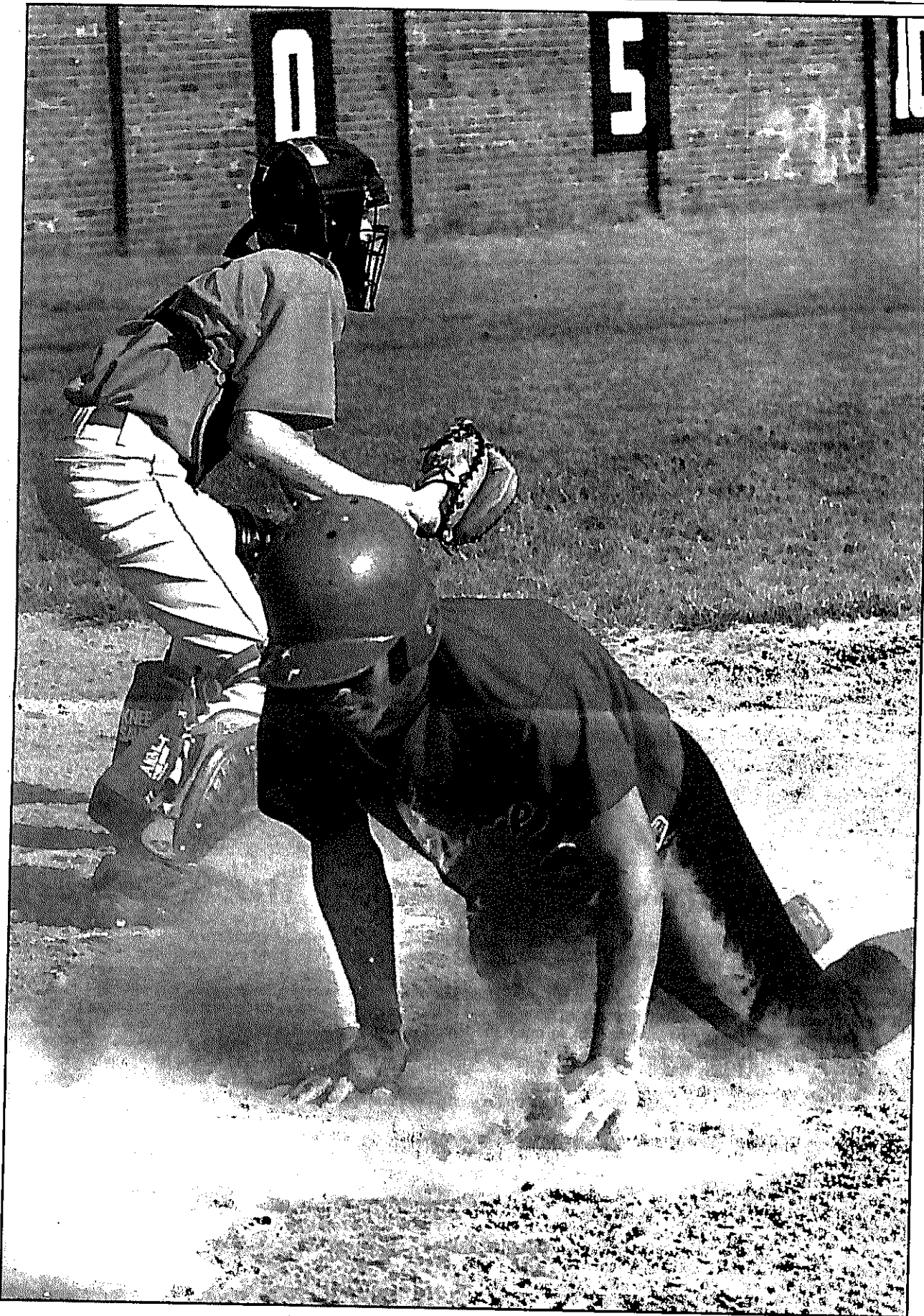
The Patriots must now focus

their attention on John Marshall and Brooke.

"We put the ball in play, we only struck out two times — I'm happy with that — and we hit the ball hard a few times," Tush said. "It was a good effort. What I liked about this is that it was a good team to get ready for the sectionals.

"You're not going to face a better team than Edison."

Edison, a loser in the semifinals in each the last two years, is back in action Monday in district action against Tri-Valley.



BELLAIRE'S Nathan Davis slides safely into home plate as Meadowbrook catcher Derek Daugherty waits on the throw to the plate during OVAC baseball action Wednesday night at Perkins Field in Bridgeport. Bellaire won 5-4. See story on page 5B.

T-L Photo/MICHAEL HARVILLA

Bellaire makes OVAC finals

These are the best of times for the Bellaire Big Reds.

Coach Mark Spigarelli's Reds punched their ticket into the OVAC 3-A championship game thanks to a 5-4 semifinal triumph over Meadowbrook Wednesday at Perkins Field in Brookside.

The Big Reds improved to 14-7 and will now meet the winner of today's Indian Creek-Harrison Central game for the 3-A championship on Saturday.

Bellaire was coming off an impressive win over River in the Division III sectional finals some just 24 hours earlier.

Freshman Nate Davis turned in a sharp mound effort for the winners. The talented frosh struck out five and walked four before receiving seventh-inning relief help from Mike Fisher.

The talented sophomore made the key defensive play of the game, catching a suicide squeeze bunt in the air and doubling a Colt runner at third base to end the contest.

The Colts took a 2-0 lead in the first before Bellaire knotted the affair in the second inning thanks to RBI singles by Dirk Soland and Jesse Padgett.

Bellaire took the lead for good with three more tallies in the third frame.

Jason Wiggins doubled in the go-ahead run before Bryan Mancini produced a two-run single for the much-needed insurance runs.

"The kids are playing well, playing with confidence and having a lot of fun," Spigarelli said. "It's great to make the OVAC finals and now we want to finish the deal and win the title."

Matt Bradley had two singles and RBI for the Colts.

Linescore:
Meadowbrook 200 002 2 4 8 1
Bellaire 023 000 x 5 8 4
BATTERIES: Neuhart and Daugherty; Davis, Fisher (7) and Mancini.

Division III Sectional at Cadiz

IV 5 BARNESVILLE 4

Indian Valley needed eight innings, but in the end the Braves had punched their ticket to the district tournament at River View next week.

Indian Valley pushed a run across the dish in the eighth to

end Barnesville's season by a 5-4 count in Cadiz.

Cummings came on in relief in the sixth to earn the mound win. He struck out two and walked one.

Barnesville -- which ends its season at 10-11 -- was led by Mike Rogers who had three singles. Craig Miller and Chris Wells each delivered a single and a RBI.

Linescore:
Barnesville 003 001 00 4 9 2
Indian Valley 100 012 01 5 7 2
BATTERIES: McFarland, Huntsman (6) and Rogers; Ditcher, Cummings (6) and Riggle.

OVAC 1-A CAMERON 6 BEALLSVILLE 3

AT BROOKSIDE, Cameron earned a berth in tonight's title game thanks to a 6-3 triumph over Beallsville.

Jed Lucey supplied the big bat for the Dragons, knocking home run three runs with a single and double.

Lucey also earned the pitching save, relieving Casey Hughes in the seventh.

Cameron meets Linsly today at 3 p.m. at Steubenville's Vaccaro Field for the OVAC crown.

Tyler Brown had a single and two RBI for Beallsville.

Beallsville 001 020 0 3 1 2
Cameron 204 000 0 6 5 4
BATTERIES: Jones and Turner, Hughes, Lucey (7) and Beresford.



T-L Photo/MIKE HARVILLA

DELIVERING A pitch to the plate during Wednesday's OVAC 3-A semifinal game is Bellaire's Nate Davis. The Big Reds earned a berth in the title game via a 5-4 win over Meadowbrook.

River edges Buckeye Trail

By RICH MATERKOSKI
Times Leader Sports Writer

Just two days removed from a tough loss to Bellaire in the sectional tournament, River rebounded Thursday in the OVAC semifinals disposing of Buckeye Trail by a 6-4 count at Perkins Field in Bridgeport.

The Pilots will now move on to play Steubenville Central in the 2-A final, which will be played at Vaccaro Field in Steubenville.

Head coach Kyle Rose was pleased to see that his team responded so well after squandering a four-run lead against the Big Reds on Tuesday.

"I was curious of how the boys would respond after that tough loss," noted Rose. "I was glad to see that they came back with a positive attitude, kept their heads up and played some pretty good baseball."

The Pilots were hot at the plate against the Warriors, roughing up both Trail pitchers -- Adam Bear and Trevor McQuain.

River pounded out 12 hits on the evening, led by senior Matt Abbott who was a home run short of the cycle.

"Abbott and Eric Stephens hit the ball really well tonight," expressed Rose. "Matt has had an excellent season, both hitting the ball and in the field. I can't say enough about him and what he does for this ball team."

"He made some plays tonight, sliding and diving robbing Buckeye Trail of hits, that were

See, PILOTS, Page B2

, May 16, 2003 • Page B2

● Pilots

Continued from Page B1

quite impressive. He has been solid all year long, and he is going to make a college coach very happy in the coming years," smiled Rose.

Abbott was a menace at the plate slapping three hits and bringing two runs. The speedy senior also made several key plays in the center, slowing any sort of rally that the Warriors could mount.

Stephens contributed a double, single and two RBI's on the afternoon, while sophomore Ryne Romick connected for two singles.

Lucas Huffman added two singles of his own, while Ryan Rosnick chipped in with a single. Ronnie Warrington and Josh Yager lended a double and single, respectively.

Warrington was not only successful at the dish, but also on the mound where he recorded the win for the Pilots.

The righty went the distance striking out five, while walking three.

"Ronnie threw an excellent ballgame," Rose said.

"We were a little shaky in the field at times, but we made the plays when we needed to win the game."

"We just want to go to Steubenville Saturday and play our best game. We have Friday to get ourselves prepared and hopefully we can go up and give Central all they can handle," Rose explained.

Both teams were put runs on the board in the first inning, with Buckeye Trail drawing first blood.

Bear slapped the first hit for the Warriors, and moved to second when Jim Trelka drew a walk from Warrington.

Matt Bertram then connected, hitting a linedrive in center which scored Bear.

In the home half of the inning, Romick was the first Pilot to reach base when he laced a single into center.

Following a strikeout by Bear on the mound, Abbott came through hammering a drive to the left-centerfield fence, scoring Romick, knotting the score at one after the first.

Neither team could get anything in the second, but River tacked on two more in the bottom of the third.

Abbott again came up big, starting the hitting with a double. Abbott's time on the base paths was short-lived as Stephens promptly followed by ripping a single to drive in Abbott.

Just one batter later, Warrington aided his cause with a double, scoring Stephens from first.

In the bottom of the fourth, the Pilots were able to plate three more runs.

Huffman led the hit parade with a lead-off single, which was followed up by consecutive singles by Rosnick and Romick.

Yager then hit a single, which scored Rosnick, while Abbott again connected with a Warrior pitch. This time the senior drilled a single that scored Yager.

The final run of the inning came as Stephens slapped a double, bringing in Abbott for the third tally of the frame.

Trail rallied, putting a combined three runs on the scoreboard in the fifth and sixth inning, but the rally was derailed by the stellar pitching and fielding of the Pilots.

Buckeye Trail had 10 hits on the evening led by Bear who had two singles and two RBI.

Mike Booth and Bertram had two singles of their own, while Booth also plated a run.

Garret Holt and Kevin Shipe also connected for singles.

River is now 17-5 on the year.

Linescore:

Buckeye Trail 100 012 0 -- 4 10 1
River 102 300 x -- 6 11 4
BATTERIES: Bear, McQuain (3) and Trelka; Warrington and Rosnick.



River claims OVAC crown

By RICH MATERKOSKI
Times Leader Sports Writer

A little patience goes a long way.

River High School found this to be true Saturday afternoon as the Pilots of head coach Kyle Rose notched their second OVAC title in the school's history, downing Steubenville Central by a 10-3 count.

The first championship came when Rose was a junior in high school.

The Pilots battled at the plate all day long, drawing several walks, while also getting their share of hits.

River was able to pound out nine hits, while drawing eight walks.

Rose was happy to see that his team came to play, especially after a tough week which included a loss to Bellaire in the sectional finals.

"We played today like I thought that we could play," smiled an elated Rose. "We played about as well as we could of in the field and were very patient at the plate. This a very complete performance by the kids today."

"Getting this win makes checking out of the state tourney a little bit more easier to bare," noted Rose. "Of course we didn't want to exit the tourney that quick, but this makes taking that loss easier."

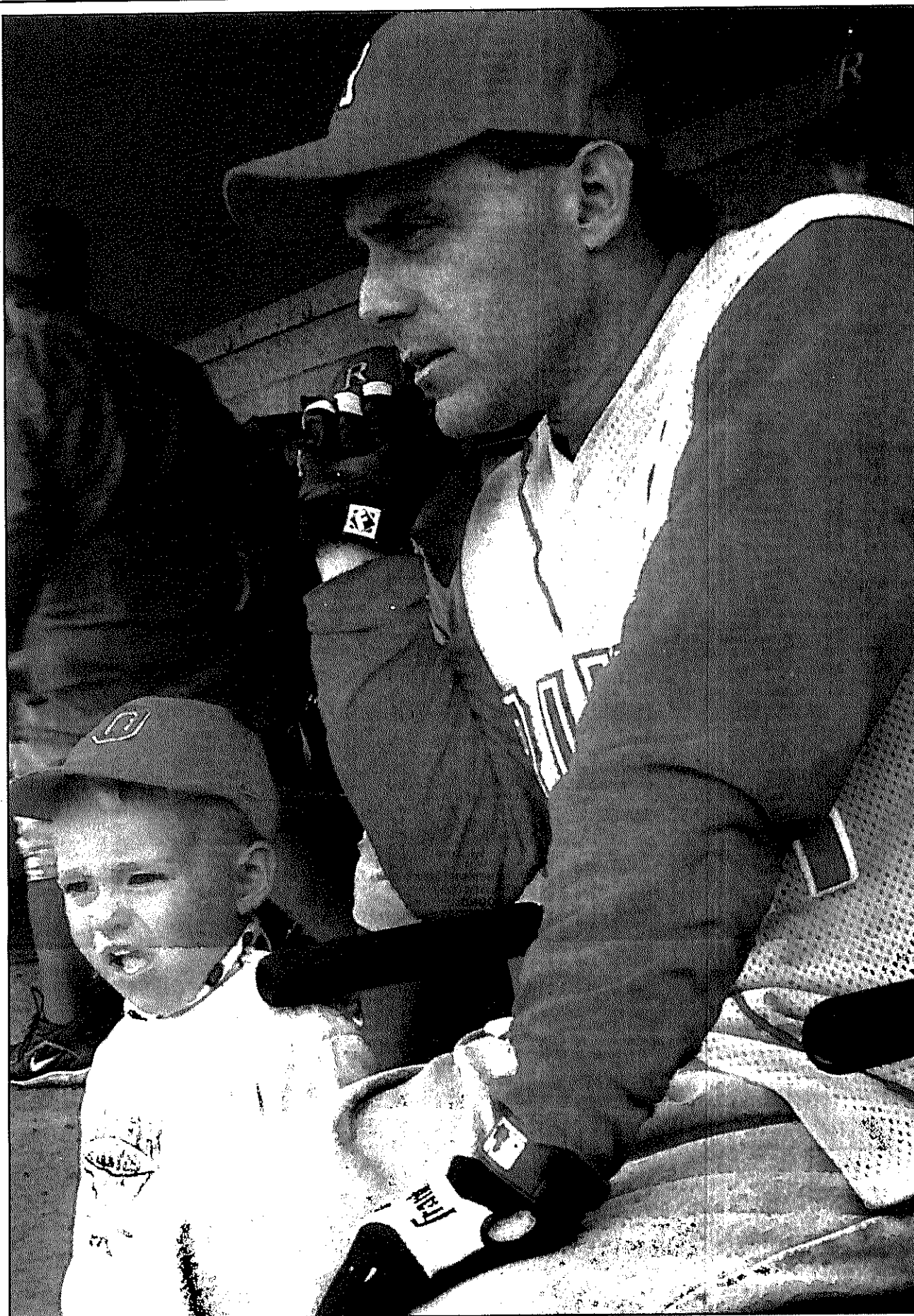
Rose was also happy for his seniors, knowing that this game meant a lot after the tough loss in the tourney.

"I am really proud of the group of seniors," said Rose. "They started when they were freshman with a record of 5-18, this year right now they are at 18-5. They have come along way, and I am very proud of this group."

Steubenville Central, meanwhile, was victimized by torrid hitting from the Pilots' batters.

"River came to play baseball

See, RIVER, Page B3



T-L Photo/PAULA GINTHER

RIVER head coach Kyle Rose looks on as his team bats during Saturday afternoon's OVAC Class AA Championship game at Vaccaro Field in Steubenville. The Pilots claimed their first OVAC title since 1989 with a 10-3 victory over Steubenville Central. Rose's nephew, Hunter Dennis, also looks on.

Indian Creek downs Bellaire for Class AAA title

By GREG HARKNESS
Times Leader Sports Writer

Bellaire battered opposing pitchers all season long.

That was until Saturday when Indian Creek junior Zach Viltro shut down the potent Big Reds' attack in a 5-0 victory to win the OVAC Class AAA championship at Vaccaro Field in Steubenville.

"Zach did a real nice job for us," Indian Creek head Jim Cottis said. "He hit his spots today with all three pitches -- a curve, fast ball and knuckle ball. He was able to keep them off balance by changing speeds and locations."

Bellaire head coach Mark Spigarelli echoed those sentiments.

"My hats off to Indian Creek," Spigarelli said. "They got a lot of guys that can hit the ball and their pitcher (Viltro) did a great job of keeping us

off balance.

"We were out in front of a lot of his stuff," Spigarelli continued. "This is the first game all season where we had less than five or six hits, and Bryan Mancini had three of those."

"They made the plays in the field and we didn't get any breaks," Spigarelli added.

Indian Creek closed a successful season with a solid 19-10 record.

Bellaire, meanwhile, fell to 14-8 on the season. The Big Reds' season continues on Monday with Bellaire vying for a regional berth against Fort Frye at Warsaw.

"The one positive is we still have baseball left," Spigarelli said. "We are disappointed because we lost...and we should be, but we still got a chance to earn a regional berth. We fell short of one goal -- an OVAC title -- but we still got a chance to do some very good things."

Indian Creek jumped out to a quick 1-0 lead in

the bottom of the first inning as Ivan Stein walked, stole second and moved to third on Jimmy Dailey's ground out.

With two outs, Stein was able to cross home on a wild pitch.

The Redskins tacked on another run in the second started by Jeremy Frazier's one-out single. Frazier later scored on Ricky Bell's two-out base knock.

Bellaire threatened in the top of the third inning. Rightfielder Jesse Padgett walked and went to third on Andy Bobka's double. However, the top of the Big Reds' order could not produce with two infield pop ups and a diving catch by Creek leftfielder Allan McNeil of a Nate Davis foul ball.

"That certainly helped us control the tempo," Cottis said. "If he doesn't get to that ball...maybe the kid gets a hit and they score a couple of runs."

See, CREEK, Page B3

● River

Continued from Page B1

today," said Central head coach Tom Bartemes. "They did everything well...they hit the ball, they pitched well and put the ball in play.

"Our pitchers were behind in the count most of the day, and that was hard. We didn't have anyone who could come in there and slow down their hitters," Bartemes noted. "They have a very athletic team, give them credit they are a good baseball team."

Eric Stephens gained the mound win for the Hannibal-based squad going the route, striking out four and walking just three.

"Eric was a little nervous there in the beginning of the game, but he settled down and got into his groove and pitched a nice game," Rose re-iterated.

Neither team wasted any time in the first inning with both teams scoring two runs.

River led off the top of the frame with a walk to Ryne Romick, but Josh Yager delivered a big blow.

On a 2-0 pitch, Yager crushed a linedrive over the left field fence giving the Pilots the short-lived 2-0 lead.

Steubenville Central retaliated though in the home half with a sacrifice fly by Pat McKittrick and a throwing error that allowed Drew Mihalyo to come across the dish.

River kept pouring it on the second when Ronnie Warrington led the inning off with a single. Chad Bayes then reached base on a fielders choice, with a throwing error leaving Warrington on second.

Zach Marty then drew a walk, setting up a two-run single by

second baseman Lucas Huffman. The final run came via a RBI single from Romick who drove in Marty.

Central couldn't muster a run in either the bottom of the second or the third. River, however, scored a run in the top of the third.

Warrington was able to cross the plate on a passed ball. River grabbed the 6-2 lead after three.

In the fourth, River tacked on two more as John Koehnlein walked the first four batters of the inning scoring Romick.

Warrington then had a sacrifice fly which drove in Yager.

In the fifth, River again plated two runs. The first coming on a RBI single from Huffman scoring Bayes, while the Huffman later scored on a single from Romick.

River was led at the plate by Huffman who had two singles and three RBIs, while Yager lended the two-run bomb.

Warrington added a single and a sac fly, which drove in a run.

Romick chipped in with two singles and a run batted in. Matt Abbott and Marty also lended singles in the win.

Steubenville Central received two singles from Mihalyo, while the other hit came from Andrew Donaher who ripped a single.

River is now 18-5, while Steubenville Central will be in action again on Monday at Ridgewood when it takes on Zanesville Rosecrans in the district semifinals.

Linescore:
River 231 220 0 -- 10 9 1
Steub. Central 200 001 0 -- 3 3 2
BATTERIES: Stephens and Rosnick; Antinone, Koehnlein (2), Spence (5) and Weld.



T-L Photo/MICHAEL HARVILLA

HARRISON Central pitcher Tom Snyder delivers a pitch to the plate against Indian Creek during the OVAC Baseball Tournament at Toronto.

Indian Creek knocks Harrison Central from OVAC Tournament

Indian Creek advanced to the championship game of the Ohio Valley Athletic Conference 3-A baseball tournament after posting a 8-3 win over Harrison Central.

The Redskins will meet Bellaire -- which advanced to the title tilt after downing Meadowbrook in a game earlier this week -- at 11 a.m.

Zach Viltro came on in relief for the 'Skins in the sixth to earn the mound win.

Ivan Stein socked two singles, while Jim Dailey added a RBI.

Ricky Bell drove in two runs for the Wintersville-based schools.

Adam Snyder led the Huskies at the dish with a double and a single.

Jarryd Ridgeway -- who suffered the mound loss -- drilled a RBI single.

Tom Snyder came through with a double and a single.

Linescore:
Harrison Central 001 101 0 3 7 6
Indian Creek 110 015 x 8 6 4
BATTERIES: Ridgeway, Snyder (8) and Carlson. Frazier, Vitro (6) and Conn.

Bellaire Advances to OVAC Title Game

Big Reds bounce Meadowbrook behind Davis

By DON CLEGG
For The Intelligencer

Bellaire earned the right to play for its first OVAC baseball championship in a decade Wednesday afternoon with a 5-4 win over Meadowbrook at Perkins Field in Brookside.

The Big Reds (14-7) — who last donned an OVAC crown in 1993 — will head to Vaccaro Field in Steubenville Saturday to battle for Class AAA supremacy against the winner of

today's other semifinal between top-seeded Indian Creek and Harrison Central.

Times for all OVAC championship games should be announced tomorrow.

Playing less than 24 hours after beating River in an Ohio Division III sectional final, Bellaire followed what has become a very familiar pattern.

The Big Reds spotted the Colts an early lead, roared back to take command and survived a late Meadowbrook rally to prevail.

"The kids are playing with a lot of confidence now," said head coach Mark Spigarelli.

"Now we want to go up to Steubenville Saturday and finish

the job."

Nate Davis, Bellaire's stellar freshman, allowed a pair of unearned runs in the top of the first but blanked the Colts (9-14) the rest of the way before hitting a snag in the seventh.

Trailing 5-2, Meadowbrook used a hit and an error to put runners on first and second with one out.

Back-to-back RBI singles by Matt Bradley and pinch hitter Craig Cross cut the lead to 5-4 and put runners on first and third.

Spigarelli pulled Davis and brought centerfielder Mike Fisher in to pitch to the Colts' Derek Daugherty.

Meadowbrook head coach

Tim Roller called for a suicide squeeze but the bunt — off a high fastball from Fisher — popped straight up into the air between the mound and the plate.

As Bradley scrambled desperately back toward third, Fisher made the catch and fired to third baseman Keith Sechrest for the final out.

"Great players make great plays," said Spigarelli. "Nate did a super job on the mound for us and Mike came up big to get the last two outs."

Two errors and Wes Mercer's RBI single created both Meadowbrook runs in the top of the first but Bellaire tied the game in the second on RBI base

knocks by Dirk Soland and Jesse Padgett.

Jason Wiggins' RBI double put the Big Reds ahead to stay in the bottom of the third and Bryan Mancini's two-run single later in the frame provided what proved to be just enough insurance.

Bellaire still has a few chapters to write in what is becoming a storybook season.

In addition to Saturday's OVAC date in Steubenville, the Big Reds will be heading to RiverView High School in Warsaw on Monday to take on Fort Frye (21-6) in a district final.

See BELLAIRE Page 24

Bellaire

(Continued from Page 21)

"I have to give a lot of credit to two people," said Spigarelli.

"My assistant coach 'Tube' Davis has done a great job for me the last couple of years and my old high school coach, Mark Bonar, has also been a big help.

"I got together with Mark before the season and went over some things. Just about everything you see us doing out there is the same way I did it when I played for Mark.

"Those guys have been very important to the success of this

team."

OVAC Class A Tournament

Cameron 6, Beallsville 3
In the evening's late game, Jed Lucey singled, doubled, and drove home three runs, as Cameron topped Beallsville and advanced to today's title game.

The Dragons play Linsly at Vaccaro Field at 3 p.m.

Casey Hughes struck out four to gain the mound win, and Lucey came in the seventh to preserve the win.

Tyler Brown had two RBIs to lead the Blue Devils.

OVAC Tourney Pairings Set

Edison took the Class AAAA No. 1 seeds in both the baseball and softball OVAC Tournaments, set to begin on Tuesday.

In baseball, Edison is joined at the No. 1 ranks by Indian Creek, Steubenville Central and Cameron. All games are set to begin at 5 p.m. with the exception of two.

Steubenville Central will host Monroe Central at 4:30 p.m. on Tuesday at Vaccaro Field, while Steubenville will host hot Weir at 7 p.m. that same night.

In the softball tournament, Oak Glen, Monroe Central and Shadyside all earned the top seeds.

Tickets for all games will be

\$5 for adults and \$3 for students.



The baseball championships will be held at Vaccaro Field in Steubenville on Saturday, May 17, while the softball championships will be at the Chambers I-470 Complex on Saturday, May 10.

Baseball
OVAC First-Round
(all games start at 5 p.m., unless noted)

AAAA
(8) Buckeye Local at (1) Edison
(5) Wheeling Park at (4) Beaver Local
(6) Weir at (3) Steubenville, 7 p.m.
(7) Cambridge at (2) John Marshall

AAA
(8) Martins Ferry at (1) Indian Creek
(5) Magnolia at (4) Harrison Central
(6) Meadowbrook at (3) Barnesville
(7) Tyler Consolidated at (2) Bellaire

AA
(8) Monroe Central at (1) Steubenville Central, 4:30 p.m.

(5) Caldwell at (4) Toronto
(6) Buckeye Trail at (3) Whig, Central
(7) Wellsville at (2) River

A
(8) Bishop Donahue at (1) Cameron
(5) Beallsville at (4) Paden City
(6) Bel. St. John's at (3) Shadyside
(7) Weirton Madonna at (2) Linsly

Softball
OVAC First-Round
(all games start at 5 p.m.)

AAAA
(8) Zanesville at (1) Edison
(5) Brooke at (4) Buckeye Local
(6) Beaver Local at (3) Wheeling Park
(7) Weir at (2) John Marshall

AAA
(8) Harrison Central at (1) Oak Glen
(5) Indian Creek at (4) Meadowbrook
(6) Martins Ferry at (3) Union Local
(7) Barnesville at (2) Bellaire

AA
(8) Buckeye Trail at (1) Mon. Central
(5) Frontier at (4) River
(6) Fort Frye at (3) Steub. Central
(7) Wheeling Central at (2) Toronto

A
(8) Paden City at (1) Shadyside
(5) Linsly at (4) Weirton Madonna
(6) Cameron at (3) Bellaire St. John's
(7) Bridgeport at (2) Beallsville

OVAC BASEBALL SEMIS

SATURDAY, MAY 10

At Bridgeport

11 a.m. -- Class 4-A -- Cambridge vs. Steubenville

1:30 p.m. -- Class 3-A -- Meadowbrook vs. Bellaire

at Toronto

11 a.m. -- Class 3-A -- Harrison Central vs. Indian Creek

1:30 p.m. -- Class 2-A -- Toronto vs. Steubenville Central

at Magnolia

12 noon -- Class 2-A -- Buckeye Trail vs. River

3 p.m. -- Class 1-A -- Beallsville vs. Cameron

at Brooke

11 a.m. -- Class 4-A -- Wheeling Park vs. Edison

1:30 p.m. -- Class 1-A -- St. John Central vs. Linsly

Tentative times for Saturday, May 17 finals at Vaccaro Field in Steubenville:

1-A -- 10 a.m.

2-A -- 12:30 p.m.

3-A -- 3 p.m.

4-A -- 5:30 p.m.

Tickets at for both semi-finals and finals are \$3 for students and \$5 for adults.



Edison upends Wheeling Park, wins OVAC title

Edison captured yet another OVAC baseball title Friday afternoon.

The Wildcats won the title by default due to Cambridge having played too many games and being ruled ineligible after its semi-final win over Steubenville.

Edison -- which advanced to the state title game a year ago -- rolled past Wheeling Park 8-3 at the Red Knight Baseball Complex in Toronto.

David Ujcich earned the mound win going the distance with two strikeouts and three walks.

Ryan Tingler led the offense for the Richmond-based squad with three singles and a RBI.

Senior standout Caleb Meyer added three singles and two RBI.

Vince Kuntz had two singles, while Ujcich added a single and a double.

Wheeling Park was led by Josh Tysk who had two singles and two RBI.

Linescore:
Edison 102 023 8 15 2
Wheeling Park 000 021 3 7 1
BATTERIES: Ujcich and Reese; Hercules, Saseen (6) and Kresavec.

Prep Baseball Linescores

LINSLY 8, WEIRTON MADONNA 0

Weirton Madonna 000 000 0 - 0 1 3

Linsly 010 034 x - 8 11 0

BATTERIES: Gianni, Hall (5) and Goodall; Norman and Hammon.

HARRISON CENTRAL 15 MAGNOLIA 5

Magnolia 104 00 5 7 5

Harrison 41(10) 00 15 10 2

BATTERIES: Cecil, Leasure (3) and Carroll; Ridgeway and Carlson.

RIVER 12 WELLSVILLE 2

Wellsville 000 011 0 - 2 5 2

River 215 103 x - 12 11 0

BATTERIES: G. Congrova, Dalrymple (3) and J. Congrova and G. Congrova (3); Romick and Rosnick.

INDIAN CREEK 6 MARTINS FERRY 5

Martins Ferry 001 200 2 - 6 9 1

Indian Creek 300 001 2 - 5 5 2

BATTERIES: Fairbanks and Eden; Vitro, Palmer (7) and Conn.

MEADOWBROOK 11 BARNESVILLE 1

Meadowbrook 101 405 - 11 11 2

BARNESVILLE 000 001 - 1 5 5

BATTERIES: Neuhart and Dockerty; McFarland, T. Miller (4), Wells (6) and Hurstman.

BEALLSVILLE 5 PADEN CITY 1

Beallsville 003 011 0 - 5 5 0

Paden City 001 000 0 - 1 6 1

BATTERIES: Crum and Turner; Bowers and Galen.

CAMBRIDGE 3, JOHN MARSHALL 2

Cambridge 200 000 1 - 3 2 2

John Marshall 000 100 1 - 2 5 5

BATTERIES: Edwards and Bond; Campbell and Brooks.

BUCKEYE TRAIL 7 WHEELING CENTRAL 5

Buckeye Trail 110 500 0 7 11 3

Wheeling Central 102 020 0 5 9 2

BATTERIES: Shippe and Trejka; Stephens, Hupp (4), Szeligo (5) and Coyne.

SCC 10 MONROE CENTRAL 5

Monroe Central 004 001 0 5 7 2

Staub. Central 401 050 0 10 6 2

BATTERIES: Stevens, Wise (5) and Marckle; Koehnlein, Antione (5) and Weld.

Cadets Slip By Fighting Irish

Linsly advanced to the OVAC Class A finals as it pushed across a run in the bottom of the seventh to edge out Bellaire St. John's, 7-6, in the semifinals Tuesday at Red Knight Complex in Toronto.

Jason Witzberger struck out four over two innings in relief to gain the win for Linsly and also added a triple and two singles at the plate, while starting pitcher Josh Norman drove in a pair of runs of the Cadets on two base hits.

Tyler Moscato paced the hitting attack for St. John's as he picked up an RBI off two base knocks.

OVAC AA Semifinals Steubenville Central 11, Toronto 1

At Toronto, Pat McKittrick struck out eight and smacked a home run for Steubenville Central en route to a decisive victory over Toronto in the OVAC class AA semifinals.

McKittrick finished the day with three RBIs, while teammate Josh Samples had two base knocks and drove in a run for the Crusaders.

Ryan Fidak singled and drove in Toronto's only run in the fifth inning as the Red Knights dropped to 16-12.

Steubenville Central (16-8) advances to play Saturday in the finals at Vaccaro Field against the winner of the semifinal between River and Buckeye Trail.

Linsly rolls to OVAC crown

Never in doubt.

Linsly's baseball juggernaut captured the OVAC 1-A championship in grand style Thursday, blasting outmanned Cameron by a 16-4 count in five innings at Steubenville's Vaccaro Field.

The win improved Gary Sprague's team to a sparkling 16-5 on the season. The Dragons dropped to 18-7.

Josh Norman delivered big for Linsly as the senior standout blasted a pair of home runs, good for four RBI.

Junior standout Chris Banal also wielded a hot bat for Linsly, knocking home three runs with a home run and single.

Jason Witzberger recorded the mound victory. He struck out eight and walked just two. He helped his cause with two singles and two RBI.

All but one Linsly regular produced a base hit.

Senior ace James Wallace slammed a single and double while Tyler Jividen and Brett Hammon each smacked doubles for Linsly.

Jed Lucey contributed three hits for Cameron. Linescore:

| | | | | | |
|---------|-----|-------|----|----|---|
| Linsly | 013 | (12)0 | 16 | 14 | 2 |
| Cameron | 200 | 02 | 4 | 7 | 4 |

BATTERIES: Witzberger and Hammon; Lucey, Thayer (4) and Beresford.

OVAC BASEBALL

The following are pairings for the OVAC baseball tournament, which resumes action Saturday.

At Bridgeport
11 a.m. — (4-A) Cambridge vs. Steubenville
1:30 p.m. — Meadowbrook vs. Bellaire
At Toronto
11 a.m. — (3-A) Harrison Central vs. Indian Creek
1:30 p.m. — (2-A) Toronto vs. Steubenville Central
at Magnolia
Noon — (2A) Buckeye Trail vs. River
3 p.m. — (A) Beallsville vs. Cameron
at Brooke
11 a.m. — (4A) Wheeling Park vs. Edison
1:30 p.m. — (A) Bellaire St. John's vs. Linsly

Tentative times for finals on Saturday, May 17 at Vaccaro Field.

(A) — 10 a.m.
(AA) — 12:30 p.m.
(3-A) — 3 p.m.
(4-A) — 5:30 p.m.

Note: Tickets for the semifinals and finals are \$3 for students and \$5 for adults.

Fans of teams playing at Brooke are reminded that Market Street Bridge in Steubenville and Rt. 2 North are closed for construction.

OVAC Baseball Semifinals

Saturday, May 10

At Bridgeport

11 a.m. -- Class 4-A -- Cambridge vs. Steubenville
1:30 p.m. -- Class 3-A -- Meadowbrook vs. Bellaire

at Toronto

11 a.m. -- Class 3-A -- Harrison Central vs. Indian Creek
1:30 p.m. -- Class 2-A -- Toronto vs. Steubenville Central

at Magnolia

12 noon -- Class 2-A -- Buckeye Trail vs. River
3 p.m. -- Class 1-A -- Beallsville vs. Cameron

at Brooke

11 a.m. -- Class 4-A -- Wheeling Park vs. Edison
1:30 p.m. -- Class 1-A -- St. John Central vs. Linsly

Tentative times for Saturday, May 17 finals at Vaccaro Field in Steubenville:

1-A -- 10 a.m.
2-A -- 12:30 p.m.
3-A -- 3 p.m.
4-A -- 5:30 p.m.

Tickets at for both semi-finals and finals are \$3.00 for students and \$5.00 for adults.

Fans of teams planning at Brooke are reminded that the Market Street Bridge in Steubenville and Route 2 North are closed for construction. Fans in the south are advanced to take Rt. 2 North from Wheeling.

OVAC BASEBALL SEMIS

Saturday, May 10

At Bridgeport

11 a.m. -- Class 4-A -- Cambridge vs. Steubenville
1:30 p.m. -- Class 3-A -- Meadowbrook vs. Bellaire

at Toronto

11 a.m. -- Class 3-A -- Harrison Central vs. Indian Creek
1:30 p.m. -- Class 2-A -- Toronto vs. Steubenville Central

at Magnolia

12 noon -- Class 2-A -- Buckeye Trail vs. River
3 p.m. -- Class 1-A -- Beallsville vs. Cameron

at Brooke

11 a.m. -- Class 4-A -- Wheeling Park vs. Edison
1:30 p.m. -- Class 1-A -- St. John Central vs. Linsly

Tentative times for Saturday, May 17 finals at Vaccaro Field in Steubenville:

1-A -- 10 a.m.
2-A -- 12:30 p.m.
3-A -- 3 p.m.
4-A -- 5:30 p.m.

Tickets at for both semi-finals and finals are \$3 for students and \$5 for adults.

St. John's nips Shadyside in 10 innings, 8-7

By **SETH STASKEY**
Times Leader Sports Writer

It was a baseball game no one deserved to lose.

Unfortunately for Shadyside, in sports someone always has to lose.

St. John Central continued its season-long domination of Coach Gary Cunningham's Tigers with a 8-7 win in 10 innings in the quarterfinals of the Ohio Valley Athletic Conference tournament at Fleming Field.

"That was a very well played ball game," said Irish manager Vinnie Kirkpatrick. "The kids from Shadyside have nothing to be ashamed of. It just came down to who executed better in the end because if it came down to heart -- both teams were right there."

The win places the Irish into the Class 1-A semifinal game Saturday, May 10 at a site to be determined against second-seeded Linsly.

Shadyside -- which came into the game as the

See, **IRISH**, Page B5



T-L Photo/JOEL JOSEPH

ST. JOHN Central second baseman Tyler Moscato can not keep the throw from going into centerfield as a Shadyside runner slides into second during OVAC Tournament action Tuesday night in Shadyside.

THE TIMES LEADER • Wednesday, April 30, 2003 • Page B5



T-L Photo/JOEL JOSEPH

ST. JOHN Central first baseman Bryan Nardo (left) gets pulled off the base in an effort to field a high throw as Shadyside's Brandon Holmes (19) is safe at first base during action Tuesday night at Fleming Field in Shadyside. The Irish won, 8-7, in 10 innings.

third seed -- will continue its regular season Thursday at Bridgeport and battle Bellaire in a Saturday doubleheader before opening Ohio Division IV sectional play in Toronto against Wellsville.

The Irish victory marks the third this season in gut-wrenching fashion over their Orange rivals. In all three games, the Green was forced to rally for the win.

"I haven't put my finger on it yet," explained Kirkpatrick. "It just seems like when we don't execute other teams we make those plays against Shadyside."

Cunningham can't quite come to grips with his team's inability to put St. John away, but he knows his team must regroup.

"The effort was there," Cunningham said. "I think sometimes you have to be around pressure situations to come through in those. Give St. John's credit, they got it done and we didn't."

"I don't really know what it is (about St. John's), but it just seems all of the close games the last few years they have come out on top," Cunningham continued.

Shadyside was in control through five innings, owning a 6-3 lead, but the Irish bats came alive with four runs to take a 7-6 lead.

St. John's grabbed a 2-0 lead after a half inning, but gave up three unearned runs in the first and then allowed another

unearned run in the second. The Tigers tacked on two more during a third-inning rally, one of which was unearned.

"We gave up a bunch of unearned runs early," Kirkpatrick said. "We were able to settle down after the first two innings and our defense really came through."

The Tigers forced extra innings in the last of the seventh when junior Derrick Sadlowski led off the frame with a base knock. He moved to second on a balk, third on a wild pitch and then raced home on a loose ball, just beating the play the dish.

"We knew the game was going to come down to one run," Cunningham offered. "I am really lost on this because I am looking for positive things and one is that we played hard."

After two scoreless innings, the Irish brought their six, seven and eight hitters to the plate in the opening half of the 10th.

Senior left hander Mike Sullivan -- who got the start on the hill -- golfed a single to right center to start the inning.

Junior Bryan Nardo perfectly executed a sacrifice bunt to move Sullivan to second to just one out. He moved to third on a wild pitch and on the next pitch was driven home when senior Chris Jingle skyed a deep fly ball to center for a sac fly.

Senior Chad Taylor -- who came on in relief in the sixth -- hurled a scoreless 10th, striking out two to pocket the mound

win.

"What can you say about Chad Taylor?" Kirkpatrick offered. "He came in wanting to win more than anybody and that's contagious."

Taylor struck out six and allowed just one walk to earn the win.

Shadyside sophomore Erik Cwalinski was the tough-luck loser. He came on in relief of Sadlowski in the sixth and allowed two runs. He fanned three and walked two.

"We'll have our day before it's over," Cunningham pointed out. "We have a lot of young kids and I told the kids we have to get ready for the second season (the sectional)."

The Irish were led at the plate by Taylor who had a RBI double, a solo home run and a single. Senior Ryan Rico contributed three singles, while John Anderson added a double.

Senior Tyler Moscato plated two runs in the sixth with a base hit.

Shadyside, meanwhile, was led at the dish by junior Kyle Wallace who had two singles. Ryan Holmes plated a run with a single.

St. John Central -- now 10-13 -- will be playing at I-470 field this afternoon against Wheeling Central.

Linescore:
St. John's 201 004 000 1 -- 8 11 6
Shadyside 312 000 100 0 -- 7 7 5
BATTERIES: Sullivan, Taylor (6) and Jingle; Sadlowski, Cwalinski (6) and Stevens.

Cambridge tops Steubenville, can't play in OVAC final

FOR THE TIMES LEADER

Friday afternoon's Ohio Valley Athletic Conference Class AAAA baseball game between Cambridge and Steubenville may have been listed as a semifinal contest, however, coach Paul Arick's Bobcats knew going in that it was much more than that for them.

Having already played 27 regular season games, Cambridge took the field Friday for their 28th contest, the maximum allowed by the state of Ohio. With that in mind, the 'Cats were treating this game as their championship.

And thanks to some timely hitting, and superb middle-infield defense late in the game, the Guernsey County squad left Bridgeport feeling like champions.

Trailing by two, Cambridge received three consecutive two-out hits in the top of the seventh to tie the game and eventually got a one-out Cody Bond RBI single in the ninth as the Bobcats stunned defending champion Steubenville with a come-from-behind 4-3 victory at Perkins Field.

OVAC Executive Secretary Tom Rataiczak announced following the game the winner of the other semifinal game between Edison and Wheeling Park on Friday night would be crowned big-school champion.

"This is very unfortunate for Cambridge High School," Arick said fol-

lowing the victory. "Because of a quirk in our schedule we will not be allowed to play in tomorrow's scheduled championship game."

"I feel extremely bad for the kids, but it is out of my control. We knew coming in that we would have to use this as our championship game."

With two out and one in the top of the seventh, it appeared as if the Bobcats' scheduling problems would not come into play.

Luke Seckel then gave the designated visitors life with a pinch-hit single to left before Evan McCartney reentered the game to pinch-run.

Catcher Cody Bond then unleashed a triple deep over the center fielders head sending McCartney home to make it a 3-2 game.

Doug Edwards, who singled three times on the afternoon, would tie the game at 3-3, sending a 1-2 pitch back through the box with Bond crossing the dish.

Cambridge would close the stunning comeback in the ninth after Ben Fowler led off with a single, went to second on a McCartney sacrifice bunt and scored on a Bond single in between third and short. The hit was Bond's third of the game and second RBI.

Senior pitcher Brandon Durben would do the rest for the winners. Durben, who held Big Red (20-6) to four hits in the contest and retired 12 in a row at one

point, set down 19 of the final 21 hitters Steubenville sent to the plate.

"Brandon is a senior leader and I told him at our team meeting last night that he had already been talking the talk and now it was time to walk the walk and that it was his game to win or lose," Arick mentioned. "He then went out and won it."

Coach Fred Heatherington's Steubenville squad opened up a 3-0 lead in the third thanks in large part to three Bobcat errors.

Sean Liggett and Gary Stubbs, the eight and nine hitters for Big Red, led off with singles before Joe Pease reached on an error to load the bases with no outs. Following a strikeout losing pitcher Justin Gerber hit a grounder to short that was not fielded allowing two runs to score.

Mike Giannamore walked just ahead of a Ryan Straker sacrifice fly that plated Pease with the third Steubenville run of the frame.

Cambridge, which had two base runners in both the first and second innings without scoring, would answer with a run in the fourth.

Edwards singled leading off the frame, went to second on a passed ball and scored on Tyler Sigman's one-out base-hit.

The Bobcats, who outhit Steubenville by a 13-4 count, had runners at the corners with one out in the second and was looking to produce a run via the suicide

squeeze.

However, Ryan Kafury's bunt was popped back to Gerber, who threw to third to complete the double-play.

Cambridge also loaded the bases with one out in the fifth before Gerber slammed the door and did not allow them to cross the dish.

"They played to win tonight and we did not," Heatherington said.

"We were not ready and you are not going to win around here no matter who you play if you are not ready."

"Their pitcher (Durben) did a very good job keeping us off-balance. He had two pitches he was getting over for strikes and when you can do that in high school baseball you are going to be successful. And he definitely was."

Arick, meanwhile, was thrilled to defeat a team the caliber of Steubenville.

"This is a very big win for our program. Coach Heatherington runs a great program over there and we wish him all the luck in his tournament games."

"This was just a great nine-inning high school baseball game. We had some very big plays up the middle late in the game and Cody Bond throwing two of their players out trying to steal early in the game really kept us going."

Linescore:
Cambridge 000 100 201 - 4 13 3
Steubenville 003 000 000 - 3 4 1
BATTERIES: Durben and Bond; Gerber, Irwin (9) and Straker.



Photo by Scott McCloskey

Buckeye Trail shortstop Adam Bear tries to complete the double play to first base after forcing out Wheeling Central's Jo Jo Morgan. The Warriors upset the Maroon Knights in the first round of Tuesday's OVAC tournament Tuesday at the J.B. Chambers I-470 Complex.

West, Park Blank BL

Jason West was masterful on the mound for Wheeling Park, tossing a two-hitter, striking out 10 and walking one as the Patriots moved on in the OVAC tournament by blanking Beaver Local by a 9-0 score Tuesday in Calcuta.

OVAC BASEBALL

Park will face Edison in the second round.

West aided his own cause for the Patriots (12-7) with a home run and two RBIs, while Mark Maguire ripped a double, single and had two RBIs.

Cambridge 3, John Marshall 2

At Glen Dale, the Bobcats scored one run in the seventh inning and then held on to defeat the Monarchs.

Patrick Bryne singled and knocked in a run for Cambridge (14-7).

Cody Koontz had two singles for John Marshall (13-3), while Scott Ratchliffe singled and had an RBI. Cole Taylor added a double.

Edison 7, Buckeye Local 2

At Richmond, the Wildcats scored six runs in the bottom of the sixth inning in defeating the Panthers.

Edison (18-2), Ohio's top Division II team in the recent Associated Press poll, was paced by Caleb Meyer, who doubled, singled and had an RBI. David Ujcich doubled with an RBI and Matt Bordash doubled and knocked in two runs. The Wildcats will face Wheeling Park in the semifinals.

C.J. Besece doubled and knocked in a run for Buckeye Local, while Greg Verhovec singled and drove in a run.

CLASS AAA Indian Creek 6, Martins Ferry 5

At Wintersville, Indian Creek scored two runs in the bottom of the seventh inning to defeat Martins Ferry.

Ivan Stein rapped two singles for the Redskins, who will take on Harrison Central in the OVAC semifinals. Chad Johnston singled with two RBIs, and James Barrett singled and had an RBI. Jon Conn tripled.

Ryan Fox and Anthony Reasbeck each had two singles and knocked in a run for the Purple Riders, while Michael Edwards laced a double and a single and collected two RBIs.

Bellaire 9, Tyler Consolidated 8

At Bellaire, the Big Reds scored two in the bottom of the 10th inning to get past the Silver Knights.

Bellaire (9-7) will now face Meadowbrook in the OVAC semifinals. Nate Davis smashed two singles, a double and had two RBIs for the Big Reds, while Derek Wallner had two singles, a double and an RBI.

Brian Northcraft doubled and knocked in a run for Tyler Consolidated, while Zack Watson had a triple and a single.

Meadowbrook 11, Barnesville 1

At Barnesville, T.J. Mitchell doubled and knocked in four runs as the Colts upended the Shamrocks.

Aubrey Neuhart added two singles and an RBI for Meadowbrook (8-11), while Zach Zifzal had a double and an RBI, and Joel Box tripled, singled and had an RBI. The Colts will face Bellaire in the OVAC semifinals.

Nate Hunkler doubled and singled for the Shamrocks (8-9), while Brock Huntsman doubled and Craig Miller singled with an RBI.

Harrison Central 15, Magnolia 5

At New Martinsville, Harrison Central scored 10 runs in the third inning en route to defeating Magnolia.

Jarryd Ridgeway smashed two singles, a double and an RBI for the Huskies (9-9), who will play Indian Creek in the OVAC semifinals. Adam Greene tripled and had two RBIs. Josh Bumgardner tripled and drove in four runs.

Josh Sims laced two singles and had an RBI for the Blue Eagles, while Drew Cecil had two singles.

CLASS AA Buckeye Trail 7, Wheeling Central 5

At Wheeling, Buckeye Trail scored five runs in the fourth inning and that was enough to hold off the Maroon Knights.

Jim Treika laced four singles and had three RBIs for the Warriors, while Matt Bertram had two singles and an RBI and Garret Holt tallied two singles and an RBI.

Jo Jo Morgan had three singles for Central (17-6), while Matt Ball belted a double, two singles and an collected an RBI.

Toronto 10, Caldwell 0

At Toronto, Andy LeMasters struck out four and walked one in tossing a two-hitter and leading the fourth-seeded Red Knights to the win over fifth-seeded Caldwell.

Zak Harless tripled, singled and knocked in a run for Toronto (12-9), who will tangle with Steubenville Central in the OVAC semifinals. Jeremy Sherwood added three singles and two RBIs, while Josh Hughes belted three singles and knocked in a run.

River 12, Wellsville 2

At Hannibal, Josh Yager belted a homer, two doubles and had four RBIs as the Pilots moved on in OVAC tournament play with the win over the Tigers.

Matt Abbott added a homer, triple, double and three RBIs for River (13-3), while Ronny Warrington homered with an RBI.

Eric Stephens had a single and two RBIs.

River will play Buckeye Trail in the OVAC semifinals

CLASS A

Linsly 8, Weirton Madonna 0

At Holloway Field, Josh Norman hurled 17 strikeouts in spinning a one-hitter as Linsly won its opening-round OVAC tournament game by blanking Weirton Madonna. Linsly will now face Bellaire St. John in the OVAC semifinals.

Norman walked just four for the Cadets (13-5). The only hit he allowed was to the Blue Dons' Jonathan Messler in the second inning.

Jason Witzberger belted two doubles and knocked in three runs for Linsly, while James Wallace doubled, singled, and had two RBIs.

Bell. St. John's 8, Shadyside 7

At Shadyside, the Irish scored a run in the top of the 10th inning and then hung on to upend the Tigers.

St. John (10-13) also received a single, double, homer and two RBIs from Chad Taylor. Ryan Rico added three singles.

Kyle Wallace had two singles for Shadyside (7-11), while Ryan Holmes singled in a run.

Cameron 5, Bishop Donahue 1

At Cameron, Casey Hughes homered, doubled, singled and drove in three runs as the Dragons defeated the Bishops.

Brandon Thayer added a double and an RBI for Cameron (14-3), while Justin Beresford singled.

Adam Turner and Mark Pucci each singled for Bishop Donahue (3-14).

Bellaire averts collapse, edges Knights in 10

By **BUBBA KAPRAL**
T-L Executive Sports Editor

Nightmare in Neffs...nearly.

Homestanding Bellaire was cruising to what appeared an easy OVAC quarterfinal win against Tyler Consolidated Tuesday. Leading 7-1 in the seventh inning, the Big Reds were three outs from eliminating the Silver Knights in ho-hum fashion.

Tyler, however, refused to go easily. The Knights erupted for six runs in the seventh inning to knot matters at 7-7 and force extra frames.

The West Virginians made matters even more interesting by taking an 8-7 lead in the top of the 10th. Coach Mark Spigarelli's Reds, however, showed tons of resiliency by pushing across two runs in the home half of the 10th, escaping with a 9-8 triumph.

The elongated victory improves the Big Reds to 9-7 on the campaign and propels them into the OVAC semifinals against Meadowbrook on May 10. The Colts advanced with an 11-1 triumph against Barnesville Tuesday.

"I guess we have more character and class than I gave us credit for," Spigarelli said. "This shows we can overcome adversity."

"You never want to let a six-run lead slip away, especially in the seventh inning," added the personable field general. "We have to learn how to finish games better. But we can take away a lot from this game."

Tyler drew first blood, scoring a single run in first on an RBI single by Robby Jones.

Bellaire responded with a four-spot in its first at-bats.

Sophomore standout Michael Fisher opened the outburst with a double. Nate Davis -- who did a fine job in the starting pitcher's role -- plated Fisher with a double and later scored on a Clay Boston

See, **BIG REDS**, Page B5

Edison rallies for 7-1 win over Buckeye

By **RICK DeLUCA**
Times Leader Sports Writer

Edison coach Bill Beattie knew his team needed to be aggressive at the plate to beat Buckeye Local and their stand-out hurler C. J. Besece.

Those aggressive bats came to life in a six-run sixth inning as the OVAC regular season Class 4-A champion Wildcats rallied from a 1-0 deficit to register a 7-1 win over the Panthers in the big school quarterfinals on the Wildcat diamond at State Lake Park Tuesday night.

Just two days after being crowned the conference's big school regular season champ, Beattie's Wildcats opened their bid for playoff title with the win over the Panthers. Edison's Tuesday win boosted its season record to a sparkling 18-2 mark. The Cats travel to Oak Glen tonight.

Buckeye Local, in its second season under head coach Chris Blackburn and boasting a lineup that includes all underclassmen, fell to 11-9 on the season with the tough setback. The Panthers return home to take on St. Clairsville in their next outing.

"We just finishing telling our kids how important it is to make good contact at the plate," Beattie said after the win. "They did just what they were suppose to do. They hit the ball hard early in the game, but right at somebody. In that sixth inning, those hits just start dropping in."

"When the season started, we told our guys that they had to do three things to win, make the routine plays, pitchers throw strikes and be aggressive at the plate," Beattie added.

"Credit Buckeye Local's pitcher. He did what he had to

See, **EDISON**, Page B5

www.timesleaderonline.com

Cadets Claim Crown

By **JIM ELLIOTT**
Staff Writer

The wind was blowing out of Vaccaro Field Thursday, but it's unlikely Linsly's Josh Norman needed the help.

Norman launched a pair of homers and drove in four runs, helping the Cadets (16-5) blast Cameron 16-4, and win an OVAC Class A crown.

The game was played Thursday because Cameron was unavailable for a game Saturday. All other OVAC finals will be played Saturday at Vaccaro.

"This is our championship right here," said Linsly coach Gary Sprague, whose team was playing its final game of the season.

The Cadets trailed 2-0 after one and 2-1 after two before grabbing their first lead behind a towering three-run homer off the bat of Norman.

Cameron's first inning was highlighted by a sac fly from Justin Beresford and a two-out squeeze bunt by Derrick Campbell.

"The first inning, when we popped two runs on them and got that squeeze in with two outs, I thought we were going to make this thing interesting," said first-year Cameron coach Eric James, who guided his team to its first-ever OVAC championship game. "And then the blitzkrieg hit us there in the fourth."

That's pretty much how it went.

Armed with a 3-2 lead entering the top of the fourth, Linsly sent 16 men to the plate, and 12 of them scored.

Cameron starting pitcher Jed Lucey worked to each of the first eight batters, and didn't retire any of them. Back-to-back doubles by Tyler Jividen and Bret Hammon got things started, just ahead of a walk and three straight singles by Tyler Petri, Jason Pyles, and Jason Witzberger.

"Hitting is contagious," Sprague said. "We were looking for his fastball and not his curveball to drive."

After a walk and an error -- the third of four on the day committed by Cameron -- James pulled Lucey in favor of Brandon Thayer, who was greeted rather rudely by Chris Banal.

Banal sent a screaming line drive over the left-field fence for a three-run homer, giving the Cadets a 10-run lead.

All told, 11 batters came to the plate before Cameron finally recorded the inning's first out.

"Twelve-run innings don't hurt," Sprague said. "That's the first time that's happened this year."

Despite the loss, the Dragons have also surpassed a school-record for victories (18-7).

Please See **CADETS**, Page 21

Cadets

(Continued from Page 19)

"Our kids were pretty fortunate that they got to play in a championship game," James said. "I was glad we got the opportunity to play, though I wish the outcome was different."

Linsly had a run taken off the board in the first inning when Tyler Petri was ruled to have missed third on his way home on James Wallace's double.

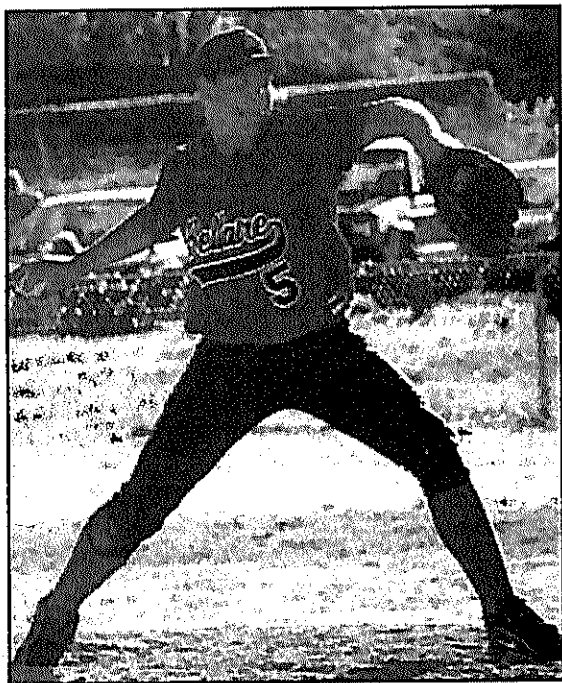
"Things like this happen in baseball," Sprague said. "When you're facing a quality opponent and have an inning like that, it's

hard to recover from."

Because of the fourth, it was a non-issue.

Game Notes

Linsly stranded five runners, while Cameron left eight on base ... Lucey was 3 for 3 with three singles ... Linsly starter Witzberger struck out eight and walked just two ... Cameron's 5-9 hitters were a combined 1 for 12, with designated hitter Kelly Hughes mashing the only hit ... Kyle Turkaly was the only Linsly starter not to record a hit, though he did walk and score a run.



T-L Photo/JOEL JOSEPH

BELLAIRE pitcher Nate Davis delivers a pitch against Tyler Consolidated during OVAC Tournament action Tuesday at Neffs.



T-L Photo/JOEL JOSEPH

TYLER Consolidated's Michael Wells (14) slides home safely as Bellaire's Brian Mancini receives the throw home during OVAC Tournament action Tuesday evening in Neffs. Wells, who scored on an error, helped Tyler cut Bellaire's lead to 7-6. After squandering a six-run lead in the seventh, Bellaire rebounded to win 9-8 in 10 innings.

● Big Reds

Continued from Page B1

single.

Hard-hitting junior catcher Brian Mancini delivered an RBI single before an error allowed the fourth run to come home.

Bellaire gave Davis two more runs to work with in the fourth. Scrappy Derek Wallner unleashed a double and scored on a Davis single.

Mancini chased Davis home with a two-base blast to right.

The lead grew to 7-1 in the sixth thanks to a Zac Bowman double and another Tyler error — one of six on the afternoon for the visitors.

The Tyler Consolidated seventh inning started innocently when Jason Suter lofted a lazy fly ball which eventually fell between two outfielders for a single. The flood gates quickly opened.

Brian Northcraft doubled in a run. A Big Red error made it a 7-3 game before a Ryan Koerber single plated another Silver Knight. Another error allowed two more runs to come in.

The Big Reds' frustration reached its climax when a wild pitch enabled the tying run to touch the plate.

Tyler took a short-lived 8-7 lead in the 10th on a Zac Watson triple and a sacrifice fly by Jones.

Bellaire didn't fold.

Fisher opened the home-half of the 10th by coaxing a walk. He moved to second on an error and scored the game-tying run when the Knights' right fielder dropped Wallner's flyball, with Wallner advancing to third on the play.

Davis was walked intentionally. With Mancini at the plate, Wallner came racing home for the game-winner thanks to a wild pitch.

Boston earned the mound win with a sharp three-plus innings of relief work. He fanned four.

Davis was also outstanding on the hill. He worked into the seventh, striking out eight, walking just two and deserving a better fate.

Davis also starred at the bat with a double, two singles and two RBI. Wallner had a sensational night at the plate with four hits while Mancini had three safeties and RBI.

"Give Tyler credit. They never quit. They are a good ballclub," Spigarelli said. "We had a chance to put them away early and we let them off the hook."

Bellaire — which had 13 hits on the day — returns to action Friday, hosting Martins Ferry in a 4:30 start.

Linescore:

Tyler 100 000 600 1 — 8 10 6

Bellaire 400 021 000 2 — 9 13 4

BATTERIES: Jones, Suter (5) and Kildow; Davis, Boston (7) and Mancini.

● Edison

Continued from Page B1

do," the Wildcat coach said. "But that's what you want to see (from Edison), playing well at the right time close to tournaments."

Tuesday's contest was a pure pitching duel between two of the Ohio Valley's premier hurlers as the Wildcats' Caleb Meyer matched Besece pitch for pitch through the first five innings. Meyer went the distance for the winners scattering four Panther hits while recording 10 strikeouts and walk-

ing none. Meyer helped his own cause with a two-run single to left in the sixth.

Besece, in full command until the sixth, closed with four strikeouts and five walks. At the plate, the Panther junior ripped a run-scoring double to the fence in the top of the seventh plating Mark McCain who had singled ahead of him.

Buckeye took a 1-0 lead in the fourth as R. J. Faldowski opened with a bunt single and moved to third on a throwing

error that also allowed Dave Saltkield to reach first. Two outs later, Greg Verhovec ripped a single to left to score Faldowski.

In the bottom of the fifth, Edison opened with a walk to Matt Bordash, back-to-back infield outs moved Bordash to third. The Wildcat runner scored the tying run on a balk.

Edison unloaded in the sixth scoring six times as David Ujcich drilled a run-scoring double to right, Bordash

cracked a two-run double past third and Justin Richards added a RBI-single to left to highlight the inning.

"They (Edison) are a very good and they don't need any help," Blackburn said after the tough loss. "And I am not trying to be disrespectful to their team, but that one (balk) call in the fifth inning that let them tie the game just sucked the wind right out of us."

"It's hard for our kids to play the way they did in a game of this caliber

and have a call like that change the game," he added. "But I will say that in the two years that I've been coaching here that these kids showed this much heart. C. J. pitched very well."

Edison was also paced at the plate by catcher Jake Reese who finished with a single and double.

Linescore:

Buckeye Local 000 100 1 — 2 4 1

Edison 000 016 x — 7 7 2

Batteries: Besece and Verhovec; Meyer and Reese.

River Runs Away From Steubenville Catholic

Second OVAC championship for Pilots

By NEIL THOMPSON
For The News-Register

After falling to Bellaire in the sectional tournament earlier in the week, the River Pilots steamed into Vaccaro Field Saturday looking to rebound against Steubenville Central in the OVAC Class AA Championships.

And rebound they did.

Scoring at least one run in each of the first five innings, River rolled over the Crusaders by a final score of 10-3 to claim the second OVAC baseball title in school history.

Solid defense and timely hitting were the catalysts that propelled the Pilots.

"Our defense did very well. We played solid defense and that was the key to the game," said River head coach Kyle Rose. "That, and we hit the ball extremely well."

The Pilots (18-5) set the pace in the top of the first as catcher Jason Rosnick led off the game with a walk.

One out later, Josh Yeager chased Rosnick home with a mammoth home run to left field for a 2-0 lead.

But the Crusaders answered off River starter Eric Stephens.

Josh Samples led off the inning with a single and would later score on an error.

Cleanup hitter Pat McKittrick hit a sacrifice fly to score Drew

Mihalyo and tie the score at 2.

River retook the lead in the second.

Ronny Warrington led off the inning with a single and leftfielder Greg Bayes reached on an error.

After a Zach Marty walk to load the bases, Lucas Huffman hit a single that dropped into shallow left field. Both Warrington and Bayes scored to make it 4-2 in favor of the Pilots.

River tacked on another run on a Ryne Romick RBI single.

Staked to a 5-2 lead, Stephens settled in and shut down Steubenville Central on just one hit the rest of the way.

He finished with five strikeouts and three walks on the day.

Crusader coach Tom Bartemes said the Pilots' defense was the main reason his team could not get anything going against Stephens.

"When we could have started a couple of rallies, the shortstop [Romick] made a couple of real nice plays. They just played some nice defense behind Stephens and stopped many of our [scoring] opportunities," said Bartemes.

One of the Crusader rallies that was killed by the River defense came in the bottom of the second.

Frank Luckino raked a sharp grounder up the middle but Romick ranged far to his left and made a dazzling diving grab near



Josh Yager

the second base bag.

Rising to his knees, he rifled a throw to get Luckino by inches at first base.

"[Stephens] threw strikes. He made them put the ball in play," said Rose. "We made the plays we needed to."

"He didn't walk very many batters. He made them earn whatever they got."

River closes out its season Tuesday when the Pilots battle Harrison Central in the EOBL championship game. First pitch is set for 5 p.m. in Cadiz.

Steubenville Central is back in action Monday when the Crusaders take on Zanesville Rosecrans in an Ohio Division IV district opener in West Lafayette.

River 231 220 0 — 10 9 1
Steubenville Central 200 001 0 — 3 3 2
P — Stephens wp (6SO, 2W) and Rosnick, Romick 2S, rbi; Yeager HR, 2rbi; Warrington S, rbi; Huffman 2S, 3rbi.
S — Antinone lp (0SO, 2W), Koehnlein (2) (1SO, 4W), Spence (5) (3SO, 0W) and Wald, Hawrott (7), Samples S; Mihalyo S; Danaher S.

★ ★ ★

★ ★ ★

Indian Creek Ace Shuts Out Bellaire

By NEIL THOMPSON
For The News-Register

One of the most oft-repeated adages at any level of baseball is the old saw about good pitching beating good hitting.

Indian Creek's Zack Viltro showed that this mantra is not out of date Saturday as he shut down a normally-prolific Bellaire offense to lead the Redskins to a 5-0 win in the OVAC Class AAA championship game at Vaccaro Field.

Viltro, a junior, struck out four and walked one in spinning a four-hit shutout.

"We knew Bellaire (14-8) was a heck of a good hitting team but [Viltro] just shut them down and did a real good job," said Indian Creek head coach Michael Cottis.

As it turned out, the Redskins

(19-10) generated all the offense they would need without benefit of a hit in the bottom of the first.

Ivan Stein drew a walk from Bellaire starting pitcher Mike Fisher to lead off the inning.

He then stole second base and advanced to third on a Mike Daily ground out before sprinting home on a passed ball.

"That really got us over the hump a little bit," said Cottis. "Any time you catch a break and squeeze a run in there, it gets that momentum going in your favor."

Ricky Bell made it 2-0 in the second inning with a two-out RBI single that scored Jeremy Frazier.

Bellaire's best threat in the third after Jesse Padgett walked and Andy Bobka doubled off

Viltro to put runners on second and third with none out and the top of the Big Reds' order due up.

Viltro bore down to retire the next two batters on a pair of harmless pop flies.

No. 3 hitter Nate Davis then socked a long fly ball down the left field line that hooked foul but leftfielder Allan McNeil hustled over to make a spectacular catch and send the Big Reds away empty-handed.

"That might have been the play of the game by Allan McNeil in left field," said Cottis.

"If he doesn't make that play, who knows what happens. [Davis] could have got a hit on the next pitch and changed the course of the game."

See, Creek, Page B4

SPORTS

Crusaders Double up 'Noles

By JIM ELLIOTT
Staff Writer

Drew Mihalyo ripped a pair of run-scoring doubles while Joe Antinone and Frank Luckino each drove in two runs, helping Steubenville Central get past Monroe Central 10-5 in quarter-final action of the OVAC Class AA baseball action at Vaccaro Field, Tuesday.

It was the first of two tourney openers played at Vaccaro Tuesday, as Big Red stopped Weir 16-7 in 4-A action in the night-cap.

Monroe Central (7-9) backed into the tournament when Fort Frye, which sported a 17-4 record at the time the brackets were released, was ruled ineligible because it did not play the

minimum of 10 conference opponents.

"We looked at it as a great positive experience to come here and play on a beautiful facility against a quality ball club," said Seminoles coach Junior Winland. "Coach Bartemes does a great job. His team is very, very competitive."

"We knew we'd have to come in and play error-less to beat them and it didn't happen."

Steubenville Central (14-7) jumped out to a 4-0 lead in the first inning on the first of Mihalyo's doubles, an RBI groundout by Ryan Bartemes, and a sacrifice fly by Antinone.

And sophomore pitcher John Koehnlein, 2-0 in two career varsity starts, was cruising before he

reached trouble in the third.

The Seminoles used a pair of walks, an RBI single by Adam Conrad, and a pair of RBI groundouts off the bats of Michael Jorris and John Michael Speelman to tie the game at 4.

"What got us into trouble was that our pitcher couldn't find the plate, which is what gets us in trouble any time," explained Bartemes.

Koehnlein walked five before being replaced by Antinone in the fifth inning.

An error at shortstop on what may or may not have been a double play ball was the real back-breaker in the inning, though.

"As soon as that happened, I said, 'let's not revert back to earlier in the season because we

were playing so well,'" Bartemes said.

It's true.

Since coming off their Easter break, the Crusaders have now won eight of nine games, mainly because they've been catching the ball with consistency.

"But we came back out and scored five runs in the next inning and I felt comfortable again," Bartemes added.

That's true too.

After starting crafty left-hander T.J. Stevens, owner of a looping curveball that when thrown well is murderous to left-handers, Winland reached for a harder-throwing southpaw in Landon Wisell.

Please See **DOUBLE**, Page 21

UNION LOCAL CRUISES

Kimberly Ogilbee and Megan Jack lifted Union Local to a 3-0 win over Martins Ferry in the first round of the OVAC softball tourney/21



File photo by Alex Kozlowski

Steubenville Central's John Koehnlein earned his second win in two varsity starts as the Crusaders beat Monroe Central.

CREEK

Continued from page B3

After that, Viltro dominated Big Reds hitters for the rest of the day, though Bellaire catcher Bryan Mancini did seem to have his number.

Mancini smacked three singles off Viltro to account for all but one of Bellaire's four hits on the day.

Indian Creek closed out the scoring with three more runs in the fourth, two of which came off a two-out double by short-stop Richie Crowe.

"The big thing we didn't do today that we did all year was get base hits. We only had four hits today," said Bellaire head coach Mark Spigarelli.

"This was the first time all year that we've been shut out."

"That's a credit to their pitcher and their fielders making plays."

Bellaire returns to action Monday afternoon with a trip to River View High School in Warsaw for a Division III district tournament opener against state-ranked Fort Frye.

Bellaire 000 000 0 — 0 4 2
Indian Creek 110 300 x — 5 8 0
B — Fisher 1p (3SO, 4W) and Mancini.
Mancini 3S; Bobka D.
I — Viltro wp (4SO, 1W) and Conn. Bell S, rbi; Crowe D, 2rbi.

River, Beallsville, Harrison earn tournament victories

CLASS A

LINSLY 8, MADONNA 0

AT WHEELING. Josh Norman was superb on the mound for second-seeded Linsly which was an 8-0 winner over Weirton Madonna Tuesday night.

Norman went the distance, limiting Madonna to only a Jonathan Misier second inning single. He added 17 strikeouts and four walks.

Norman aided his own cause with a run-scoring single.

Jason Witzberger led the 11-hit attack with a pair of doubles and three RBI. Senior standout James Wallace added a single, double and two RBI.

Brett Hammon donated a run-scoring single and Kyle Turkaly added two base knocks.

Linsly is now 13-5 and will advance to semifinal action next week against St. John Central.

BEALLSVILLE 5 PC 1

AT PADEN CITY, Beallsville was led by a sharp outing on the hill from senior Joey Crum as the Blue Devils downed the Wildcats 5-1 in quarterfinals of the 1-A OVAC tourney.

Crum went the distance striking out 10 batters, while giving up just one walk.

The Blue Devils were led by Tyler Brown who cranked a two-run homer, while Crum aided his cause with a RBI single.

Paden City received a RBI single from Bowers.

Beallsville is now 7-12 and will take on Cameron in the semifinals. The Devils will be in action Friday when they travel to Cambridge to face Buckeye Trail.

CLASS AA

RIVER 12 WELLSVILLE 2

AT HANNIBAL, River easily handled visiting Wellsville in the 2-A action Tuesday as Ryne Romick went the distance striking out seven and giving up no walks in en route to the 11-2 win.

Josh Yeager led the way for the Pilots hammering a homer, double and four RBI's, while Matt Abbott chipped in with a homer, triple, double and three RBI.

Ronnie Warrington added a homer of his own, while Eric Stephens had a single and two RBI's.

River is now 13-3 and will take on Buckeye Trail in the second round. The Pilots will play this evening though traveling to Toronto.

TRAIL 7 WHG. CENTRAL 5

AT 1-470, sixth-seeded

Buckeye Trail advanced to the semifinals of the OVAC tournament after scoring a 7-5 win.

The Warriors received a strong pitching performance from Kevin Shiye who went the distance to earn the mound win. He wasn't overpowering with just one strikeout and a zero walks.

Senior Jim Trelka socked four singles and plated three runs, while Garrett Holt and Matt Bertram each had two singles and a RBI.

Jo Jo Morgan drilled three singles for the Maroon Knights, while Matt Ball had a double, two singles and a RBI.

Trail now plays second-seeded River. Wheeling Central is now 17-6 and resumes its regular season today, hosting St. John Central.

SCC 10 MONROE CENT. 5

AT STEUBENVILLE, the Crusaders improved their record to 14-7 and advanced to the OVAC semifinals against Toronto via their 10-5 over the Seminoles.

Drew Mihaylo led the Blue & Gold with a pair of RBI doubles. Joe Antinone and Frank Luckino each plated two runs for Central.

Monroe Central dropped to 7-9. Chris Jeffers paced the Seminoles with two singles. Landon Wisell, Adam Conrad, Michael Jorris and John Michael Speelman all contributed RBI singles for Monroe.

CLASS AAA

HARRISON 15 MAGNOLIA 5

AT CADIZ, Harrison Central scored 10 runs in the third inning as the Huskies downed visiting Magnolia, 15-5, in five inning Tuesday in the quarterfinals of the OVAC 3-A tourney.

Jarryd Ridgeway earned the mound win going the distance striking out four and walking two, while Drew Cecil took the loss for the Blue Eagles.

Josh Bumgardener led the way the plate with a triple and four RBI, while Adam Greene had a single, triple and two RBI.

Ridgeway aided his cause with two singles and a RBI as Tom Snyder chipped in with a RBI triple. Mark Dulkoski also laced a RBI single for the winners.

Magnolia received two singles and RBI from Josh Sims and a RBI single from Nick Goddard.

Harrison Central is now 9-9 and will meet Indian Creek in the semifinals.

IC 6 MARTINS FERRY 5

AT WINTERSVILLE, Indian Creek barely held off visiting Martins Ferry in the opening

OVAC Baseball Quarterfinals

round of 3-A action as the Redskins downed the Riders 6-5 Tuesday.

Chad Johnston led the way for Indian Creek with a single and two RBI, while Ryan Barrett had a single and a RBI.

Ivan Stein added two singles as Josh Conn chipped in with a triple.

Ferry received a single, double and two RBI from Mike Edwards. Ryan Fox and Anthony Reasbeck added two singles and a RBI, apiece.

Indian Creek is now 14-9 on the year, and will now take on Harrison Central in the semifinals of the OVAC tourney.

MEADOWBROOK 11

BARNESVILLE 1

AT BARNESVILLE, Meadowbrook pounded out 10 hits as the Colts downed Barnesville 11-1 in the quarterfinals of the OVAC 3-A tourney Tuesday.

Aubrey Neuhart earned the mound win for the Colts striking out five, walking none.

T.J. Mitchell led the Colts with a double and four RBI's, while Joel Box had a triple, single and two RBI. Zach Zifzall chipped in with a double and a RBI.

Neuhart aided his cause with two singles and a RBI as Jesse Fraley added a triple and a single.

Barnesville received a RBI single from Craig Miller.

Meadowbrook is now 8-11, while Barnesville falls to 8-9.

CLASS AAAA

CAMBRIDGE 3, JM 2

AT GLEN DALE, Doug Edwards pitched seventh-seeded Cambridge to a 3-2 victory over John Marshall in the opening round of the OVAC Tournament Tuesday night.

Edwards fanned 10 and walked four in going the distance for the Bobcats (14-7). Pat Byere plated a run with a single for the Bobcats. John Marshall was led by Cody Koontz with two singles.