

Huskies outslug Ferry for OVAC title



T-L Photo/MICHAEL HARVILLA

CELEBRATING WITH his teammates following his grand slam is, center, Dan Milleson of Harrison Central. Milleson had seven runs batted in during the OVAC 3-A championship Saturday at Steubenville's Vaccaro Field. The Huskies defeated Martins Ferry 12-7 to win their first title 2000.

By **JEREMY MIDEI**
Times Leader Sports Writer

Neither OVAC titles, nor hits off Martins Ferry's Zach Fairbanks grow on trees. But for the Harrison Central Huskies, both were ripe for the picking on a beautiful Saturday afternoon at Vaccaro Field.

Dan Milleson fell one hit short of the cycle — though he filled that void with a second homer — and Mike Saffell's outfit was relentless at the plate, pounding out 16 hits en route to a 12-7 win over Martins Ferry in the OVAC 3-A championship game.

Harrison last won the title in 2000 after falling short in the championship game last season. Though the Huskies endured a four-year wait, they had to sit a little longer after showers pushed the start back to 1 p.m.

"We sat here for a long time waiting to play" said Saffell. "Dan got us going early."

Milleson staked the Huskies to a one-run lead immediately, sending a shot over the left field wall. That was all the Huskies needed to get them started as the OVAC regular season champs extended that lead in the very next frame.

Ferry evened the score at one-all in the bottom of the frame with a Caleb Statler RBI single, but Milleson's triple scored Trevor McCue and sophomore Ben Hodkinson laid down a bunt to send Milleson home.

"They are a good hitting team," said Ferry manager Jason Marling. "You have to give

them credit. We gave ourselves a chance with the bats today, but unfortunately they had more firepower today."

The onslaught continued in the fourth inning: Two singles and a walk loaded the bases for McCue, who rapped and RBI single. Then — BAM — Milleson's line shot cleared the wall in left and the dagger twisted just a little deeper into the Martins Ferry's heart.

But the seventh-seeded Riders would not go gentle into that good night, however, scoring two runs in the bottom of the fifth. Harrison dropped a four-spot on Ferry a half-inning later, but Jon Nagel plated one run with a single and Gerald Ray did likewise to start a four-run sixth.

"I told them when they pulled to within 8-7, we have to go and get this," Saffell said. "This is our game."

And so it was, as Harrison's big sixth inning was the difference.

The Huskies improved to 18-4 with the win, while Ferry dropped its 15th game in 21 chances.

"We're proud of our guys," said Marling. "They wanted to get to this game and give themselves a chance at the OVAC title. That's what they did."

Milleson finished with seven RBI on the afternoon.

Linescore:

HARRISON CENTRAL 12
MARTINS FERRY 7
Harrison Cent. 120 504 0 — 12 16 0
Martins Ferry 100 024 0 — 7 8 0
BATTERIES: Davia, Ludwig (6) and McCue; Fairbanks and Robinson.

The Cambridge High Bobcats boys' tennis team claimed second place in the Ohio Valley Athletic Conference Tourney in Wheeling, W.Va. For story, see B-4.



SPORTS

Bellaire KOs Meadowbrook from OVAC 3-A baseball playoffs, 4-2

JEFF HARRISON
THE DAILY JEFFERSONIAN

BYESVILLE — Bellaire High made the most of a return visit to Byesville to face Meadowbrook in the Ohio Valley Athletic Conference Class 3-A quarterfinals, putting together a three-run fifth inning to claim a 4-2 victory on Thursday.

In a game which began Tuesday, but was halted after one inning by rain, Bellaire (9-8)

overcame a 2-1 deficit by bunching five of its eight hits off of Meadowbrook ace Zach Zifzal in the fifth frame.

Jared Booth started the inning with a single to right. After an out when a bunt attempt hit the batter outside the box, Matt Garrett singled to put runners on the corners.

An pickoff try by the Colts backfired, with the errant throw allowing Booth to score. A walk to Derek Wallace ensued before

Keith Sechrest drilled a two-run single.

An infield single by Nate Davis and a bloop single by Jay Ofat loaded the bases, but Zifzal induced a double-play to avoid further damage.

Meadowbrook (10-9) managed only a two-out single in the fifth; went down in order in the sixth and then made a little noise in the seventh but failed to score. In their final at-bat, the Colts got an infield single by T.J. Sasser;

Matt Wright reached on an error and Jordan Potts lined a single to load the bases, but an infield grounder ended the game.

"I'm real disappointed," Meadowbrook coach Tim Roller said. "This team has the potential to be one of our better teams, but it's just not happening for us."

"We're up their swinging at the first pitch when it's not even close to a strike and then take the second one right down the middle, so we're in the hole 0-2 and it's hard to be successful hitting like that.

"We're not hitting, fielding or throwing it very well and we're going to have to play a lot better next week," Roller added.

Meadowbrook drew first blood back on Tuesday when Potts lined a double; moved to third on a groundout and scored on a wild pitch.

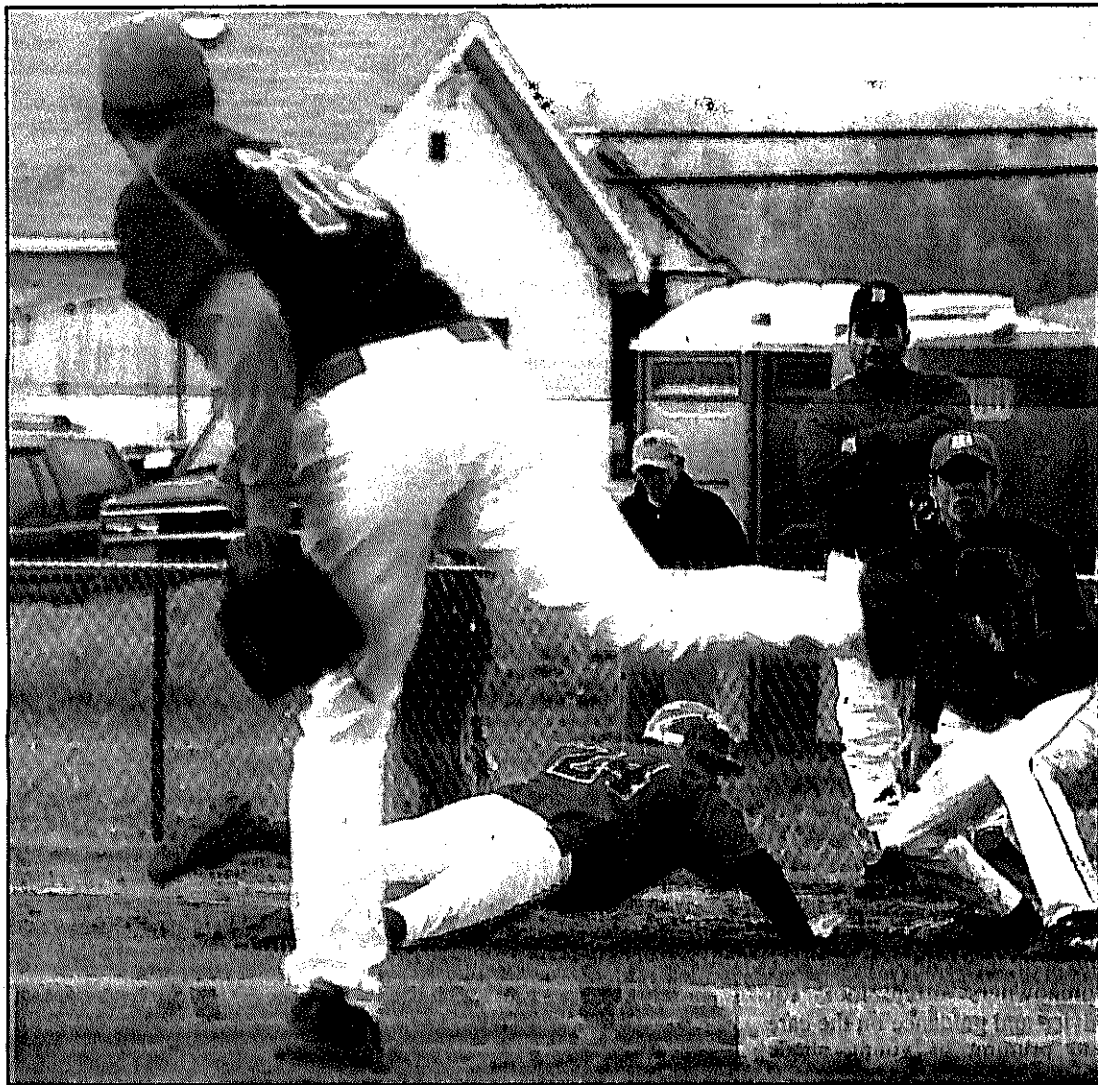
Bellaire evened the count at 1-1 in the top of the fourth as Sechrest reached on an error; moved to second on a wild pitch and scored when Dirk Soland belted an RBI double.

The Colts got back on top in the bottom of the fourth. Zifzal walked; moved to second on a sacrifice bunt by Brad Mitchell and scored on an RBI single by Ryan Douth.

Ofat went the distance on the mound for Bellaire, allowing just five hits while striking out five and walking two. Zifzal (5-2) took the loss despite a 10-strikeout, two-walk effort.

Sechrest and Ofat each had two singles to lead the Big Reds. Potts enjoyed a nice game for the Colts with a double and two singles.

NEXT—Meadowbrook travels to Gnadenhutten to face Indian Valley in an East Central Ohio League game today at 4:30 p.m. After that, the Colts will board the bus and go to Uhrichsville to finish a suspended game with Claymont.



Janel Tedrick/The Daily Jeffersonian

Meadowbrook pitcher Zach Zifzal throws to first baseman Brad Mitchell in an attempt to get Bellaire's Keith Sechrest out during Thursday's Ohio Valley Athletic Conference 3-A quarterfinal tilt. The Colts dropped the home game, 4-2.

OVAC baseball semifinals set Cambridge takes on Steubenville at Brooke; Barnesville plays Wheeling Central at Toronto

The Ohio Valley Athletic Conference baseball semifinals are set, with action slated at four locations on Saturday.

Both Class 4-A games will be at Brooke High School in Wellsburg, W.Va., with John Marshall facing Wheeling Park at 11 a.m. and Cambridge taking on Steubenville at 2 p.m.

The Class 3-A games will be at Harrison Central's home diamond — Mazerowski Field in Cadiz — with Harrison Central playing Bellaire at 11 a.m. and Indian Creek opposing Martins Ferry at 2 p.m.



The other two sites will each have a Class 2-A and a Class 1-A semifinal game.

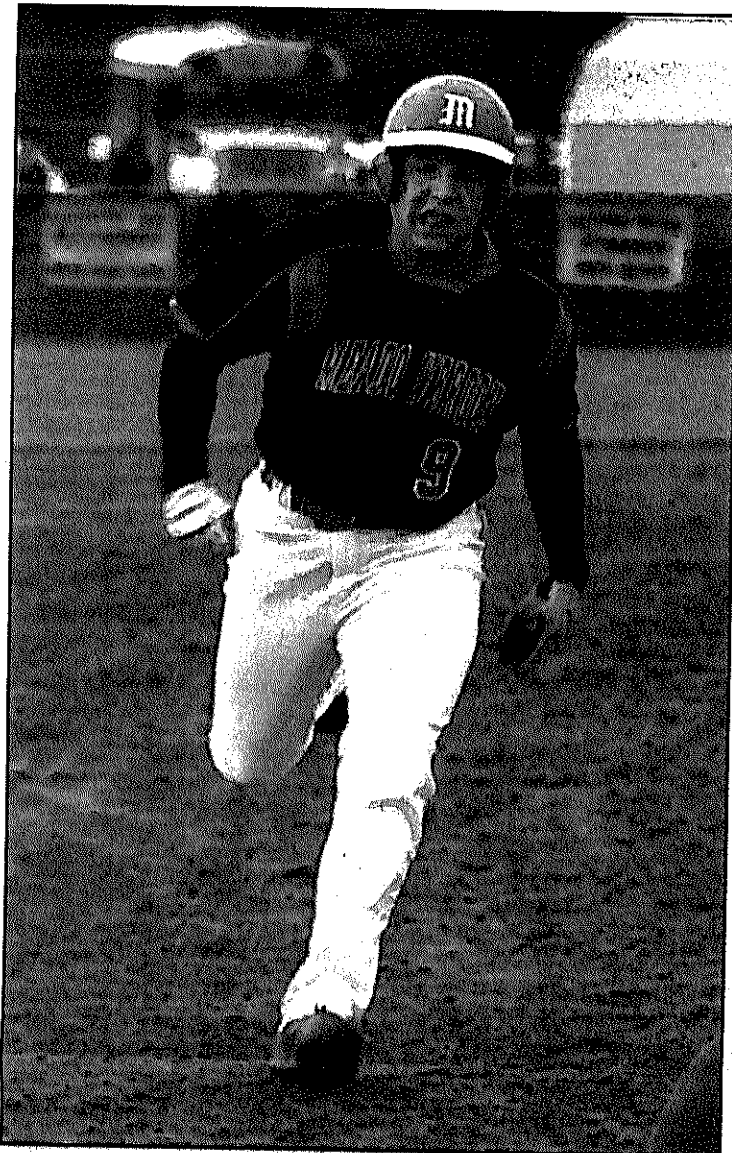
At the Red Knight Complex in Toronto, Wheeling Central battles Barnesville in Class 2-A at 11 a.m. and Weirton Madonna plays Linsly in Class 1-A at 2 p.m. while at Perkins Field in Bridgeport, it's Fort Frye against Monroe Central in Class 2-A at 11 a.m. and Beallsville against Cameron in Class 1-A at 2 p.m.

Saturday's winners will advance to the OVAC championship games on Saturday, May 7 at Vaccaro Field in Steubenville.

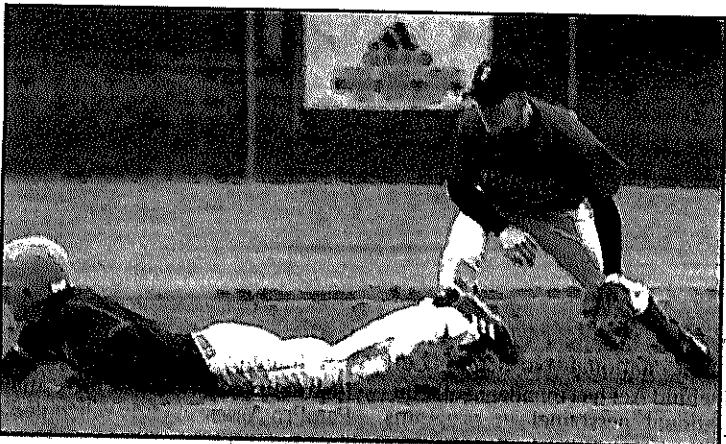
Section

B

Friday
April 29, 2005



Janell Tedrick/The Daily Jeffersonian
Meadowbrook's Matt Wright rounds second and heads to third base on Thursday evening in the Ohio Valley Athletic Conference 3-A quarterfinals in Byesville. The Colts fell, 4-2, to Bellaire.



Janell Tedrick/The Daily Jeffersonian
Meadowbrook's Ryan Doult slides to second as Bellaire's Derek Wallace is late on the tag. Bellaire won the Ohio Valley Athletic Conference 3-A quarterfinal contest, 4-2, in Byesville on Thursday.

OVAC Set For Week

Thanks to last week's rain, the biggest week of the Ohio Valley Athletic Conference school year got even bigger over the weekend.

Two softball champions, four baseball champions and eight track champions — four boys' and four girls' — will all be crowned in the five days between today and Saturday.

Weather permitting, of course. Two softball champions will be decided at the J.B. Chambers I-470 Complex in Wheeling today. Edison and John Marshall will play for the Class AAAA crown at 4:30 p.m. with Bell. St. John and Cameron Edison settling single-A at 6 p.m.

The final four baseball semifinals are now all set for Wednesday at three different sites.

Beallsville and Cameron will play at 4:30 p.m. in a Class A semifinal at Bridgeport.

John Marshall and Wheeling Park will now play at 5 p.m. in a Class AAAA semifinal at John Marshall's field in Glen Dale.

The newly-lighted diamond at Brooke High will host a Class AAA doubleheader on Wednesday.

Indian Creek and Martins Ferry will play at 4:30 p.m. with Harrison Central and Bellaire to follow at approximately 6:30.

Steubenville (Class AAAA), Wheeling Central and Fort Frye (Class AA) and Linsly (Class A) have already advanced.

The four OVAC baseball champions will be crowned Saturday at Vaccaro Field in Steubenville. The championship game schedule will be released once all the participants have been decided.

Last but certainly not least are the annual OVAC Track and Field Championship meets.

The Class A-AA meet begins Wednesday afternoon at Fleming Field in Shadyside with the finals scheduled for Friday night.

Nelson Field in Bellaire once again hosts the Class AAA-AAAA meet with early events starting Thursday afternoon and the big-school champions to be crowned on Saturday.

OVAC Playoff Pairings

SOFTBALL OVAC QUARTERFINALS

(All Games Scheduled for Tonight at higher seeds field)

Class 4-A

No. 1 Edison (12-1) vs. No. 8 Beaver Local (4-8).
No. 4 Steubenville (15-5) vs. No. 5 Brooke (7-6).
No. 3 John Marshall (14-4) vs. No. 6 East Liverpool (4-6).
No. 2 Buckeye Local (11-3) vs. No. 7 Wheeling Park (6-12)

Class 3-A

No. 1. Martins Ferry (14-3) vs. No. 8 Union Local (3-16).
No. 4 St. Clairsville (9-7) vs. No. 5 Magnolia (9-7).
No. 3 Harrison Central (11-3) vs. No. 6 Indian Creek (6-9).
No. 2 Bellaire (14-3) vs. No. 7 Oak Glen (6-9).

Class 2-A

No. 1 Steubenville Central (8-3) vs. No. 8 River (7-9).
No. 4 Fort Frye (11-2) vs. No. 5 Frontier (9-6).
No. 3 Wheeling Central (18-4) vs. No. 6 Buckeye Trail (6-10).
No. 2 Monroe Central (14-1) vs. No. 7 Toronto (5-9).

Class 1-A

No. 1 St. John (15-1) vs. No. 8 Beallsville (3-11).
No. 4 Weirton Madonna (8-6) vs. No. 5 Linsly (7-13).
No. 3 Cameron (10-5) vs. No. 6 Bridgeport (6-14).
No. 2 Bishop Donahue (10-4) vs. No. 7 Paden City (4-9).

BASEBALL OVAC QUARTERFINALS

All Games Scheduled for Tuesday at higher seed's field.

Class 4-A

No. 1 Steubenville (14-3) vs. No. 8 Buckeye Local (7-12).
No. 4 Cambridge (13-5) vs. No. 5 Edison (9-8).
No. 3 Weir (12-4) vs. No. 6 Wheeling Park (9-10).
No. 2 John Marshall (13-3) vs. No. 7 Brooke (8-11).

Class 3-A

No. 1 Harrison Central (13-4) vs. No. 8 Tyler Consolidated (3-14).
No. 4 Meadowbrook (10-8) vs. No. 6 Bellaire (8-8).

No. 3 Indian Creek (13-7) vs. No. 6 Union Local (5-11).
No. 2 St. Clairsville (12-5) vs. No. 7 Martins Ferry (4-12).

Class 2-A

No. 1 Wheeling Central (19-1) vs. No. 8 Wellsville (5-9).
No. 4 Toronto (13-7) vs. No. 5 Barnesville (12-4).
No. 3 Monroe Central (12-4) vs. No. 6 Steubenville Central (8-9).
No. 2 Fort Frye (17-1) vs. No. 7 Frontier (5-8).

Class 1-A

No. 1 Beallsville (12-3) vs. No. 8 Bishop Donahue (2-16).
No. 4 Cameron (11-8) vs. No. 5 Shadyside (10-8).
No. 3 Weirton Madonna (12-6) vs. No. 6 St. John (5-12).
No. 2 Linsly (12-5) vs. No. 7 Paden City (3-10).

And the pitch ...

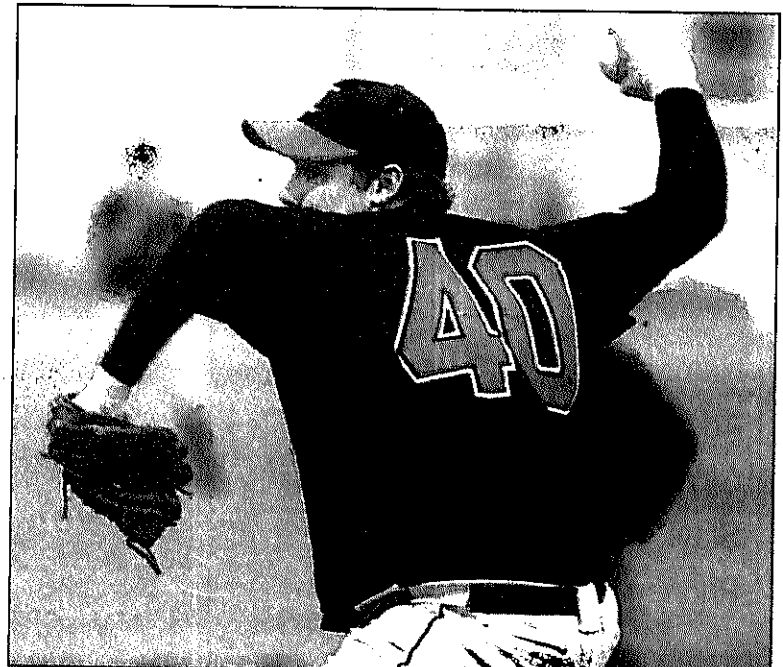


Photo by Alex Kozlowski
Linsly pitcher Bill Zavatsky delivers to the plate during action of the Cadet's OVAC Class A quarterfinal game against Paden City. Zavatsky gave up just two hits in an 11-1 victory.

OVAC BASEBALL SEMIFINALS

Saturday, April 30
Class AAAA
(at Brooke High School)
Wheeling Park vs. John Marshall, 11 a.m.
Cambridge vs. Steubenville, 2 p.m.

Class AA
(at Red Knight Baseball Complex, Toronto)
Barnesville vs. Wheeling Central, 11 a.m.
Linsly vs. Weirton Madonna, 2 p.m.

Class AAA
(at Mazerowski Field, Cadiz)
Harrison Central vs. Meadowbrook-Bellaire winner, 11 a.m.
Martins Ferry vs. Indian Creek, 2 p.m.

Class A
(at Perkins Field, Bridgeport)
Monroe Central vs. Fort Frye, 11 a.m.
Cameron vs. Beallsville, 2 p.m.

OVAC SOFTBALL SEMIFINALS

Today
(at Chambers I-470 Fields)
Martins Ferry vs. Magnolia
Bishop Donahue vs. Cameron, 4:15 p.m.

Linsly vs. Bellaire St. John's, 6 p.m.
Wheeling Central vs. Monroe Central, 6 p.m.
Steubenville Central vs. Fort Frye, 7 p.m.



Photo by Alex Kozlowski

Brooke second baseman Scott Bonaventura (4) makes a play to his left to get an out Tuesday against John Marshall in OVAC Class AAAA quarterfinal action. In the end, the Monarchs were able to get the best of the Bruins, 7-4, as Aaron Simmons and Bryan Berger both singled and doubled, knocking home one run each.

Schramm Keys Wheeling Park, 14-10

Patriot senior drives in four, earns win as Park eludes Weir

By CHRISTOPHER S. NASH
Staff Writer

Facing one of the top hitting teams in the Valley in the OVAC Tournament, Wheeling Park knew it needed a career day from starting pitcher E.J. Schramm to stay with Weir.

And Schramm gave them that career day, but not from the mound.

Schramm hit four singles and knocked in four runs, while pitching five innings to pick up the win as Wheeling Park (10-10) advanced with a 14-10 victory over the Red Riders (12-5), in the quarterfinals of the

OVAC Class AAAA Tournament Tuesday evening at a rainy drenched Cove Field in Weirton.

"It might be raining, but it is all sunshine for us right now," said Wheeling Park coach Doug Tush. "Weir is a very good baseball team and I couldn't be any prouder of my team right now."

Despite the overcast skies and steady rainfall throughout the game, both teams' hitters had no trouble tracking the ball.

The two clubs combined for 23 hits, including six extra-base hits and a pair of home runs.

"We hit the ball very well," said Tush. "We also played great defense. In conditions like this and not have an error? That is very good."

Chad Brown added two singles and plated a run for the Patriots, while

John Perry doubled and knocked in two runs.

Danny Caryl belted a single that knocked in two for Wheeling Park and Adam Lewton doubled.

"A lot of guys did the job when they were called on," said Tush. "They played very well today."

After scoring three runs in the first, the Patriots then chased out Weir starter Brian McNabb in the third inning with three more runs.

The Red Riders responded in the bottom of the fourth however, plating four runs to pull within one at 6-5.

But the hits just kept on coming for Wheeling Park as the Patriots scored at least one run in each inning the rest of the way.

When Schramm finally started to tire in the sixth, as Weir loaded the bases with no outs, Joe Caveney

stepped in to close the door.

Caveney allowed only one run in the inning, striking out two batters to keep Wheeling Park in front.

"It's tough to ask a kid to come in with the bases loaded like that," said Tush. "But he did a great job. Him and Schramm both pitched a great game."

Leading the offensive charge for the Red Riders was Tommy Martin with a triple, a home run and two RBIs, while Joe Quattrochi hit a single, a home run and played four runs.

"Tommy keeps in a lot of games with his defensive play," said Weir coach Bob Rosnick. "Tonight he brought his bat."

"He was a complete player tonight."

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Schramm

(Continued from Page 17)

Also for Weir, McNabb and Jack Crow each hit a pair of singles, while Joel Marino chased home a pair.

"We hit the ball well," said Rosnick. "But we didn't pitch very well or play defensive very well."

"But I think we are getting ready as far as sectionals go. We have been needing to hit the ball better and we hit the ball better tonight."

Wheeling Park now advances to play John Marshall, a 7-4 winner over Brooke, in the semifinals on Saturday.

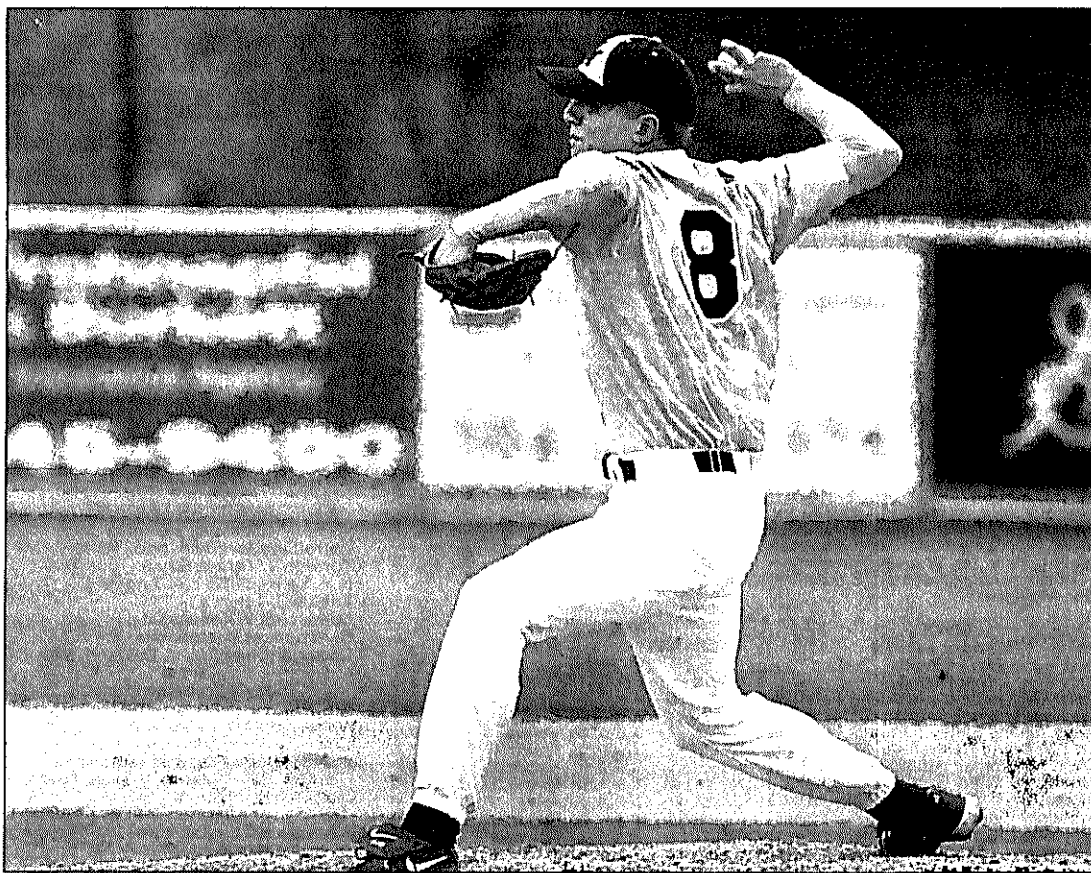


Photo by Alex Kozlowski

John Marshall's Cody Koontz deals to the plate Tuesday against Brooke.

JM Upends Brooke

Big Red blanks Buckeye Local in OVAC baseball action

Cody Koontz struck out eight and overcame wildness problems as John Marshall advanced to the OVAC semifinals by ousting Brooke 7-4 on Tuesday at Glen Dale.

Koontz, who had two singles in the game, walked six and needed relief help from Colby Mozingo during the sixth inning after issuing a pair of bases-loaded free passes.

Aaron Simmons and Bryan Berger both singled and doubled, knocking home one run each for the Monarchs. Joe Pettini rocketed a double for the Bruins (9-9).

John Marshall (16-3) will face Wheeling Park in Saturday's semifinals. The Patriots outscored 2004 West Virginia Class AA champion Weir by 14-10 in their quarterfinal contest.

Steubenville 12, Buckeye Local 0

At Steubenville, Big Red also moved into the semifinals behind the two-hit, seven-strikeout pitching of Tom Brown.

Steubenville (15-3) had its 10-hit attack sparked by Gary Stubbs and Matt Belardine. Stubbs collected three RBIs on a pair of singles while Belardine doubled and also drove home three tallies. Chad Bauman checked in with two singles and an RBI. Stan Dobranetski had both Buckeye Local hits.

Big Red faces Cambridge, a 3-1 winner over Edison, in this weekend's semifinals.

Cambridge 3, Edison 1

At Cambridge, "Bear" Holden and Ricky Harvey combined to stop Edison on six hits and lift Cambridge into a semifinal matchup against Big Red.

Edison (9-9) had two doubles from Kyle Wilson and one by Kyle Keeder.

OVAC Class AAA Quarterfinals Harrison Central 10, Tyler Consolidated 0

At Cadiz, Harrison Central improved its record to 14-4 as Mark Dulkoski shut out Tyler Consolidated on five hits, striking out eight.

Matt Bear's two doubles plated two runs for the Huskies, while Ben Hodkinson singled in a pair.

Indian Creek 8, Union Local 3

At Wintersville, Indian Creek scored five runs in the bottom of the sixth inning to break a 3-3 tie and assure itself of a berth in Saturday's OVAC semifinals.

The Redskins, improving to

TBA

■ OVAC baseball semifinals will be played Saturday. Sites and times have yet to be announced.

14-7, got three hits, including a double, and two RBIs from Tim Ohalek, while Rocco Auteri singled twice to also drive home a pair. Lucas Williams added an RBI double, supporting the eight-hit pitching of Jacob Gasser. Seven errors also paved the way for Union Local's downfall.

OVAC Class AA Quarterfinals

Monroe Central 11, Steubenville Central 8

At Woodsfield, winning pitcher Chris Jeffers belted a grand slam, and freshman Ryan Highman also homered to spark Monroe Central's opening round victory in the OVAC Class AA tournament.

Steubenville Central jumped in front 4-0 in the first inning but the Seminoles scored five times in the third and added four more on Jeffers' slam in the fifth inning to take control of the game.

David Spelman and Chris Leasure added two singles and two RBIs each for Monroe Central, which will face the Fort Frye-Frontier winner in the quarterfinals. Rain wiped out that game Tuesday time and the two teams are hoping to play tonight at Beverly.

The Crusaders got home runs from Ryan Constantini and Zac Hawrot but still came up three runs short.

Barnesville 9, Toronto 4

At Toronto, visiting Barnesville gained an early lead and held off Toronto in their quarterfinal matchup played at the Red Knight Baseball Complex.

Chris Wells had three hits, while Van Wilson knocked in two with a pair of singles for Barnesville, which scored five runs in the first inning. Toronto dropped to 13-8 although Sean Lucas singled and tripled to pick up one RBI. Mike Freshwater singled and doubled for Toronto.

OVAC Class A Quarterfinals Linsly 11, Paden City 1

At Wheeling, Billy Zavatsky fired a two-hitter, striking out eight and walking just two to lead Linsly into the OVAC A

semifinals.

The five-inning win over Paden City boosted the Cadets' record to 13-5, while the Wildcats fell to 3-11.

Zavatsky also contributed offensively with two singles, a home run and three RBIs. Jason Pyles chased home four runs with a single and triple. Both Paden City hits were first-inning singles by Justin Grimes and Bobby Sellers.

Beallsville 12, Bishop Donahue 2

At Beallsville, Tony Stephens contributed with three hits and four RBIs to support the two-hit pitching of Jordan Turner as Beallsville (14-3) eliminated Bishop Donahue.

The Blue Devils, who will face Cameron in the semifinals, also got three doubles and two RBI by Turner, while Bryan Bilyeu chipped in with a two-run single.

Cameron 7, Shadyside 6

At Cameron, after Shadyside rallied for six runs in the top of the seventh to take a one-run lead, Cameron scored a pair in the bottom of the frame to escape with the victory.

A leadoff walk eventually led to the tying run on a throwing error. The Dragons then utilized another walk, Brandon Rush's single and a late throw home on Eric Coe's dribbler to second to tally the game-winner.

Josh Stephens belted a home run and Bart Bonar a three-run double in the top of the seventh to bring Shadyside (10-9) from behind.

Rush finished the game with two RBIs as he singled twice and homered. Travis Smith had a single and two RBIs.

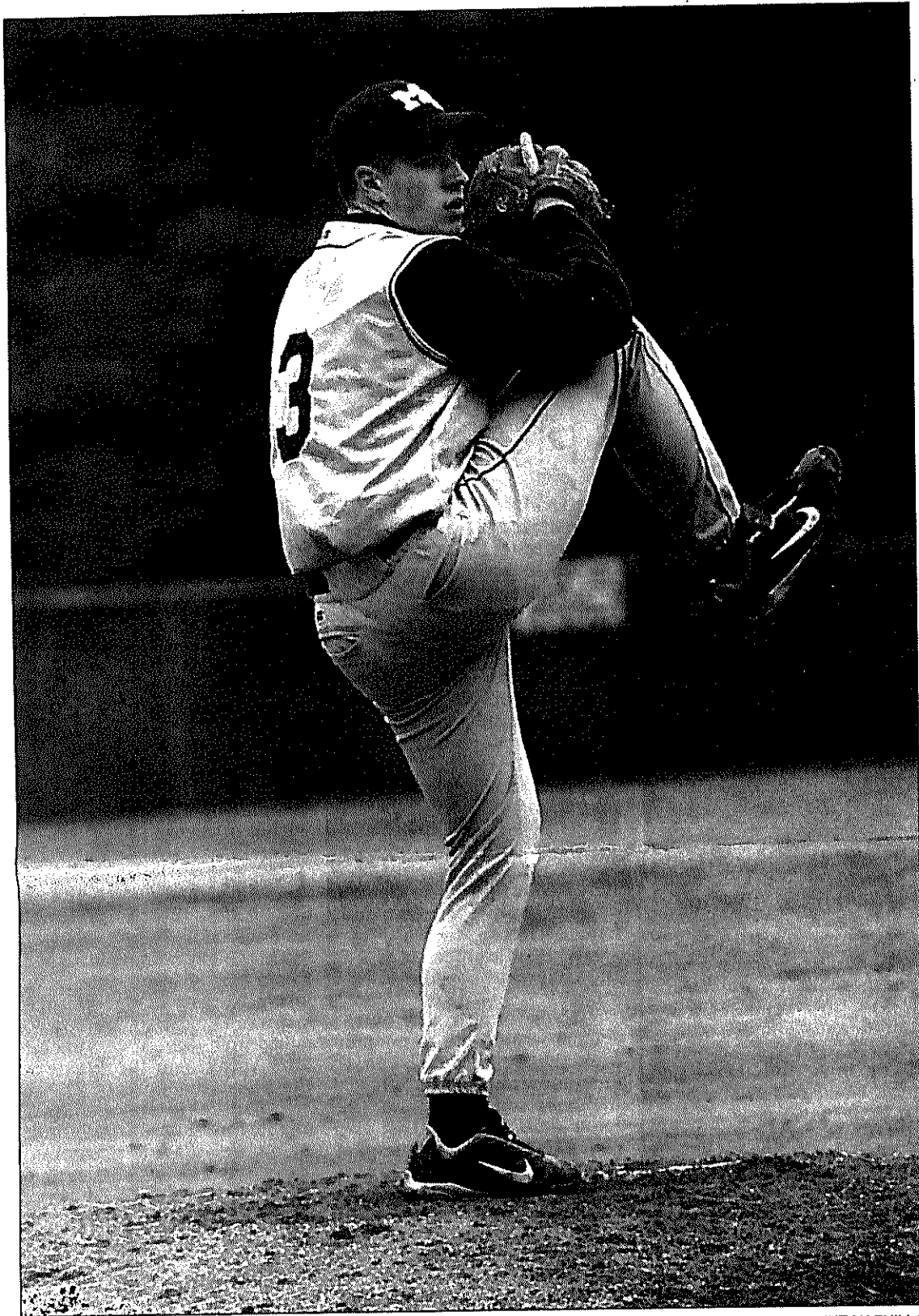
Cameron (12-8) will next face Beallsville in the single-A semifinals.

Regular Season Valley 10, Hundred 3, Hundred 7, Valley 2 (Sinn.)

At Pine Grove, rebounding from a 10-3 loss to Valley in the completion of a suspended contest that started on April 1, Hundred took the second game, which was halted by darkness after the fifth inning.

Jared Martin singled twice and doubled twice in Valley's opening win that also saw Chad Stackpole single twice and double.

Hundred's victory came on the strength of Josh Gump's five-hit pitching.



T-L Photo/MIKE HARVILLA

FIRING A pitch to the plate during Tuesday's OVAC quarterfinal game against St. Clairsville is Martins Ferry's Zac Fairbanks. The Purple Riders advanced with a 5-2 win.

Ferry eliminates St. Clairsville in OVAC tourney

By **SETH STASKEY**
Times Leader Sports Writer

There's a reason why they play the games.

Seventh-seeded Martins Ferry found itself facing an up-hill task against second-seeded St. Clairsville Tuesday night in the quarterfinals of the Ohio Valley Athletic Conference Tournament at Memorial Park.

It was a task the Purple Riders seemed to relish as they ousted the Red Devils, 5-2, to advance to the semifinals at a site to be determined.

"We've had a few ugly games, but we have lost a lot of heart-breakers, so it feels real good to get one go our way," said Purple Riders' manager Jason Marling. "We got good pitching, good defense and timely hitting and that's what you need when you get into the post-season."

While the Riders are awaiting Indian Creek in the Class 3-A semifinals Saturday at a site to be determined, the Red Devils are now preparing for the sectional tournament where they will play Monday at Vacarro Field against Carrollton.

"We just have to suck it up now," said disappointed St. C. manager Tom Sliva following the game. "We had chances tonight, but we just couldn't come up with a big hit. So, we just have to get ready for a pretty good Carrollton team."

Ferry — which never trailed in the game — grabbed a 4-1 lead after three innings. From there, it became the Zac Fairbanks show.

"Zac pitched a great game," Marling said. "I thought he threw well enough to win the last time we played these guys, but tonight we made some plays behind him."

The Rider southpaw worked the distance, fanning seven and walking one. During the middle innings, he sat down eight in a row.

"We had runners on in the first and third and hit into a double play each time," Sliva lamented. "We were just never able to get over the hump, and you have to give Fairbanks credit for that."

Martins Ferry struck for two runs in the top of the second against St. C. senior starter Josh Graham.

After recording the first out in relatively easy fashion, Corey Gentile roped a double down the left-field line. Gerald Ray followed with a double of his own that plated Gentile.

After a strikeout, frosh Derek Edwards drew a two-out walk, bring senior Chian Florio singled home Ray.

St. Clairsville got a run back in the bottom half of the inning when Graham raced home on a wild pitch.

He singled and took second when Justin Sabo singled. Fairbanks was called for a balk, moving both runners up 90 feet. He then uncorked the wild pitch and Graham slide safely under the tag.

Martins Ferry was unphased. The Riders continued their offensive onslaught in the third.

Fairbanks and Chris Lovall drew back-to-back walks to start the third. Caleb Statler then singled to load the sacks. Gentile bounced into an unconventional 1-5-3 double play, scoring Fairbanks. Ray then came through with a RBI single, scoring Richardson.

The Purple tacked on an insurance run in the fifth. Ray

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● Riders

Continued from Page B1

connected on a one-out single. He advanced to third and eventually scored on a throwing error in the Devil infield.

St. Clairsville's final run came in the sixth of the unearned variety. Graham singled home Zac Sikole who reached on a wild pitch on the third strike.

Graham suffered the loss for the Devils. He worked three-and-a-third. He was touched up for four runs, three earned runs and 10 hits. He fanned three and walked just as many.

Jon Vensel was strong in relief after coming on for Graham. He fanned four in the game.

The Riders were led at the plate by Edwards who had a double. Florio had a pair of base hits. Ray had three hits and two RBI.

St. Clairsville received two hits from junior lead-off hitter Adam Stewart and junior shortstop Josh Waggle.

Linescore:
Martins Ferry 022 010 0 5 11 2
St. Clairsville 010 001 0 2 8 4
BATTERIES: Fairbanks and Zabitski. Graham, Vensel (4) and Myser.

Steubenville, Wheeling Central, Linsly advance in baseball tourney

FOR THE TIMES LEADER

Lee Bainbridge blasted two solo home runs and Tom Brown turned in a solid outing on the mound as Steubenville advanced to the OVAC Class AAAA baseball championship game with a 6-1 victory over Cambridge Saturday afternoon in Wellsburg.

Big Red now advances to play the winner of the other semifinal contest between John Marshall and Wheeling Park.

The championship game will take place on Saturday at Vaccaro Field in Steubenville.

For Big Red (19-3), Brown was nearly perfect in keeping the Bobcats' batters off balance by serving up a balanced dose of fastballs and well-placed breaking balls.

He surrendered only three hits in seven innings of work, striking out 10 batters in the process against three walks.

His only mistake pitch came during the fourth inning when Cambridge's Johnny Jones bashed a solo home run over the fence in left-center, resulting in the Bobcats' lone run.

"Tom was really sharp today," Steubenville head coach Fred Heatherington explained. "That was probably the best he's been this season."

The defense was solid behind him as well, committing only one error in the fifth inning that failed to result in a run.

Playing solid defense was just one of two main keys Heatherington discussed with his club before the start of the game.

The other, early run production, was taken care of in the first inning.

After Brown sat down the Bobcats in order to start the first, Chad Bauman was beamed by Cambridge pitcher Bear Holdren to start the bottom of the first.

Bauman then motored around to third when Holdren's attempted pick off throw got away from the first baseman, giving Big Red an early scoring opportunity.

Sophomore Zac Collaros seized that opportunity the next at-bat, smacking a ground ball single through the gap at short, easily scoring Bauman from third.

Bauman advanced to second on a passed ball, which was followed by a walk of Lee

Bainbridge. The two then advanced to third and second respectively on another passed ball.

Then Kyle Filtz and Brown hit back-to-back grounders to second that scored both Collaros and Bainbridge on successive plays for an early 3-0 advantage.

"We wanted to play good defense today because of the field conditions and we had a goal of getting some runs early," Heatherington said. Constant rains canceled many of the games around the area on Saturday, including the John Marshall vs. Wheeling Park match-up that was scheduled to begin at 11 a.m.

Big Red struck again in the third innings when Bainbridge hit a towering one-out shot off of Holdren over the fence in left-center, his seventh of the season.

Following a Filtz ground-out to third, Brown smacked a double off the fence in right center.

No. 6 hitter Gary Stubbs followed suit, placing a two-bagger in nearly the same spot as Brown's, scoring the Big Red pitcher.

Stubbs moved to third on another passed ball but was left stranded when Holdren got Jason McKeegan to fly out to right, ending the inning.

Cambridge finally got on the board when Jones hit his shot to lead off the top of the fifth, but Big Red quickly answered.

Leading off the home half of the fifth, Bainbridge went deep off of Holdren again with another solo blast to left-center for Steubenville's sixth and final run of the day.

Big Red opens up Ohio Division II sectional play on Thursday when they take on the winner of Tuesday's Buckeye Local vs. East Liverpool contest.

"We wanted to finish up the week with a win," Heatherington said. "Now we have four days of practice to get ready for the sectionals and hopefully we can carry this momentum into the playoffs."

Game Notes:

Bainbridge, who finished 2-2 with one walk and an intentional walk, now has eight home runs this season ... Kirk Wetherell had a double for Cambridge and Ryan Kafury had the Bobcats' other hit with a single.

OVAC Class AAAA Semifinal

(At Wellsburg)
Cambridge 000 100 0 -- 13 1
Steubenville 302 010 x -- 6 7 1

BATTERIES: Holdren, Ingstrum (5) and Harvey. Brown and Mort.

WHEELING CENTRAL and Linsly advanced to respective OVAC Class A finals Saturday afternoon at the Red Knight Baseball Complex in Toronto.

CENTRAL got to the 2-A title game via a 9-3 victory over Barnesville.

Szeligo was the mound winner and had a double, single and two RBI, while Popicg had a double, single and four RBI. Chris Zambito socked a double and a single.

Barnesville was led by Bud Hines who had two singles. Chris Wells had a two-run double and Cameron Shreve drove in a run.

LINSLY took advantage of five Madonna errors to earn revenge for last year's title game, scoring a 11-5 victory to advance in the 1-A tourney.

The Cadets got a strong pitching effort from Addison Scherich who struck out 10 and walked six. He had a triple at the plate.

Jason Pyles socked a two-run single and Pavlock had two singles, a triple and a RBI. Tyler Jividen had four singles and a run batted in.

Linescores:
Barnesville 000 120 0 3 5 1
Wheeling Central 500 121 x 9 10 1
BATTERIES: Miller, Shreve (6) and Hines. Szeligo, Mull (6) and Sengewalt.
Weirton Madonna 320 000 0 5 6 5
Linsly 135 020 x 11 18 3
BATTERIES: Hall and Gianni. Scherick and Wilson.

OVAC schedule altered

Due to the weather, the OVAC has had to alter its schedule of semifinal baseball and championship softball games that were slated for today.

The baseball tournament resumes Wednesday with Wheeling Park and John Marshall will meet at 4:30 p.m. at Brooke. The second game that night will be Indian Creek against Martins Ferry at 7 p.m.

Bellaire and Harrison Central will meet Thursday at 6 p.m. at Brooke in the other 3-A semifinal.

The OVAC softball tournament will resume Monday with the 2-A championship game, finding Steubenville CC and Wheeling Central meeting.

The Edison and John Marshall game will be held at 4:30 p.m. and the St. John Central-Cameron 1-A final will be held at 6:30 p.m.

Huskies blank Tyler

By DONNIE YEAGER
Times Leader Sports Writer

Harrison Central advantage of nine Tyler Consolidated errors to knock off the visiting Silver Knights, 10-0, in a rainy five-inning affair Tuesday night in Cadiz.

Mark Dulkoski picked up the OVAC quarterfinal win on the mound, pitching five scoreless innings for his second shutout of the season.

Huskies' head coach Mike Saffell was pleased with the effort that improved his team to 14-4.

"We played well. We made the plays when we had to. Mark pitched another good game, and it was his second shutout of the season. When they made mistakes we just tried to capitalize on it."

The first inning ended quickly for the Knights offensively as Dulkoski sat the initial three batters.

The Huskies took advantage of three errors from the Silver and Black to plate runs by Dan Milleson, Dulkoski, and Cody Smith in the first inning for a quick three zero lead.

The second would go quickly as the Knights still couldn't get anything started getting one hit in the frame, while the Huskies would fail to capitalize on Tyler's fourth inning of the young game in the second. The Knights did get another batter on base in the third as Robbie Rine singled and reached second on a passed ball, but the hit was sandwiched between a pair of Dulkoski K's and a Bobby Koerber fly out to left to keep the runner at bay.

Harrison went on the offensive again in their half of the frame.

Things started with Donald Norris walking on the first at bat. Matt Bear then ripped an RBI triple to send Norris home, and would score on an RBI single by Brandon Ludwig. Knights pitcher Adam Koontz recorded a K for the first out of the inning, but Trevor McCue then reached on another Knights error that also advanced Ludwig to second.

Both runners then advanced on a passed ball before Milleson was beamed to load the bases. Ben Hodkinson then knocked a two RBI single. Koontz settled down getting a fly out and strike-out while walking one more batter to get out of the inning.

As the rain continued to pour down, Dulkoski walked Drew Moore in the top of the fourth to give the Knights a base runner, but the pitcher quickly found his control again in the elements, striking out the next two batters before getting Zak Beaver to ground into a fielders choice to end the fourth. Bear reached base on an error to open things for the Cadiz based school, but the next two Huskies batters lined out.

Trevor McCue again reached on an error that also sent Bear across the plate, then Milleson sent him home with an RBI double. Two more Knight errors pushed Milleson home for the final run that the Huskies would need.

Tyler rallied in the fifth with three straight singles, but a heads up play by Dulkoski caught Anthony Wells sleeping, picking him off first. The pitcher then recorded his final K of the day to invoke the mercy rule, giving the Huskies the win, 10-0.

See, HUSKIES, Page B2

Huskies

Continued from Page B1

"It was ugly," stated Knights coach John Rush. "I don't know if that is official or not, but nine errors. We beat ourselves. You can't give up five or six outs in an inning to a good team, and they took advantage of it."

Harrison Central returns to action Thursday night at Claymont. The Silver Knights drop to 3-15 and hit the road to face Parkersburg tonight.

Linescore:
TYLER CONSOLIDATED 000 0 0 0 5 9
HARRISON CENTRAL 304 4 X 10 7 0
Batteries: Moore and Beaver. Dulkoski and Boggs, Moore (5).

Central Gets By Linsly

Knights, Cadets trying to stay sharp

By MIKE HUGHES
Staff Writer

Eric Anthony struck out five batters and surrendered only three hits as Wheeling Central hung on to defeat rival Linsly 5-2 Wednesday evening at Patterson Field in Wheeling.

Anthony had a no-hitter through three 3 1/2 innings before Addison Scherich blooped a two-out single into shallow right in the fourth.

Cruising right along, Anthony was removed after the fifth inning in what Central head coach Jim Wodusky described as a pre-game decision.

Eric pitched a fine game," Wodusky said. "He gave us five solid innings but we decided before the game that we wanted to get Andrew (Dailer) some innings.

"The guys like to get some work on a regular rotation so they can keep their rhythm."

The Maroon Knights went to work early to provide Anthony with some run support.

Noah Mull led off the game with dribbler back to the mound where Cadets' starter Corey Barill scooped up the ball and fired to first a bit too late.

Matt Ball followed with a double into the gap in right-center that found its way under the fence for a double.

Next up, Ricky Szeligo laced a double off the fence in center that scored both Mull and Ball, giving the Maroon Knights an early 2-0 lead.

Central tacked on what proved to be the game-winning run the following inning.

With nobody on, No. 9 hitter Tom Sengewalt ripped a two-out double to down the third-base line that skipped over the bag and into left field.

Tyler Miller came on as a courtesy runner and scored when Mull's grounder wasn't fielded cleanly, resulting in an error.

The score remained the same until the fifth inning when an RBI single from Jack Palmer scored Ball.

Later, Szeligo came home on a fielder's choice in the seventh inning.

Central finished with eight hits, two apiece from Ball and Sengewalt, but half of that total came during the first two innings.

As the innings progressed, the bats began to quiet for the Knights.

"We started becoming impatient at the plate," Wodusky said.

Linsly, on the other hand, was making solid contact with the ball, but unfortunately for the Cadets, they were hitting right at Central.

With one out in the first, Brad Nickerson and Jason Pyles drew back-to-back walks to give Linsly two baserunners.

But Bill Zavatsky lined a hard shot to right field, which was followed by a deep fly-ball out to center from Patrick Ohrman, ending the inning.

Linsly had chances during the middle innings, but baserunning errors brought about the end of two potential scoring opportunities.

Still, like any Gary Sprague-coached team, the Cadets didn't go away and made a sizeable dent in the Knights' 5-0 lead in the seventh.

Steve Pavlock led off with a single and advanced to second on a ground-out from Ross Tomer.

Tyler Jividen then hit a single into center field that scored Pavlock from second. Jividen advanced to second on the throw home.

Two batters later, Pyles hit a grounder to short that Szeligo was unable to come up with cleanly, allowing Jividen to score.

But Andrew Dailer got Zavatsky to fly out to left to end the game, with Central on top 5-2.

Next up for the Maroon Knights is a Saturday meeting with Barnesville in an OVAC Class AA semifinal contest.

Linsly, also still alive in the Class A tournament, will take on Weirton Madonna.

Tigers Down Malvern

Barnesville falls in sectional

Mike Meintel led Shadyside from the mound and from the plate as the Tigers downed Malvern 6-0 in an Ohio Division IV sectional final at Red Knight baseball complex in Toronto.

Meintel went the distance on the hill fanning six and allowing only two hits.

From the box, Meintel singled, doubled, hit a home run and plated three runs.

Cliff Francis added a double for the Tigers, while Luke Horvath also doubled with an RBI.

Ohio Division III Sectional (at Sally Buffalo State Park, Cadiz) Indian Valley 10, Barnesville 5

Barnesville surrendered 13 hits in a loss to Indian Valley.

Todd Miller singled, doubled and knocked in two runs for the Shamrocks (15-7), while Chris Wells and Cameron Shreve each plated a run.

For Indian Valley, Dakota Stein smacked two singles and knocked in three runs.

Regular Season Bishop Donahue 13, Valley 2

At McMechen, A.J. Gordon hit a single, a double and a home run as Bishop Donahue cruised past Valley.

For the Lumberjacks, Justin Bucher singled and hit a two-run home run.

Cameron 12, Bridgeport 2

Matt Coe blasted two home runs and totaled four RBIs as Cameron eased past Bridgeport.

Cody Lance added a three run home run for the Dragons, while Brandon Rush smacked two singles and knocked in two runs.

For the Bulldogs, Mike Muciewicz hit two singles and chased in a run.

OVAC AAA Semifinal (at Brooke High School, Wellsburg)

Harrison Central 16, Bellaire 7

Ben Hodkinson hit three singles and knocked in three runs and Harrison Central had innings



Brooke coach Jim Cicchirillo in the bag during action of the Br I, Section I tournament game 470 Complex. Awaiting a throw man Courtney McGilton.

of 4, 5 and 6 runs to get past Bellaire and advance to the OVAC finals.

Dan Milleson added two singles and plated a run for the Huskies, Brandon Ludewig singled, doubled and knocked in two runs.

The Big Reds got help from Mike Fisher with a grand slam.

Harrison Central will now play Martins Ferry for the OVAC Class AAA crown at 1 p.m. on Saturday at Vaccaro Field.

Brooke 9,

Weirton Madonna 8

At Wellsburg, Donte Fuscardo doubled, tripled and chased in four runs as Brooke rallied in the seventh for a win over Weirton Madonna.

Also for the Bruins, D.J. Shorts hit two singles and plated a run, while Joe Pettini doubled, tripled and drove in a run.

The Blue Dons' Anthony Gianni hit two singles and a three-run home run.

SOFTBALL

W.Va. Region One, Section One

Wheeling Central 9, Bishop Donahue 3

At Wheeling, Valerie Palmer hit a single and two triples as Wheeling Central downed Bishop Donahue in its opener of the West Virginia Class A Region One, Section One tournament.

Also for the Maroon Knights, Kayla Gray hit four singles and knocked in four runs, while Angelo Petros singled, tripled and plated two runs.

Danielle Block paced the Bishops with a pair of singles.

Steubenville ousts Buckeye Local

AT VACCARRO FIELD, Steubenville Big Red began its OVAC 4-A tournament in a big way, scoring a 12-0 five-inning victory over Buckeye Local.

Junior Tom Brown recorded the mound win with seven strikeouts and he allowed nary a walk.

Chad Bauman had two singles and a RBI. Gary Stubbs connected on two singles and drove in three runs. Jason McKeegan had two singles and a RBI. Matt Bellardine had a double and three RBI.

Stan Dobranetski -- who suffered the mound loss -- had two singles to lead the Panthers.

Big Red will play Catholic Central today and will face Cambridge in the semifinals of the OVAC tournament Saturday at a site to be determined.

CLASS 3-A

CREEK 8 UNION LOCAL 3

AT WINTERSVILLE, the Redskins broke out an 11-hit attack to pocket the OVAC quarterfinal victory.

The Redskins are now 14-7.

Tim O'Halek led the hosts with two singles, double and two

RBI.

Dustin Kolanski paced Union Local with two singles while Andrew Schmidt launched a double. Kelvin Girt produced an RBI single for the Jets.

CLASS 2-A

MONROE CENTRAL 11 STEUBENVILLE CC 8

AT WOODSFIELD, Monroe Central advanced to the semifinals of the Class 2-A OVAC tournament by virtue of a 11-8 win over Steubenville Central.

Chris Jeffers picked up the mound win for the Seminoles. He worked the route, fanning five and walking two. He helped his own cause in a big way with a grand slam in the third inning.

Ryan Highman also played long ball with a solo shot. He came through with a single as well. David Speelman and Chris Leasure each had two singles and two RBI.

Tyler Graham had two singles.

Steubenville Central was led by Brian Constantini who had two singles and a solo home run. Zac Hawrot had a three-run

home run and a single.

Freshman Brian DeFranco had a single, double and a RBI, while Luca Call added a single and a double.

BARNESVILLE 9 TORONTO 4

IN THE GEM CITY, the Shamrocks rode the strong pitching of Tony Yarnall to victory.

Chris Wells added three hits to the winning attack while Van Wilson had two singles and two RBI.

Sean Lucas tripled and singled for Toronto.

OVAC 1-A

LINSLY 11 PADEN CITY 1

AT PATTERSON FIELD, Linsly exploded for 11 runs in five innings to produce an 11-1 final count on Tuesday evening's OVAC 1-A quarter final.

The Cadet's Bill Zavatsky was extraordinary both from the mound and the plate. On the hill, Zavatsky struck out eight and walked two. He also slammed a home run and two singles, resulting in three RBI for Linsly.

Other pivotal players for

Linsly included Jason Pyles who connected for both a triple and a single and four impressive RBI. Brad Nickerson managed two hits and Patrick Ohrman with a single, each with a RBI.

Justin Grimes and Bobby Sellers each connected for a hit for Paden City.

Linsly goes into the semifinals with a 13-5 record.

CAMERON 7 SHADYSIDE 6

AT CAMERON, the Tigers erupted for six runs in the top of the seventh inning to take a short-lived 6-5 lead as the Dragons answered for two runs in the bottom of the seventh to gain the OVAC quarterfinal win.

Josh Stephens slammed a home run in the seventh while Bart Bonar gave the Orange the lead via a three-run double. The loss dropped Shadyside to 10-0.

MADONNA 13 ST. JOHN'S 1

AT WEIRTON, Madonna scored seven times in the second-inning en route to a five frame win.

Cody McCormick had an RBI single for St. John's.

OVAC Class AA Semifinals Fort Frye 11, Monroe Central 5

At Beverly, it will be Fort Frye (20-1) vs. Wheeling Central (23-1) in Saturday's Ohio Valley Athletic Conference Class AA championship game at Ang Vaccaro Field in Steubenville.

The Cadets earned their way into the title game by taking a 9-0 lead on Monroe Central in the first two innings and cruising to victory.

Tyler Engle blasted a home run, added a single and drove in three runs for Fort Frye. His homer was a three-run shot in the second inning. Garrett Fleming picked up a single and two RBIs, followed by Jeremy Barton and Jeff Mendenhall with two hits each.

Monroe Central, now 13-5, got a home run from Nathan Langsdorf.





Inside

Linescores from Wednesday's action.

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Cambridge, Barnesville drop OVAC semifinal tilts

Bobcats fall to Steubenville, 6-1; Shamrocks lose to Wheeling Central, 9-3

JEFF HARRISON
THE DAILY JEFFERSONIAN

Steubenville and Wheeling Central lived up to their No. 1 positions in the Ohio Valley Athletic Conference baseball playoffs, scoring victories over local semifinalists Cambridge and Barnesville, respectively, on Saturday.

Steubenville advanced to the Class 4-A championship game with a 6-1 victory against Cambridge at the Brooke High School diamond in Wellsburg, W. Va. while Wheeling Central disposed of Barnesville by a 9-3 count at Toronto High School's Red Knight Complex.

The start of both games was delayed by the weather, with Cambridge starting an hour later than originally scheduled while Barnesville's game was pushed back three hours. The only other game to be completed Saturday saw Linsly defeat Weirton Madonna, 11-5, in a Class 1-A semifinal at Toronto.

The rest of the semifinals will be worked into the schedule this week. Three games have tentatively been scheduled at Brooke, with John Marshall playing Wheeling Park in Class 4-A on Wednesday at 4:30; Martins Ferry taking on Indian Creek on Wednesday at 7; and Bellaire opposing Harrison Central in Class 3-A on Thursday at 6. The two games slated at Bridgeport — Monroe Central against Fort Frye

in Class 2-A and Cameron against Beallsville in Class 1-A — had not yet been rescheduled.

All four championship games are slated at Vaccaro Field in Steubenville on Saturday, beginning at 11 a.m. with the Class 1-A championship followed by Class 2-A at 2 p.m.; Class 3-A at 5 p.m.; and Class 4-A at 8 p.m.

At Wellsburg, Steubenville ace hurler Tom Brown limited Cambridge (16-7) to just three hits to lead Big Red (19-3) to its 13th straight victory. Brown finished with nine strikeouts and three walks.

Steubenville struck for three runs in the bottom of the first inning and never looked back. Chad Bauman reached via a hit batsman; moved to third on an errant pickoff attempt and scored on an RBI single by Zach Collaros for the first tally while Kyle Filtz and Brown knocked in runs with groundouts.

In the third frame, Big Red boosted its lead to 5-0, scoring on a one-out home run by Lee Bainbridge and then getting back-to-back two-out doubles from Brown and Gary Stubbs, with Stubbs collecting an RBI.

Cambridge got its only tally in the top of the fourth when junior Johnny Jones belted a solo home run, cutting the gap to 5-1.

Big Red added another run in the fifth frame on Bainbridge's second round-tripper of the contest. "It came down to the fact that we faced a qual-

ity pitcher who led them to the state tournament last year and he pitched a good game with only one mistake," Cambridge coach Paul Arick stated. "He had nine strikeouts, so his defense didn't have to work too hard, and he hit the corners on us and got stronger at the end.

"It's hard to be down 3-0 to the number nine team in the state," Arick said of the early deficit.

"It's like running in sand trying to get back into it."

Cambridge starter Bear Holdren (5-1) suffered his first loss of the season, striking out one and walking three before giving way to Zach Engstrom in the fifth. Engstrom had posted one K and issued one free pass.

In addition to Jones' home run, Kirk Wetherell smacked a double and Ryan Kafury had a single.

At Toronto, Wheeling Central (22-1) struck for five runs in the first inning before the diamond dust had even soaked in.

Noah Mull led off for the Maroon Knights with a hanging double to left and after a walk to Matt Ball, pitcher Ricky Szeligo ripped a two-run double to right-center. A fielder's choice, walk and hit batsman loaded the bases with two outs when designated hitter Eli Popicg delivered one to right-center that wound up as a three-run double when the fielder slipped down in the wet grass.

That gave Wheeling Central a 5-0 cushion and Szeligo kept Barnesville scoreless until the top of

the fourth inning when back-to-back walks to Chris Wells and Buddy Hines; a wild pitch and a sacrifice fly-RBI by Cameron Shreve got the 'Rocks within 5-1. The Knights got that run back in the bottom of the fourth, however, when Mull ripped a triple and scored on a sac fly-RBI by Ball.

Barnesville (14-6) made some two-out noise in the fifth frame. Adam Marmie and Colin Hudson reached on consecutive infield hits before Wells belted a two-run double to left-center. An error and a walk loaded the bases, but Szeligo got out of the jam with a strikeout to keep the Shamrocks at arm's length, down 6-3.

Wheeling Central again answered, getting two in the bottom of the fifth on a double by Chris Zambito; an RBI single by Popicg and an RBI double by Mull to extend the margin to 8-3.

After Barnesville failed to score in the top of the sixth with the bases loaded and one out thanks to two Ks by Central reliever Mull, the Knights tacked on an insurance tally in the sixth thanks to two walks; a double steal and an infield error.

Mull and Popicg did major damage for Wheeling Central, with Mull collecting a triple, two doubles and an RBI while Popicg had a double, single and

See OVAC page B-3



CAMBRIDGE



BARNESVILLE

Barnesville falls in OVAC 3-A semis

OVAC from page B-1

five RBI. Szeligo contributed a double, single and two RBI and Zambito had a double and single. Hines had Barnesville's only multi-hit game with two singles.

Szeligo earned the mound victory with six strike-out and four walks while Mull collected five Ks, two walks and a hit batsman in relief. Barnesville starter Todd Miller (2-1) took the loss with five strikeouts, six walks and two hit batsmen. Shreve pitched the sixth inning and recorded one K.

"They beat us in every facet of the game," veteran Barnesville coach Brad Wilson commented. "They out-pitched us...out-hit us...and out-fielded us. We only had five hits and three of those were squibblers. We still had plenty of opportunities, but

had nine or 10 basemenets left on.

"You can't give the number one team in West Virginia five runs in the first inning," Wilson conceded. "Take that away and it's a 4-3 game. There were a couple of times when we were a hit or two away from tying it up, but they made the pitches and the plays they needed to win."

NEXT—Barnesville launches Division III Sectional Tournament play at Mazeroski Field in Cadiz on Monday against Union Local, with game time at 5 p.m. Cambridge has a regular season encounter with Indian Valley at Gnadenhuetten at 4:30 and will make its tournament debut Thursday at 4:30 p.m. in the Division II Sectional at Steubenville against Indian Creek.

HIGH SCHOOL BASEBALL

Brown Solid for Steubenville

Pitcher tosses three-hitter as Big Red downs Cambridge

By MIKE HUGHES
Staff Writer

Lee Bainbridge blasted two solo home runs and Tom Brown turned in a solid outing on the mound as Steubenville advanced to the OVAC Class AAAA baseball championship game with a 6-1 victory over Cambridge Saturday afternoon in Wellsburg.

Big Red now advances to play the winner of Wednesday's semifinal game between John Marshall and Wheeling Park.

The championship game will take place on Saturday at Vacarro Field in Steubenville.

For Big Red (19-3), Brown was nearly perfect in keeping the Bobcats' batters off balance by serving up a balanced dose of fastballs and well-placed breaking balls.

He surrendered only three hits in seven innings of work, striking out 10 batters against three walks.

His only mistake came during the fourth inning when Cambridge's Johnny Jones bashed a solo home run over the fence in left-center to account for the Bobcats' lone run.

"Tom was really sharp today," Steubenville head coach Fred Heatherington said. "That was probably the best he's been this season."

The defense was solid behind him as well, committing only one error in the fifth inning that failed to result in a run.

Playing solid defense was just one of two main keys Heatherington discussed with his club before the start of the game.

The other, early run production, was taken care of in the first inning.

After Brown sat down the Bobcats in order to start the first, Chad Bauman was beamed by Cambridge pitcher Bear Holdren to start the bottom of the first.

Bauman then motored around to third when Holdren's attempted pick off throw got away from

"Tom was really sharp today. That was probably the best he's been this season."

Fred Heatherington

the first baseman, giving Big Red an early scoring opportunity.

Sophomore Zac Collaros seized that opportunity the next at-bat, smacking a ground ball single through the gap at short, easily scoring Bauman from third.

Bauman advanced to second on a passed ball, which was followed by a walk of Lee Bainbridge. The two then advanced to third and second respectively on another passed ball.

Then Kyle Filtz and Brown hit back-to-back grounders to second that scored both Collaros and Bainbridge on successive plays for an early 3-0 advantage.

"We wanted to play good defense today because of the field conditions and we had a goal of getting some runs early," Heatherington said.

Constant rains postponed many of the games around the area on Saturday, including the John Marshall-Wheeling Park matchup that was scheduled to begin at 11 a.m.

Big Red struck again in the third innings when Bainbridge hit a towering one-out shot off of Holdren over the fence in left-center, his seventh of the season.

Following a Filtz ground-out to third, Brown smacked a double off the fence in right center.

No. 6 hitter Gary Stubbs followed suit, placing a two-bagger in nearly the same spot as Brown's, scoring the Big Red pitcher.

Stubbs moved to third on another passed ball but was left stranded when Holdren got Jason McKeegan to fly out to right, ending the inning.

Cambridge finally got on the

board when Jones hit his shot to lead off the top of the fifth, but Big Red quickly answered.

Leading off the home half of the fifth, Bainbridge went deep off of Holdren again with another solo blast to left-center for Steubenville's sixth and final run of the day.

Big Red opens Ohio Division II sectional play Thursday when they take on the winner of Tuesday's Buckeye Local-East Liverpool contest.

**Class AA
(at Toronto)
Wheeling Central 9,
Barnesville 3**

The Maroon Knights advanced to the OVAC title game by winning their 21st straight game.

Noah Mull tripled, doubled twice and plating two runs. Eli Popicg added a double, single and 4 RBIs, while Ricky Szeligo doubled singled and knocked two runs.

Chris Zambito doubled and singled for Wheeling Central.

Chris Wells doubled and had an RBI for the Shamrocks (14-6), while Buddy Hines belted two doubles.

**Class A
(at Toronto)
Linsly 11, Weirton Madonna 5**
Tyler Jividen belted four singles and knocked in a run as the Cadets moved on to the OVAC title tilt.

Steve Pavlock added a triple, two singles and an RBI for Linsly, while Pat Ohrman doubled and plated two runs. Jason Pyles singled and had two RBIs and Addison Scherick tripled.

Matt Hirkala singled twice for the Blue Dons, while Anthony Gianni tripled and knocked in a run.



OVAC TOURNAMENT SCHEDULES

**SOFTBALL
Championship Games
(at I-470 Complex)**
**Monday
Class AA**
Wheeling Central vs. Steubenville
Catholic, 4:30 p.m.
**Tuesday
Class A**
Bellaire St. John vs. Cameron,
4:30 p.m.
**Class AAAA
BASEBALL
Semifinals
Wednesday
(at Wellsburg)
Class AAAA**
Wheeling Park vs. John Marshall,
4:30 p.m.
Class AAA
Indian Creek vs. Martins Ferry, 7
p.m.
**Thursday
(at Wellsburg)
Class AAA**
Harrison Central vs. Bellaire, 8
p.m.
*Note: The Fort Frye vs. Monroe
Central (Class AA) and Beallsville
vs. Cameron (Class A) games that
were postponed Saturday have yet
to have a make-up date scheduled.*

HIGH SCHOOL LINESCORES

BASEBALL
**OVAC Class AA Semifinal
(at Toronto)**
Wheeling Central 9, Barnesville 3
Barnesville 000 120 0-3 5 1
Wheeling Central 500 121 x-9 10 1
B-Miller Ip (5SO, 6W), Shreve (6) (1SO,
0W) and Hines. Hines 2S, Wells D, 2rbi;
Shreve rbi.
WC-Szeligo wp (6SO, 4W), Mull (6)
(5SO, 2W) and Sengewalt. Mull 2D, T,
2rbi; Szeligo D, S, 2rbi; Popicg D, S, 4rbi;
Zambito D, S.
**OVAC Class A Semifinal
(at Toronto)**
Linsly 11, Weirton Madonna 5

Weirton Madonna 320 000 0-5 6 5
Linsly 135 020 x-11 18 3
WM-Hall Ip (6SO, 4W) and Gianni.
Gianni T, rbi; Hirkala 2S; Hall D, 2rbi.
L-Scherick wp (10SO, 6W) and Wilson.
Jividen 4S, rbi; Pyles S, 2rbi; Ohrman D,
2rbi; Scherick T; Pavlock 2S, T, rbi.
**OVAC Class AAAA Semifinal
(at Wellsburg)**
Steubenville 6, Cambridge 1
Cambridge 000 100 0-1 3 1
Steubenville 302 010 x-6 7 1
C-Holdren Ip (2SO, 4W), Ingstrum (5)
(1SO, 2W) and Harvey. Jones HR, rbi;
Wetherall D.
S-Brown wp (10SO, 3W) and Mort.

Collaros S, rbi; Bainbridge 2HR, 2rbi; Filtz
rbi; Brown D, rbi; Stubbs S, D, rbi.

LATE FRIDAY

Harrison Central 17, Barnesville 7
Harrison Central 042 411 5-17 17 3
Barnesville 030 040 0-7 9 4
HC-Bear wp (6SO, 3W), Davia (6)
(5SO, 2W) and Moore. Milleson 2S, D,
3rbi; Dulkoski 2S, D, 2rbi; Smith 2S; Nor-
ris 2T, S, rbi; Bear D, 2rbi; Moore 2S,
2rbi; McCue S, 2rbi.
B-Burga Ip (1SO, 1W), Wilson (2)
(1SO, 2W), Kemp (4) (1SO, 6W), Mayber-
ry (5) (1SO, 0W) and Allan. Marmie S,
2rbi; Wells T, S; Wilson S, rbi; Allen S,
rbi.

OVAC baseball finals set

Here is the official schedule for Saturday's OVAC baseball finals:
11 a.m.

CLASS 3-A: Martins Ferry vs. Harrison
Central

1:30 p.m.

CLASS 2-A: Fort Frye vs. Wheeling Central

4 p.m.

CLASS 1-A: Linsly vs. Beallsville

6:30 p.m.

CLASS 4-A: John Marshall vs. Steubenville

All game will be contested at Vacarro Field in Steubenville.



Big Reds capture OVAC quarter; Steubenville, Caldwell, Trail win

BELLAIRE 4 MEADOWBROOK 2
AT MEADOWBROOK, the invading Bellaire Big Reds made a strong fifth inning stand to defeat the Colts 4-2 on Thursday evening in the OVAC 3-A quarter-final.

Bellaire's winning pitcher Jay Ofat tallied two RBI from two hits. Keith Sechrest was consistent with two hits that brought two Bellaire Big Reds across home plate. Dirk Soland had a solid double which allowed one RBI.

Bellaire, earning a 9-8 record, will be in action again in the OVAC 3-A semifinals against Harrison.

ST. CLAIRSVILLE 11
ST. CLAIRSVILLE 9

AT STEUBENVILLE, St. Clairsville and Steubenville hit relentlessly before an 11-9 decision was made in Steubenville's favor. Even after Big Red exploded for eight runs in the third inning, the Devils only faced a 10-9 deficit at the top of the sixth. Steubenville was able to hold on to grab its seventeenth victory.



Prep Baseball

Lee Bainbridge stood out at the plate for the Big Red. Bainbridge hit a double, single, and a homerun resulting in four RBI. Tom Brown connected for a double and a single that produced two RBI. Mike Mort excelled with a triple and a double, while teammate Chad Bauman was consistent with a double and two singles.

St. C.'s Josh Waggle slammed a homerun and a double that brought in four RBI. Charlie Bishop was strong from the plate with two doubles and one RBI. Adam Stewart hit two singles as well as a double tallying one RBI.

CALDWELL 10 BRIDGEPORT 0

AT BRIDGEPORT, Caldwell was able to score ten runs on six hits to take the 10-0 victory over Bridgeport.

Caldwell's Michael Bettinger was top-

notch from the plate with a two-run homer. Logan Clark and Josh Gusts rapped two singles apiece. Travis Thompson managed a double.

Corey Doughty attempted to spark the Bulldogs with two hard hits. Doughty, Tim Smith and Mike Muklwicz contributed in the Bridgeport effort from the mound.

Bridgeport will play against rival Shadyside in the division four sectional.

BUCKEYE TRAIL 5 BEALLSVILLE 3

AT BEALLSVILLE, Buckeye Trail remained tough to defeat Beallsville by a 5-3 count.

Buckeye Trail's Jared Thompson and Aaron Carpenter combined for the mound win.

Buckeye Trail's Brock Davis shined with a home run that produced three key runs. Teammates Jordan Thompson and Matt Wagner contributed with a single each.

Beallsville's A.J. Thompson connected for two singles, while teammates Ryan Atkinson, Bryan and Brad Bilyeu chimed in for a single and RBI each. Tony Stephens hit a double.

Beallsville plays again on Saturday in the 1-A semifinals.

Monroe falls in OVAC semifinals

• Barnesville ousts UL in sectional

Monroe Central saw its quest for an OVAC Class AA baseball crown go down the drain at Beverly Monday, dropping an 11-5 decision to homestanding Fort Frye.

The Cadets -- now 20-1 -- will square off against 23-1 Wheeling Central for the OVAC AA title Saturday at Vaccaro Field in Steubenville. The Seminoles are now 13-5 and will face River in sectional action Thursday at Perkins Field.

Fort Frye jumped to a 9-0 lead after two innings and never looked back.

Tyler Engle paced the winners with a home run, double and single for a three RBI day.

Nathan Langsdorf blasted a home run for Monroe Central.

Division III Sectional at Cadiz
BARNESVILLE 14
UNION LOCAL 9

Barnesville opened up defense of its regional title Monday night in impressive fashion, scoring a 14-9 victory over Union Local at Mazeroski Field in Cadiz.

The Shamrocks now advance to the sectional final against the winner of Buckeye Trail and Indian Valley.

The Shamrocks fell behind to the Jets 4-0, but struck for a seven spot in the bottom of the third and then added a six-spot in the fourth.

Tony Yarnall earned the mound win for the 'Rocks. He fanned seven and walked just one.

Adam Marmie had two singles and three RBI, while Chris Wells had a single and three RBI. Bud Hines socked a two-run double and Todd Miller had a single and a double.

Union Local received two singles and a triple from Kelvin Girty. Pec Schmitt had two singles, a double and a RBI.

Anthony Carson connected on a two-run home run for the Jets and Dusty McVay had two base hits.

LINSLEY 11
BISHOP DONAHUE 1

AT PATTERSON FIELD, Linsly struck early and often en route to a 11-1 victory over Bishop Donahue Monday afternoon.

Jason Pyles earned the mound win with six strikeouts and five walks.

Addison Scherich led the offensive charge with two singles and two RBI. Spencer Atkinson and Ross Tomer had a RBI double and Brad Nickerson added a double and a single.

Linsly is now 15-7 on the

season and will trek to Brooke today.

BELLAIRE 2
MAGNOLIA 0

AT BELLAIRE, the Big Reds got two runs in the second inning and it proved to be enough as they toppled invading Magnolia 2-0.

Three Bellaire pitchers combined on a one hitter. Nate Davis, Jared Booth and Mike Fisher limited the Blue Eagles to a single.

Booth was credited with the win and Fisher recorded the save.

Fisher also had the game-winning RBI when he drew a bases loaded walk. Chad Brandon was then plunked to force the second run home.

Davis had a double in the game.

Bellaire opens Division III sectional play today at Bridgeport against Steubenville Central at 6:30 p.m.

SPORTS

THE T

Ferry sinks Creek in OVAC semis

FOR THE TIMES LEADER

Playing a team with its back against a wall is never an easy task, especially when you give them a little extra help along the way.

Indian Creek committed four errors, all leading to runs for Martins Ferry as the Purple Riders advanced to the Ohio Valley Athletic Conference Class AAA championship game with an 8-4 victory over the Redskins at Brooke High School in Wellsburg on Wednesday evening.

"We gave them a lot of extra outs," said Indian Creek coach Mike Cottis. "I don't want to say we gave them the game because they played a heck of a game."

"But if we make a couple of those plays in the field there might have been a different outcome."

The Purple Riders were also

playing with an extra chip on their shoulders, having lost to River 2-1 in sectional play on Monday.

and turn in your gear.

"We have a one-game season now," said Martins Ferry coach Jason Marling. "We have the OVAC championship left and that is a heck of a way to go out."

Making the loss even harder to take for the Redskins (16-8) were the nature of the errors. Three of their four errors were routine plays they just simply couldn't finish.

One of those miscues came with two outs in the sixth inning, and all but sealed the game for the Purple Riders.

With the bases loaded in the top of the sixth, Jon Nagel popped up an offering from Indian Creek pitcher Ricky Bell. However, third baseman Greg Johnston dropped the ball, and the Purple Riders scored two

runs to push their lead from 5-2 to 7-2.

"It just wasn't our day," said Cottis. "We played out of character. I just hope it doesn't leak into sectional play."

"But our kids are resilient, and I think they will pull through."

Indian Creek actually out hit Martins Ferry by a 9-8 count, but were limited to mostly singles by Purple Riders' starter and winner Zac Snyder.

Snyder pitched the complete game for Martins Ferry, striking out five, including three in the seventh.

"Zac Snyder pitched a great game for us," said Marling. "He gave us a chance to win."

Offensively, Nagel finished with a single and a double for the Purple Riders, while Zac Fairbanks smacked two singles.

Jordan Richardson added a seventh-inning RBI double for

Martins Ferry.

Seth Fluharty hit a double and plated two runs for the Redskins, while Lucas Williams chased in a run with a single.

Martins Ferry will now take on the winner of Harrison Central and Bellaire in the Class AAA finals at Vaccaro Field in Steubenville on Saturday at 11 a.m.

"We won the OVAC three years ago and these seniors wanted to get back to that," said Marling.

"Our underclassmen did a good job today making sure our seniors didn't play there last game."

Indian Creek meanwhile opens sectional play with Cambridge this afternoon at 4:30 p.m. at Vaccaro Field.

Linescore:
Martins Ferry 300 022 1 8 8 1
Indian Creek 100 012 0 4 9 4
BATTERIES: Snyder and Robinson;
Williams, Gasser (4), Bell (6),
O'Halek (7) and Fluharty.

Brown gets long-awaited win

By ASSOCIATED PRESS

Kevin Brown was anything but the favorite to win when he took the mound for the New York Yankees against the Oakland Athletics.

It was only fitting that the struggling right-hander unexpectedly snapped his long losing streak Sunday with a 6-0 home victory. After all, Yankees manager Joe Torre and team owner George Steinbrenner got shut out at the track when favored horses they own came up short at Churchill Downs on Kentucky Derby weekend.

The 40-year-old Brown (1-4) escaped two early bases-loaded jams.

"He was a different Kevin Brown," pitching coach Mel Stottlemyre said. "He seemed to be more sure of himself."

Brown, who lowered his ERA from 8.25 to 6.39, had lost a career-high seven straight starts since beating Toronto on Aug. 28. No Yankees pitcher had dropped that many starts in a row since Joe Page in 1944-45, according to the Elias Sports Bureau.

In New York, Brown allowed six runs to Tampa Bay in the first inning Tuesday and got into a bases-loaded, no-out situation Sunday against the A's.

He got Keith Ginter to line

out to third, struck out Eric Byrnes, and threw a called third strike to Marco Scutaro to escape trouble.

Brown allowed five hits, struck out four and walked one, and wasn't all that impressed with his performance.

"The biggest difference is I got a jam shot to the third baseman instead of a groundball in the hole," he said.

Alex Rodriguez gave the Yankees the lead with a solo homer, and slumping Hideki Matsui had a run-scoring single off Rich Harden (2-2). Tino Martinez added a three-run homer in the eighth off Kiko Calero, and Jorge Posada followed with a solo shot into the upper deck — New York's first back-to-back homers this season.

The Yankees, who won their 900th game under Torre, took two of three from the A's, their first series win since a two-game sweep in Toronto on April 20-21 and the first at home since the opening series against Boston.

"The 900th should have come last month," Torre said.

New York improved to 13-19, two games better than last-place Tampa Bay in the AL East. The Yankees won consecutive games for the first time since April 24 against Texas and April 26 against Los Angeles.

Red Sox 6, Mariners 3, 1st game

Mariners 6, Red Sox 4, 2nd game

At Boston, Richie Sexson hit a wind-blown grand slam off Cla Meredith, who was making his major league debut, to end Seattle's seven-game losing streak.

Ryan Franklin (2-4) snapped his four-game losing streak, allowing two runs on six hits. Eddie Guardado pitched the ninth for his eighth save.

John Halama (1-1) was the loser.

In the opener, Jeremi Gonzalez (1-0) won for the first time since August 2003, pitching 5 2-3 strong innings. Joel Pineiro (2-3) took the loss.

White Sox 5, Blue Jays 4

At Toronto, Mark Buehrle (5-1) won his fourth straight decision, leading Chicago to its eighth straight victory.

The White Sox improved baseball's top record to 24-7, matching the 1919 club for the best start in franchise history. They have led in all 31 games this season, a major league record.

Gustavo Chacin (4-2) was the loser. The Blue Jays have lost four straight.

Royals 10, Orioles 8

At Baltimore, Kansas City blew a seven-run lead, then scored the tiebreaking run on Steve Kline's eighth-inning balk.

Angel Berroa, Matt Stairs and Mike Sweeney homered to help the Royals snap a five-game skid. Kansas City had lost 14 of 16 and 17 of 20.

Ambiorix Burgos (1-1) was the winner, and Todd Williams (3-2) took the loss.

Twins 9, Devil Rays 6

At St. Petersburg, Fla., Justin Morneau had his second career four-hit game and drove in three runs for Minnesota.

Morneau went 4-for-4 and came within a homer of the cycle. He is 23-for-51 (.451) with six homers and 19 RBIs in 13 games since being activated from the disabled list.

Twins starter Joe Mays (2-1) gave up five runs and seven hits in 6 1-3 innings.

Doug Waechter (1-2) was the loser.

Tigers 10, Angels 1

At Anaheim, Calif., Mike Maroth pitched three-hit ball over eight innings, Ivan Rodriguez triggered a seven-run third with a three-run triple and Brandon Inge homered, leading Detroit past Los Angeles.

Maroth (3-2) breezed to the victory after his teammates staked him to an 8-0 lead in the first three innings. The Tigers beat the defending AL West champs for the second straight time after losing 21 of the previous 25 meetings.

Beallsville tops Cameron in OVAC 1-A semifinals

AT BRIDGEPORT, Beallsville and Cameron engaged in a hot contest in the OVAC 1-A semifinals with the Blue Devils pocketing a 7-6 triumph.

Beallsville trailed Cameron until the bottom of the seventh, when Jonah Turner, Kent Price, Bryan Bilyeu and Noah Atkinson combined a hitting effort that tallied two runs.

Both teams were even with six runs apiece until the bottom of the ninth. Jimmy Jones nailed a triple to deep right field for Beallsville and then Bilyeu hit a single between short and third that caused the game's concluding winning run. Beallsville gained the victory over Cameron by a score 7-6 and advances to the OVAC Finals on Saturday.

Other pivotal players for Beallsville were Jordan Turner with two singles and a double. He accounted for two RBI on two singles and also gunned down three players attempting to steal second.

Key hitters for Cameron included Nathan Lilley with two solid singles and Travis Smith with an RBI single. Cody Lantz, Tedd Taylor and Ryan

McConnell all were credited with a hit.

Beallsville gears up for the finals against Linsly on Saturday.

DIVISION IV SECTIONAL SHADYSIDE 14 BRIDGEPORT 0

AT TORONTO, Bridgeport faced Shadyside the Division IV sectionals on Tuesday evening. Shadyside was relentless from the plate in all four innings, scoring fourteen runs from six hits. The final score was 14-0.

Mike Meintel was at his best at the plate for the Tigers. He slammed a two-run homer, one double and a single resulting in four RBI. Luke Horvath hit singles, while teammates Ross Palicka and Cliff Francis each had RBI singles.

Tommy Morgan attempted to ignite the Bulldogs with the lone hit of the game for the Bridgeport.

KISKI 10 LINSLY 9 LINSLY 9 KISKI 8

AT LINSLY, Kiski and Linsly duked it out in a doubleheader on Wednesday evening. The rivals split the showdown, Kiski taking the first game with a 10-9 decision and Linsly rally-

Prep Baseball

ing for a comeback in the second game for a 9-8 final score.

In the first game Nikko Echevarra shined at the plate for Kiski. Echevarra slammed a home run, a double and a single, resulting in four RBI. Nick Matricka tallied two RBI from a double and single. Sam Crussan and David Welsh tallied two hits apiece.

Linsly's Pat Ohrman hit an RBI double. Bill Zavatsky hit a single and a double, amounting to one RBI. Addison Scherich hit a single and double as well producing two RBI. Corey Barill hit an RBI double and Steve Pavlovk hit a single and a RBI.

In the second game, Andrew Manderino slammed two home runs, good for two RBI. Nikko Echevarra produced two RBI from a double. David Welsh shined with a home run as well.

Pat Ohrman hit a three-run homer. Teammates Jason Pyles, Bill Zavatsky, Corey Barill and Tyler Jividen all contributed from the plate to nab the second game victory for the Cadets.



Big week on tap in OVAC



SCHEDULE

Monday, April 25
 * OVAC TENNIS Championships Girls' Doubles at Bethany College 2 p.m.
 * OVAC SOFTBALL Quarterfinals at Top Seeded Team's Field

Tuesday, April 26
 * OVAC TENNIS Championships Boys' Doubles at Bethany College 2 p.m.
 * OVAC BASEBALL Quarterfinals at Top-Seeded Team's Field
 * OVAC SOFTBALL Quarterfinals Rain Date

Wednesday, April 27
 * OVAC TENNIS Championship Girls' Singles at Bethany College 8:00 a.m.
 * OVAC SOFTBALL Semifinals at Chambers I-470 Fields 5 p.m., 6:30 p.m.
 * OVAC BASEBALL Quarterfinals Rain Date

Thursday, April 28
 * OVAC TENNIS Championship Boys' Singles at Bethany College 8:00 a.m.
 * OVAC SOFTBALL Semifinals Chambers I-470 Fields 5 p.m., 6:30 p.m.
 * OVAC BASEBALL Quarterfinals Rain Date

Friday, April 29
 * OVAC TENNIS Championships Rain Date
 * OVAC SOFTBALL Semifinals Rain Date
 * OVAC BASEBALL Quarterfinals Rain Date

Saturday, April 30
 * Tennis Championship Rain Date
 * OVAC BASEBALL Semifinals, at TBA
 * OVAC SOFTBALL Championships Chambers I-470 Field
 Class AAA: 10:30 a.m.; Class AAAA: 12:15 p.m.; Class A: 2 p.m.; Class AAA: 3:45 p.m.

BASEBALL

School	W	L	CP	AVG
Stuebenville	14	3	790	46.5
John Marshall	13	3	690	43.1
Weir	12	4	630	39.4
Cambridge	13	5	630	35.0
Edison	9	8	490	28.8
Wheeling Park	9	10	480	25.3
Brooke	8	11	390	20.5
Buckeye Local	7	12	360	18.9
East Liverpool	3	9	140	11.7
*Beaver Local	12	3	650	43.3
*Zanesville	7	7	410	29.3

School	W	L	CP	AVG
Harrison Central	13	4	680	40.0
St. Clairsville	12	5	650	38.2
Indian Creek	13	7	690	34.5
Meadowbrook	10	8	530	29.4
Bellaire	8	8	410	25.6
Union Local	5	11	240	15.0
Martins Ferry	4	12	160	10.0
Tyler Consolidated	3	14	130	7.6
Oak Glen	0	15	0	0.0
*Magnolia	12	4	640	40.0

School	W	L	CP	AVG
Wheeling Central	19	1	760	38.0
Fort Frye	17	1	680	37.8
Monroe Central	12	4	490	30.6
Toronto	13	7	590	29.5
Barnesville	12	4	400	25.0
Stuebenville Central	8	9	390	22.9
Frontier	5	8	200	15.4
Wellsville	5	9	200	14.3
River	6	12	230	12.8
Caldwell	6	11	210	12.4
Shenandoah	4	12	140	8.8
Buckeye Trail	3	12	120	8.0

School	W	L	CP	AVG
Beallsville	12	3	430	28.7
Linsly	12	5	380	22.4
Weirton Madonna	12	6	380	21.1
Cameron	11	8	350	18.4
Shadyside	10	8	330	18.3
Bellaire St. John's	5	12	150	8.8
Paden City	3	10	90	6.9
Bishop Donahue	2	16	60	3.5
Valley	1	11	30	2.5
Bridgeport	1	18	30	1.6
*Conotton Valley	7	11	210	11.7

*Denotes that did not play the required number of OVAC games to qualify for the playoffs.

NOTE: The top four teams will host quarterfinal games. If it rains and the quarterfinals can't be played, just the top four teams will play in the semifinals on Saturday.

OVAC GIRLS TENNIS PAIRINGS

No. 1 Doubles
 Andreini-Velez (WC) vs. Bye; Randolph-Thomasetti (OG) vs. Weirton Madonna; Slacum-Gialluco (Brk) vs. Foster-Little (Weir); Lowe-Adamovich (Lin) vs. Bye; Kostalova-Smith (Mag) vs. Bye; Mathieu-Lewis (IC) vs. Crutchfield-Waldrum (WP); Smith-Cunningham (JM) vs. Wojchowski-Bannon (StC); Marginean-Weaver (MtD) vs. Bye.

No. 2 Doubles
 Ball-Aderholt (WP) vs. Bye; Kubicki-McAlpine (Weir) vs. Pehanich-Santiago (IC); Pittinger-Keller (OG) vs. Magnolia; Batra-DeGuzman (Lin) vs. Bye; Milton-Wolfe (WC) vs. Bye; Weirton Madonna vs. Phillips-Freeland (JM); Costine-Williams (StC) vs. Murthy-Helfer (MtD); Vigilanco-DiBartolomeo (Brk) vs. Bye.

No. 3 Doubles
 Freeman-Marshall (WP) vs. Bye; Gumm-Larch (Weir) vs. Weirton Madonna; Throckmorton-Howell (Mag) vs. Harshman-Kelley (MtD); Exley-Onisha (Lin) vs. Bye; Knuth-Faini (WC) vs. Bye; Gabis-Bober (StC) vs. Michetti-Wickham (IC); Schoolcraft-Groves (OG) vs. Givens-Battista (JM); Martin-Sperazza (Brk) vs. Bye.

SOFTBALL

School	W	L	CP	AVG
Edison	12	1	770	59.23
Buckeye Local	11	3	695	49.64
John Marshall	14	4	855	47.50
Stuebenville	15	5	919	45.95
Brooke	7	6	455	35.00
East Liverpool	4	6	207	20.70
Wheeling Park	6	12	358	19.89
Beaver Local	4	8	226	18.83
Weir	1	15	64	4.00
Zanesville	0	13	0	0.00
Cambridge*	7	2	371	41.22

School	W	L	CP	AVG
Martins Ferry	14	3	792	46.59
Bellaire	14	3	761	44.76
Harrison Central	11	9	599	29.95
St. Clairsville	9	7	466	29.13
Magnolia	9	7	463	28.94
Indian Creek	6	9	351	23.40
Oak Glen	6	9	334	22.27
Union Local	3	16	166	8.74
Tyler Consolidated	1	13	37	2.64
Meadowbrook*	6	2	337	42.13

School	W	L	CP	AVG
Stuebenville Central	8	3	463	42.09
Monroe Central	14	1	608	40.53
Wheeling Central	18	4	826	37.55
Fort Frye	11	2	450	34.62
Frontier	9	6	391	26.07
Buckeye Trail	6	10	277	17.31
Toronto	5	9	240	17.14
River	7	9	247	15.44
Barnesville	6	9	225	15.00
Caldwell	4	9	155	11.92
Wellsville	2	8	106	10.60
Shenandoah	3	14	122	7.18

School	W	L	CP	AVG
Bellaire St. John's	15	1	693	43.31
Bishop Donahue	10	4	394	28.14
Cameron	10	5	388	25.87
Weirton Madonna	8	6	341	24.36
Linsly	7	13	268	13.40
Bridgeport	6	14	227	11.35
Paden City	4	9	143	11.00
Beallsville	3	11	137	9.79
Shadyside	2	12	79	5.64
Conotton Valley*	1	1	40	20.00
Valley*	0	5	0	0.00

* Schools that did not meet the OVAC minimum 10 games played rule.

OVAC SOFTBALL PAIRINGS

QUARTER FINALS

AAAA
 Beaver Local at Edison
 Brooke at Steubenville
 East Liverpool at John Marshall
 Wheeling Park at Buckeye Local

AAA
 Union Local at Martins Ferry
 Magnolia at St. Clairsville
 Indian Creek at Harrison Central
 Oak Glen at Bellaire

AA
 River at Steubenville Catholic
 Frontier at Fort Frye
 Buckeye Trail at Wheeling Central
 Toronto at Monroe Central

A
 Beallsville at Bellaire St. John's
 Linsly at Weirton Madonna
 Bridgeport at Cameron
 Paden City at Bishop Donahue

NOTE: All games Monday, April 25.

Ferry Surprises Indian Creek

Snyder fans five in 8-4 Class AAA win

By CHRISTOPHER S. NASH
Staff Writer

Playing a team with its back against a wall is never an easy task, especially when you give them a little extra help along the way.

Indian Creek committed four errors, all leading to runs for Martins Ferry as the Purple Riders advanced to the Ohio Valley Athletic Conference Class AAA championship game with an 8-4 victory over the Redskins at Brooke High School in Wellsburg on Wednesday evening.

"We gave them a lot of extra outs," said Indian Creek coach Mike Cottis. "I don't want to say we gave them the game because they played a heck of a game."

"But if we make a couple of those plays in the field there might have been a different outcome."

The Purple Riders were also playing with an extra chip on their shoulders, having lost to River 2-1 in sectional play on Monday.

So for Martins Ferry, it was lose and turn in your gear.

"We have a one-game season now," said Martins Ferry coach Jason Marling. "We have the OVAC Championship left and that is a heck of a way to go out"

Making the loss even harder

OVAC Finals

(Saturday at Vaccaro Field)

Class AAA

Martins Ferry vs. Harrison Central-Bellaire winner, 11 a.m.

Class AA

Wheeling Central vs. Fort Frye, 1:30 p.m.

Class A

Linsly vs. Beallsville, 4 p.m.

Class AAAA

John Marshall vs. Steubenville, 6:30 p.m.

to take for the Redskins (16-8) were the nature of the errors. Three of their four errors were routine plays they just simply couldn't finish.

One of those miscues came with two outs in the sixth inning, and all but sealed the game for the Purple Riders.

With the bases loaded in the top of the sixth, Jon Nagel popped up an offering from Indian Creek pitcher Ricky Bell. However, third baseman Greg Johnston dropped the ball, and the Purple Riders scored two runs to push their lead from 5-2 to 7-2.

Please See **FERRY**, Page 24

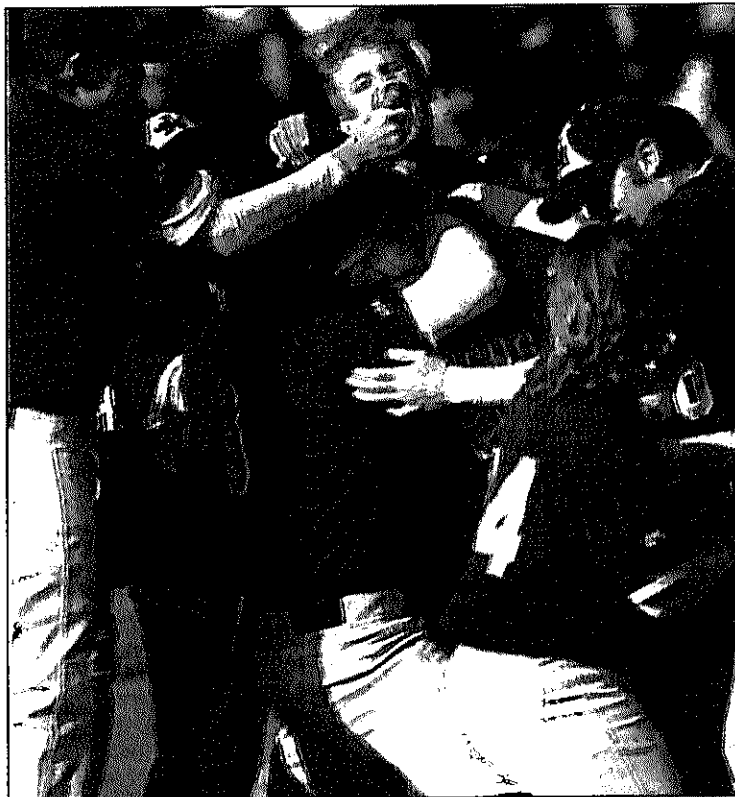


Photo by Alex Kozlowski

Members of the John Marshall baseball team congratulate Sean Edge after he hit a game-ending grand slam Wednesday.

Edge blasts grand slam to key John Marshall past Wheeling Park, 13-3

By RICK THORP
Staff Writer

Talk about having the winning edge.

Sean Edge sent a Donnie Platt pitch over the right-field wall for a walk-off grand slam with one out in the fifth inning Wednesday to put the finishing touch on John Marshall's 13-3 victory over Wheeling Park in an OVAC Class 4-A baseball tournament

semifinal at sun-drenched Monarch Field in Glen Dale.

The triumph sends the Monarchs (16-5) into Saturday's championship game against Steubenville, which defeated Cambridge last Saturday in its conference semifinal tilt.

First pitch is set for 6:30 p.m. at Vaccaro Field.

Please See **EDGE**, Page 24

Ferry

(Continued from Page 19)

"It just wasn't our day," said Cottis. "We played out of character. I just hope it doesn't leak into sectional play."

"But our kids are resilient, and I think they will pull through."

Indian Creek actually outhit Martins Ferry by a 9-8 count, but were limited to mostly singles by Purple Riders' starter and winner Zac Snyder.

Snyder pitched the complete game for Martins Ferry, striking out five, including three in the seventh.

"Zac Snyder pitched a great game for us," said Marling. "He gave us a chance to win."

Offensively, Nagel finished with a single and a double for the Purple Riders, while Zac Fairbanks smacked two singles.

Jordan Richardson added a seventh-inning RBI double for Martins Ferry.

Seth Fluharty hit a double and plated two runs for the Redskins, while Lucas Williams chased in a run with a single.

Martins Ferry will now take on the winner of Harrison Central and Bellaire in the Class

AAA finals at Vaccaro Field in Steubenville on Saturday at 11 a.m.

"We won the OVAC three years ago and these seniors wanted to get back to that," said Marling.

"Our underclassmen did a good job today making sure our seniors didn't play there last game."

Indian Creek meanwhile opens sectional play with Cambridge this afternoon at 4:30 p.m. at Vaccaro Field.

OVAC Class AA Semifinal Beallsville 7, Cameron 6

At Bridgeport, Bryan Bilyeu singled home Jimmy Jones in the bottom of the ninth to give Beallsville a victory over Cameron in the Semifinals of the OVAC Class AA tournament Wednesday evening.

Bilyeu totaled two singles and two RBIs on the day for the Blue Devils (15-5), while Jones smacked a single and two triples.

For the Dragons (14-9), Travis Smith plated a run with a single, while Nathan Lilley belted a pair of singles.

OVAC BASEBALL

Cadets Down Maroon Knights

Fort Frye captures first baseball crown with Class AA win

By RICK THORP
Staff Writer

Fort Frye captured its first OVAC baseball championship Saturday in fine fashion by defeating Wheeling Central by a count of 3-1 in the Class AA championship game at sunny Vaccaro Field in Steubenville.

The Cadets improved to 23-1 and will look to claim an Ohio sectional crown Tuesday when they face West Muskingum.

"The kids were excited about the game all week," said smiling Fort Frye head coach Sonny Bidwell following the contest.

"The kids wanted to come up here and make sure they put on a good showing."

And they did just that using a stifling defense that held the potent Maroon Knight bats in check all day.

"Our bats have cooled off the last couple of days," said Wheeling Central head coach Jim Wodusky, who's team lost its second-straight to fall to 24-3.

"We were averaging 10 runs per game and all of a sudden we score one in back to back games."

Wodusky, in his first season at the Wheeling Central helm, said the Cadets' defense was the reason behind their victory.

"They are a very good defensive team," Wodusky said. "Good defensive teams can win a lot of games and they proved that today."

Wheeling Central finished with more hits (8 to 7) than Fort Frye, but were unable to string

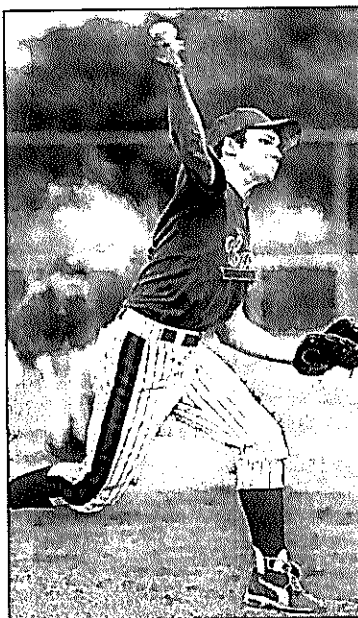


Photo by Alex Kozlowski

Fort Frye pitcher Garrett Fleming works the plate.

enough along in one inning.

Meanwhile, the Cadets put together a number of strong innings. Their Achilles' Heel was getting runners home. All told, the Cadets left 11 runners stranded.

Fort Frye batters also struck out 14 times.

"Wheeling Central has a lot of good pitching," Bidwell said. "And we left a lot of people on base."

Ricky Szeligo started on the mound for the Maroon Knights. He finished with seven strikeouts and three walks in taking the loss. He was relieved by

Noah Mull in the fifth. Mull ended the day with seven strikeouts and two walks.

Szeligo allowed his first hit in the second inning when Jeremy Barton singled to right. Next, Garrett Fleming reached on a fielder's choice and Barton moved to third on the first of three Central errors.

Trent best then followed with a single scoring Barton to make it 1-0.

In the third, Jared Hanson led off with a single for the Cadets. After moving to second on an error, Tyler Engle laced a one-out single scoring Hanson to make it 2-0.

Meanwhile, the Maroon Knights were ineffective at the plate, unable to get more than one hit per inning.

This was due in part to the steady performance of Fort Frye pitcher Fleming, who ended the day with two strikeouts and one walk.

Fort Frye made it 3-0 in the top of the fifth when Engle scored after Corey best was hit by a pitch with the bases loaded.

The Maroon Knights' biggest scoring threat came in the fifth inning.

Mull was at third and Matt Ball at second with one out when Szeligo hit a sacrifice grounder that scored Mull to make it 3-1.

That would be Wheeling Central's last hit until the bottom of the seventh. Central got men at first and second, but were unable to knock in a run.

"I thought our defense did a great job," Bidwell said.



Huskies Hold Off Riders

By RICK THORP
Staff Writer

While Dan Milleson wasn't totally responsible for Harrison Central's win in Saturday's OVAC Class AAA baseball title game, he sure was responsible for setting the tone.

Milleson led off the contest with a home run and followed that up with a grand slam, a triple, a single and seven runs batted in as the Huskies claim the crown with a 12-7 victory over Martins Ferry at Vaccaro Field in Steubenville.

The first of four OVAC finals slated at Vaccaro was scheduled to begin at 11 a.m. However, early morning showers pushed the start back to almost 1 p.m.

The Huskies, however, showed no ill effects.

"We sat here for a long time waiting to play," said Harrison Central bench boss Mike Saffell. "Dan got us going."

Milleson crushed an 0-1 pitch from Purple Rider starter Zac Fairbanks and sent it over the left field wall to give the Huskies a 1-0 lead and the early momentum.

Harrison Central didn't need much to get them fired up. They came into the contest Class AAA regular season champs. That was the same situation as 2004. But last year, the Huskies came up short in the tournament final.

Milleson's opening blast was just the start of the hit parade for the Huskies. All told, they pounded out 16 hits.

"They are a good hitting team, you have to give them credit," said Martins Ferry head coach Jason Marling. "We gave ourselves a chance with the bats today, but, unfortunately, they had more fire-power today."

After spotting Harrison Central a run in the opening inning, the Purple Riders came back with one in their half of the second frame Fairbanks laced a double down the left field line. He was tagged out moments later between second and third as Chris Lovell reached on a fielder's choice.

Caleb Statler followed with a single, scoring Lovell to knot the game at 1-1.

The Huskies took the lead for good one inning later thanks to a trio of hits.

Trevor McCue, who finished the day with three singles, rapped one to left to start the frame. Milleson followed with his triple to score McCue and make the score 2-1. Next, Ben Hodkinson put down a perfect bunt that scored Milleson to make it 3-1.

After Ferry went down in order, Harrison Central came back with a five spot in the fourth.

Matt Bear and Brandon Ludwig both reached on singles, before Holt Boggs reached on an error. McCue followed with a single scoring Bear.

Milleson then connected on his grand slam to increase the advantage to 8-1.

The Purple Riders didn't fold. They scored two runs in the fifth to make it 8-3, before pulling to within one at 8-7 thanks to a four-run sixth.

Gerald Ray started the barrage by singling home Cory Gentile. At this point, Huskies' catcher Bobby Davis was lifted

Linsly Rallies to Claim Class A Title

By MIKE HUGHES
Staff Writer

Linsly ace Addison Scherich struck out 16 batters and the Cadets staged a late rally to overtake top-seeded Beallsville 4-1 in the finals of the OVAC Class A baseball tournament Saturday in Steubenville.

Beallsville took a 1-0 lead after Bryan Bilyeu drove in Jimmy Jones on a two-out double off the fence in left-center.

It was a play that in all likelihood should not have taken place.

With two outs, Scherich got Jones to swing at strike three but the hard-breaking curve got away from catcher Corby Wilson, allowing Jones to reach first safely.

The play breathed new life into the Blue Devils and Bilyeu was able to get the runner across with his blast the next at-bat.

But for Linsly head coach Gary Sprague, he figured it was just a matter of time before his Cadets' dented the scoreboard.

In the first five innings of play, Linsly stranded a total of eight runners - five in scoring position - with at least one runner getting aboard each inning.

Eventually, the coach though, his team was going to break through and in the sixth, it did.

Corey Barill reached first on a one-out single and moved to second on a passed ball.

After Steve Pavlock popped out to second, No. 9 hitter Luke Cecil strolled to the plate with a prime opportunity to get his team back in the game.

Cecil seized that opportunity, clubbing Jones' offering off the fence in right-center, resulting in a game-tying double.

Tyler Jividen followed suit, driving a shot deep to left, over

the head of Beallsville's Kent Price for yet another run-scoring double.

Brad Nickerson grounded out to short to end the inning, but the Cadets had taken the lead at 2-1.

"I was confident that we had a chance to get back in the game," Sprague said as his team concluded the season with a 17-9 record and yet another OVAC title for the Cadets. "We played a lot of games this past week, four games in three days, to get prepared for this game."

With Scherich on the mound, a 2-1 advantage proved to be all Linsly needed.

The Cadets' senior set a season-high with 16 strikeouts, mowing down Blue Devil hitters left and right.

Twice he struck out four batters in a row and thanks to a couple of passed balls, struck out four batters in both the third and fourth innings.

"Addison pitched a really nice game and did a good job of keeping us in it early," Sprague said.

Just to be sure, Linsly added two insurance runs in the seventh.

Jason Pyles led off the inning with a single but was called out at second when Pat Ohrman bounced into a fielder's choice.

Ohrman moved to second on a wild pitch and came around to score when Bill Zavatsky ripped an RBI double to the gap in left-center.

Zavatsky moved to third on a 1-3 groundout from Scherich and Jones walked both Barill and Pavlock to load the bases.

Bilyeu then came on to pitch for Jones and proceeded to bean Cecil with the bases loaded, allowing Zavatsky to leisurely trot home from third for the

fourth-and-final run.

Fittingly for Scherich, he got Jonah Turner to strikeout swinging with runners on first and third for the final out of the game.

"We had a disappointing year last season and we returned basically the same team and they were able to turn it around and have a good season," Sprague said. "And we were able to do it with only 12 players."

"A lot of the guys have been extremely versatile this season."

The addition of Scherich didn't hurt any.

A senior, Scherich has spent the last three years playing for McGuffey High School in Claysville, Pa.

But he opted to play with the Linsly players during Colt League ball over the summer, felt at home, and decided to join the Cadets' for his final year.

REGULAR SEASON

John Marshall 10,
Pkg. South 0

At Glen Dale, the Monarchs tuned up for their OVAC Class AAAA title game against Steubenville with a shutout of the Patriots.

Aaron Simmons belted two singles and knocked in a pair of runs for John Marshall.

Carl George added two singles and an RBI for the hosts, while Bryan Berger singled with two RBIs and Chaz Schultz singled and had an RBI.

Magnolia 7,
Pkg. South 3

At New Martinsville, Josh Simms doubled, singled and plated three runs as the Blue Eagles downed the Patriots.

Kale Street added three singles for Magnolia (16-5), while Eric mason Doubled and Seth Guillie singled and plated a run.

HIGH SCHOOL LINESCORES

OVAC Class AAAA Final
(At Steubenville)
John Marshall 5, Big Red 3
John Marshall 003 002 0-5 6 1
Steubenville 010 001 1-3 8 3
J - Koontz wp (10SO, 1W) and Berger.
Koontz 2S; Berger D, 2rbi; Franklin D, rbi; Mazingo S, rbi.
S - Busic lp (4SO, 2W) and Mort. Baumgardner D; Balbridge D; Stubbs D; McK.

P - Gosseh lp (3SO, 4W) and Keefe.
Hamilton 2S; Noher D; Fowler S, rbi.
M - McEldowney wp (5SO, 3W) and Mason, Simms D, S, 3rbi; Street 3S; Guillie S, rbi; Mason D.
SOFTBALL
W.Va. Class AAA
Region One, Section One Final
(at Chambers 1-470 Fields)
Game One

Snyder 2S; Givens 2S, 2rbi; Bendle S; Kovaleaky S; Tizak S; Shafer S.
Crestline 7, Edison 6, 8 innings
Crestline 041 000 02-7 7 1
Edison 010 011 21-6 13 4
C - Rank wp (4SO, 5W) and Hoffer. Hoffer 2S; Faul 2S.
E - Williamson lp (3SO, 2W) and Sam Tizak. Householder 3S; Pederson S, D; Skinner 2S; Taylor 2S; Givens S; Teluche

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Milleson then connected on his grand slam to increase the advantage to 8-1.

The Purple Riders didn't fold. They scored two runs in the fifth to make it 8-3, before pulling to within one at 8-7 thanks to a four-run sixth.

Gerald Ray started the barrage by singling home Cory Gentile. At this point, Huskies' starter Robby Davia was lifted and replaced by Ludwig.

Matt Robinson then reached on a bloop single. Derek Edwards grounded out to advance Ray to third and Robinson to second.

With two outs, Jon Nagel slapped an RBI single scoring Ray. Fairbanks aided his own cause by next collecting an RBI double, scoring to make it 8-7.

The Purple Riders' efforts went for naught as the Huskies plated four more runs in the bottom of the sixth to take the lead for good.

Class AAAA Championship John Marshall 5, Stuebenville 3

At Steubenville, Cody Koontz picked up the victory on the mound for John Marshall, striking out 10 and walking one. Koontz aided his own cause with two singles, while Bryan Berger had a double and two RBIs.

Chad Bauman tripped, doubled and singled for Big Red, while Lee Bainbridge and Gary Stubbs each doubled.

A full story will appear in Monday's Intelligencer and News-Register.

Jones to swing at strike three but the hard-breaking curve got away from catcher Corby Wilson, allowing Jones to reach first safely.

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HIGH SCHOOL LINESCORES

OVAC Class AAAA Final (At Steubenville)

John Marshall 5, Big Red 3
John Marshall 003 002 0 — 5 6 1
Stuebenville 010 001 1 — 3 8 3
J — Koontz wp (10SO, 1W) and Berger.
Koontz 2S; Berger D, 2rbi; Franklin D, rbi; Mazingo S, rbi.
S — Busic lp (4SO, 2W) and Mort. Bauman S, D, T; Bainbridge D; Stubbs D; McKeeagan D; Belardine 2S.

OVAC Class AAA Final (at Steubenville)

Harrison Central 12, Martins Ferry 7
Martins Ferry 010 024 0 — 7 13 3
Harrison Central 102 250 4x — 12 16 2
MF — Fairbanks lp (1SO, 1W) and Robinson. Florio S; Nagel 3S, rbi; Fairbanks 2D, 2rbi; Lovell S, rbi; Statler 2S, rbi; Gentile S; Ray S, rbi; Robinson D, S.
HC — Davia wp (4SO, 2W), Ludwig (6) (0SO, 0W), Smith (6) (2SO, 1W) and Boggs. Milleson GSHR, HR, T, S, 7rbi; Hodkinson S, rbi; Dulkoski D, S, rbi; Smith S, rbi; Bear 3S, D, rbi; Ludwig S; McCue 3S, rbi.

OVAC Class AA Final (at Steubenville)

Fort Frye 3, Wheeling Central 1
Fort Frye 011 010 0 — 3 7 0
Wheeling Central 000 010 0 — 1 8 3
FF — Fleming wp (2SO, 1W) and T. Best. Hanson S; Engle S, rbi; Barton 2S; T. Best 2S, rbi; Lang S.
WC — Szelligo lp (7SO, 3W), Mull (5) (7SO, 2W) and Sengewalt. Ball 3S; Szelligo S, rbi; Palmer S; Anthony 2S; Sengewalt S.

OVAC Class A Final (At Steubenville)

Linsly 4, Baallsville 1
Linsly 000 002 2 — 2 7 2
Baallsville 000 100 0 — 1 3 2
L — Scherich wp (16SO, 2W) and Wilson. Jividen D, rbi; Zavatsky D, rbi; Pavlock D; Cecil D, 2rbi.
B — Jones lp (6SO, 5W), Bra. Bilyeu (7) (0SO, 0W) and Jon. Turner. Bry. Bilyeu D, rbi.

John Marshall 10, Parkersburg South 0

Parkersburg South 000 00 — 0 1 4
John Marshall 522 1x — 10 10 2
P — Hamilton lp (0SO, 1W), Nunley (3) (0SO, 0W) and Baker. Fleak S.
J — George wp (3SO, 2W), Edge (4) (3SO, 0W), Mysliwiec (5) (1SO, 1W) and Berger, Zelinski (4), Simmons 2S, 2rbi; Berger S, 2rbi; Schultz S, rbi; Mazingo D; George 2S, rbi.

Magnolia 7, Parkersburg South 3

Parkersburg South 300 000 0 — 3 7 3
Magnolia 321 001 x — 7 9 1

P — Gosseh lp (3SO, 4W) and Keefe. Hamilton 2S; Noher D; Fowler S, rbi.

M — McEldowney wp (5SO, 3W) and Mason, Simms D, S, 3rbi; Street 3S; Guillie S, rbi; Mason D.

SOFTBALL W.Va. Class AAA

Region One, Section One Final (at Chambers 1-470 Fields)

Game One

John Marshall 5, Brooke 4
(one out when winning run scored)

Brooke 000 310 0 — 4 4 0
John Marshall 031 000 1 — 5 6 2
B — Kocher lp (2SO, 3W) and Klein. Pearson S, 2rbi; Preston S; Bullock S; Lauri S; Kocher rbi.

JM — Heilman (0SO, 0W), Swoger wp (5) (4SO, 3W) and McDermott. Ilovar T, S; Daugherty 2S; Morris T, rbi; Gouldsberry S; Hays rbi; Stout rbi.

Game Two

John Marshall 11, Brooke 1

John Marshall 324 11 — 11 11 1
Brooke 000 10 — 1 5 3
JM — Phillips wp (1SO, 1W) and McDermott. Ilovar T, 5rbi; Heilman 2S, 2rbi; McDermott 2S, 2rbi; Hays 2S, rbi; Gouldsberry 2S; Morris S, rbi; Dunn T.

B — Kocher lp (1SO, 2W), Quattrochi (3) (1SO, 0W) and Klein. Reardon 2S; Klein S; Pearson S; Kocher S.

Edison 4, Medina 0

Medina 000 000 0 — 0 4 3
Edison 100 030 x — 4 8 1

M — Rose lp (3SO, 2W) and Gigliatti. Gurgiole T. (1st hit in 3rd)

E — Bendle wp (3SO, 0W) and Givens.

Snyder 2S; Givens 2S, 2rbi; Bendle S; Kovalesky S; Tizak S; Shafer S.

Crestline 7, Edison 6, 8 innings

Crestline 041 000 02 — 7 7 1

Edison 010 011 21 — 6 13 4

C — Rank wp (4SO, 5W) and Hoffer. Hoffer 2S; Faul 2S.

E — Williamson lp (3SO, 2W) and Sam Tizak. Householder 3S; Pederson S, D; Skinner 2S; Taylor 2S; Givens S; Teluche S; Kovalesky S; Snyder S.

Clear Fork 2, Edison 1

Edison 100 000 0 — 1 5 0

Clear Fork 000 100 1 — 2 3 0

E — Bendle lp (3SO, 4W) and Givens. Snyder S; Bendle S; Kovalesky S, rbi; Givens S; Cain S.

C — DeMoss wp (9SO, 1W) and Swank. Swank D, rbi; Wahtman 2S.

Buckeye Local 11, Cambridge 1

Buckeye Local 022 52 — 11 14 1

Cambridge 000 10 — 1 4 1

B — McHugh wp (3SO, 1W) and Brown, Magyar (4), Stuart T, D, 2S, 3rbi; Miller T, 2S, 3rbi; Brown D, S, 2rbi; Bartrug T, rbi; McHugh D.

C — Gilcher lp (4SO, 4W) and Daugherty. Starr D, S; Roller S, rbi.

Buckeye Local 8, Cambridge 6

Buckeye Local 401 200 1 — 8 6 3

Cambridge 221 100 0 — 6 3 4

B — Magyar (4SO, 5W), Gretchen (4) (4SO, 2W) and Brown. Bartrug S, 2rbi; Stuart S, 2rbi; Gretchen S, rbi; Brown S, rbi; Magyar D.

C — Wheatley lp (3SO, 5W) and Daugherty. Shephard S, 2rbi; Starr S, rbi; Gilche D.

Brooke

(Continued from Page 19)

Edge's blast capped a seven-run frame for John Marshall, ending the contest because of the 10-run mercy rule.

Needless to say, veteran John Marshall head coach Bob Montgomery was beaming after Edge connected for his seventh round-tripper of the season.

"I'm tickled with everything here," he said. "I wish it could be like this every night."

Edge wasn't the only one swinging a hot bat. All told, eight Monarch batters recorded hits.

"We swung the bat a little better than we did last week," Montgomery noted.

That's an understatement. JM rattled Patriot pitching with 15 hits, including six in the final inning.

While the Monarchs were sizzling at the plate, John Marshall also had a hot hand on the mound in Cy Mazingo.

The superb sophomore held Wheeling Park (13-12) to just four hits, struck out two and issued three walks in picking up the complete-game victory.

"For a sophomore, he was very composed," Montgomery said.

The only inning Mazingo got fazed in was the first, when the Patriots jumped out to a 3-0 advantage.

One night after banging out 12 hits in a win over Union Local, Wheeling Park coach Doug Tush's crew opened Wednesday's contest with two in the first.

With one out, E.J. Schramm singled to center. Next, Adam Lewton walked.

Moments later, Allan Dille ripped a shot to the outfield, scoring Schramm and Lewton to put the Patriots on the board 2-0.

While Dille was pulling into second on the play, a JM throw into the infield went out of play. The two-base error sent Dille home increasing the visitor's lead to 3-0.

That's the only offense Park could muster. From then on, Mazingo was in control, allowing just one hit — a single by Ronnie Green — the rest of the afternoon.

"You have to jump on a team like this," Tush said. "But once you jump on them you have to keep coming back."

Meanwhile, John Marshall's offense cranked up the volume. Bryan Berger ripped a two-

out double in the home half of the second scoring Ryan Zelinski to pull the Monarchs within one at 3-1.

Later in the frame, JM's lead-off man, Cody Koontz, singled to score Berger's courtesy runner, Nick Franklin, from third to make it 3-2.

Chaz Schultz gave the Monarchs the lead for good in the bottom of the fourth when he crushed a two-run shot off Park starter Joe Caveney to make it 4-3. Koontz and Aaron Simmons recorded RBI hits later in the frame to make it a 6-3 contest.

Both of those hits came off Schramm, who relieved Caveney with one out in the fourth.

Schramm struggled in the home half of the fifth. Zelinski started off the inning with a double. Schultz next rapped a shot to short, resulting in Zelinski being tagged out between second and third.

It was the last out the Patriots recorded.

Berger singled to move Schultz to second. This was followed by another single to Robbie Conroy that loaded the bags. Koontz responded with a sin-

gled that scored Schultz to make it 7-3. Shane Pysh followed with a single of his own that scored Berger's courtesy runner Franklin to make it an 8-3 contest.

Tush replaced Schramm on the mound with Platt and the new hurler allowed one more run to score before Edge ended things with his monumental blast.

Montgomery said some shifting of his lineup might have been the catalyst to his team's huge day at the plate.

"We changed the order they batted in," he said. "We flipped them around here and there."

"At least for tonight it worked pretty good."

While Montgomery's thoughts turned to Saturday's OVAC title tilt with Fred Heatherington's Big Red, Tush was left thinking about next week's West Virginia Class AAA sectional tournament.

"It's disappointing, but we'll respond well from this," Tush said. "They've got a shot at the OVAC (title), but hey, we're still alive in the sectional."

"Give John Marshall credit. I wish them the best of luck Saturday."

Koontz, Monarchs Claim AAAA Title

For The Intelligencer

The OVAC baseball championship drought is over for the John Marshall Monarchs.

It had been 23 years since John Marshall won a tourney title, but that came to end Saturday when they captured a 5-3 victory in the Class AAAA championship game over Steubenville at Vaccaro Field.

"We've won the regular-season championship here and there, but this was our first tournament title since 1982," said John Marshall coach Bob Montgomery, who picked up his 643rd career win.

"We respect and believe in the OVAC, so it means a lot to us to win it again, especially against a good team like Steubenville. This was truly the two best teams in the conference playing..."

Steubenville left eight men stranded in the loss, as the usually-hot Big Red hitters turned

cold in clutch situations.

"We just didn't get timely hits. We got runners on, but couldn't get them in," Big Red coach Fred Heatherington said.

"John Marshall has a nice pitcher, but we hit him hard. We just didn't hit at the right times."

Cody Koontz went the distance for the Monarchs. While Steubenville did record eight hits, the Red also struck out 10 times against John Marshall's ace.

"I think our pitcher was the difference in the game. He was able to get his 10 or 11 strikeouts and that was the game," Montgomery said.

"He really stepped up in the seventh. They had the tying run on first and he strikes out (Lee) Bainbridge, who is just an incredible baseball player. That was big."

Top-seeded Big Red notched

"We've won the regular season championship here and there, but this is our first tournament title since 1982."

**Bob Montgomery
JM Baseball coach**

the first run of the game. That run came in the bottom of the second inning. Tom Brown singled and scored when Jason McKeegan flew out to right field.

The lead didn't last long. The Monarchs answered Steubenville with three of their won in the top of the third, exploiting a couple of defensive mistakes.

Koontz singled and was joined on base by Ryan Zelinski, who Steubenville hurler Sam Basic struck with a pitch. Bryan Berger drove in both of the runs with a double. Berger went on to score on an error.

Steubenville took back one of the runs in the fifth inning. Matt Belardine had a base hit and Bauman supplied the RBI in the form of a triple.

John Marshall went on to post two more runs in the sixth inning.

Troy Mysliweic reached on an error and Nick Franklin drove him in with a double. Franklin later scored on a base hit from Colby Mazingo. Those runs made it a 5-2 contest.

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Koontz

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Big Red couldn't get anything going in the bottom of the sixth, but Steubenville held the Monarchs in the seventh and went for the win in the bottom of the final frame. McKeegan led off the inning with a double. Mike Mort then drew a walk and Bauman singled to juice the bases. Unfortunately for the Big Red faithful packed in the bleachers at Vaccaro Field, Steubenville could only manufacture one run in the inning.

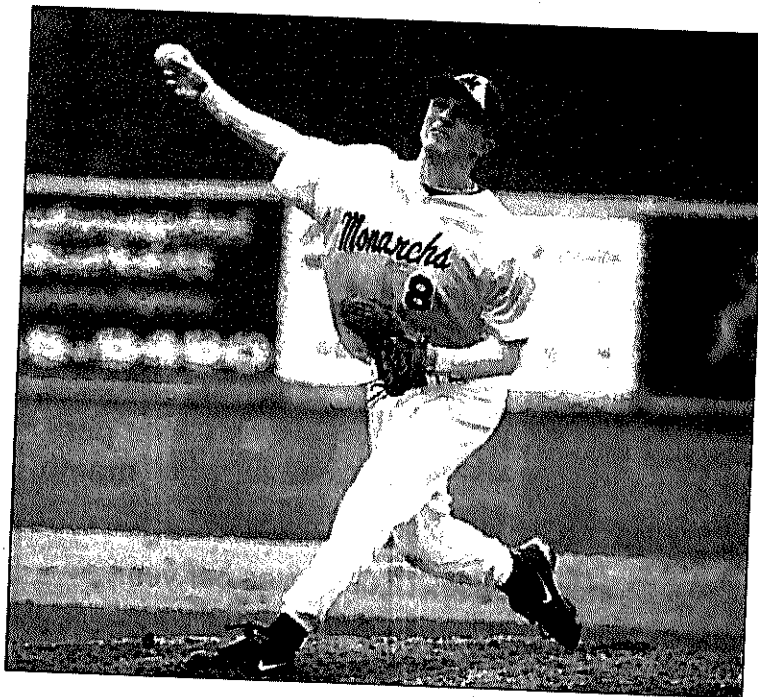
"You have to come ready to play against good teams and in championship games. We came ready to play, we just didn't play

well," Heatherington said. "We didn't get timely hits, we didn't get good pitching, we didn't play good defense and we didn't have intelligent base running. Those are the four things we stress the most and we didn't do any of them tonight."

Big Red fell to 20-4 on the season, while JM improved to 23-4.

Steubenville will return to action Monday in the sectional tournament. Heatherington expects better things in that tournament.

"We have a lot of practice ahead of us - a lot," he said. "I promise you we will get past this and we will be a better team on Monday."



File Photo by Alex Kozlowski
John Marshall pitcher Cody Koontz worked a complete game and struck out 10 Saturday night, leading the Monarchs past Steubenville in the OVAC Class AAAA championship game.